



**SAN FRANCISCO BAY**  
RESTORATION AUTHORITY

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** March 22, 2024

**TO:** Governing Board  
San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

**FROM:** Amy Hutzal, Executive Officer  
San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

**SUBJECT:** Report on Expenditures and Letters under Delegated Authority

**Background**

In Resolution No. 28, the Governing Board delegated to the Executive Officer the authority to take specific financial actions as necessary and appropriate to the operations of the Authority. These include, but are not limited to:

1. Executing contracts for technical and other services needed to implement Authority programs and costing no more than \$50,000; and
2. Augmenting funds for Authority-authorized expenditures, including grant agreements, by up to 15%, not to exceed \$100,000.

In Resolution 104, the Governing Board delegated to the Chair or Executive Officer the authority to take the following additional actions as necessary or appropriate for operations of the Authority, consistent with applicable law and the policies of the Authority, without further, specific Authority authorization:

1. Sign comment letters and position papers of the State Route 37-Baylands Group.
2. Sign letters of support for federal funding for San Francisco Bay restoration and enhancement.
3. Sign letters of support for additional funding from other sources for Authority-funded projects.

**Expenditures**

Pursuant to delegated authority, during the period December 1, 2023-February 29, 2024, the Executive Officer approved the following:

- A contract for \$15,000 with Urban Ecology Inc. to support the publication of KneeDeep Times, a newsletter focused on climate adaptation that occasionally covers issues of concern to the Authority, including nature-based adaptation projects, role of parks and shores in public health, habitat restoration, and resilient landscape management.
- A contract for \$40,000 with the Association of Bay Area Governments to sponsor the State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference, which will be held in Oakland on March 11-13, 2024, and will feature presentations on many Authority projects and the Authority's grant program.
- A contract for \$31,800 with NBC Open Road for an episode focused on Authority projects.

### Letters

During the period December 1, 2023-February 29, 2024, the Chair, pursuant to delegated authority, signed a letter in support of the State Coastal Conservancy's CREST Bay Area Proposal to the NOAA Coastal Resilience Regional Challenge program, which requests additional funding for several projects previously funded by the Authority. (See Attachment 1.)



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Attachment 1

January 8, 2024

**Governing Board**

Sup. Dave Pine  
**Chair**  
County of San Mateo

Sup. John Gioia  
**Vice Chair**  
County of Contra Costa

Mayor Lisa Gauthier  
City of East Palo Alto

Sup. Susan Gorin  
County of Sonoma  
Councilmember Sophie Hahn  
City of Berkeley

Director, Karen Holman  
Midpeninsula Regional Open  
Space District Board

Sup. Aaron Peskin  
City & County of SF

Amy Hutzl  
Executive Officer

Address:

c/o State Coastal Conservancy  
1515 Clay Street, 10th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Email: [info@sfbayrestore.org](mailto:info@sfbayrestore.org)

Web: [www.sfbayrestore.org](http://www.sfbayrestore.org)

Dr. Jeffrey Payne  
Director  
NOAA's Office for Coastal Management  
2234 South Hobson Ave  
Charleston, SC 29405-2413

Dear Director Payne:

On behalf of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, I want to express my support for the Coastal Conservancy's CREST Bay Area Proposal to the NOAA Coastal Resilience Regional Challenge program.

CREST Bay Area will utilize and build upon the critical work the Authority has been supporting over the past 5 years to realize a restored, resilient, and equitable San Francisco (SF) Bay. The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (Authority) is a regional agency created to fund shoreline projects that will protect, restore, and enhance SF Bay through the allocation of approximately \$25 million per year raised by the Measure AA parcel tax.


In terms of the CREST's implementation projects, the Authority has or is funding every CREST project. First, the Authority has been a long supporter of the largest wetland restoration project on the west coast, the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project. The restoration of 1,300 acres in Eden Landing South will result in great benefits for the area including habitat values, sea level rise resilience, and public access. The Authority has also funded the planning phases of the Regionally Advancing Living Shorelines, Calabazas San Tomas Aquino Creeks Reconnection Project, North Richmond Living Levee, and SAFER Bay. We are thrilled to see these large-scale restoration and sea level rise resilience projects included in the CREST proposal as the Authority alone could not provide full implementation funding. By leveraging the Authority's regional funding and NOAA's federal funding, the SF Bay area will be a model for large-scale, nature-based adaptation for the region, state, and beyond.

In terms of CREST's coordination activities, the Authority has been a primary funder of the Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team (BRRIT) due to the need for more multi-benefit, habitat restoration projects in the ground now in order to prevent additional shoreline hardening and habitat loss in the face of sea level rise. The Authority also funded the first Oakland Shoreline Leadership Academy where program participants spent six months exploring the intersection of environmental and social needs of their communities and developed numerous project ideas for the Oakland shoreline related to habitat restoration, environmental education and storytelling, and

Attachment 1

more. We are thrilled to see the CREST team taking this model and expanding it across SF Bay with the Shoreline Leadership Academy.

We thank you for your consideration of supporting this important effort to improve California's coastal resilience.

DocuSigned by:  
  
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John Gioia, Vice Chair