

Central Services
Joan Araujo, Director

Engineering Services
Christopher Cooper, Director

Roads & Transportation
Christopher Kurgan, Director

Water & Sanitation
Joseph Pope, Director

Watershed Protection
Glenn Shephard, Director

November 9, 2021

Board of Supervisors
Ventura County Watershed Protection District
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93003

Subject: **Approval of, and Ratification of the Execution of, the Grant Agreement Between the Ventura County Watershed Protection District and the State Coastal Conservancy for \$734,730 in Grant Funding for the Camino Cielo Bridge Design Project; and Approval of and Adoption of a Resolution of Acceptance for Grant Funding. Supervisorial District 1, WPD Zone 1**

Recommendation:

Approve, and ratify the execution of, the grant agreement between the Ventura County Watershed Protection District (District) and the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) for \$734,730 in grant funding for the Camino Cielo Bridge Design Project (Design Project), and approval of and adoption of a Resolution of Acceptance for grant funding.

Reason for Ratification:

SCC approved the grant at their March 26, 2021 board meeting, but did not send a grant agreement until August 26, 2021. They required that the agreement (Exhibit 3) be signed by the District Director by August 31, 2021. There was insufficient time between the release of the grant agreement, the requirement for the District Director to sign, and the execution of the Agreement by SCC, to bring the Agreement before your Board for approval and authorization to execute. The District executed the agreement following prior notification and approval of the CEO's Office.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

Mandatory:	No
Source of Funding:	SCC Habitat Conservation Funds & Watershed Protection District Zone 1
Funding Match Required:	None
Impact on Other Departments:	None



Summary of Revenues & Costs:

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23 through FY 23-24
Revenue:	\$ 486,616	\$ 248,114
Costs:		
Direct	\$ 486,617	\$ 248,115
Indirect/Agency Dept.	\$ 29,002	\$ 14,787
Indirect/County CAP	\$ 2,238	\$ 1,141
Total Costs	\$ 517,857	\$ 264,043
Net District Costs	\$ 31,241	\$ 15,929
Recovered Indirect Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0

Current FY Budget Projections

Current FY 2021-22 Budget Projection for Watershed Protection Zone 1 - Unit 4211				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$6,657,300	\$6,657,300	\$6,657,300	\$ 0
Revenue	\$6,339,400	\$6,339,400	\$6,339,400	\$ 0
Net Cost	\$ 317,900	\$ 317,900	\$ 317,900	\$ 0

Sufficient revenue and appropriations have been included in the FY 2021-22 Adopted Budget and will be included in FY 2022-23 through FY 2023-24 Budgets, as appropriate.

Discussion:

The SCC is a state agency, established in 1976, to protect and improve natural lands and waterways, to help people get to and enjoy the outdoors, and to sustain local economies along California's coast. The Conservancy is a non-regulatory agency that supports projects to protect coastal resources and increase opportunities for the public to enjoy them. The Conservancy implements statewide resource plans through its projects, including the [California Water Action Plan](#), the [Wildlife Action Plan](#), and many others. The Conservancy provides technical assistance and grant funding to local communities, nonprofit organizations, other government agencies, businesses, and private landowners to implement multi-benefit projects that:

- protect the natural and scenic beauty of the coast
- enhance wildlife habitat
- help the public to get to and enjoy beaches and parklands
- keep farmland and timberlands in production
- improve water quality



- revitalize working waterfronts
- prepare communities for the impacts of climate change

The Design Project meets those requirements. The proposed bridge is one of the prerequisite projects for the Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project (MDERP) and dam removal. SCC has supported MDERP efforts and encouraged the District to apply for this grant opportunity under its purview.

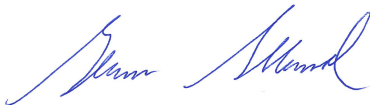
The Design Project will complete 70 percent design for the new Camino Cielo Bridge over the Ventura River, which will replace the current river crossing in that area. Currently, the river crossing consists of a one lane set of box culverts which require repair and maintenance following each major storm event to restore vehicle access to the properties on the west side of the Ventura River. A new properly sized and designed bridge at this location will eliminate the access limitations and greatly improve passage for the endangered steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) fish and other aquatic species. The bridge will be designed to safely pass the increased sediment flows associated with the removal of Matilija Dam. The grant also includes partial preparation of CEQA documentation for the project. See Exhibits 1 and 2 for project vicinity and location maps.

The existing Camino Cielo culvert crossing is owned and managed by the County of Ventura, and intersects with State Highway 33. Site selection for the bridge alignment for the final design will be determined during this project.

Your Board approved application for this grant project on July 18, 2017.

This item has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel.

If there are any questions regarding this item, please contact me at (805) 654-2040.



Glenn Shephard, P.E.
Director

Attachments:

- Resolution
- Exhibit 1 – Project Vicinity Map
- Exhibit 2 – Project Location Map
- Exhibit 3 – Grant Agreement

