

Ventura County Watershed Protection District



PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
JEFF PRATT
Agency Director

Glenn Shephard, Director
Watershed Protection District

Arne Anselm
Water Resources

Gerard Kapuscik
Strategic Resiliency Group

Karl Novak
Operations & Maintenance

Bruce Rindahl
Watershed
Resources & Technology

Peter Sheydayi
Design & Construction

Sergio Vargas
Watershed
Planning & Permits

December 4, 2018

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

Subject: **Approval of, and Authorization for the Director of the Ventura County Watershed Protection District to Execute, a Grant Agreement for an Invited Grant Through the Open Rivers Fund, a Program of Resources Legacy Fund Supported by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, in the Amount of \$80,000 for Right of Way Acquisitions and Appraisal Project; and Authorization for the Auditor-Controller to Process the Necessary Accounting Transactions. (Recommendation 2 Requires 4/5ths Vote). Supervisorial District 1, WPD Zone 1**

Recommendations:

1. Approval of, and authorization for the Director of the Ventura County Watershed Protection District (District) to execute, a grant agreement for an invited grant through the Open Rivers Fund, a program of the Resources Legacy Fund (RLF), supported by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, in the amount of \$80,000 for Right of Way Acquisitions and Appraisal Project (Project). (Exhibit 1).
2. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to process the necessary accounting transactions in Fund S710. (Requires 4/5ths vote):

INCREASE 4210-4214 Other Charges	\$80,000
INCREASE 4210-4214 Miscellaneous Revenue	\$80,000

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

Mandatory:	No
Source of Funding:	RLF Foundation
Funding Match Required:	None
Impact on Other Departments:	None

<u>Summary of Revenues & Costs:</u>	<u>FY 2018-19</u>	<u>FY 2019-20</u>
Revenue:	\$ 80,000	\$ 0
Costs:		
Direct	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000
Indirect/Agency Dept.	\$ 0	\$ 0
Indirect/County CAP	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Costs	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000
Net District Costs	\$ (40,000)	\$ 40,000
Recovered Indirect Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0

Current FY Budget Projections:

FY 2018-19 Budget Projection for Watershed Protection Zone 1 - Unit 4214				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$ 560,000	\$ 560,000	\$ 560,000	\$0
Revenue	\$3,245,000	\$ 3,245,000	\$ 3,245,000	\$0
Net Cost	\$ (2,685,000)	\$(2,685,000)	\$ (2,685,000)	\$0

Discussion:

RLF's programs and projects range in scale from modest to vast—from protecting a site to preserving regional assets or international resources to helping develop or ensure robust implementation of new policy. Much of their work has shaped conservation in four priority areas—lands, rivers and watersheds, coasts and oceans, and climate adaptation and resiliency—in California, across western North America and internationally.

RLF pools and directs funds from both philanthropy and the public sector to create conservation impacts much greater than any single donor or funding source can achieve alone, providing high return on donors' investments.

RLF draws on many kinds of expertise, taps critical relationships with policymakers, partners with agencies and other nonprofits, leverages funding, and builds innovative coalitions to create long-term results.

Since its construction in 1947, the 168-foot-high, arched concrete Matilija Dam has posed a complete barrier to anadromous steelhead migration on the Ventura River and the transport of nearly 8 million cubic yards of fine and coarse sediment downstream to the ocean. However, a coalition of community groups and resource agencies have been

working together for almost 20 years to develop a comprehensive strategy to remove the dam, prepare downstream critical infrastructure for increased flood levels and ultimately restore the river from headwaters to ocean. In the process, several millions of dollars in state, local and federal funds have been invested on a series of feasibility studies, technical analyses and other work to produce a consensus-based plan for removal of the dam. In March of 2016 this effort culminated in a multi-stakeholder Matilija Dam "Design Oversight Group" selecting Dam Removal Concept (DRC) 2A as the preferred alternative. Now stakeholders are pursuing funding for this ecosystem-wide solution to rectify the legacy of problems that the Matilija Dam has created (AECOM 2016).

RLF has played an important part in recent years in helping to promote Dam removal. As an outgrowth of this work, RLF provides limited financial resources to make this project succeed. Recognizing the need to provide seed money to position the Santa Ana Bridge replacement project for available state funding, RLF approached the District with a plan to fund strategic elements of the Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project.

This Project provides for the appraisal and acquisition of three permanent easements (1.2 acres) and two temporary easements (0.6 acres) which are required for the construction of the Santa Ana Bridge Replacement, and the appraisal of a property upstream of the Camino Cielo road crossing (46 acres). Exhibit 2 provides maps of these properties. The property upstream of Camino Cielo (APN 010-0-180-370) has been identified as a property to be acquired to remove a residential structure completely burned by the Thomas Fire that, if replaced, would be subjected to increased flooding following dam removal. Furthermore, this property could be needed for the construction of a bridge to replace the current low water road crossing at Camino Cielo.

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

Attachment:

- Exhibit 1 – Draft Grant Agreement
- Exhibit 2 – Project Location Maps
- Exhibit 3 – Proposal