

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA JULY 15, 2025

> STAFF REPORT CONSENT ITEM NUMBER: 15.

TITLE

Wetlands Restoration Grant Acceptance

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution accepting grant funds from the San Francisco Restoration Bay Authority for the American Canyon Wetlands Restoration and Public Access Project (PR26-0100)

CONTACT

Erica Ahmann Smithies, P.E., Public Works Director

BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS

The City has been working towards restoring, rehabilitating and providing enhanced recreation access to the Wetlands for over two decades. After Council adopted the Wetlands Restoration Plan ("Plan") in 2024, staff worked with a consulting firm to develop a grant application and submitted it to the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority ("Authority") in consideration for additional Measure AA Grant funds to begin designing the projects identified in the adopted Plan.

The Authority awards grants for eligible projects consistent with Government Code§ 66704.5, the Authority's Grant Program Guidelines, first adopted in May 2017, and the Authority's San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Measure ("Measure AA"), passed by the California voters in June 2016.

On June 6, 2025, the Authority adopted a resolution awarding a new grant in the amount of \$1,200,000 to the City of American Canyon for the for the American Canyon Wetlands Restoration and Public Access Project (PR26-0100) ("the Project".) The Project will include the completion of technical studies, 60% design plans, California Environmental Quality Act documentation, draft permit applications, and public outreach.

The Project, once fully implemented, will restore or enhance over 60 acres of wetlands and associated transitional habitat along the lower Napa River, improve fish passage, improve water quality, raise 1.2 miles of existing Bay Trail out of the floodplain and increase its resilience to future sea level rise, improve public safety for the trail, and build a new Bay Water Trail trailhead and associated facilities.

The Authority requires the governing body of the City American Canyon ("the grantee") certify through a resolution that It accepts the grant award and authorizes the execution by a representative of the grantee of a grant agreement and all grant related paperwork.

It is anticipated the grant agreement will be executed as soon as September 2025 with a request for proposals to be drafted and published shortly thereafter. The timeline to complete the scope of work is anticipated to take 18 months after award of contract is brought to Council.

COUNCIL PRIORITY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

Outdoors and Recreation: "Expand opportunities for use of outdoor recreation and an active and healthy lifestyle."

FISCAL IMPACT

The project's funding is not included in the current fiscal year CIP budget. Pending the timing of the contract award for the selected professional firm, a budget appropriation may be included in the contract award resolution or made during the mid-year budget adjustment. The total grant award is \$1,200,000 with the grant match consisting of City staff time of approximately \$300,000 for the life of the project.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

15378(b) - The action is not a "Project" subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") because it does not qualify as a "Project" under Public Resources Code Sections 21065 and 21080 and in Section 15378(b) of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Resolution Measure AA Grant
- 2. SFBRA Resolution Adopted 06.06.25