COASTAL CONSERVANCY

Staff Recommendation
September 29, 2016

JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT WITH SAN FRANCISCO BAY RESTORATION AUTHORITY AND ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

Project Manager: Amy Hutzel

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Authorization to enter into a joint powers agreement with the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority and the Association of Bay Area Governments.

PROGRAM CATEGORY: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1: Joint Powers Agreement, Proposed Recitals & Terms, July 29, 2016

Exhibit 2: Measure AA: San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Program

Exhibit 3: Project Letters

RESOLUTION AND FINDINGS:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31160 - 31165 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes entry into a joint powers agreement with the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority and the Association of Bay Area Governments consistent with the terms set forth in Exhibit 1: Joint Powers Agreement, Proposed Recitals & Terms. The Coastal Conservancy has been fully informed in writing about its attorneys’ responsibilities in avoiding the representation of adverse interests without the consent of their clients, understands the potential for adverse legal interests and practical interests as described, and consents to the potential conflicts of interest raised by Conservancy staff attorneys providing legal advice to the Authority pursuant to the joint powers agreement. The Coastal Conservancy also delegates to the Executive Officer the authority to waive future attorney conflicts of interest in connection with the provision of legal services to the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority pursuant to the joint powers agreement.”
JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT WITH SAN FRANCISCO BAY RESTORATION AUTHORITY

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.”

PROJECT SUMMARY:

On June 6, 2016, the voters in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma Counties) passed Measure AA, the San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Program, by over 70%. Measure AA was placed on the ballot by the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (“Authority”) and will generate approximately $25 million per year for 20 years to protect San Francisco Bay for future generations by reducing trash, pollution and harmful toxins, improving water quality, restoring habitat for fish, birds and wildlife, protecting communities from floods, and increasing shoreline public access.

The Authority has a seven-member Governing Board, which is appointed by the Association of Bay Area Governments (“ABAG”). Since 2008, several ABAG staff members have served as temporary staff to the Authority and the Conservancy has provided assistance. Before the passage of Measure AA, the Authority had no financial resources and the administrative work necessary to date has been relatively minor. The distribution and oversight of Measure AA funding necessitates a larger and more formal administrative structure.

Five percent of the funds generated annually by Measure AA may go for general government purposes, such as administering the Authority. Necessary administrative tasks include preparation for and staffing of Authority Board meetings, staff support for the Advisory Committee and Independent Citizens Oversight Committee, development of policies and procedures for the Authority, preparation and distribution of requests for grant proposals, development of selection criteria, review of grant applications, preparation of grant agreements and oversight of grantees, and legal support for the Authority.

1 The current members of the Governing Board and the seats they occupy are:
   o Chairperson – Supervisor Dave Pine,
   o East Bay City/County – Supervisor John Gioia,
   o North Bay City/County – Supervisor Keith Caldwell,
   o South Bay City/County – Councilmember Vinnie Bacon,
   o West Bay City/County – Supervisor Scott Wiener,
   o At Large City/County – Mayor Pat Showalter, and
   o Park/Open Space District – John Sutter (East Bay Regional Park District).
A joint powers agreement (“JPA”) is being proposed that would enable the Authority, ABAG, and the Conservancy to collaborate so as to avoid administrative redundancy and to economically and efficiently implement their San Francisco Bay grant programs, and that would allow the Authority to take advantage of existing knowledge and expertise in wetlands restoration and grant management. In 2014, both ABAG and the Authority authorized entry into a JPA with the Conservancy. The Conservancy discussed entering into a JPA with the Authority and ABAG at its January and March meetings in 2014 and took no action. With the passage of Measure AA, the need for the support services that can be provided by the Conservancy and ABAG has increased, funds will soon be available to reimburse for administrative costs, and the JPA has been revisited. On July 29, 2016, the Authority approved in concept the attached JPA Proposed Recitals and Terms (Exhibit 1). On September 15, 2016, ABAG reauthorized execution of the JPA. Pending Conservancy authorization, the Authority will consider approval of the final JPA terms and conditions on October 12, 2016.

The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Act (“Restoration Authority Act”) established the Authority in 2008 as a regional entity “to raise and allocate resources for the restoration, enhancement, protection, and enjoyment of wetlands and wildlife habitats in the San Francisco Bay and along its shoreline.” Government Code § 66702(a) & (c). The intent of the Restoration Authority Act is to “complement existing efforts by cities, counties, districts, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the State Coastal Conservancy, and other local, regional, and state entities.” Government Code § 66702.5.

The Restoration Authority Act gives the Authority the power to levy a benefit assessment or special tax across the nine counties in the San Francisco Bay region and to award grants for projects that:

1. Restore, protect, or enhance tidal wetlands, managed ponds, or natural habitats on the shoreline in the San Francisco Bay area, excluding the Delta primary zone.
2. Build or enhance shoreline levees or other flood management features that are part of a project to restore, enhance, or protect tidal wetlands, managed ponds, or natural habitats identified in paragraph (1).
3. Provide or improve public access or recreational amenities that are part of a project to restore, enhance, or protect tidal wetlands, managed ponds, or natural habitats identified in paragraph (1).

Government Code § 66704.5. In addition to creating hundreds of jobs and restoring fish and wildlife habitat, projects funded by the Authority will help keep toxic pollutants out of the Bay, improve water quality in the Bay, help protect existing shoreline property from flooding, and expand public access to the shoreline. The Authority’s grant program is limited to the types of projects identified above and it does not have the power to own property.

Measure AA

The Authority placed Measure AA, the San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Program on the June 6, 2016 ballot in the nine-county San Francisco
Bay Area, after eight years of analysis, outreach, and public opinion polling. Measure AA passed by over 70% and will generate approximately $25 million per year for 20 years with a $12 per parcel tax. Measure AA (complete text in Exhibit 2) calls for the Authority to fund projects along the Bay shoreline to advance the following programs:

1) Safe, Clean Water and Pollution Prevention Program.
2) Vital Fish, Bird and Wildlife Habitat Program.
3) Integrated Flood Protection Program.
4) Shoreline Public Access Program.

The nine Bay Area counties will start including Measure AA on their property tax bills in the fall of 2017, with revenue anticipated to arrive at the Authority in late 2017. Measure AA funds will be distributed through competitive grant rounds. In April 2016, the Authority adopted grant program guidelines that outline project eligibility as described in the enabling legislation and Measure AA, and set forth the grant application process and timeline.

Measure AA limits the amount of revenue that can go towards general government purposes to no more than 5%, to ensure that the tax revenues will be used efficiently. Five percent of approximately $25 million per year is approximately $1,250,000. General government purposes include both the administration of the Authority and the payments to each of the nine counties for placing the measure on the ballot, which are estimated at $2 million. ABAG and Conservancy staff have developed a staffing proposal that will keep administrative costs below this cap and allow for payment of ballot access costs while effectively implementing a transparent and results-oriented grant program as well as providing the necessary fiscal and budgetary management.

The Proposed JPA

The proposed JPA provides for Conservancy staff to provide executive, legal, program, and clerical staff services to the Authority, and for ABAG to provide treasurer, accounting, and program staff services to the Authority. The Authority would reimburse ABAG and the Conservancy for their staff services based on an annual budget and work plan prepared by ABAG and the Conservancy and approved by the Authority. The Conservancy and ABAG could withdraw from the JPA or the Authority could terminate the JPA, upon 180 days prior notice to the other parties.

Authority to Enter the JPA

The proposed JPA is consistent with the Joint Exercise of Powers Act. The Joint Exercise of Powers Act authorizes public entities to enter into agreements with each other to jointly exercise powers common to the parties. Government Code § 6502. One or more of the parties to a joint powers agreement may provide services to the other parties as specified in the agreement. Government Code § 6506. The Authority, ABAG and the Conservancy have in common the power to grant funds for projects that restore, protect and enhance San Francisco Bay. The proposed JPA provides for the joint exercise of this common power by having Conservancy and ABAG provide staff services to the Authority. Thus, the proposed JPA is consistent with the law and accordingly, the Conservancy has the authority to enter into the proposed JPA.
Benefits of the JPA

There are numerous benefits of the proposed JPA. The JPA will help the Conservancy achieve its goals for the San Francisco Bay as set forth in Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code. Authority revenue will provide a local source of funding for Bay restoration to augment and leverage state and federal funding. The JPA will give the Conservancy a role in the allocation of those local funds thereby helping to further the Conservancy’s statutory goals and bringing a statewide perspective to allocation of those funds. Further, the Conservancy will be reimbursed for its staff services. The Conservancy’s San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program has played a significant role in the collaborative efforts of federal, state and local government agencies to prepare and implement plans that reflect the mutual goals of these agencies for protection, enhancement and restoration of San Francisco Bay and associated public access and flood management. The resulting plans include:

- San Francisco Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals and its Climate Change Update,
- San Francisco Bay Subtidal Habitat Goals,
- San Francisco Estuary Partnership’s Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan,
- San Francisco Bay Joint Venture’s Implementation Plan,
- San Francisco Bay Region’s Integrated Regional Water Management Plan,
- South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Plan and South Bay Shoreline Study,
- San Francisco Bay Trail Plan, and
- San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan.

Obtaining reimbursement for its staff services to the Authority will provide a source of funding that will help the Conservancy to continue its important role in the protection and restoration of San Francisco Bay.

JPA Term Regarding Indemnification

The Authority has agreed to indemnify ABAG and the Conservancy with regard to tort liability arising out of performance of the agreement. In 2014, the cost estimate for general liability and automobile insurance was an annual premium of $12,500 for general liability, automobile liability and public official errors and omissions insurance coverage with limits of $5,000,000 and a $1,000 deductible. In light of the relatively low cost of insurance, the Authority agreed to indemnify the Conservancy and ABAG in the joint powers agreement. Conservancy staff recommends that the Conservancy agree to indemnify the Authority for tort liability in connection with the Conservancy’s performance under the agreement prior to the time that the Authority has sufficient funds to purchase the insurance.

Waiver of Attorney Conflict of Interest

The proposed JPA provides for the Conservancy’s staff attorneys to provide legal advice to the Authority. Several statutes and the Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of California, including Rule 3-310(C), govern attorneys in the representation of potentially and actually
adverse interests, and collectively require informed consent of both clients. Lawyers must also strictly maintain the confidences of their clients. Bus. & Professions Code § 6068(e)(1). The interests of the Conservancy and the Authority in a matter could conflict, at least in theory. For example, the two agencies might both seek the same limited funds, or might have differing positions on pending legislation or litigation. Under Rule 3-310(C), an attorney may not, without the written consent of both clients: 1) accept representation of more than one client in a matter in which the interests of the clients potentially conflict; or 2) accept or continue representation of more than one client in a matter in which the interests of the clients actually conflict; or 3) represent an entity in a matter and at the same time accept as a client in a separate matter an entity that has an adverse interest in the first matter. In the event of an actual conflict between the two agencies, the Authority would need to seek legal advice from another source, unless the agencies both waived the actual conflict of interest. The Conservancy’s attorneys are not aware of any actual adverse interests between the Conservancy and the Authority, and think that the chances of an actual legal conflict of interest are likely to be small. By making full disclosure of potential conflicts to the Authority and the Conservancy, and by obtaining the formal, informed written consent of both, Conservancy attorneys can provide services to the Authority while complying with the Rules that require avoidance of representing adverse interests. Accordingly, the resolution for approval of the JPA includes written consent of the Conservancy for Conservancy attorneys to also advise the Authority.

COMPLIANCE WITH CEQA:

The proposed authorization for the Conservancy to enter into a joint powers agreement for the implementation of the Restoration Authority Act is an administrative activity of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. Such activities do not constitute a “project” as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) at Public Resources Code § 21065 and in the CEQA Guidelines at 14 Cal. Code of Regs. § 15378(b)(5). Therefore, the proposed authorization is not subject to CEQA.
JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT
SFBRA/ABAG/SCC
PROPOSED RECITALS AND TERMS
July 29, 2016

RECITALS

A. The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (SFBRA) is a regional entity established by the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Act, Government Code section 66700 et seq. that is charged with raising and allocating funds for the protection and enhancement of tidal wetlands and other wildlife habitat in and surrounding the San Francisco Bay and for related public access and flood protection and that successfully placed the San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Measure (“Measure AA”), a regional special tax measure, on the June 2016 ballot to raise such funds.

B. The State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) is a state agency established pursuant to Division 21 of the Public Resources Code. Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code authorizes the Conservancy to award grants in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area to help achieve Division 21’s goals for the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, which include the protection, restoration and enhancement of natural habitats and improved public access to and around San Francisco Bay.

C. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) is a joint powers authority of the cities and counties of the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area with the authority to perform regional and subregional planning and to coordinate with other governmental entities including federal, state and regional agencies via the San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP), which implements programs and awards grants for protection and enhancement of San Francisco Bay.

D. To help achieve the Division 21 goals for the San Francisco Bay Area, SCC staff have participated in numerous collaborative efforts of federal, state and local government agencies to prepare plans that reflect the mutual goals of these agencies for protection, enhancement and restoration of San Francisco Bay and associated public access and flood management. The resulting plans include:

- San Francisco Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals and its Climate Change Update,
- San Francisco Bay Subtidal Habitat Goals,
- San Francisco Estuary Partnership’s Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan,
- San Francisco Bay Region’s Integrated Regional Water Management Plan,
- South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Plan and South Bay Shoreline Study, and
- San Francisco Bay Trail Plan.
Proposed Recitals and Terms
Joint Powers Agreement-SFBRA/ABAG/SCC

E. The California Natural Resources Agency has developed several plans that include statewide goals for flood protection and for the protection, enhancement and restoration of habitats. The SCC’s implementation of Division 21 helps achieve the goals set forth in these plans, which include:

- California Water Action Plan (2016)

F. The SFBRA desires to benefit from the expertise of ABAG, SFEP and SCC in planning and achieving restoration, enhancement and protection of San Francisco Bay. The SCC desires to have a role in the allocation of Measure AA revenues for purposes of furthering the goals for the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, as set forth in Chapter 4.5 of Division 21, which will help the California Natural Resources Agency achieve its broader statewide goals. ABAG desires to assist the SFBRA to ensure its successful implementation of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Act and Measure AA. The parties also desire to maximize efficiency and reduce administrative redundancy in order to direct as much of the available funding as possible toward planning and implementation of projects for the protection, enhancement and restoration of San Francisco Bay and associated public access and flood protection.

TERMS

1. **Parties to the Agreement**

   - San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority
   - Association of Bay Area Governments
   - California State Coastal Conservancy

2. **Purposes of the Agreement**

   The purposes of this agreement are to operate the SFBRA through existing agencies that have the capacity and expertise necessary to carry out the SFBRA’s mission, and to maximize efficiency, avoid administrative redundancy, minimize costs, ensure accountability and coordinate closely to achieve these purposes.

3. **Staffing Responsibilities for SFBRA Act Implementation**
Proposed Recitals and Terms
Joint Powers Agreement-SFBRA/ABAG/SCC

SCC and ABAG shall provide staff services to the SFBRA, as set forth below, for purposes of implementation of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Act and Measure AA. In performing services for the SFBRA, SCC staff shall do so as state employees and shall represent themselves to the public as SCC employees. The SFBRA acknowledges that SCC staff members will bring their expertise and perspectives as state employees to performance of their duties under this agreement, and that SCC staff will not provide services beyond those necessary to implement the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Act.

- **Executive Officer:** SCC shall provide a staff member to perform Executive Officer services for the SFBRA; Executive Officer services shall include preparation of a work plan and budget; oversight of compliance with Measure AA requirements and other revenue restrictions; management of SFBRA public meetings; coordination of the SFBRA Advisory Committee and the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee; management of external communications; consultation with ABAG; direction of program staff; and other duties that may be delegated to the Executive Officer by the SFB.

- **Program Staff:** SCC and ABAG shall provide staff members to perform program services for the SFBRA under the direction of the Executive Officer. Program services shall include: development of procedures for grant evaluation and prioritization, review of grant applications, preparation of grants and contracts, oversight of projects and contracts, review of invoices, and related administrative functions. SCC and ABAG will decide jointly which program staff functions will be performed by ABAG.

- **Treasurer/Fiscal Agent:** ABAG shall provide a financial officer to act as treasurer to the SFBRA. The treasurer shall receive, safeguard, invest, and disburse funds; collect taxes from counties; perform fiscal audits; provide accounting services; prepare and submit internal and external financial reports; make recommendations regarding risk management and procure adequate insurance on behalf of SFBRA.

- **Legal:** SCC shall provide legal services to advise the SFBRA Governing Board, the Executive Officer, program staff, Clerk of the Board, and the treasurer on SFBRA matters. Attorney services shall include preparation of oral and written legal advice, review of staff recommendations, and retention and management of outside counsel to represent SFBRA in the event of litigation. ABAG will provide legal services in the event of a conflict of interest that is not waived by SFBRA and SCC.

- **Clerk of the Board:** SCC shall provide a staff member to serve as the meeting clerk for the SFBRA. The meeting clerk services shall include: maintenance of the official records of SFBRA, preparation of meeting notices and agendas, coordination with ABAG for
Proposed Recitals and Terms
Joint Powers Agreement-SFBRA/ABAG/SCC

posting official notices on the SFBRA website, notifying Governing Board members of Fair Political Practices Commission filing requirements and maintaining FPPC filings, and providing clerical and logistical support to Governing Board members.

- **Information Technology**: ABAG shall maintain and manage the SFBRA website in accordance with written protocols and procedures. SCC shall maintain and manage electronic records related to the Executive Officer, program staff, legal services, Clerk of the Board and other public records.

4. **Date Parties Assume Their Obligations**

Parties assume their respective responsibilities upon execution of JPA. This will transition the Executive Officer, Legal Counsel and Clerk of the Board functions from ABAG to SCC.

5. **Effective Date/Duration**

- JPA will become effective when signed by all parties and will remain in effect until January 1, 2029, unless extended by written agreement of the parties.
- SFBRA can terminate JPA upon 180 days written notice to SCC and ABAG.
- ABAG and SCC can withdraw from the JPA upon 180 days written notice; remaining parties may amend agreement to reallocate responsibilities, add other parties, or terminate.

6. **Payment**

- Staff services and other allowable costs incurred by the parties after July 1, 2016 are eligible for reimbursement by the SFBRA; staff services or other costs incurred by the parties before July 1, 2016 are the sole responsibility of the entity incurring the costs.
- SFBRA will reimburse ABAG and SCC for their costs in carrying out responsibilities under the JPA consistent with a budget approved by the SFBRA Governing Board. Costs include costs of contracts for goods and services, staff costs at fully burdened rates for each applicable job classification, and travel essential to carrying out responsibilities under this agreement. ABAG and SCC will promptly notify SFBRA’s Governing Board if costs may exceed the budget. Such notice will include proposals for reducing costs and/or an estimate of the exceedances. Exceedances will be paid only if the budget is amended to include them.

7. **Indemnification**
SFBRA agrees to indemnify ABAG and SCC for tort liability arising out of performance of this agreement. SFBRA shall purchase appropriate insurance for this purpose. SCC and ABAG shall indemnify SFBRA prior to the time that SFBRA has funds to purchase the insurance.

8. **Audits and Accountability**

- ABAG will fulfill SFBRA’s statutory obligation to provide for regular audits of the SFBRA’s accounts and records, and shall maintain accounting records and shall report accounting transactions in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles adopted by the Government Accounting Standards Board of the Financial Accounting Foundation for both public reporting purposes and for reporting of activities to the State Controller. (Govt. Code 66705(a).)

- ABAG will fulfill SFBRA’s statutory obligation to provide for annual financial reports and to make copies of the annual financial reports available to the public. (Govt. Code 66705(b).)

- SFBRA may order independent audits.

- SCC will perform its responsibilities in accordance with applicable laws, the SFBRA enabling law and guidelines created by SFBRA, and will make its SFBRA-related records available to ABAG for audit.

9. **Communication and Coordination Among Parties to the Agreement**

- The parties will cooperate and coordinate to ensure maximum efficiency, economy and quality of support for the SFBRA. Coordination will include regular communication between SCC and ABAG staff regarding management and policy issues, as well as how effectively the agencies are working together and satisfying their responsibilities under this agreement.

- ABAG will provide SCC monthly summaries of SFBRA fund balances, interest, income, and expenditures, including allocation among subaccounts, if any.

- SCC will provide ABAG quarterly projections of cash needs.

10. **Procedures**

SCC will draft grant and contracting processes and other procedures necessary for the efficient operation of the SFBRA Governing Board.

11. **Participation Requirements**
Proposed Recitals and Terms
Joint Powers Agreement-SFBRA/ABAG/SCC

Contracts for materials, supplies and services will seek to meet State of California objectives for participation by small businesses and disabled veteran business enterprises.

12. Amendment

This term should provide that the agreement can be amended only by a written amendment signed by all parties.
THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY CLEAN WATER, POLLUTION PREVENTION AND HABITAT RESTORATION MEASURE

The people of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority do ordain as follows:

Section 1. Findings and Purpose.

Over the last century, landfill and toxic pollution have had a massive impact on San Francisco Bay (sometimes referred to herein as the “Bay”). It is not too late to reverse this impact and restore the Bay for future generations. To meet that objective, in 2008, state law established the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (the “Authority”), to raise and allocate resources for the restoration, enhancement, protection, and enjoyment of wetlands and wildlife habitats in the San Francisco Bay and along its shoreline.

The purpose of the San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Measure (the “Measure”) is to protect and restore San Francisco Bay to benefit future generations by reducing trash, pollution, and harmful toxins, improving water quality, restoring habitat for fish, birds, and wildlife, protecting communities from flood and increasing shoreline public access and recreational areas.

Section 2. Funding of San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Expenditure Plan.

Subject to voter approval, the Authority hereby establishes a special parcel tax (the “Special Tax”) the proceeds of which shall be used solely for the purpose of supporting the programs and priorities and other purposes set forth in this Measure. The Special Tax shall be levied at a rate of twelve dollars ($12) per parcel within the jurisdiction of the Authority, which consists of the Counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano and Sonoma and the City and County of San Francisco (such nine counties, collectively, the “San Francisco Bay Area”). The Special Tax shall be levied annually for a total of twenty (20) years, commencing July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2037.

The Special Tax shall be levied on each parcel of taxable property within the San Francisco Bay Area, and shall be collected by the tax collectors of each county (including the City and County of San Francisco) in the San Francisco Bay Area (the “Tax Collectors”) at the same time as, and along with, and will be subject to the same penalties as general, ad valorem taxes collected by
the Tax Collectors. The Special Tax and any penalty shall bear interest at the same rate as the rate for unpaid ad valorem property taxes until paid. Any Special Tax levied shall become a lien upon the properties against which taxes are assessed and collectible as herein provided. The Special Tax shall appear as a separate item on the tax bill.

All property that is otherwise exempt from ad valorem property taxes in any year shall also be exempt from the Special Tax in such year. The Authority shall adopt procedures that set forth any clarifications and exemptions to address unique circumstances and any procedure for claimants seeking an exemption, refund, reduction or recomputation of the Special Tax.

Section 3. San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Expenditure Plan.

The revenues from the Special Tax set forth in Section 2 above shall be used solely for the purpose of supporting programs and priorities and purposes set forth in this Measure, including the following:

A. Program Descriptions

Under this Measure, the Authority may fund projects along the Bay shorelines within the Authority’s jurisdiction, which consists of the Counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano and Sonoma and the City and County of San Francisco. The shorelines include the shorelines of San Francisco Bay, San Pablo Bay, Carquinez Strait, Suisun Bay, and most of the Northern Contra Costa County Shoreline to the edge of the Delta Primary Zone. These projects shall advance the following programs:

1. Safe, Clean Water and Pollution Prevention Program

The purpose of this program to be funded under the Measure is to remove pollution, trash and harmful toxins from the Bay in order to provide clean water for fish, birds, wildlife, and people.

   a. Improve water quality by reducing pollution and engaging in restoration activities, protecting public health and making fish and wildlife healthier.
   b. Reduce pollution levels through shoreline cleanup and trash removal from the Bay.
   c. Restore wetlands that provide natural filters and remove pollution from the Bay’s water.
   d. Clean and enhance creek outlets where they flow into the Bay.

2. Vital Fish, Bird and Wildlife Habitat Program

The purpose of this program to be funded under the Measure is to significantly improve wildlife habitat that will support and increase vital populations of fish, birds, and other wildlife in and around the Bay.

   a. Enhance the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, shoreline parks and open space preserves, and other protected lands in and around the Bay, providing expanded and improved habitat for fish, birds and mammals.
   b. Protect and restore wetlands and other Bay and shoreline habitats to benefit wildlife, including shorebirds, waterfowl and fish.
   c. Provide for stewardship, maintenance and monitoring of habitat restoration projects in and around the Bay, to ensure their ongoing benefits to wildlife and people.
3. Integrated Flood Protection Program
The purpose of this program to be funded under the Measure is to use natural habitats to protect communities along the Bay’s shoreline from the risks of severe coastal flooding caused by storms and high water levels.
   a. Provide nature-based flood protection through wetland and habitat restoration along the Bay’s edge and at creek outlets that flow to the Bay.
   b. Build and/or improve flood protection levees that are a necessary part of wetland restoration activities, to protect existing shoreline communities, agriculture, and infrastructure.

4. Shoreline Public Access Program
The purpose of this program to be funded under the Measure is to enhance the quality of life of Bay Area residents, including those with disabilities, through safer and improved public access, as part of and compatible with wildlife habitat restoration projects in and around the Bay.
   a. Construct new, repair existing and/or replace deteriorating public access trails, signs, and related facilities along the shoreline and manage these public access facilities.
   b. Provide interpretive materials and special outreach events about pollution prevention, wildlife habitat, public access, and flood protection, to protect the Bay’s health and encourage community engagement.

B. Additional Allocation Criteria and Community Benefits
1. The Authority shall ensure that the Measure’s revenue is spent in the most efficient and effective manner, consistent with the public interest and in compliance with existing law. The Authority shall give priority to projects that:
   a. Have the greatest positive impact on the Bay as a whole, in terms of clean water, wildlife habitat and beneficial use to Bay Area residents.
   b. Have the greatest long-term impact on the Bay, to benefit future generations.
   c. Provide for geographic distribution across the region and ensure that there are projects funded in each of the nine counties in the San Francisco Bay Area over the life of the Measure.
   d. Increase impact value by leveraging state and federal resources and public/private partnerships.
   e. Benefit economically disadvantaged communities.
   f. Benefit the region’s economy, including local workforce development, employment opportunities for Bay Area residents, and nature-based flood protection for critical infrastructure and existing shoreline communities.
   g. Work with local organizations and businesses to engage youth and young adults and assist them in gaining skills related to natural resource protection.
   h. Incorporate monitoring, maintenance and stewardship to develop the most efficient and effective strategies for restoration and achievement of intended benefits.
   i. Meet the selection criteria of the Coastal Conservancy’s San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program and are consistent with the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission’s coastal management program and with the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture’s implementation strategy.
2. The Authority shall ensure that 50% of the total net revenue generated during the 20-year term of the Special Tax is allocated to the four Bay Area regions, defined as the North Bay (Sonoma, Marin, Napa and Solano Counties), East Bay (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties), West Bay (City and County of San Francisco and San Mateo County) and South Bay (Santa Clara County) in proportion to each region's share of the Bay Area's population, as determined in the 2010 census, and consistent with the priorities set forth in this section. As a result, each region will receive the following minimum percentage of total net revenue generated during the 20-year term of the Special Tax: North Bay: 9%, East Bay: 18%, West Bay: 11%, South Bay: 12%. The remaining revenue shall be allocated consistent with all other provisions of this Measure.

3. The Authority shall conduct one or more public meetings annually to gain public input on selection of projects under this Measure. All actions, including decisions about selecting projects for funding, will be made by the Authority in public meetings with advance notice and with meeting materials made available in advance to the public.

4. The Authority may accumulate revenue over multiple years so that sufficient funding is available for larger and long-term projects. All interest income shall be used solely to support programs and priorities set forth in this Measure.

5. No Special Tax proceeds shall be used for campaign advocacy.

6. No more than 5% of the Special Tax proceeds generated in any given fiscal year may be used by the Authority for general government purposes in such fiscal year, including to administer the projects funded under this Measure. Any unused funds may be carried over for use in subsequent fiscal years.

7. The Authority shall have the right, power and authority to pledge Special Tax proceeds to the payment of bonds of the Authority or another public agency (including, but not limited to, a joint powers authority created pursuant to Article 1 of the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Government Code Section 6500 et seq.), and use Special Tax proceeds to pay debt service on such bonds and the costs of issuance related thereto.

C. Accountability and Oversight

In order to ensure accountability, transparency and public oversight of funds collected and allocated under this Measure and comply with State law, all of the following shall apply:

1. The specific purpose of the Special Tax shall be to support only programs and priorities and other purposes listed in this Measure. The Special Tax proceeds shall be applied only for specific purposes of this Measure and shall be spent only in accordance with the procedures and limitations set forth in this Measure.

2. A separate account shall be created by the Authority into which all Special Tax proceeds must be deposited. The Authority shall commission an independent annual
audit of all revenues deposited in, and all expenditures made from, the separate account and publish annual financial statements.

3. All Special Tax revenue, except as set forth in Section 3.B.6 above, shall be spent on projects for the benefit of the San Francisco Bay Area, and shall not be taken by the State.

4. The Authority shall prepare annual written reports showing (i) the amount of funds collected and expended from Special Tax proceeds and (ii) the status of any projects or programs required or authorized to be funded from the proceeds of the Special Tax, as identified above. The report shall comply with Government Code section 50075.3, be posted on the Authority’s website, and be submitted to the Bay Restoration Advisory Committee, established pursuant to Government Code section 66703.7 (the “Advisory Committee”), for review and comment.

5. The Advisory Committee shall provide advice to the Authority on all aspects of its activities under this Measure to ensure maximum benefit, value, and transparency. Advisory Committee meetings will be announced in advance and will be open to the public. The responsibilities of the Advisory Committee shall include, but shall not be limited to: (a) advising the Authority about implementation of this Measure; and (b) making recommendations regarding expenditure priorities under this Measure.

6. The Authority shall appoint six members of the public to an Independent Citizens Oversight Committee that shall: (a) annually review the Authority’s conformance with the Measure; (b) review the Authority’s audits and expenditure and financial reports; and (c) publish an annual report of its findings, which shall be posted on the Authority’s website. The six members shall include residents of the North Bay, East Bay, West Bay, and South Bay, as defined in Government Code 66703(a), who are experts in water quality, pollution reduction, habitat restoration, flood protection, improvement of public access to the Bay, or financing of these objectives. No person may serve on the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee who (a) is an elected official or government employee, or (b) has had or could have a financial interest in decisions of the Authority as defined by Government Code section 87103 and the Fair Political Practices Commission.

Section 4. Establishment of Appropriation Limit.

Pursuant to Article XIII-B of the California Constitution and section 66704.05(b)(2) of the Government Code, the appropriation limit of the Authority shall be set by the total revenues actually received by the Authority from the proceeds of the Special Tax levied in fiscal year 2017-18, as adjusted each fiscal year thereafter for the estimated change in the cost of living, population and number of parcels on which the Special Tax is levied (such estimate to be determined by the Governing Body of the Authority and be conclusive for all purposes after made). The appropriation limit may be further adjusted by any other changes that may be permitted or required by Article XIII-B of the California Constitution.
Section 5. Amendments and Severability.

A. The Governing Board of the Authority shall be empowered to amend this Measure by majority vote of its members to further the purposes of this Measure, to conform the provisions of this Measure to applicable State law, to modify the methods of levy and collection of the Special Tax, or to assign the duties of public officials under this Measure.

B. If any part of this Measure is held to be invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Measure and the voters declare that they would have passed the remainder of this Measure as if such invalid portion were not included.
September 9, 2016

Chairman Doug Bosco
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 95612

Dear Chair Bosco:

The Silicon Valley Leadership Group encourages the State Coastal Conservancy to enter into a joint powers agreement with the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority and the Association of Bay Area Government that would allow the Conservancy and ABAG to provide staff services to the Authority and be compensated for costs incurred.

The Leadership Group, founded in 1978 by David Packard of Hewlett-Packard, represents more than 400 of Silicon Valley’s most respected employers on issues, programs, and campaigns that affect the economic health and quality of life in Silicon Valley, including energy, transportation, education, housing, health care, tax policies, economic vitality and the environment.

The Authority was established in 2008 as a regional entity by state legislation “to raise and allocate resources for restoration, enhancement, protection, and enjoyment of wetlands and wildlife habitats in the San Francisco Bay and along its shoreline.” The Authority placed Measure AA, the San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Program on the June 6, 2016 ballot in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area and it passed by over 70%. Measure AA will generate approximately $25 million per year for 20 years with a $12 per year parcel tax and make a significant positive impact on the health of San Francisco Bay and the communities that surround the Bay.

The Leadership Group has long advocated for policies and programs, including Measure AA, which preserve the health of the San Francisco Bay and its shoreline for future generations. The restoration of San Francisco Bay wetlands will help clean the Bay’s waters, restore wildlife habitat, and increase shoreline access. It will also help protect over $10 billion in infrastructure, including 80 of the Leadership Group’s member companies, during the next major storm. The Leadership Group strongly supported Measure AA, and continues to support wetland restoration through educational outreach about its importance to member companies and their employees.

Since 2008, several ABAG staff members have served as temporary staff to the Authority and the Conservancy has provided assistance. Before the passage of Measure AA, the Authority had no financial resources and the work was relatively minor. The distribution and oversight of Measure AA funding necessitates a larger and more formal administrative structure. The Conservancy has a long history of supporting and managing fundraising, including state bond funds and federal grants, for wetlands restoration work in San Francisco Bay. Conservancy staff has the expertise and skills needed by the Authority for the establishment and management of a grant programs to distribute Measure AA funds and accomplish the objectives outlined in the Authority’s enabling legislation and in Measure AA.

A joint powers agreement will allow for the Authority to utilize existing staff at the Conservancy and ABAG to quickly and efficiently provide the administrative support necessary for early success. I encourage your full consideration of this agreement between the Conservancy, ABAG, and the Authority.

If you have any questions on our position, please contact Mike Mielke, SVP for Environment and Energy at mmielke@svlg.org or 408-501-7858.

Sincerely,

Mike Mielke
SVP, Environment & Energy
Silicon Valley Leadership Group

cc: Amy Hutzel
September 2, 2016

Chairman Doug Bosco
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 95612

Dear Chair Bosco:

Ducks Unlimited encourages the State Coastal Conservancy (Conservancy) to enter into a joint powers agreement with the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (Authority) and Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) that would allow them to provide staff services to the Authority and be compensated for costs incurred.

Ducks Unlimited is the world’s leader in wetland conservation. In the San Francisco Bay Area our conservation team specializes in implementing a wide array of projects that restore, enhance, and protect wetlands and associated habitats. We do this in close collaboration with our federal, state, local, and private conservation partners. Critical among them is the Conservancy. For more than a decade, our collaborations have included incredible successes such as at Sears Point, Eden Landing, South Bay Salt Ponds, and the North Bay Salt Ponds, among many others.

The Conservancy has brought more than just funding to our projects. Conservancy grant managers provide ecological knowledge and project management capabilities that improves project implementation, effectiveness, and success. Ducks Unlimited knows first-hand the challenges of doing all of these functions, and the expertise required to do them successfully is firmly embedded in the Conservancy. We can think of no entity more capable of providing staff services to oversee the success of Measure AA than the Conservancy.

We encourage you to formalize the relationship between the Conservancy, ABAG, and the Authority. It is our understanding that a joint powers agreement will allow the Authority to utilize existing staff at the Conservancy and ABAG to quickly and efficiently provide the administrative and technical support necessary for early success. Please give your full consideration and approval of an agreement between the Conservancy, ABAG, and the Authority.

Sincerely,

Mark Bidelecomb
Director

cc. Amy Hutzel
September 9, 2016

Chairman Doug Bosco
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 95612

Dear Chair Bosco:

The Bay Institute recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy enter into a joint powers agreement with the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority and Association of Bay Area Governments to allow the Conservancy and ABAG to provide staff services to the Authority and be compensated for costs incurred.

The Authority was established “to raise and allocate resources for the restoration, enhancement, protection, and enjoyment of wetlands and wildlife habitats in the San Francisco Bay and along its shoreline.” The Authority placed Measure AA on the June 6, 2016 ballot in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area and it passed by over 70%. Measure AA will generate approximately $25 million per year and make a significant positive impact on the health of San Francisco Bay.

Since 2008, ABAG has provided staff to the Authority and the Conservancy has provided assistance. Before the passage of Measure AA, the Authority had no financial resources and the work was relatively minor. Administration of Measure AA funding requires a robust administrative structure. The Conservancy has experience supporting and managing funding, including state bond funds and federal grants, for restoration work in San Francisco Bay. Conservancy staff have the expertise needed for the establishment and management of a such a grant program to accomplish the objectives outlined in the Authority’s enabling legislation and in Measure AA.

A joint powers agreement will allow for the Authority to use existing staff at the Conservancy and ABAG to quickly and efficiently provide the administrative and technical support necessary for early success. I encourage your full consideration of this agreement between the Conservancy, ABAG, and the Authority.

Sincerely,

Marc Holmes
Program Director

cc. Amy Hutzel
September 8, 2016

Chairman Doug Bosco
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 95612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing on behalf of the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture (SFBJV) to support the State Coastal Conservancy’s request to enter into a joint powers agreement with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (Authority). The agreement would allow the Conservancy and ABAG to provide staff services to the Authority and be compensated for costs incurred.

The SFBJV is a partnership of non-governmental organizations, utilities, landowners, and non-voting agencies with a goal to acquire, restore and enhance wetlands and riparian habitats and associated uplands, and sub-tidal habitats to benefit birds, fish, and other wildlife in the San Francisco Bay Area. The SFBJV is one of the eighteen federally-sponsored habitat Joint Ventures to implement the North American Wetlands Conservation Act and federal bird conservation plans. The SFBJV Implementation Plan, Restoring the Estuary is based on the goals established in the Baylands Habitat Goals and, targets nearly 200,000 acres of wetlands and riparian habitats for protection, restoration, or enhancement through our partners’ funding and expertise. The SFBJV Management Board consists of 27 agencies and private organizations whose members agree to support and promote the goal and objectives of the Joint Venture and who represent the diversity of wetlands interests found in the San Francisco Bay Region. The Coastal Conservancy has been an active member of the SFBJV since its founding in 1996.

The SFBJV has also been actively engaged with the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (Authority) since its establishment by state legislation in 2008 as a regional authority “to raise and allocate resources for the restoration, enhancement, protection, and enjoyment of wetlands and wildlife habitats in the San Francisco Bay and along its shoreline.” The SFBJV strongly supported efforts to pass Measure AA, the San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Program. With its passage of on June 6, 2015, the Authority was charged with project selection, distribution, and accountability for the approximately $25 million per year for 20 years to be generated by a $12 per parcel tax.

Since 2008, several ABAG staff members have served as temporary staff to the Authority, and the Conservancy has provided assistance. Prior to the passage of Measure AA, the Authority had no financial resources. Therefore, the work was relatively minor. The distribution and oversight of Measure AA funding necessitates a larger and more formal administrative structure. The SFBJV wants to ensure that the process for their distribution is efficient and considers the priorities of the wetlands restoration community. We, therefore, recommend that the Authority and
ABAG utilize the expertise and skills of the Conservancy staff to quickly establish and manage a grant program to distribute Measure AA funds. A joint powers agreement between the ABAG and the Conservancy will enable the Authority to fund important wetlands restoration projects in San Francisco Bay by providing the administrative and technical support necessary for success.

Measure AA funds will make a significant positive impact on the health of San Francisco Bay by restoring wetlands for native wildlife species and providing for wildlife-dependent recreation for Bay Area residents. The SFBJV anxiously anticipates the time when the funds will be available to continue and expand this important work. If you have any questions about the SFBJV support for a joint powers agreement between the Conservancy and ABAG, please contact our Coordinator, Beth Huning.

Sincerely,

Anne Morkill
Management Board Chair

cc. Amy Hutzel
September 26, 2016

Chairman Doug Bosco
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 95612

Re: Support for the State Coastal Conservancy entering into a joint powers agreement with the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority and the Association of Bay Area Governments

Dear Chair Bosco:

As chair of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority and a member of the Executive Board of the Association of Bay Area Governments, I encourage the State Coastal Conservancy to enter into a joint powers agreement with the Authority and ABAG that would allow the Conservancy and ABAG to provide staff services to the Authority and be compensated for costs incurred. While I am writing this letter in my individual capacity, it should be noted that the joint powers agreement was approved in principle by the Authority’s Board on July 29, 2016 and by the ABAG Executive Board on September 15, 2016.

Since the Authority was created in 2008, several ABAG and Conservancy staff members have served as temporary staff to the Authority. Before the passage of Measure AA in June of this year, the Authority had no financial resources and the work was focused solely on evaluating strategies for bringing a measure to the ballot to provide funding to restore and protect wetlands and wildlife habitats in the San Francisco Bay. Now that Measure AA has passed, the distribution and oversight of Measure AA funding will require a larger and more formal administrative structure which I believe can be best accomplished at this time by contracting for services with ABAG and the Conservancy.

The Conservancy has a long history of supporting and managing funding, including state bond funds and federal grants, for wetlands restoration work in San Francisco Bay. Conservancy staff have the expertise and skills needed by the Authority for the establishment and management of a grant program to distribute Measure AA funds and
accomplish the objectives outlined in the Authority’s enabling legislation and in Measure AA.

A joint powers agreement will allow for the Authority to utilize existing staff at the Conservancy and ABAG to quickly and efficiently provide the administrative and technical support necessary for early success. The alternative would be for the Authority to hire its own staff at this early phase in its work, which would be expensive, time consuming and redundant with the existing expertise of the ABAG and Coastal Conservancy staff.

I urge your support of the joint powers agreement between the Conservancy, ABAG, and the Authority. Please contact me should you questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Dave Pine
San Mateo County Supervisor, District 1

cc. Amy Hutzel