

COASTAL CONSERVANCY

Staff Recommendation
March 25, 2004

RICHMOND SCENIC OVERLOOKS

File No. 01-149
Project Manager: Brenda Buxton

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Authorization to accept \$40,000 from the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission to assist the Commission with implementation of the Bay Plan, and further authorization to augment the Conservancy's October 31, 2002 resolution to disburse these funds to the City of Richmond for the construction of pedestrian overlooks and a public beach access along the Point Richmond shoreline.

LOCATION: City of Richmond, Contra Costa County.

PROGRAM CATEGORY: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1: October 31, 2002 Staff Recommendation

RESOLUTION AND FINDINGS:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31000 *et seq.* of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes acceptance of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) from the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission to assist the Commission with implementation of the San Francisco Bay Plan, in accordance with a permit, which was the mechanism for obtaining these funds; and further authorizes disbursement of these funds to the City of Richmond for shoreline overlook and beach access as described in the Conservancy staff recommendation of October 31, 2002.”

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 the Richmond Scenic Overlooks project remains consistent with Public Resources Code Sections 31160-31164, and with the Conservancy's Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines, as described in the staff recommendation and Conservancy action of October 31, 2002.”

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Staff recommends that the Conservancy authorize acceptance of \$40,000 from the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) and disbursement of these funds to the City of Richmond for construction of pedestrian overlooks and a beach access at four street ends along the Point Richmond shoreline. These funds are derived from a BCDC mitigation fund created to offset impacts from permitted projects; no new Bay Conservancy Program funds are required. In October 2002, the Conservancy authorized a grant to the City of Richmond to carry out the overlook project, with the intention that these funds would be provided as matching funds for the Conservancy's original \$60,000 authorization (Exhibit 1). However, since that time BCDC has been advised that it cannot award grants for such projects and the Conservancy has been requested to administer funds on BCDC's behalf. Thus, in December 2003 the Conservancy accepted and agreed to disburse BCDC funds for habitat enhancement in Richardson Bay; and this month staff is also recommending the acceptance and disbursement of BCDC for the restoration of Triangle Marsh. This authorization would allow the Conservancy to augment its existing \$60,000 grant agreement with the City of Richmond and help BCDC implement the San Francisco Bay Plan and conditions of its permits. Except for this administrative change to BCDC funds, the project descriptions and conditions in the October 31, 2002 staff recommendation are unchanged.