



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

December 18, 2019
Board Meeting 19-32

SPECIAL MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

Administrative Office
330 Distel Circle
Los Altos, CA 94022

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

APPROVED MINUTES*

SPECIAL MEETING

Vice-President Holman called the special meeting of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District to order at 10:31 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Larry Hassett, Karen Holman, Zoe Kersteen-Tucker, and Yoriko Kishimoto

Members Absent: Jed Cyr, Pete Siemens, and Curt Riffle

Staff Present: General Manager Ana Ruiz, General Counsel Hilary Stevenson, Assistant General Manager Susanna Chan, District Clerk/Assistant to the General Manager Jennifer Woodworth, Planning Manager Jane Mark, Planner III Gretchen Laustsen

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

No speakers present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Director Hassett moved, and Director Kishimoto seconded the motion to adopt the agenda.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Directors Cyr, Riffle, and Siemens absent)

BOARD BUSINESS

1. Caltrans Funding Opportunity to Support the Ravenswood Bay Trail Project – Related to a Bay Conservation and Development Commission Permit Requirement for the

Caltrans San Mateo 101 Express Lanes Project to Fund Public Access Improvements (R-19-166)

Planner III Gretchen Laustsen provided the staff report describing the potential funding available from Caltrans for the Ravenswood Bay Trail project. The potential funding is a Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) permit condition for a Caltrans project to establish express or High-Occupancy Toll lanes in each direction along Highway 101 in San Mateo County.

Director Holman requested clarification regarding the type of funding available.

Ms. Laustsen reported that the funding is not a mitigation fee but is part of the BCDC permit requirement to fund public access.

Director Hassett inquired if other agencies would be competing for the same funding.

Ms. Laustsen reported San Mateo County Parks staff has stated they do not intend to pursue the potential funding.

Director Holman inquired regarding any conditions placed on the potential funding by Caltrans and if any conditions would be brought back to the Board for approval.

General Manager Ana Ruiz reported that because timing is short for negotiating the funding agreement, staff will be negotiating based on Board direction and to meet the District's best interest. If an agreement could not be reached on those terms, then the District would not enter into an agreement.

General Counsel Hilary Stevenson provided additional clarification of the type of funds being pursued explaining that it is not mitigation funding related to an environmental impact, but to meet BCDC's requirement to provide public or visual access to the San Francisco Bay.

The Board members requested clarification regarding the Caltrans project and whether additional traffic lanes will be added to Highway 101.

Assistant General Manager Susanna Chan reported that the traffic improvements will take place within the Caltrans right-of-way. Most improvements will involve converting existing lanes into carpool/high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes. Ms. Chan provided additional information regarding the type of potential funding being considered explaining BCDC typically requires a project to provide public access. If the project does not provide public access, then an in-lieu fee is required to be paid to support other public access projects, as is the case for the Caltrans project.

Public comments opened at 11:03 a.m.

No speakers present

Public comments closed at 11:03 a.m.

Vice-President Holman suggested the resolution be modified to clarify that the carpool/HOT lanes will be created through conversion of exiting lanes and stay in the Caltrans right-of-way.

Director Kersteen-Tucker spoke in favor of pursuing the Caltrans funding to support public access through the Ravenswood Bay Trail project.

Vice-President Holman suggested modifying the resolution to state BCDC identified the District's Ravenswood Bay Trail project as an eligible project for in-lieu funding by Caltrans.

The Board members agreed to the modifications to the resolution.

Motion: Director Kishimoto moved, and Director Holman seconded the motion to adopt an amended resolution authorizing the General Manager to negotiate and execute a funding agreement with Caltrans.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Directors Cyr, Riffle, and Siemens absent)

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-President Holman adjourned the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District at 11:23 a.m.

Jennifer Woodworth, MMC
District Clerk