



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

R-21-152
Meeting 21-31
November 10, 2021

AGENDA ITEM 5

AGENDA ITEM

Resolution for Grant Funding from the California Department of Parks and Recreation
Proposition 68 Recreational Infrastructure Revenue Enhancement Grant Program

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION *den*

Adopt a resolution authorizing the General Manager to apply for Proposition 68 Recreational Infrastructure Revenue Enhancement Program grant funding from the California Department of Parks and Recreation and to enter into a grant funding agreement for \$1,428,282 in funding for the proposed Cloverdale Ranch Land Conservation Project.

SUMMARY

The General Manager recommends that the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) Board of Directors (Board) adopt a resolution authorizing the General Manager as signatory to submit a grant application to the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR). The grant funds would be used to support the Cloverdale Ranch Land Conservation Project. This report provides a description of the state bond funds allocated to the District through the CDPR's Recreational Infrastructure Revenue Enhancement (RIRE) Program and the approval process for use of the funds.

DISCUSSION

Proposition 68 was passed by California voters in June 2018, authorizing the availability of \$37,000,000 in funding to support eligible parks and open space organizations through the RIRE Program. Funds are available non-competitively for local agencies that have obtained voter approval between November 1, 2012, through November 30, 2018, for revenue enhancement measures aimed at improving and enhancing local or regional park and recreational infrastructure, to be awarded proportionally based on the population of the voting area. Funds may also be used to support land acquisitions. CDPR announced allocations for the RIRE Program on November 24, 2020. The District qualifies for a non-competitive allocation of \$1,428,282 from the RIRE Program based on the District's population and successful voter approval of Measure AA in 2014, the District's \$300 million general obligation bond.

The proposed use of the RIRE funding is to support the proposed purchase of Cloverdale Ranch, including the acquisition and preservation of coastal open space and agricultural property in fee title in San Mateo County and the provision of public access to the existing trail and parking area at Wilbur's Watch, a 1-mile out-and-back trail through grassland and native coastal shrub. The Project was identified as a Tier 1 priority action in the adopted 2014 Vision Plan and funding for the Project was identified in the 2014 Measure AA (MAA) funding measure. *MAA13*

Cloverdale Ranch – Pursue Land Conservation Opportunities was added as a new project to District’s Measure AA 5-Year Projects for FY19 through FY23 in June 2018.

District staff have provided the Board with annual Cloverdale Ranch project status memorandums in [December 2019](#), [December 2020](#), and on [November 10, 2021](#). Staff anticipate bringing a recommendation to the Board by early 2023 for consideration of the acquisition of Cloverdale Ranch from the Peninsula Open Space Trust with a proposed close of escrow in March 2023.

CDPR requires an application for use of RIRE funding to be submitted no later than December 31, 2021. RIRE funds are available for use upon CDPR approval following execution of a grant funding agreement and must be expended by December 31, 2023, for final reimbursement requests to be submitted no later than March 31, 2024. Public access to the project must be made available within three years of the final grant payment. CDPR staff have confirmed that the District may satisfy the RIRE funding public access requirement by providing the public with access to the existing Wilbur’s Watch trail and parking area. As a part of the RIRE application, CDPR requires a resolution from the Board. The resolution (Attachment 1) authorizes the General Manager or her designee to sign the application to CDPR for RIRE funding and to execute a grant agreement(s) for the funds.

FISCAL IMPACT

Upon review and approval by CDPR, this funding opportunity would have a positive impact of up to \$1,428,282.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REVIEW

This report was not previously reviewed by the Board or a committee.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

Submitting grant applications to secure funding is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The RIRE Program requires that grantees comply with CEQA and certify that the CEQA analysis for any project encompasses all aspects of the work to be completed with grant funds.

NEXT STEPS

If approved by the Board, District staff would complete the RIRE grant application and the General Manager would submit the application to CDPR for consideration by late November 2021. Upon review and approval by CDPR, District staff would work with CDPR staff to develop a grant agreement for grant funding and the General Manager would execute the agreement.

Attachments:

1. Resolution authorizing the General Manager to apply for Proposition 68 RIRE Program grant funding from the California Department of Parks and Recreation and to enter a grant funding agreement(s) for \$1,428,282 in RIRE funding
2. Recreational Infrastructure Revenue Enhancement Program Allocations Table
3. Recreational Infrastructure Revenue Enhancement Program Procedural Guide

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