



**For Immediate Release
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SF Bay Protection, Restoration Measure Scheduled for June Ballot

OAKLAND—On January 13, 2016, the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (SFBRA) voted unanimously to place a special parcel tax on the June 7, 2016 ballot in all nine Bay Area counties of \$12 per year for twenty years. The “San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention, and Habitat Restoration Program,” known as the Clean and Healthy Bay Ballot Measure, would generate approximately \$25 million per year, totaling \$500 million, to fund shoreline projects that would protect and restore San Francisco Bay by:

- (1) reducing trash, pollution and harmful toxins;
- (2) improving water quality;
- (3) restoring habitat for fish, birds and wildlife;
- (4) protecting communities from floods; and
- (5) increasing shoreline access for public enjoyment.

Projects would be prioritized based on their positive impact on the San Francisco Bay as a whole, with provisions to ensure that projects would be funded in each of the Bay Area’s nine counties. Half of the funds would be allocated geographically among the North Bay, the East Bay, the South Bay, and the West Bay proportional to the size of their populations, and the remainder would be allocated without regard to county. Proceeds would be used solely for supporting the programs set forth in the measure and would be spent exclusively for projects in the nine counties comprising the authority, with administrative expenditures limited to no more than 5% of the measure’s revenue.

(MORE)

SF Bay Measure for June Ballot, 1/13/16

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Commenting on the authority's action, SFBRA Chair, San Mateo County Supervisor Dave Pine, said, "For nearly a decade, concerned environmentalists, business leaders, and local officials have been working to develop a regional funding measure that will allow us to carry out the wetlands restoration necessary to ensure that our children and grandchildren inherit a clean and healthy bay that enhances their quality of life. It is now clear we must accelerate efforts to restore the bay before sea level rise forecloses the opportunity. The Clean and Healthy Bay Ballot Measure will reduce pollution of bay waters, expand wildlife habitat, increase bayside recreation opportunities, and protect shoreline communities from flooding. It is a critically important investment in our region's future."

The Bay Restoration Authority is governed by a board of local elected officials. Current members are San Mateo County Supervisor Dave Pine (Chair), San Francisco City and County Supervisor Scott Wiener, Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia, Napa County Supervisor Keith Caldwell, City of Mountain View Mayor Patricia Showalter, and East Bay Regional Park District Director John Sutter. State law requires that funds raised by the Authority be spent on tidal marsh restoration and associated flood protection and public access projects.

If the measure is passed, an annual audit would be conducted and an annual report would be published detailing the amounts deposited and expended and the status of any projects funded under the measure. These audits and reports would be submitted to an Independent Citizen Oversight Committee for review.

The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority is a regional government agency charged with raising and allocating resources for the restoration, enhancement, protection, and enjoyment of wetlands and wildlife habitat in the San Francisco Bay and along its shoreline. The authority was created by the California legislature in 2008 with the enactment of AB 2954 (Lieber).

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