July 28, 2015

Board of Supervisors
County of Marin
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, California 94903

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE PRESIDENT TO EXECUTE A
COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE GOLDEN GATE
NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVANCY

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Receive a brief update on progress implementing the five-year strategy of the Tamalpais Lands Collaborative.
2. Authorize President to execute the Cooperative Agreement.

SUMMARY:

On February 25, 2014 your Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), California State Parks (State Parks), Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD), and Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (GGNPC) to form the Tamalpais Lands Collaborative (TLC). The MOU outlined an effective partnership strategy, at a high level, that would lead to the sharing of information and resources to implement priority projects and programs of each land manager with the aid of philanthropic support.

Since the signing of the MOU, TLC partners have met regularly to accomplish several key milestones including:

- Involving staff at all levels in the collaboration.
- Sharing and ranking priority projects and programs in need of support.
- Discussing and agreeing upon partnership and philanthropic strategies, and community engagement.
- Formalizing a five-year strategy (presented to your Board on November 25, 2014).
- Holding over 60 outreach meetings with Marin organizations and stakeholders to discuss the purpose of the TLC.
- Branding the TLC as One Tam, and the roll out of a website, social media strategy and other communications.
- Leading quarterly, shared volunteer days at locations on and around Mount Tamalpais.
• Planning for shared outreach, by means of a One Tam “Roving Ranger” for use at community events.
• Hiring two of four staff members under the GGNPC to implement shared priority programs on and around Mount Tamalpais focused on youth and adult volunteerism, environmental stewardship, and community outreach and engagement.

As TLC partners begin to implement projects and programs across the mountain, and as the GGNPC fulfills its role as philanthropic and fiscal lead and employer to additional staff supporting priority programs, an agreement is needed to define the partners’ respective roles and responsibilities, including:

• Defining how staff and resources are shared.
• Defining additional partnership roles to support collaboration.
• Defining specific roles of the GGNPC as philanthropic lead and convener of the collaborative.
• Defining a process used to transfer philanthropic funding for priority projects and programs.
• Clarifying insurance, accounting, health and safety, and other miscellaneous terms.

The attached Cooperative Agreement (Exhibit A; hereinafter “agreement”) is modeled after similar agreements between the GGNPC and GGNRA, State Parks, and MMWD. This agreement will be updated over time with addenda describing the implementation of priority projects in cases where the GGNPC is providing philanthropic resources.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There are no immediate impacts, but financial benefits could be substantial if the partnership is successful in bringing philanthropic support to resource management, visitor experience, volunteer stewardship, research and education, and stewardship projects on county parks and open space lands. Sharing resources could also lead to efficiencies in land stewardship, the financial benefits of which cannot be estimated at this time.

**REVIEWED BY:**

[ ] Department of Finance       [ X ] N/A
[X ] County Counsel           [ ] N/A
[ ] Human Resources           [ X ] N/A

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Miska
Acting Director
Marin County Parks

RM/KW/kbl