



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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April 20, 2021

Honorable Board of Supervisors
Marin County Civic Center
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Accept Ocean Protection Council Coastal Resilience Grant and approve related budget adjustments

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Adopt a resolution to accept the Ocean Protection Council Coastal Resilience Grant in the amount of \$396,000.
2. Approve budget adjustments as outlined in the Fiscal Impact section.

SUMMARY:

The Marin County Community Development Agency (CDA) has been awarded a \$396,000 Coastal Resilience Grant from the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC). The grant will fund the "Stinson Beach ARC: Adaptation and Resilience Collaboration" project. CDA's *Marin Ocean Coast Adaptation Report* outlined a process for community-scale sea level rise adaptation planning for each of West Marin's seven coastal communities. This project will pilot a Plan for Adaptation to Coastal Hazards (PATCH) approach in Stinson Beach, the West Marin community most immediately at risk. This process will anchor the development of a long-term, implementable adaptation plan addressing critical infrastructure, natural resources, and community assets and risks in the Stinson Beach area.

Specifically, the following activities are funded by the grant:

- **Community engagement process:** An involvement strategy will be developed to connect with the public affected by or concerned with sea level rise, including the full community and beach users, the West Marin Advisory Group (WMAG), a subset of the existing Coastal Communities Working Group (Southwest Marin Adaptation and Resilience Team, SMART), and a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Groups will meet regularly at critical review and decision points in the project and will continue to be engaged after project completion. The project team will ensure diverse, inclusive, multilingual, and equitable representation across the project public involvement processes.
- **Update C-SMART Vulnerability Assessment:** Update analyses in the Stinson Beach area to reflect the 2018 OPC State of California Sea Level Rise Guidance, CNRA/EPA 2050 target projections, and advancements in modelling potentially including sea level rise scenarios, sediment modelling, groundwater, fluvial-tidal flooding, etc.
- **Develop and execute Stinson Beach visitation and use survey:** CDA staff will work with community-based organizations and local and regional

partners, and consultant to develop and execute a Stinson Beach visitation and use survey. Data gained will be used to better engage public beach users for the duration of the project, and to ensure the value of the beach is accurately characterized in this adaptation planning effort.

- **Plan for Adaptation to Coastal Hazards (PATCH) Process:** As laid out in the *Marin Ocean Coast Sea Level Rise Adaptation Report*, the project will undertake a community-scale planning process focused on adapting critical infrastructure and natural resources of community wide importance to coastal hazards.
- **Final Adaptation Plan and Project Documentation:** A summary document to inform future community-scale adaptation planning with an adaptation pathways approach and the continued engagement with the SMART.

Grant funds will be used as shown below, with County personnel time as matched funds:

	Task 1: Carry Out Public Engagement Process	Task 2: Perform Ongoing Project Management	Task 3: Update C-SMART Vulnerability Assessment	Task 4: Develop and Execute Stinson Beach Visitation and Use Survey	Task 5: Plan for Adaptation to Coastal Hazards (PATCH) Process	Task 6: Final Adaptation Plan and Project Documentation	Total
Environmental Engineering Consultant	\$5,000.00				\$75,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$87,000.00
Applied Scientific Research Consultant			\$12,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$25,000.00		\$92,000.00
Community Engagement Consultant	\$100,000.00						\$100,000.00
Economic Analysis Consultant	\$5,000.00				\$30,000.00		\$35,000.00
Survey Design and Analysis Consultant				\$50,000.00			\$50,000.00
Partner Agencies				\$5,000.00			\$5,000.00
Facilitator	\$5,000.00				\$15,000.00		\$20,000.00
Graphics Consultant						\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Subcontractor(s) Total	\$115,000.00	\$0.00	\$12,000.00	\$110,000.00	\$145,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$396,000.00
Task Total (OPC Funds Requested)	\$115,000.00	\$0.00	\$12,000.00	\$110,000.00	\$145,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$396,000.00

County staff will provide technical and organizational support, but ownership and direction of the work will be the responsibility the community. The project will identify specific adaptation measures and place them in strategic adaptation pathways that identify sequencing, triggers and decision points for the long-term, with greater detail on near and medium-term adaptation solutions. A suite of potential adaptation

measures for specific sites and timing will be analyzed, and nature-based options will be evaluated, along with structural and managed retreat alternatives. The County will work with stakeholders to develop and apply evaluation criteria, including economic benefit-cost analysis to both individual adaptation measures and adaptation pathways to assess feasibility, efficacy, environmental impact, equity, and economic factors. The project will inform the County’s Local Coastal Plan update and West Marin Adaptation Planning processes, as well as ongoing updates to Marin’s Multi-jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Safety Element of the Countywide Plan.

The project will begin in May 2021 and continue through June 2024.

Project Task	Task Timeline
Public Engagement	May 2021 – June 2024
C-SMART vulnerability assessment update	May 2021 – January 2022
Stinson Beach Visitation and Use Survey	May 2021 – December 2021
PATCH Process	February 2022 – April 2024
Final Adaption Plan and Project Documentation and Dissemination	January 2024 – June 2024

EQUITY IMPACT:

Stinson Beach provides free/low-cost recreational opportunities to people throughout the Bay Area region, California, and even the world. While the Stinson Beach community itself is not a disadvantaged community, there are disadvantaged communities within the County and across the Bay Area region, who access the coast at Stinson Beach. Disadvantaged communities within Marin County include Marin City (14 miles distance), San Rafael’s Canal Neighborhood (20 miles away), and parts of Novato (30 miles away). Additionally, the California Department of Water Resources Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool shows the neighboring West Marin community of Point Reyes Station as a “Severely Disadvantaged Community” with a mean high annual income of less than \$38,270. These community members utilize community services available in Stinson Beach and will benefit from the continued availability of these services through implementation of resilience projects. Open access to all these and other users of the low-cost recreational opportunities afforded by Stinson Beach is an important right, as emphasized by the environmental justice policies and positions of the Coastal Commission, OPC, the County and others. Not only does the beach provide a recreational respite and an opportunity for relief from increasing instances of extreme heat, it also provides a setting for gathering of family and friends that knit social bonds.

Visitation and use of the beach imbue it with value that make the case for its protection in the face of predicted drowning and erosion. But while this intrinsic value is evident, its magnitude is less understood. To fill this data gap, we will characterize visitation and use of the beach through this project. In an advance technological innovation, we will use cell phone locational data together with on-the-ground surveys to estimate how visitors use the beach, and where beach users are coming from--with a particular focus on those visiting from disadvantaged communities. We will use the information we discover from this visitation survey to directly engage those communities that utilize Stinson Beach in the adaptation planning process as well as to evaluate alternative adaptation models.

We will work closely with the Marin Multicultural Center, as well as community-based organizations in Marin City, to develop and implement the on the ground portion of the visitation and use survey. We have written funding into this proposal to educate, train, and provide stipends to Canal Neighborhood youth to assist in survey dispersal and analysis, as well as continue involvement in the public engagement portion of this project.

FISCAL/STAFFING IMPACT:

Approval of this action will have no impact to the General Fund net county cost. Board authorization of this request will increase expenditure appropriations by \$492,000 in the Miscellaneous Project Fund (1010, project 40OPCFY21), fully offset by increased grant revenues of \$396,000 and transfer of \$96,000 from the Community Planning Grant reserve (Administrative Designation #900122) that was set aside this purpose and will be used to supplement the public engagement, project management and documentation tasks of the project.

REVIEWED BY: (These boxes must be checked)

- Department of Finance N/A
- County Counsel N/A
- Human Resources N/A
- County Administrator N/A

SIGNATURE:



Heather Dennis
Planner

Munis BUA #2354 (09/2021)

Attachments:

- 1) Resolution

CC:

Jackie Mulroy – Administrative Services Director, CDA
Anna Guiles – Administrative Analyst III, CAO
Bret Uppendahl – Budget Manager, CAO