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***Program and Policy Subcommittee Meeting Summary Report***

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**April 19, 2018**

**SUMMARY**

Board Members Dolly Sandoval and Todd Ferrara were present. Liaison Advisors Sandra O’Roak and Erik Vink were also present. One public member was present.

The meeting agenda included a discussion of the Proposition 1 Grant Program Cycle 4 Draft Grant Guidelines, a discussion of the draft Delta Sign Plan, and an update on the upcoming end of the fiscal year.

Regularly scheduled Program and Policy Subcommittee meetings have been moved to the third Thursday of the off-months of Board meetings.

**Proposition 1 Grant Program Cycle 4 Draft Grant Guidelines**

Staff provided an overview of the Proposition 1 Grant Program’s cycle 4 solicitation timeline and the general changes that will be made to the draft Grant Guidelines. The draft Grant Guidelines will be brought to the Board for consideration for release for a 30-day public comment at the May 23, 2018 Board meeting. The final Cycle 4 grant guidelines will be brought to the Board for consideration at the July 25, 2018 Board meeting

After internal discussion among staff and with stakeholders, the following substantive changes to the Grant Guidelines are anticipated:

- Move Board consideration of funding recommendations from March 2019 to May 2019 to provide more time for internal review. Proposal due date would remain the same
- Make all remaining funding available for award during the upcoming solicitation (approximately \$12.4 million)
- Streamline the Grant Guidelines to increase readability by moving some sections to the appendix
- Increase the Project Description evaluation criteria point total from 10 to 13
- Increase the Budget evaluation criteria point total from 5 to 7
- Decrease the Local Support evaluation criteria point total from 20 to 15

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The Subcommittee discussed the anticipated changes and were generally supportive. The Subcommittee also discussed the gaps in project locations and types within the current approved projects and suggested that staff work to increase outreach to potential applicants that address these gaps.

There was also discussion regarding whether a project that fails a scoring category should be recommended for funding. The Subcommittee advised that staff recommend to the Board that any project that fails a scoring category would not be recommended for funding, regardless of total score.

#### Draft Delta Awareness Sign Plan

Staff presented the draft Delta Awareness Sign Plan. The draft plan is a Delta community-developed guide for placing signs in the Delta, including suggested sign design templates and locations. The plan was developed by a taskforce of Delta business and tourism interests and was based on input received at five community meetings. The draft plan is currently in a public comment period that will end on May 18, 2018. The final Delta Sign Plan will be presented to the Board at the July 18 meeting.

The Subcommittee discussed the draft Delta Awareness Sign Plan, including the sign designs, and provided feedback on the document.

#### End of Fiscal Year

Staff provided an overview of the upcoming end of fiscal year and potential spending options for remaining funds.

#### Future Agenda Items

The Subcommittee will discuss the establishment of an agricultural advisory group and the exploration of land ownership, as laid out in the Delta Conservancy's 2017-2022 Strategic Plan. The Subcommittee requested a staff report for the item.

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