



**Consideration of Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy General Grant Guidelines
Draft for Public Review
Staff Report**

This agenda item requests Board approval of a draft of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy General Grant Guidelines for Climate Action Funds to be posted for public review.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Board approval of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy General Grant Guidelines for public review.

DESCRIPTION

The proposed General Grant Guidelines will guide the Conservancy in granting funds in the absence of the need for alternative grant guidelines that incorporate provisions required by a particular funding source, policy, or mandate. For example, the Conservancy has grant guidelines for the Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program and a different set of guidelines for the Community and different Economic Enhancement Grant Program, with each set of guidelines containing provisions specific to the requirements of the bonds that fund those programs.

The immediate need for these guidelines is to enable the Conservancy to provide grants using the \$5,250,000 appropriated to the Conservancy from the General Fund from Natural Resources Packages added to the 2021 Budget Bill by Senate Bill 170 (Skinner, Budget Act of 2021) to support climate, conservation, and public access projects. Both Governor Newsom and Secretary of Natural Resources, Wade Crowfoot, have placed a priority on implementing actions to address the critical needs for which this funding was appropriated.

Beyond the immediate need, the Conservancy will also use the General Grant Guidelines to provide grants that do not have specialized requirements. The General Grant Guidelines provide guidance for grants that advance environmental protection and the economic well-being of Delta residents, priorities for the Conservancy as specified by the Legislature in Public Resources Code Section 32322. The General Grant Guidelines are designed to provide guidance that is applicable for a variety of grants to address those priorities and ensure that funds are administered and expended appropriately. The draft General Grant Guidelines were developed by adapting Proposition 1 Grant Guidelines, which have proven effective.

NEXT STEPS

If approved by the Board, Conservancy staff will post the draft General Grant Guidelines on the Conservancy's website for public review for at least 30 days. Staff will consider all comments received during the review period and present a final draft of the General Grant Guidelines to the Board for consideration at its January 26, 2022 meeting.

BACKGROUND

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy has statutory authority to provide grants to state agencies, local public agencies, and nonprofit organizations to further the goals of the Conservancy (Pub. Resources Code, § 33264.5). On September 23, 2021 the Governor signed Senate Bill 170 which appropriates \$5,250,000 to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy to support climate, conservation, and public access projects. Of that appropriation, five million dollars is allocated for local assistance grants and the remainder is for administration.

SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE

Move that the Board approve the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy General Grant Guidelines Draft for Public Review.

CONTACT

Campbell Ingram, Executive Officer
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
campbell.ingram@deltaconservancy.ca.gov
(916) 281-4145