



Consideration of Updates to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy General Grant Guidelines Staff Report

This agenda item requests Board approval of updates to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy General Grant Guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Board approval of the updates to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy General Grant Guidelines.

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, § 32364.5). At the January 26, 2022 meeting, the Board approved the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy General Grant Guidelines (GGG). The General Grant Guidelines guide the Conservancy in granting funds not subject to more specific requirements identified within the funding source.

Since adopting the GGG the Conservancy has used the guidelines in awarding grants from two funding sources: a \$5,250,000 General Fund allocation for Climate Resilience, Community Access, and Natural Resource Protection and \$10,000,000 of General Funds provided to the Conservancy by the Department of Water Resources to support implementation of the 2022 Delta Drought Response Pilot Program.

Chaptered on September 6, 2022, the Amended Budget Act of 2022 (Assembly Bill 179, Item 3875-101-0001 of Section 111) provided the Conservancy with a \$6,125,000 General Fund allocation for Climate Resilience, Community Access, and Natural Resource Protection, and a \$36,000,000 General Fund allocation for Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration. Solicitation notices for these two funding sources will be considered under Agenda Items 6.2 and 6.3. Additionally, the Conservancy will receive \$11,480,000 of General Fund, from the Department of Water Resources, to implement the 2023 Delta Drought Response Pilot Program (Agenda Item 4).

DESCRIPTION

To effectively manage the funding sources described in the previous section and address recently provided statewide diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, the following edits were made to the General Grant Guidelines:

- Addition of a provision to authorize approval by the Executive Officer, in coordination with Board Chair and/or Vice Chair, of time-sensitive grants less than \$50,000. Edits were made to page 8.
- Addition of language to allow an organization to request advance payments or monthly invoicing in circumstances when standard payment and invoicing practices would prohibit successful completion of the project. Edits were made to page 17.
- Addition of a request for applicants to submit a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan that demonstrates how the project will consider disadvantaged communities, communities of color, Native American tribes and tribal communities, or other underrepresented parts of the community. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan should also demonstrate how the applicant is part of or working in partnership with identified communities to engage in early, meaningful, and often coordination. Edits were made to page 9 and page 22.
- Addition of language clarifying indirect costs paid by the grantee exceeding twenty percent (maximum allowable for reimbursement) may qualify as cost share during the grant funding term. Edits were made to page 19.

SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE

Move that the Board approve the updates to Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy General Grant Guidelines for use in granting funds that are not subject to more specific requirements.

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