



Consideration of Amendment to Budget of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program Agreement for Marsh Creek Reservoir Restoration and Total Mercury Reduction Planning Project Staff Report

Grantee	Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
Project ID	P1-2211
Award Year	2022
County	Contra Costa County
Category	Planning
Original Award Amount	\$350,000
Amended Request Amount	\$550,000
Request	Budget Amendment

This agenda item presents a request to increase the total budget of the grant award, which has yet to be executed. It does not propose a change to the term or scope of work.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board approve a budget increase of up to \$200,000 as presented in this report.

DESCRIPTION

The Awardee requests an addition of \$200,000 to the original grant award to support increased project costs. Specifically, the additional funds will cover a portion of increased consultant design and permitting costs.

In August 2022, the Awardee initiated a competitive qualification-based procurement process to hire a consultant to perform project design, environmental compliance, and permitting. The resulting cost proposal from a qualified consultant was significantly higher than the Awardee’s budgetary estimate. To contain increasing project costs, the Awardee has negotiated a reduction in the consultant’s billing rates and has agreed to take over some tasks that were originally delegated to the consultant. The Awardee will provide both cash and in-kind services for a cost share amount representing approximately 47 percent of the total project budget (see Table 1 below).

Inflation has led to widespread increases in project budgets. The total amount for this project remains within the typical range for planning projects funded by the Delta Conservancy with Proposition 1 funds (\$75,000 to \$1,500,000, average \$550,000).

Table 1. Project Budget Request History and Cost Share Breakdown.

	Delta Conservancy Funding	Awardee Cost Share	Total Project Budget
Board Approved Amount	\$350,000	\$249,898	\$599,898
Current Request	\$550,000	\$479,843	\$1,029,843
Increase	\$200,000	\$229,945	\$429,945

If the requested budget increase is not approved, the Awardee intends to cover the increased costs with funds that have been set aside from other sources for future project implementation. This could result in delayed or deferred project implementation.

BACKGROUND

At the July 27, 2022 Board meeting, the Board awarded funding of up to \$350,000 to the Contra Costa Flood Control and Water Conservation District for the Marsh Creek Reservoir Restoration and Total Mercury Reduction Planning Project. The objective of this planning project is to develop shovel-ready design plans, complete California Environmental Quality Act provisions, and submit applications for all necessary permits. The grant agreement for this project has not yet been executed, and this is the first amendment requested for this project.

SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE:

Move that the Board approve a pre-execution amendment to the grant agreement with Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for Project ID P1-2211 to award an additional [insert increased funding amount] in project funding.

CONTACT

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