

RICHARDSON'S BAY REGIONAL AGENCY

STAFF REPORT

For the meeting of: September 10, 2026

To: RBRA Board of Directors

From: Brad Gross, Executive Director

Subject: Authorize acceptance of a \$1,900,000 grant from the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority for an eelgrass habitat restoration project, and amend the 2026-27 fiscal year budget to increase revenues and expenditures in the amount of the grant.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Resolution No. 26-17 and Resolution No. 26-18.

Motion: Adopt Resolution 26-17 authorizing the Executive Director to accept, negotiate and execute a grant of \$1,900,000 from the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority for the "*Accelerating Ecosystem-scale Habitat Stewardship in Richardson Bay*" project.

Motion: Adopt Resolution 26-18 approving Amendment No. 3 to RBRA's fiscal year 2026-27 budget to authorize an increase to project account #40RBRAEPA of \$1,900,000 in revenue and \$1,900,000 in expense appropriations in project account #40RBRAEPA for the SFBRA grant-funded project "*Accelerating Ecosystem-scale Habitat Stewardship in Richardson Bay.*"

BACKGROUND:

The restoration of 75 acres of eelgrass beds in Richardson Bay continues to be a goal of RBRA, as most recently confirmed by this Board in adoption of the 2026 Strategic Plan. Working with project partners, and with the support of grant funding – notably from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund, 15 acres have been restored, and more restoration is planned.

DISCUSSION:

The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (SFBRA) is a regional agency created to fund shoreline projects that will protect, restore and enhance San Francisco Bay through the allocation of funds raised through the regional Measure AA parcel tax. For SFBRA's

most recent funding cycle, RBRA submitted a \$3.65 million, three-year grant application for projects that included restoration of up to 20 acres through proven transplantation and innovative autonomous seed-planting vehicles (AUVs), multiple underwater clean-ups, and offering opportunities for local youth and communities to experience environmental stewardship, workforce training and conservation-focused art.

With guidance from SFBRA, the scope of the project has been scaled down to \$1.9 million, enabling RBRA and its eelgrass restoration partners to restore at least ten acres of eelgrass habitat. The SFBRA Board of Directors is scheduled to take action on approving the grant award at its meeting of September 11, 2026.

Proposed Resolution No. 26-17 authorizes the RBRA Executive Director to accept the grant if awarded, and to negotiate and execute any follow up actions with SFRA to implement the grant project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The grant award of \$1.9 million will be received on a reimbursement basis as project costs are expended by RBRA. The project is anticipated to be completed over the next two to three years.

Proposed Resolution No. 26-18 amends the fiscal year 2026-27 budget to receive up to \$1.9 million in grant project revenue and authorize up to \$1.9 million in grant project expenditures. At the end of each fiscal year of the project, staff will recommend this Board authorize the carry forward of any unrealized revenue or unspent expenditure budget to the next fiscal year until all funds for this project are expended.

NEXT STEPS:

Staff will report to the Board at its next meeting on the outcome of the SFBRA grant award action.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Draft Resolution No. 26-17 Accepting Grant Award

Attachment 2: Draft Resolution No. 26-18 Budget Amendment No. 3