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BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Friday, June 3, 2016

12:30 p.m.

**EBRPD - Administrative Headquarters
2950 Peralta Oaks Court
Oakland, California 94605**

The following agenda items are listed for Committee consideration. In accordance with the Board Operating Guidelines, no official action of the Board will be taken at this meeting; rather, the Committee's purpose shall be to review the listed items and to consider developing recommendations to the Board of Directors.

A copy of the background materials concerning these agenda items, including any material that may have been submitted less than 72 hours before the meeting, is available for inspection on the District's website (www.ebparks.org), the Headquarters reception desk, and at the meeting.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

If you wish to testify on an item on the agenda, please complete a speaker's form and submit it to the recording secretary. Your name will be called when the item is announced for discussion.

Accommodations and Access

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AGENDA

<u>TIME</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
12:30 pm	1. 2017 Fuels Management Program of Work Update	I	McCormick
1:15 pm	2. Bay Point Restoration and Public Access Project	I	Barton
1:35 pm	3. Park Advisory Committee Work Plan Amendment for 2016	R	Pfuehler
	4. Open Forum for Public Comment <i>Individuals wishing to address the Committee on a topic not on the agenda may do so by completing a speaker's form and submitting it to the recording secretary.</i>		
	5. Board Comments		

R - Recommendation for Future Board Consideration
I - Information
D - Discussion

Executive Committee Members

Doug Siden (Chair); Whitney Dotson; Beverly Lane
Ayn Wieskamp, Alternate
Robert E. Doyle, Staff Coordinator

Future Meetings:

January 14	July 1
February 5	August 5
March 4	September 2
April 1	October 14
May 6	November 4
June 3	December 2



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Project Manager(s):

Dan McCormick
Chris Barton
Erich Pfuehler



BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting of June 3, 2016

TO: Board Executive Committee

FROM: Robert Doyle, General Manager

**STAFF REPORT
PREPARED BY:** Dan McCormick, Fire Chief
Jeff Rasmussen, Assistant CFO
Matt Graul, Chief of Stewardship

SUBJECT: 2017 Fuels Management Program of Work Update

Fire Chief Dan McCormick, Fire Captain Brad Gallup, Assistant Finance Officer Jeff Rasmussen, and Chief of Stewardship Matt Graul will present this item to the Board Executive Committee for review and discussion.

BACKGROUND

A. Wildfire Hazard Reduction and Resource Management Plan

On April 20, 2010, the District's Board of Directors approved the *Wildfire Hazard Reduction and Resource Management Plan* ("Plan") and the accompanying CEQA document which covers hill and shoreline parklands from Richmond to Castro Valley within the Measure CC funded area. The approved Plan recommends that a Fuels Treatment Plan be prepared, updated on an annual basis, and provided to the Board for consideration in advance of the annual budget process.

The Plan is available in its entirety on the District's website in the Stewardship/Resources section under Wildfire Hazard Reduction. The website includes a detailed location map of all of the recommended treatment areas (RTA's), with numerical identifiers that can be cross referenced with specific information about each one. Over the past 6 years, the Fire Department and staff from Stewardship and Operations have completed and posted fuels management prescriptions for each upcoming RTA, consistent with the Plan and based on site investigations by professional Stewardship and Fire staff.

The District anticipates eventual initial entry and ongoing management of a total of 3,100 acres over the life of the Plan. Outside of the Plan area, the District manages another 289 acres of eucalyptus and other vegetation in other parks for wildfire hazard prevention purposes.

This report recaps the overall status of the fuels management program work underway in 2016, and projects anticipated for 2017 and beyond. The report is updated each year to reflect the continuing progress on permits, grant applications and awards, and discusses trends, funding sources, and management strategies. The report consists of this memo supported by exhibits providing additional details of the annual work plan.

B. 2016 Outlook

The District's resource management prescribed broadcast burn program is continuing in 2016. Approximately 50 acres of native prairie grassland, with encroaching invasive plants, in Point Pinole are scheduled for burning this year. By the end of 2016, a total of 51 acres of new, initial entry work is expected to be completed at Miller-Knox, Sibley, and Tilden. In the Plan area, approximately 812 acres across 13 parks will be maintained using goat grazing, prescribed burns, mechanical, and hand labor in accordance with the prescriptions and treatment protocols adopted in the Plan. An additional 289 acres in 8 parks, which do not fall under the Plan, will also be maintained.

(Please refer to Attachment A, which lists the RTA's by park, both within and outside of the Plan area, that are scheduled to be completed in 2016.)

C. 2017 Initial Entry Work

In 2017, the District anticipates undertaking initial entry into an additional area of approximately 64 acres. The high acreage goal is necessary in order to stay on pace to complete FEMA grant requirements within the required time line. Reaching this goal and repeating nearly the same initial treatment acres in 2018 through 2024 presents a significant challenge. The District continues to review staffing needs and innovations to methods of contracting to improve efficiencies. Accommodating work restrictions needed for complying with environmental conditions for fuels reduction work is another significant challenge. Staff capacity to administer contracts and crews may need to be increased. The Fire Department continues to evaluate the program to collect data that can be used to improve program implementation over-time.

Staff anticipates that by the end of 2017, the District will be undertaking continuing maintenance (initial entry plus ongoing maintenance activities) for approximately 927 acres in the Plan area, plus 289 acres in other parks (total of 1,216 acres).

(Please refer to Attachment A, which lists the RTA's by park, both within and outside of the Plan area, that are scheduled to be completed in 2017.)

D. Ongoing Annual Maintenance

Ongoing maintenance is a substantial component of the fuels management program. Stewardship and Fire staff revisit each treated RTA periodically to assess the condition of the vegetative cover as the tree canopy is removed or reduced and the latent seed bank emerges under the new conditions. As noted previously, staff updates and adjusts the prescriptions as appropriate to maintain a safe landscape per the Plan, and to minimize the incursion of invasive, non-native species.

E. Grants and Permits

The District's Vegetation Management program is conducted in accordance with all applicable permits and is supported in part by financial assistance from Federal and State grant funding through FEMA and CalEMA. In 2010, FEMA awarded the District a nearly \$3 million grant for vegetation work. FEMA prepared a Biological Opinion and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to provide endangered species clearance for the entire Plan (the review also includes approximately \$3 million in grants to the City of Oakland and UC Berkeley). There is a lawsuit challenging the adequacy of the EIS. The litigation is expected to be concluded in 2016. The lawsuit is not impacting the District's ability to commence the vegetation work in the FEMA grant areas because the District first needs to comply with the terms of the Biological Opinion regarding additional studies and the establishment of permanent conservation easements. Once this preliminary work is completed, the FEMA vegetation work can begin.

For the above reasons, the anticipated work plan for 2017 and beyond includes provisional estimates of what work may be undertaken for the 2017 work season. Absent timely conclusion of additional studies, establishment of permanent conservation easements, and management work beyond that already established in the Plan, the work plan will be modified and reduced in scope.

F. Costs

Initial entry work is expensive, usually due to the major tree work involved, but costs vary widely from site to site due to access, environmental conditions, vegetation type and density, and other factors. Initial entry costs are considered to be "one time."

Annual maintenance work, as has been undertaken over the past several years, has averaged approximately \$1,200 per acre for annual treatments, and includes costs for mechanical treatments, hand crews, goats, and other vegetation management activities. It is anticipated that as the preferred, more stable, mixes of vegetation are achieved under the Plan, that this annual per-acre cost number will be reduced. However, for the next several years, this per-acre cost will be used to estimate the projected future cost of the program.

Attachment B models the expected costs of the program, for initial entry and ongoing annual maintenance. The initial entry work under the FEMA grant, along with other high priority initial entry projects, is expected to be completed by the end of 2024. In 2025, after completion of FEMA and other projects, the annual maintenance cost is anticipated to be approximately \$2.1 million per year.

The cost of completing the remaining 1,550 acres of initial entry work under the Plan is estimated at approximately \$15 million. Once completed, the annual maintenance cost for fuels management may rise to approximately \$4 million per year.

Attachment C models the existing and potential funding sources for the program for initial entry and ongoing annual maintenance. The District currently has remaining General Fund, Measure CC, grant funding, and a number of future potential funding sources. In addition, staff has recommended increasing the current \$600,000 annual base budget appropriation by \$100,000 each of the next several years to bring the annual base budget appropriation to, or near, \$1 million per year.

Existing Funding – Expected to fund both initial entry and ongoing maintenance for at least 4 years.

- \$1,204,575 existing balance in 550000 Fuels Management Account
- \$3,946,837 remaining balance of Measure CC funds for Fuels Management
- \$200,000 annual undesignated Fire Operations budget
- \$600,000 annual base budget appropriation to account 550000
- \$2,750,669 initial entry grants
- \$500,650 maintenance grants

Future Potential Funding – This list includes funds expected, but not yet appropriated from existing sources, and possible funding sourced from grants, ballot measures or other opportunities.

- \$600,000 annual general fund base budget appropriation to account 550000
- \$100,000 increase in base budget each year up to \$1,000,000 annually
- \$2,300,00 first 5 years of Measure CC renewal
- \$1,900,000 request for existing FEMA projects
- \$9,000,000 request to FEMA for remaining initial entry projects
- \$300,000 maintenance grants from Calfire, Conservation Corps, and Fire Safe Councils

Staff will continue to monitor and update these cost estimates and funding sources every year as the program moves forward. In the coming years the District will modify its plans for initial entry work as funding allows and pursue opportunities for additional grants, funding measures, and General Fund opportunities to meet the fuels management objectives and ensure that these vegetation management activities are continued on a sustainable, long-term basis.

CONCLUSION

Staff responsible for the Plan implementation will present the materials to the Committee, answer questions and support the Committee's review of the program. Staff welcomes the Committee's comments and will seek to incorporate interests raised by Committee Members into the 2017 Work Plan and the Preliminary 2017 Annual Budget.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Fuels Management Summary for 2015, 2016, and 2017
Attachment B: Estimated Costs for Fuels Management 2016-2025
Attachment C: Fuels Management Plan: Funds Available 2016-2025

FUELS MANAGEMENT SUMMARY 2015-2016-2017

Attachment A

PARK	Year 2015 (Actual)		Year 2016 (Planned)*			Year 2017 (Planned)*				
	Treated RTAs	Maint. Acres	Maint. RTAs	Maint. Acres	Initial Treat RTA	Initial Treat Acres	Maintenance RTAs	Maint. Acres	Initial Treat RTA	Initial Treat Acres
WITHIN PLAN AREA										
Anthony Chabot	AC001, AC004, AC006, AC007, AC008b, AC013, Poly603	307	AC001, AC003, AC004, AC006, AC007, AC008b, AC013, Poly603	307			AC001, AC003, AC004, AC006, AC007, AC008b, AC013, Poly603	307		
Claremont Canyon	CC001, CC002, CC003, CC004, CC008, CC009	40	CC001, CC002, CC003, CC004, CC008, CC009	40			CC001, CC002, CC003, CC004, CC008, CC009	40	CC001, CC006, CC007, CC012	23
Huckleberry									HP001, HP002, HP003, HP004	18
Kennedy Grove	KG002, KG003, KG004	15	KG002, KG003, KG004	15			KG002, KG003, KG004	15		
Lake Chabot	LC009, LC010	14	LC009, LC010	14			LC009, LC010	14		
Leona	LE001, LE003, LE004	18	LE001, LE003, LE004	18			LE001, LE003, LE004, LE005	18		
Miller/Knox	MK001, MK002, MK003, MK005	11	MK001, MK002, MK003, MK005	11	MK004	3	MK001, MK002, MK003, MK004, MK005	14		
Point Pinole			PP001	50			PP001	50		
Redwood	RD001, RD002, RD004	119	RD001, RD002, RD004	119			RD001, RD002, RD004	119		
Sibley	SR002a, SR002b, SR003	41	SR002a, SR002b, SR003	41	SR005, SR006	15	SR002a, SR002b, SR003, SR005, SR006	56	SR001, SR004, SR005	8
Sobrante Ridge	SO002	13	SO002	13			SO002	13		

*Note: All planned work is subject to change, based on grant fund availability

FUELS MANAGEMENT SUMMARY 2015-2016-2017

Attachment A

	Year 2015 (Actual)		Year 2016 (Planned)*				Year 2017 (Planned)*			
PARK	Treated RTAs	Maint. Acres	Maint. RTAs	Maint. Acres	Initial Treat RTA	Initial Treat Acres	Maintenance RTAs	Maint. Acres	Initial Treat RTA	Initial Treat Acres
Tilden	TI002a, TI004, TI008a, TI008b, TI009, TI010, TI011, TI012, TI015, TI022	103	TI002a, TI004, TI006, TI007a,c, TI008a,b, TI009, TI010, TI011, TI012, TI015, TI022	107	TI001, TI002a, TI004,	33	TI001, TI002a, TI004, TI006, TI007a,c, TI008a,b, TI009, TI010, TI011, TI012, TI015, TI022	140		
Wildcat	WC001, WC002, WC004, WC005, WC009, WC011	66	WC001, WC002, WC004, WC005, WC009, WC011	77			WC001, WC002, WC004, WC005, WC009, WC011	77	WC011	15
Subtotal, Within Plan		747		812		51		863		64
OUTSIDE PLAN AREA										
Ardenwood	Poly 998, 999	41	Poly998, 999	41			Poly998, 999	41		
Bishop Ranch	Poly 924	35	Poly924	35			Poly924	35		
Briones		5		5				5		
Camp Arroyo	Poly 918, 919, 920	16	Poly918, 919,920	16			Poly918, 919, 920	16		
Carquinez Shoreline	Poly 992, 941-947	44	Poly992, 941-947	44			Poly992, 941-947	44		
Cull Canyon	Poly925	32	Poly925	32			Poly925	32		
Garin	Poly926-929, 993, 996	66	Poly926-929, 993, 996	66			Poly926-929, 993, 996	66		
Las Trampas	Poly 923, 980	34	Poly 901, 923, 980	50			Poly 901,923, 980	50		
Subtotal, Outside Plan		273		289	0			289		0
GRAND TOTAL		1020		1,101	0			1,152		64

*Note: All planned work is subject to change, based on grant fund availability

Fire Department's Estimated Costs for Fuels Management 2016 through 2025

Attachment B

Year	New Initial Treatment - Fuels Plan Area		Maintenance - Fuels Plan Area (\$1,200 per acre)		Maintenance - Outside Fuels Plan Area (\$1,200 per acre)		Total - Initial Treatment and Maintenance	
	Acres	Cost	Acres	Cost	Acres	Cost	Acres	Cost
2016	51	\$367,000	812	\$974,400	289	\$346,800	1,152	\$1,688,200
2017	64	\$640,000	863	\$1,035,600	289	\$346,800	1,216	\$2,022,400
2018	80	\$800,000	927	\$1,112,400	289	\$346,800	1,296	\$2,259,200
2019	75	\$750,000	1,007	\$1,208,400	289	\$346,800	1,371	\$2,305,200
2020	75	\$750,000	1,082	\$1,298,400	289	\$346,800	1,446	\$2,395,200
2021	75	\$750,000	1,157	\$1,388,400	289	\$346,800	1,521	\$2,485,200
2022	75	\$750,000	1,232	\$1,478,400	289	\$346,800	1,596	\$2,575,200
2023	75	\$750,000	1,307	\$1,568,400	289	\$346,800	1,671	\$2,665,200
2024	75	\$750,000	1,382	\$1,658,400	289	\$346,800	1,746	\$2,755,200
2025	93	\$1,000,000	1,457	\$1,748,400	289	\$346,800	1,839	\$3,095,200
TBD	1,550	\$ 15,500,000	1,550	\$1,860,000	289	\$346,800	3,389	\$17,706,800
Total		\$22,807,000		\$15,331,200		\$3,814,800		\$41,953,000

Fuels Management Plan: Funds Available

2016 through 2025

	Funding Source	Detail	Available \$
1	General Fund ¹	Project 550000 existing balance (District-Wide Fuels & Fire Management project account)	\$1,204,575
		Project 550000 future allocations (increase current \$600,000 annual base budget appropriation by \$100,000 each of the next four years to increase annual budget to \$1,000,000 per year)	\$9,500,000
		Undesignated - Fire Operations (\$200,000 annually, 2016 through 2025)	\$2,000,000
2	Measure CC ²	Balance of Existing CC Funds	\$3,946,837
		Possible CC Renewal (2021 to 2025)	\$2,300,000
3	Grants: Currently Approved ³	Initial Entry	\$2,750,669
		Maintenance	\$500,650
4	Grants: Future Prospects ⁴	Initial Entry (includes FEMA \$1.9 million, plus new FEMA)	\$10,900,000
		Maintenance (\$300,000 annually, 2016 through 2025)	\$3,300,000
TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE			\$36,402,731

Projected Funding Needs for Initial Entry and Maintenance **\$41,953,000**

Total Estimated Shortfall **(\$5,550,269)**

¹ The District has appropriated a total of \$3.2 million to Project 550000 over the past 8 years. This amount is the remainder currently available. The Board has approved a base budget appropriation of \$600,000 per year. Staff recommends a \$100,000 increase in this annual base budget appropriation each of the following four years until a total annual base budget appropriation of \$1,000,000 per year is reached. The undesignated General Fund annual amount is budgeted for several Fire-related purposes, and is subject to expenditure on an annual basis depending on the severity of the fire season.

² Initial CC allocations totaled \$8.5 million, of which \$5.8 has been appropriated to projects for expenditure. These amounts listed are the remainder unspent CC funds, both appropriated and unappropriated, dedicated to this program. A possible renewal of Measure CC could provide a total of \$8.5 million with \$2.3 million being available within the first five years.

³ Existing Grants from FEMA, Diablo Fire Safe Council and the California Fire Safe Council and Calfire.

⁴ These amounts are estimates based on the District's past experience and understanding of funds that should become available in future years from FEMA and other sources.

BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting of June 3, 2016

TO: Board Executive Committee

FROM: Robert Doyle, General Manager

**STAFF REPORT
PREPARED BY:** Chris Barton, Environmental Programs Manager

SUBJECT: Bay Point Restoration and Public Access Project

Environmental Programs Manager Chris Barton will make a presentation on this agenda item.

BACKGROUND

The Land Use Plan (Plan) for Bay Point Regional Shoreline was adopted in 2001. The Plan included a number of public access and habitat improvements. Improvements so far include a 14 car parking lot (plus 1 bus), lighting, picnic area, and vault toilet restroom (completed in 2007). In 2010, the main loop trail around the marsh area (Harrier Loop Trail) was improved to an all-weather surface using recycled material. In 2012, the Board approved a consultant contract to prepare a feasibility and preliminary engineering study for a spur trail connecting Bay Point Wetlands Regional Shoreline to the Delta Shoreline (Great California Delta Trail).

A number of park improvements have yet to be completed including development of a kayak launch, potable water, trail/fishing access, and restoration of tidal wetlands. Staff's presentation will update the Board Executive Committee on these planned improvements and steps necessary to move forward with implementation.

RECOMMENDATION

None. This is an informational item.



BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting of June 3, 2016

TO: Board Executive Committee

FROM: Robert Doyle, General Manager

**STAFF REPORT
PREPARED BY:** Erich Pfuehler, Government Affairs Manager

SUBJECT: Park Advisory Committee (PAC) Work Plan Amendment for 2016

Government Affairs Manager Erich Pfuehler and PAC Chair Bruce Kern will make a presentation on this agenda item.

BACKGROUND

At the meeting, Mr. Pfuehler and Mr. Kern will ask the Board Executive Committee for approval to amend the PAC's 2016 work plan to receive a historical overview presentation about the District's policies related to dogs in the parks.

At the PAC's March 28, 2016 meeting to consider updates to Ordinance 38, Director Beverly Lane suggested the PAC may benefit from a historical overview presentation about how the District arrived at its current policies related to dogs in the parks.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff and the PAC recommend that the Board Executive Committee approve amending the PAC's 2016 work plan.