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BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 5, 2018

11:45 a.m. REVISED START TIME

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

District facilities and meetings comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If special accommodations are needed for you to participate, please contact the Clerk of the Board at 510-544-2020 as soon as possible, but preferably at least three working days prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

<u>TIME</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
12:30 pm	1. 2019 Safe and Healthy Forests Program of Work	I	Aileen Theile, Brad Gallup
1:10 pm	2. Giant Marsh Living Shorelines Project	I	Matt Graul
1:30 pm	3. Open Forum for Public Comments <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>		
1:35 pm	4. Board Comments		

Board Executive Committee Members

Dennis Waespi (Chair), Ayn Wieskamp, Beverly Lane
Ellen Corbett, Alternate
Robert E. Doyle, Staff Coordinator

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

2018 Meeting Dates

January 11	July 5
February 1	August 2
March 1	September 6
April 5	October 4
May 3	November 1
June 7	December 6

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting of July 5, 2018

TO: Board Executive Committee

FROM: Robert E. Doyle, General Manager

STAFF REPORT

PREPARED BY: Aileen Theile, Acting Fire Chief
Brad Gallup, Acting Assistant Fire Chief
Jeff Rasmussen, Assistant Finance Officer
Matt Graul, Chief of Stewardship

SUBJECT: 2019 Safe and Healthy Forests Program of Work

Acting Fire Chief Aileen Theile, Acting Assistant Fire Chief Brad Gallup, Assistant Finance Officer Jeff Rasmussen, and Chief of Stewardship Matt Graul will make a presentation on this agenda item.

BACKGROUND

A. Wildfire Hazard Reduction and Resource Management Plan

On April 20, 2010, the Park 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 is an integral component of the Park District's Safe and Healthy Forests efforts for wildfire protection which recommends that a hazard reduction and 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 Park 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), with numerical identifiers that can be cross referenced with specific information about each one. Over the past eight years, Fire, Stewardship, and Operations Department staff have completed and posted vegetation management prescriptions for each upcoming RTA, consistent with the Plan and based on site investigations by professional Stewardship and Fire staff.

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

This report recaps the overall status of the vegetation management program (“Program”) work underway in 2018, and projects anticipated for 2019 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 work plan.

B. 2018 Vegetation Management Projects

In 2018, several new vegetation management projects will be implemented, with funding from the Park District’s FEMA hazard mitigation grants. Approximately 146 acres in Tilden, Wildcat Canyon, Claremont Canyon, Sibley, and Anthony Chabot parks will be treated. All work will be in accordance with the prescriptions and treatment protocols adopted in the Plan.

Additionally, approximately 800 acres of previously treated fuel breaks will be maintained in several parks in the Plan area and outside of the Plan area.

Attachment A lists the 2018 initial treatment projects.

C. 2019 Vegetation Management Projects

In 2019, the Fire Department plans to undertake initial entry into several project areas in wildland-urban interface areas in the Plan totaling 140 acres. The majority of these fourteen projects will be funded by FEMA grants.

Reaching this goal and completing the recommended treatments throughout the Plan in future years presents a significant challenge. The Park District continues to review staffing needs and innovations to methods of contracting to improving efficiencies. Accommodating work restrictions needed for complying with environmental conditions for wildfire hazard reduction work is another significant challenge. The Fire Department continues to evaluate the program to collect data that can be used to improve program implementation over time for long term restoration and reestablishment of natural habitat and wildfire hazard reduction.

Attachment B lists the 2019 initial treatment projects.

D. Ongoing Annual Maintenance

Ongoing maintenance is a substantial component of the Program. Stewardship and Fire Department 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 provide for stewardship of natural vegetation to improve forest health.

E. Grants and Permits

The Park District's 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. FEMA has awarded the Park District \$6.9 million in grants for vegetation management work. FEMA prepared a Biological Assessment and completed an Environmental Impact Statement to evaluate endangered species impacts for the entire Plan area. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service issued a Biological Opinion and the Park District acquired an Incidental Take Permit from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Service to provide regulatory authorization for the implementation of the Plan in endangered species habitat.

F. Funding

Below is a list of existing funding for initial treatment and maintenance.

- \$2,267,018 - existing balance in 550000 Fuels Management Account
- \$2,759,822 - remaining balance of Measure CC funds for Vegetation Management
- \$200,000 - annual Fire Operations budget
- \$5,720,241 - existing balance from FEMA and CalFire grants

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

- \$700,000 - annual General Fund base budget appropriated to account 550000
- \$100,000 - increase in base budget each year up to \$1,000,000 annually
- \$2,800,000 - first 5 years of Measure CC extension
- \$3,750,000 - pending grant applications

Staff will continue to monitor and update these cost estimates and funding sources each year as the program moves forward. In the coming years, the Park 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 Plan's objectives and ensure these vegetation management activities are continued on a sustainable, long-term basis to restore and reestablish natural, less flammable areas.

CONCLUSION

Staff responsible for the implementation of the Plan will 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 the Committee into the 2019 Work Plan and the Preliminary 2019 Annual Budget.

RECOMMENDATION

None. This is an informational item.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: 2018 Initial Treatment Fuels Projects
Attachment B: 2019 Initial Treatment Fuels Projects

ATTACHMENT A

2018 Initial Treatment Fuels Projects

Park	Treatment Areas	Acres	Funding Source
Anthony Chabot	AC012	28	FEMA / Measure CC/ Measure CC
Anthony Chabot	AC014	93	FEMA / Measure CC
Tilden	TI012	3	FEMA / Measure CC
Wildcat Canyon	WC003	2	FEMA / Measure CC
Wildcat Canyon, Tilden, Claremont Canyon, Sibley (Alameda whipsnake study)	WC011, TI006, TI012, TI015, TI022, CC001, C003, CC007, CC008, CC012, SR001, SR003, SR004, SR005	20	FEMA / Measure CC

ATTACHMENT B

2019 Initial Treatment Fuels Projects

Park	Treatment Area	Acres	Funding Source
Anthony Chabot	AC004	12	Measure CC Measure CC
Anthony Chabot	AC006	25	FEMA / Measure CC
Anthony Chabot	AC007	25	FEMA / Measure CC
Claremont Canyon	CC003	2	FEMA / Measure CC
Lake Chabot	LC010	5	FEMA / Measure CC
Leona	LE005	4	FEMA / Measure CC
Miller/Knox	MK001	3	FEMA / Measure CC
Miller/Knox	MK002	1	FEMA / Measure CC
Miller/Knox	MK005	1	FEMA / Measure CC
Sibley	SR004	6	FEMA / Measure CC
Tilden	TI012	12	FEMA / Measure CC
Wildcat Canyon	WC009	8	FEMA / Measure CC
Wildcat Canyon	WC010	6	FEMA / Measure CC
Wildcat Canyon	WC011	30	FEMA / Measure CC

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting of July 5, 2018

TO: Board Executive Committee

FROM: Robert E. Doyle, General Manager

STAFF REPORT
PREPARED BY: Matt Graul, Chief of Stewardship

SUBJECT: Giant Marsh Living Shorelines Project

Matt Graul, Chief of Stewardship, and Marilyn Latta, Project Manager with the California State Coastal Conservancy, will make a presentation on this agenda item.

BACKGROUND

The San Francisco Bay Living Shorelines Project at Giant Marsh is a multi-habitat restoration project that will experimentally test the use of native oyster reefs, eelgrass beds, and other habitat enhancement treatments to provide both shoreline protection and habitat improvement benefits. Giant Marsh is directly north of Dotson Family Marsh, within Point Pinole Regional Shoreline, in the City of Richmond. The East Bay Regional Park District (District) as the landowner is working in collaboration and partnership with the California State Coastal Conservancy (Coastal Conservancy) who is the project lead for funding and implementation. This innovative pilot project helps to implement the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Habitat Goals (2010), the USFWS Tidal Marsh Recovery Plan (2013), and the Baylands Goals Science Update (2015). Additionally, the implementation of this project is in direct alignment and supports the vision of the District's 2013 Master Plan and supports the principles of Climate Readiness and Advancing the Science in the Climate Policy Framework adopted by the Board of Directors on April 17, 2018.

The Coastal Conservancy's grantee Ducks Unlimited will manage construction of three oyster reef treatments offshore of Giant Marsh during the summer and fall of 2018. This work will occur in the bay and the reefs will be installed by boat and barge. The reef installation will improve the subtidal habitat and help evaluate the potential for the use of larger-scale living shoreline projects to reduce wave energy at the shoreline. During the presentation, staff will provide an overview of the goals and objectives of the Giant Marsh Living Shorelines Project, next steps on construction and monitoring, and how the District is engaged and interested in applying the results from this nature-based sea level rise adaptation project to other shoreline protection and habitat restoration sites.

RECOMMENDATION

None. This is an informational item.