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10:00 a.m. Item

TO: Board Operations Committee

FROM: Eric Bowman, Maintenance Superintendent

DATE: July 18, 2019

SUBJECT: Solid Waste Management Program Update

Maintenance Superintendent Eric Bowman and staff will provide a status update on the Park District’s Solid Waste Program. California State legislation and directives from the East Bay Regional Park District Board of Directors require a reduction in waste generated in the Park District. A task force was assembled in 2018 by Assistant General Manager Jim O’Connor in response to directives to reduce waste. The task force determined that new, combination trash/recycle/compost bins shall be installed in specified parks as a pilot program during summer 2019. The waste reduction pilot is expected to continue through the end of 2020 with the goal of introducing compost collection and expanding recycling District-wide. A consultant has also been contracted to investigate the current Park District waste management process to quantify waste generation and diversion in an effort to create achievable reduction goals for the future.

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10:15 a.m. Item

TO: Board Operations Committee
FROM: Renee Patterson, Administrative Analyst II
DATE: July 18, 2019
**SUBJECT: Renewal of Golden Gate Audubon Society Special Use Agreement:
Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline**

The Special Use Agreement with the Golden Gate Audubon Society (GGAS), through its Eco-Oakland Program, allows access to and use of real property in order to implement habitat restoration projects at Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline (MLK). For almost 20 years, GGAS' activities at MLK have met the goals of both endangered species habitat improvement and public education of these species. The Eco-Oakland Program seeks to connect underserved East Oakland schoolchildren and community members with their local environment and engage them in restoration efforts. The program includes third and fourth grade classes to study health and conservation of the East Oakland watershed and engage students and their community in watershed restoration. Students learn how their lives connect with and rely upon local ecosystems, starting with the most familiar habitats and extending throughout the San Francisco Bay watershed to the Pacific Ocean. The goal of the program is to reach 3,000 members of the community annually.

The Eco-Oakland programs successfully outreach with three to five classes a month during the school year. The program focuses on 5th grade classes that come from under-resourced areas in Oakland. Activities include students catching plankton at the pier and studying the plankton under microscopes; learning about the importance of maintaining healthy food chains in the bay and how pollution can impact the health of the food chains, including our own. Students review strategies for reducing toxicity in the bay, they also restore and pick up the shoreline litter on the upper tidal transition zones of Arrowhead Marsh and learn about the habitat in the zone. GGAS uses a storage area under the Arrowhead Marsh overlook ramp to store the restoration and educational equipment to provide their volunteers and students the tools needed to successfully accomplish their tasks.

Trash removal along the shorelines of Elmhurst Creek Trail, San Leandro Creek Trail, Arrowhead Marsh Trail, and Airport Channel is accomplished during their volunteer days and the Eco Oakland programs. GGAS has partnered each year with the Park District on Martin Luther King Day of service, International Day of Service, and Earth Day assisting in the restoration and shoreline cleanup from Elmhurst Creek to Airport Channel. The program will continue to be monitored by Stewardship and Park Operations departments to ensure the protection of threatened and endangered species and compliance with all regulatory requirements.

Staff recommends authorizing the renewal of the Special Use Agreement with the Golden Gate Audubon Society for ten years beginning March 3, 2020. In exchange for restoration projects and the water quality and bird data collected by students and volunteers, there is no use fee and there is no cost to the Park District.

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10:30 a.m. Item

TO: Board Operations Committee

FROM: Renee Patterson, Administrative Analyst II

DATE: July 18, 2019

SUBJECT: **Renewal of Save the Bay Special Use Agreement:
Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional Shoreline**

The Special Use Agreement with Save the Bay for access to and use of real property in order to implement habitat restoration projects as well as space for a plant nursery at Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline (MLK) will expire in March 2020. Save the Bay values its partnership with the Park District and looks forward to continuing public education and stewardship activities at the site. Save the Bay is committed to restoration practices and conservation techniques which foster community engagement in shoreline habitat restoration and ecosystem level function enhancement. For almost 20 years, Save the Bay's activities at MLK have met the goals of both endangered species habitat improvement and public education of these species.

Save the Bay is committed to continuing to build partnerships with local civic groups, schools, businesses and resource agencies to restore tidal wetland at MLK and throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. The projects at MLK include wetland enhancement and re-vegetation, through monthly public Saturday projects, and weekly private projects with local middle and high schools, community and church groups, and corporate employee volunteer groups. Restoration projects focus on removal of invasive non-native plant infestations and tidal marsh re-vegetation with site-specific native plants. For example, areas that were once dominated by invasive *Spartina* are now being re-vegetated with native marsh plantings propagated on site in the native California plant nursery.

The program will continue to be monitored by Stewardship and Park Operations departments to ensure the protection of threatened and endangered species and compliance with all regulatory requirements. The restoration projects shall be adapted as conditions warrant in consultation with the Park District and within the parameters of the rules listed in the agreement.

Staff recommends authorizing the renewal of the Special Use Agreement with Save the Bay for ten years beginning March 7, 2020. In exchange for restoration projects and monitoring of wetlands through activities such as non-native plant removal, native plant planting, site monitoring, shoreline cleanups, and a space for a California plant nursery there is no use fee, and there is no cost to the Park District.

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