

**Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority**

**Date:** February 7, 2019

**To:** Governing Board Members

**From:** Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

**Subject:** **Item 10: Consideration of a resolution to a) accept an amendment to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Planning and Restoration Project grant from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC 17014) to augment the budget, update the task list, and extend the timeline, and b) authorize the chair, or designee, to negotiate and execute a contract amendment to Environmental Science Associates to expand their scope and increase their budget**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** That the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA) a) accept an amendment to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Planning and Restoration Project grant from the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) (RMC 17014) to augment the budget, update the task list, and extend the timeline, and b) authorize the chair, or designee, to negotiate and execute a contract amendment to Environmental Science Associates to expand their scope and increase their budget

**BACKGROUND:** The LCWA accepted Proposition 1 funding from the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) to complete environmental review of the Conceptual Restoration Plan (CRP) (Board Resolution 2016-16). Since beginning that process, work to refine an optimized restoration alternative, from the CRP's three alternatives, for the environmental review process requires more time and technical reports to complete a more thorough analysis than originally scoped. Initial findings demonstrated the need to incorporate flood management designs not considered in the CRP, new tidal connection strategies for the Central Region, and a more involved public engagement approach at planning workshops due to the complexity of the project. In addition, initiating the CEQA process necessitated a schedule shift by two months to take into consideration the permitting timeline of the BOMP project, which the CDP was approved by the Coastal Commission at their December meeting.

Due to all the above, LCWA requested additional funding and an extension from the RMC. A budget, task list, and timeline can be found in Exhibit A. A budget augmentation of \$150,000 was approved by the RMC to fund additional public workshops and more refined public access designs, technical reports to cover additional hydrology and hydraulics models for flood management and biological assessments, and a project management budget for Tidal Influence to continue providing oversight of the project. Contingency funds are included to cover any unanticipated costs for additional design plans and project coordination to align the LCWA and BOMP projects. The recommended performance period request was to June 30, 2020.

The LCWA authorized a contract to Environmental Science Associates (ESA) to complete the environmental review of the CRP in August 2017 (Resolution 2017-04). Their contract will need to be amended to include additional scope of work and an augmented budget for this project.

**FISCAL:** The FY 18/19 budget revision will reflect the increase of \$150,000 for a total of \$500,000 in grant funds from the RMC for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Planning and Restoration project that will match the \$500,000 awarded by the State Coastal Conservancy for this project.

Exhibit A

Budget / Timeline and Tasklist:						
Task #	Tasklist and Timeline	Current RMC Budget	Difference	Proposed RMC Budget	State Coastal Conservancy	Proposed Total Budget
1	Engage Environmental Consultant (Jan 2017 - Dec 2017)	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00
2	Technical Reports (Dec 2017 - Apr 2019)	\$100,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$190,000.00	\$95,230.00	\$285,230.00
3	EIR Project Description/Notice of Preparation (Nov 2018 - Feb 2019)	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$38,000.00
4	Preparation and Release of Draft EIR (Feb 2019 - Nov 2019)	\$115,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$145,000.00	\$100,030.00	\$245,030.00
5	<del>Response to Comments (November 1 - December 31, 2018)</del>	\$30,000.00	<del>-\$30,000.00</del>	<del>\$0.00</del>	\$0.00	<del>\$0.00</del>
5	Release of Final EIR (Nov 2019 - Jan 2020)	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$35,000.00
6 (New)	Prepare Findings/Statement of Overriding Considerations (Jan 2020 - Feb 2020)	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$26,000.00
7	<del>Management and Monitoring Plan (June 30, 2018 - June 30, 2019)</del>	\$15,000.00	<del>-\$15,000.00</del>	<del>\$0.00</del>	\$0.00	<del>\$0.00</del>
7	Public Outreach (Feb 2016 - April 2020)	\$35,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$90,000.00
8 (New)	Project Management (February 1, 2016 - April 25, 2020)	\$0.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$68,500.00	\$103,500.00
0 (New)	Contingency	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
--	Optimized Restoration Alternative (Feb 2018 - Dec 2018)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$132,240.00	\$132,240.00
--	Next Phase of Restoration Plan (Nov 2019 - March 2020)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
	<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$350,000.00</b>	<b>\$150,000.00</b>	<b>\$500,000.00</b>	<b>\$500,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>

February 7, 2019 – Item 10

RESOLUTION 2019 – 01

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AN AMENDMENT TO THE LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS PLANNING AND RESTORATION PROJECT GRANT FROM THE RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC 17014) TO AUGMENT THE BUDGET, UPDATE THE TASK LIST, AND EXTEND THE TIMELINE

WHEREAS, the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA) has been established between the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, the State Coastal Conservancy, the City of Long Beach and the City of Seal Beach to facilitate the acquisition, protection, conservation, restoration, maintenance and operation, and environmental enhancement of the Los Cerritos Wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects within the Los Cerritos Wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy approved an amendment to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Planning and Restoration Project grant (RMC 17014) to augment the budget, update the task list, and extend the timeline; and

WHEREAS, this action is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and NOW

*Therefore, be it resolved that* the Board of the LCWA hereby:

1. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. FINDS that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the LCWA.
3. ADOPTS the staff report dated February 7, 2019.
4. AUTHORIZES the Chair, the authorized signatory, to accept the amendment from the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Planning and Restoration Project and amends the LCWA Budget FY 18/19 as necessary.
5. APPOINTS the Chair, or designee, to execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so forth, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned grant amendment.

*~ End of Resolution ~*

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY on February 7, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Suzie Price, LCWA Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Edsall, Jr.  
Deputy Attorney General

February 7, 2019 – Item 10

RESOLUTION 2019 – 02

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR, OR DESIGNEE, TO  
NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A CONTRACT AMENDMENT TO  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATES TO EXPAND THEIR  
SCOPE AND INCREASE THEIR BUDGET FOR THE LOS  
CERRITOS WETLANDS PLANNING AND RESTORATION  
PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA) has been established between the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, the State Coastal Conservancy, the City of Long Beach and the City of Seal Beach to facilitate the acquisition, protection, conservation, restoration, maintenance and operation, and environmental enhancement of the Los Cerritos Wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects within the Los Cerritos Wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority accepted a grant amendment from the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for the Los Cerritos Planning and Restoration Project (RMC 17014); and

WHEREAS, the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority desires to negotiate and execute a contract amendment to Environmental Science Associates for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Plan Program Environmental Impact Report (LCWA17001); and,

WHEREAS, This action is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and NOW

*Therefore, be it resolved that* the Board of the LCWA hereby:

1. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. FINDS that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the LCWA.
3. ADOPTS the staff report dated February 7, 2019.
4. AUTHORIZES the Chair or designee to negotiate and execute a contract amendment to Environmental Science Associates for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Plan Program Environmental Impact Report, expanding the scope of the contract for an additional amount up to \$150,000 for the term of the contract.

*~ End of Resolution ~*

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY on February 7, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Suzie Price, LCWA Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Edsall, Jr.  
Deputy Attorney General