

Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority**Date: September 29, 2025****To: LCWA Governing Board****From: Amanda Chan, Contracts and Budgets Analyst****Through: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer****Subject: Item 7: Consideration of a resolution authorizing staff to adopt the LCWA Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026**

Recommendation:

Staff recommend adoption of the LCWA Budget Fiscal Year 2025/2026 as submitted and detailed in the attached Exhibit A.

Background:

In accordance with the provisions of the Joint Powers Agreement, approval of the LCWA budget by the LCWA Board is required. The attached Consolidated Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025/2026 (Exhibit A) includes three revenue and expenditure components 1) Administration, 2) Operational, and 3) Capital Outlay. Total budgeted revenue for FY 25/26 is \$13,979,650 and expenditures are balanced with revenues. Total revenues for FY 25/26 have increased by \$11,304,044 from projected budget FY 24/25 revenues of \$2,675,606. This is primarily due to grant funding for the construction of the Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project which is scheduled to break ground at the start of the fiscal year. The increase in this coming fiscal year's expenses are primarily offset by revenue from Applied Energy Services (AES), the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC), and the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) grants. Subsequently, LCWA anticipates a significant increase in expenses, plus incremental budget changes in line items such as consultant services and administrative expenditures.

The revenues, in combination with grants from State Coastal Conservancy, Ocean Protection Council (OPC), and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with AES, will allow public programming to continue as part of the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority Stewardship Program (LCWASP) through and beyond September 2026. The Authority also benefits from a strong and committed stewardship program, that includes the Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust, the El Dorado Audubon, and Aquarium of the Pacific, who facilitated more than 1,218 hours of volunteer services last fiscal year.

Administration expenses in the amount of \$30,757 are detailed by line item in the attached budget summary. The expenses under general administrative costs include legal services, website maintenance, and annual audit services coordinated with the City of Long Beach.

Operational expenses consist of the LCWASP and Property Management expenditures. The FY 25/26 budget for this category is \$140,000. It is consistent with the annualized revenues and expenditures to support the operations, management, and maintenance of the LCWA properties.

The Capital Outlay expense budget is in the amount of \$13,813,893 with the majority of expenditures related to the Southern LCW Restoration Project. Other capital outlay expenses include tarplant mitigation activities at Zedler Marsh and potential mitigation projects in other areas of the wetlands.

Fiscal Information:

The LCWA FY 2025/2026 Budget has a balanced budget of \$13,979,650. Should the LCWA enter into new grants and contracts, the budget will be updated in accordance with LCWA policies and financial procedures.

Exhibit A

LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

						Month	FY Completed			
						August	91.78%			
	FY 24/25 Budget	As of 08/31/25	Additional Projected through 09/30/25	Projected FYE 24/25	Remaining Budget Balance	Remaining % Budget Balance	Actuals % FY25 Budget Used	Projected % of FY2025 Budget	Proposed FY 25/26 Budget	% Change FY26 over FY25
Revenues										
General Administrative & Operating Revenue										
JPA Contributions	40,000	40,000	-	40,000	-	0%	100%	100%	40,000	0.0%
Lease Revenue	32,000	32,000	-	32,000	-	0%	100%	100%	32,000	0%
Contracts	94,509	79,003	-	79,003	15,506	16%	84%	84%	85,000	-10.1%
Fees	3,000	2,271	-	2,271	729	24%	76%	76%	4,000	33.3%
Permits	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	-	0%	100%	100%	10,000	0.0%
Other - Local Revenue	1,500	1,245	240	1,485	15	1%	83%	99%	1,500	0.0%
Subtotal-General Administrative & Operating	181,009	164,518	240	164,758	16,251	9%	91%	91%	172,500	-4.7%
Grants and Special Projects Revenue										
Grant - State Coastal Conservancy	587,933	235,738	-	235,738	352,195	60%	40%	40%	8,000,000	1260.7%
Grant - Ocean Protection Council	1,080,964	1,080,964	-	1,080,964	-	0%	100%	100%	5,150,000	376.4%
Grant - MOU AES, Other Federal, State, County & Local F	721,200	570,225	369,975	940,200	(219,000)	-30%	79%	130%	559,150	-22.5%
Mitigation Revenue	-	10,887	-	10,887	(10,887)	-	-	-	-	-
Contracts - Other MOA	99,500	52,445	-	52,445	47,055	47%	53%	53%	93,000	-6.5%
Other - Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other - Miscellaneous	5,000	-	-	-	5,000	100%	0%	0%	5,000	0.0%
Subtotal-Grants and Special Projects	2,494,597	1,950,260	369,975	2,320,235	174,362	7%	78%	93%	13,807,150	453.5%
Total Revenue	2,675,606	2,114,778	370,215	2,484,993	190,613	7%	79%	93%	13,979,650	422.5%
Expenses										
Insurance - D & O Policy	3,157	2,669	-	2,669	488	15%	85%	85%	3,157	0.0%
Audit Services	13,000	-	13,000	13,000	-	0%	0%	100%	13,000	0.0%
Legal Services	20,000	11,161	8,839	20,000	-	0%	56%	100%	10,000	-50.0%
Marketing/Outreach	2,500	420	-	420	2,080	83%	17%	17%	2,500	0.0%
Website	20,354	7,218	50	7,268	13,086	64%	35%	36%	600	-97.1%
Miscellaneous Administrative Costs	1,500	-	-	-	1,500	100%	0%	0%	1,500	-
Administration Expense Subtotal	60,511	21,468	21,889	43,357	17,154	28%	35%	72%	30,757	-49.2%
Grant & Land Management - General	84,000	43,060	3,300	46,360	37,640	45%	51%	55%	84,000	0.0%
Grant Management - Contracted Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance - General Liability/Umbrella	10,815	10,286	110	10,396	419	4%	95%	96%	25,000	131.2%
Security	20,000	10,000	5,000	15,000	5,000	25%	50%	75%	25,000	25.0%
Signage	1,000	-	-	-	1,000	100%	0%	0%	1,000	0.0%
OTD Security Deposits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operational Expense Subtotal	115,815	63,346	8,410	71,756	44,059	38%	55%	62%	135,000	16.6%
Consultant Services	84,000	16,020	3,000	19,020	64,980	77%	19%	23%	11,743	-86.0%
Appraisal & Due Diligence Activities	50,000	-	-	-	50,000	100%	0%	0%	-	-
LCWA Measure A - M/O	86,200	77,177	9,023	86,200	-	0%	90%	100%	99,150	15.0%
Stewardship Program	92,000	336,239	30,000	366,239	(274,239)	-298%	365%	398%	110,000	19.6%
Grant - State Coastal Conservancy	587,933	320,742	120,000	440,742	147,191	25%	55%	75%	8,000,000	1260.7%
Grant - Ocean Protection Council	1,080,964	861,791	-	861,791	219,173	20%	80%	80%	5,150,000	376.4%
Grant - Other Federal, State, County & Local Projects	439,683	174,012	209,000	383,012	56,671	13%	40%	87%	368,000	-16.3%
Other - Mitigation Projects	75,000	64,731	10,269	75,000	-	0%	86%	100%	75,000	0.0%
Other - Miscellaneous	3,500	-	-	-	3,500	100%	0%	0%	-	0.0%
Capital Outlay Expense Subtotal	2,499,280	1,850,713	381,292	2,232,005	267,275	11%	74%	89%	13,813,893	452.7%
Total Expense	2,675,606	1,935,526	411,591	2,347,118	328,488	12%	72%	88%	13,979,650	422.5%
Balance Carry Over										
					(137,875)					
Ending Net Position	-	179,252	(41,376)	137,875	0				-	0.0%

Agenda Item 7

RESOLUTION 2024-05

RESOLUTION OF THE LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY (LCWA) AUTHORIZING
STAFF TO ADOPT THE LCWA BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026

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

WHEREAS, the LCWA 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 joint powers agreement provides for the adoption of an annual budget; and

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

Therefore be it resolved, that the LCWA hereby:

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the LCWA.
2. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
3. ADOPTS the staff report dated September 29, 2025.
4. ADOPTS FY 2025/2026 LCWA Budget and authorizes the Executive Officer to make budget amendments as necessary.

~ *End of Resolution* ~

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS
AUTHORITY on September 29, 2025.

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Kristina Duggan, Chair

ATTEST: _____
John Natalizio
Deputy Attorney General