Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority

DATE:	**September 10, 2026**
TO:	**LCWA Governing Board**
FROM:	**Amanda Chan, Contracts and Budgets Analyst**
THROUGH:	**Mark Stanley, Executive Officer**
SUBJECT:	**Item 8: Consideration of resolution to adopt the LCWA Budget for Fiscal Year 2026/2027**

Recommendation:

Staff recommend adoption of the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority Budget for Fiscal Year 2026/2027 as submitted and detailed in the attached Exhibit A.

Background:

In accordance with the provisions of the Joint Powers Agreement, approval of the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA) budget by the LCWA Board is required each year. The attached Consolidated Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026/2027 (Exhibit A) includes three revenue and expenditure components: 1) Administration, 2) Operations, and 3) Capital Outlay. Total budgeted revenue for FY 26/27 is $10,500,450 which is balanced with expenditures. In comparison to previous fiscal years, total revenues for FY 26/27 have decreased by $3,515,200, primarily due to refinements and projecting of grant revenues and expenditures associated with the Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project.

Revenues are primarily sourced from a combination of grants from the State Coastal Conservancy, Ocean Protection Council (OPC), and a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with AES. These funding sources will allow public programming to continue as part of the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority Stewardship Program (LCWASP) through and beyond September 2027.

Administrative expenses in the amount of $56,682 are detailed by line item in the attached budget summary. This expense category includes legal services, website maintenance, and annual audit services through coordination with the City of Long Beach.

Operational expenses consist of costs associated with the LCWA's Stewardship Program and general property management. The FY 2026/2027 budget for this category is $145,268. 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 $10,298,500. The majority of expenditures in this category are related to the Southern LCW Restoration Project. Other capital outlay expenses include tarplant mitigation activities at Zedler Marsh and Measure A maintenance activities, and other LCWA programming.

FISCAL INFORMATION:

The LCWA FY 2026/2027 Budget is balanced between revenues and expenditures totaling $10,500,450. Should the LCWA be awarded new grants or enter into financial agreements unforeseen at time, the budget will be updated in accordance with LCWA policies and financial procedures.

Exhibit A

Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority: Consideration of Budget Fiscal Year 2026-2027

General Administrative & Operating Revenue	FY 25/26 Budget	As of 8/15/26	Additional Projected through 9/30/26	Remaining Budget Balance	Remaining % Budget Balance	Actuals % FY26 Budget Used	Proposed FY26-27 Budget	% Change FY27 over FY26
JPA Contributions	40,000	40,000	0	0	0%	100%	40,000	0%
Lease Revenue	32,000	32,000	0	0	0%	100%	32,000	0%
Contracts	85,000	111,494	0	-26,494	-31%	131%	100,000	17.6%
Fees	4,000	2,583	1,167	250	6%	65%	4,000	0%
Permits	10,000	10,000	0	0	0%	100%	10,000	0%
Other - Local Revenue	1,500	2,814	600	-1,914	-128%	188%	2,500	66.7%
Carry Over FY25	41,000	6,050	10,500	24,450	60%	15%	24,450	-40.4%
Subtotal-General Administrative & Operating	213,500	204,941	12,267	-3,708	-2%	96%	212,950	-0.3%

Grants and Special Projects Revenue	FY 25/26 Budget	As of 8/15/26	Additional Projected through 9/30/26	Remaining Budget Balance	Remaining % Budget Balance	Actuals % FY26 Budget Used	Proposed FY26-27 Budget	% Change FY27 over FY26
Grant - State Coastal Conservancy	8,000,000	6,514,571	0	1,485,429	19%	81%	6,700,000	-16.3%
Grant - Ocean Protection Council	5,150,000	1,900,000	0	3,250,000	63%	37%	3,000,000	-41.7%
Grant - MOU AES	460,000	307,409	0	152,592	33%	67%	315,000	-31.5%
Grant – RPOSD Measure A	99,150	0	99,150	0	0%	0%	180,000	81.5%
Grant - Other Federal, State, County & Local Funds	18,000	16,607	0	8%	92%	92%	17,500	-2.8%
Contracts - Other MOA	75,000	51,658	23,342	0	0%	69%	75,000	0%
Other - Donations	0	7,500	0	-7,500	0%	0%	0	0%
Other - Miscellaneous	0	270	0	-270	0%	0%	0	0%
Subtotal-Grants and Special Projects	13,802,150	8,798,015	122,492	4,881,643	35%	64%	10,287,500	-25.5%

Exhibit A

Revenue	FY 25/26 Budget	As of 8/15/26	Additional Projected through 9/30/26	Remaining Budget Balance	Remaining % Budget Balance	Actuals % FY26 Budget Used	Proposed FY26-27 Budget	% Change FY27 over FY26
Total Revenue	14,015,650	9,002,956	134,759	4,877,935	35%	64%	10,500,450	-25.1

Administration Expenses	FY 25/26 Budget	As of 8/15/26	Additional Projected through 9/30/26	Remaining Budget Balance	Remaining % Budget Balance	Actuals % FY26 Budget Used	Proposed FY26-27 Budget	% Change FY27 over FY26
Insurance - D & O Policy	3,157	2,890	0	267	8%	92%	3,157	0%
Audit Services	13,000	0	13,325	-325	-3%	0%	14,025	7.9%
Legal Services	10,000	7,809	0	2,191	22%	78%	10,000	0%
Marketing/Outreach	36,750	1,050	10,500	25,200	69%	3%	27,400	-25.4%
Website	7,350	7,543	100	-293	-4%	103%	600	-91.8%
Miscellaneous Administrative Costs	1,500	6,661	0	-5,161	-344%	444%	1,500	0%
Administration Expense Subtotal	71,757	25,952	23,925	21,880	30%	36%	56,682	-21%

Operational Expenses	FY 25/26 Budget	As of 8/15/26	Additional Projected through 9/30/26	Remaining Budget Balance	Remaining % Budget Balance	Actuals % FY26 Budget Used	Proposed FY26-27 Budget	% Change FY27 over FY26
Grant & Land Management - General	84,000	53,433	10,680	19,888	24%	64%	85,268	1.5%
Insurance - General Liability/Umbrella	25,000	13,622	0	11,378	46%	54%	25,000	0%
Security	25,000	17,500	6,250	1,250	5%	70%	30,000	20%
Signage	1,000	0	0	1,000	100%	0%	5,000	400%
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0	0%
Operational Expense Subtotal	135,000	84,554	16,930	33,516	25%	63%	145,268	7.6%

Capital Outlay Expenses	FY 25/26 Budget	As of 8/15/26	Additional Projected through 9/30/26	Remaining Budget Balance	Remaining % Budget Balance	Actuals % FY26 Budget Used	Proposed FY26-27 Budget	% Change FY27 over FY26
Consultant Services	6,743	0	0	6,743	100%	0%	0	-100%
Appraisal & Due Diligence Activities	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0	0%
Grant - RPOSD Measure A	99,150	81,905	17,245	0	73%	83%	180,000	81.5%
Grant – MOU AES	460,000	310,244	25,000	124,756	27%	67%	315,000	-31.5%
Grant - State Coastal Conservancy	8,000,000	5,737,519	722,000	1,540,481	63%	72%	6,700,000	-16.3%
Grant - Ocean Protection Council	5,150,000	1,891,154	0	3,258,846	12%	37%	3,000,000	-41.7%
Grant - Other Federal, State, County & Local Projects	18,000	16,607	0	1,393	8%	92%	17,500	-2.8%
Other - Mitigation Projects	75,000	60,182	14,818	0	0%	80%	86,000	14.7%
Other - Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0	0%
Capital Outlay Expense Subtotal	13,808,893	8,097,611	779,063	4,932,218	36%	59%	10,298,500	-25.4%

Item	FY 25/26 Budget	As of 8/15/26	Additional Projected through 9/30/26	Remaining Budget Balance	Remaining % Budget Balance	Actuals % FY26 Budget Used	Proposed FY26-27 Budget	% Change FY27 over FY26
Total Revenue	14,015,650	9,002,956	134,759	4,877,935	35%	64%	10,500,450	-25.1%
Total Expense	14,015,650	8,208,118	819,918	4,987,614	36%	59%	10,500,450	-25.1%
Balance Carry Over	0	0	0	**-109,679**	0%	0%		
Ending Net Position	**0**	**794,838**	**-685,159**	**0**			**0**	**0%**

Agenda Item 8

RESOLUTION 2025-11

RESOLUTION OF THE LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY (LCWA) AUTHORIZING STAFF TO ADOPT THE LCWA BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027

WHEREAS, the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (Authority) has been established between the California State 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 10, 2026.

4. ADOPTS FY 2026/2027 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 10, 2026.

Motion ________________________ Second: ________________________

Ayes: __________ Nays: _____________ Abstentions: ______________

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Kristina Duggan, Chair

ATTEST: ____________________________
John Natalizio
Deputy Attorney General