

CITY OF ALAMEDA

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: Debra Kurita
City Manager

Date: September 16, 2008

Re: Adopt a Resolution in Support of Measure WW, the Extension of the
Regional Open Space, Wildlife, Shoreline and Parks Bond

BACKGROUND

At the September 4, 2008, City Council meeting, East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD) Board Member Doug Siden gave a presentation on Measure WW, the extension of the Regional Open Space, Wildlife, Shoreline and Parks Bond. If the voters approve Measure WW on November 4, the City of Alameda will receive just under \$3.5 million for local parks projects.

DISCUSSION

Measure WW is a \$500 million extension of Measure AA, a park bond measure passed by East Bay voters in 1988 that helped preserve 34,000 acres of open space, develop over 100 miles of new trails, and fund hundreds of local parks and recreation projects. If approved by the voters, the funds raised by Measure WW will be used to continue to restore urban creeks; protect wildlife; purchase and save open space, wetlands, and bay shoreline; and acquire, develop, and improve local and regional parks, trails, and recreational facilities close to home for East Bay residents. Of the \$500 million raised, \$375 million will be used to fund Regional Park acquisitions and capital projects, while \$125 million will go to cities, special park and recreation districts, county service areas, and the Oakland Zoo for much-needed local park and recreation projects. The funding for cities, special districts, and county service areas will be allocated on a per capita basis.

The bond extension measure must be approved by two-thirds of voters in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. This extension will not increase the existing tax rate for property owners because the issuance of bonds will be structured to retain the property tax rate at or below the existing tax rate of \$10 per \$100,000 of assessed value for property owners.

In Alameda, EBRPD will spend \$6.5 million of Measure WW funds to protect wildlife habitat, create regional recreation opportunities on San Francisco Bay, and extend the Bay Trail around Alameda Point in cooperation with City of Alameda. An additional \$6.5

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million will be used to replace and expand the Crab Cove interpretive center; expand and restore the beach to increase space for beach recreation and protect the shoreline; and acquire appropriate surplus federal property if it becomes available.

The City's per capita share of the funding, \$3,465,489, will be used for a variety of park projects, including replacement of play equipment, resurfacing of basketball and tennis courts, and renovation of park buildings and picnic areas. Staff will bring a list of possible projects to the Recreation Commission for prioritization.

BUDGET CONSIDERATION/FINANCIAL IMPACT

The City of Alameda will receive \$3,465,489 from Measure WW should the voters approve it in November. The funds will be used for a variety of park projects subject to Recreation Commission prioritization and City Council approval. No additional General Fund monies will be required to complete the projects.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution in support of Measure WW, the extension of the Regional Open Space, Wildlife, Shoreline and Parks Bond.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Goldman
Deputy City Manager

CITY OF ALAMEDA RESOLUTION NO. _____

SUPPORTING MEASURE WW, THE EXTENSION OF THE REGIONAL OPEN SPACE, WILDLIFE, SHORELINE AND PARKS BOND

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District has expanded by more than 34,000 acres of parkland and shoreline in the last 20 years, largely as a result of funding provided by the 1988 voter approved bond Measure AA which also provided \$60 million in funding for local parks and recreation projects; and

WHEREAS, in response to continuing community interest, the East Bay Regional Park District Board of Directors approved placing a bond measure on the November 4, 2008, ballot to extend the Measure AA program; and

WHEREAS, the proposed measure would replicate and extend the successful \$225 million Measure AA bond passed in 1988; and

WHEREAS, the proposed issuance of bonds is structured to retain the property tax rate at or below the existing tax rate of \$10 per \$100,000 of property value for property owners; and

WHEREAS, the \$500 million bond initiative must be approved by two-thirds of voters in Alameda and Contra Costa counties in November 2008; and

WHEREAS, \$125 million of the bond proceeds will fund local park and recreation projects through a per-capita allocation to cities and other local agencies; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alameda would receive \$3,465,489 in funding from the bond extension measure; and

WHEREAS, \$375 million of the bond proceeds will fund regional park acquisitions, open space preservation, park development, habitat restoration and an emergency reserve, including projects at Alameda Point and Crown Beach.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Alameda supports Measure WW, the East Bay Regional Park District's extension of the Regional Open Space, Wildlife, Shoreline and Parks Bond.

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Approved as to Form

Debra D. Gagliardi
City Attorney

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted and passed by the Council of the City of Alameda in a regular meeting assembled on the 16th day of September, 2008, by the following vote to wit:

AYES

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said City this 17th day of September, 2008.

Lara Weisiger, City Clerk
City of Alameda