



ACTION ITEM

Consideration and Possible Approval of an Amendment to a Contract with the Association of Bay Area Governments for Collaborative Efforts through the San Francisco Estuary Partnership

Summary: Council staff requests an amendment to an existing agreement with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) (Science Partnership to Support the San Francisco Estuary). This amendment would result in minor budget modifications, with the contract term and total contract amount remaining unchanged. The contract supports the Council's ongoing collaborative partnership with the San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP).

REQUESTED ACTION

Council staff recommends that the Council approve a contract amendment to an existing contract with ABAG (Science Partnership to Support the San Francisco Estuary). The contract term and total contract amount will remain the same. The purpose of this agreement is to provide funding to SFEP for longstanding collaborative efforts, including the State of the Estuary Conference, reports that strengthen the science partnership throughout the San Francisco Estuary, science reviews, and new Delta-specific content with *Estuary News*. The amendment is needed to adjust the budget due to minor changes to actual and expected expenditures (see fiscal information below).

The Executive Officer has delegated authority up to \$500,000 to enter into contracts and interagency agreements on the Council's behalf. Because this agreement exceeds that amount and the Council approved the original contract, this contract amendment requires Council approval.

BACKGROUND

ABAG is a joint powers authority comprised of 101 cities and nine counties in the San Francisco Estuary, including two counties in the Delta. ABAG provides institutional support for multi-agency planning, environmental, and scientific projects in a region that overlaps the Delta and Suisun Marsh. Since before the creation of the Council and the Delta Reform Act of 2009, ABAG and SFEP have partnered with the Delta/CALFED Science Program to organize professional conferences, assist with scientific peer review, and deliver timely and credible information to decision-makers in the San Francisco Bay and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. By furthering the successful partnership between the Council and ABAG/SFEP, the Council helps advance and align science and communication efforts throughout the Estuary.

ABAG is a partner and fiscal agent for SFEP, whose familiarity and understanding of the Estuary and active engagement of scientific experts offers expertise critical to the Council's work conducting science synthesis and producing scientific reports to address important natural resource management issues. To continue to benefit from these services, ABAG/SFEP will partner with the Council on:

1. **Science Communication**—supports Estuary News and new science content on Maven's Notebook that will better inform scientists and decision-makers;
2. **Planning and Tracking of Estuary Status and Trends**—includes updating the Estuary Blueprint which identifies actions to support Estuary health and resilience, and the State of the Estuary Report that tracks the status and trends of over 30 indicators of Estuary health;
3. **The State of the Estuary Conferences**—sponsors this biennial conference that brings scientists across the Estuary together to share information and advance critical scientific understanding; and
4. **Project management and coordination**—including contract reporting, invoice preparation, and subcontract development and management.

Products and services encompassed by this contract will help to bridge the gap between science, policy, and communication in the ever-evolving and complex Estuary landscape. Bridging that gap informs and engages decision-makers, managers, scientists, and stakeholders. Resources such as the biennial State of the Estuary Conference, Maven's Notebook, Estuary News, and SFEP publications such as the Estuary Blueprint and the State of the Estuary Report are critical resources for the broader Delta and San Francisco Estuary community.

Resources

State of the Estuary Conference: <https://www.sfestuary.org/state-of-the-estuary-conference/>

Estuary News: <https://www.sfestuary.org/estuary-news/>

2016 San Francisco Estuary Blueprint: <https://www.sfestuary.org/ccmp/>

State of the Estuary Report 2019: <https://www.sfestuary.org/our-estuary/soter/>

Maven's Notebook: <https://mavensnotebook.com/>

FISCAL INFORMATION

The proposed amendment would shift \$39,125 from FY 20 to FY 21 and allow for a minor reallocation of funds within the personnel and subcontractor budget categories. The total budget as shown below would not change.

Category	Total Budget
Personnel	\$478,619.58
Indirect Costs	\$273,626.82
Subcontract: Ariel Rubissow Okamoto	\$194,000.00
Total	\$946,246.40

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

No attachments.

CONTACT

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