



Agenda Date: 10/24/2006  
Agenda Placement: 9A

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Michael Stoltz for Robert Peterson - Director  
Public Works  
**REPORT BY:** Richard Thomasser, Watershed and Flood Control Operations Manager, (707)259-8657  
**SUBJECT:** Napa River Sediment Reduction and Habitat Enhancement Plan, Oakville Cross Road to Oak Knoll Avenue

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Director of Public Works requests discussion of and potential direction to prepare an agreement with the California Land Stewardship Institute (CLSI), to use Measure A funds in support of, and to match, a State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) grant, for preparation of a preliminary design for restoration of the Napa River between Oakville Cross Road and Oak Knoll Avenue.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The proposed Napa River Sediment Reduction and Habitat Enhancement Plan (Oakville to Oak Knoll Project Plan) is being facilitated by the California Land Stewardship Institute (CLSI), a non-profit organization that is also leading the Fish Friendly Farming Environmental Certification Program in Napa County. CLSI is requesting \$190,000 of County Measure A funding as the local match for a planning grant submitted by CLSI to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). The \$500,000 SWRCB grant was approved for funding by the SWRCB on October 11, 2006.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	No
What is the revenue source?	If approved by the Board and the Flood Authority, County Measure A funds would be the source of revenue for this project.
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	Section 8(e) of the Measure A Ordinance specifies agricultural watershed and

stormwater runoff management improvement projects as one of the authorized uses of Measure A funds in the County unincorporated area.

Is the general fund affected?

No

Future fiscal impact:

This project would be completed over multiple years. The initial request is to fund the preliminary design using \$190,000 in Measure A funds, matching a grant of \$500,000 from the SWRCB. The preliminary design will be performed during fiscal years 2006-07 and 2007-08. Future requests for Measure A funding to complete design work and construct the project are expected. Based on prior Board direction for similar projects, the proponents of this project will also need to bring funding to the project from other sources such as SWRCB or other agencies for future project phases. No formal cost estimates have been generated to date for the total cost of the project, but based on similar efforts on the Rutherford reach of the River, the total cost of the project may be approximately \$10 million. The total level of funding for this project would ultimately be at the discretion of the Board and would need to consider the schedule for expenditures for other projects that are also seeking Measure A funds.

At present, excluding the area-specific revenues that are designated for Angwin/Deer Park and Berryessa Watershed, approximately \$19 million of Measure A revenues are expected to be generated over the life of the tax, which may be used for projects such as this in the County unincorporated area. To date, the Board has committed approximately \$2.5 million on existing projects.

Consequences if not approved:

If not approved, CLSI may not be able to access the awarded grant funds from the SWRCB, as a source of local match funds would not be available.

Additional Information:

None

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

## **BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

The Napa River Sediment Reduction and Habitat Enhancement Plan (Oakville to Oak Knoll Project Plan) is modeled from, and essentially is a downstream continuation of, the efforts begun on the Rutherford Reach of the Napa River, a project sponsored by the Rutherford Dust Society and approved by the Board in 2004, which is now nearing completion of the preliminary design phase. The Oakville to Oak Knoll Project Plan being presented for your approval, is being facilitated by the California Land Stewardship Institute (CLSI), a non-profit organization that is also leading the Fish Friendly Farming Environmental Certification Program in Napa County. CLSI approached staff regarding the potential for Measure A funding to match a planning grant submitted by CLSI to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). The \$500,000 SWRCB grant was approved for funding by the SWRCB on October 11, 2006.

Staff met with Ms. Laurel Marcus of CLSI to discuss the project scope and the request for County matching funds.

The project is consistent with the requirements for use of Measure A funds as:

- | the project is located in a predominately agricultural watershed area in the unincorporated area of the County in a predominately agricultural watershed
- | incorporates storm water runoff improvements; and
- | will play a key role in future TMDL implementation efforts

Consistent with the direction of the Board of Supervisors related to watershed restoration and enhancement projects, the subject project was presented to the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy (WICC) Board on September 28, 2006. The WICC Board recommended the project and submitted the attached letter with its comments.

At this time, \$190,000 of County Measure A funding is being requested for the local match to fund 3 out of project 10 tasks:

- | Conduct River channel surveys (\$35,000)
- | Landowner Outreach (\$50,000)
- | Hydraulic Modeling (\$105,000)

The remaining tasks of the project will be funded by funds from the SWRCB grant. The scope of work for the project is attached. The original request from CLSI included an additional \$40,000 request to fund an evaluation of organizational requirements for a river-wide organization that would provide facilitation and management direction for projects such as the Rutherford and Oakville projects. However, this task has been removed from this project for separate consideration at a future date by the Board.

Some of the issues staff discussed with Ms. Marcus include ensuring the project is well supported by the affected landowners along the River. Ms. Marcus has provided several letters of support from landowners and other organizations. It should be stressed that landowner support and participation in this project is imperative for its success and eventual implementation. In addition, a funding mechanism will need to be developed for ongoing facilitation efforts for future phases of the project. An approach similar to that utilized by Rutherford Reach landowners may be one possibility. It is also important that all affected landowners understand the goals and objectives of the project from the start, and are kept informed throughout the planning and implementation process.

Ms. Laurel Marcus of CLSI will be present at the Board meeting to discuss the project. If the project meets Board approval, staff requests direction to prepare an agreement with CLSI for the project and any related feedback associated with management of this project going forward. If the project is approved, a funding agreement for the project will be brought to the Board and the Flood Authority at a future meeting for approval.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

- A . WICC Board Recommendation Letter
- B . Oakville to Oak Knoll Proposal

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Andrew Carey