



Agenda Date: 2/27/2007  
Agenda Placement: 6H

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

---

**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Hillary Gitelman - Director  
Conservation, Development & Planning  
**REPORT BY:** John Woodbury, Principal Planner , 259-5933  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution authorizing grant agreement with the State Coastal Conservancy for Milliken watershed Ridge Trail feasibility study and approval of and authorization for Board Chair to sign Professional Services Agreement with LandPeople

---

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Director of Conservation, Development and Planning requests the following:

1. Adoption of resolution approving the terms and conditions of and authorizing the Chair to sign an agreement with the State Coastal Conservancy to accept a \$60,000 grant for a feasibility study of recreational facilities in the Milliken watershed; and
2. Approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with LandPeople for a maximum of \$58,955 for the term of February 27, 2007 through December 31, 2007 to assist in the preparation of the feasibility study.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

On October 10, 2006, with the support of the City of Napa and several non-profit organizations, Napa County applied for a \$60,000 grant from the State Coastal Conservancy to undertake a feasibility study for allowing public recreational access into watershed lands owned by the City of Napa, including a segment Bay Area Ridge Trail, connecting trails, staging area and associated facilities. The grant was awarded by the State Coastal Conservancy Board on January 18, 2007. According to the terms of the grant, a resolution must be adopted by the Board of Supervisors authorizing the execution of a grant agreement prior to the disbursement of grant funds.

The County has prepared and issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking consulting services to assist with the feasibility study. The RFP was sent to five firms that specialize in this type of work, and two responses to the RFP have been received. The proposal submitted by LandPeople was evaluated as providing the best value to the County.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Conservation, Development & Planning
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	The City of Napa's Milliken Reservoir watershed lands represent the single greatest opportunity for providing nature-based recreation in close proximity to where Napa County residents live, but these lands have been closed to the public since 1978. The City has authorized the County to explore the feasibility of reopening this beautiful area for limited public use. To determine whether this is feasible, specialized expertise is needed related to protecting water quality and the environment, designing trails and facilities, and developing a detailed operation and management plan.
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	The State Coastal Conservancy grant will fully cover the cost of the proposed professional services agreement. Staff time needed to manage and supplement the consultants' work is estimated at 216 hours, the cost of which will be spread between FY 2006-07 and FY 2007-08, utilizing existing staff within the Conservation, Development and Planning Department.
Consequences if not approved:	If the County does not accept the grant and retain the proposed consulting services, it will not be possible at this time to complete an adequate study of the feasibility of providing low impact, nature-based public recreation on the City's Milliken watershed lands.
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**

Prior to 1978 the City's 2,198 acres of land in the Milliken watershed allowed public access in conjunction with a camp operated through a joint agreement of the City of Napa, College of Napa and Napa Unified School District. Budget cutbacks following the passage of Proposition 13 eliminated that program, however, and since that time the City's lands have been closed to the public.

Reestablishing nature-based recreational use on these lands was identified as a prime opportunity by the Napa County Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee, given the large amount of contiguous land already in public ownership, its beauty and its location only 15 minutes drive from downtown Napa.

The City of Napa provided a letter in support of the County's application to the State Coastal Conservancy for a grant to help evaluate the feasibility of allowing public recreational use of the watershed. The grant will be used

to determine how other water districts have provided for public recreation consistent with water quality protection, identify native plant, animal and cultural resources found on the watershed lands and recommend policies for protecting those resources, design and prepare cost estimates for trails and associated recreational facilities and work with County staff to develop a recommended management plan. The management plan will include a detailed analysis of operational needs and identify the degree to which these can be met utilizing partnerships with other organizations, businesses and a volunteer caretaker program.

The study will be conducted in close cooperation with the City of Napa, the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District, and the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council. Upon completion of the study the County, the City, the County and the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District will decide whether and how to proceed.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

A . Resolution

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Andrew Carey