

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:

Prepared on: January 12, 2005
Department Name: Planning & Development
Department No.: 053
Agenda Date: January 25, 2005
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time: N/A
Continued Item: Yes
If Yes, date from: 12/2/03 and 12/14/04
Document File Name: G:\group\energy\wp\policy\cref
\04\contract\EllwoodBOS

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Val Alexeeff, Director
Planning & Development

STAFF

CONTACT: Doug Anthony, 568-2046; Kathy McNeal Pfeifer, 568-2507

SUBJECT: Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund (CREF) – Grant Contract

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors executes the attached CREF grant contract (BC-05-117) with the Trust for Public Land to help purchase 137 acres along the Ellwood Mesa; the CREF grant is in the amount of \$417,963.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation aligns with Goal No. 5. A High Quality of Life for All Residents.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

The Board of Supervisors allocated \$367,963 and \$50,000, respectively, from the 2004 and 2005 CREF cycles to the Trust for Public Land (TPL) to assist with the purchase of approximately 137 acres along the Ellwood Mesa in Goleta. We are pleased that TPL has acquired the entire \$20.4 million to purchase the bluff top open space property; TPL plans to close escrow by January 31, 2005.

TPL's two-year fund-raising efforts resulted with a \$6 million grant from the California Wildlife Conservation Board, a \$4 million grant from the California Coastal Conservancy, approximately \$800,000 grant from NOAA's Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation program, \$500,000 grant from CalTrans' Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program, over \$400,000 from the County's CREF program, \$350,000 from California Resources Agency's AB1431 grant program, and over \$8.3 million in private donations and family foundation grants. Of the \$20.4 million, TPL will spend \$19.7 million on acquiring the land and the remaining \$700,000 towards transaction, administration, and fund-raising costs.

In compliance with one of the grant conditions imposed by the Board of Supervisors, TPL submitted a restriction of uses for the property to be recorded with the grant deed. This restriction ensures use of Ellwood Mesa in a manner consistent with the terms of the CREF award – habitat and wildlife preservation and recreational opportunities, such as hiking, non-motorized recreational riding, picnicking, outdoor education, and ecological research.

Mandates and Service Levels:

Mitigation of impacts to coastal resources from offshore oil and gas development is required as a condition of permits on four projects. Mitigation is provided through the Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund. There are no changes in service level as a result of this agreement.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

No fiscal and facilities impacts. The Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund is funded by mitigation fees paid by developers of offshore oil and gas reserves. Staff costs to prepare this agreement have been offset by interest accrued to the Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund. The \$367,963 and the \$50,000 for the Ellwood Mesa acquisition is expended from Fund #0063, Department #053, Program #5090, Account #7863, Project #0409 and Project 0507, respectively. The CREF program is part of the mitigation program within the Energy Division Cost Center on page D-300 in the Planning & Development Department's section of the County's Budget F04/05.

Special Instructions:

Clerk of the Board will forward a copy of the agreement to Kathy McNeal Pfeifer of the Planning and Development Department, Energy Division, who will mail a copy of the agreement to the grantee and request the Auditor Controller to pay the award.

Concurrence:

County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Risk Manager

Board letter: g:\group\energy\wp\policy\cref\04\contracts\EllwoodBOS

Contract: g:\group\energy\wp\policy\cref\04\contracts\EllwoodCon