



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

Agenda Number:

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

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: Board of Supervisors
Department No.: 011
Agenda Date: 12/17/2024
Placement: Administrative Item
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Supervisor Das Williams, 1st District
Contact Info: Spencer Brandt, 805-568-2155
SUBJECT: Contribution of \$10,000 to Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON) for Kelp Restoration Project

Signed by:

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County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize a contribution of \$10,000.00 to BEACON for the Kelp Restoration Project from First District Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 General County Programs Department 990 discretionary fund; and
- b) Find that the project provides a community benefit that meets the social needs of the County; and
- c) Determine that the above actions are organizational or administrative activities of the government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Summary Text:

Upon the adoption of the County’s 2024-2025 Annual Budget, each Supervisorial District Office was allocated discretionary funding to direct to projects and/or programs in the County in need of funding that meet the social needs of the community. These funding requests are to come back to the full Board of Supervisors on the Administrative Agenda for Board approval.

This action will authorize funding of a \$10,000 contribution to BEACON to support the Kelp Restoration Project. For over a decade, BEACON has led an innovative project to restore kelp in the Goleta Bay using granite columns as anchors for kelp spores. This contribution will allow BEACON to

add additional anchors. Matching funding commitments have also been secured from the City of Goleta.

Background:

The Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON) is a California Joint Powers Agency (JPA) established in 1986 to address coastal erosion, beach nourishment and clean oceans within the Central California Coast region. The member agencies of BEACON include the Counties of Santa Barbara and Ventura as well as the coastal cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, Carpinteria, Ventura, Oxnard and Port Hueneme. Funding for BEACON comes through annual agency membership dues and grant funding from State and Federal Agencies.

The Kelp Restoration Project consists of approximately 200 kelp anchors. BEACON secured permits from the California Coastal Commission and US Army Corps of Engineers for the project, as well as, a State Lands Commission Lease. In 2015, the BEACON Board authorized the project to proceed into the installation phase. The project had shown early success in securing new kelp growth, which contributes to reduced wave action onshore, and reduced beach erosion. Since that time, the kelp anchor design has evolved with the inclusion of a habitat pace for octopi, in order to mitigate kelp-eating invertebrates.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	FY [24-25]	FY [25-26]	FY [26-27]	Total
General Fund	\$10,000.00			\$10,000.00
State				
Federal				
Fees				
[Other Source]				
Total	\$10,000.00			\$10,000.00

Attachments:

Attachment A – BEACON Funding Application

Authored by:

Spencer Brandt
 District Representative
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