



Staff Report

TO: Board of Harbor Commissioners

FROM: John Moren, Director of Operations

THRU: James B. Pruet, General Manager

DATE: April 15, 2020

SUBJECT: San Mateo Resource Conservation District Pillar Point Harbor Water Quality Update and Proposal for Continued Assistance for Board Consideration

Requested Action/Issue:

Receive an update presentation from the San Mateo County Resource Conservation District and consider their proposal for continued assistance in monitoring water quality and identifying sources of contamination.

Recommendation/Motion:

Recommendation: Staff recommends the Board receive an update presentation and consider a proposal for a not to exceed amount of \$300,000, for a period of 3 years, from the San Mateo County Resource Conservation District to continue their work monitoring water quality at Pillar Point Harbor, identifying sources of contamination and suggesting ideas to mitigate them.

Policy Implications:

Consistent with District's goal to assure the public is provided with safe, well maintained public facilities and ensure the marine environment is protected.

Background:

Since 2002, Pillar Point Harbor (PPH) has been included on a statewide list of contaminated water bodies due to its high fecal indicator bacteria (FIB) concentrations. FIB are indicative of pathogens harmful to humans and can come from any warm blooded animal including pets, humans and wildlife. This contamination continues to cause beach postings that warn the public that the water is contaminated and not suitable for contact.

In 2008, RCD initiated the PPH Source Identification Project (RCD Pollution Study) to help characterize sources of bacterial contamination in the harbor. To follow up on this

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study, agreements were adopted between the District and RCD to further address this issue and other water quality concerns by monitoring various water quality parameters within PPH as well as storm water outfalls flowing into the harbor from upland.

Most recently, RCD has led an effort to ensure the integrity of storm water and sewage pipes leading to the outfalls, as faulty/damaged pipes could cause cross contamination and/or pollutants entering the storm water pipes from ground water.

The District Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board) approved entering into an Agreement with the Resource Conservation District (RCD) on May 18, 2016 for \$146,370 for a three year period and approved an amendment increasing to \$256,370 on March 21, 2018 for an amount not-to-exceed \$256,370 thru 2019. The contract balance as of today is \$12,407.38.

RCD is requesting the Board to consider approving their new proposal for an amount not to exceed \$300,000 for a period of 3 years to continue Program Management, Investigating Sources of Pollution, Water Quality Monitoring, conducting First Flush monitoring, operations assisting the District in mitigating challenges found, Outreach and Education and preparation for emergencies effecting water quality, through Technical Assistance.

Summary/Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Board receive an update presentation and consider a proposal for a not to exceed amount of \$300,000, for a period of 3 years, from the San Mateo County Resource Conservation District to continue their work monitoring water quality at Pillar Point Harbor identifying sources of contamination and suggesting ideas to mitigate them.

Attachments:

[RCD PPT Update Presentation](#)

[RCD 2017-2019 Summary of Work Performed](#)

[RCD Proposal for Continued Assistance 2020-2023](#)