



REPORT TO COUNCIL **9**

City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604
www. CityofSacramento.org

Consent
October 31, 2006

**Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council**

Title: Grant Application: Sunrise Side Channel Project on the Lower American River

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution approving an application for Proposition 50 grant funds for the Sunrise Side Channel Project on the Lower American River.

Contact: Sarah Foley, (916) 808-1997, Kathy Howard, (916) 808-1995

Presenters: Not Applicable

Department: Utilities

Division: City-County Office of Metropolitan Water Planning (CCOMWP)

Organization No: 8810

Description/Analysis

Issue: The Sunrise Side Channel Project is intended to prevent dewatering and dessication of steelhead redds (egg nests) in the project area of the lower American River. Steelhead are a native fish to the lower American River and are listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act. The application seeks up to \$510,035 in State funding for the Project.

Policy Considerations: This report is provided in compliance with the policy direction provided by the Sacramento City Council and Sacramento County Board of Supervisors in forming the CCOMWP, approving its work plan, and supporting the efforts of the Water Forum (City Agreement 2001-005).

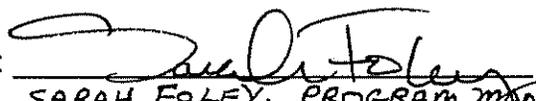
Environmental Considerations: If this grant proposal is accepted and a grant is awarded, any applicable environmental review required under the California Environmental Quality Act will be performed prior to approval of the proposed project.

Commission/Committee Action: None

Rationale for Recommendation: The Sunrise Side Channel Project will enhance the production of wild spawning steelhead in the lower American River by preventing the dewatering and dessication of steelhead redds at this site.

Financial Considerations: The proposed project has no impact on the City of Sacramento's General Fund. The total estimated cost of this project is \$729,340. Of this total estimated cost, the City-County Office of Metropolitan Water Planning, on behalf of the Water Forum and other project partners, have spent \$149,648 to date in pre project planning and studies. This grant application is requesting \$510,035 from the California River Parkways Grant Program, pursuant to the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50). As part of this grant application, the Water Forum has committed an additional \$69,658 in cost share funding to complete the project, which is available in Fund 514 for the Habitat Management Element.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): None.

Respectfully Submitted by: 
SARAH FOLEY, PROGRAM MANAGER

Recommendation Approved:


Ray Kerridge
City Manager

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Background Information:

The Lower Sunrise Side Channel is located in the American River about 0.4 miles downstream of the Sunrise Boulevard Bridge. The side channel cuts across a point gravel bar on the south side of the river and contains running water when the river flows exceed 3,500 cubic feet per second (cfs). At flows greater than 4,000 cfs the channel has sufficient flow to attract spawning steelhead. Steelhead spawn in the lower American River from December through March, which is coincident with flood control operations at Folsom Dam. It is common for flood control releases to exceed 4,000 cfs for several days, or more, and then to be reduced below 3,500 cfs which results in dewatering and desiccation of redds. This was documented in 2002, 2003, and 2004. In the winter of 2005/2006 a second side channel was formed that is expected to have similar issues.

The purpose of the Lower Sunrise Side Channel project is to prevent the dewatering and desiccation of steelhead redds by grading the two side channels such that water is flowing in the channels at river flows as low as 1,500 cfs.

This project is a priority action under the Fisheries and Instream Habitat Plan, which is incorporated into the River Corridor Management Plan (RCMP). The RCMP is a coordinated approach to management of the lower American River that was developed and endorsed by 38 organizations and local governments in 2002, including the City of Sacramento. Further, the project is a key project under the Habitat Management Element (HME) of the Water Forum Agreement, of which the City is a signatory. The HME implements one of the Agreement's co-equal objectives, which is to preserve the fishery, wildlife, recreational and aesthetic values of the lower American River.

The grant application seeks funding for the project under the California River Parkways Grant Program, pursuant to the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50). The Resources Agency has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of this grant program, and the procedures established by the Resources Agency require a resolution certifying the approval of the application by the CCOMWP's governing board. Under the inter-agency agreement governing operation of the CCOMWP, the City Council acts as the approval authority for contract items such as this.

RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

APPLICATION FOR PROPOSITION 50 GRANT FUNDING FOR SUNRISE SIDE CHANNEL PROJECT ON THE LOWER AMERICAN RIVER

BACKGROUND

- A. The State of California funds the California River Parkways Grant Program under the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50).
- B. The State Resources Agency has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of this grant program, establishing necessary procedures.
- C. These procedures require a resolution certifying the approval of applications by the grant applicant's governing board before submission of the application to the State.
- D. The City-County Office of Metropolitan Water Planning (CCOMWP) has developed an application for grant funding for the Sunrise Side Channel Project on the American River. The total estimated cost of the project is estimated to be \$729,340. Of this total estimated cost, the City-County Office of Metropolitan Water Planning, on behalf of the Water Forum and other project partners, have spent \$149,648 to date in pre project planning and studies.
- E. This grant application is requesting \$510,035 from the California River Parkways Grant Program, pursuant to the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50). As part of this grant application, the Water Forum has committed an additional \$69,658 in cost share funding to complete the project, which is available in Fund 514 for the Habitat Management Element.
- F. The Sunrise Side Channel Project is designed to protect steelhead redds in the project area from drying up during river fluctuations. This project will enhance the production of wild spawning steelhead in the lower American River.
- G. Under the inter-agency agreement governing operation of the CCOMWP, the Sacramento City Council acts as the approval authority for contract items such as this.

BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. The City-County Office of Metropolitan Water Planning (CCOMWP) is authorized to file a grant application for the Sunrise Side Channel Project.

- Section 2. The City Council certifies that the CCOMWP understands the assurances and certification in the application, and that the CCOMWP or title holder will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the Project consistent with the applicable land tenure requirements or will secure the resources to do so.

- Section 3. The City Council certifies that it will comply with the provisions of Section 1771.8 of the California Labor Code regarding payment of prevailing wages on projects awarded Proposition 50 funding, that the project will comply with any applicable laws and regulations including, but not limited to, legal requirements for building codes, health and safety codes, disabled access laws, and that, prior to commencement of construction, all applicable permits will have been obtained.

- Section 4. If the grant is awarded, and the grant funding agreement is approved by the City Council, the CCOMWP Director and Program Manager shall be authorized to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, payment requests and similar items, which may be necessary for administration of the grant .