

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
and for Special Districts, Agencies and Authorities Governed by the Board

Adopted this Resolution on 08/15/2023 by the following vote:

AYE:
NO:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:
RECUSE:



Resolution No. 2023/530

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY AUTHORIZING PREPARATION AND SUBMITTAL OF A CLIMATE RESILIENCE REGIONAL CHALLENGE APPLICATION TO THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

WHEREAS, climate change is accelerating rising sea levels, increasing storm frequency and intensity, and moving groundwater toward the surface. The confluence of more intense winter storms, extreme high tides, and higher runoff, with higher sea levels, will increase the frequency and duration of shoreline flooding long before areas are permanently inundated by sea level rise alone, threatening our economy, public health, and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Contra Costa County is one of the nine San Francisco Bay Area counties and is one the five Sacramento San Joaquin Delta counties, with eight cities and twelve unincorporated communities along the 90 plus miles of shoreline; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Bay Area is a vibrant, diverse, ecologically unique, innovative, and pioneering region that will be deeply and deleteriously affected by climate change without tremendous effort and investments to adapt to a constantly changing shoreline. The San Francisco Bay shoreline constitutes approximately one-third of the California coastline, but the Bay Area is estimated to experience two-thirds of the negative economic impacts due to the flooding that would occur absent adequate measures to adapt and protect people, places, and habitats; and

WHEREAS, the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta is the largest freshwater tidal estuary of its kind on the American west coast, providing invaluable ecological, economic, and cultural resources to Contra Costa County and the entire Delta region as well as drinking water for much of the population in California; and

WHEREAS, the Bay and Delta ecosystems are already stressed by human activities that have drastically lowered its adaptive capacity, and climate change will further alter the ecosystem by inundating or eroding remaining wetlands, changing sediment dynamics, altering species composition, increasing the acidity of waters, changing freshwater flows and/or salinity, altering the food web, and impairing water quality. Moreover, further loss of tidal wetlands will increase the risk of shoreline flooding; and

WHEREAS, flood damage to vital shoreline development, public infrastructure, and facilities such as neighborhoods, commercial centers, airports, seaports, regional transportation facilities, landfills, contaminated lands, and wastewater treatment facilities absent adaptation will require costly repairs and likely will result in the interruption or loss of vital services, large-scale social dislocation, and degraded environmental quality; and

WHEREAS, the increasingly frequent and severe impacts of climate change in the Bay and Delta do not conform to jurisdictional boundaries or the planning and regulatory authority of any one agency or organization; and

WHEREAS, the impacts of sea level rise in Contra Costa County have been well documented through numerous studies developed by the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, Contra Costa County, the Delta Stewardship Council, and other organizations; and

WHEREAS, Contra Costa County recognizes the urgency of taking bold action to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change, ensuring a sustainable and prosperous future for all residents; and

WHEREAS, climate change impacts in Contra Costa County will be most acutely felt by children, seniors, low income populations, communities of color, and residents with unstable economic or housing situations; and

WHEREAS, the Vulnerability Assessment developed for the Envision Contra Costa 2040 General Plan indicates that the most vulnerable County residents, including households in poverty, low-income households, and persons experiencing homelessness,

are more likely to be severely impacted by a changing climate, including flooding and sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County is eligible to receive federal funding through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Resilience Regional Challenge via the Inflation Reduction Act; and

WHEREAS, authorization, like a resolution, is required showing that the grantee is authorized to sign the grant agreement with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration before such funds can be claimed through the Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County appoints the Conservation and Development Director, or designee, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, and payment requests that may be necessary for completion of the aforementioned applications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County, that the Conservation and Development Director, or designee, is authorized to apply for and accept a Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Award, and if selected for an award, is authorized to execute funding agreements and other documents necessary for this purpose.

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

Contact: Ryan Hernandez, 925-655-2919

ATTESTED: August 15, 2023

Monica Nino, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: , Deputy

cc: