

DATE: October 21, 2008

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: Consideration of Proposition WW: Regional Open Space, Wildlife, Shoreline, and Parks Bond Extension

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and reviews this report and the attached Resolution, and takes appropriate action, if desired.

BACKGROUND

Council Members asked that this item be brought forward for their consideration.

DISCUSSION

In 1988, the voters within the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) passed Measure AA, a \$225M bond measure, by a 2/3rd's vote. Over the last twenty years, Measure AA has made possible the preservation of 34,000 acres of East Bay land, creeks, and shoreline; has added 100 miles of trails; and provided \$60M from the bond measure to improve local municipal parks .

Measure AA funds have been largely expended, with the small balance committed to specific projects in Alameda and Contra Costa County. However, the populations of both counties continue to grow and to place service demands on the Park District and local governments. Similarly, open space parklands and shoreline continue to be threatened by this population expansion and need to be protected in order to preserve our valuable quality of life in the East Bay.

Measure WW is a simple extension of Measure AA: it will not raise taxes beyond the current rate of \$10 per year per \$100,000 of assessed valuation; nor create any new taxes. If approved by 2/3rd of the voters in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, it will raise an additional \$500M to continue the work of EBRPD in land acquisition, preservation of open space and shoreline, and improvement of urban parks and recreational facilities. There are 67 projects on the Measure WW Project List. Full details on specific projects can be viewed at www.ebparks.org .

\$375M (75%) of the bond proceeds will fund EBRPD acquisition and capital projects, with \$26.2M (7%) of this amount held in reserve for unanticipated needs. \$125M (25%) of the proceeds will go

to cities, special park and recreation districts, and the Oakland Zoo. The Park Advisory Committee will provide citizen oversight to monitor all bond expenditures. (\$6,148,615 was allocated to Hayward Area Parks and Recreation District (HARD) out of the previous Measure AA.)

FISCAL IMPACT

There is direct benefit to the City of Hayward in that several of the listed projects on the Measure WW Project Description list complete trails through Hayward (both ridgeline and shoreline). Of particular note, is the \$4.5M to be allocated to expand Shoreline Park and construct public access and education improvements; restore and protect shoreline bird habitat; strengthen and repair levees along our shoreline to address climate change impacts; improve public trail access; and cooperate on shoreline interpretive improvements with other state and local agencies. The money is also designated to dredge channels to improve water circulation and enhance habitat on islands for endangered Least Terns.

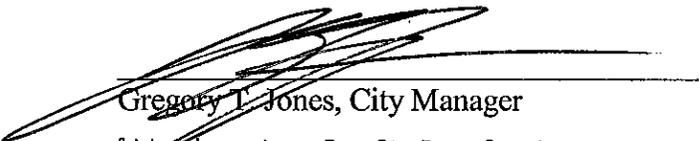
\$12,706,683 has been identified for HARD (Hayward, Ashland, Castro Valley, Cherryland, Fairview, San Lorenzo, and Mt Eden), of which \$6,819,412 has been specifically earmarked for Hayward parks facilities.

There is no fiscal impact on the residents and businesses of the City of Hayward beyond what they already pay for the prior Measure AA, as Measure WW simply extends the tax approved through Measure AA.

PUBLIC CONTACT

N/A

Prepared by:



Gregory T. Jones, City Manager

Attachment: Draft Resolution

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk of the City of Hayward

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney of the City of Hayward