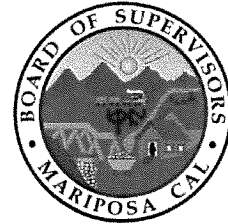




MARIPOSA COUNTY

Planning · 209-966-5151



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2019-522

MEETING: September 10, 2019
TO: The Board of Supervisors
FROM: Sarah Williams, Planning Director
RE: Resolution Approving the Submittal of Grant Application for the SALC Program

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Adopt a resolution approving the submittal of an Application to the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC) Program Grant for Mariposa County and Authorize the Board Chair to sign the Letter of Support. The resolution, in the proposed format, is a requirement for the grant application. The application deadline is September 13, 2019.

Mariposa County is applying for a SALC Planning Grant to fund the creation of a County Agricultural and Working Landscape Conservation Plan (AWLCP). Creation of this plan is key to implementation of specific General Plan tasks, while reinforcing established County policies for the protection and longevity of the County's long-cherished Ag lands and achieving the State's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction and climate goals. It is noted that nearly half of Mariposa County's private lands are in the General Plan's Ag/Working Land Use classification.

The project includes the formation of a core team to:

1. Assess existing ecological and environmental values,
2. Assess existing land use policies,
3. Assess key social values (such as rural character and aesthetics),
4. Establish a baseline of social values throughout the County's Ag/Working landscapes
5. Develop and implement stakeholder engagement activities,
6. Identify co-benefits, and
7. Ensure the overall success of AWLCP planning and implementation.

There will be four components of the proposed plan:

- Ecosystem Services/ Environmental & Natural Resource Values

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- Agricultural Economic Development Strategy
- Education and Awareness Strategy
- Land Use Policy

The AWLCP will result in a quantified analysis of the GHG benefits of the County's Ag/Working Landscape lands, long range conservation strategies, an educational program, and potential economic opportunities that are based on rancher, community and other key stakeholder participation.

Support letters received to date have been included in packet.

DESCRIPTION OF FOUR PLAN COMPONENTS:

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES*/ ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCE VALUES

Perhaps the most critical element to the proposed AWLCP is the development of ecosystem service values for the County. This component will blend quantitative and qualitative data for the plan.

G.P. Implementation Tasks:

- 2.4 Environmental Conservation Plan
- 4.5 Agricultural Best Practices Program
- 4.4 Collaborative Planning Dialogue

*Ecosystem Services are generally defined as benefits that humans freely gain from the natural environment and from properly-functioning ecosystems. Such ecosystems include, for example, agro-ecosystems, forest ecosystems, grassland ecosystems and aquatic ecosystems.

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Mariposa County is identified by its open space and rural lifestyle rooted in agriculture, ranching, and unique natural resources. Preservation and enhancement of the County's rural assets is critical. The identification of potential new economic opportunities through the AWLCP, that could add value to ranching activities, is intended to secure the economic viability of this industry in the future. Potential opportunities include, but are not limited to, carbon sequestration and mitigation banking, and gateway community food-shed contract incentives with YNP.

G.P. Implementation Tasks:

- 4.5 Agricultural Best Practices Program
- 4.4 Collaborative Planning Dialogue

Co-Benefits:

- Ensure profitability of ag business in the County
- Aesthetics and open space
- Easement Program & Other Voluntary Financial Incentives

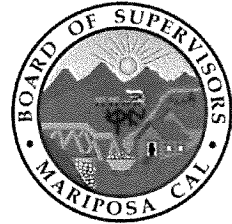
EDUCATION AND AWARENESS STRATEGY

The program will establish relationships with key stakeholders, faculty members of educational establishments, and researchers to promote an open dialogue and input.



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The proposed AWLCP will include training and educational opportunities that are based on Ecosystem Services.

G.P. Implementation Tasks:

4.5 Agricultural Best Practices Program

4.4 Collaborative Planning Dialogue

Co-Benefits:

- 4-H, FFA, UCEE Education Programs

LAND USE POLICY

The AWLCP will be used in future policy planning efforts. These efforts will reflect the knowledge and data acquired through the AWLCP, and will directly assist the state (and county) in meeting GHG and climate goals.

G.P. Implementation Tasks:

2.4 Environmental Conservation Plan

3.1 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program

4.5 Agricultural Best Practices Program

The plan will be important to completing Tasks 2.2 and B.1 General Plan Technical Update (Housing, Climate Change, Agriculture, and Land Use Elements)

The Board's General Plan Strategic Implementation Work Plan includes GHG Reduction Program and identifies potential funding sources for the activity.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

Board Resolution No. 2019-440 The Board approved General Plan Strategic Implementation Work Plan includes GHG Reduction Program and identifies potential funding sources for the activity.

The Board has approved grant applications in the past for programs that benefit the citizens of Mariposa County.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not approve applying for the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC) Program. This action will eliminate Mariposa County from being a possible recipient of the grant funds.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Potential grant revenues if awarded. Grant requires 10% match, of which only 5% can be in kind (staff hours). Staff would return to Board for budget action, if application is successful. Maximum grant amount is \$250,000.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution - Action Requested 2019-522

BOS Draft Resolution SALC Grant (DOCX)
BOS Letter of Support (DOCX)
SALC Grant Guidelines Excerpts (PDF)
Letters of Support (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor

SECONDER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor

AYES: Rosemarie Smallcombe, Merlin Jones, Marshall Long

EXCUSED: Kevin Cann, Miles Menetrey

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MARIPOSA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Resolution

No. 2019-522 **A resolution of support approving the application for the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program Grant**

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program is a component of the Strategic Growth Council's Affordable Housing and Sustainability Program and is administered by the Department of Conservation, setting up necessary procedures governing the application; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the State Department of Conservation require the Applicant to certify by resolution the approval of the application before submission of said application to the State; and

WHEREAS, successful Applicants will enter into a contract with the State of California to complete the Grant Scope project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors hereby:

APPROVES THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL LANDS CONSERVATION PROGRAM; and

1. Certifies that said Applicant has or will have available, prior to commencement of any work on the project included in this application, the sufficient funds to complete the project; and
2. Certifies that if the project is awarded, the Applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project, and
3. Certifies that the Applicant has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the General Provisions contained in the contract shown in the Grant Administration Guide; and
4. Delegates the authority to the Planning Director of the County of Mariposa to conduct all negotiations, sign and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the Grant Scope; and
5. Agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations and guidelines; and
6. Will consider promoting inclusion per Public Resources Code §80001(b)(8 A-G).

ON MOTION BY Supervisor Jones, seconded by Supervisor Smallcombe, this resolution is duly approved and adopted this 10th day of September, 2019.

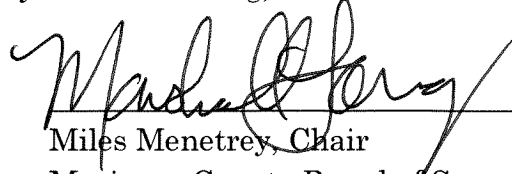
I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution Number 19-522 was duly adopted by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors following a roll call vote:

Ayes: SMALLCOMBE, JONES, LONG

Noes: NONE

Absent: CANN, MENETREY

By: Marshall Long, Pro-Tem Chair



Miles Menetrey, Chair
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:



René LaRoche, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Steven W. Dahlem, County Counsel