RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2020-600

MEETING: October 6, 2020

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Sarah Williams, Planning Director

RE: Mariposa Creek Parkway/WCB Riparian Restoration Grant Application

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Adopt a resolution authorizing submittal of a formal application to the Wildlife Control Board’s (WCB) Riparian Restoration Grant Program to support cultural burning and landscape restoration work associated with the Mariposa Creek Parkway.

In June 2020, the Planning Department submitted a pre-application to this grant program. After the success of that pre-application, the County was invited to submit a formal application, which includes a variety of supporting materials such as a formal resolution. The attached resolution corresponds to the template provided by WCB.

Grant funds in the amount of approximately $325,000 would be used to support a landscape restoration program that relies on traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) and principles to remove invasive species from the Mariposa Creek corridor and revegetate it with culturally resonant, ecologically appropriate native species. The project is a partnership with the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation. The grant also leverages $82,500 in grant funds and in-kind services secured by project partners Sierra Foothills Conservancy, Mariposa County Arts Council, and Mariposa County Resource Conservation District.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board and Local Transportation Commission (LTC) have taken a number of actions related to establishing the Mariposa Creek Parkway and restoring environmental conditions within the project alignment, including:

Pollinator Habitat Enhancement: RES No. 2020-18
Mariposa Creek Parkway Master Plan Adoption: LTC No. 2020-3
Mariposa Creek Parkway/Statewide Parks Program: LTC No. 2019-13
Noxious Weed Grant Program: RES No. 2019-20
Mariposa Creek Parkway Phase III Concept Plan Adoption: LTC No. 2017-14

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Negative action would cause the Planning Department to need to seek additional external funding from other sources, and hinder implementation of the Mariposa Creek Parkway master plan.
FINANCIAL IMPACT:
This action would generate external funding in the approximate amount of $325,000. There is no required county match, however our application leverages $82,500 in secured grant funds and in-kind support.

ATTACHMENTS:
200916 Resolution_DRAFT (DOCX)
Mariposa Creek Restoration and Resiliency Project_attachments (PDF)
Mariposa Creek Restoration and Resiliency Project_narrative (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD FOR THE MARIPOSA CREEK PARKWAY RESTORATION AND RESILIENCY PROJECT.

WHEREAS, funds were made available to the Wildlife Conservation Board to protect, preserve, and restore riparian habitats throughout California; and

WHEREAS, Mariposa County intends to support environmental restoration tasks associated with implementation of the Mariposa Creek Parkway as captured in the Mariposa Creek Parkway Master Plan.

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

1. APPROVES the filing of an application for funding from the Wildlife Conservation Board; and

2. CERTIFIES that said Applicant will comply with all federal, state and local environmental, public health, and other appropriate laws and regulations applicable to the project and will obtain or will ensure that the other project partners obtain all appropriate permits applicable to the project; and

3. FURTHER COMMITS to the terms and conditions specified in the grant agreement; and

4. APPOINTS Sarah Williams, Planning Director as a representative(s) of Mariposa County, to conduct negotiations, execute, submit and sign all documents including but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests, and other
ON MOTION BY Supervisor Long, seconded by Supervisor Jones, this resolution is duly passed and adopted this 6th day of October, 2020 by the following vote:

AYES: SMALLCOMBE, JONES, LONG, CANN, MENETREY

NOES: NONE

EXCUSED: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Kevin Cann, Chair
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

René LaRoche, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Steven W. Dahlem, County Counsel