RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Ratify letter of support for grant funding for the Merced Irrigation District. Merced Irrigation District is requesting grant funding from the Department of Boating and Waterways for upgrades to the Bagby Recreation Area. Because of time restraints on the distribution of grant funds, it was imperative that the letter of support be sent prior to the Board meeting of May 5, 1998.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Bagby Recreation Area as well as the rest of Lake McClure and Lake McSwain are heavily utilized and enjoyed by residents of Mariposa County. By supporting Merced Irrigation District in their request for grant funding, the Board will be promoting the continued improvements at Bagby Recreation Area.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Direct staff to write a letter to the Department of Boating and Waterways rescinding the Board’s support of grant funding for the Merced Irrigation District.

COSTS:

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<td>A.</td>
<td>Budgeted Current FY</td>
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<td>B.</td>
<td>Total Anticipated Costs</td>
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<td>C.</td>
<td>Required Additional Funding</td>
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<td>D.</td>
<td>Internal Transfers</td>
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SOURCE:

- ( ) 4/3ths Vote Required
- ( ) Unanticipated Revenues
- ( ) Reserve for Contingencies
- ( ) Source Description: [Insert]

Balance in Reserve for Contingencies, if approved:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:

- Letter of support for grant funding for Merced Irrigation District
- Memo from Merced Irrigation District

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION:

This item on agenda as:

- Recommended
- Not Recommended
- For Policy Determination
- Submitted with Comment
- Returned for Further Action

Comment: [Insert]

CAO’s Initials: [Signature]

Res. No. 23-159

VOTE:

- Ayes: [Signature]
- Noes: [Signature]
- Absent: [Signature]
- Abstained: [Signature]
- Approved: [Signature]
- Denied: [Signature]
- Minute Order Attached: [Signature]
- No Action Necessary: [Signature]

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: [Signature]

ATTEST:

MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California

By: [Signature]

Deputy
April 20, 1998

Mr. Frank Dowd  
Department of Boating and Waterways  
Boating Facilities Division  
1629 'S' Street  
Sacramento, California  95814-7291  

RE: Grant Funding for Merced Irrigation District

Dear Mr. Dowd:

The Mariposa County Board Supervisors supports the efforts of the Merced Irrigation District in applying for grant funding from the Department of Boating and Waterways. The grant funding is to improve boat launching facilities at Lake McSwain and at the Bagby Recreation Area on Lake McClure. Although Merced Irrigation District owns and operates these facilities, they are within Mariposa County, and our residents heavily utilize these facilities for boating and related recreational activities.

For almost 30 years, the District has operated all the recreational facilities at Lakes McSwain and McClure in a professional manner. During that time they have worked closely with Mariposa County, especially the Sheriff's Department, to ensure the enjoyment and safety of the visitors, both on the water and off.

In recent years, the District has undertaken the operation of Bagby Recreation Area on Lake McClure. This area, although somewhat remote from the normal operational areas of the District, has seen dramatic changes. There have been substantial improvements in how the area is operated and maintained, and these changes have generated numerous positive comments. The District has made definite commitments toward staffing and the continued improvement of facilities at the area.

By approving these projects, the Department will ensure that boating and camping visitors will have an even more enjoyable experience. Thank you for considering the request for grant funding from the Merced Irrigation District.

Sincerely,

PATTI A. REILLY, CHAIR

cc: Board of Supervisors  
Mike Edwards, Public Works Director  
Merced Irrigation District
Memo
To: Doug Balmain, Mariposa Co. Supervisor, District 2
From: Mike Bermoingham, MID Parks Manager
Date: 4/15, 1998
Subject: Grant Applications for Bagby & Lake McSwain

As we briefly discussed, the function of the California Department of Boating and Waterways is to serve the needs of California’s boating public. One of the programs available to cities, counties, districts, and other public agencies is the Department of Local Assistance Grant Program to develop, enhance, or rehabilitate boat launching facilities to provide convenient and safe boating access to the waters of the State.

An applicant must own/control the project area land and water. A preliminary meeting and project review is required to establish the preliminary feasibility of a launch ramp project. I have met with Department officials at McSwain and Bagby.

Since the proposed projects basically involve activities which will result in minor alterations and rehabilitation of existing facilities, I have also filed and posted (CEQA) Notices of Exemption at the Mariposa County Courthouse for each project.

Once projects are accepted, funded and constructed, it is the District’s obligation to operate and maintain those improvements, at no cost to the State, for a period of 20 years. In the past, MID has utilized such grant funding for improving the launch ramp facilities at the McSwain, McClure Point, and Barrett Cove North and South ramps. In addition, that funding has provided the floating restrooms on the lakes.

Your preliminary concurrence that the projects would serve to enhance these areas of Mariposa County and the local users is appreciated. Furthermore, I am sure that any confirmation by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors would be most useful in establishing Department consideration and justification for these projects.

I have included descriptions of the proposed projects. If I can provide any additional information, please don’t hesitate to call me.

Description of Proposed Project – Bagby Recreation Area

Merced Irrigation District proposes the following improvements to the rugged boat launch facilities existing at the Bagby Recreation Area on Lake McClure:

Enlarged and apply asphalt paving and striping to the entrance road and parking area, providing parking for some 15 single vehicles and 29 vehicles and trailers. Relocate and replace the existing restroom with a new accessible facility. Replace and widen the existing single lane boat launch with a grooved ramp of continuous slope, and provide a wider courtesy boarding float. Improve the surface water drainage system, and relocate the underground electrical, water and sewage utilities. Improve the lighting and signage, and add a concrete walkway with landscape planting and irrigation.

Merced Irrigation District proposes that the Project construction be completed during the winter of 2001. The Project would rehabilitate the existing Bagby launch facility and parking area, an area just less than 4 1/2 acres in size.
3.1 Description of Proposed Project – Lake McSwain

Merced Irrigation District proposes the following improvements to the existing Lake McSwain Boat Launch Facility:

Add baserock and apply asphalt paving to that portion of the parking area that was previously prepared with grant funds in the late 1980's, thereby serving to complete the previous project and improve the parking situation significantly. By adding striping and barriers to the additional area, orderly parking would be restored to that area, assuring the parking of 30 vehicles and boat trailers. It is also proposed that surface water drainage, concrete curbing, walkways, and landscaping and irrigation be added where appropriate.

Reconfigure the launch ramp maneuvering area, which would allow more than one vehicle to prepare for launching at a time. Although the ramp is currently wide enough for two vehicles, the existing approach area is not conducive to simultaneous launches. Reconfiguring the approach design would promote the re-routing of other traffic to adjacent areas, one of which, when paved, would facilitate access to an area adjacent to the launch ramp, in which an Accessible restroom could be built. No such sanitary facilities are currently available at Lake McSwain, and it is more feasible to construct a new facility, adjacent to the ramp, rather than to attempt to retrofit the existing facility, which is located more than 330 feet up the hill from the ramp area.

In addition to the restroom facility, it is proposed that an accessible fishing dock be included, adjacent to the ramp, a congestion-relieving alternative to fishing from the boarding float. Little space for parking is available in the immediate area and would be limited to the handicapped.

Although this area is adjacent to an area, which is privately operated by a privately contracted concessionaire, it is not included within the project boundary, assuring that no project funding will be enjoyed by private interests.

Merced Irrigation District proposes that the Project construction be completed during the winter of 2001. The Project would be adjacent to, and include, the existing Lake McSwain Boat Launch parking area, an area just less than 5 acres in size.