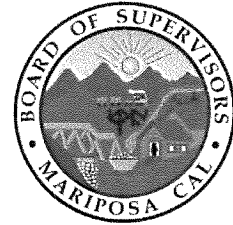




MARIPOSA COUNTY

Planning · 209-966-5151



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2019-204

MEETING: April 16, 2019
TO: The Board of Supervisors
FROM: Sarah Williams, Planning Director
RE: Noxious Weed Grant Program

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of an Application to the 2019 California Department of Food and Agriculture Noxious Weed Grant Program; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Grant Agreement If Awarded (Subject to Approval as to Form by County Counsel).

This project aims to implement a strategic noxious weed control program in a site with critical ecological and cultural value. Our partnership, a collaboration between the Mariposa County Planning, Public Works, and Agriculture Commissioner's Departments, the University of California Master Gardeners/Mariposa County, and botanists from Yosemite National Park, plans to use herbicides in conjunction with physical and mechanical techniques to increase the efficacy of invasive plant species control. The use of herbicides and other techniques are intended to prevent the monotypic takeover of invasive species that threaten the diversity Mariposa County's flora and fauna, in particular Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) and Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*). Mariposa County is part of the Central Sierra Weed Management Area, whose 2018 strategic plan identifies Tree of Heaven as a priority species for removal.

Additionally, our approach includes a robust revegetation plan which relies exclusively on native species that are well adapted to the Sierra Foothill riparian landscape, and selected to provide habitat for native pollinators. Working closely with the University of California Master Gardeners/Mariposa County, species will be selected from the approved Calflora list for the site, and may include ferns like Coville's lip fern (*Cheilanthes covillei*), perennial herbs like California fuchsia (*Epilobium canum*), annual herbs like chick lupine (*Lupinus microcarpus*), and shrubs like California juniper (*Juniperus californica*) and Sierra plum (*Prunus subcordata*). We will also consider appropriate trees like California sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*) and California black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*) if applicable. These and similar species have been identified for their habitat value for pollinators like honey bees, butterflies, and generalists such as moths and beetles.

This authorization is retroactive to April 5, 2019, the deadline for grant application

Resolution - Action Requested 2019-204

submittal. If the Board does not take the requested action, staff will withdraw the grant application.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The County adopted the Mariposa Creek Parkway Project as a project via Resolution 88-60 and thereafter incorporated a planned alignment and overall concept for development of an integrated Parkway system as Figure 31 within the Mariposa Town Plan adopted via Resolution 92-38.

The 2016-2017 Overall Work Program (OWP) approved via Resolution 2017-6 on February 28, 2017 referenced Phase 3 of this project as Work Element 9. The LTC adopted Resolution 17-7 on March 14, 2017 approving the Mariposa Transportation Center Feasibility Study - Phase I. The Transportation Center Study references completion of Phase/Segment 3 of the Mariposa Creek Parkway.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION: Alternatives to this opportunity involve pursuing other external funding opportunities to support invasive species removal in the Mariposa Creek corridor.

Failure to approve this application will delay implementation of these recommendations, and limit the project's value to the community.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This action would generate external funding in the amount of \$59,125.09 to support noxious weed control. There is no required county match for this grant. However, we are proposing an in-kind match in the amount of \$11,234.56, constituting planning staff hours, GIS services, and community volunteer hours.

ATTACHMENTS:

190416 Revised Draft Reso Authorizing Grant_Noxious Weeds (DOCX)

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor

SECONDER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor

AYES: Rosemarie Smallcombe, Merlin Jones, Marshall Long, Kevin Cann

EXCUSED: Miles Menetrey

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

Resolution No. 19-203

**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY'S
APPLICATION TO THE 2019 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE NOXIOUS WEED GRANT**

WHEREAS, on August 8, 2017 the Board of Supervisors adopted Local Transportation Commission Resolution No. 2017-14, approving the Mariposa Creek Parkway Phase III Concept Plan and Phase I and II Enhancement Program ("the Plan"); and

WHEREAS, the Plan identified invasive species removal as a critical step in advancing the implementation efforts for that segment of the Parkway; and

WHEREAS, restoration of the creek's native riparian condition contributes to Mariposa County's unique ecological character and overall sense of place and identity; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Food and Agriculture's 2019 Noxious Weed Grant Program (NWGP) will award grants to eligible applicants within the State of California for the implementation of strategic weed control projects that protect agriculture, biodiversity, water resources, fire safety and/or climate resiliency.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors does hereby approve the county's application for the 2019 NWGP to support noxious weed removal in the Phase III segment of the Mariposa Creek Parkway, and authorizes the Board of Supervisors chair to sign the grant agreement if awarded (subject to approval as to form by county counsel).

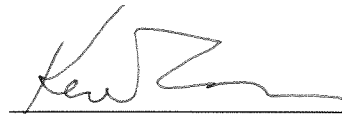
ON MOTION BY Supervisor Long, seconded by Supervisor Smallcombe, this resolution is duly passed and adopted this 16th day of April, 2019 by the following vote:

AYES: SMALLCOMBE, JONES, LONG, CANN

NOES: NONE

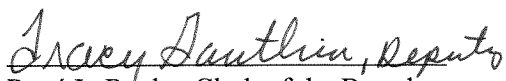
EXCUSED: MENETREY

ABSTAIN: NONE

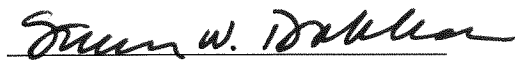


Kevin Cann, Vice-Chair
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:


Tracy Sautlin, Deputy
René LaRoche, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Steven W. Dahlem, County Counsel