



PRIORITY CONSERVATION AREA
GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applications are to be submitted via email to Amy Hutzel at ahutzel@scc.ca.gov by November 15, 2013 at 5 pm. Emails cannot exceed 5 mb in size (please divide up attachments among separate emails if necessary).

(Click in the shaded text fields below to enter text, numbers and dates. The fields will expand to accommodate the data.)

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant name:

Tim Ramirez, Manager

City and County of San Francisco, Public Utilities Commission

Natural Resources Division

Phone: 415-554-3265

Address:

525 Golden Gate Avenue, 10th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94102

Contact name:

John Fournet, Community Liaison

City and County of San Francisco, Public Utilities Commission

Natural Resources Division

Telephone: 650-652-3207 Fax: 650-652-3219 Email: jfournet@sfgwater.org

Federal Tax ID # 94-6000417

PROJECT SPONSOR WITH CALTRANS MASTER AGREEMENT (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE)

Sponsor name (organization): City and County of San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Address: Same as above

Contact name: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Federal Tax ID# _____

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project name (limit 75 characters): Southern Skyline Blvd. Ridge Trail Extension

Project location: City: San Francisco Peninsula Watershed County: San Mateo County

Proposed start date for work under the grant: 4/1/2016

Estimated completion date (this refers to public opening for trail/access projects): 10/15/2016

Acreage (if relevant): N/A

APNs (if an acquisition): N/A

Trail length (if relevant – miles or linear feet): 6.0 miles

Stream miles (if relevant – miles or linear feet): N/A

Latitude (e.g. 38.337094): 37.494729 Longitude (e.g. -122.589652): -122.367954

Note: Latitude/Longitude can be determined using Google Earth, <http://itouchmap.com/latlong.html>, and other on-line resources

What point is represented by the lat/longs (e.g., parking lot, center of site, etc): Trailhead at the intersection of Highway 92 and Upper Skyline Blvd. (highway 35). The Trail will extend 6 miles to the south terminating at GGNRA Phleger Estate.

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES FOR PROJECT

Congressional District(s): www.house.gov

District number	Name
14 th Congressional	Jackie Spier

State Senate District(s): www.senate.ca.gov

District number	Name
District 8	Leland Lee

Assembly District(s): www.assembly.ca.gov

District number	Name
24 th District	Rich Gordon

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this project is to complete construction of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) Southern Skyline Boulevard Ridge Trail Extension (Skyline Trail) on the Peninsula Watershed in San Mateo County, and further planning for the connection south across Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) property from this trail to Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District trail network. The 6.0 mile Skyline Trail is a segment of the 550 mile Bay Area Ridge Trail (BART). The trail is located on Skyline Ridge on the east side of Highway 35 within the hydrological watershed of the Upper Crystal Springs Reservoir (see map, attached), which is also known as the Peninsula Watershed, and is owned and managed by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. The Skyline Trail project will construct a new multi-modal trail which will provide access to lands currently restricted to public use.

The interior of the Peninsula Watershed was restricted to public access until August 2003 when the SFPUC opened the ten-mile Fifiield-Cahill Ridge Trail (FCRT). The FCRT extends from the GGNRA Sweeney Ridge south to Highway 92.

The need and goal for this project is to connect the existing FCRT with the proposed Skyline Trail which will provide a sixteen-mile segment of Ridge Trail through the interior of the Peninsula Watershed connecting to GGNRA lands on both ends of the alignment. The Skyline Trail will also connect to nearby open space areas managed by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and the San Mateo County Parks Department. Further, if a future trail connector is built in coordination with Caltrans across the Highway 92 corridor, this will expand the trail network immensely.

The Skyline Trail is proposed to be multimodal, available for use during daylight hours, and operated and maintained by the SFPUC.

A portion of the SFPUC budget for the grant includes planning and design of a 1.5 mile segment of the BART on the adjacent GGNRA Phleger Estate. The SFPUC will prepare a schematic trail design and provide an environmental compliance and screening assessment in coordination with the GGNRA. This assessment will help determine the appropriate NEPA pathway for the GGNRA. Both the design and assessment will tier off the 2008 Huddart Park to Highway 92 Ridge Trail Feasibility Study. Coordinating design of the Skyline Trail with the GGNRA as part of this grant proposal will expedite closure of a gap in the BART between SFPUC lands and adjacent public lands.

The SFPUC will have an agreement with the GGNRA to ensure the project meets the needs of both organizations and the California State Coastal Conservancy.

Explanation of Tasks and Task/Milestones: See the anticipated schedule on page 9 for “expected completion date”.

Task 1: Initiate internal SFPUC CEQA review: Currently SFPUC staff opinion is that the SFPUC can tier off both the Peninsula Watershed Management Plan (PWMP) and the PWMP EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 98082030, certified complete 1-11-201 by Department of City Planning) using a Mitigated Negative Declaration. The Skyline Trail project was analyzed at the programmatic level in the PWMP, but requires additional project level analysis. The City’s CEQA process requires an initial internal review of the proposed project by the SFPUC Bureau of Environmental Management (BEM). BEM makes an initial determination as to the environmental document necessary to complete CEQA. This determination is reviewed and approved by the City’s Department of City Planning. City Planning is the lead agency for the CEQA process. The SFPUC partners with the Department of City Planning to complete and certify the final environmental document (Task/Milestone 4). Task 1 will be undertaken in parallel with Task 2.

Task 2: The Conceptual Engineering Report will provide plans and specifications for the project. The CER will summarize the results of geotechnical, environmental, structural, and civil analyses, and design criteria and parameters. The report will include structural plans for 10% design level and civil plans for 50% design level. The report will also include a list of all technical specification sections and any special conditions necessary for the project, other than that covered by SFPUC’s standard specifications. The conceptual CER will be modified per the findings of the CEQA process resulting in the Final Conceptual plans and specifications in Task 3.

Task 3: The Final 100% Conceptual plans and Specs will be completed with input from the public process and technical findings of the CEQA process.

Task/Milestone 4: CEQA compliance and the certification of the CEQA document will lead to the completion of the Final 100% Plans and specifications Task 5.

Task 5: Completion of final plans along with the certified CEQA document will allow Caltrans to verify NEPA compliance in Task/Milestone 6.

Task/Milestone 6: Caltrans initiated process to verify NEPA compliance. Completion of this task will allow SFPUC to submit request to Caltrans for FHWA authorization Task/Milestone 7.

Task/Milestone 7: Request submitted to Caltrans for FHWA authorization for use of federal grant funds. Note: Final date for submittal February 1, 2016.

Task/Milestone 8: Final 100% Plans and Specifications out to bid.

Task/Milestone 9: Award and NTP.

Task/Milestone 10: Begin Construction.

See “Preliminary Budget to Complete Design Development and Construct Trail Improvements” matrix for sub-tasks 1-11.

Task/Milestone 11: Complete Construction.

Task/Milestone 12: Trail opening.

FUNDING

PCA funding amount requested: \$1,000,000

Other funding sources to be provided by the sponsor (not including in-kind services):

Source of funds	Amount (\$)	Estimated commitment date
SFPUC Capital Project Budget - Watershed and Lands Management Program	\$7,280,000	July 1, 2014 (Fiscal Year 14/15)

Total Funding:

In-kind Services

In-kind services or contributions include volunteer time and materials or other non-cash contributions. Please describe and estimate value.

N/A

Total Project Cost: \$8,280,000

There is a 3:1 minimum match requirement for the PCA grant funds. Also, to meet federal requirements, applicants are required to provide a match from non-federal sources not less than 11.47 percent of the total.

PROJECT GRAPHICS

Provide the following project graphics with your application. Maps can be sent as pdf or jpg files. Project photos should be provided in jpg format. If you already submitted these with your letter of intent, you do not need to resend.

- **Regional Map** -- Clearly identify the project's location in relation to prominent area features and significant natural and recreational resources, including regional trails and protected lands.
- **Site-scale map** -- Show the location of project elements in relation to natural and man-made features on-site or nearby. Any key features discussed in project description should be shown.
- **Design Plan** -- Construction projects should include one or more design drawings or graphics indicating the intended site improvements.
- **Site Photos** -- One or more clear photos of the project site

Preliminary Budget

**Preliminary Budget to Complete Design Development and Construct Trail Improvements
by sub-task:**

Sub-Task Number	Sub-Task Description	PCA Grant Funding	Other Funds	Total Cost
1	Conceptual Engineering Report		\$450,000	\$450,000
2	Survey		\$90,000	\$90,000
3	Final Conceptual Plan, Final 100% Plans and Specifications Document, and environmental compliance documents		\$500,000	\$500,000
4	New Trailhead Parking Lot		\$170,000	\$ 170,000
5	Multi-Modal Trail Construction	\$1,000,000	\$2,700,000	\$3,700,000
6	New Trail Access points		\$45,000	\$ 45,000
7	Restoration Planting/Erosion Control		\$105,000	\$105,000
8	Construction Contingency (20%)		\$600,000	\$600,000
9	Mobilization/Staging/Traffic Control (10%)		\$460,000	\$460,000
10	Watershed Security Fencing		\$1,800,000	\$1,800,000
11	Security Fencing Contingency (20%)		\$360,000	\$360,000
TOTAL		\$1,000,000	\$7,280,000	\$8,280,000

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

Tasks (T) and Task/Milestones (TM)	Expected Completion Date
T1) Initiate internal SFPUC CEQA review	1/10/2014
T2) Conceptual Engineering Report	4/4/2014
T3) Final Conceptual Plans and Specifications Documents	2/1/2015
TM4) CEQA Compliance	6/30/2015
T5) Final 100% Plans and Specifications ready for bid	8/30/15
TM6) NEPA Compliance	10/30/2015
TM7) Request for FHWA authorization submitted to Caltrans. Note: Drop dead date for submittal February 1, 2016	12/1/2015
TM8) Final 100% Plans and Specifications out to bid	12/1/2015
TM9) Award and NTP	2/1/2016
TM10) Begin Construction	4/1/2016
See "Preliminary Budget to Complete Design Development and Construct Trail Improvements" matrix for sub-tasks 1-11 for construction tasks.	
TM11) Complete Construction	10/15/16
TM12) Trail opening	12/1/2016

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

1. Applicant:

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission is a department of the City and County of San Francisco that provides retail drinking water and wastewater services to San Francisco, wholesale water to three Bay Area counties, and green hydroelectric and solar power to San Francisco's municipal departments.

We are comprised of three essential 24/7 service utilities: Water, Wastewater and Power. These functions are supported by the Business Services, Infrastructure and External Affairs bureaus.

Headquartered at 525 Golden Gate Avenue in San Francisco, we have about 2,300 employees working in seven counties with a combined annual operating budget of over \$700 million.

Our mission is to provide our customers with high quality, efficient and reliable water, power, and sewer services in a manner that is inclusive of environmental and community interests, and that sustains the resources entrusted to our care.

2. **Consistency with Plans:** The Sky line trail is analyzed in the SFPUC Peninsula Watershed Management Plan 2001, the Bay Area Ridge Trail-Highway 92 to Huddart County Park Trail Alignment Feasibility Study 4-21-08 and the San Mateo County 2001 Trails Master Plan.

3. Support:

The Bay Area Ridge Trail Council. The County of San Mateo County Parks Department. The Mid-Peninsula Open Space District. The Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The California State Coastal Conservancy. The SFPUC received an \$185,000 grant from the California State Coastal Conservancy to "develop detailed plans, engineering designs, and CEQA compliance documents or other related environmental documents for the Skyline Trail" (scope of agreement, page 2, SCC Agreement No. 08-009).

4. Compliance with CEQA and NEPA:

See Project Description section Task T1 and Task/Milestones, TM4 and TM6 for status of CEQA and NEPA review.

5. Land Acquisition: N/A

6. Greenhouse Gas Emissions/Climate Change: N/A

7. Additional Questions:

1) Who will be the sponsoring agency/department?

The SFPUC is the sponsoring agency and will apply for a Caltrans Master agreement once the grant has been awarded. We have contacted Sylvia Fung, Chief, Office of Local Assistance, and Caltrans-District 4. The SFPUC confirmed that the organization would be submitting a full proposal for a grant amount not to exceed \$1,000,000. We discussed the issues related to the managing FHWA grants through the master agreement process including the required audit and NEPA compliance. We relayed to Caltrans the robust nature of the SFPUC and our ability to qualify and receive a master agreement to manage the grant funds. Chief Fung directed the SFPUC to contact the Office of Local Assistance when the grants are awarded to initiate the Master Agreement application process.

2) Your indicated matching funds are all to be secured through your capital planning process. Please describe this process in greater detail and how certain these matching funds are. Matching funds need to be secured by the time the committee makes funding recommendations in late December. If matching funds are not secured by the time you apply on November 15, please keep me informed about the status of matching funds.

The SFPUC is a City and County of San Francisco Department, and is required to annually submit a 10-year capital budget for review and approval to the Commission and the Board of Supervisors. The existing and currently proposed 10-year capital budgets include the required funding for this project. The project funds are in the Watershed and Lands Management Program (CUW 275), and all of the required funding will be in place as part of the annual budget cycle, which is scheduled to be completed with the start of the next fiscal year (FY 14/15) on July 1, 2014.