

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT STREET, SUITE 2000
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219
VOICE AND TDD (415) 904-5200
FAX (415) 904-5400



W7b

November 25, 2015

TO: Coastal Commission and Interested Parties

FROM: Charles Lester, Executive Director
Susan Hansch, Chief Deputy Director
Pamela Wu, Chief, Fiscal & Business Services
Jessica Chan, Fiscal & Business Services Analyst

SUBJECT: **Interagency Agreement with Sea Grant/University of California, San Diego**
to provide the Coastal Commission's share of the cost for up to two, one-year Sea Grant Fellowships. For public hearing and Commission action, Item W7b, December 9-11, 2015 Commission Hearing.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the California Coastal Commission (Commission) authorize the Executive Director or his designee to enter into an interagency agreement with Sea Grant/University of California, San Diego, to provide the Coastal Commission's share of the cost of up to two Sea Grant Fellowships for one-year with an option to extend for an additional six months if needed to complete the work.

The Commission staff attended a matching workshop on November 16 and November 17, 2015 and interviewed 25 potential Fellows. The final steps of the selection process are underway. By early December the Commission will be matched with one or two candidates.¹ The Commission's total cost for two Fellows will not exceed \$90,779. This total cost includes a subsidy of \$29,310 from the Ocean Protection Council and Sea Grant.

The total amount of the agreement is not to exceed \$90,779, which is the Commission's portion of two Fellow's stipends over a one-year period (February 2016 – March 2017) and health insurance, transit subsidy and other expenses. The Sea Grant Fellows will receive a stipend of \$43,200 per year. In addition, to personnel expenses, the Commission will provide in-kind contributions to cover supervision and mentoring and basic operating expenses, equipment, and some travel costs associated with the Fellowship.

¹ Note: At the time this report was prepared we are not sure if we will be matched with one or two candidates.

MOTION

“I move that the Commission authorize the Executive Director to enter into an interagency agreement with Sea Grant/University of California, San Diego, pursuant to the staff recommendation for two full-time Sea Grant Fellows for a cost not to exceed \$90,779 with a term of February 2016 – March 2017, with an option to extend for an additional six months.

Staff recommends a **YES** vote.

Sea Grant Fellowship Scope of Work

The one or two Sea Grant Fellows will have a unique opportunity to assist executive, management and policy level staff in the headquarters and district offices of the California Coastal Commission on a variety of coastal and ocean resource protection issues. Working closely with Coastal Commission’s Chief Deputy Director, Deputy Directors, technical staff and other senior staff, the Sea Grant Fellows will have the opportunity to work on critical natural resources and coastal and ocean management issues. The Fellow(s) will have the opportunity to interface directly with senior government officials and leaders in resource management policy throughout California.

Potential Projects

Specific project and program duties will be developed collaboratively with the Fellows and with Coastal Commission staff members currently working on these issues. Potential project opportunities at this time address a mix of policy and technical needs, as follows:

- A. Participation in working groups in partnership with the OPC, such as the:
 - Coastal and Ocean Climate Action Team Working Group
 - Sea Level Rise Planning
 - Renewable Energy Working Group
 - Marine Protected Area Issues
 - California Coastal and Marine Geospatial Working Group
 - Local Coastal Program Climate Change Adaptation Work

- B. Involvement in a broad range of coastal and ocean issues involved in the Coastal Commission’s regulatory work and Local Coastal Program planning work throughout the coastal zone (including climate change, public access, and lower cost visitor serving issues).

CONCLUSION

Staff recommends that the Commission enter into an interagency agreement for a period of one-year with Sea Grant/University of California, San Diego, to provide the Coastal Commission’s share of the cost of up to two full-time Sea Grant Fellows.