

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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W6c

February 24, 2015

TO: Commissioners and Other Interested Parties

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

SUBJECT: **Interagency Agreement with Sea Grant/University of California, San Diego** to provide the Coastal Commission's share of the cost for two, one-year Sea Grant Fellowships. For public hearing and Commission action, Item 6c, March 11-13, 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 two Sea Grant Fellowships for one-year with an option to extend for an additional six months if needed to complete the work.

Elena Perez, MAS from Scripps Institution of Oceanography and Lauren Garske, Ph.D. from University of California Davis are the two Fellows selected to work with the Coastal Commission for a year. The Commission's total cost for the two Fellows will not exceed \$84,000. This total cost includes a subsidy of \$36,699 from the Ocean Protection Council and Sea Grant.

The total amount of the agreement is not to exceed \$84,000 is the Commission's portion of two Fellow's stipends over a one-year period (February 2015 – March 2016) and health insurance, transit subsidy, travel and other expenses. The Sea Grant Fellows will receive a stipend of \$42,000 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 Fellowships.

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 \$84,000 with a term of February 2015 – March 2016, with an option to extend for an additional six months."

Staff recommends a **YES** vote.

Sea Grant Fellowships Scope of Work

The 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 Fellows 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 responsibility for the costs of two full-time Sea Grant Fellows.

The motion is on page 1 of this staff report.