

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT, SUITE 211ED:
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105
VOICE (415) 904- 5200
FAX (415) 904- 5400
TDD (415) 597-5885



W27b

November 23, 2011

TO: California Coastal Commissioners

FROM: Charles Lester, Executive Director
Susan Hansch, Chief Deputy Director
Michelle Jespersen, Federal Programs Manager

SUBJECT: Recommended approval of an agreement with Tridec Technologies, LLC to provide administrative services for a NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship to address Climate Change

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission authorize the Executive Director or designee to enter into an agreement with Tridec Technologies, LLC, to provide administrative services to support the project entitled "Addressing Climate Change Along the California Coast: Improving Analysis, Coordination, and Communication to Plan for and Adapt to Climate Change," to be carried out by Hilary Papendick, a Coastal Management Fellow under the overall sponsorship of the Coastal Services Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The total amount of this agreement is not to exceed \$17,0000, which \$15,000 is the Commission's portion of the Fellow's stipend over a two-year period and \$2,000 is a contingency for possible other expenses related to the Fellowship that Commission staff may authorize for the Fellow. The Coastal Services Center will provide the remaining stipend. 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.

MOTION

I move that the Commission authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with Tridec Technologies, LLC, pursuant to the staff recommendation.

Staff recommends a **YES** vote.

STAFF SUMMARY

In 1994, the Coastal Services Center (CSC) was created within NOAA to identify, develop and facilitate the use of technologies and information that support the sustainable use and management of coastal resources. To that end, CSC established a competitive coastal management fellowship program that provides both professional education and training opportunities for post-graduate students in coastal management and policy. The Fellowship provides on-the-job education and training opportunities for post-graduate students in coastal resource management and policy, while also contributing specific technical assistance for state coastal resource management programs. The Coastal Commission has previously hosted four Fellows from the program. The NOAA Coastal Fellowship program provides a very cost-effective way to help address key issues that are a part of the Coastal Commission's core program.

In October 2010, the California Coastal Commission submitted a proposal for a project to be funded under this program. Other coastal states also submitted proposals under a competitive process. The NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship program selected the Coastal Commission to receive a Fellow for a two-year term starting in September 2011. The Fellow will assist with many of the pressing climate change tasks including sea level rise policy development, LCP updates and recommendations for permit conditions to address climate change impacts. The Fellow will work closely with the Commission's internal staff Climate Change Task Force (CCTF) throughout the two-year Fellowship to provide much-needed continuity and connection on this issue between Commission staff and others.

The Commission will contribute \$15,000 toward the Fellow's stipend. This funding will be paid to Tridec Technologies, LLC, the sponsoring institution for this Fellowship. In addition, the Commission has agreed to administer the Fellowship and to provide internet and computer access, day-to-day supervision, office space, travel costs, and basic operating expenses over the two-year period of the Fellowship. The agreement will include a \$2,000 contingency for the two years for possible other expenses.

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE OF WORK

Susan Hansch, Chief Deputy Director and Michelle Jespersen, Federal Programs Manager, will provide day-to-day supervision. The primary goals and objectives of the project are discussed below.

The goal of the Fellowship is to assist the Commission in conducting adaptation planning for climate change along the California coast through: (1) improved coordination with other state and local governments; (2) developing and providing information, tools, best practices and policy examples to local government partners to facilitate updates of Local Coastal Programs (LCPs); and (3) developing educational materials for the Coastal Commissioners and the public about the need to mitigate and plan for the impacts of climate change.

Working with the CCTF to accomplish this goal, the Fellow will seek to meet the following objectives:

1. Ensure that Commission staff members are provided with the most up-to-date information on climate change. In addition, ensure that Commission staff knows about and are involved with other federal, state, regional and local efforts, activities and policy initiatives where the Commission can play a role in addressing and planning for climate change within the coastal zone, to the extent feasible.

2. Provide Coastal Commission staff, local governments, and other interested parties with resources and tools to help them better understand how the Coastal Commission – in exercising its authorities under the Coastal Act – considers climate change in its decisions regarding development within the coastal zone, using specific permits, LCP updates and amendments, and other projects as case studies.
3. Assist with developing and conducting workshops designed to educate the public, local government and other stakeholders about the impacts of climate change and the planning resources and tools available to help them prepare for climate change.
4. Provide information and recommendations to the Coastal Commission on its authorities under the Coastal Act with respect to addressing the impacts of climate change in projects and LCP updates, and more generally in facilitating adaptation planning at the local level along the coast.