

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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W6c

December 23, 2016

TO: Coastal Commission and Interested Parties

FROM: John Ainsworth, Acting 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 a one-year Sea Grant Fellowship. For public hearing and Commission action, Item W6c,
January 11-13, 2017 Commission Hearing.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the California Coastal Commission (Commission) authorize the Acting 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 one Sea Grant Fellowship 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 2 and 3, 2016, and held a Skype interview on November 6, 2016, interviewing 25 Fellow finalists for one position on the Commission staff.

Bonnie Ludka, Ph.D. from Scripps Institution of Oceanography is the Fellow selected to work with the Coastal Commission for a year, starting in early 2017. The Commission's share of total cost for the Fellow will not exceed \$32,943. The Commission's total cost includes a subsidy of \$12,500 from the Ocean Protection Council.

The total amount of the agreement is not to exceed \$32,943, which is the Commission's portion of the Fellow's stipend over a one-year period (March 2017 – April 2018) and health insurance, transit subsidy and other expenses. The Sea Grant Fellow will receive a stipend of \$31,080 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 subsidy and travel costs associated with the Fellowship.

MOTION

"I move that the Commission authorize the Acting Executive Director to enter into an interagency agreement with Sea Grant/University of California, San Diego, pursuant to the staff recommendation for a full-time Sea Grant Fellow for a cost not to exceed \$32,943 with a term of March 2017 – April 2018, with an option to extend for an additional six months.

Staff recommends a **YES** vote.

SEA GRANT FELLOWSHIP SCOPE OF WORK

The Sea Grant Fellow 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, Senior Coastal Engineer and other 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 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
 - 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). In collaboration with the Senior Coastal Engineer Dr. Lesley Ewing, Dr. Bonnie Ludka's work will have a special focus on coastal sediment management, shoreline change and coastal hazard 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 a full-time Sea Grant Fellow.