

R-18-122 Meeting 18-36 October 24, 2018

STUDY SESSION AGENDA ITEM 1

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AGENDA ITEM

2018 State of California Legislative Session – Board of Directors Briefing on Matters of Interest to Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Receive and discuss the 2018 State of California Legislative Session update from legislative consultants, Public Policy Advocates LLC., and Environmental and Energy Consulting.

SUMMARY

Representatives from Public Policy Advocates LLC., (PPA) and Environmental and Energy Consulting (EEC), will provide a legislative briefing on the concluded 2018 State of California legislative session. The briefing will include an overview of the current state legislative climate and its possible effect on the legislative session and the state budget. The Board of Directors (Board) last received a briefing on the 2018 Legislative Session on June 13, 2018.

DISCUSSION

The 2018 Legislative Program, which the Board approved at its January 10, 2018 meeting, reflects Board policy positions on a variety of issues affecting the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District), its mission, and annual strategic goals. The 2018 Legislative Program has guided the determination of priority legislation to track this year. Staff and the District's legislative consultants actively use the Board-approved 2018 Legislative Program to communicate District positions on bills, budget recommendations, and other legislative items to the respective authors and/or legislative committees as appropriate. Throughout the 2018 session, staff have continued to field time-sensitive requests from partners as well as monitor evolving pieces of legislation based on Board Policy 1.11 (Attachment 2). Legislation deemed a priority by the Board pursuant to Board Policy 1.11 are tracked, and when appropriate, either supported or opposed. The General Manager has kept the Board notified of each action taken via separate memos. Please refer to Attachment 1 for an overview of the final outcomes for District priority bills in the 2018 legislative session.

Legislative Categories

Legislation and topics to be discussed by PPA and EEC may include, but are not limited to:

- Cap and Trade/Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund/Climate Change
- California budget process
- Wildlife corridors
- Water legislation

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- Wildfire prevention/Forest health legislation
- Pension reform
- Redevelopment revival

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this briefing.

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

Legislative updates are periodically brought to the Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee throughout each year.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act. No additional notice is required.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

This item is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act.

NEXT STEPS

The Governmental Affairs Specialist will bring legislative updates and proposals to LFPAC and the Board throughout the 2019 state legislative session beginning in February 2019.

Attachments:

- 1. MROSD 2018 Priority Bill Legislative Status
- 2. MROSD Board Policy 1.11, Positions on Ballot Measures and Legislative Advocacy

Responsible Department Head:

Cydney Bieber, Acting Assistant General Manager

Prepared by:

Joshua Hugg, Governmental Affairs Specialist



MROSD Legislative Tracking Matrix 10/3/2018

Green indicates bill Approved

| Orange indicates bill Failed Deadline or Vetoed | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|----------|--|--|--|----------|
| Measure | Author | Category | Topic | Status | Brief Summary | Position |
| AB 1945 | Garcia, Eduardo D | Climate | California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: investment plan. | 9/27/2018 - Vetoed by Governor. | Would, beginning July 1, 2019, require state agencies administering competitive grant programs that allocate moneys from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to give specified communities preferential points during grant application scoring for programs intended to improve air quality and to include a specified application timeline and to allow applicants from the Counties of Imperial and San Diego to include daytime population numbers in grant applications. | Watch |
| SB 262 | Wieckowski D | Climate | climate adaptation: | 8/17/2018 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(15). (Last location was A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 6/27/2018) | Current law requires the Office of Planning and Research to administer the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program. Current law requires the office, in coordination with appropriate entities, to establish a clearinghouse for climate adaptation information for use by state, regional, and local entities. Current law requires the office to establish an advisory council, comprised of members for a range of disciplines, to support the office's goals to facilitate coordination among state, regional, and local agency efforts to adapt to the impacts of climate change. This bill would recast the advisory council as the California Council for Adaptation and Resiliency. | Support |
| <u>SB 881</u> | <u>Wieckowski D</u> | Climate | | 9/22/2018 - Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 685, Statutes of 2018. | | Support |

| <u>SB 964</u> | Allen D | Climate | Employees' Retirement Fund | Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 731, Statutes of 2018. | Current statutory law establishes various public employee retirement systems and provides for the administration of the State Teachers' Retirement System by the Teachers' Retirement Board and for the administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System, among other public employee retirement systems, by the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System. This bill would, until January 31, 2035, require climate-related financial risk, as defined, to be analyzed to the extent the boards identify the risk as a material risk to the Public Employees' Retirement Fund or the Teachers' Retirement Fund. | Support |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------|--|---|--|---------|
| SB 1015 | Allen D | Climate | Resources Climate | pursuant to Rule 61(b)(15). (Last location was A. APPR. on 8/15/2018) | Would establish the Natural Resources Climate Resiliency Program to plan and implement projects that increase the resiliency of natural systems, natural and working lands, and wildlife habitat in rural and urban areas throughout the state in the face of climate change. The bill would require that the program be developed and implemented by the Wildlife Conservation Board, in coordination with any participating state conservancies, as defined. | Support |
| SB 1401 | <u>Wieckowski D</u> | Climate | climate adaptation | pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was A. NAT. RES. on 5/17/2018) | Current law requires the Office of Planning and Research to coordinate with appropriate entities to establish a clearinghouse for climate adaptation information for use by state, regional, and local entities. The bill would require the office to seek feedback from entities that use the clearinghouse to maximize the efficacy and usefulness of the clearinghouse. | Support |
| AB 2534 | <u>Limón D</u> | Education | Public resources: environmental education: grant program: Hollister Ranch. | | Would require the Director of Parks and Recreation to establish the Outdoor Equity Grants Program, to increase the ability of underserved and at-risk populations to participate in outdoor environmental educational experiences at state parks and other public lands where outdoor environmental education programs take place. The bill would require the director to, among other things, give priority for funding to outdoor environmental education programs that primarily provide outreach to and serve students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, foster youth, or pupils of limited English proficiency, as provided. | Watch |

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| AB 2614 | <u>Carrillo D</u> | Education | Outdoor experiences: community access program: grant program. | | Would require the Natural Resources Agency to develop and implement a community access program focused on engagement programs, technical assistance, or facilities that maximize safe and equitable physical admittance, especially for low-income and disadvantaged communities, to natural or cultural resources, community education programs, or recreational amenities. The bill would authorize the agency to develop a grant program for innovative transportation projects that provide disadvantaged and low-income youth with access to outdoor experiences, as specified. | Support |
| SB 1072 | <u>Leyva D</u> | Equity | Collaborative Program: | Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 377, Statutes of 2018. | Current law creates the Transformative Climate Communities Program, which is administered by the Strategic Growth Council. This bill would, until October 1, 2029, establish a regional climate collaborative program, to be administered by the council, to assist under-resourced communities, as defined, in a region to access statewide public and other grant moneys, as specified, for climate change mitigation and adaptation projects by establishing collaboratives, as specified. The bill would authorize the council to award specified annual grants to collaboratives for specified activities | Support in Concept |

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| AB 1800 | Levine D | indemnity. | Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 628, Statutes of 2018. | Current law defines the measure of indemnity for a loss under an open fire insurance policy and specifies time limits under which an insured must collect the full replacement cost of the loss. Current law prohibits, in the event of a total loss of the insured structure, a fire insurance policy issued or delivered in the state from limiting or denying payment of the replacement cost of property if the insured decides to rebuild or replace the property at a location other than the insured premises. Current law requires the measure of indemnity to be based upon the replacement cost of the insured property and prohibits it from being based upon the cost to repair, rebuild, or replace at a location other than the insured premises. This bill would instead prohibit, in the event of a total loss of an insured structure, a fire insurance policy issued or delivered in this state from containing a provision that limits or denies, on the basis that the insured has decided to rebuild at a new location or to purchase an already built home at a new location, payment of the building code upgrade cost or the replacement cost, including any extended replacement cost coverage, to the extent those costs are otherwise covered by the terms of the policy or any policy endorsement. | Support |
| AB 1954 | Patterson R | plans: exemption: | Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 207, Statutes of 2018. | The Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practices Act of 1973 authorizes the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to exempt from some or all of those provisions of the act a person engaging in specified forest management activities, including a person engaged in forest management whose activities are limited to the cutting or removal of trees on the person's property in compliance with existing laws relating to defensible space, as provided, and requires the board to adopt regulations to implement this exemption no later than January 1, 2016. Current law makes the above exemption inoperative 3 years after the effective date of regulations adopted by the board or no later than January 1, 2019. This bill would extend the inoperative date to January 1, 2022, and would delete the reporting requirement. | Support |

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| <u>AB 2091</u> | Grayson D | Fire | prescribed | Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 634, Statutes of 2018. | Would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to increase the pace and scale of the use of prescribed fire and to reduce barriers for conducting prescribed burns. The bill would require the Forest Management Task Force or its successor entity, on or before January 1, 2020, and in coordination with the Department of Insurance, to develop recommendations for the implementation of an insurance pool or other mechanism for prescribed burn managers that reduces the cost of conducting prescribed fire while maintaining adequate liability protection for lives and property when conducting prescribed burns. | |
| AB 2551 | Wood D | | prevention: joint prescribed | Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 638, Statutes of 2018. | Current law authorizes the director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to enter into an agreement with an eligible landowner pursuant to which the landowner will undertake forest resource improvement work in return for an agreement by the director to share the cost of carrying out that work. Current law authorizes the director to make various types of loans, including loans to cover all or part of the landowner's cost for the work. Current law requires these loans to be made for a term not exceeding 20 years and bearing interest at the prevailing rate. This bill would instead authorize the director to enter into those agreements with small nonindustrial landowners, as defined. | Support |
| AB 2645 | Patterson R | Fire | Reduction Fund: forestry and fire | pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was A. NAT. RES. on | Would, beginning in the 2019–20 fiscal year, continuously appropriate \$74,805,000 from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund annually to the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for purposes of fire prevention activities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. | Support |
| <u>AB 2916</u> | Grayson D | Fire | revenue allocations: | pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was A. L. GOV. on 3/22/2018) | Would, for the 2020–21 to 2024–25 fiscal years, inclusive, require the auditor of a county in which a qualified fire protection district, as defined, is located to increase the total amount of ad valorem property tax revenue that is otherwise required to be allocated to each qualified fire protection district by the fire protection district equity amount, as defined, and to commensurately reduce the total amount of ad valorem property tax revenue otherwise required to be allocated among all other local agencies in the county that are not fire protection districts by the fire protection district equity amount. | Oppose |

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| <u>SB 835</u> | Glazer D | Fire | ban. | 9/29/2018 - Vetoed by the Governor. In Senate. Consideration of Governor's veto pending. | Would make it an infraction punishable by a fine of up to \$25 for a person to smoke, as defined, in a unit of the state park system, as defined, or to dispose of used cigar or cigarette waste in a unit of the state park system unless the disposal is made in an appropriate waste receptacle. The bill would establish a state-mandated local program by creating a new crime. | Support |
| SB 1002 | <u>Nielsen R</u> | Fire | | 8/31/2018 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was S. RLS. on 2/5/2018) | implement and administer various programs designed to improve forests and | Watch |
| SB 1079 | Monning D | | resources: fire prevention | 9/21/2018 - Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 622, Statutes of 2018. | Current law authorizes the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection to provide grants to entities, including, but not limited to, private or nongovernmental entities, Native American tribes, or local, state, and federal public agencies, for the implementation and administration of projects and programs to improve forest health and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Budget Act of 2017 appropriated moneys to the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for purposes of providing local assistance grants, grants to fire safe councils, and grants to qualified nonprofit organizations with a demonstrated ability to satisfactorily plan, implement, and complete a fire prevention project for these same purposes, as provided. This bill would, until January 1, 2024, authorize the director to authorize advance payments to a nonprofit organization, a local agency, a special district, a private forest landowner, or a Native American tribe from the grant awards specified above. | Support |

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| SB 126 | | Fire | and protection: | Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 624, Statutes of 2018. | Current law requires a local agency to designate, by ordinance, very high fire hazard severity zones in its jurisdiction within 120 days of receiving recommendations from the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection and exempts a local agency, as defined, from that requirement if ordinances of the local agency, adopted on or before December 31, 1992, impose standards that are equivalent to, or more restrictive than, specified state standards. Current law authorizes a local agency, at its discretion, to exclude from specified requirements governing fire risk reduction an area identified as a very high fire hazard severity zone by the director within the jurisdiction of the local agency, following a specified finding supported by substantial evidence that those requirements are not necessary for effective fire protection within the area. This bill would eliminate the above-described exemption and exclusion and would require the local agency to transmit a copy of the adopted ordinance to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection within 30 days of adoption. | Watch |
| AB 19 | Garcia, Eduardo D | Public Access | Office of Sustainable Outdoor Recreation: California Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Account. | | Current law establishes in the Natural Resources Agency the Blue Ribbon Committee for the Rehabilitation of Clear Lake, for the purposes of discussion, reviewing research, planning, and providing oversight regarding the health of Clear Lake. This bill would establish in the agency the Office of Sustainable Outdoor Recreation. The bill would require the office to undertake certain activities, including supporting the outdoor recreation economy of the state by engaging in specified activities. The bill would also require the office to create an advisory committee to provide advice, expertise, support, and service to the office. | Support |

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| AB 2137 | Mayes R | Special District | Regional park and open-space districts: general manager: powers. | Current law generally authorizes the general manager of any park or open-space district, with district board approval, to bind the district, in accordance with board policy, and without advertising, for the payment for supplies, materials, labor, or other valuable consideration for any purpose in amounts not exceeding \$25,000. However, current law grants that authority to the general managers of the East Bay Regional Park District, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, and the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District with respect to the payment of amounts not exceeding \$50,000. This bill would instead make \$50,000 the limit by which the general manager of any park or open space district, with district board approval, may bind the district, in accordance with board policy that has been adopted in an open meeting, and without advertising, for the payment for supplies, materials, labor, or other valuable consideration for any purpose. | Watch |
| AB 2329 | Obernolte R | Special District | Special districts: board of directors: compensation. | Current law authorizes the board of trustees of a public cemetery district to approve an ordinance or resolution to compensate its members no more than \$100 to attend a board meeting, for no more than 4 meetings per month, and authorizes a public cemetery district board of trustees to increase that compensation by no more than 5% annually. This bill would authorize a public cemetery district board of trustees to compensate its members for no more than 6 meetings in a calendar month. | Support |
| SB 929 | McGuire D | Special District | Special districts: Internet Web sites. | The California Public Records Act requires a local agency to make public records available for inspection and allows a local agency to comply by posting the record on its Internet Web site and directing a member of the public to the Internet Web site, as specified. This bill would, beginning on January 1, 2020, require every independent special district to maintain an Internet Web site that clearly lists contact information for the special district, except as provided. Because this bill would require local agencies to provide a new service, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. | Support |

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| SCA 24 | Galgiani D | Special District | taxation: change in ownership: | 8/31/2018 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was S. RLS. on 8/29/2018) | Would limit the exclusion for the purchase or transfer of a principal residence from parents or grandparents to their children or grandchildren as provided, and would require that the principal residence transferred to a child or grandchild continue as a principal residence of the transferee. The measure would also delete the latter exclusion for the purchase or transfer of the first \$1,000,000 of the full cash value of all other real property, thereby requiring these properties to be reassessed upon a purchase or transfer to a child or grandchild. | Watch |
| AB 2470 | Grayson D | Stewardship | Council of California. | | Would establish the Invasive Species Council of California, with a prescribed membership, to help coordinate a comprehensive effort to prevent the introduction of invasive species in the state and to advise state agencies how to facilitate coordinated, complementary, and cost-effective control or eradication of invasive species that have entered or are already established in the state, as specified. | Support |
| AB 2805 | Bigelow R | Stewardship | validations. | 8/31/2018 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(18). (Last location was S. RLS. on 8/27/2018) | Current law requires a person to procure, as specified, either a hunting license and a wild pig tag or a depredation permit in order to take a wild pig. However, current law provides that any wild pig that is encountered while in the act of inflicting injury to, or damaging or destroying, or threatening to immediately damage or destroy, land or other property may be taken immediately by the owner or the owner's employee or agent, as specified. Under current law, a violation of the Fish and Game Code is a crime. This bill would revise and recast the provisions applicable to wild pigs by, among other things, specifying that the wild pig is not a game mammal or nongame mammal. | Support |

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| <u>SB 919</u> | Dodd D | | stream gages. | pursuant to Rule 61(b)(15). (Last location was A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/8/2018) | Would require the Department of Water Resources and the State Water Resources Control Board, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to develop a plan to deploy a network of stream gages that includes a determination of funding needs and opportunities for modernizing and reactivating existing gages and deploying new gages, as specified. The bill would require the department and the board, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Department of Conservation, the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, interested stakeholders, and, to the extent they wish to consult, local agencies, to develop the plan to address significant gaps in information necessary for water management and the conservation of freshwater species. | Support |
| AB 2615 | <u>Carrillo D</u> | Transportation | system: parks and recreation: | Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 496, Statutes of 2018. | | Support/ Coalition |

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Board Policy Manual

| Positions on Ballot Measures and Legislative Advocacy | Policy 1.11 Chapter 1 – Administration and Government | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Effective Date: 4/13/16 | Revised Date: N/A | | | | |
| Prior Versions: N/A | | | | | |

Purpose

To establish a policy governing positions on local and state ballot measures/propositions and state and federal legislative advocacy. It is intended to cover all matters before the Legislature and the voters.

Definitions

For the purposes of the *Positions on Ballot Measures and Legislative Advocacy* policy, the following terms and definitions shall be used:

Measure – may be included on a municipal, county, or district ballot and includes ordinances, initiatives, referenda, advisory measures, issuance or refunding of bonds, city or county charter amendments, or any other measure or proposition a legislative body may submit to the voters within the body's jurisdiction.

Ballot Proposition – can be a referendum or an initiative measure that is submitted to the electorate for a direct decision or direct vote. Propositions may be placed on the ballot by the California State Legislature or by a qualifying petition signed by registered voters.

Initiative – power of the electors to propose legislation, and to adopt or reject them. Any proposed ordinance may be submitted to the legislative body by means of a petition.

Referendum – applies to the process for repealing newly enacted legislation. Within specified time limits, the electors may file a petition protesting the adoption of that legislation.

Local Legislation – typically ordinances, which are the laws of a city, charter, or district, often having the force of law, but only within the local jurisdiction.

State or Federal Legislation – bills or proposed legislation under consideration by the legislature at the state or federal level.

Policy

- 1. Positions on Matters Before the Voters
 - a. From time to time the Board of Directors may be asked or may desire to take a position on local or state measures. The Board may consider taking a position on the measure/proposition if the measure/proposition:
 - Would directly impact the District's finances, responsibilities, legal authority, or operations; AND
 - ii. Is in line with or inconsistent with the District's mission and/or commitment to preserve open space within its boundaries and sphere of influence.

The Board, by majority vote, may direct the General Manager to research the measure/proposition and return to the Board at a future meeting with information and a General Manager recommendation. At that time, the Board may vote to take a position on a measure/proposition.

- b. Measures/propositions determined to not impact District business may nonetheless be analyzed by the General Manager when directed by a majority vote of the Board, of which the analysis report would include possible alternatives for Board action, but no position recommendation.
- 2. Local, State, and Federal Legislative Advocacy
 - a. The Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee (LFPAC) receives periodic updates regarding the District's legislative program. When LFPAC determines that proposed legislation may affect District business, it may direct the General Manager to prepare a recommendation for consideration by the full Board or where there is not adequate time to convene the full Board, may direct the General Manager to take action to support or oppose the legislation without full Board approval. In such cases, the General Manager or designee shall report to the Board any actions taken to support or oppose legislation at or before the next Board meeting.
 - b. When time is so short that neither the full Board nor LFPAC can be convened to consider positions to support or oppose local, state or federal legislation, the General Manager is authorized to take a position on behalf of the District if the legislation:
 - i. Is related to the District's mission; AND
 - ii. Would directly impact the District's business, such as project delivery, operations, finances, legal authority, or other District responsibilities; AND
 - iii. The position being taken is consistent/inconsistent with existing District policy, past action, or District Strategic Plan; OR
 - iv. The legislation carries other considerations that make it contrary to the District's interests.

In such instances, the General Manager or designee shall report to the Board any actions taken to support or oppose the legislation at or before the next Board meeting.

 Full Board action is required regarding legislation that is not clearly within the criteria listed above under Section 2.b. or guided by direction previously given by LFPAC.

- 3. Full Board action is required to support or oppose any type of grassroots advocacy action, such as social, political, or economic movements, that are not legislation.
- 4. Board members representing the District in their official capacity on regional or other bodies may, at his or her discretion, take actions based on the principles above consistent with previously approved Board positions and policies.
- 5. This policy is not intended to limit the prerogative of individual Board members from expressing their individual support for or opposition to any local ballot measure, State proposition, State or Federal legislation, or grassroots advocacy actions. However, in doing so, the member should clearly state they are speaking for themselves, and not in an official capacity on behalf of the Board or the District. Individual Board Members who take a position in support or opposition to ballot measure or legislation for which the Board has not previously taken a position are encouraged as a professional courtesy to include the language *for identification purposes only* parenthetically following their signature referencing their position on the Board.