



Meeting Date: 02/07/2012

ACTION	TYPE OF ITEM
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved Recommendation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Info/Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Ord. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Res. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing (Info/consent)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Prepared By: Christopher Williamson, AICP, Principal Planner *CW* Agenda Item No. **I-4**

Reviewed By: City Manager *KL* City Attorney *JD* Finance *PC* Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** February 7, 2012

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Matthew Winegar, Director ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
Development Services Department *MW*

**SUBJECT:** Approval to Prepare a Proposition 84 Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Application

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a Proposition 84 grant application for a Local Coastal Plan Update in the amount of \$300,000.

**DISCUSSION**

The Department of Conservation (DOC), Division of Land Resource Protection, Planning Grant and Incentive Program has released the Round Two Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Request for Proposals (RFP) funded through the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Act of 2006 (Prop 84). DOC has allocated approximately \$18 million of Proposition 84 funds for this round. Jurisdictions are eligible for a minimum planning grant of \$100,000 and jurisdictions with Economically Disadvantaged Communities (EDC) are allowed to submit a second grant focused on the EDC areas. In 2010, the City applied for both a planning grant and an EDC grant to prepare a citywide Climate Action Plan and EDC neighborhood strategies but was not awarded either grant.

The 2011 adoption of the 2030 General Plan includes CD-21 that calls for an update of the Local Coastal Plan to include removal of references to LNG uses (Policy CD-21.1), modification of the Coastal Energy Use designation (Policy CD-21.2), examination of the long-term future of the City's three coastal power plants (Policy CD 21.3), and changing Local Coastal Program (LCP) land use designations to match the 2030 General Plan designations as the new land use changes are not effective until the Local Coastal Program (LCP) is updated and certified by the California Coastal Commission (CCC). Other coastal issues include sea level rise awareness and planning (Goal SC-2), robust port and harbor activity (Goal CD-20), and restoration of the Ormond Beach Wetlands and remediation of

the Halaco Superfund site (Goal CD-22). The LCP Update is required to begin within a year of adoption of the 2030 General Plan, reflecting the importance and urgency placed on these issues by the City Council and to organizations such as the Oxnard Chamber of Commerce, Ormond Beach Task Force, The Nature Conservancy, County of Ventura, and the U.S. Department of Defense (Naval Base Ventura County).

A LCP Update is an eligible task under Prop 84 Focus Area #1 and at least 20 percent of Focus Area #1 funds are set aside for economically disadvantaged communities. Oxnard, citywide, does not qualify as an EDC community under the Prop 84 Guidelines as the citywide 2010 median household income is not 20 percent lower than the 2010 California median household income. However, as most of the LCP Update changes and issues are in the Ormond Beach area adjacent to several South Oxnard neighborhoods that do qualify as EDC based on 2010 median household income, the grant application will contend that the LCP Update should be considered as EDC-qualified grant application, a decision that is within the discretion of the Strategic Growth Council overseeing the awards.

The Oxnard LCP was effectively certified in 1982, coastal zoning was certified in 1985, and all issues were resolved by 1988. The City assumed permit-issuing authority on April 18, 1985. There have been 16 amendments of which one was denied by the Coastal Commission. Many policies regarding subsequently developed areas are now moot as are references to LNG facilities and industrial uses in the Ormond Beach area that is designated for major wetlands restoration by the Coastal Conservancy. The LCP is woefully outdated and a hindrance to effective and timely management of Oxnard's five-mile coastline that includes wetlands, a multi-purpose harbor, waterfront and beachfront homes, environmentally sensitive habitat areas (ESHA), agriculture, two "once-through" coastal power generation plants, and a third non-coastal dependent power plant that is under construction due largely to out-dated LCP policies and coastal zoning text.

The LCP Update scope of work would follow the Coastal Commission's 2007 LCP Update Guide with emphases on the following 12 topics:

1. In close cooperation with the Coastal Conservancy, incorporate the Ormond Beach Wetlands Restoration Plan into the LCP.
2. In close cooperation with the U.S. Department of Defense, evaluate and identify compatible land uses as identified by the Joint Land Use Study for Naval Base Ventura County that includes the southern portion of the Oxnard Coastal Zone (Ormond Beach).
3. Update and evaluate public access facilities, usage, demand, impediments, policies, and programs including beach management and compatible uses with the several locations of endangered species nest sites and wetlands within the Oxnard Coastal Zone.
4. Update and evaluate recreation and visitor serving facilities with attention to the Channel Island Harbor, McGrath State Beach, City and County beaches, and planning and development of Ormond Beach Wetlands "eco-tourism" public and supporting private visitor serving uses.
5. Update water quality protection maps, watershed uses, pollutant sources, and runoff management best practices and regulations with special attention to the watershed that drains into the Ormond Beach wetlands and Mugu Lagoon.
6. Update ESHA areas and related development guidelines, mitigations, and monitoring.

7. Update agricultural protection policies by incorporating the Oxnard SOAR and greenbelt programs into the LCP where appropriate.
8. Review and revise development standards for remaining infill areas with special attention to the two back dunes habitat areas along Harbor Boulevard.
9. Review and revise coastal scenic resources and the feasibility of decommissioning and removal of three coastal power plants that obstruct views of the Pacific Ocean from scenic highways.
10. Review and revise coastal hazard management policies and programs including Tsunami evacuation, storm surge and flooding, and gradual sea-level rise.
11. Review and update shoreline erosion and protective structures with special attention to the City's water treatment plant and other critical infrastructure.
12. Review and revise coastal energy and industrial uses and policies related to non-coastal dependent energy generation, renewable energy facilities, and harbor-related industrial uses.

An LCP Update will take several years to draft, review, and finalize. Significant public input will be included and many Federal and State agencies are involved. Sea level rise will be a difficult subject to analyze but analytical resources are being developed by The Nature Conservancy in conjunction with the County of Ventura. Prop 84 grants are to be completed within three years. The amount requested, \$300,000, is based on an average annual effort of \$100,000 for three years that can be realistically managed by City staff.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The grant proposal is \$300,000. While the grant scoring gives credit for City contributions such as in-kind administrative support, there is no matching requirement.

Attachment #1 - Resolution Approving Grant Proposal

CBW:cbw

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OXNARD

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OXNARD  
APPROVING SUBMITTAL OF GRANT PROPOSAL

WHEREAS, City Council Resolution No. 12,053 sets out the procedure by which City staff may submit grant applications, following approval by resolution of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the Development Services Department has requested that City Council approve the submittal of an application to the California Strategic Growth Council for \$300,000 in the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84) grant program, to be used for an update of the Oxnard Local Coastal Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Oxnard resolves to approve the submittal of a grant application by the City Manager for an update to the Oxnard Local Coastal Program. The City Council further resolves that the City Manager or designee is authorized to execute grant agreements, the Finance Director or designee is authorized to submit financial reports and grant claims and approve special budget appropriations for the use of the grant funds; and the Development Services Director or designee is authorized to submit non-financial reports.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2012, with the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

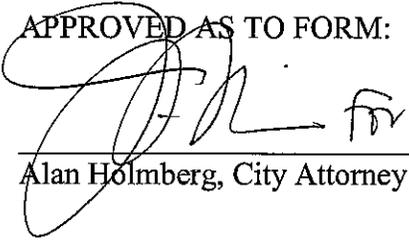
ABSENT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Thomas E. Holden, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Martinez, City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Holmberg, City Attorney 2.1.12