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CITY & COUNTY OF S.F.
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
RECEPTION DESK

January 2, 2020

Myrna Melgar, President
San Francisco Planning Commission
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103-2414

Dear President Melgar and Planning Commissioners:

Subject: ACWD Request for Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Requirements for the SFPUC Alameda Creek Recapture Project, Case No. 2015-004827ENV

The purpose of this letter is to supplement comments that we at the Alameda County Water District (ACWD) are planning to make at the scheduled public hearing on January 9 concerning the Recirculated Portions of the Draft EIR for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's (SFPUC's) proposed Alameda Creek Recapture Project (ACRP, or Project).

Firstly, we wish to thank your staff as well as the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission staff for their informative presentation to the Alameda Creek Fisheries Restoration Workgroup on September 12, 2019, and timely and comprehensive responses to our questions and requests. As ACWD and other stakeholders have invested millions of dollars for improvements in the environmental condition for steelhead in the Alameda Creek Watershed in Alameda County, ACWD has an interest in minimizing any potential impacts of the proposed Project to fish.

Based on our initial analysis of the updates in the REIR, the revised Project description and operating parameters will result in a Project that is more protective of steelhead and downstream water supplies than the previously proposed Project, provided that SFPUC fully complies with the project description and operating protocols set forth in the REIR.

Accordingly, ACWD has requested specific commitments for monitoring and operations reporting to be incorporated into the Project and included in the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) in a letter to Chris Kern, dated December 31, 2019.

ACWD considers our requests to be reasonable – SFPUC should 1) commit to implement the Project as it was described at the Fisheries Workgroup meeting on September 12, 2019, and in the REIR; and 2) perform monitoring and provide compliance data to all the stakeholders in the watershed to ensure that the Project is operated as described in the REIR.



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ACWD believes that responsible and transparent monitoring and data sharing can help to build greater trust among all the stakeholders in the Alameda Creek watershed who share the common goal of improving environmental conditions for steelhead.

Most importantly, ACWD will not oppose the REIR if the Project can include the requested Project monitoring and reporting. We are making these initial requests prior to the comment deadline to promote coordination and to allow adequate time for any discussions or clarifications concerning our requests during the REIR comment period. Again, ACWD appreciates the continued coordination from staff at the San Francisco Planning Department, and we thank you for your consideration of ACWD's requests.

Sincerely,



Robert Shaver
General Manager

la/mh

By E-Mail

cc: Chris Kern, San Francisco Planning Department
Steve Ritchie, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Ellen Levin, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission