



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Type: Board of Directors
Title: Amended and Restated Cooperative Agreement with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
From: Jonathan Koehler, Acting Watershed Resources Director
Through: Shaun Horne, General Manager
Meeting Date: October 06, 2026

TYPE OF ITEM: X Action Information

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the Amended and Restated Cooperative Agreement with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and Authorize the General Manager to execute the agreement

SUMMARY: In 2014, the District entered into a Cooperative Agreement (Agreement) with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (Parks Conservancy) to support collaborative projects and programs on District watershed lands. The Agreement complements the broader Tamalpais Lands Collaborative (TLC), now known as One Tam, which brings together Marin Water, the National Park Service, California State Parks, Marin County Parks, and the Parks Conservancy to support the conservation, restoration, stewardship, and public enjoyment of Mt. Tamalpais.

The Cooperative Agreement provides a framework for the District and the Parks Conservancy to work together on fundraising, resource stewardship, project implementation, education, outreach, volunteer programs, and other activities that support the District's watershed goals.

Staff has worked with the Parks Conservancy to update and restate the Cooperative Agreement to reflect the current One Tam partnership and clarify roles, responsibilities, project approvals, financial authority, insurance, and other administrative provisions. The updated Agreement also clarifies that the General Manager may approve Project Statements that do not exceed \$100,000 annually, with Board review and approval required for projects exceeding that amount.

Staff recommends that the Board approve the Amended and Restated Cooperative Agreement and authorize the General Manager to execute the Agreement.

DISCUSSION: The District and the Parks Conservancy entered into Cooperative Agreement No. MA-5311 in 2014 to establish a framework for working together on projects and programs supporting the District's watershed lands. On March 14, 2024, the Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Tamalpais Lands Collaborative (One Tam or collaborative) partner agencies. In alignment with the

MOU, every five years the One Tam partners develop a Strategic Plan with a “5 Year List” of projects and programs that are compatible with the purpose, vision, and agencies’ interests. Since that time, the partnership has continued through One Tam, providing a collaborative structure for the participating agencies and Parks Conservancy to advance shared stewardship priorities on Mt. Tamalpais. At the January 20, 2025 Board of Director meeting, the Board approved the One Tam 2026-2027 Work Plan.

The Cooperative Agreement establishes the specific roles and responsibilities of the District and the Parks Conservancy. Under the Agreement, the parties may cooperatively develop work plans, prioritize and manage projects, plan and implement programs, conduct resource stewardship and monitoring, support community engagement and education, and coordinate fundraising and philanthropic support. The Agreement maintains District oversight of activities occurring on watershed lands and requires projects and programs to remain consistent with District plans, policies, operations, and resource protection responsibilities.

The proposed Amended and Restated Cooperative Agreement updates the original agreement to reflect the current structure and operation of the One Tam partnership and incorporates updated administrative and legal provisions. Importantly, the Agreement clarifies the approval process for projects in which the District participates in that the Proposed Agreement provides that the General Manager may approve Project Statements that do not exceed \$100,000 annually, while projects exceeding that amount require Board review and approval. Individual Project Statements will continue to identify the work to be completed and any associated funding commitments.

The Agreement also continues to recognize the Parks Conservancy’s role in cultivating philanthropic support and administering external funding for collaborative projects and programs, while preserving the District’s discretion regarding the commitment of District staff, funding, equipment, and other resources.

Approval of the Amended and Restated Cooperative Agreement will allow Marin Water and the Parks Conservancy to continue working together under an updated framework that reflects the current One Tam partnership and District approval authorities.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: None.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

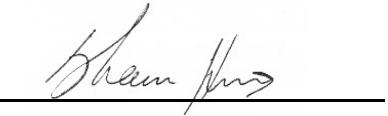
ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Proposed Amended and Restated Cooperative Agreement with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

DEPARTMENT OR DIVISION	DIVISION MANAGER	APPROVED
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Watershed


Jonathan Koehler
Acting Watershed Resources
Director


Shaun Horne
General Manager