



# STAFF REPORT

---

**Meeting Type:** Watershed Committee/Board of Directors  
**Title:** Watershed Facilities Assessment and Conceptual Plan  
**From:** Shaun Horne, Director of Watershed Resources  
**Through:** Ben Horenstein, General Manager  
**Meeting Date:** March 20, 2025

---

**TYPE OF ITEM:**                      Approve              X              Review and Comment

**RECOMMENDATION:** Review and comment on approving a grant award of \$200,000 from the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed Fund to advance a Watershed Facilities Assessment and Conceptual Plan

**SUMMARY:** The District is considering partnering with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (GGNPC) to advance a Watershed Facilities Assessment and Conceptual Plan. Staff is recommending a grant award from the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed Fund to advance the planning effort, which will focus on evaluating staff facilities, existing housing infrastructure, and visitor days use areas on the District's watershed. This is intended to be a high-level planning effort that would result in a flexible outline of possible projects that could be advanced to update staff facilities, restore housing infrastructure, and improve visitor day use areas.

**DISCUSSION:** The District created the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed Fund in 1996 pursuant to an Agreement Establishing the Mount Tamalpais Watershed Fund of the Marin Community Foundation, which fund was established to give watershed visitors the opportunity to help protect the mountain through a tax deductible donation and to provide support the watershed management activities of the Mount Tamalpais watershed and other District watershed lands. Projects supported by donations to the fund are conducted by the District to advance stewardship and management of the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed and associated facilities. Since the creation of the Fund the District has issued grants totaling \$418,220 for planning and implementation of projects on the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed. The current balance of the Fund is \$782,393 which has come from generous community donations. Recently the District updated its watershed visitor map with a QR code to help raise awareness about opportunities to donate to the Mt. Tamalpais Fund.

The Watershed Facilities Assessment and Conceptual Plan will evaluate existing watershed staff facilities, housing infrastructure and visitor day use areas. The GGNPC, as part of the One Tam collaborative, has helped the District and other public land management agencies on similar planning efforts in the past. On the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed the GGNPC helped develop concept plans for the Lake Lagunitas Picnic Area, and West Peak. A facilities assessment would be focused on facilities

needed to support watershed staff operations, visitor facilities in the main Sky Oaks area, and existing housing infrastructure. The assessment would result in a conceptual plan document that would allow the District and GGNPC to fund raise for various improvements. Based on past planning efforts Staff is recommending a grant in the amount of \$200,000 from the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed Fund to support an initial assessment survey, a conditions analysis of priority facilities, architectural concepts, and cost estimates for various opportunities. Staff would come back to the Watershed Committee to present the final document and discuss fundraising and implementation options.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:** Not Applicable.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Based on past planning efforts Staff is recommending approving a grant in the amount of \$200,000 from the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed Fund. The current balance of the Fund is \$782,393.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** None.