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**RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION
APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION AND
THE BAY FOUNDATION REGARDING
THE SANTA MONICA BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM
August 19, 2021**

Resolution No. 21-05

WHEREAS, the Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (NEP) is designated by the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) under Section 320 of the Clean Water Act to promote collaborative watershed-based partnerships in order to develop and implement a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) that addresses a range of environmental problems facing Santa Monica Bay while recognizing and balancing the needs of the local community; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Monica Bay NEP is comprised of two distinct entities: the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (Commission) serving as the Management Conference and The Bay Foundation serving as the Host Entity; and

WHEREAS, the Memorandum of Agreement between the Commission and The Bay Foundation regarding the Santa Monica Bay NEP (MOA) was adopted in 2012 to describe the roles and responsibilities of each entity and the relationship between the entities in furthering the goals of the Santa Monica Bay NEP and was most recently amended in April 2018 (2018 MOA); and

WHEREAS, the Commission approved a major amendment to the Commission's Memorandum of Understanding on June 18, 2020 (Commission's MOU), which describes the governance structure of the Commission and outlines the collaborative partnership between the Commission and the Host Entity and the roles and functions of the Host Entity consistent with US EPA NEP guidance; and



The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission's mission is to restore and enhance Santa Monica Bay through actions and partnerships that improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resources, mitigate the impacts of climate change and sea level rise, and protect Santa Monica Bay's benefits and values.

WHEREAS, the goals of the proposed amendment to the 2018 MOA (MOA Amendment) are to update and clarify the collaborative relationship between the Commission and The Bay Foundation consistent with the Commission's MOU and applicable US EPA NEP guidance in order to clarify the respective roles and responsibilities of the Commission and The Bay Foundation, ensure successful implementation of the CCMP and Santa Monica Bay NEP Annual Work Plans, enhance the partnership between the Commission and The Bay Foundation to serve effectively as the Santa Monica Bay NEP as described in US EPA NEP guidance, effectively inform and communicate to stakeholders the role of the Santa Monica Bay NEP in the Santa Monica Bay watershed, and streamline processes and improve program efficacy; and

WHEREAS, Commission staff in collaboration with The Bay Foundation staff initiated the development of the proposed MOA Amendment to achieve the stated goals;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of the Commission hereby:

1. ADOPTS the staff report regarding the MOA Amendment; and
2. APPROVES the MOA Amendment; and
3. INSTRUCTS the Chair of the Governing Board to sign the MOA Amendment on behalf of the Commission and forward it to the President of The Bay Foundation's Board of Directors for her signature.

BY:

Charlie Caspary
Governing Board Chair
Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission