



**December 10, 2021**

**Agenda Item: 3.a**

To: Governing Board, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

From: Marissa Caringella, Chief Administrative Director  
Caitlin Gray, Environmental Scientist

**Re: Election of Governing Board Representatives**

### **Action Requested of the Governing Board**

Elect up to seven eligible entities to serve as voting members of the Governing Board consistent with the Commission's Memorandum of Understanding and the proposed election procedures.

### **Background**

This staff report describes the proposed procedures for this election (see also [Attachment 1: Nomination and Election Procedures \(Revised\)](#)). The [Memorandum of Understanding](#) of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission stipulates that the voting Governing Board members shall nominate and elect seven entities to serve as voting members of the Governing Board for two-year terms:

1. Two representatives of environmental/public interest organizations;
2. Two business community/economic interests in the watershed (one of which participates in the coastal tourism industry); and
3. Three at-large representatives.

Six of the current representatives were elected on December 12, 2019 for two-year terms. On June 18, 2020, the current coastal tourism representative was elected with its term expiring in December 2021 to be in sync with the other representatives ([Attachment 2: Current Elected Governing Board Representatives](#)). Therefore, an election is needed at the December 14, 2021 Governing Board meeting following the expiration of the terms of the seven current elected representatives. On November 22, 2021, Commission staff announced the opening of the nomination period and distributed the Nomination and Election Procedures to Governing Board members and interested parties and posted it on the Commission's website. The nomination period will close December 10, 2021.



*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.*

## **Proposed Election Procedures**

After the nomination period closes, Commission staff will announce the nominees to the Governing Board. Floor nominations will be opened at the December 14, 2021 Governing Board meeting before the election takes place.

The MOU authorizes voting Governing Board members or their designated alternate to vote for these seats. Because the current elected voting members' terms expire before the December 14, 2021 meeting, only ex officio and appointed voting Governing Board members may vote in this election. Attachment 1 lists the Governing Board seats and the type of membership consistent with the MOU.

The election will take place by roll-call vote of voting Governing Board members or their designated alternates. The Governing Board Chair has the discretion to hold the vote as a slate if there are equal or fewer nominations than open seats (i.e., seven or fewer nominees). Otherwise, the vote will occur in two rounds as follows:

1. Environmental/public interest organizations (two seats) and business community/economic interests in the watershed (two seats, one of which participates in the coastal tourism industry)
2. At-large representatives (three seats)

Nominees in each round and category that receive the greatest number of votes will be elected.<sup>1</sup> The newly elected Governing Board members' terms shall be effective immediately after the election.

## **Attachments**

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|------------------------------|---|
| <a href="#">Attachment 1</a> | Nomination and Election Procedures (Revised)    |
| <a href="#">Attachment 2</a> | Current Elected Governing Board Representatives |

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<sup>1</sup> The November 22, 2021 Nomination and Election Procedures indicated that, "In order to be elected, a nominee must receive a majority of votes by a quorum of voting Governing Board members." This document updates the election process (see also Attachment 1: Nomination and Election Procedures (Revised)).

## **Attachment 1**

### **Nomination and Election Procedures (Revised)**

(To download the redline version of the document, please visit the Commission's website, at [https://www.smbrc.ca.gov/about\\_us/agendas/2021/dec/211210\\_gbelec-procedures\\_rv.docx](https://www.smbrc.ca.gov/about_us/agendas/2021/dec/211210_gbelec-procedures_rv.docx))

## **Attachment 2**

### **Current Elected Governing Board Representatives** (Terms expire December 12, 2021)

#### **Environmental/public interest**

Heal the Bay

Los Angeles Waterkeeper

#### **Business community/economic interests**

Chevron

Santa Monica Travel & Tourism

#### **At-large representatives**

Marina Del Rey Anglers

Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains

West Basin Municipal Water District