

San Mateo Resource Conservation District to Design and Launch a Carbon Sequestration Farm Fund to Help Farmers Finance the Implementation of Climate-Beneficial Agricultural Practices

June 18, 2025



STAFF REPORT. From <u>San Mateo County Board of Supervisors' meeting</u> on Tuesday, June 10th, 2025 at 9:00am, as a hybrid meeting. <u>Agenda</u>. Staff Report for Consent Agenda <u>Item</u> #126.

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Jasneet Sharma, Director, Sustainability Department

Subject: Agreement with San Mateo Resource Conservation District for Carbon Farm

Fund

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing an agreement with the San Mateo Resource Conservation District (RCD) to design and launch a carbon farm fund that will advance carbon sequestration efforts, for the term of June 10, 2025 through June 9, 2030, in an amount not to exceed \$395,000.

BACKGROUND

On October 18, 2022, the Board approved Resolution No. 079264, adopting the San Mateo County General Plan Climate Element and the Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP). As part of the CCAP's overall emissions reduction target of carbon neutrality by 2040, it sets forth a target to sequester 39,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO2e) by 2030 and 166,000 MTCO2e by 2045. To accomplish this goal, the CCAP recommends implementing a funding program to help farmers and ranchers implement and maintain climate beneficial agricultural practices, or carbon farming. The CCAP also has a land management goal to "support ranchers and farmers to plan, implement, and scale climate beneficial practices on the County's working lands to mitigate climate change and build agricultural resiliency."



RECENT BUZZ



When 12-Year Old Arunay Drowned at Cowell Ranch Beach in a Rip Current,...

August 11, 2025



Scientists Make Breakthrough Discovery for the Sea Star Wasting...

August 7, 2025



Half Moon Bay's Carter Park Ampitheatre Ribbon Cutting Celebrates with...

August 7, 2025



Are You a High Schooler in San Mateo County?
Apply to Become a Yout...

August 7, 2025



SHIFT-Bay Area's Gregg Dieguez Analyzes Bay Area Transit Costs as a...

August 7, 2025

DISCUSSION

The proposed Carbon Farm Fund (Fund) would seek to establish a self-sustaining funding program to support producers in carbon sequestration. The Fund would advance progress on both the CCAP's carbon sequestration and land management goals.

The proposed agreement consists of three key activities. First, the contractor will conduct extensive research, stakeholder surveying, and fund model analysis, development and testing, to create a Funding Pathways Memorandum with recommendations for a sustainable long-term Fund program. Second, the contractor will develop a complete program design for administering the Fund. Third, the contractor will implement the program and distribute the funds. Each phase will be evaluated by the County before the contractor is given approval to move on to the next phase. The grant fund will be implemented with oversight and approval by the County.

The Sustainability Department released a Request for Proposal (RFP) on June 20, 2024, for a contractor to conduct all aspects of the proposed project: background research, program design, and program implementation. The RFP was posted on OpenGov for four weeks and generated one response, from the San Mateo Resource Conservation District (RCD). Following evaluation by the selection committee, the Department recommended moving forward with RCD's proposal.

The County Attorney's Office has reviewed and approved the resolution and agreement as to form.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE

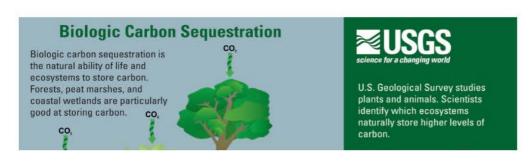
Measure	Amount sequestered by end of contr act period
MTCO2e sequestered	7,900 MTCO2e

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Work under this agreement will identify and address the agricultural community's financial barriers to implementing climate-beneficial agricultural practices. The Fund will provide a sustainable model for supporting the agricultural community to help mitigate carbon emissions, provide cleaner air and promote a suite of agricultural practices that bring numerous ecological co-benefits.

FISCAL IMPACT

The contract allocates \$195,000 for background research and program design, and \$200,000 for grant funding. Funding in the amount of \$395,000 is included the Sustainability Department's FY 2024-25 Approved Budget and the FY 2025-26 Recommended Budget. There is no new Net County Cost associated with this agreement.





What Does Half Moon Bay City Councilmember Paul Nagengast Think? Have ... August 7, 2025

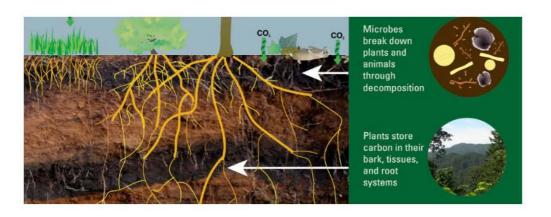


New Study Finds California Fire Season is Starting 10 Weeks Earlie... August 7, 2025



Pillar Point Harbor Dredge and Surfers Beach Pilot Restoration Pipeli...

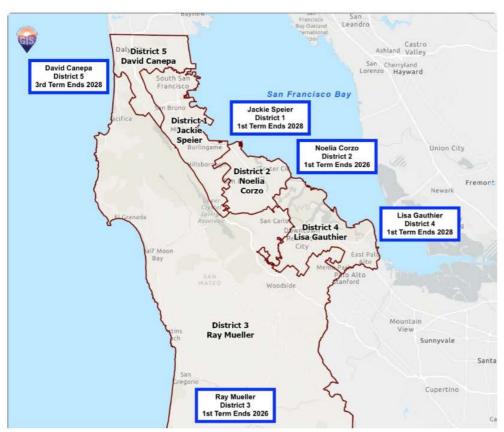
August 7, 2025



More on the San Mateo Resource Conservation District on Coastside Buzz

2025 Board of Supervisors







COUNTY OF SAN MATEO CA

daries approved by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, December, 2021



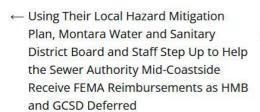












The Ritz Looks to Upgrade Workers' → Miramontes Point Road Parking Lot on Midpen Open Space's New Property with Stormwater Bioretension, Bike Parking and Eight 10' LED Lights

Related Buzz

CV-19: Learning the **Right Lesson From** Sweden

OWN VOICE ~ InPerspective by Gregg Dieguez. The topic of Sweden has become another politically/ideologically polarizing one during the Pandemic....

Share The Buzz









Ghosts on the Coast ~ Do You Have a Coastal Ghost Story? Let Us Know!

GHOST STORIES. Coastside history is filled with vivid stories of the vivid people who lived here. Those who have...

Share The Buzz











Montara Water GM Reports Urban Water Systems are Generally not Designed to Fight Wildfires; CalFire is Designated to Fight Wildfires; Paradise Changed Building Codes; **Hydrants are Tested**

VIDEO. From Montara Water and Sanitary District (MWSD) Director's meeting on Thursday, January 16th, 2024 at 7:30pm, as a hybrid meeting. Agenda. Response...

Share The Buzz









