

**RESOLUTION 2018-098**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE LIVING COAST DISCOVERY CENTER TO BE FUNDED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL FUND, PURSUANT TO BOARD POLICY NO. 730 - THE PORT ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE POLICY, FOR THE ENDANGERED RIDGWAY'S RAIL PROPAGATION PROGRAM IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$80,000 FOR FOUR YEARS WITH \$22,000 IN MATCHING FUNDS; FUNDS REQUIRED FOR FUTURE FISCAL YEARS WILL BE BUDGETED IN THE APPROPRIATE FISCAL YEAR, SUBJECT TO BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL UPON ADOPTION OF EACH FISCAL YEAR'S BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, the San Diego Unified Port District (District) is a public corporation created by the legislature in 1962 pursuant to Harbors and Navigation Code Appendix 1, (Port Act); and

**WHEREAS**, the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) operates according to the guidelines for all Board of Port Commissioner (BPC) advisory committees, as established in BPC Policy No. 018 (2008-273, 2 December 2008) and articulated in the Charter prepared specifically for the EAC; and

**WHEREAS**, the BPC created the EAC to function as a forum to provide the BPC with input and recommendations for accomplishing the District's strategic goal to "protect and improve the environmental conditions of San Diego Bay and the Tidelands;" and

**WHEREAS**, on June 6, 2006, per Resolution #2006-111, the BPC adopted BPC Policy No. 730, the Port EAC Policy, which established the Environmental Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Environmental Fund is to fund projects that address air, water and sediment quality, sustainability and climate action planning, natural resources and endangered species management, habitat creation, restoration or protection, reclaiming natural shoreline conditions, environmental education, research and monitoring, and/or environmental projects in the Bay and/or the tidelands; and

**WHEREAS**, in evaluating a project for funding, the project must meet the objectives identified by the EAC; and

**WHEREAS**, BPC Policy No. 730 states that in order for projects to receive funding, they must be approved by the BPC; and

**WHEREAS**, the Living Coast Discovery Center (Center), in partnership with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Hubbs SeaWorld, San Diego Zoo Safari Park, and California Department of Fish & Wildlife, has been conducting a propagation program to rear the endangered rails since 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, since the Center's inception, 462 birds have been released into eleven Southern California marshes; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 14, 2015, by Resolution #2015-782, the BPC approved a three year agreement to fund the Center's endangered Ridgway's Rail Propagation Program with Environmental Fund funding for a total not to exceed amount of \$70,510 with \$204,820 in matching funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Center has requested additional funding to continue to support the Ridgway's rail veterinary care, diet and nutrition; personnel; exhibit upgrades and maintenance; and marketing and interpretation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Center's requested program funding would support staff training to breed and raise Ridgway's rail chicks to adulthood; maintain artificial nesting platforms; upgrade and enhance current Ridgway's rail educational exhibits; and conduct annual Ridgway's rail surveys in Southern California salt marshes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Center would provide \$22,000 in matching funds; and

**WHEREAS**, staff recommends funding the Center's endangered Ridgway's Rail Propagation Program in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 for four years.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Port Commissioners of the San Diego Unified Port District, as follows:

That the Executive Director or her designated representative is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the Living Coast Discovery Center to be funded by the Environmental Fund, pursuant to BPC Policy No. 730- Port Environmental Advisory Committee Policy, for the endangered Ridgway's Rail Propagation Program in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 for four years with \$22,000 in matching funds.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:  
GENERAL COUNSEL

  
By: ~~Assistant~~/Senior/Deputy

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Port Commissioners of the  
San Diego Unified Port District, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June 2018, by the following vote:

AYES: Bonelli, Castellanos, Merrifield, Moore, and Valderrama

NAYS: None.


EXCUSED: Malcolm, and Zucchet

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

  
Rafael Castellanos, Chairman  
Board of Port Commissioners

ATTEST:

  
Donna Morales  
District Clerk

(Seal)