

Attachment A

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ATTACHMENT A

**Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California**

Resolution No.

Resolution of the Monterey County Board of)
Supervisors accepting a grant offer from the)
State of California Department of)
Conservation Division of Land Resource)
Protection for the Sustainable Agricultural)
Lands Conservation Program (SALC) in the)
amount of \$182,366 for development of the)
Agricultural Land Mitigation Program in the)
non-coastal areas of Monterey County; and)
Authorize the RMA Director or Chief of)
Planning to accept, administer, and execute)
documents to secure these funds from the)
State of California Department of)
Conservation. [REF160008- The County of)
Monterey and Thompson Farm (Ag Land)
Trust) Agricultural Land Mitigation Program)
and Agricultural Conservation Easement)
Project Grant].....)

WHEREAS, on May 2, 2016, Monterey County Resource Management Agency (RMA)-
Planning submitted a Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC) grant
application to the State of California Department of Conservation (DoC) in an amount up to
\$182,366, with match funding in an amount up to \$45,330, for a total estimated project amount
of \$227,000. The SALC Grant Program requires a minimum of 10% match, with at least 5% of
the requested grant amount in cash match and 5% in-kind. The County submitted the grant
application proposing a 20% match in order to increase the likelihood of receiving the grant;

WHEREAS, the SALC grant would provide funding for the development of the Agricultural
Land Mitigation Program, in order to implement 2010 General Plan Policy No. AG-1.12, which
requires preparation, adoption and implementation of a program that requires projects involving
a change of land use designation resulting in the loss of Important Farmland (as mapped by the
DoC Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program) to mitigate the loss of that acreage;

WHEREAS, the goal of the SALC program is to reduce or avoid greenhouse gas (GHG)
emissions through the protection of agricultural land resources via the purchase of agricultural
conservation easements or by enacting local strategies that result in permanent agricultural
protection;

WHEREAS, in order to be considered for the grant to fund the development of Agricultural Land
Mitigation Program, the County has to partner with a non-profit agency to place agricultural
property into an Agricultural Conservation Easement (ACE). The County found a partnership
with the Ag Land Trust to place the Thompson Farm, which consists of a 129.42 acre parcel
situated at the intersection of McFadden Road and Highway 183, two miles west of the City
limits of Salinas in Monterey County (APN Nos. 227-063-004-000 and 414-012-001-000) into
an ACE. The subject property is commonly known as the "Thompson Farm" and owned by

EMD, Inc and William O. Garin Family Limited Partnership who are willing land owners in support of placing the 129.42 acre agricultural parcel into an ACE.

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2016, the Board of Supervisors ratified the action by the Monterey County Resource Management Agency Director to submit a grant application to the DoC in an amount up to \$182,366 with the County matching 20% or \$45,330 (cash match not to exceed \$12,183 and in-kind match of approximately \$33,147) to provide funding for the development of the Agricultural Land Mitigation Program in order to implement 2010 General Plan Policy No. AG-1.12, and adopt DoC Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC) Grant Program language. With this action, the Board also directed the RMA Director, or designee, to collaborate with the Ag Land Trust through the grant application process.

WHEREAS, on August 25, 2016, the County received an Strategy and Outcome grant award letter, indicating that the County could receive up to \$182,366 towards the preparation, adoption and implementation of an Agricultural Land Mitigation Program and that the ACE portion of the grant has its own budget (i.e. for the Ag Land Trust). Therefore, if the County is awarded its share of the grant, the funding of up to \$182,366 will not be used to purchase the ACE on behalf of the Ag Land Trust. However staff time for working with the Ag Land Trust to advance the ACE project, may be billed to the County's portion of the grant.

WHEREAS, there is no additional negative impact to the General Fund as a result of receiving this grant. Staff costs associated with General Plan Implementation are budgeted for under each department's adopted budgets. General Plan Implementation funding was designated only for outside consultant support. The \$182,366 in grant funds will reimburse the County's General Fund for staff cost as a result of this project over the next two years. The cash match of \$12,183 will be allocated from the FY2015-16 General Plan Implementation Augmentation budget and set-aside in assigned Fund Balance. The project period for this grant is expected to carry over into FY2017-18, not to exceed a two-year period in accordance with SALC program requirements.

WHEREAS, accepting the grant award is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Chapter 3, Sections 15062 because the project involves only a planning study for possible future actions that the Board of Supervisors has not approved, adopted, or funded. An initial study will be completed once the Agricultural Land Mitigation Program is drafted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE County of Monterey HEREBY:

- a. Find the activity is not subject to CEQA pursuant to CCR Section 15262 of the CEQA Guidelines;
- b. Accept a Grant Award offer from the State of California Department of Conservation Division of Land Resource Protection for the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC) in the amount of \$182,366 for development of the Agricultural Land Mitigation Program in the non-coastal areas of Monterey County; and
- C. Authorize the RMA Director or Chief of Planning to accept, administer, and execute documents to secure these funds from the State of California Department of Conservation.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 27th of June, 2017, by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book____ for the meeting on _____.

Dated:

Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California

By _____
Deputy

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