

REPORT TO SHASTA COUNTY RTPA

SUBJECT		MEETING DATE	ITEM NUMBER
Shasta <i>FORWARD</i> >> Regional Blueprint: Project Update, OWP Amendment, and Second Amendment to Vestra Resources Agreement		4/28/09	5

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Receive a Shasta*FORWARD*>> project update;
2. Amend the Overall Work Program (OWP) to include the FY 08/09 California State Regional Blueprint Program grant award in the amount of \$200,000; and
3. Amend the Agreement with Vestra Resources to include FY 2008/09 grant funds in the amount of \$30,000 for additional on-call services related to geographic information system (GIS) mapping and growth modeling.

SUMMARY

Modeling of the Board-approved alternative scenarios is currently underway. Results will be presented for Board consideration in July. A third regional blueprint planning grant was awarded to the Agency for grant cycle 2008/09. The Agency's FY 2008/09 OWP must be amended in order to accept grant funds. The existing Agreement with Vestra Resources needs to be amended to add a portion of the new grant funds for additional GIS mapping and growth modeling services.

DISCUSSION

Shasta*FORWARD*>> Project Update – As directed by the Board on February 24, 2009, modeling of the community's three alternative growth scenarios is currently underway. The task of modeling is an iterative, trial-and-error process aimed at translating the public's three approaches to accommodating growth and development into effective and realistic modeling inputs and assumptions.

The first round of modeling runs employed modest changes, beginning with adjustments to the weighting of attractions (such as streets and roads, water/sewer service areas, etc.) and discouragers (such as ag lands, environmentally sensitive lands, etc.). More assertive and directed inputs (such as the addition of policy-simulating attraction layers, zoning reclassifications, and changes to general plan land use category designations) are being selectively and progressively tested.

Ample consultation with the Shasta*FORWARD*>> Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Steering Committee serves as validation of the technical approach and assures ongoing consistency with community values and priorities.

A presentation of the proposed final modeling outputs and performance measures is planned for the July 28 Agency meeting, at which time staff will recommend Board approval to proceed with the second phase of public outreach and the selection of a preferred regional growth vision. A final report containing findings and recommendations will be presented for Board consideration at the December 2009 Agency meeting.

FY 07/08 California Regional Blueprint Program Grant Award – In addition to and in support of regional blueprint grants awarded to the Agency in FY 2006/07 (\$375,000) and FY 2007/08 (\$140,000), the Agency was recently awarded a FY 2008/09 grant in the amount of \$200,000 (see attached letter of award). These grants fund the development of technical data modeling capabilities, and other deliverables

