



AMBAG EXECUTIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

DATE: May 12, 2021

TIME: 5:00 pm

LOCATION: Conference Call
Dial-In Number: (605) 475-4700
Access Code: 203466#

The AMBAG Executive/Finance Committee meeting will be conducted via Conference Call in light of Governor Newsom's State of Emergency declaration regarding the COVID-19 outbreak and in accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 and the shelter in place directive. The AMBAG Executive/Finance Committee members will participate in the meeting from individual remote locations. We apologize in advance for any technical difficulties.

Members of the public will need to attend the meeting remotely via Conference call.

Persons who wish to address the AMBAG Executive/Finance Committee on an item to be considered at this meeting are asked to submit comments in writing at info@ambag.org by 5:00 PM, Tuesday, May 11, 2021. The subject line should read "Public Comment for the May 12, 2021 Executive/Finance Committee Meeting". The agency clerk will read up to 3 minutes of any public comment submitted.

To participate via Conference Call, please use the conference call dial-in information provided.

If you have any questions, please contact Ana Flores, Senior Executive Assistant at aflores@ambag.org or at 831-883-3750.

-
1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Public Comment (A maximum of three minutes on any subject not on the agenda)

4. Consent Agenda

Recommended Action: APPROVE

Note: Action listed for each item represents staff recommendation. The Executive/Finance Committee may, at its discretion, take any action on the items listed in the agenda.

A. Draft Minutes of the April 14, 2021 Meeting

Approve the draft minutes of the April 14, 2021 meeting. (Page 3)

B. List of Warrants as of February 28, 2021

Accept the list of warrants. (Page 7)

C. Accounts Receivable as of February 28, 2021

Accept the accounts receivable. (Page 9)

5. Financial Update Report

Recommended Action: INFORMATION

- Maura F. Twomey, Executive Director

Receive the financial update report which provides an update on AMBAG's current financial position and accompanying financial statements. (Page 11)

6. Support for the Co-Locating CSUMB Science Building and Sanctuary Home Office

Recommended Action: INFORMATION

- Maura F. Twomey, Executive Director

Receive a report from Maura Twomey, Executive Director. (Page 17)

7. Other Items

8. Adjournment

If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. If you have a request for disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, contact Ana Flores, AMBAG, 831-883-3750, or email aflores@ambag.org at least 48 hours prior to the meeting date.

DRAFT
EXECUTIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

Conference Call

April 14, 2021

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President McShane at 5:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Directors Freeman, Funk, McShane, Petersen, Smith, and Walker

Absent: None

Others Present: Maura Twomey, Executive Director

3. Public Comments

There were no written or oral comments from the public.

4. Consent Agenda

The following items were enclosed: 1) the minutes of the March 10, 2021 meeting; 2) warrants as of January 31, 2021; and 3) accounts receivable as of January 31, 2021.

Motion made by Director Smith seconded by Director Freeman to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Financial Update Report

Maura Twomey, Executive Director, gave a report on AMBAG's current financial position. The accompanying financial statements were also discussed.

6. Creating a Rural Regional Energy Network

Maura Twomey, Executive Director gave a report on creating a Rural Regional Energy Network. Brief discussion followed.

7. California State Transportation Agency's Draft Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI)

Maura Twomey, Executive Director gave a presentation on the California State Transportation agency's draft Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure.

8. Other Items

None.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

DRAFT
AMBAG EXECUTIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
ATTENDANCE & VOTING RECORD

MEETING DATE: April 14, 2021

Attendance (Y= Present; AB= Absent) Voting (Y= Yes; N=No; A=Abstain)			
MEMBER	AMBAG REP	Attendance	Item# 4 Consent
Capitola	Kristen Petersen	Y	Y
Gonzales	Scott Funk	Y	Y
Greenfield	Lance Walker	Y	Y
Monterey	Ed Smith	Y	Y
Salinas	Steve McShane	Y	Y
San Juan Bautista	John Freeman	Y	Y

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AMBAG
Check Register
February 2021

Date	Check Number	Name	Description	Amount
02/25/2021	1003	REAP - AMBAG ADMIN (WE 343)	REAP ADMIN - Q2 FY2020-21	49,306.94
02/25/2021	1004	REAP - AMBAG PROJECT (WE 344)	REAP PROJECT - Q2 FY2020-21	1,852.07
02/25/2021	1005	REAP - Del Rey Oaks (WE 344)	Del Rey Oaks - REAP PROJECT - Q2 FY2020-21	3,417.75
02/25/2021	1006	REAP - Gonzales (WE 344)	Gonzales - REAP PROJECT - Q2 FY2020-21	19,306.31
02/25/2021	1007	REAP - Marina (WE 344)	Marina - REAP PROJECT - Q2 FY2020-21	8,016.54
02/25/2021	1008	REAP - SBCAG (WE 344)	SBCAG - REAP PROJECT - Q2 FY2020-21	64,764.72
02/25/2021	1009	REAP - SLOGOG (WE 344)	SLOGOG - REAP PROJECT - Q2 FY2020-21	4,138.18
02/11/2021	29296	AT&T (FAX Line)	Fax Line Billed in Advance From 2/02/21 - 3/01/21	109.90
02/11/2021	29319	Caltronics Business Systems, Inc	Customer #A006 SN #A9K6011005699 - Copier Usage Bill for 12/22/20 - 1/21/21	192.13
02/11/2021	29320	Iron Mountain, Inc.	Offsite Document Storage for January 2021	102.38
02/11/2021	29321	Monterey Computer Corporation, Inc.	IT Support Services for February 2021	1,250.00
02/11/2021	29322	Planeteria Media	Website Development and Maintenance - January 2021	400.00
02/11/2021	29323	Rayne Water, Inc.	Water for the Period of 02/01/2021 through 2/28/2021	64.09
02/11/2021	29324	Verizon Wireless, Inc	Broadband Account for Broadband Devices and iPads New Plan	234.62
02/11/2021	29325	VISA Mechanics Bank - 3667	Storage, PES Courses for CPA Continuing Education	787.75
02/11/2021	29326	Visa Mechanics Bank - 4089	Training, CAFR Annual Submission for Certificate of Achievement, Website Hosting, Supplies	1,238.35
02/11/2021	29327	BOD - Bob Tiffany	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29328	BOD - Carla Strobbridge	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29329	BOD - Carlos Victoria	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29330	BOD - Derek Timm	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29331	BOD - Ed Smith	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29332	BOD - Eduardo Montesino	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29333	BOD - Greg Caput	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29334	BOD - John Freeman	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29335	BOD - John Phillips	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29336	BOD - Jon Wizard	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29337	BOD - Justin Cummings	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29338	BOD - Karen Ferlito	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29339	BOD - Kim Shirley	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29340	BOD - Kristen Petersen	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29341	BOD - Lance Walker	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29342	BOD - Lisa Berkley	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29343	BOD - Manu Koenig	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29344	BOD - Mark Medina	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29345	BOD - Mary Ann Carbone	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29346	BOD - Rick Perez	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29347	BOD - Scott Funk	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/11/2021	29348	BOD - Steve McShane	BOD Meeting 2/10/21	50.00
02/12/2021	EFT	Mechanics (Rabobank)	Processing Fees for LOC Renewal	1,000.00
02/15/2021	EFT	Paychex, Inc.	Net Payroll and Related Expenses for Period Ending 2/15/21	101,776.18
02/25/2021	29349	AT&T (Silver Cloud VoIP 2019)	Monthly Charges for VoIP Lines (Main Line, Staff Lines) and Fiber MIS - 02/11/21 - 03/10/21	541.43
02/25/2021	29350	Bay Mobile Services	Wash AMBAG Prius Onsite - February 2021	40.00
02/25/2021	29351	Caliper Corporation - WE 257	Supra-Regional ABM Framework Project Work for January 1-31, 2021	5,367.50

AMBAG
Check Register
February 2021

Date	Check Number	Name	Description	Amount
02/25/2021	29352	Comcast - Monterey	High Speed Internet for 2/22/2021 - 03/21/2021	476.16
02/25/2021	29354	Hayashi & Wayland, LLP	4th Billing for FY 2019-20 Audit	7,700.00
02/25/2021	29356	Monterey Bay Air Resources District	March 2021 Rent	5,968.00
02/25/2021	29357	Pitney Bowes Inc. - Machine Rental	Lease Postage Meter from March 30, 2021 - June 29, 2021	314.69
02/25/2021	29358	Population Reference Bureau (PRB)	Forecast Related Services Completed in December 2020	65.92
02/25/2021	29359	Rincon Consultants, Inc.	2045 MTP/SCS/RTP - EIR Services for Period 12/1/20 - 12/31/20	2,387.50
02/25/2021	29360	Staples Credit Plan, Inc.	Office Supplies	202.55
02/25/2021	29361	The Sohagi Law Group	Legal Services 2045 MTP/SCS through 1/31/21	1,165.00
02/28/2021	EFT	Paychex, Inc.	Net Payroll and Related Expenses for Period Ending 2/28/21	90,499.40
			Total	\$ 373,786.06

AMBAG
A/R Aging Detail
As of February 28, 2021

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Due Date	Aging	Open Balance	Paid
02/28/2021	4106	CA Department of Housing (HCD)	ALL AMBAG (ACCRUAL ONLY)	02/28/2021		8,601.09	
02/28/2021	4107	CA Department of Housing (HCD)	ALL AMBAG (ACCRUAL ONLY)	02/28/2021		7,778.05	
02/28/2021	4112	RAPS A/R	ALL AMBAG	02/28/2021		3,369.55	PAID
02/28/2021	4113	RAPS A/R	ALL AMBAG	02/28/2021		3,326.15	PAID
01/31/2021	4105	Caltrans, D5	PRB \$954.23, Rincon \$4,296.25, The Sohagi Law Group \$1,165.00	03/02/2021		203,307.46	PAID
02/16/2021	4103	GHG Inventories (WE 331):SLO County COG	ALL AMBAG	03/18/2021		2,952.00	PAID
02/16/2021	4104	GHG Inventories (WE 331):SLO County APCD	ALL AMBAG	03/18/2021		2,952.00	PAID
02/28/2021	4075	GHG Inventories (WE 331)	ALL AMBAG (ACCRUAL ONLY)	03/30/2021		21,436.19	PAID
02/28/2021	4111	Caltrans, D5	PRB \$888.31, Rincon \$4,016.25, The Sohagi Law Group \$525.00	03/30/2021		174,295.18	
01/31/2021	4108	RAPS A/R	ALL AMBAG	01/31/2021	28	3,539.64	PAID
01/31/2021	4109	RAPS A/R	ALL AMBAG	01/31/2021	28	3,233.35	PAID
12/31/2020	4101	RAPS A/R	ALL AMBAG	12/31/2020	59	408.21	PAID
12/31/2020	4102	RAPS A/R	ALL AMBAG	12/31/2020	59	2,540.71	PAID
12/31/2020	4114	Western Riverside Council of Governments	ALL AMBAG	12/31/2020	59	60.07	PAID
Total AMBAG Receivables						\$ 437,799.65	

PAID Reflects payments received subsequent to February 28, 2021.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive/Finance Committee

FROM: Maura F. Twomey, Executive Director

RECOMMENDED BY: Errol Osteraa, Director of Finance and Administration

SUBJECT: Financial Update Report

MEETING DATE: May 12, 2021

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Executive/Finance Committee receive the Financial Update Report.

BACKGROUND/ DISCUSSION:

The enclosed financial reports are for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year (FY) and are presented as a consent item. The attached reports contain the cumulative effect of operations through February 28, 2021 as well as a budget-to-actual comparison. Amounts in the Financial Update Report are unaudited.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The Balance Sheet for February 28, 2021 reflects a cash balance of \$4,456,150.40. The accounts receivable balance is \$437,799.65, while the current liabilities balance is \$122,936.77. AMBAG has sufficient current assets on hand to pay all known current obligations.

Due to the implementation of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68 in FY 2014-2015 and a restatement to Net Position for GASB Statement No. 82, AMBAG has a deficit Net Position in the amount of \$176,164.27. Although AMBAG's Balance Sheet as of February 28, 2021 reflects a deficit Net Position, AMBAG's Profit and Loss Statement reflects an excess of revenue over expense of \$24,822.31.

The following table highlights key Budget to Actual financial data:

Budget to Actual Financial Highlights
For Period July 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021

Expenditures	Budget Through February 2021	Actual Through February 2021	Difference
Salaries & Fringe Benefits	\$ 1,866,264.00	\$ 1,471,809.66	\$ 394,454.34
Professional Services	\$ 5,303,955.00	\$ 412,109.48	\$ 4,891,845.52
Lease/Rentals	\$ 60,667.00	\$ 52,996.34	\$ 7,670.66
Communications	\$ 16,533.00	\$ 13,221.40	\$ 3,311.60
Supplies	\$ 82,267.00	\$ 14,341.03	\$ 67,925.97
Printing	\$ 7,700.00	\$ 871.65	\$ 6,828.35
Travel	\$ 50,333.00	\$ 337.93	\$ 49,995.07
Other Charges	\$ 204,304.00	\$ 215,319.61	\$ (11,015.61)
Total	<u>\$ 7,592,022.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,181,007.10</u>	<u>\$ 5,411,015.90</u>
Revenue			
Federal/State/Local Revenue	\$ 7,608,475.00	\$ 2,205,829.41	\$ 5,402,645.59

Note: AMBAG is projecting a surplus, therefore budgeted revenues do not equal expenses.

Revenues/Expenses (Budget to Actual Comparison):

The budget reflects a linear programming of funds while actual work is contingent on various factors. Therefore, during the fiscal year there will be fluctuations from budget-to-actual.

Professional Services are under budget primarily due to the timing of work on projects performed by contractors. Work is progressing on the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS). This work is not performed in a linear fashion while the budget reflects linear programming. In addition, the Regional Early Action Planning Housing Program (REAP) provides \$7,931,311 in funding of which a large portion will pass through to partner agencies. It is in its early stages.

Since AMBAG funding is primarily on a reimbursement basis, any deviation in expenditure also results in a corresponding deviation in revenue. Budget-to-actual revenue and expenditures are monitored regularly to analyze fiscal operations and propose amendments to the budget if needed.

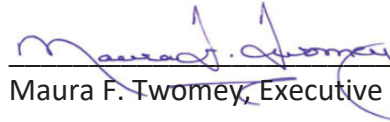
COORDINATION:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Balance Sheet as of February 28, 2021
2. Profit and Loss: July 1, 2020 – February 28, 2021
3. Cash Activity for March 2021

APPROVED BY:



Maura F. Twomey, Executive Director

AMBAG

Balance Sheet - Attachment 1

As of February 28, 2021

February 28, 2021		February 28, 2021	
Assets		Liabilities & Net Position	
Current Assets		Liabilities	
Cash and Cash Equivalents		Current Liabilities	
Mechanics Bank - Special Reserve	300,521.99	Accounts Payable	0.00
Mechanics Bank - Checking	433,615.04	Employee Benefits	122,936.77
Mechanics Bank - REAP Checking	3,717,837.66	Mechanics Bank - Line of Credit	0.00
Petty Cash	500.00	Total Current Liabilities	122,936.77
LAIF Account	3,675.71		
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	4,456,150.40		
Accounts Receivable		Long-Term Liabilities	
Accounts Receivable	437,799.65	Deferred Inflows - Actuarial	258,986.95
Total Accounts Receivable	437,799.65	Net Pension Liability (GASB 68)	1,888,153.69
Other Current Assets		OPEB Liability	5,008.60
Due from PRWFPA/RAPS	88.76	Deferred Revenue	3,803,805.66
Prepaid Items	16,842.38	Total Long-Term Liabilities	5,955,954.90
Total Other Current Assets	16,931.14		
Total Current Assets	4,910,881.19	Total Liabilities	6,078,891.67
Long-Term Assets			
Net OPEB Asset	96,473.00		
FY 2002-2003 Housing Mandate Receivable	82,186.00		
Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	(16,437.20)		
Deferred Outflows - Actuarial	533,833.49		
Deferred Outflows - PERS Contribution	272,963.59		
Total Long-Term Assets	969,018.88		
Capital Assets		Net Position	
Capital Assets	188,031.36	Beginning Net Position	(200,986.58)
Accumulated Depreciation	(165,204.03)	Net Income/(Loss)	24,822.31
Total Capital Assets	22,827.33	Total Ending Net Position	(176,164.27)
Total Assets	5,902,727.40	Total Liabilities & Net Position	5,902,727.40

AMBAG

Profit & Loss - Attachment 2

July - February 2021

	July - February 2021
Income	
AMBAG Revenue	174,463.12
Cash Contributions	193,510.65
Grant Revenue	1,706,838.94
Non-Federal Local Match	131,016.70
Total Income	2,205,829.41
Expense	
Salaries	965,498.83
Fringe Benefits	506,310.83
Professional Services	412,109.48
Lease/Rentals	52,996.34
Communications	13,221.40
Supplies	14,341.03
Printing	871.65
Travel	337.93
Other Charges:	
BOD Allowances	6,100.00
BOD Refreshments/Travel/Nameplates/Dinner/Other	24.76
Workshops/Training	4,501.24
GIS Licensing/CCJDC Support	10,150.18
Energy Watch Travel/Classes/Events/Recruitment/Other	142.50
REAP Travel/Classes/Events	525.00
SB1/MTIP/MTP/SCS/OWP/Public Participation Expenses	14,146.56
Recruiting	159.90
Dues & Subscriptions	16,686.18
Depreciation Expense	7,442.00
Maintenance/Utilities	762.72
Insurance	22,656.48
Interest/Fees/Tax Expense	1,005.39
Total Other Charges	84,302.91
Non-Federal Local Match	131,016.70
Total Expense	2,181,007.10
Net Income/(Loss)	24,822.31

AMBAG
Cash Activity - Attachment 3
For March 2021

Monthly Cash Activity
AMBAG

	July-20	August-20	September-20	October-20	November-20	December-20	January-21	February-21	March-21	April-21	May-21	June-21	TOTAL
1. CASH ON HAND													
[Beginning of month]	772,031.66	814,688.20	4,878,895.20	4,754,892.51	4,708,900.74	4,560,922.43	4,606,870.02	4,582,727.73	4,456,150.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2. CASH RECEIPTS													
(a) AMBAG Revenue	139,439.41	52,071.03	6,084.33	6,771.38	10,439.86	80,018.62	27,219.27	19,885.14	17,683.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	359,612.34
(b) Grant Revenue	223,043.84	234,066.92	175,754.83	186,041.95	220,934.45	172,754.58	167,438.87	227,323.59	203,307.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,810,666.49
(c) REAP Advance Payment	0.00	3,982,887.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,982,887.02
(d) Borrowing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3. TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS	362,483.25	4,269,024.97	181,839.16	192,813.33	231,374.31	252,773.20	194,658.14	247,208.73	220,990.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,153,165.85
4. TOTAL CASH AVAILABLE	1,134,514.91	5,083,713.17	5,060,734.36	4,947,705.84	4,940,275.05	4,813,695.63	4,801,528.16	4,829,936.46	4,677,141.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5. CASH PAID OUT													
(a) Payroll & Related *	181,793.09	177,728.17	188,909.28	172,587.88	194,910.99	184,358.39	180,010.71	192,275.58	175,346.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,647,970.61
(b) Professional Services	62,640.92	13,450.00	103,801.55	48,985.34	169,174.97	10,027.24	15,470.08	169,138.43	3,300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	595,988.53
(c) Capital Outlay	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,485.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,485.13
(d) Lease/Rentals	12,511.90	6,343.70	6,850.77	6,597.44	6,750.04	6,622.60	6,531.01	6,931.20	6,802.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	65,941.07
(e) Communications	2,140.93	1,014.23	1,248.30	1,221.69	1,485.10	3,329.20	2,224.12	1,362.11	1,432.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,457.74
(f) Supplies	2,622.28	2,712.26	3,510.75	4,711.75	435.34	1,059.60	413.08	265.90	467.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,198.68
(g) Printing	871.65	670.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,541.80
(h) Travel	40.00	0.00	117.92	56.38	60.01	0.00	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	354.31
(i) Other Charges	57,205.94	2,899.46	1,403.28	4,644.62	6,536.17	1,428.58	14,111.43	3,772.84	4,225.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	96,228.01
(j) Loan Repayment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6. TOTAL CASH PAID OUT	319,826.71	204,817.97	305,841.85	238,805.10	379,352.62	206,825.61	218,800.43	373,786.06	200,059.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,448,115.88
7. CASH POSITION	814,688.20	4,878,895.20	4,754,892.51	4,708,900.74	4,560,922.43	4,606,870.02	4,582,727.73	4,456,150.40	4,477,081.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	

Payroll & Related *



MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive/Finance Committee

FROM: Maura F. Twomey, Executive Director

RECOMMENDED BY: Heather Adamson, Director of Planning

SUBJECT: Support for the Co-Locating CSUMB Science Building and Sanctuary Home Office

MEETING DATE: May 12, 2021

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an informational item only.

BACKGROUND/ DISCUSSION:

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary has the opportunity to co-locate its home office at the proposed new science building on the CSUMB campus. CSUMB and MBNMS have a unique and special opportunity for co-locating. There are significant benefits to both institutions, including a permanent home for the main MBNMS office immediately adjacent to research laboratories, teaching spaces, and faculty offices of the CSUMB Marine Science program.

A permanent home for MBNMS's offices adjacent to CSUMB's widely recognized Marine Science program, Business School, Watershed Institute, and other departments will support each of the Sanctuary's major program areas of Research, Education and Outreach, and Resource Protection, while strengthening CSUMB's academic programs by providing significant opportunities for students and faculty.

AMBAG has been asked to submit a letter of support for this opportunity. The draft letter of support is included as Attachment 1.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Board of Directors could choose not to approve sending a letter of support.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

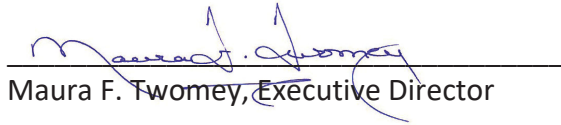
COORDINATION:

AMBAG staff has coordinated with MBNMS staff to develop the draft letter of support.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Draft AMBAG Letter of Support

APPROVED BY:



Maura F. Twomey, Executive Director



Attachment 1

May 12, 2021

President Eduardo Ochoa
Office of the President
California State University Monterey Bay
Administrative Building #1
3047 Divarty Street
Seaside, CA 93950

RE: Support for Co-locating the Proposed CSUMB Science Building and Sanctuary Home Office

Dear President Ochoa:

On behalf of the Association of Monterey Bay Area of Governments (AMBAG), I am writing to express enthusiastic support for the proposed new science building on the California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) campus to include the home office for Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS). CSUMB and MBNMS have a unique and special opportunity for co-locating. AMBAG believes there are significant benefits to both institutions, including a permanent home for the main MBNMS office immediately adjacent to research laboratories, teaching spaces, and faculty offices of the CSUMB Marine Science program; MBNMS utilizing the considerable resources of a university campus, including fast and reliable internet access, student interns and volunteers, audio/visual conferencing capabilities, and meeting facilities capable of accommodating regular meetings with the public, the Sanctuary's Research Activity Panel and the Sanctuary Advisory Council.

With Marine Science as one of its flagship programs, CSUMB has had a strong and collaborative relationship with the MBNMS office since the founding of the University in 1994. We anticipate many new productive collaborations as MBNMS staff interact more closely with CSUMB faculty, staff, and students. Both institutions work at the interface of science, policy, and education in the Monterey Bay region, engaging a wide variety of stakeholders in the on-going process of better understanding and managing the unique environments of the region from watersheds to ocean depths.

There are multiple examples of successful university-federal agency campus collaborations including Cal Tech with NASA, UC Davis with USDA, and UC San Diego and UC Santa Barbara with NOAA Fisheries. The location of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary office on the UC Santa Barbara campus has resulted in a very successful collaboration. A permanent home for MBNMS's offices adjacent to CSUMB's widely recognized Marine Science program, Business School, Watershed Institute, and other departments will support each of the Sanctuary's major program areas of Research, Education and Outreach, and Resource Protection, while strengthening CSUMB's academic programs by providing significant opportunities for students and faculty.

We appreciate this opportunity to convey our support for a new CSUMB science building and home office for the Sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Maura F. Twomey
Executive Director