



Agenda Item No. 3

To: Building and Operating Committee/Committee of the Whole
Meeting of October 22, 2009

From: Ewa Z. Bauer, Deputy District Engineer
Denis J. Mulligan, District Engineer
Celia G. Kupersmith, General Manager

Subject: **APPROVE ACTIONS RELATIVE TO NATIONAL SCIENCE
FOUNDATION GRANT AWARD NO. DRL-0840185, THE GOLDEN GATE
BRIDGE AS AN INFORMAL SCIENCE EDUCATION RESOURCE.**

Recommendation

The Building and Operating Committee recommends that the Board of Directors approve the following actions relative to National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant Award No. DRL-0840185:

1. Authorize acceptance of NSF Grant Award No. DRL-0840185 in the amount of \$2,999,777;
2. Authorize execution of an Agreement with the Consortium of Universities for Research in Earthquake Engineering (CUREE), in an amount not to exceed \$2,314,535 for the work outlined in the NSF grant award;
3. Authorize execution of an Agreement with Eye Think, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$58,625 for an animated LIFETILES mural illustrating the sequence of the construction of the Golden Gate Bridge; and,
4. Add a new project, *Golden Gate Bridge Informal Science Education Project*, to the FY 09/10 Bridge Division Capital Budget in the amount of \$3,499,777 to be funded with \$2,999,777 of NSF grant funds and \$500,000 from District reserves, subject to the concurrence of the Finance-Auditing Committee at its meeting of October 22, 2009.

This matter will be presented to the Finance-Auditing Committee at its October 22, 2009, meeting for concurrence and to the Board of Directors at its October 23, 2009, meeting for appropriate action.

Summary

This Project will fund improvements to the visitor experience at the Golden Gate Bridge. The principle work is the development of permanent science-oriented outdoor exhibits, exhibits explaining the original bridge construction, and information about the Bridge. Work also includes development of a master plan of what is known as the East Visitor Area to ensure that

the placement of the exhibits at the Bridge site is professionally guided and to ensure that this phase follows logical steps that could later lead to the realization of a visitor center at the site.

This Project will also enhance the District's website to both complement the outdoor exhibits and to provide science, mathematics, and engineering learning opportunities using the Bridge as the focal point. The NSF grant also provides funding for a conference to bring together Informal Science Education (ISE) and infrastructure professionals to encourage ISE opportunities at other infrastructure sites of all different scales.

The Board of Directors, by Resolution No. 2008-053, approved the submission of a grant application to NSF at its June 13, 2008 meeting. The Bridge District, in collaboration with CUREE, and in partnership with Princeton University, Stanford University, San Jose State University, Sciencenter, the Exploratorium, Eye Think Inc., West Wind Laboratory, Inc., EHDD Architects, the American Public Works Association, and the International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association then submitted to NSF Proposal # 0840185. This Proposal offered to assist the public to obtain insights about the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics that pertain to the Golden Gate Bridge and its site, to enhance visitor experiences and to provide outreach to public works agencies in the United States to encourage them to undertake similar public exhibits. NSF has selected the Proposal for funding and has issued Award No. DRL-0840185 to the District.

Fiscal Impact

This Project is recommended to be included in the FY 09/10 Bridge Division Capital Budget at a total cost of \$3,499,777, funded with \$2,999,777 in NSF grant funds and \$500,000 in District funds. The grant application contemplated that the District would be responsible for the site improvements necessary to accommodate the outdoor exhibits. The master planning will determine the extent of the recommended site improvements. These improvements are preliminarily estimated to cost \$500,000. It is anticipated that \$972,415 will be spent in the first year (NSF grant funds) with the remainder of funds (NSF and District) spent in the following four years.