

ATTACHMENT A
Grant Information for the Partial Grant to Public Entities

Applicant: City of East Palo Alto

Estimated Project Cost: \$1,257,647

Requested Amount: \$323,570

Amount Recommended: \$323,570

Project Description: Cooley Landing is a nine-acre peninsula located on San Francisco Bay that has been vacant and closed to the public since 1999. The City of East Palo Alto plans to clean up and restore the site to become a new bay front public open space recreation park. Three parcels that make up Cooley Landing are owned by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and one is owned by the Redevelopment Agency of the City of East Palo Alto (the latter being bound by a deed condition restricting its use to open space passive recreation).

The site was operated by San Mateo County as a burn dump from 1932 and 1957. In the 1960s Mr. Carl Schoof, owner and operator of a small boat repair business, purchased the property and brought in an average of 7 to 9 feet of new contaminated fill to cover the dump waste. Mr. Schoof passed away in 2004. The State Board of Equalization checked his name and his business name and did not find any records associated with either. Other searches for him and his heirs by the City did not disclose any traceable assets and further showed that during his lifetime he earned modest average incomes and owned modestly valued properties, below the costs of the cleanup.

Five site investigations by United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)-funded contractors conducted from 1996 to 2010 found contamination exceeding environmental screening levels of mercury, PAHs, PCBs, metals, organochlorine pesticides. PAHs were the most widespread contaminant detected throughout the site.

The proposed project would cap and revegetate the site with native and/or drought-tolerant plants to control erosion and create natural plant communities. It would fill a contaminated pit area, restore rock slope protection to contain contamination on the site perimeter, and replace soil in two contaminated small wetland areas with clean fill.

The Cooley Landing project has also secured \$3.5 million in other grant funds from the Packard Foundation, USEPA, Department of Toxic Substances Control, Bay Trail Project, Stewardship Council, Hewlett Foundation, United States National Parks Service, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and Philanthropic Ventures Foundation. Much of these funds have paid for a portion of the land and for preconstruction costs, such as community involvement, planning, design, environmental studies, and permitting.