

City of Santa Rosa



Legislation Details

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On agenda: 11/5/2020 **Final action:** 11/5/2020
Title: KELLY FARM MITIGATION BANK OPPORTUNITIES

The Laguna Treatment Plant (LTP) and many of the city-owned farms are located within the Santa Rosa Plain which is home to endangered species, including the California tiger salamander (CTS), and rare plants, including Sebastopol meadowfoam, Burke's goldfields, and Sonoma sunshine. When the City undertakes a project located at these facilities, the project needs to be designed to avoid impacts to these sensitive species, or the City needs to purchase mitigation credits from a privately held mitigation bank to offset the impacts. Over the last ten years, the cost of CTS credits has increased. The City has planned projects that may require significant mitigation credits, like the flood wall at LTP. The purchase of mitigation credits can add a large cost to the project and extend the time that it takes to obtain regulatory permits, thus delaying the start of the project. The alternative to purchasing mitigation credits from privately-owned mitigation banks is for the City to establish a mitigation bank for City projects on city-owned property. The City has worked with a consultant, GHD, to explore the opportunity to establish a mitigation bank on Kelly Farm. Staff will provide the preliminary results of this analysis. The Board may discuss this item and provide direction to staff.

Sponsors: Board of Public Utilities
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