



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: General Service
Department No.: 063
For Agenda Of: September 18, 2007
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: General Services Robert Nisbet, Director (560-1011)

SUBJECT: **Reallocate Courthouse Construction Funds from Seismic Retrofits to a ceiling renovation project in the Santa Barbara Courthouse and a grant match for seismic work at the Santa Maria Courthouse**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence:

Debt Advisory Committee

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Deputy CEO Concurrence:

YES

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Substitute, reallocate and re-appropriate \$140,000 of the Courthouse Construction Fund COP proceeds planned to be used for the SB 1732 Deficiencies Designation to the Santa Barbara Court Ceiling Renovation Project; and
- b) Approve the attached Budget Revision reallocating \$540,000 of Courthouse Construction Funds from the SB 1732 Deficiencies Designation as follows:

\$140,000 to the Santa Barbara Court Ceiling Renovation Project;
\$400,000 to be used as a match for two FEMA seismic grants at the Cook and Miller Court and the Santa Barbara Courthouse.

Summary Text:

In December 2003, the Board of Supervisors suspended two court facility projects that were in the design phase and transferred the funds for these two projects to a designation entitled, “SB 1732 Deficiencies Program”. The Board did this in response to language contained in SB 1732 that requires counties to seismically upgrade court building before transferring those buildings to the state. The rationale at that time was it did not make sense to build new court buildings when the state was requiring counties to upgrade existing ones first. In January 2007, SB 10 became law. This bill allows counties to transfer seismically deficient court buildings to the state as long as the county assumes liability in the event of an earthquake. Thus, these funds are no longer needed for seismic retrofits and can be reallocated for either their original purpose, or other purposes.

The two projects suspended in 2003 were a three-level parking garage at the Garden Street parking lot, and a court clerk’s building in Santa Maria. Construction costs have drastically increased since 2003 and both projects cannot be constructed today with the funds that are available. Superior Courts have requested that \$4,650,000 be transferred to the court clerk’s project and \$140,000 be transferred to Santa Barbara Court ceiling renovation project. A separate Budget Revision will be submitted for the \$4,650,000 after the state approves the project.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

There is \$5,177,346 in the SB 1732 Designation. Superior Courts have requested that \$4,650,000 million be allocated to the Court Clerk’s Project. It has been agreed that the remaining funds be used as a “match” to a state grant for seismic upgrades at two court buildings, and a ceiling renovation project in the Santa Barbara Courthouse. It is expected that the designation will continue to accumulate interest until the \$4,650,000 is transferred into the Capital Fund.

Special Instructions:

None

Attachments:

Budget Revision