



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

Submitted on:  
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: Community Services  
Department No.: 057  
Agenda Date: April 21, 2026  
Placement: Administrative Agenda  
Estimated Time: N/A  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from: N/A  
Vote Required: Majority

**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Director(s): Jesús Armas, Director, Community Services Department  
Contact: Garrett Wong, Division Manager, Sustainability  
**SUBJECT:** Professional Services Agreement with CJMPC to Conduct Amortization Study

**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute a Professional Services Agreement with CJMPC ("Agreement") to conduct an amortization study of onshore oil and gas extraction operations, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000. (Attachment A);
- b) Determine that the proposed action does not constitute a "project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines, because it consists of an organizational or administrative activity of government which will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

**Summary Text:**

Based on Board direction, staff released a request for proposals for consulting services to conduct an amortization study of onshore oil and gas extraction operations. Staff received three proposals on February 5, 2026.

Staff from Community Services and Planning & Development evaluated the responses based on prior experience, project approach and proposed methodology, proposal to analyze royalty owner impacts and cost. Based on this, staff recommend retaining CJPMC to conduct the amortization study.

Staff recommend that the Board authorize the Chair to execute a Professional Services Agreement with CJM Petroleum Consulting (“Agreement”) in an amount not to exceed \$250,000, utilizing the remaining balance of the Board-approved Sustainability Initiatives Fund.

**Discussion:**

An amortization study estimates the time required for oil revenues to offset expenses associated with acquisition, drilling and extraction, abandonment, and an appropriate return on investment. The results of the study would be used to inform future policy.

The cities of Los Angeles and Culver City and the County of Los Angeles have conducted amortization studies prior to adopting their ordinances establishing a date by which local operators would have to cease operations.

On December 29, 2025, staff released a request for proposals for consulting services to conduct an amortization study of onshore oil and gas extraction operations. Staff received three proposals on February 5, 2026. Two proposals reflected a cost of approximately \$250,000, with the third proposal being more than \$1 million.

Staff from Community Services and Planning & Development evaluated the three responses based on prior experience, project approach and proposed methodology, proposal to analyze royalty owner impacts and cost. Based on this, staff recommend CJM Petroleum Consulting (JMPC) to conduct the amortization study.

JMPC is a California-based engineering consulting firm incorporated in May 2019 and led by President and Founder Colin Muir, a California-licensed Professional Engineer. JMPC is a State certified small business providing specialized engineering consulting services within Southern California’s energy sector, with a primary focus on upstream oil and gas well engineering, evaluation, and regulatory support.

Since 2019, JMPC has provided direct technical support for the abandonment of 35 wells in Santa Barbara County, including on-site engineering oversight and regulatory coordination. JMPC has directly applicable experience conducting large, complex amortization studies for hydrocarbon extraction operations in Southern California, including two comparable studies completed for the City and County of Los Angeles. Collectively, these studies evaluated approximately 2,600 wells with development timelines spanning from 1917 through 2100.

JMPC proposes a structured, data-driven approach combining comprehensive data collection with rigorous financial modeling, aligned with County objectives through ongoing consultation. Additionally, JMPC will estimate the potential impacts to royalty payments as a function of oil production and value over time. The work will be completed within a defined 52-week schedule and organized into clear phases that incorporate County review, stakeholder input, and iterative refinement of results, balancing analytical rigor with practical implementation and schedule certainty.

Deliverables will emphasize clarity, documentation, and traceability of inputs and assumptions, with results presented in a manner accessible to both technical and non-technical audiences. JMPC is committed to partnering with the County to deliver a high-quality study that meets the County’s technical, schedule, and communication objectives.

Staff recommend that the Board authorize the Chair of the Board to execute an Agreement with JMPC (“Agreement”) in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.

**Background:**

On June 16, 2023, the Board set aside \$500,000 in one-time funding to develop or pilot programs and projects that might be pursued following adoption of the Climate Action Plan. The CAP was adopted August 27, 2024. On December 17, 2024, the Board approved the use of \$250,000 to support three projects.

On October 21, 2025, the Board directed staff to initiate work on developing an ordinance to prohibit drilling of new oil and gas wells and to initiate work on preparing a Request for Proposals to undertake an amortization study to determine an appropriate period to phaseout existing oil and gas extraction operations.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

The Board allocated \$500,000 for the Sustainability Initiatives Fund. Of this total, one-half funded three projects, while the remaining \$250,000 will be used to fund this study.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>FY 25/26</b>	<b>Total</b>
General Fund	\$250,000	<b>\$250,000</b>
State		
Federal		
Fees		
[Other Source]		
<b>Total</b>	\$250,000	<b>\$250,000</b>

**Special Instructions:**

N/A

**Attachments:**

**Attachment A** – Professional Services Agreement with CJMPC

**Attachment B** – Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form

**Contact Information:**

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