

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Agenda Number:

Prepared on: June 5, 2002
Department: Planning & Development
Budget Unit: 053
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If Yes, date from:
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Programs/Grants/Sustainable Communities Grant
Program/Old Town Orcutt
Revitalization/Board_letter_Jun2002.doc

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: John Patton, Director
Planning & Development

STAFF CONTACT: Stephen Peterson, Planner II, (x6254)
Susana Montana, Deputy Director (x2068)

SUBJECT: California Pollution Control Financing Authority
Sustainable Communities Grant Application for
The Old Town Orcutt Revitalization Plan

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Authorize Planning and Development submittal of a Sustainable Communities Grant application as part of the Old Town Orcutt Revitalization process; and
2. Authorize the Planning and Development Department Director to sign all documents required for execution of the application.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The paragraphs below are the choices you would get if clicked on the drop-down box in the template:

The recommendations are primarily aligned with Goal No. 1: An Efficient Government Able to Respond Effectively to the Needs of the Community; Goal No. 2: A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit; Goal No. 4: A Community that is Economically Vital and Sustainable; Goal No. 5: A High Quality of Life for All Residents; Goal No. 7: A

Community that Fosters the Safety and Well-Being of Families and Children; and our organizational values regarding leadership, initiative, innovation, collaboration and partnering.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

The California Pollution Control Financing Authority (CPCFA) issued a request for applications for its 2002 Sustainable Communities Grant Program. The purpose of the program is to provide one-time funding for cities and counties to develop and implement sustainable growth policies, programs and projects. A total of \$2.5 million is available statewide, with individual grants not to exceed \$350,000 each. Priority in awarding the grants will be given to jurisdictions whose proposals would: develop and implement policies, programs and projects that reduce pollution hazards and environmental degradation within existing neighborhoods, assist with the revitalization of economically distressed neighborhoods and promote infill development. Grant recipients will be notified in August. No matching funds are required.

Background:

The Orcutt Community Plan calls for the development of a revitalization program for Old Town. With funding from a 1999 Community Development Block Grant, Planning and Development successfully completed the preliminary components of a Revitalization Plan for Old Town Orcutt funded by a \$35,000 1999 CDBG grant. These efforts focused on analyzing existing conditions in Old Town including:

- an inventory of historical structures, parking spaces and street trees
- review of the condition of buildings in the area and identification of dilapidated structures
- evaluation of roadways, sidewalks and bicycle amenities
- identification of undeveloped and underdeveloped properties

The department budgeted \$33,600 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2002-2003 toward conducting a community visioning process for Old Town Orcutt, including a series of public workshops. The shared goals and ideas that emerge will guide P&D in development of a revitalization plan.

Project Description:

Planning and Development is requesting \$150,000 from the Sustainable Communities Grant program to fund completion of the Revitalization Plan. The grant proposal is currently being prepared. P&D anticipates an 18-month program to prepare the plan and set up an organizational framework for Plan implementation, perform environmental review, and conduct hearings with the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. Potential plan components will likely include:

- streetscape improvements
- zoning changes to address land use, density and building and parking standards
- preparation of architectural and landscape design guidelines
- development of a formal Main Street USA program, if desired by the community
- implementation funding mechanisms (e.g. Business Improvement District or RDA)

- transit, bicycle and parking improvements

Mandates and Service Levels:

The project is not mandated, however the grant award would allow more timely, comprehensive and cost-effective planning of an element of the Orcutt Community Plan which calls for revitalization efforts in Old Town Orcutt. This project is included within the Comprehensive Planning Division's Five Year Work Program and is scheduled for Fiscal Year 2002-2003. The project is for planning purposes only and would not impact public service levels.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

If the grant were awarded, it would supplement the \$33,600 in general fund support in FY 2002-2003 to complete the Orcutt Old Town Revitalization plan and will support project implementation efforts.

Special Instructions:

Please return a copy of the minute order to Stephen Peterson in P&D.

Concurrence:

N/A