

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



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

**Agenda Number:**  
**Prepared on:** 4/8/02  
**Department Name:** Public Health Department  
**Department No.:** 041  
**Agenda Date:** 5/28/02  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:**  
**Continued Item:** NO  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Rogar E. Heroux, Director  
Public Health Department

**STAFF CONTACT:** Cherie Alstott, Departmental Assistant  
681-5261

**SUBJECT:** Public Health Laboratory Award for Tuberculosis Control

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**Recommendation(s):**

That The Board Of Supervisors:

Authorize the director of Public Health to execute the acceptance of award for Fiscal Year 2001/2002 by the California Department Health Services Tuberculosis (TB) Control Branch in the amount of \$7,407 for the purchase of laboratory equipment to perform mycobacteriology services.

**Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:**

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 2. A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit.

**Executive Summary and Discussion:**

The State of California Department of Health Services provides local assistance funding to support laboratory services for tuberculosis (TB) control and prevention activities. The Santa Barbara County Public Health Laboratory has been awarded \$7,407 to purchase an incubator.

At the present time, the Public Health Laboratory provides mycobacteriology testing services to all three hospitals and major clinics in southern Santa Barbara County and plans to expand TB services in northern Santa Barbara County. Currently North County hospitals and clinics either do their own testing in house or send TB specimens to reference labs outside the county. This has resulted in a problem for TB Control because laboratory reporting of positive TB cultures has not been dependable. The consolidation of all TB testing in the Public Health Laboratory will significantly improve TB control in the county.

In order to expand services to hospitals and clinics in northern Santa Barbara County, the laboratory will need an additional CO<sub>2</sub> incubator. The incubator will increase the testing capacity of the Public Health Laboratory and allow the centralization of all Santa Barbara County mycobacteriology (TB) testing services.

The equipment to be purchased is a VWR Model 2350, water jacked, CO<sub>2</sub> incubator. This equipment will be used exclusively for culturing TB specimens and other TB related activities as required by the Award.

**Mandates and Service Levels:**

The Santa Barbara County Public Health Laboratory is mandated by California Administrative Code, Title 17, Division 1. State Department of Health Services, Charter 2 Laboratories, Subchapter 1. Service Laboratories, Group 3. County and Municipal Laboratories, Article 1. Official Public Health Laboratory Service Required, 1075 Local Health Departments. Each local health department shall have available the services of an official public health laboratory. Expanded TB testing is a non-mandated service.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Accepting this award will not increase the General Fund contribution to the Public Health Department. The Award from the State of California Department of Health Services will fund the purchase of the CO<sub>2</sub> incubator in the amount of \$7,407. This is a one-time purchase that shouldn't incur any indirect or ongoing costs.

There will be no impact on, or the need for, additional facilities.

**Special Instructions:**

Send the original Award Acceptance and a Certified Minute Order to the Public Health Department, Attention: Cherie Alstott