



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: Fire
Department No.: 031
Agenda Date: April 21 2026
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: Choose an item.
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Garrett Huff, Fire Chief/Fire Warden
Contact: Kelly Hubbard, 805-681-5526
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2025 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Authorization

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the County Fire Department Office of Emergency Management to accept \$488,412 in Fiscal Year 2025 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) federal funds as distributed through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) with a period of performance from September 1, 2025 to May 31, 2028; and
- b) Adopt a resolution (Attachment A) to appoint the County Executive Officer (CEO), the Director of Office of Emergency Management (OEM), County Fire Chief, and Fire Department Chief Financial and Administrative Officer (CFAO) to act as Authorized Agents to apply and submit grant applications, execute all required grant application documents (including assurances and certifications), and take any actions necessary for each application and subaward under the HSGP grant to provide grant funding for emergency management activities in the Santa Barbara Operational Area; and
- c) Determine the above-recommended actions are not a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5), finding that the actions consist of administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

The recommended actions authorize the Office of Emergency Management to apply for and manage the Fiscal Year 2025 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) HSGP requires that jurisdictions through a Resolution to appoint Authorized Agents who are identified by a position title to act on behalf of the governing body and the Applicant (County) by executing any actions necessary for each application and subaward.

Discussion:

Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funding supports a variety of vital equipment, training, plans, and programs for emergency response agencies throughout the Santa Barbara County Operational area, which consists of the County, incorporated Cities and Special Districts. County Departments and non-county agencies with approved projects must fund their projects with local funds before seeking federal reimbursement.

Background:

The Homeland Security Grant Program has been an ongoing funding source for the Santa Barbara County Operational Area for planning, equipment, training, exercise, management and administration since 1999.

While the Board of Supervisors approves acceptance of the grant and the delegation of its management, it is the Approval Authority who identifies and approves the projects within each grant cycle. By regulation and grant guidance, the Santa Barbara County HSGP Approval Authority is composed of the County Fire Chief, County Sheriff, Municipal Police Chief Representative, Municipal Fire Chief Representative and County Health Department Director, and governs allocation of HSGP funds. The Approval Authority meets regularly throughout the year to receive and communicate status updates on grant projects and requirements.

On July 29, 2025, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued the Fiscal Year 2025 HSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity. In September 2025, CalOES received notification of updated allocations and terms and conditions, which resulted in multi-state litigation against FEMA until the court ruled in favor of the plaintiffs on December 22, 2025.

On February 6, 2026, CalOES received its updated FY 2025 HSGP Award from FEMA, which revised the terms and conditions, rescinded the stipulation on the State's population methodology, and restored the period of performance to three years from one year. CalOES accepted the award on February 13, 2026 and Santa Barbara County's sub application is due to CalOES by April 30, 2026.

As of March 30, 2026, the grant assurances have yet to be provided. Upon receipt, County Counsel will conduct a review to determine eligibility and ensure compliance with applicable requirements. Should there be any changes or revisions to the grant assurances, we will consult with County Counsel to assess the implications and determine appropriate next steps.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

HSGP is a reimbursement-based grant. Of the project proposals submitted for the FY2025 award, none were expected to be completed in FY25/26 and were not included in the Department's adopted budget. As projects are completed, OEM will submit reimbursement claims to CalOES throughout the grant period of performance, ending May 31, 2028. The breakout of anticipated project completion by fiscal year is reflected in the following table.

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	FY 25/26	FY26/27	FY27/28	Total
General Fund				
State				
Federal	0	\$369,712	\$118,700	488,412
Fees				
[<i>Other Source</i>]				
Total	0	369,712	118,700	488,412

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to send e-copies of the minute order and the signed resolution to Kendall Johnston, kejohnston@countyofsb.org

Attachments:

Attachment A – HSGP Authorized Agents Resolution and Addendum

Contact Information:

Kelly Hubbard
Director, Office of Emergency Management
Khubbard@countyofsb.org