



**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: County Health
Department No.: 041
Agenda Date: March 3, 2026
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director: Mouhanad Hammami, County Health
Contact: Ryn Schumacher, Chief of Strategy and Communications (805) 681-5435
SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of a California Department of Justice Local Tobacco Enforcement Grant

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: CEO Budget

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Adopt a Resolution (Attachment A) to:
 - i. Approve, ratify, and authorize the Director of the County Health Department, or designee, to accept Award No. DOJ-PROP56-2025-26-1-051 (Attachment B) for the Tobacco Enforcement Grant Program funding allocation in the amount of \$578,560 from the California State Department of Justice for the period of November 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029, Fiscal Years (FY) 2025-26 through 2028-29;
 - ii. Approve, ratify, and authorize the Director of the County Health Department, or designee, to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the California Department of Justice and the Santa Barbara County Health Department (Attachment C) for purposes of disbursing grant funds to the County Health Department for tobacco enforcement and education;
 - iii. Approve and authorize the Director of the County Health Department, or designee, to execute any future Amendments to Award No. DOJ-PROP56-2025-26-1-051, upon review and concurrence by the Auditor Controller's Office and County Counsel's Office and written notice to the Board within 30 days after execution of any amendments that exceed 10% (\$57,856) of the total award amount and/or include any significant

changes in the scope of work, subject to the Board's ability to rescind this delegated authority at any time;

- iv. Approve and authorize the Director of the County Health Department, or designee, to make and sign all required certifications and to submit any required documents, invoices, and reports required to obtain grant funding related to Award No. DOJ-PROP56-2025-26-1-051; and
- b) Approve Budget Revision BJE Number 0010975 (Attachment E) for unanticipated revenue from the California State Department of Justice Tobacco Enforcement Grant in the amount of \$130,915 in FY 2025-26; and
- c) Determine that the recommended actions are not a "Project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and are exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), because it consists of the creation of governmental funding mechanisms or other governmental fiscal activities that do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to request a resolution authorizing the County Health Department to receive grant funding from the California Department of Justice (DOJ) in the amount of \$578,560 for the period of November 1, 2025, through June 30, 2029, FY 2025-26 through 2028-29. This grant would allow County Health, in partnership with the Sheriff's Office, to expand and enhance existing tobacco enforcement activities through local Tobacco Retail License (TRL) programs in Santa Barbara County. The DOJ Tobacco Enforcement Grant is a reimbursement grant that does not require matched local funding.

Discussion:

The California State DOJ makes supplemental funding available to local agencies involved in tobacco law enforcement activities including the management of TRL programs. Funding comes from a \$2.00 increase in State excise tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products, which began in April 2017. The increased state-level taxes were passed through Proposition 56, approved by voters in 2016, which allocated a portion of annual revenue to the DOJ. Funding is competitively offered to selected local public agencies for awards lasting up to three (3) years.

On June 10, 2025, your Board authorized the County Health Department to apply for grant funds to support existing tobacco enforcement activities in partnership with the County Sheriff's Office, and to engage in increased coordination with city jurisdictions to improve overall tobacco enforcement within the County. On November 19, 2025, the Santa Barbara County Health Department was awarded \$578,560 for the period of November 1, 2025, through June 30, 2029 (Fiscal Years 2025-26 through 2028-29) to complete the goals and activities included in Appendix C (Tobacco Grant Summary of Award). These activities include, but are not limited to, undercover buys and retail inspections, retailer education, establishment of a countywide Tobacco Enforcement Task Force, and providing technical assistance to cities in Santa Barbara County that may be considering TRL programs within their jurisdictions. The additional activities required by the grant will be completed by hiring an Administrative Office Professional, which will be funded by the grant program. A portion of the grant will support funding an existing Health Care Program Coordinator within the department, and a total of \$114,230 in staffing costs will be allocated for reimbursement to the County Sheriff's Office for retailer enforcement operations over the term of the grant.

Background:

There are 329 tobacco retailers currently operating in Santa Barbara County that are licensed with the State of California to sell cigarettes or tobacco products directly to the public. In addition to State licensing, local jurisdictions are also able to impose additional tobacco retail licensing requirements, which can help to manage the impacts of tobacco on the health of local communities and fund local tobacco prevention education. Local tobacco retail licensing varies across jurisdictions within the County. County Health manages a local TRL program serving unincorporated Santa Barbara County and the cities of Goleta and Carpinteria. The Cities of Santa Barbara, Guadalupe, and Santa Maria have their own TRL programs that are managed by each jurisdiction. The Cities of Buellton, Solvang and Lompoc currently do not have similar programs and do not contract with the County to run a local TRL program.

Current enforcement activities for the County’s TRL program include conducting annual observational visits to tobacco retailers, responding to complaints about improper operations or underage tobacco sales (to youth less than 21 years of age), coordinating and reimbursing the County Sheriff’s Office for undercover buy operations, and providing retailer education on local and State tobacco laws, including enforcement of a statewide ban on flavored e-cigarettes.

The California DOJ makes supplemental funding available to local agencies involved in tobacco law enforcement activities, including the management of TRL programs. Funding allocations are offered on an annual basis for awards lasting up to three (3) years. Approval of these recommended actions will allow the County Health Department to receive the funds to support existing tobacco enforcement activities in partnership with the County Sheriff’s Office, and to engage in increased coordination with city jurisdictions to improve overall tobacco enforcement within the County.

Performance Measure:

The County Health Department will complete the following activities as approved by the DOJ:

- Retail Inspection Visits: observe tobacco-related violations such as the posting of licenses, minimum age signs, and placement of tobacco products yearly at 123 tobacco retailers
- Retailer Enforcement: conduct at least 1 undercover buy operation yearly
- Tobacco Enforcement Education: provide education to enforcement officers on best practices and emerging issues in tobacco enforcement through the Tobacco Enforcement Task Force
- Other Activities: engage with active community groups discussing tobacco prevention needs in the community

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	FY 2025/2026	FY 2026/2027	FY 2027/2028	FY 2028/2029	Total
State	\$130,915	\$186,968	\$201,041	\$59,636	\$578,560
Total	\$130,915	\$186,968	\$201,041	\$59,636	\$578,560

Narrative: The DOJ Local Tobacco Enforcement Grant award was awarded in November 2025 following adoption of the FY 2025-26 budget. It is a multi-year award retroactive to November 1, 2025, and continuing through June 30, 2029 (FY 2025-26 through 2028-29). The annual reimbursement amount is specified in the Award Budget Detail in Attachment D. As unanticipated revenue that may be realized in the current fiscal year, County Health has prepared a Budget Revision (BJE No. 0010975) for your Board’s consideration (Attachment E). For FY 2026-27, the grant revenue will be included in the County Health Department’s Fiscal Year 2026-27 Recommended Budget. This

is a reimbursement grant for eligible costs incurred in each fiscal year. No local matching funds are required.

Staffing Impacts:

Approval of this grant will authorize the Director of the County Health Department to hire a 1.0 FTE Administrative Office Professional in Fiscal Year 2026-27 at a projected annual cost of approximately \$98,575. The position will support administrative coordination of the proposed task force, provide technical assistance to jurisdictions creating or updating their TRL programs, and assist with existing TRL responsibilities. If approved, the limited term position will be incorporated into the FY 2026-27 Recommended Budget for the County Health Department.

A portion of the grant (0.2 FTEs, or approximately \$36,026) will support funding an existing Health Care Program Coordinator within the department, and a total of \$114,230 in staffing costs will be allocated for reimbursement to the County Sheriff’s Office for retailer enforcement operations over the term of the grant.

Position Request Summary

Legal Position Title	Number of FTE	Estimated Cost
Administrative Office Professional – Limited Term	1	\$98,575
Total	1	\$98,575

Special Instructions:

Request the Clerk of the Board to email one copy of the original adopted Resolution and one Minute Order to the County Health Department at PHDGROUPContractsUnit@sbcphd.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Resolution

Attachment B – Tobacco Grant Summary of Award

Attachment C – Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Justice

Attachment D – Tobacco Grant Budget Detail

Attachment E – Budget Revision – BJE No. 0010975

Contact Information:

Rryn Schumacher
Chief of Strategy and Communications/Public Information Officer
rschumacher@sbcphd.org

Santiago Segovia
Health Care Program Coordinator
ssegovia@sbcphd.org

Cc:

Sheriff Bill Brown, Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s Office