



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

Department Name: County Executive Office
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: November 10, 2020
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director(s) Contact Info: Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Bernard Melekian, Assistant County Executive Officer
(805) 568-2060

SUBJECT: County Pre-Trial Felony Mental Health Diversion Program Plan 1/1/2020-12/31/2022

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Behavioral Wellness

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and file the Pre-Trial Felony Mental Diversion Program County Planning and Implementation Guide related to the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) Grant Agreement (#19-179011-000) for the three-year period of 1/1/2020 through 12/31/2022 (DSH Grant Agreement); and
- b) Determine that the above action is a government administrative activity or funding mechanism which does not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and is therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA guidelines.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to request that your Board receive and file the Pre-Trial Felony Mental Diversion Program County Planning Guide (program plan), which was approved by the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) as required under the DSH grant agreement for the three-year period of 1/1/2020 through 12/31/2022.

The DSH Diversion Program is a collaboration between DSH and county governments to develop or expand diversion programs for individuals with serious mental illness who face felony charges and could be determined Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST). The DSH Diversion Program provides funding to counties to support community mental health treatment and other services for these individuals.

The CEO's Office has worked with the County departments of Behavioral Wellness, Public Defender, District Attorney, Probation and Sheriff; the Superior Court; community-based treatment providers; and housing providers to create a program plan which was approved by DSH on August 31, 2020. The program plan describes the program from initial identification of potential Felony Mental Health Diversion Clients to program completion, lists the roles and responsibilities of the departments, and all services to be provided in the program. The program plan is a deliverable under the DSH Grant Agreement and will allow for reimbursement for the work on the implementation of the DSH Diversion Program.

Background:

The Board of Supervisors authorized the CEO's Office to execute the DSH Grant Agreement on January 28, 2020. As required under the DSH grant agreement, submittal and approval of the program plan by DSH must be in place prior to program implementation. The program plan outlines responsibilities and includes an itemized budget plan. The program plan has also been agreed to by County collaborative partners. The program plan was approved by DSH on August 31, 2020 and the County is positioned to implement the program.

In October 2018, the County Executive Office submitted a Letter of Intent to apply for the DSH funding for Pre-Trial Felony Mental Health Diversion Programs and, in December 2018, was notified that Santa Barbara County was to be awarded funding in the amount of \$2,644,500. The County was required to contribute a 20% match (\$528,900) which was provided by the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP), a committee made up of justice partner agencies and other local stakeholders charged with the responsibility of the implementation of a local Realignment Plan and strategies that increase public safety as part of "justice reinvestment." The DSH Grant Agreement requires that the County divert 18 individuals who have committed felony offenses as a result of their mental illness, who are IST or who may be found to be IST, and who do not pose an unreasonable risk to the public, to residential treatment, over the three-year grant period. DSH will disperse grant funds in installments upon the County meeting target goals and initial implementation funds are available with the approval of the program plan.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative: Grant activities were incorporated into the FY 2020-21 adjusted budget through Budget Revision #0005659, which was approved on January 28, 2020. There is no additional cost associated with finalizing the program plan.

Special Instructions:

Please email one (1) copy of the minute order to Bernard Melekian, Assistant County Executive Officer, and Rachel Lipman, County Executive Office.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Santa Barbara Program Planning Guide

Authored by:

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