SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

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

Prepared on:	09/19/06
Department:	Housing and Comm. Development
Budget Unit:	055
Agenda Date:	10/10/06
Placement:	Administrative
Estimate Time:	None
Continued Item:	No
If Yes, date from:	

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Ron Cortez, Interim Director
Housing and Community Development

**STAFF
CONTACT:**   Patricia Gabel
Housing Finance Division Manager   Ext. 3522

SUBJECT: Renewal of HOME Consortium Subrecipient Agreements

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors considers the recommendation regarding the following:

A. Approve the renewal of the City of Lompoc and the City of Santa Maria Subrecipient Agreements that implement the *Cooperative Agreement to Renew a HOME Consortium.*

B. Designate the Housing and Community Development Director to execute the City of Lompoc and the City of Santa Maria Subrecipient Agreements on behalf of the County consistent with the terms and conditions detailed in the *Cooperative Agreement to Renew a HOME Consortium* (Attachment A and B).

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

 The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with Goal No. 7. Strengthen the Safety and Well-Being of Children and Their Families to Ensure a Strong Future for our Community

Executive Summary and Discussion:

On May 20th, 2003 the Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution authorizing the County to enter into the amended *Cooperative Agreement to Renew a HOME Consortium* between the County of Santa Barbara and the cities of Buellton, Carpinteria, Goleta, Lompoc, Santa Maria and Solvang. The renewal continues the Santa Barbara County HOME Consortium initiated in 1994 ongoing from the 2004 federal fiscal year starting October 1st, 2003.

The Consortium allows the County to receive annual affordable housing grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The HOME Program funds are used to produce and preserve affordable housing opportunities for low and very low – income families. The Consortium has received approximately $16.7 million in HOME funds over its initial twelve years in operation and utilized these funds to leverage additional state, federal and private housing funds at $7.5 for every $1 invested. Annual grant awards depend upon Congressional appropriations levels.

As lead agency for the Consortium, the County provides General HUD HOME Program administration, administers the First – Time Homebuyer Program, and administers the annual Notice of Funds Available (NOFA) process for the cities of Buellton, Solvang, Carpinteria and Goleta. The Subrecipient Agreements with the Cities of Lompoc and Santa Maria passes through responsibilities for administering the annual NOFA process for each city's formula allocation of HOME funds; receipt, reporting and transfer of program income to the County from funded projects; and other related activities to the cities for their own jurisdictions. There are no financial terms to this Agreement. All funds remain with the County as HOME Program administrator.

Language in the attached Subrecipient Agreements includes one change in the terms from prior Agreements. The new language allows the Agreements to automatically renew upon the commencement of each three – year HOME funding qualification period. The Agreements also provide for a process by which a HOME Consortium member may elect not to renew the Agreement.

Mandates and Service Levels:

The HOME program is not mandated; however, acceptance of federal funds to carry out affordable housing activities requires the County to comply with the regulatory requirements attached to those funds. There is no change in service levels anticipated by the approval of these Agreements.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

There is no fiscal impact on the general fund. The Housing Finance Division Budget is found in the County Budget on pages D258-259.

Special Instructions:

None

Concurrences:

County Counsel
Auditor Controller