



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: Community Services
Department No.: 057
For Agenda Of: February 27, 2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: No
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Jesús Armas, Community Services Director
Director 805-568-2467

Contact Info: Ashley Watkins, Sustainability Division
Chief, 805-568-3514

Garrett Wong, Climate Program Manager
805-390-2983

SUBJECT: Resilient Cuyama Valley Transformative Climate Communities Post-Award
Consultation Grant

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Planning & Development, CEO Budget

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

- a) Approve and authorize the Board Chair to execute the post-award grant agreement (Attachment A) to accept grant funds in the amount of \$50,000 from the Strategic Growth Council to participate in the Post Award Consultation (PAC) process for the Transformative Climate Communities grant program;
- b) Authorize the Community Services Director or designee(s) to execute amendments to the agreement or budget not exceeding the total amount of \$50,000;
- c) Approve Budget Revision Request BJE - 0009567 (Attachment B) necessary to adjust appropriations for the receipt of unanticipated Grant Revenues in the amount of \$50,000 (4/5 vote); and
- d) Determine that the above recommended actions are not the approval of a project that is subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines

sections 15378(b)(4), finding that the actions are the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment, and 15378(b)(5), finding that the actions are organizational or administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to request Board approval to accept grant funds in the amount of \$50,000 from the Strategic Growth Council (SGC). On December 14, 2023 the County was awarded a \$1,073,860 grant from SGC’s Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) grant program to enhance community climate resilience in the Cuyama Valley. Funding will be used to pilot residential energy retrofits and other home improvements, support design and engineering of walking and biking infrastructure, and to make electrical upgrades to the Blue Sky Center, a local community resource.

The \$50,000 SGC grant to provide funding for staff time and materials to participate in the mandatory Post Award Consultation (PAC) process. The PAC process is the first step in the grant execution process following the approval of the TCC awards by SGC. During the PAC process, the County and partners are required to update their work plans, budgets, and narratives to align with TCC program requirements and SGC direction. The PAC grant is separate and in addition to the \$1,073,860 TCC full program award.

Background:

On July 18, 2023, the Board approved submittal of a grant application to SGC’s TCC grant program. On December 14, 2023, the Strategic Growth Council voted to adopt the recommended grant awards including a \$1,073,860 award to the County of Santa Barbara.

Below is a summary of the funding allocations and roles and responsibilities the County and its partners will carry out with the grant funding over a two-year period.

Table 1. Transformative Climate Communities Grant Sub-Award Amounts
(Numbers have been rounded for simplicity)

County of Santa Barbara	\$ 374,370
Quail Springs	\$ 252,600
Blue Sky Center	\$ 335,850
Community Environmental Council	\$ 111,040
Total:	\$ 1,073,860

- The Sustainability Division and Long-Range Planning Division will administer the grant and the Coordinating Committee, which includes the implementing partners, community stakeholders and residents. The Long-Range Planning Division (LRP) will track implementation of programs and projects for the purposes of the monitoring for the Environmental Justice Element. LRP will also help renters understand their rights and avoid displacement during retrofits.
- The County will partner with Blue Sky Center (BSC) to develop and implement a pilot program to retrofit homes for energy efficiency and energy resilience. The Public Works Transportation Division will also conduct design and engineering for pedestrian and biking projects previously identified through the Active Transportation Plan.
- BSC will lead community outreach, engagement and coordination for the home retrofit pilot program and construct residential victory gardens. BSC will also upgrade outdated electrical

infrastructure at their existing center and assess the feasibility of establishing a community food hub through a cold storage facility onsite.

- Quail Springs will lead community outreach, engagement and coordination for piloting residential greywater systems and home composting systems. Quail Springs will also lead a Drinking Water Quality consumer satisfaction survey to address real and perceived barriers to reducing bottled water consumption.
- Community Environmental Council will facilitate the Coordinating Committee to ensure community members are provided with ample opportunities to provide guidance, input, feedback and support to projects and outreach efforts.
- Funding opportunities for residents will come in the form of participation incentives, and part-time jobs through Quail Springs for ongoing community maintenance and inspection of residential greywater and composting systems installed.

The SGC requires all awardees to undergo a post-award consultation (PAC) process. SGC has offered to provide awardees a \$50,000 grant to bridge the four to six-month gap between the TCC Award announcement and execution of a full grant agreement.

The PAC grant is separate and in addition to the full program award for \$1,073,869. The grant funding will be used to provide funding for staff time and materials to assist in the implementation of the PAC process for the TCC program. The PAC process is the first step in the grant execution process following the approval of the TCC awards by SGC at its December 14, 2023 meeting. During the PAC process, the Grantee and Partners are required to update their work plans, budgets, and narratives to align with TCC program requirements, Interagency Review Panel recommendations, and Council direction.

The County has negotiated the PAC roles, responsibilities and funding requests with the partners, which is included in the draft Post-Award Consultation Process Grant Agreement (Attachment A). After the TCC Grant Agreement is prepared and reviewed by all parties, staff will return to the Board requesting authorization to execute the agreement.

Performance Measure:

The PAC process will result in the preparation of a draft TCC Grant Agreement, which will include the updated scope and budget on behalf of the County and all of its partners, to be executed by the Board of Supervisors with SGC at a later date.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

None. Existing staff will be used to administer the agreement and implement projects. **Fiscal Analysis:**

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			\$ 50,000.00
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00

The Strategic Growth Council will grant to the County and its partners \$50,000 to participate in the post-award consultation process. The County will receive \$28,864 and disperse \$5,698 to Community Environmental Council, \$4,764 to Blue Sky Center and \$10,624 to Quail Springs. This budget revision request is necessary for the receipt of the Sustainability Division successful application of a grant from the Strategic Growth Council to participate in the Post Award Consultation (PAC) process for the Transformative Climate Communities grant program. The budget revision request is needed to account for the unanticipated revenue and expenses.

Special Instructions:

Please return a copy of the Minute Order and signed TCC Post-Award Grant Agreement (Attachment A) to Ashley Watkins at awatkins@countyofsb.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A – TCC Post-Award Grant Agreement

Attachment B – Budget Revision Request BJE - 0009567

Authored by:

Garrett Wong, Climate Program Manager

cc: