

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



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

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 6/24/02
Department Name: Public Works
Department No.: 054
Agenda Date: 08/06/02
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: Yes
If Yes, date from: 07/23/02

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Phillip M. Demery
Public Works Director

STAFF

CONTACT: Thomas Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, Ext. 3436
Rory Lang, PW Program Specialist, Ext. 3545

SUBJECT: Northern and Coastal California Water Bond Initiative Coalition

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

Adopt the attached Resolution that:

- A. Supports the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002, a statewide initiative, qualified for the November 5, 2002 ballot, and which if passed will provide \$3.44 billion for water projects in California;
- B. Supports the Public Works participation in the Northern and Coastal California Water Bond Initiative Coalition which seeks to allocate funding from the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002, if passed, for local projects; and
- C. Consider the appointment of a member of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to serve as a representative of the County in the Northern and Coastal California Water Bond Initiative Coalition

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

This recommendation is aligned with Goal No. 5: Maintain and Enhance the Quality of Life for all Residents.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

A new water bond initiative known as the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 has been proposed for the November 2002 ballot as a voter initiative to be placed on the ballot by a petition drive now in progress. The measure would provide \$3.44 billion for water-related projects in California. A copy of the initiative is attached as Appendix A and a summary of the proposed distribution of funds is included as Appendix A1.

The initiative allocates significant funding to regional programs such as the CALFED Bay-Delta Program (\$825 million), acquisition and restoration of wetlands and watersheds in Los Angeles and Ventura counties (not less than \$300 million), and acquisition and restoration of wetlands and watersheds in the San Francisco Bay Area (not more than \$200 million). However, the initiative also specifies that the legislature may enact such legislation as is necessary to implement the water security fund (\$50 million), the safe drinking water

program (\$435 million) and the Clean Water and Water Quality Program (\$100 million) and other funds and gives the legislature authority to re-appropriate bond funds under certain conditions.

In an effort to provide significant support for this initiative the North Bay Watershed Association, the Sonoma County Water Agency and other public agencies are developing the Northern and Coastal California Water Bond Initiative Coalition. The proposed coalition would be developed in order to assemble a portfolio of water-related projects in Northern and Coastal California that have regional significance and that merit funding from statewide bond initiative funds and related grant programs. The coalition would also work to build a network of support for the coalition program in order to increase the probability that the program will receive funding through legislative appropriations as permitted by bond language. The organizers are requesting that each agency appoint an elected official to serve as a spokesperson for their agency. Your Board may wish to make such an appointment or allow the Public Works Director or his designee to serve in this capacity.

Public Works staff anticipates that the program will include projects related to water supply, sanitation, fisheries, water reuse, flood control, non-point source pollution prevention and wetlands restoration. Approximately twenty-three projects have been submitted to the Coalition from agencies within Santa Barbara County these include:

County Parks	4 projects totaling \$8,720,000
Santa Barbara County Water Agency	1 project totaling \$618,847
Laguna County Sanitation	1 project totaling \$37,500,000
Cuyama Community Services District	1 project totaling \$377,600
Cachuma Operations and Maintenance Board	2 projects totaling \$22,000,000
City of Santa Barbara	14 projects totaling \$32,250,000

Funding from this initiative could be used to design the necessary changes and construct the facilities modifications required at Cachuma County Park due to the efforts to provide enhanced steelhead habitat below Lake Cachuma. To provide the necessary water, this effort requires the maximum operating level of the lake to be raised as much as three feet within the next few years. Cachuma County Park was designed with a maximum operating elevation of 750 feet above sea level. A three feet increase in the maximum operating level would cause a number of the park facilities to be modified or moved including the park's sanitary sewer collection system, water supply system and some of the existing camp grounds.

The funding of this initiative could also provide partial funding for the completion of the tertiary treatment upgrades and distribution improvements for the Laguna County Sanitation District. This project would involve the expansion of the currently proposed tertiary treatment facilities. The recycled water would be used for irrigation purposes including golf courses, food crops, pasture and parks. The work would include expansions of the wastewater reclamation plant and extensions of the distribution systems.

These recommendations were submitted to the Legislative Committee on July 15, 2002. The Legislative Committee considered the recommendations and unanimously supported the resolution as submitted.

Mandates and Service Levels:

The participation of an elected official from Santa Barbara County and Public Works staff in the Northern and Coastal California Water Bond Initiative Coalition and support of the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 could increase the services provided to county residents through the potential funding allocated to the projects submitted on behalf of the county by the Public Works Department from voter approved water bond initiatives.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The bond sales generated from the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 would be made available to fund projects throughout the state via allocations placed in the ballot initiative itself, or in appropriations made by the legislature after voter approval of the initiative. Funds are disbursed to local projects through grant programs administered by state agencies including the Department of Health, the State Water Resources Control Board, the Department of Water Resources, and California State Parks.

The funds requested in the attached project descriptions will go a long way to protect and conserve water resources within the county. Most granting agencies require some percentage of the total grant to be provided by the lead agency as matching funds. However, until the final details of the grant requirements are set, it is impossible to determine what this percentage might be.

Concurrence: Legislative Committee

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**IN THE MATTER OF SUPPORTING AND)
PARTICIPATING IN THE NORTHERN AND)
COASTAL CALIFORNIA WATER BOND)
INITIATIVE COALITION)**

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, the California electorate has approved three statewide bond initiatives over the past two years that provided \$6.67 billion for water and parks related programs in California, and

WHEREAS, an additional bond initiative know as the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002, is now qualified for the November 2002 statewide ballot, and if passed will provide an additional \$3.44 billion for water related projects in California, and

WHEREAS, development of a regional coalition to organize and promote local projects can be effective in obtaining funding for local projects; and

WHEREAS, public agencies within thirteen coastal counties in California including Alameda, Butte, Colusa, Contra Costa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, Nevada, Placer, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Tehama, Trinity, Ventura, Yolo, and Yuba have developed a coalition to assemble a portfolio of water related projects in Northern and Coastal California that have regional significance and that merit funding from statewide bond initiative funds and related grant programs.

WHEREAS, agencies within Santa Barbara County including Laguna County Sanitation District, County Parks, Cuyama Community Services District, Cachuma Operations and Maintenance Board, City of Santa Barbara, and the Santa Barbara County Water Agency, have submitted projects to the Coalition which have been identified as having important water related benefits requiring additional funding as may be provided by future water bond initiatives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County hereby finds, determines and declares as follows:

1. All of the above recitals are true and correct.
2. The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors appoints _____ to work with the Public Works Director and from time to time to represent the County in matters pertaining to the Coalition.
3. The Public Works Director is authorized to work with the Northern and Coastal California Water Bond Initiative Coalition to garner support for local water projects.

4. The Public Works Director is authorized to submit project descriptions to be placed in the list of projects supported by the Northern and Coastal California Water Bond Initiative Coalition.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, on this _____ day of _____, 2002 by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:
MICHAEL F. BROWN

ACCEPTED AND AGREED:
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

By: _____
Deputy

By: _____
Chair, Board of Supervisors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
STEPHEN SHANE STARK,
COUNTY COUNSEL

APPROVED AS TO ACCOUNTING
FORM:
ROBERT W. GEIS,
AUDITOR CONTROLLER

By: _____
Deputy County Counsel

By: _____