



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: CEO
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: 11/4/08
Placement: Set Hearing
Estimated Tme: 30 minutes on 11/18/08
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Michael F. Brown, County Executive Officer
Director(s)
Contact Info: Terri Maus, Assistant County Executive Officer, 568.3412
SUBJECT: Federal Legislative Update

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: Select_Other

As to form: Select_Concurrence

Recommended Actions:

- (A) Set a hearing for November 18, 2008 to receive a report on federal legislative issues, including an update on the status of projects and programs contained within the County's 2008 legislative platform.
- (B) On November 18, 2008, receive a report on federal legislative issues, including an update on the status of projects and programs contained within the County's 2008 legislative platform.

Summary Text: Each year, the Board of Supervisors identifies specific issues, projects and programs ("priorities") that warrant targeted legislative advocacy as part of its annual legislative platform. The 2008 legislative platform was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on January 15, 2008. On November 18, 2008, the Board of Supervisors will receive a report that (a) highlights the County's efforts at supporting legislation and securing funding in accordance with its legislative platform and (b) summarizes other current and anticipated federal issues.

Background: In 2006, the Board of Supervisors retained Thomas Walters and Associates, Inc. to provide federal advocacy services. Working in conjunction with the Board of Supervisors and federal elected officials, the County secured funding for the Santa Maria Levee, Mission Creek Channel Improvements and Lake Cachuma last year and is currently positioned to receive funding for these projects as part of the Federal Fiscal Year 2009 budget.

Performance Measure:

The County has submitted several funding requests to Congress as part of the Federal Fiscal Year 2009 budget. Such requests and the current status are listed below:

- Santa Maria Levee: Requested \$8.5 million, Senate Appropriations Committee FY 2009 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill proposed \$6 million while the House Appropriations Committee version of the bill proposed \$8.5 million.
- Lower Mission Creek: Requested \$4.5 million, Senate Appropriations Committee FY 2009 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill proposed \$400,000 while the House Appropriations Committee version of the bill proposed \$250,000.
- Lake Cachuma: Requested \$2.2 million, Senate Appropriations Committee FY 2009 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill proposed \$400,000.
- Goleta Beach: Requested \$300,000. Senate Appropriations Committee FY 2009 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill proposed \$150,000.
- Lompoc Veterans' Building Renovation: Requested \$865,000. Senate Appropriations Committee FY 2009 Transportation-HUD Appropriations bill proposed \$850,000.

There is proposed funding for five of the County's six submitted requests. The current funding amounts proposed in the Senate represent 42% of the requested amount of \$18 million.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative: The annual report by Tom Walters and Associates, Inc. is included as part of the County's contract for federal advocacy services. The Board, on December 19, 2006, approved a contract with Tom Walters and Associates, Inc. for December 23, 2006 through December 28, 2008 at a cost of \$84,000 per year.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:
0

FTEs:
0

Attachments:

Authored by:

Sharon Friedrichsen, Assistant to the CEO, County Executive Office, 568.3107

cc: Tom Walters, Tom Walters and Associates