

# 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:** 11/12/03  
**Department Name:** Housing & Community  
Development  
**Department No.:** 055  
**Agenda Date:** 11/25/03  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Edward Moses, Director  
Housing and Community Development Department

**STAFF** Jim Claybaugh, Economic Development Coordinator, 560-1093

**CONTACT:** Richard Morgantini, Economic Development Program Assistant, 560-1092

**SUBJECT:** Resolution for City of Lompoc to Sponsor X-Prize Cup

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## **Recommendations:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt the attached resolution (Attachment A) supporting the City of Lompoc's and Vandenburg Air Force Base's application to host the X-Prize Cup, a commercial manned space flight competition.

## **Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:**

The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with Goal No. 4. A Community that is Economically Vital and Sustainable and with actions required by law or by routine business necessity.

## **Executive Summary and Discussion:**

The City of Lompoc, in partnership with Vandenberg Air Force Base, is the sole contender from California in the bid to host the X PRIZE CUP. The X PRIZE CUP will be the first air show for the private space community, featuring X PRIZE-Class manned spacecraft competitions and a public space flight exhibition. The X PRIZE is a \$10 million award to the first privately funded team who builds and launches a manned spacecraft capable of carrying three people to space (an altitude of 100 km) on two flights within two weeks.

Vandenberg AFB is the nation's premier polar launch site, with 18,000 launches and zero casualties over 40 years. Vandenberg's vast undeveloped area for space test flight, as well as the safety record and policy of the installation, contribute to the excellent launch record.

The main objective of the X PRIZE CUP is to motivate X PRIZE teams to continue to innovate, diversify, and improve their vehicles for space tourism. Lompoc and surrounding communities offer critical support infrastructure, and hosting the annual X PRIZE CUP will stimulate tourism, investment, and job growth in Lompoc and boost California's space enterprise business.

Five of the twenty-four registered X PRIZE teams are from California, including Solvang-based Pioneer Rocketplane, American Astronautics Corporation, Interorbital Systems (IOS), Kelly Space & Technology, and Scaled Composites.

The X PRIZE Foundation is preparing to select a strategic partner and hosting venue for the annual X PRIZE CUP. The two-week long event will take place at the same time and same location each year and will allow all X PRIZE-Class vehicles to compete for cash prizes in a series of races resulting in a single winner. While only one team will win the \$10 Million X PRIZE, many teams are expected to create reusable launch vehicles in the private sector.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:** This item will have no direct fiscal impact.

**Attachments:** Resolution supporting X-Prize Cup application

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A JOINT )  
APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF LOMPOC AND )  
VANDENBURG AIR FORCE BASE TO HOST THE )  
X-PRIZE CUP, A COMMERCIAL MANNED SPACE )  
FLIGHT COMPETITION )  
)

WHEREAS:

- A. The City of Lompoc, in partnership with Vandenberg Air Force Base, is the sole contender from California in the bid to host the X PRIZE CUP, a manned spacecraft competitions and a public space flight exhibition; and
- B. The X PRIZE is a \$10 million award to the first privately funded team who builds and launches a manned spacecraft capable of carrying three people to space (an altitude of 100 km) on two flights within two weeks; and
- C. Lompoc is the ideal location to host the event because of its history and mission at Vandenberg and the diverse space-related activities and artifacts in the area; and
- D. Vandenberg AFB is the nation's premier polar launch site, with 18,000 launches and zero casualties over 40 years. Vandenberg's vast undeveloped area for space test flight, as well as an excellent safety record; and
- E. Lompoc and surrounding communities offer critical support infrastructure, and hosting the annual X PRIZE CUP will stimulate tourism, investment, and job growth in Lompoc and boost California's space enterprise business; and
- F. Five of the twenty-four registered X PRIZE teams are already from California, including Solvang-based Pioneer Rocketplane, American Astronautics Corporation, Interorbital Systems (IOS), Kelly Space & Technology, and Scaled Composites; and
- G. The X PRIZE Foundation is preparing to select a strategic partner and hosting venue for the annual X PRIZE CUP.

IT IS NOW THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Board of Supervisors has reviewed and hereby supports a joint application by the City of Lompoc and Vandenberg Air Force Base to host the X-Prize Cup.

5.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, on the Twenty-fifth day of November, 2003 by the following vote.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Santa Barbara

ATTEST:

Michael Brown  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
STEPHEN SHANE STARK  
County Counsel

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy County Counsel

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
ROBERT W. GEIS  
Auditor - Controller

By: \_\_\_\_\_