



**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: County Executive Office
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: 4-12-2021
Placement: D-2
Estimated Time: 30 Minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department: Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Director(s)
Contact Info: Nancy Anderson, Assistant CEO

DocuSigned by:

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SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2022 Federal Legislative Funding Requests

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence:

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and file presentation on Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Federal Legislative Funding Requests;
- b) Review proposed projects for submittal to Congressman Carbajal related to Community Project Funding and Transportation Reauthorization Bill Funding;
- c) Approve and authorize the Chair to sign funding request letters for Community Project Funding and Transportation Reauthorization Bill Funding; or
- d) Provide other direction as appropriate; and
- e) Determine that the above actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), because pursuant to sections 15378(b)(4) and 15378(b)(5) the recommended actions consist of organizational, administrative or fiscal activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary

Congressman Carbajal has requested the County submit projects for consideration of annual appropriations funding for Community Projects and the Transportation Reauthorization Bill. Staff have

evaluated various project alternatives to determine the top viable projects to best meet the criteria with assistance from our federal legislative advocate. The County is limited to submittal of 4-5 community projects and 2-3 transportation project funding requests.

Background

Each year, the United States Congress considers and enacts annual appropriations bills, providing critical funding to the federal government. The bills that emerge from the appropriations process include government operations, medical research, national defense, infrastructure, and education. Requests for Community Project Funding are submitted to the House Appropriations Committee and are funded through numerous government funding bills.

The Surface Transportation Reauthorization Appropriations Bill is an additional opportunity for the County to submit project requests for earmarked funding specifically in highways and transit project designations. The House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure encourages projects that will help advance the goals of the legislation, which include building a safer transportation network, increasing access, strengthening multi-modal transportation systems, reducing carbon pollution, enhancing environmental justice, supporting underserved communities, and improving state of good repair of the Nation's infrastructure.

Historically, legislative funding requests for projects are identified through the Board's approved Legislative Platform. The Legislative Platform serves as the guide and authority on what the Board's priorities are for legislative advocacy. After careful analysis of these projects, staff then works with the County's federal legislative advocate to screen each project for viability and whether or not a project fits the stringent criteria. There is typically a quick turnaround time from when the County receives this information from the federal government, and must work quickly to screen projects for eligibility and criteria.

Discussion

Upon receipt of Congressman Carbajal's request to submit Community Projects through the annual appropriations process in March 2021, County staff compiled a list of projects for submittal. The projects were derived from the approved County Legislative Platform, the FY 2021-22 unfunded Capital Improvement Projects list, and with department input from various divisions, including the County Executive Office, Public Works, and Community Services Department.

The County's federal legislative advocate then reviewed the projects with departments regarding funding criteria, viability and likely success of being selected. While earmarked funding is not guaranteed through these funding requests, the County's federal legislative advocate assisted in gaging the chances of success for each project.

The initial list of projects consisted of a wide variety of types of projects and ranged in cost anywhere from \$100,000 to \$62 million dollars. Because earmarked funding for each Community Project is anticipated to be approximately \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, the list of projects to be submitted was narrowed down to five projects for Community Project Funding and three projects for Transportation Reauthorization Bill funding.

Proposed Community Projects

The proposed projects for the Community Project Funding are as follows:

- 1) Veteran's Building – Seismic and Safety Upgrades (HUD/EDI)
 - a. Cost: \$1.3 million
- 2) Tunnel Road Sewer Extension (EPA STAG)
 - a. Cost: \$500,000
- 3) Lake Cachuma ADA Dock (Bureau of Reclamation)
 - a. Cost: \$600,000
- 4) Lompoc Health Care Clinic Upgrades (HRSA)
 - a. \$900,000
- 5) Sheltering of the Mentally Ill, Frail, and Elderly (HUD/EDI)
 - a. \$900,000

1. **The Santa Barbara Veteran's Building Seismic and Safety Upgrade project.** The project constructs seismic retrofitting and electrical and energy system upgrades to a deteriorating Veterans Memorial Building in order to keep the facility open for veterans and the local community. If completed, the project will provide necessary health and safety facility improvements to community infrastructure, and will serve a population meeting the HUD definition of 'Presumed Benefit'. Necessary health and safety improvements include: 1) Seismic Safety: seismic retrofitting, foundation stabilization, and deteriorated wood framing components; 2) Electrical Systems: main panel, subpanel upgrades, internal wiring systems, and aging light fixtures; and 3) Energy: water distribution systems, HVAC, utility regulation equipment, and window upgrades.
2. **The Tunnel Road Sewer Extension.** This involves public sewer extensions to properties currently on septic system in the unincorporated area of Santa Barbara County, Mission Canyon area. The project consists of extending public sewer service to northern Tunnel Road. Public sewer extensions in this area were recommended by the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department of Environmental Health Services. By extending the public sewer, we can allow for future septic system abandonment and public sewer connection. Converting from a septic to a sewer system provides benefits such as:
 - Elimination of the problem of the limited life of leach fields and/or cesspools. Depending on use, care, and maintenance, a system has a maximum life of 20-30 years before soils become saturated and it is necessary to relocate the system.
 - Eliminates the issue of limited on-site capacity, which may be exceeded with heavy use or after heavy rains that saturate the soil, limiting household use.
 - Eliminates concern with increasingly onerous County and State requirements for inspection and maintenance of on-site septic systems.
3. **The Lake Cachuma ADA Dock project.** This project constructs a replacement floating dock of approximately 3,900 square feet to provide required ADA access to marina public recreational activities, including kayaks, nature cruises and fishing boats. The project will provide ADA accessibility to a public recreation area that is currently not easily accessible to those with physical disabilities.
4. **Lompoc Health Care Clinic Upgrades.** The Lompoc Health Care Center serves 8,650 unique patients per year and provides for 35,500 patient visits annually. Those served are the Medi-Cal population, the uninsured, and the underserved and vulnerable population within the County of Santa Barbara. The project includes the connections of two separate structures (the Wellness Center and

Primary Care) to create additional capacity for the clinic, improve patient flow, and overall patient experience. In addition, a generator for the Primary Care facility is needed to secure the vaccine supply and technology infrastructure for the clinic system.

5. **Sheltering of the Mentally Ill, Frail and Elderly Facility Upgrades.** This project is in direct response to the ongoing need to shelter the frail and elderly mentally ill population (over 65) and provide necessary supportive services and other to avoid poor health outcomes. The project includes the rehabilitation of facilities to provide a supportive living environment for up to fourteen clients and a house manager. Rehabilitations include modernization of the facility and upgrades to address ADA accessibility.

Transportation Reauthorization Bill Projects

The proposed projects for the Transportation Reauthorization Bill are as follows:

- 1) Modoc Multiuse Path
 - a. Cost: \$8.2 million
- 2) Paving Farm to Market Corridors
 - a. Cost: \$4.7 million
- 3) Hollister Ave Corridor Improvements
 - a. Cost: \$8.4 million

1. **Modoc Multiuse Path.** This path ties together a comprehensive regional bicycle network on Santa Barbara County's south coast. The project will connect existing multiuse paths with projects in design and under construction by the City of Santa Barbara, City of Goleta, and Caltrans. Together, these projects represent tens of millions of dollars in work to transform regional active transportation facilities. It will connect the Cities to the unincorporated County, UCSB, and multiple beaches visited by millions of people a year. The Modoc Multiuse Path and Obern trail are a vital link in this network. With a combination of projects to complete the missing segments of path separated from the road and improvements to the existing paths, this project will connect and enhance regionally transformational projects already under way by the Cities and Caltrans.

2. **Paving Farm to Market Corridors.** Northern Santa Barbara County provides billions of dollars in produce grown locally and shipped around the world each year. A safe, well-maintained transportation network is critical to farmers' ability to transport and deliver high-quality produce. This project would rehabilitate collector roadways in farming areas in the Santa Maria, Santa Ynez, and Lompoc valleys and improve safety by creating larger shoulder recovery areas where possible.

3. **Hollister Avenue Corridor Improvements.** This project will widen Hollister Avenue to improve traffic circulation and create a multimodal, complete street corridor. Stretching from the State Route 154 to San Antonio Road, this major arterial connects City of Santa Barbara to Goleta, UCSB, and Isla Vista. As a major regional link it serves as an alternative to US101, the only major north south route in the region. Improved vehicle circulation, better bicycle and pedestrian facilities (including ADA), improved bus infrastructure and complete street elements will transform this corridor into a walkable, bikeable business district with connections to the broader community. Project elements include replacing a culvert to improve fish passage and create space for full Class 2 bike lanes and pedestrian paths, replacing paved areas with planted medians and parkways, constructing new hardscape and sidewalks, and installation of complete street elements between Modoc and San Antonio Road.

After careful consideration of various countywide projects, it is recommended the Board provide direction on projects for submittal to Congressman Carbajal related to Community Project Funding and

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Transportation Reauthorization Bill Funding; as well as approve and authorize the Chair to sign funding request letters for Community Project Funding and Transportation Reauthorization Bill Funding.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

This agenda item is for information and administrative purposes only. There are no current budget impacts associated with this report.

Attachments:

Presentation – FY 2022 Federal Legislative Funding Requests

Attachment A – Letter of Request for Community Project Funding

Attachment B – Letter of Request for Transportation Reauthorization Bill Funding

Authored by:

Jasmine McGinty, Principal Analyst, County Executive Office