



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: Public Works
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: 09/18/12
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
Board of Directors, Water Agency

FROM: Department Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010
Director(s)
Contact Info: Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, 568-3436

SUBJECT: Approval for Grant Applications for Water Resources Projects, All Districts

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Authorize the Project Clean Water Manager or designee to seek and apply for water quality project and program grants from federal or state government agencies or other funding entities during FY 2012-2013; and
- b) Find that the proposed action is related to creation of a government funding mechanism and other fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and is therefore exempt from CEQA pursuant to Guideline Section 15378 (b)(4).

That the Board of Directors of the Water Agency:

- a) Authorize the Water Agency Manager or designee to seek and apply for water related project and program grants from federal or state government agencies or other funding entities during FY2012-2013; and
- b) Find that the proposed action is related to creation of a government funding mechanism and other fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and is therefore exempt from CEQA pursuant to Guideline Section 15378 (b)(4).

That the Board of Directors of the Flood Control District:

- a) Authorize the Engineering Manager or designee to seek and apply for flood control project and program grants from federal or state government agencies or other funding entities during FY 2012-13; and
- b) Find that the proposed action is related to creation of a government funding mechanism and other fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and is therefore exempt from CEQA pursuant to Guideline Section 15378 (b)(4).

Summary Text:

The Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department is comprised of three distinct programs which include Project Clean Water, Water Agency, and the Flood Control District. These programs provide a wide-range of services to the County and on an ongoing basis seeks grant funding from federal, state, and other sources to continue to help provide these services at the current level.

Since the inception of Santa Barbara County's Project Clean Water Program in 1999, the Water Resources Division has periodically obtained water quality and storm water management project grants from federal and state agencies. Funding through such grants has been an essential element in providing projects and programs to protect public health and to enhance environmental quality in Santa Barbara County watersheds and beaches.

The Water Agency has obtained water conservation project grants for the Santa Barbara County's "Regional Water Efficiency Program" since the 1990's from federal and state agencies. Funding through such grants has been an essential element in providing tools and programs to promote water conservation on a regional scale.

The Flood Control District has received several grants over last few years for a variety of flood control and fish passage projects. Without grant funding some of these projects would not have been financially feasible. Flood Control is requesting the authority to submit grant applications for flood control projects. The majority of these projects are included in the County's Capital Improvement Program (CIP). These projects are approved by the Board as part of the CIP and funding for these projects are also included in the adopted budget.

Background:

Grant solicitations are often issued with a very short time period for submitting applications. The time frame often does not allow for the Water Resources Division to obtain Board approval prior to applying. Approval of these recommendations would allow the Water Resources Division to apply for appropriate grants within the time constraints of the granting agencies. Staff would return to the Board for final approval and acceptance of funds if grant funding is awarded.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Narrative:

These recommendations have no fiscal impacts at this time. Water conservation and water pollution prevention and awareness are ongoing programs with program costs budgeted on an annual basis.

The Flood Control projects included in the CIP that have funding identified for this current fiscal year were included in the adopted budget under the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department as shown on page D-144 in the budget book.

However, potential grant funding was not included in the current budget so if grant funding is received, the Water Resources Division will return to the Board to accept the funding and any necessary Budget Revisions.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to send a copy of the minute order of these actions to the Flood Control District office, Attn: Christina Lopez.

Authored by: Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, 568-3436