



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: Community Services
Department No.: 057
For Agenda Of: July 16, 2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: No
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Jesús Armas, Community Services Director, (805)568-2467
Director
Contact Info: Garrett Wong, Climate Program Manager, (805) 390-2983
SUBJECT: Transformative Climate Community Grant

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

- a) Approve and authorize the Board Chair, Community Services Director and/or designee(s) to execute the grant agreement (Attachment B) to accept grant funds in the amount of \$1,084,660 from the Strategic Growth Council; and
- b) Determine that the above recommended actions are not a “Project” with the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) per CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5), since the recommended actions are organizational or administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

Staff requests Board approval to accept grant funds in the amount of \$1,084,660 from the Transformative Climate Communities Program from the Strategic Growth Council. The grant funding will support the development and pilot demonstration activities to reduce energy and water use, increase composting and food resilience, advance active transportation infrastructure in the Cuyama Valley.

Background:

California Strategic Growth Council’s Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) program offers grants for planning, development, and implementation of programs and projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change.

Staff from the Community Services, Planning & Development, and Public Works Departments met with stakeholders, including the Cuyama Valley Community Association, Family Resource Center, Blue Sky

Center, Quail Springs, Cuyama Valley School District, Cuyama Community Services District, and Community Environmental Council to discuss the TCC grant opportunity, identify community priorities, and develop an approach to prepare the application for a project development grant.

On July 18, 2023, the Board approved the submitting the grant application to the Strategic Growth Council. On December 14, 2023, the Strategic Growth Council voted to adopt the recommended grant awards.

Below is a summary of the roles and responsibilities each entity will carry out with the grant funding.

- The Sustainability Division and Long-Range Planning Division will administer the grant, manage project partners and ensure alignment with the forthcoming Environmental Justice Element. The Sustainability Division will partner with Blue Sky Center to develop and implement a pilot program to retrofit homes for energy efficiency and energy resilience. The Transportation Division will conduct design and engineering for pedestrian and biking projects previously identified through the County’s Active Transportation Plan.
- Blue Sky Center (BSC) will lead community outreach, engagement and coordination for the home retrofit pilot program. BSC will expand its program to construct victory gardens, upgrade outdated electrical infrastructure and assess the feasibility of establishing a community food hub through a cold storage facility.
- Quail Springs will lead community outreach, engagement and coordination for piloting residential greywater systems and home composting systems and administer a water quality consumer survey to address barriers to reducing bottled water consumption.
- Community Environmental Council Funding opportunities for residents will come in the form of participation incentives, payment for childcare and catering services and part-time jobs for ongoing community maintenance and inspection of residential greywater and composting systems installed.

The term of the grant will be two years from grant execution, which will be set once the State executes the agreement. Staff anticipate the term will be from August 2024 to August 2026.

Performance Measure:

N/A

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes, funding included in fiscal year 2024-25. **Special Instructions:**

The Strategic Growth Council will route the agreement for signature via DocuSign, or a similar e-signature program. The Sustainability Division will provide a fully executed agreement to the Clerk.

Attachments:

Attachment A – July 18, 2023 Board Meeting

Attachment B – Transformative Climate Communities Grant Agreement

Authored by:

Garrett Wong, Climate Program Manager