

**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:** 6/10/02  
**Department Name:** HCD  
**Department No.:** 990  
**Agenda Date:** 6/24/02  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:**  
**Continued Item:** NO  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Ed Moses, Director  
Housing and Community Development

**STAFF CONTACT:** Tim Wong  
Ext. 3523

**SUBJECT:** 2003 Community Development Block Grant P/TA Application (1<sup>st</sup> District)

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**Recommendation(s):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt the attached resolution (Attachment A) approving a 2003 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Planning/Technical Assistance (P/TA) application to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and authorize the County Administrator to submit the 2003 CDBG P/TA application to HCD for the preparation of a study to identify and analyze a site for a potential farmworker housing project in the South County focusing on the Carpinteria Valley and a Countywide survey of farmworker housing needs for Santa Barbara County (See Attachment B, Project Description).
2. Authorize the County Administrator to sign all documents required for submittal of the CDBG application.

**Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:**

The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with Goal No. 7. A Community that Fosters the Safety and Well-Being of Families and Children.

**Executive Summary and Discussion:**

The State of California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) CDBG Program has issued a Notice of Funds Available. Under the 2003 cycle of State CDBG funding, the County can apply for up to 2 non-competitive P/TA Grants. A P/TA Grant applicant may receive up to \$35,000 per grant application. The preparation of a study to identify and analyze a site for a potential farmworker housing

project in the South County focusing on the Carpinteria Valley and a Countywide survey of farmworker housing needs for Santa Barbara County are eligible activities under the CDBG Planning/Technical Assistance Program.

The County Housing and Community Development Departments is proposing to prepare a site feasibility study in cooperation with County Planning and Development for a potential farmworker housing development in Carpinteria. There is an incredible demand for farmworker housing throughout the County. There is an opportunity for this type of development in Carpinteria however there are many issues that must be addressed prior to development of any project on the identified site. The feasibility study will analyze the numerous issues and determine if the site is appropriate for this type of housing.

The second part of the study is a survey of the needs and preferences of the farmworkers themselves. In the past, development of farmworker housing has been dictated by the funding source. Although it provided funding to develop housing, at times, the funding requirements severely limited the farmworkers' options. In addition, the survey is important because currently much of the information about the farmworker population has been third party sources or anecdotal. This survey will help provide some empirical data about housing needs for this population. This information will help the Department and developers make informed decisions regarding issues such as site location, design and unit mix for proposed farmworker projects.

The need for this type of housing is clear. The agricultural sector provides over 12,000 jobs, however a large majority earn less than \$20,000 a year. Employers are finding it increasingly difficult to hire sufficient numbers of laborers to harvest their crops because they cannot afford to live in the County's high cost housing markets and still earn a reasonable amount.

A total of \$1,750 of the \$35,000 application request is programmed to reimburse the County staff time for activities related to the administration of this grant.

#### **Mandates and Service Levels:**

State regulations governing the CDBG program require the County to hold a public hearing before submitting an application for project funding.

#### **Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

This approval of the CDBG application will make the County eligible to receive a \$35,000 planning grant from the State of California. The State requires at minimum a 4% cash match from the requesting jurisdiction for this P/TA Grant. County HCD will contribute \$700 from the Housing Finance and Development Budget, fund 0065. County Planning and Development will contribute \$700 from their Regional Planning funds.

This grant will utilize in-house staff, therefore, funding from this grant will partially offset the salary of the Housing Program Specialist who will primarily administer this P/TA grant.

#### **Special Instructions:**

The Authorizing Resolution requires THREE original signatures. Please prepare two certified copies of the

Authorizing Resolution and return to Lisa Snider in room 105. One resolution will be forwarded to HCD; the other is retained in the County Administration files. The Housing and Community Development will provide public notice.

**Concurrence:**

Planning and Development