



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: Flood Control
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: November 19, 2019
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Directors, Flood Control and Water Conservation District

FROM: Department Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, (805) 568-3010
Director(s)
Contact Info: Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, (805) 568-3436

SUBJECT: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Application Approval, First Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Public Works Director or designee to:
- i. Sign the attached Local Match Fund Commitment Letter for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program #DR-4431 for the Cold Springs Debris Basin Expansion Project in the Federal Share requested amount of \$1,503,000;
 - ii. Sign the attached Local Match Fund Commitment Letter for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program #DR-4431 for the Buena Vista Creek Debris Basin Project in the Federal Share requested amount of \$2,998,624;
 - iii. If awarded, enter into a grant agreement for the Cold Springs Debris Basin Expansion Project and all subsequent amendments to the grant agreement in an amount not to exceed \$2,004,220, for a term not to exceed thirty-six (36) months, subject to the review and consent of County Counsel, Risk Management, and the Auditor-Controller;
 - iv. If awarded, enter into a grant agreement for the Buena Vista Creek Debris Basin Project and all subsequent amendments to the grant agreement in an amount not to exceed \$3,998,171, for a term not to exceed thirty-six (36) months, subject to the review and consent of County Counsel, Risk Management, and the Auditor-Controller; and

- v. Make any certifications and assurances that may be required by the grant agreements;
- b) Direct District staff, in the event that the grants are awarded, to return to the Board of Directors to establish required budget appropriations; and
- c) Find that the proposed actions are organizational or administrative activities related to the creation of a government funding mechanism which will not result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment and does not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and are therefore not projects under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Guideline Section 15378 (b)(4) and (b)(5).

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to approve and authorize the Public Works Director to sign the Local Match Fund Commitment Letters, execute certifications and assurances, and enter into grant agreements and all subsequent amendments for funding under the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Section 404 for Major Disaster Declaration # DR-4431 (California Severe Winter Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides). The Local Match Fund Commitment Letters are included as Attachment A and B.

The Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) filed Notices of Interest (NOI) for the Buena Vista Creek Debris Basin Project on August 1, 2019, and for the Cold Springs Debris Basin Expansion Project on August 8, 2019. Cal OES reviewed the NOIs and invited the District to prepare grant applications for consideration of funding for construction costs.

The District intends to request HMGP funds for the Cold Springs Debris Basin Expansion Project in the amount of \$1,503,000. The non-Federal funding match is anticipated to be \$501,220. The total project cost is anticipated to be \$2,004,220.

The District intends to request HMGP funds for the Buena Vista Creek Debris Basin Project in the amount of \$2,998,624. The non-Federal funding match is anticipated to be \$999,547. The total project cost is anticipated to be \$3,998,171.

Background:

The January 9, 2018, Thomas Fire Debris Flow Event damaged and overwhelmed several Flood Control facilities. FEMA's HMGP will fund projects that mitigate the effects of future natural disasters. In California, these funds are administered by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) HMGP Unit. The Cal OES HMGP Unit offers Federal funding for projects at a 75% HMGP and 25% non-Federal match, with no monetary limit to the Federal cost share funding request. The Cold Springs Basin and Buena Vista Creek Basin Project sites are located in areas heavily impacted by the Thomas Fire Debris Flow Event. Applications will be submitted under DR-4431 (California Severe Winter Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides). The State will evaluate the applications then submit them to FEMA for review. If approved for funding, the Public Works Director or designee will execute grant agreements with Cal OES.

The District previously submitted an application for the Colds Springs Debris Basin Improvement Project. CalOES approved this subapplication and forwarded it to FEMA under FM-5189 (2017 Wall Fire, Fire Management Assistance Declaration), where it currently remains under review. The Cold Springs Debris Basin Improvement Project addresses improvements to the debris basin dam, whereas this current DR-4431 application seeks funding for expansion of the debris basin line and grade.

The District also previously submitted an application for the Buena Vista Creek Debris Basin Project under HMGP Pre-Disaster Mitigation program. This application was denied by FEMA who encouraged the District to resubmit under future disaster funding opportunities. Submitting applications for subsequent HMGP disaster funding opportunities is consistent with Cal OES and FEMA protocol, under which a project application may be submitted under separate disaster numbers, should funding become limited under one funding allocation while becoming available under another funding allocation.

On April 9, 2019 the Board of Directors adopted a resolution entitled, "Designation of Subrecipient's Agent Resolution" for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HGMP) Section 404, which authorized the Public Works Director or designee as authorized agent to submit grant applications and all required attachments, execute certifications and assurances, and enter into grant agreements and all subsequent amendments for a period of up to 3 years. A copy of the Resolution is included as Attachment C.

The FEMA HMGP Section 404 is a competitive program. If FEMA approves the grant applications, the projects must be completed within 36 months of grant award.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative:

If grant funding is awarded, a budget revision request will come to your Board for approval to accept the grant revenue and to allocate funding for the projects. Matching funds will be from the South Coast Flood Zone. The District will pursue additional funding sources for assistance with local match costs.

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.

Attachments:

Attachment A- Copy of Cold Springs Debris Basin Expansion Project Local Match Fund Commitment Letter

Attachment B- Copy of Buena Vista Creek Debris Basin Project Local Match Fund Commitment Letter

Attachment C- Copy of Executed Designation of Subrecipient's Agent Resolution

Authored by:

Karen Sullivan, Civil Engineer, (805) 568-3458