

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 4/15/04
Department Name: CAO
Department No.: 012
Agenda Date: 4/27/04
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: YES
If Yes, date from: 4/13/04

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Michael F. Brown
County Administrator
STAFF CONTACT: Jim Laponis, Deputy County Administrator
Lori Norton, Analyst
SUBJECT: Medical Marijuana Identification Card Program Funding

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the Public Health Department's request to expend \$12,200, from the department's adopted fiscal year 2003-04 budget for startup expenditures for the countywide local Medical Marijuana Identification Card Program, which was approved by the Board on April 13, 2004
2. Direct the Public Health Department to develop and return to the Board, by July 1, 2004, a full-cost recovery fee resolution for the local Medical Marijuana Identification Card Program

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendations are primarily aligned with Goal No. 2: A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

On April 13, 2004, the Board approved a recommendation by the Public Health Department to develop and implement a local Medical Marijuana Identification Program by July 1, 2004. The startup cost to implement the program is estimated to be \$12,200. This includes the cost of an ID Card scanner/printer, two digital cameras, and the first years' maintenance and supplies for the equipment. Public Health recommended the Board authorize a transfer of funds from the County General Fund contingency to pay for the program startup costs.

Due to concern regarding the use of General Fund contingency to pay for the program, the Board directed to County Administrator to return to the Board on April 27th with recommendations for alternate funding for the Medical Marijuana ID Card Program. In discussing alternate funding opportunities with the Public Health Department, it was agreed that consistent with County policy, program fees should be established at a level sufficient to provide full cost recovery for the program. As such, Public Health will return to the Board by July 1, 2004, with a full-cost recovery fee resolution for the Medical Marijuana ID Card Program. The initial program development costs (\$12,200) will be funded within the existing Public Health Department budget and will be recovered as part of the proposed fee

structure. The recommended action will not adversely impact any other program, including programs for children or the elderly, in the Public Health Department.

Mandates and Service Levels:

At present, the Medical Marijuana ID Card Program is not a mandated program. Upon establishment of the State Department of Health Services statewide Medical Marijuana ID Program, anticipated to occur in January 2005, the County will be mandated under California Health and Safety Code, Sections 11362.7-11362.83 to provide the services.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

As discussed in the Executive Summary, the Public Health Department will fund the \$12,200 initial program cost by shifting dollars from other programs. The Department will return to your Board, by July 1, 2004, with a full cost recovery fee resolution for the Medical Marijuana ID Card Program that will also recoup the \$12,200 initial program startup costs.

Concurrence: Public Health Department

C: Roger Heroux, Director of Public Health