



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: Second District Office  
Department No.:  
For Agenda Of: September 16, 2014  
Placement: Departmental  
Estimated Time: 30 minutes  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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TO: Select\_Board(s)  
FROM: Board Member(s) Supervisor Janet Wolf *Janet Wolf*  
Contact Info: Mary O'Gorman  
568-2191  
SUBJECT: Request from Goleta Mayor for meeting re: Revenue Neutrality

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County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

n/a

Recommended Actions:

- a. Authorize Supervisor Janet Wolf and specified County staff to engage in a conversation with City of Goleta Mayor Mike Bennett, and Assemblymember Das Williams, regarding the existing Revenue Neutrality Agreement (RNA) between the City of Goleta and County of Santa Barbara, as requested by Goleta Mayor Bennett.
- b. Determine pursuant to CEQA Guideline 15378(b)(4) that the above action is not a project subject to CEQA, because it is a government fiscal activity that does not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

On July 23, 2014, Goleta Mayor Michael Bennett sent a letter to Supervisor Janet Wolf (see attached), asking for a meeting with her and Assemblymember Das Williams and representatives from the City and County "to discuss the City's RNA with the County". In early July, Assemblymember Williams' office contacted Supervisor Wolf, relaying the request from Mayor Bennett. Given the history of the County's involvement in this issue, Supervisor Wolf is seeking concurrence of from the Board of Supervisors to participate in such a meeting.

Background:

In 2001, pursuant to Government Code section 56815, the proponents of Goleta cityhood entered into a Revenue Neutrality Agreement with the County of Santa Barbara. This agreement followed extensive LAFCO and BOS hearings, fiscal analysis, and culminated in a vote of the electorate. On two occasions in the past several years, the City of Goleta has requested "renegotiation" and the County has entered into confidential discussions with the City.

Section 6.2 of the Revenue Neutrality Agreement states that the City of Goleta and the County of Santa Barbara acknowledge that circumstances may arise which may call for or require good faith negotiations for the amendment of the Revenue Neutrality Agreement. Section 6.2 states that examples of these circumstances include events such as: the passage of certain statutes that materially alter the way in which revenues to the City or County are paid or allocated; unanticipated loss of revenue to the City by circumstances outside the City's control; certain natural disasters; and the discovery of errors used in the development of the Comprehensive Fiscal Analysis of the City's incorporation. County Counsel has indicated that the present request from Mayor Bennett does not state the occurrence of any event that would require the County to meet and confer with the City about potentially amending the Revenue Neutrality Agreement, but that the County nonetheless could voluntarily participate in a conversation facilitated by Assemblymember Williams. Supervisor Wolf is willing to participate in such a conversation, and would also welcome the participation of a fellow board member. Other participants from the County could include CEO Miyasato and/or Auditor Robert Geis.

**Performance Measure:**

n/a

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

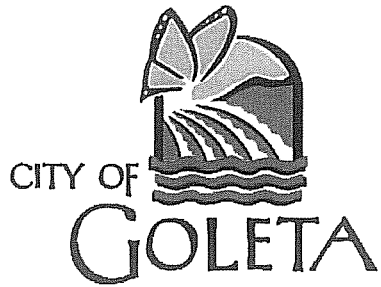
Budgeted: No fiscal or facilities impact from current recommended action to engage in a conversation.

**Attachments:**

Letter from Mayor Bennett dated July 23, 2014  
Response to Mayor Bennett dated August 4, 2014

**Authored by:**

Mary E. O'Gorman,  
Chief of Staff, Second District



July 23, 2014

**CITY COUNCIL**

Michael T. Bennett  
*Mayor*

Paula Perotte  
*Mayor Pro Tempore*

Roger S. Aceves  
*Councilmember*

Jim Farr  
*Councilmember*

Tony Vallejo  
*Councilmember*

**INTERIM  
CITY MANAGER**  
Michelle Greene

Janet Wolf  
Second District Supervisor  
County of Santa Barbara  
105 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RE: Meeting Request to Discuss the Revenue Neutrally Agreement

Dear Supervisor Wolf:

I am writing to respectfully request a meeting with you to discuss the City's Revenue Neutrally Agreement (RNA) with the County. It is at the request of Assembly member Das Williams that we look to a local solution and convene a meeting of parties involved to see if we can't reach an agreement.

As you are aware the topic of RNA is of great importance to the City. We look forward to reopening discussion on this matter which is critical to the financial health of our community. I am requesting a small group of participants including Assembly member Das Williams, County CEO Mona Miyasato, and Interim City Manager Michelle Greene to attend this meeting.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. My staff will follow up with your scheduler to identify a convenient time for a meeting; any Friday in August will work for me. In the interim, if you or your staff has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Michelle Greene at 805-961-7522.

Sincerely,

Michael T. Bennett  
Mayor

cc: Das Williams, Assembly Member  
Hillary Blackerby, Office of Assemblymember Das Williams  
Mona Miyasato, County CEO  
Michelle Greene, Interim City Manager

**JANET WOLF**

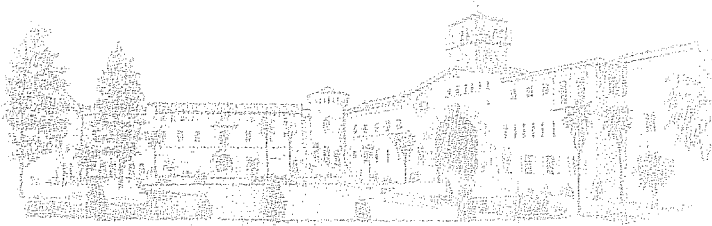
County Supervisor, Second District

**MARY E. O'GORMAN**

Chief of Staff

**HILARY R. CAMPBELL**

Board Administrative Assistant



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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[www.countyofsb.org/bos/wolf](http://www.countyofsb.org/bos/wolf)

## SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

August 4, 2014

Michael Bennett

Mayor, City of Goleta

130 Cremona Drive, Suite B

Goleta, CA 93117

Dear Mayor Bennett,

I want to personally confirm receipt of your letter dated July 23, 2014 regarding the scheduling of a meeting between certain County and City representatives and Assemblymember Das Williams, regarding the RNA.

When Assemblymember Williams' staff contacted my office last month about your request, I responded that while I am personally willing to take part in such a meeting, I would first need to seek formal Board support and authorization, as well as Counsel's input. When we return from break later this month, I will work with staff and counsel regarding the possibility of scheduling this matter for Board consideration.

Sincerely,

Janet Wolf

Santa Barbara County Supervisor

Second District

cc: Mona Miyasato, Santa Barbara County CEO  
Mike Ghizzoni, Santa Barbara County Counsel  
Michelle Greene, City of Goleta Interim City Manager