



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA LETTER

Department Name:

County Executive Office

Department Number:

012

Agenda Date:

07/07/2026

Placement:

Administrative Agenda

Estimated Time:

N/A

Continued Item:

No

If Yes, date from:

N/A

Vote Required:

Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director(s): Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer

DocuSigned by:

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CONTACT: Jeff Frapwell, Assistant County Executive Officer; Paul Clementi, Budget Director

SUBJECT: Adoption of Reimbursement Resolution for Proposed Certificates of Participation (COP) Financing

Concurrences:

County Counsel Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Adopt a resolution (Attachment A) authorizing the reimbursement of expenses incurred by the County in conjunction with the expansion project at Northen Branch Jail (NBJ) from the proceeds of a Certificates of Participation (COP) financing; and

- b) Determine that the above actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5) because they are administrative activities of government that will not result in a direct or indirect physical change to the environment.

Summary Text:

On April 17, 2026, the Board directed staff to develop financing options and debt issuance strategies for the construction of 1.5 new housing units at the Northern Branch Jail (NBJ). This item is before the Board requesting adoption of a Reimbursement Resolution to preserve the County's ability to reimburse eligible project expenditures incurred prior to the debt issuance. Adoption of the Reimbursement Resolution does not obligate the Board to issue debt, expend funds, or proceed with the proposed financing. Staff will return to the Board during the next fiscal year to seek approval of the proposed debt issuance for the construction project at NBJ.

Discussion:

The proposed Reimbursement Resolution (Attachment A) declares the County's official intent to reimburse project expenditures incurred before the issuance of debt for the new housing construction project at NBJ. Adoption of the Reimbursement Resolution is an important step in the financing process, as certain project expenditures are expected to be incurred prior to debt issuance and, absent a reimbursement resolution, may not be eligible for reimbursement from future debt proceeds.

The Reimbursement Resolution does not authorize the issuance of debt or commit the County to any expenditure. Adoption of this Reimbursement Resolution ensures the County maintains maximum financial flexibility as project planning and development move forward.

Background:

In July 2020, the County entered into a Stipulated Judgment requiring implementation of a comprehensive remedial plan to address conditions within the County's jail system. As part of its efforts to comply with the Stipulated Judgment and Remedial Plan, the County has evaluated long-term correctional facility needs and developed strategies to improve housing capacity, operational efficiency, and compliance with applicable standards.

On April 1, 2025, the Board directed staff to finalize project design and issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the construction of 1.5 new housing units at the Northern Branch Jail (NBJ). The proposed housing units are intended to partially offset the loss of bed capacity associated with the planned discontinuation of housing operations in portions of the Main Jail while retaining the Inmate Reception Center (IRC).

Following additional evaluation of project alternatives, on April 17, 2026, the Board directed staff to proceed with finalizing the project design, identifying and selecting potential Design-Build teams, and developing debt financing strategies for the preferred alternative, which includes construction of 1.5 new housing units at NBJ. Staff are now advancing the project development and related financing activities to support implementation of the Board's direction and the County's long-term correctional facility needs.

On June 2, the County's Debt Advisory Committee received information about the Northern Branch Jail project and voted to approve the development of this Reimbursement Resolution.

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Attachments:

Attachment A – Reimbursement Resolution (Signature Required)

Contact Information:

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