



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

Submitted on:  
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: Planning & Development  
Department No.: 053  
Agenda Date: March 10, 2026  
Placement: Administrative Agenda  
Estimated Time: N/A  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Director(s): Lisa Plowman, Director, Planning and Development  
Contact Info: Errin Briggs, Deputy Director, Energy, Minerals & Compliance Division  
**SUBJECT:** Coastal Resource Mitigation Fund (CRMF) Grant Contract – Grant Contract with the Lompoc Unified School District, Fourth Supervisorial District

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the attached Coastal Resources Mitigation Fund contract with the Lompoc Unified School District for the Cabrillo High School Aquarium Phase 2 Gallery Annex construction project in the amount of \$90,000 for the period of April 1, 2026 through June 18, 2026 (Attachment A);
- b) Delegate the Director of Planning and Development, or their designee, the authority to take the following actions, subject to the Board's ability to rescind this delegated authority at any time:
  - i. Extend performances in accordance with Section 3 in Attachment A, for up to one year for good cause;
  - ii. Approve minor project changes in accordance with Section 5 in Attachment A, including changes to project descriptions, reduction in the overall project budgets or change in budget items of 10 percent or more; and
  - iii. Terminate the contracts in accordance with Sections 4 and 15 in Attachment A.
- c) Determine that allocation of the Lompoc Unified School District contract is not a "project" subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4).

**Summary Text:**

This Board item recommends the Board execute a Coastal Resource Mitigation Fund (CRMF) contract with the Lompoc Unified School District to fund a project at Cabrillo High School. As stated in the CRMF guidelines, the County Board of Supervisors determine how CRMF monies are awarded and, therefore, all contracts allocating CRMF grants require Board approval. The Lompoc Unified School District was awarded \$90,000 from the 2024-2025 CRMF Cycle by the Board on February 4, 2025. This Board Letter requests authorization to execute a contract with the recipient and distribute the grant funds.

**Discussion:**

Attachment A contains the proposed contract with the Lompoc Unified School District, providing a \$90,000 grant for the Cabrillo High School Aquarium Phase 2 Gallery Annex project to construct the second phase of a three-phase plan to expand and upgrade the Cabrillo High School aquarium. Implementing the project will develop a cohesive gallery with multiple habitats and displays. The project will allow the school’s coastal wetlands exhibit and educational program to expand significantly. Attachment A includes provisions that delegate the Director of Planning & Development or their designee authority to manage minor administrative tasks related to these contracts (outlined in Recommended Action c).

The approval and authorization of the Lompoc Unified School District contract is not a “project” subject to environmental review under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), as the action consists of administrative and fiscal activities of government that will not result in potentially significant impacts on the environment (Attachment B).

**Background:**

The County established the CRMF in 1987 to address and help mitigate environmental impacts from offshore oil and gas development projects on coastal resources. The CRMF provides mitigation for impacts to specific coastal resources including: recreation, tourism, aesthetics, and environmentally-sensitive resources. As part of the CRMF program, offshore oil and gas owner/operators pay annual fees into the fund, and applicants can apply for grants every two years to receive funding for projects that protect or enhance certain coastal resources within the County. Applicants eligible to compete for CRMF awards include public agencies, municipalities, special districts, and non-profit organizations. The CRMF is managed by the County Executive Office and the Planning and Development Department’s Energy, Minerals, and Compliance Division.

At the February 4, 2025 Board of Supervisors hearing, the Board awarded seven project grants from the combined 2024-2025 CRMF cycle and directed staff to return to the Board with the contractual agreements for execution. The contract in Attachment A executes the 2024-2025 CRMF award for the Lompoc Unified School District project described above. This Board Agenda Letter outlines the allocation for the contract.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Grantee	Funding Source	FY 2025-2026
Lompoc Unified School District	CRMF Fund 2024-2025 cycle	\$90,000

Budgeted: Yes

A total of \$90,000 will be used from the approved CRMF 2024-2025 award cycle. Funding for the CRMF is budgeted on page D-319 of the County of Santa Barbara Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget, and is fully supported by funds in the existing CRMF program. The contract with the Lompoc Unified School District would not require any ongoing costs. The CRMF program is funded entirely by mitigation fees paid annually by the Point Arguello, the Santa Ynez Unit, and the Point Pedernales Projects, and creates no fiscal impact on the County’s General Fund, or any State, Federal, or other fees.

Administration of the Fund includes preparation of the annual status report; solicitation and evaluation of grant proposals and recommendation of grant awards to the Board of Supervisors; preparation, monitoring and enforcement of grant contracts; preparation and monitoring of the Fund’s budget; reassessment of CRMF fees; and responding to public and applicant inquiries. All administrative tasks are completed by staff and funded fully by the CRMF fund balance.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>FY 2025-2026</b>	<b>Total</b>
CRMF Fund	\$90,000	<b>\$90,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>

**Key Contract Risks:**

Risk analyses of the contract in Attachment A determined that the contracts would be a low risk: the contract amount is less than \$100,000; the complexities of the contract requirement is low; and the contract is not controversial.

**Special Instructions:**

Clerk of the Board will forward two copies of the executed contract (including Exhibits A and B of the contract) to Katie Nall of the Planning and Development Department, Energy, Minerals & Compliance Division, who will mail the copies of the contracts to the grantees and request the Auditor Controller to pay the contract awards.

**Attachments:**

**Attachment A** – Contract with Lompoc Unified School District

**Attachment B** – Notice of Exemption

**Authored by:**

Katie Nall, Planner, (805) 884-8050  
Planning and Development Department