

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
AGENDA BOARD
LETTER**

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



Agenda Number:
Prepared: **03/28/02**
Department: **Public Works**
Department No.: **054/02/03**
Agenda Date: **April 9, 2002**
Placement: **Administrative**
Estimated Time: **N/A**
Continued Item: **No**

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Phillip M. Demery
Director of Public Works

**STAFF
CONTACT:** Bret Stewart, 568-3232
Traffic Section Manager

Wilson Hubbell, 568-3046
Senior Environmental Planner

SUBJECT: Acceptance of LED Lighting Grant from the California Energy Commission and Request for Extension of Grant Timing. All Supervisorial Districts.

RECOMMENDATIONS: C.A. Recommendation: _____

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Adopt the attached resolution accepting a \$109,330 grant from the California Energy Commission and requesting that the CEC extend the term of the grant for an additional six months.
- B. Authorize the expenditure of \$215,853 from the County Road Fund for the replacement of incandescent traffic signal bulbs with high efficiency light emitting diodes, \$109,330 of which will be reimbursed by the accepted grant.

ALIGNMENT WITH BOARD STRATEGIC PLAN:

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Strategic Plan Goal number 1: An efficient government able to anticipate and respond effectively to the needs of the community.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & DISCUSSION:

The County Public Works Department has a policy of installing energy efficient light emitting diode (LED) signal lighting at all new traffic signal locations and replacing incandescent signal lighting with LEDs at all existing traffic signal locations, as time and budget will allow. The California Energy Commission (CEC) has established a grant program to help fund energy efficiency projects that can reduce peak electricity demand. The County's program of replacing incandescent signal lighting qualifies as such an energy efficiency project because new LEDs use substantially less electricity than incandescent bulbs.

Accordingly, the Public Works Department applied to the CEC for a \$109,330 Energy Efficiency Project grant to fund roughly 50% of our signal lighting replacement effort. Shortly thereafter, the County was informed by the CEC that while our proposed project did qualify for a grant, their budget for this program was already expended. The CEC budget has now been replenished such that Santa Barbara County's grant request can be funded, but our project will now take longer to complete than originally

expected because LED manufacturers are flooded with orders from numerous governmental agencies that previously received CEC funding to do incandescent-to-LED traffic signal upgrades.

The Public Works Department discussed this matter with CEC staff and found that CEC is providing time extensions to a number of agencies because of problems regarding backlogged deliveries of LED equipment. Thus the attached resolution accepts the \$109,330 grant from the CEC and authorizes the Public Works Director to request that the term of the grant be extended by six months.

MANDATES & SERVICE LEVELS:

No new mandates will be created by adoption of the attached resolution, but service levels can be expected to decline in the future because LED traffic signal lighting lasts longer and needs to be replaced less frequently than incandescent light bulbs.

FACILITIES AND FISCAL IMPACT:

There will be no negative facilities impact if this recommendation is approved. There will be a long-term positive facilities impact because County traffic signals will require less maintenance in the future.

There will be a temporary fiscal impact to the County Road Fund of \$215,853, which is the total cost of the project. The CEC grant is reimbursable (the County must complete all the work to be funded by the grant and submit receipts to the State for reimbursement), so about 50% of the project cost will be returned by the State upon project completion. The \$106,523 remainder of the project cost is considered to be a matching fund that must be provided by the County as in-kind services to install the LEDs.

Based on CEC projections, the completed LED traffic signal project will have the potential to save the County \$63,187 annually in reduced energy costs.

The Budget Unit for this recommendation is 054\02\03, Fund 0015, Account 7121.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please forward one copy of the Minute Order to the attention of Kathleen Dowd, Public Works Department Traffic Section.

CONCURRENCES:

County Counsel
Auditor/Controller

c: R. Camozzi, PW Admin
D. Manuel, PW Accounting
File: B600.50.15

Attachment: 1) Resolution