



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: Fire Department
Department No.: 031
For Agenda Of: March 11, 2025
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Mark A. Hartwig, Fire Chief / Fire Warden (805) 681-5500
Director(s)
Contact Info: Jennie Brunick, CFAO, 805-681-5506

SUBJECT: Acceptance of Cash and Non-Cash Donation Greater than \$10,000 from One805

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: CEO Budget

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board Supervisors:

- a) Authorize the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District (Fire District) to accept a non-cash donation from One805 of eighteen (18) Starlink Mini Kits and eighteen (18) Starlink Mini Mounts, for a total of \$10,252.40; and
- b) Authorize the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District (Fire District) to accept a cash donation from One805 of \$39,747.60; and
- c) Approve Budget Revision Request #BJE-0010304(Attachment C); and
- d) Determine that these activities are exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review per CEQA Guideline Section 15061 (b) (3), since it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activities may have a significant effect on the environment.

Summary Text:

The recommended action by the Board of Supervisors to authorize the acceptance of the referenced non-cash donation is in accordance with California Government Code Section 25355, and Policies & Procedures for the Acceptance of Donations and Gifts to the County.

The Fire District is requesting Board approval to accept a non-cash donation, from One805, of eighteen (18) Starlink Mini Kits valued at \$8,708.36 and eighteen (18) Starlink Mini Mounts, valued at \$1,544.04, for a total of \$10,252.40.

In addition, the Fire District is seeking Board approval to accept a cash donation from One805 of \$39,747.60.

This donation will support the Fire District's capability of providing uninterrupted emergency service delivery across Santa Barbara County.

Background:

In November of 2024, The Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District submitted a Grant Application to One805, a local 501(c)(3) corporation who generously supports first responder agencies from across Santa Barbara County. The grant request included the purchase of 19 Starlink Mini Units, 19 Starlink Mini Mounts, and additional funding to support the Starlink Roam monthly service cost to activate the units for a period of one year, for a total cost of \$53,541.38.

In December of 2024, The Fire District was advised that the grant proposal had been accepted for a total funding amount of \$50,000.00. The Fire District is seeking Board approval to accept the cash and non-cash donation totaling \$50,000.00 from One805.

This request fulfills an urgent need for uninterrupted connectivity countywide. On numerous occasions, the Fire District has experienced limitations with connectivity due to active incidents or natural disasters. During the Montecito Debris flow, and other incidents over recent years, Fire District personnel had connectivity issues due to fiber networks, hard lines, and/or power going down for long periods of time. A recent fire in Buellton shut down all connectivity to the entire Santa Ynez Valley for 48 hours. These types of interruptions in connectivity result in significant delays in the sharing of information which can have detrimental effects on first responders and the public.

Trials were conducted to determine the best tool for better connectivity and to limit potential interruptions in emergency service delivery. It was determined that Starlink was the best tool to fulfill this need. The Starlink technology will not only better equip the Fire District with uninterrupted emergency service delivery during fire operations, but it will also be used to support local hospitals, Sheriff, community evacuations and notifications. Many agencies throughout the state, to include CAL FIRE, USFS, and many local governments are using Starlink to ensure consistent connectivity.

The number of units in the proposal was adjusted to 18 to accommodate a unit with mount on each of the following vehicles: Deputy Chief Vehicles (2), Division Chief Vehicles (3), Battalion Chief Vehicles (11) and Fire Crew Superintendent Vehicles (2).

The remaining cash donation of \$39,747.60 will support the monthly service costs for the 18 units for an estimated one year. There are no additional ongoing maintenance or operations expenses associated with these units. The Starlink units will ultimately replace Fire District satellite phones, providing better interoperability among federal, state, and private agencies. Currently, Fire pays \$22,452 annually for 24 satellite phones. Fire will budget for the additional cost associated with continued service on the Starlink units after the One805 grant funds have been expended.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Special Instructions:

None.

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other: Donation & Grant			\$ 50,000.00
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00

Narrative:

One805, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, purchased the Starlink Mini Kits and Mounts for donation to the County. The cash donation will be sent in the form of a check to the Fire District. The referenced donation is not budgeted and will be an increase in appropriations. The associated Budget Revision is attached. The Starlink Mini Kits, mounts, and monthly service fees will be accounted for as a one-time appropriation of Miscellaneous Revenue-Other Capital Donations.

Attachments:

- A. One805 2025 Proposal
- B. Invoices from West Marine and Amazon
- C. Budget Revision Request #BJE-0010304

Authored by:

Jennie Brunick, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer

cc:

Mark Hartwig, Fire Chief / Fire Warden
Anthony Stornetta, Deputy Chief of Operations
Diane Sauer, Finance Manager