



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: Community Services
Department No.: 057
For Agenda Of: April 5, 2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department George Chapjian, Community Services Director
Director 805-568-2467
Contact Info: Garrett Wong, Climate Program Manager
805-390-2983
SUBJECT: Resilience Hub Grants

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Risk Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions: Approve and authorize the Community Services Director or designee(s) to execute grant agreements to accept grant funds in the amount of \$25,000 from Pacific Gas and Electric and \$200,000 from the California Resilience Challenge;

- B. Approve Budget Revision Request BRR-0008099 (Attachment A) necessary to adjust appropriations for the receipt of unanticipated Grant Revenues in the amount of \$225,000 (4/5 vote); and
- C. Determine that the above recommended actions are not the approval of a project that is subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15378(b)(4), finding that the actions are the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment, and 15378(b)(5), finding that the actions are organizational or administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text: Staff requests Board approval to accept grant funds in the amount of \$25,000 from Pacific Gas and Electric and \$200,000 from the California Resilience Challenge. Grant funding would be used to engage communities to develop conceptual design for at least three pilot Resilience Hubs (two North county, one South county) and developing a Resilience Hub toolkit.

Background: Resilience Hubs are community-serving facilities augmented with resilient energy systems, like solar and battery storage, to support residents and coordinate resource distribution and services before, during, or after a natural hazard event.

Community stakeholders have expressed strong interest in resilience hubs. From late 2019 to early 2021, the Community Environmental Council, in partnership with the County, convened a series of Climate Resilience Roundtables. Resilience hubs were a key priority that emerged from the more than 700 ideas and solutions that more than 580 participants collectively generated.

The Sustainability Division applied for and received two grants in the sum total of two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$225,000) from the California Resilience Challenge (CRC) and Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) for the purposes of establishing at least three pilot Resilience Hubs (two North county, one South county) and developing a Resilience Hub toolkit. The Mixteco Indigena Community Organizing Project (MICOP) and Community Environmental Council (CEC) supported the County's grant applications and will serve as community engagement partners, in North and South county respectively.

The grant funds will be used to engage local governments and community members to:

- Contextualize the analysis from the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment at the community level;
- Identify and select locations for pilot hub sites;
- Conduct site assessments and prepare feasibility studies for resilient energy systems;
- Develop a governance framework for decision-making, management, and operations; and
- Develop a toolkit for future resilience hubs to be established.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts: Budgeted: Pending approval of Recommended Action B above, approval of the Budget Revision Request is necessary for the receipt of unanticipated Grant Revenues.

Staffing Impacts:

Special Instructions:

Please send one copy of the minute order to Ashley Watkins.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Budget Revision Request 0008099

Attachment B – PG&E Resilience Hubs Grant Program 2021 Grantee Progress Report Plan

Attachment C – RHGP Feasibility Project 2021 Final Presentation Guidelines

Attachment D – California Resilience Challenge Grant Agreement

Authored by:

Garrett Wong, Climate Program Manager