



**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:** County Executive Office  
**Department No.:** 012  
**For Agenda Of:** June 15, 2021  
**Placement:** Departmental  
**Estimated Time:** 30 Minutes  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department: Mona Miyasato, County Executive Office  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Jasmine McGinty, Principal Analyst

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*Mona Miyasato*  
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**SUBJECT: Vandenberg Space Force Base Master Plan Phase 1 Report**

**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:**

As to form: Risk Management – N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive presentation on the Vandenberg Space Force Base (VSFB) Master Plan Phase 1 Report;
- b) Receive and file the VSFB Master Plan Phase 1 Report, including an Economic Impact Analysis on the VSFB Master Plan prepared by the partnership between REACH, The Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (GOBiz), the 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing, United States Space Force, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Deloitte Consulting, LLP, and the County of Santa Barbara; and
- c) Determine that the proposed action is related to organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and is therefore is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378 (b)(5).

**Summary**

The VSFB Master Plan Phase 1 report of the VSFB Master Plan Project has been completed in partnership with REACH, The Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (GOBiz), VSFB, United States Space Force, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Deloitte Consulting, LLP, and the County of Santa Barbara. Phase 1 highlights how to put the Master Plan into action, which focuses on building a downstream ecosystem, growing launch activities, and creating testing and evaluation capabilities. Phase

1 is an initial step of the master plan for commercial space opportunities that will help identify important priorities and requirements at VSFB to spur the growth of the commercial space industry on the Central Coast and California, supporting the public purpose of economic expansion on the California Central Coast. The development of the master plan requires research, analysis and assessment work that REACH leads. The Board approved participation in this project and payment of \$200,000 for the Phase 1 plan on January 26, 2021.

## **Discussion**

In January 2021, the County of Santa Barbara joined REACH and the regional partners in the VSFB Master Plan efforts, where the County would contribute \$200,000 towards the completion of Phase 1: Ecosystem, Stakeholder and Industry Assessment. The total project cost is \$650,000. The remaining \$450,000 for the project will come from State and federal sources to complete Phase 2: Analysis and Recommendations for Consideration and final product. The Phase 1: Ecosystem, Stakeholder and Industry Assessment and Economic Impact Analysis have been completed and are attached.

The Phase 1 report is a culmination of the research, workshops, and industry engagement conducted between January and March 2021. This report builds off of the Phase 0 preliminary report released in August 2020 that established a vision for the future and the foundation for the research conducted in support of this report. The Phase 0 report can be found at the [REACH website](#). Many findings, insights, and recommendations from the Phase 0 report are incorporated into the Phase 1 Report. (Attachment A).

The Master Plan Project aims to facilitate regional economic growth through the addition of high-quality commercial space industry employment by enhancing competitiveness of the region and thus encouraging skilled jobs. Economic enhancement offers local government, the private sector, the nonprofit sectors, and County residents the opportunity to work together to improve the local economy for a public benefit.

The Phase 1 report provides an interim, actionable plan for developing a commercial spaceport at VSFB. The report is focused on three goals to build a thriving space enterprise at VSFB and the surrounding Central Coast communities that delivers the capabilities, infrastructure, and workforce to support sustained access to space, increased and responsible utilization of space-based capabilities and resources, and advances the quality of life and interests of the Central Coast communities. The three goals that comprise the master plan vision are:

- 1) **Attract Space Industry Activities to the Central Coast:** strengthen the ecosystem by establishing a concierge entity to support attraction efforts, focus on attracting additional launch services providers and other space industry companies, and improve the regulatory and business environment.
- 2) **Modernize and Invest in Infrastructure:** Modernize and invest in the improvement or development of on-base launch-supporting infrastructure, on-base transportation and logistics infrastructure, and off-base infrastructure such as a new mission development zone to support increased commercial activities.
- 3) **Strengthen the Central Coast Space Identity:** Establish a clear, modern brand for the Central Coast space ecosystem, integrate space ecosystem development efforts with regional quality of life attributes, focus on workforce development and economic mobility, and inform regional housing and transportation development.

The Phase 1 Master Plan Report is divided into three sections, an executive summary, an assessment of the current state, and the action plan, which focuses in depth on the goals listed above. Each goal has objectives and supporting initiatives clearly laid out to help achieve the goal. The assessment of the current state includes the Economic Impact Analysis (Attachment B) which assesses current and future economic impact of the direct, indirect and induced impacts of VSFB on SB County and the broad region. The plan also identifies key stakeholders and the needs of a deliberate, organized and expanded regional cluster within Central CA to support development ambitions.

Following the completion of Phase 1, the next steps of the VSFB Master Plan Project will be to work towards finalizing the master plan, release date to be determined (end of Phase 2 of the project). The Master Plan creates a future vision for Vandenberg supported by opportunities to drive growth. The final Master Plan will include the recommendations and development pathways to inform regional decision making, budget allocations and assist in formal investor pitches and government funding requests. The Phase 1 assessment will be used to obtain state and federal funding for work related to Phase 2 analysis and considerations, totaling \$450,000. At this time, the next steps are as follows:

- Work with MOU group to prioritize, resource, and implement action plans (goal 1, 2, 3 listed in Attachment A)
- REACH will advocate for plan outcomes as Community Support Organization for VSFB and board member of California Defense Communities Alliance
- Support the attraction and expansion of commercial space entities on the Central Coast

## **Background**

In July 2020, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between REACH (Attachment B), VSFB, United States Space Force, the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GOBiz), Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and strategy consultant Deloitte Consulting, LLC. These participants agreed to the voluntary cooperation in clarifying goals and objectives of the plan for commercial space industry and enterprises at Vandenberg Space Force Base (VSFB) and the surrounding regional economy; facilitating the regional economic growth through addition of high-quality commercial space industry employment; providing for national security strategic interests through the increased resilience of VSFB assured access to space mission architecture.

The VSFB Master Plan was presented to the County Board of Supervisors on August 25, 2020 by Colonel Anthony Mastalir of the 30th Space Wing and REACH. Colonel Mastalir acknowledged that VSFB is an opportunity-rich space enterprise environment, and there was a need to engage with other federal agencies, state or local governments, universities, or other entities to capitalize on the 30th Space Wing's existing capabilities.

The Board of Supervisors expressed interest in supporting the Master Plan project in a letter to the MOU Participants dated September 2, 2020 and inquired about potential participation in the MOU. In January 2021, County staff presented an addendum to the current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between REACH, The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GOBiz), VSFB, United States Space Force, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Deloitte Consulting, LLP, to add the County of Santa Barbara as a partner of the regional VSFB Master Plan Efforts. The agreement between the County of Santa Barbara and REACH includes a payment of \$200,000 for the services to conduct the Phase 1 analysis, including the Economic Impact Analysis (EIA), both of which are now completed. The

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MOU partnership works to expand commercial space activity and development of the Spaceport Master Plan.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

There is no fiscal impact of receiving and filing this report. The one-time cost share contribution by the County to this project is \$200,000, which was budgeted in the current year from General County Programs General Fund and has been expended.

**Attachment:**

Attachment A – VSFB Master Plan Phase 1 Report

Attachment B – VSFB Economic Impact Analysis

**Authored by:**

Jasmine McGinty, Principal Analyst