



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
Development
Department No.: 057
For Agenda Of: January 17, 2012
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Herman Parker, Community Services Director (805) 568-2467
Director(s)
Contact Info: Sharon Friedrichsen, Deputy Director, Housing and Community
Development Division (805) 568-2068
SUBJECT: CDBG Grant to City of Solvang for ADA Improvements to City Hall and Annex

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Risk Management Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Authorize the Chair to execute a contract with the City of Solvang for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding in the amount of \$36,000 for the design and installation of accessibility improvements to the Solvang City Hall and Annex buildings.
- b) Determine that these activities are exempt from California Environmental Quality Act review per CEQA Guideline Section 15061(a) since the project is a minor modification to an existing structure.

Summary

As part of the 2011 Action Plan, the City of Solvang was awarded \$36,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Capital funds for the design and installation of accessibility improvements to the Solvang City Hall and Annex buildings. The execution of this contract will enable the City of Solvang to proceed with implementing this project.

Background:

The County of Santa Barbara serves as the lead administrative agency for the receipt of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the Santa Barbara Urban County Partnership, which includes the cities of Buellton, Carpinteria, Lompoc, Solvang, and the County. To facilitate this partnership, the County assumes responsibility for funding management, administration, and regulatory compliance associated with the CDBG program and administers the funding allocation process for the Urban County Partnership.

The Housing and Community Development (HCD) division of the Community Services Department is a grantee of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The County subcontracts with sub recipients, or grantees, that are selected through HCD's annual Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) process. Per the Code of Federal Regulations, CDBG funds are designated to meet HUD's National Objectives to provide for the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities for low and moderate income persons. Eligible CDGB activities include the creation or improvement of public facilities and infrastructure, including Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements.

In the 2010-11 NOFA process, the City of Solvang was awarded \$36,000 in federal CDBG Capital funds for the installation of ADA improvements to the City Hall and Annex buildings. Specifically, the project will include the installation of ADA compliant automatic doors, hands-free push button door openers and installation of ADA compliant wheelchair accessible front desk/public counter and related appurtenant work as necessary to complete the ADA work. The Board of Supervisors approved this award on May 10, 2011 as a part of the 2011 Action Plan. An Action Plan represents the County's formal federal grant application to HUD for each program year; outlines the proposed use of funds to further the federal and local affordable housing and community development goals and objectives; and is an annual update to the Consolidated Plan, a HUD mandated 5-year strategic planning document.

Fiscal Analysis:

CDBG funds are "pass-through" to organizations providing community development projects and programs. Per HUD guidelines, County HCD retains 20% of CDBG funds for administration.

Attachments:

Attachment A - Contract with City of Solvang

Authored by:

Nancy Madsen, Grants Manager