



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: Board of Supervisors
Department No.: 011
For Agenda Of: December 10, 2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Board Member(s) Board of Supervisors, Second District Office
Contact Info: Eleanor Gartner 805-568-2195
SUBJECT: Contribution of \$5,000 for Isla Vista Community Services District Rental Housing Mediation Program

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form:

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions: That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize a contribution of \$5,000 for the Isla Vista Community Services District (IVCSD) Rental Housing Mediation Program from Second District FY 2024-25 discretionary spending allocation appropriated in the General County Programs General Fund; and
- b) Find that the above program is necessary to meet the social needs of the population of the County; and
- c) Determine that the above actions are organizational or administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Summary Text: Upon the adoption of the County's 2024-2025 Annual Budget, each Supervisorial District Office was allocated discretionary funding to direct to projects and/or programs in the County in need of funding that meet the social needs of the community. These funding requests are to come back to the full Board of Supervisors on the Administrative Agenda for Board approval.

This action will authorize funding of a \$5,000 contribution to the IVCSD for their free Rental Housing Mediation Program. This funding will allow the IVCSD to expand both its mediation and legal guidance support for Isla Vista community members.

Background:

The IVCS D was founded in 2017 to provide governance, support, and resources to residents of Isla Vista. The IVCS D serves all residents in the unincorporated area of Isla Vista, one of two federally-designated underserved communities in Santa Barbara County.

One of the most densely populated areas in the entire country with a large majority of the population being college-student aged (86%), renters (97%), and historically working-class families, the IVCS D’s Rental Housing Mediation Program provides a critical resource to this unique population. With Isla Vista’s mix of temporary and long-term residents, the community experiences frequent rental disputes related to high tenant turnover, housing affordability and livability, and interpersonal conflicts within shared living spaces. This program offers a comprehensive conflict resolution service by providing access to both a mediator and legal advisor. The mediator provides both in-person and virtual mediation services, facilitating discussions that help landlords, tenants, and neighbors reach mutually agreeable solutions. The legal advisor brings specialized knowledge of tenant-landlord law, providing expert guidance on legal rights, responsibilities, eviction processes, and other key aspects of rental housing. This program is free and open to all Isla Vista residents and is a resource available to tenants and landlords alike with a goal of establishing a more stable housing environment.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

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	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00

Narrative: The \$5,000 will come from the Second District’s FY 2024-25 discretionary spending allocation.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Funding Application for 2024-25 Fiscal Year

Authored by: Eleanor Gartner