



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: General Services
Department No.: 063
For Agenda Of: November 17, 2020
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: General Services Janette D. Pell, Director, (805) 560-1011
Director
Contact Info: Skip Grey, Assistant Director, (805) 568-3083
SUBJECT: Alternate Care Site Agreement with Best Western Plus Encina Inn and Suites – District 2

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors consider the following recommendations:

- a) Approve, and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute the attached Alternate Care Site Agreement (“Agreement”) between the County of Santa Barbara and the Best Western Plus Encina Inn and Suites for use of a hotel located at 2220 Bath Street, Santa Barbara, on a month-to-month basis as an alternate care site as needed due to increases in cases and hospitalizations due to COVID-19; and
- b) Authorize the Director of Emergency Services, or designee, after consultation with the County Public Health Department, until otherwise ordered by the Board, to activate use of the hotel as an alternate care site and to incur rent and other expenses under the Agreement in an amount not to exceed \$500,000; and
- c) Determine that the recommended actions are not the acceptance and approval of a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), finding that the project is a 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 physical impact on the environment; and that the actions are exempt from CEQA pursuant to Guidelines Section 15269(c) as they consist of specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption on that basis.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda for the Board to approve an Alternate Care Site (ACS) Agreement (Attachment 1) with Best Western Plus Encina Inn and Suites to provide a site for expanded medical facilities for non-congregate, non-acute care for COVID-19 patients, in the event of a major surge in hospital patient volume. Non-acute care is defined by the Centers for Disease Control as general, low-level care for mildly to moderately symptomatic COVID-19 patients. This agreement was previously approved by the Joint Decision Authority on October 29, 2020 and is presented here for approval by the Board. A delegation of authority to expend up to \$500,000 to operate the site is also requested. Initial approval was determined to be subject to the CEQA Emergency Exemption 14 CCR 15269(c).

Background:

On March 12, 2020, the Board of Supervisors declared a local emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the County's response to stop the spread of the Coronavirus, on July 8, 2020, the County used its emergency contract authority to execute an agreement with Best Western Plus Encina Inn and Suites to provide non-congregate sheltering for isolation and quarantine of either persons under investigation, or those who tested positive for COVID-19.

To address the changing demands of the COVID-19 response, the County negotiated this ACS agreement. This agreement will provide space for temporary and expanded medical facilities for up to fifty (50) patients during the COVID-19 pandemic in the event of a major surge in patient volume thereby overburdening the hospital system.

The ACS agreement will support county-wide emergency protective measures during an emergency or disaster for patient healthcare in the event of a surge in COVID-19 cases. The site at Best Western Encina Inn and Suites was chosen in part because of its close proximity to Cottage Hospital. The ACS agreement entitles the County to occupy up to twenty-five (25) rooms containing fifty (50) beds. Costs only begin to accrue at the time of occupancy; at which time, County is charged the \$160 daily room rate only for each occupied room. The ACS agreement requires the County to provide two (2) weeks' notice before hotel rooms can be occupied.

This ACS agreement is presented here for the Board's approval as part of the County's COVID-19 response and mitigation efforts.

Performance Measure:

N/A

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

This item will use Department 012 Program 6034 Activation and Disaster Costs appropriated in the FY 2020-21 budget.

Fiscal Analysis:

The item is not to exceed an amount of \$500,000 and will cover room costs, linens, janitorial service, security and demobilization (all of which the County is responsible for) for a period of two to three months assuming all 25 rooms are fully occupied for 100% of the time. There is no cost unless the County begins to occupy the rooms.

Key Contract Risks

In the unlikely event this contract is utilized, costs will be monitored and tracked closely as have all previous non-congregate COVID related contracts.

Special Instructions:

Provide one original of the Alternate Care Site Agreement and a Minute Order to Julie Lawrence, General Services Department.

NOTE: The Clerk shall post the NOE upon Board approval.

Attachments:

1. Alternate Care Site Agreement with Best Western Plus Encina Inn and Suites
2. Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

Skip Grey, General Services