BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA LETTER

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name:	Social Services
Department No.:	044
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: Department   Daniel Nielson, Social Services Director
             Director(s)   (805) 346-7101
             Contact Info: Luis F. Servin, Executive Director, Workforce Development Board
                              (805) 614-1543

SUBJECT: **Authority to Submit Grant Application to Uplift Central Coast Catalyst Predevelopment Grant**

County Counsel Concurrence	**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**
As to form: Yes	As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management
As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

a) Approve and authorize the Department of Social Services Director, or designee, to seek and apply for Uplift Central Coast, Catalyst Predevelopment Grant part of the California Jobs First Program funds in the amount of $250,000 for Fiscal Year 2024-2025; and

b) Determine that the activity is not a "Project" subject to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review per CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(5), since the activity is an organizational or administrative activity of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda in order to authorize the Department of Social Services Director, or designee, to seek and apply for Uplift Central Coast (Uplift), California Jobs First, Catalyst Predevelopment Grant funds in the amount of $250,000 for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Background:

Uplift is an organization encompassing six counties working together toward a shared vision of a diverse, inclusive economy built by and for the region's residents. On October 1, 2024, Uplift announced the

opening of grant applications for the Catalyst Predevelopment Grant, part of the California Jobs First program, in an effort to create a positive impact to the Central Coast residents.

The objective of Catalyst Predevelopment funding is to support sector-specific predevelopment activities that align with regional strategies developed under the California Jobs First initiative. These activities, which may include stakeholder engagement, concept development, partnership building, and research, will allow the opportunity to bridge the gap between planning and implementation and enable regions to develop ready-to-go projects that can compete for funding opportunities from federal, state, and private sources. Uplift works directly with local stakeholders as well as experts in job development, workforce training, housing, financial services, enterprise development and other fields critical to economic growth.

On October 18, 2024, the Santa Barbara County Workforce Development Board (WDB) submitted a letter of intent and was subsequently invited to apply for this grant. The WDB has been invited to apply for the Accelerator (planning) grant in the amount of $250,000.

Accelerator grants are described as projects that have moved beyond the initial idea phase and are beginning to take shape through early planning and analysis. The proposed project titled "Building a Lompoc Workforce Pipeline," would support the development of a pilot program that will bring together employers, students, community-based organizations, and education providers to develop a successful workforce pipeline.

If the WDB is awarded grant funding from Uplift, the WDB will return to the Board for approval to accept the grant funds and process any budget adjustments as a result of the award.

Special Instructions:

Please scan, email and send one copy of the minute order to:
DSS Procurement and Contracts Unit
C/O Nereida Zarate
2125 S. Centerpointe Parkway, 3rd Floor
Santa Maria, CA 93455
Email: nzarate@countyofsb.org

Authored by:

Luis F. Servin, Executive Director, Workforce Development Board
Nereida Zarate, Procurement and Contracts Analyst