

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



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

**Agenda Number:**  
**Prepared on:** 11/12/03  
**Department Name:** Social Services  
**Department No.:** 044  
**Agenda Date:** 12/9/03  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:**  
**Continued Item:** NO  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** John Scherrei, Fire Chief  
Kathy Gallagher, Director, Social Services Department

**STAFF CONTACT:** Molly Marino, Special Projects Manager  
681-4588

**SUBJECT:** Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Social Services and the Fire Department Regarding the Refurbishing of the Emergency Shelter

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**Recommendation(s):**

That the Board of Supervisors approve and execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Social Services and the Fire Department regarding the refurbishing of the Emergency Shelter Care Facility of abused and neglected children.

**Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:**

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal 7: A Community that Fosters the Safety and Well-Being of Individuals, Families and Children.

**Executive Summary and Discussion:**

The Department of Social Services has utilized the two residences behind Fire Station 11 as an Emergency Placement Center since 1987 to provide emergency shelter care of abused and neglected children. Social Services has been working with the Fire Department to determine the long term availability of the residences due to fact that the buildings were constructed with Fire District Funds and the Fire District has a beneficial interest in the property. The Memorandum of Understanding defines each department's rights and obligations to the use of the shelter. The departments agree that refurbishing of the buildings is needed to provide a healthy and safe environment for children who must be put into placement by the Department of Social Services, Child Welfare Division. Based on this need, General Services has already begun the process to re-roof these buildings. Funding from General Services and the Department of Social Services will be used to complete refurbishment activities.

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**Mandates and Service Levels:**

The Department of Social Services is the agency under Welfare and Institutions Code Section 16500, 16501 (a) (1) & (3), Section 205.5 and Section 206, mandated to protect children, birth to 18 years, from abuse and neglect within the family and to remove those children, who are in immediate danger of abuse and neglect. Social Services and the Child Welfare Division are obligated to provide these children with a safe temporary placement until such time as they can return to their families or can be placed in another permanent setting.

Continued use of this residence will assist the Department is satisfying our mandate to protect and house the abused and neglected children of this county. The refurbishing will bring the residences up to acceptable safety and use standards.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Fiscal: Refurbishment costs of these buildings will be funded via General Service's rental designation accumulated for this purpose as well as appropriations included in the Department of Social Service's 2003/2004 adopted budget. Currently General Services has \$28,788 left in their designation for repairs and maintenance of these buildings. This amount is in addition to any costs associated with the re-roofing efforts. The Department of Social Services has \$100,000 appropriated in their current budget for this purpose. These appropriations are included in line item 8300, fund 0055, budget unit 044..

Facilities Impact: Significant and long lasting and will bring the residences up to acceptable safety and use standards.

**Attachments:**

Memorandum of Understanding Regarding the Use and Occupancy of the Property Located at 377 and 379 Storke Road in Goleta, California

**Special Instructions:**

Upon execution, the Clerk should distribute as follows:

1. Original executed MOU - Official File
2. Copy of executed MOU - County Counsel, General Services Real Property, Fire Department and the Department of Social Services (attn.: Hilary Yost)
3. Copy of the minute order to the Department of Social Services (attn.: Hilary Yost)

**Concurrence:**

County Counsel  
County Administrator

CC: Ron Cortez, Director, General Services