



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: June 24, 2025
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: Daniela Aguirre 805-568-2191
SUBJECT: Contribution of \$5,000 for Northern Santa Barbara County United Way AmeriCorps (AmeriCorps)

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 Northern Santa Barbara County United Way AmeriCorps (AmeriCorps) funded by the Second District funding allocation in 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 from the Second District Office to AmeriCorps to continue providing services to our County's most vulnerable.

Background:

Since 1993, AmeriCorps has served communities across the United States by supporting national service programs that focus on education, disaster response, economic opportunity, and civic engagement. Through partnerships with nonprofits, local governments, and educational institutions, AmeriCorps mobilizes more than 200,000 members and volunteers annually to address critical community needs and strengthen public trust in local institutions.

AmeriCorps has become a cornerstone of civic infrastructure, particularly in underserved communities, where its members provide essential services that build resilience and opportunity. The program is designed not only to support communities in need but also to offer life-changing experiences and career pathways for young people and emerging leaders across the country.

Despite its long-standing impact and bipartisan origins, AmeriCorps is currently facing unprecedented threats under the Trump administration. Recent budget proposals from the Trump-aligned America First Policy Institute and allies within Congress have called for the program to be eliminated entirely. These proposals frame AmeriCorps as unnecessary federal spending—despite the program’s proven record of cost-effective, locally driven results. This climate has created uncertainty for thousands of AmeriCorps members, nonprofit partners, and the communities they serve.

At this critical juncture, it is essential to reaffirm the value of AmeriCorps and invest in its capacity to meet growing local needs in Santa Barbara County. The requested support will ensure continuity of service, strengthen community partnerships, and protect this vital infrastructure for civic engagement and national unity.

The collective goal is to safeguard and expand service opportunities while reinforcing AmeriCorps’ role as a trusted, effective, and unifying force in American life.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Current FY Cost:</u>		<u>Annualized</u> <u>On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time</u> <u>Project Cost</u>
\$ 5,000.00		\$	5,000.00
\$ 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

Authored by: Daniela Aguirre