



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: Agricultural
Commissioner
Department No.: 051
For Agenda Of: January 14, 2014
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Time: 30 Minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Cathleen Fisher, Commissioner and Guy Tingos, Assistant
Director(s) Commissioner 681-5600
Contact Info: Guy Tingos or Kendra Stites, 681-5600
SUBJECT: Presentation of a report on the Economic Contributions of Agriculture in Santa Barbara County

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence:

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

It is recommended that your Board receive and file the report of Economic Contributions of Santa Barbara Agriculture.

Summary Text:

The Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer will present your Board a summary of statistics and trends from a comprehensive analysis of the economic contributions made by the local agricultural industry. The report also illustrates how the local agricultural industry provides ecosystem services throughout the county. The report was conducted, in part, to determine information commonly requested by the Board regarding our local agricultural industry's overall economic contributions to Santa Barbara County beyond the "farm gate" value that is calculated in the Department's Annual Crop Report.

Background:

The Economic Contributions of Santa Barbara County Agriculture report was conducted by Dr. Jeff Langholz and Dr. Fernando DePaolis of Agricultural Impact Associates LLC, a firm specializing in agricultural economic analysis. The report was compiled from both local statistics, including the Department's 2011 Annual Crop Report, and national data sources utilizing figures from the year 2011.

Highlights of the report's findings include:

- Santa Barbara agriculture annually contributes a total of \$2.8 billion to the local economy. This includes \$1.8 billion in direct economic output and \$1.0 billion in additional economic output in the form of expenditures by agriculture companies and their employees.
- Santa Barbara agriculture infuses \$53.5 million in indirect business tax payments which represents 6.2% of the county’s annual \$866 million budget.
- Santa Barbara County agriculture provides over 25,370 jobs to the county economy, including 15,971 jobs provided directly through agriculture and agriculturally related food processing and another 9,399 additional jobs made possible by expenditures by agriculture companies and their employees. It is estimated that local agriculture accounts for nearly 1 out of every 10 jobs in the county.
- The report also identifies a high crop diversity score for Santa Barbara County agriculture. The exceptional diversity provides economic stability within agriculture and to the county economy as a whole (Diversity Index of 2.49).
- The report also identifies how Santa Barbara County agriculture provides a wide range of non-market values to the county through “ecosystem services” such as scenic beauty, water purification and carbon sequestration.

Performance Measure:

Economic Vitality

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			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			\$ 25,000.00
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000.00

Narrative: The Ecosystem Services section was funded by a contribution from the Santa Barbara Foundation in the amount of \$5,000.

Staffing Impacts: N/A

Legal Positions:

FTEs:

Special Instructions:

None

Attachments:

Clerk’s Filed Document

Authored by:

Cathy Fisher

cc: