

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:
Department Name: Public Works
Department No.: 054-04-07
Agenda Date: 04/26/05
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara

FROM: Phillip M. Demery, Public Works Director

STAFF CONTACT: Thomas Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, (Ext. 3436)
Rory Lang, PW Program Specialist (Ext. 3545)

SUBJECT: **Adopt a Resolution to apply for Grant Funds from the Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program**

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Adopt the attached Resolution to apply for grant funding from the Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program; and
- B. Authorize the Public Works Director to enter into the Grant Agreement and all other subsequent agreements or amendments to receive grant funding for the Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program, if it is awarded.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendations align with Goal No. 5: Maintain and Enhance the Quality of Life for all Residents.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

In early 2002, a bond measure (Proposition 50) was put on the November ballot to provide funding for water-related projects in California. A number of local agencies began participating in the support efforts for Proposition 50 by joining the Northern and Coastal California Water Bond Initiative Coalition. Through the Coalition, an invitation was sent to all interested special districts and local government agencies within Santa Barbara County to meet and prioritize eligible water-related projects from the area. These meetings resulted in the project priority list for Santa Barbara County (see Attachment A).

California voters passed Proposition 50 that November and the State began efforts to disburse the funds through a grant program, resulting in the development of the Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program (IRWM). The IRWM Grant Program is a joint program between the Department of Water Resources and the State Water Resources Control Board which provides funding for projects to protect communities from drought, protect and improve water quality, and reduce dependency on imported water. The funding for this program can be used for IRWM Planning and Implementation Grants with up to \$500,000 per planning grant, and up to \$50 million per implementation grant.

In order to be eligible for the implementation grant funding, the State is requiring agencies to prepare an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for their region that includes all of the potential implementation projects that need to be completed in the region. **Only those projects listed in the Plan will then be eligible for the Implementation funding.**

In November 2004, the County Water Agency called a meeting of the local Coalition participants to continue the effort to secure this grant money for projects in Santa Barbara County. The meeting attendees decided to apply for grant funding to prepare an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan and a Work Team was created to oversee the work. The Work Team consists of staff from the County Water Agency, the cities of Santa Maria and Santa Barbara, and the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, ID #1. The Work Team has developed a proposal requesting grant funding for the development of the plan.

The proposal requests funding to hire a consultant to assimilate a number of existing plans into one regional plan to meet the requirements of the IRWMP. It also provides funding for Water Agency staff to administer the program within the county.

The agencies that could receive implementation funding through the development of this plan include the cities of Santa Barbara and Santa Maria, Carpinteria Valley Water District, Montecito Water District, Carpinteria Sanitary District, Casmalia Community Services District, Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, ID #1, Santa Barbara County Parks Department, Santa Barbara County Public Works Department, Cuyama Community Services District, La Cumbre Mutual Water Company, Vandenberg Village Community Services District, Cachuma Operations and Maintenance Board, and potentially others.

Mandates and Service Levels:

Approval of the application of this grant will potentially increase our funding resources and allow the Water Agency to assist local water districts and other special district in securing funds for priority water related projects within Santa Barbara County.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program:

▪ Personnel Expenses*	\$ 35,000.00
▪ <u>Operating Expenses (including consultant costs)</u>	<u>\$100,000.00</u>
Total (cost to prepare plan and administer program)	\$135,000.00

IRWMP grant funds requested:	\$100,000.00
<u>In-Kind Cash Contributions from Water Districts and Special Districts**</u>	<u>\$ 35,000.00</u>
TOTAL Estimated Project Cost	\$135,000.00

* \$35,000 will pay for Water Agency staff time

**These in-kind services are provided by the IRWMP partners, which includes water districts, wastewater districts, and community services districts within the county.

Funds associated with this grant were not included in the budget. If the grant funding is awarded, staff will process a budget revision to accept the funding. Funds for Water Agency staff time will be deposited in Dept: 054, Fund: 3050, Acct: 4339, Program: 3010. Expenditures relating to the IRWMP will be paid from Dept: 054, Fund: 3050, Acct: 7460, Program: 3010.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to send a copy of the resolution and minute order of these actions to the Water Agency office, Attn: Christina Lopez.