

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 10/17/02
Department Name: County Administrator
Department No.: 012
Agenda Date: 11/12/02
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Michael F. Brown, County Administrator

STAFF CONTACT: Scott Ullery, Deputy County Administrator
Zandra Cholmondeley, Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT: Endorse lease of building for use as South Coast Community Media Access Center

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

Acting as the Board of Directors of the Santa Barbara Fund For Public and Educational Access, endorse, as guarantors, the lease for the South Coast Community Media Access Center facility at 414 E. Carrillo, Santa Barbara for a one-year period ending December 31, 2003 in the approximate amount of \$106,000.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan: The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with actions required by law or by routine business necessity.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

Pursuant to a franchise agreement with Cox Communications, responsibility for management of the public access television station will be transferred from Cox to a new non-profit corporation, the South Coast Community Media Access Center, (CMAC) effective January 1, 2003. The public access television station, Channel 17, is located at 414 E. Carrillo Street Santa Barbara, in space currently leased by Cox Communications. The lease will expire December 31, 2002 and CMAC has negotiated a lease extension for one year while it considers relocating to a permanent facility. The County has committed to provide a site for CMAC, to be selected by the County, for a building to be located.

As a part of the franchise agreement, Cox provided a capital endowment of one million dollars and secured a donation of \$1.7 million, and provided capital funding of \$250,000 for public and education access. The Santa Barbara Fund for Public and Educational Access was created to hold and to distribute these funds for CMAC and the County Treasurer invests the funds. The Board of Supervisors is the Board of Directors of the Fund. The landlords of the building located at 414 East Carrillo, Ronald and Catherine Boeddeker, have required that the Santa Barbara Fund For Public and Educational Access guarantee the lease for CMAC. The annual lease amount is \$89,928 plus approximately \$16,000 for property taxes, repairs and maintenance expenses.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts: There are no fiscal and facilities impacts to the County resulting from guaranteeing this lease. Cox Communications has agreed to provide \$1.7 million in January 2003 to the Santa Barbara Fund for Public and Educational Access which will be invested by the Treasurer for CMAC. This Fund will be used in the event of a default on payment of the lease.

