



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

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name:	Community Services
Department No.:	057
Agenda Date:	December 9, 2025
Placement:	Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:	N/A
Continued Item:	No
If Yes, date from:	N/A
Vote Required:	Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Jesús Armas, Director, Community Services Department
Contact: Sarah York Rubin, Executive Director, Office of Arts and Culture
SUBJECT: Approve Grant Agreement Between the County of Santa Barbara and the CA Arts Council for FY 2025-2026 State Local Partner Grant

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Community Services Department Director to execute an agreement ("Agreement") with the California Arts Council ("CAC") to memorialize the terms and conditions of a grant in the amount of \$71,539 for the period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2026, for Santa Barbara County Office of Arts and Culture ("SBCOAC") to support countywide arts administration, grantmaking, exhibitions, and community engagement through the State-Local Partner ("SLP") program (Attachment A); and
- b) Determine that the recommended actions are not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act under CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5), because they consist of administrative activities that will not result in a direct or indirect physical change to the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval of an Agreement with the California Arts Council for the County Office of Arts and Culture to receive \$71,539 in State-Local Partner grant funding for the period of October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026, as the second allocation of a two-year grant award totaling to \$140,929. The CAC approved this funding amount for the second year of the two-year grant cycle at its public meeting held on September 26, 2025.

Discussion:

The SLP program is a longstanding partnership between the CAC and county-designated local arts agencies throughout the State. The SLP program provides general operating support to strengthen local arts infrastructure and foster cultural development through collaboration, funding, and shared leadership.

This Agreement provides general operating support for the SBCOAC to administer countywide arts programs and services. The SLP funds will offset operational expenses and staff costs associated with grant administration, public art coordination, exhibitions, CAC grant applicant technical assistance, and community engagement programs across Santa Barbara County.

Background:

The SBCOAC received the highest possible score on its two-year State-Local Partner (SLP) grant application to the California Arts Council. As a result, SBCOAC was awarded \$69,440 for FY 2024–2025. The FY 2025–2026 SLP allocation was contingent on CAC review and appropriation, and on September 26, 2025, the CAC voted to approve a second-year award of \$71,539. With the addition of this second-year allocation, the total grant award is \$140,979.

As the designated local arts agency for Santa Barbara County, SBCOAC fulfills the County's role in this partnership by supporting artists, culture bearers, and arts and cultural organizations through grants, programs, exhibitions, and community initiatives. As part of the SLP program, the SBCOAC serves as a conduit for state investment in arts access and cultural vitality in the region.

Under the SLP program, the SBCOAC is required to maintain accessible public operations at a physical location, provide countywide arts services, support historically underserved communities, administer the annual Poetry Out Loud competition, attend the CAC SLP convening in Sacramento, and promote CAC opportunities and resources. The SLP grant also supports local data collection and participation in statewide arts planning efforts to ensure equitable access and representation across California's 58 counties.

This Agreement continues the State–County partnership and sustains essential services that advance the arts as a public benefit for all residents of Santa Barbara County.

Contract Renewals:

This Agreement continues existing services under the State-Local Partner program and represents the second year of a two-year grant cycle.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

The revenue and expenditures associated with this Agreement have been included in the Office of Arts and Culture's adopted FY 2025-2026 budget.

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	FY 24-25	FY 25-26	Total
State	\$69,440	\$71,539	\$71,539
Total	\$69,440	\$71,539	\$140,979

Staffing Impacts:

The project falls within the existing scope of work for the Office of Arts and Culture.

Special Instructions:

Please send email a copy of the minute order and signed copy of the grant agreement to Hannah Rubalcava at hannah@sbac.ca.gov and Teralyn Evans-Gutiérrez at Tegutierrez@countyofsb.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A – SLP 24-23860 FY25-26 State Local Partner Contract

Contact Information:

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