



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: Community Services
Department No.: 057
For Agenda Of: July 16, 2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Jesús Armas, Community Services Director (805) 568-2467
Director(s)
Contact Info: Jeff Lindgren, Parks Assistant Director (805) 568-2475
SUBJECT: Acceptance of a Cash Donation to Implement the Jalama Beach Emergency Response Plan

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: **CEO Budget**

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Accept a cash donation from SpaceX to purchase equipment and materials for public notification of Vandenberg Space Force Base launches at Jalama Beach County Park up to \$50,000; and
- b) Approve Budget Revision Request #0009840 recognizing the value of the donation as revenue and expense (4/5ths vote); and
- c) Determine that the above recommended actions are not the approval of a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), finding that the project is a creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities, which does not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment, and direct staff to file the Notice of Exemption (Attachment B).

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda for the Board of Supervisors to consider accepting a cash donation from SpaceX of up to \$50,000 for use by the Community Services Department, Parks Division, to purchase and install launch related and emergency information for visitors to Jalama Beach County Park campground. The

donation is intended to support implementation of the Jalama Beach Emergency Response Plan identified in the MOU signed by the County, Vandenberg Space Force Base and SpaceX, and ratified by the Board of Supervisors on June 18, 2024. SpaceX donations are one-time funding.

Background:

Since 1992 the County and VSFB have worked under an evacuation agreement which required the County to evacuate Jalama Beach County Park during VSFB launches for public safety reasons. That agreement stipulated that the County would evacuate up to twelve times per year for launches. Each launch has required the physical evacuation of visitors from Jalama Beach, reservation cancellations, refunds, rescheduling and assistance from County Sheriff to enforce road closures. With growing interest in private launches, private corporations like SpaceX are planning 50 launches this year and proposing 100 launches per year in the coming year.

To minimize the need for evacuations from the campground, SpaceX and VSFB applied for and received a waiver from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) allowing visitors to remain at Jalama Beach County Park during launches. The FAA waiver required that the County, SpaceX and VSFB enter into a MOU agreeing to implement the Jalama Beach Emergency Response Plan. On May 15, 2024, County Executive Officer, Mona Miyasato, signed the MOU partnering with SpaceX and VSFB on the Emergency Response Plan which allows visitors to stay at Jalama during launches. On June 18, 2024, the Board of Supervisors ratified the MOU.

The SpaceX donation is intended to implement the Jalama Beach Emergency Response Plan by providing equipment and materials that notice the public regarding launches, closure of Jalama Beach Road and provide general information and public notices about the park and park access. This may include purchase of a replacement changeable message sign on Jalama Beach Road, interpretive sign in the park with QR code for launch information, launch related emergency signage and public address equipment to be purchased and installed over the next six months. Donations are not intended to be used for advertisement or promotion of SpaceX or any other private business or corporation.

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 15-58, and County policy number D4.1, Acceptance of Gifts by County, require that donations of \$10,000 or more must be accepted by the Board of Supervisors.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budget Journal Entry #0009840 recognizes the value of the donation as revenue to Line Item 5895, Donation Revenue, in the Community Services Department General Fund.

Special Instructions:

After Board action, please distribute one copy of the Minute Order to Jeff Lindgren, Community Services Department.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Budget Revision Request #0009840

Attachment B: CEQA Notice of Exemption