



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  
**Department No.:** 057  
**For Agenda Of:** August 20, 2024  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:** N/A  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Jesús Armas, Community Services Director  
Director(s) (805) 568-2467

Contact Info: Garrett Wong, Climate Program Manager  
(805) 390-2983

**SUBJECT:** Resilient Cuyama Valley Contract Agreements with Blue Sky Center, Quail Springs and Community Environmental Council

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence: Risk Management**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute an Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Blue Sky Center (“Agreement”) in an amount not to exceed \$276,862 to implement activities under the Resilient Cuyama Valley initiative funded by the Transformative Climate Communities Grant (Attachment B);
- b) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute an Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with True Nature Society dba Quail Springs (“Agreement”) in an amount not to exceed \$252,769 to implement activities under the Resilient Cuyama Valley initiative funded by the Transformative Climate Communities Grant (Attachment C);
- c) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute an Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Community Environmental Council (“Agreement”) in an amount not to exceed \$114,349 to implement activities under the Resilient Cuyama Valley initiative funded by the Transformative Climate Communities Grant (Attachment D);

- d) Determine that the recommended actions do not constitute a project subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 as the actions consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use.

### **Summary Text**

This item is on the agenda to request Board authorization to enter into contract agreements with Blue Sky Center (\$276,862), Quail Springs (\$252,769) and Community Environmental Council (\$114,349) to implement activities under the Resilient Cuyama Valley initiative funded by the Transformative Climate Communities for a term of two years each, from August 2024 to August 2026.

### **Background**

On July 18, 2023, the Board approved the submitting the grant application to the Strategic Growth Council.

On December 14, 2023, the Strategic Growth Council voted to adopt the recommended grant awards.

On July 16, 2024, the Board approved the grant agreement with the Strategic Growth Council for an amount not to exceed \$1,084,660 for a two-year term.

### **Discussion**

California Strategic Growth Council's Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) program offers grants for planning, project development, and implementation to facilitate community readiness for future funding to implement and construct projects.

Staff from the Community Services, Planning & Development, and Public Works Departments met with stakeholders, including the Cuyama Valley Community Association, Family Resource Center, Blue Sky Center, Quail Springs, Cuyama Valley School District, Cuyama Community Services District, and Community Environmental Council to discuss the TCC grant opportunity, identify community priorities, and develop an approach to prepare the application for a project development grant.

The resulting portfolio of projects with Blue Sky Center, Quail Springs and Community Environmental Council is referred to as the Resilient Cuyama Valley initiative.

- Blue Sky Center will lead community outreach, engagement and coordination for piloting home retrofit projects and expansion of residential victory gardens. Blue Sky Center will also apply to rezone its parcels to come into compliance with County permitting for its existing structures and operations, and study the feasibility of a cold storage facility. The purpose of this is to prepare their facilities for future solar energy and battery storage systems to facilitate the site becoming a Resilience Hub. The contract agreement for this scope of work is for an amount not to exceed \$276,862 for a term of two years from August 2024 to August 2026.
- Quail Springs will lead community outreach, engagement and coordination for piloting residential

greywater systems and home composting systems and administer a water quality consumer survey to address barriers to reducing bottled water consumption. The contract agreement for this scope of work is for an amount not to exceed \$252,769 for a term of two years from August 2024 to August 2026.

- Community Environmental Council will support the County, Blue Sky Center and Quail Springs with convening bi-monthly committee meetings with the partners, conducting general community outreach and engagement, and providing translation and interpretation services. The contract agreement for this scope of work is for an amount not to exceed \$114,349 for a term of two years from August 2024 to August 2026.

More information about the Resilient Cuyama Valley initiative can be found at [www.countyofsb.org/cuyamavalley](http://www.countyofsb.org/cuyamavalley).

**Performance Measure:**

Blue Sky Center will be responsible for:

- Preparing and distributing quarterly newsletters
- Facilitating 20 home retrofits
- Constructing 40 victory gardens
- Conducting 8 food workshops
- Submitting a Development Plan and applying for a rezone

Quail Springs will be responsible for:

- Administering a community water drinking survey
- Conducting 2 water resilience workshops and 2 skill-building workshops
- Constructing 6 residential greywater systems and 2 residential composting systems

Community Environmental Council will be responsible for:

- Convening bi-monthly committee meetings
- Implementing 2 annual communitywide forums
- Translating and interpreting written materials and public meetings

**Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes:**

The term of the contract shall coincide with the two-year term of the County’s grant agreement.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Current FY Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>
General Fund			
State			\$ 643,980.00
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 643,980.00

These contracts are funded by the \$1,084,660 Transformative Climate Communities grant awarded by the Strategic Growth Council. The remaining funds, \$440,680 will be directed to various County divisions as follows:

- \$172,050 to the Sustainability Division to administer the grant, provide overall project management, and implement the home retrofit pilot project;
- \$25,520 to the Long Range Planning Division to implement various policies under the Environmental Justice Element; and
- \$243,110 to the Transportation Division to design and engineer several pedestrian and biking pathway improvements identified in the Active Transportation Plan.

**Key Contract Risks:**

This is the first Board contract with Quail Springs. County staff have been working intimately with Quail Springs over the past twelve months to develop and refine this scope of work and discuss implementation, coordination and management. Staff will meet monthly with Quail Springs to coordinate implementation and administration

**Staffing Impacts:**

N/A

**Special Instructions:**

N/A

**Attachments:**

- Attachment A – July 16, 2024 Board Meeting
- Attachment B – Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor – Blue Sky Center
- Attachment C – Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor – Quail Springs
- Attachment D – Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor – Community Environmental Council

**Authored by:**

Garrett Wong, Climate Program Manager, Sustainability Division