

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 4/8/04
Department Name: General Services
Department No.: 063
Agenda Date: 4/20/04
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Ronald S. Cortez, Director
General Services Department

STAFF CONTACT: Bob Nisbet, Capital Project Manager (560-1011)
General Services Department

SUBJECT: Santa Maria Juvenile Hall/Court Expansion Project
Cabinetry & Main Jail Air Conditioning Units
Reallocation of COPs proceeds

Recommendations:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Approve the plans and specifications for cabinetry for the Santa Maria Juvenile Hall and Court Expansion Project.
- B. Authorize the General Services Department to advertise the project for public bidding.
- C. Substitute, reallocate and re-appropriate \$551,000 from the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund 2001 COP proceeds from the Garden Street Parking Structure project to the Santa Maria Juvenile Hall and Court Expansion project to pay for cabinetry.
- D. Substitute, reallocate and re-appropriate the remaining \$234,000 from the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund 2001 COP proceeds from the Garden Street Parking Structure project to replace two large air conditioning units at the main jail.
- E. Transfer Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund Designated-Variou Fund Balance to a specific designation for a Garden Street Parking Structure project.
- F. Approve the attached Budget Revision Request that consummates these budget revisions.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendations are primarily aligned with Goal No. 2 Ensure the Public Health and Safety and Provide Essential Infrastructure.

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Executive Summary and Discussion:

On December 29, 2003, the Board reallocated all unexpended Courthouse Construction Fund 2001COP proceeds allocated to the Santa Maria Court Clerks and the Garden Street Parking Structure projects (approximately \$4.3 million) to a new project entitled SB 1732 Court Facilities Deficiencies Program. By making this reallocation, the board effectively suspended the aforementioned projects indefinitely. (The Board did agree that if funds were not needed for the SB 1732 Deficiencies Program, then they could be transferred back to the two projects. This question may not be known, however, for 2-3 years.) An additional \$785,000 in Criminal Justice Facility Fund COP proceeds were also allocated to the Garden Street Parking Structure project when the 2001 COPs were issued.

As an aside, **Courthouse Construction Funds** can only be used to construct court building and other buildings associated with court activities. As of January 1, 2004 this fund is controlled by the State. **Criminal Justice Facility Funds** are a completely separate fund controlled by the County. They can be used to construct facilities for the following four departments: Probation, Sheriff, Public Defender, and District Attorney. The Garden Street Parking Structure was funded from the Courthouse Construction Fund, the Criminal Justice Fund and the General Fund. Courthouse Construction Funds were used since the majority of the new parking was to be juror parking. Criminal Justice Facility Funds were used because the new District Attorney building was sited on the existing juror parking lot and it was logical that this fund pay for the number of juror parking spaces that were lost due to the new building. The General Fund was used because some of the new parking spaces were to be for County employees.

Since The Garden Street Parking Structure project is effectively suspended until the extent of court deficiencies are known, the Courthouse Construction Fund Committee and the Debt Advisory Committee voted to recommend that the Board reallocate the Criminal Justice Facility Funds originally allocated to that project to other projects as was done with the Courthouse Construction Funds in December.

The two committees voted to reallocate **\$551,000** to the Santa Maria Juvenile Hall/Court Expansion project for purpose of installing built-in cabinets and other related items that were deleted when the project was bid due to funding limitations. The probation Department has indicated that these cabinets and other related built-in items are absolutely necessary for the expanded hall to operate correctly and to receive sign-off by the State Board of Corrections.

The two committees also voted to reallocate the remainder of the proceeds originally designated for the Parking Structure (**\$234,000**) to replace two large air conditioning units at the main jail. As a part of their motions to reallocate these funds, both committees also recognized the Board's direction to keep the Garden Street Parking Structure alive should the funds for court deficiencies not be necessary. To carry out the intent of this directive, they recommended that **\$785,000** currently held in reserve in the Criminal Justice Facility Fund be designated to the Parking Structure project.

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In other words, \$785,000 in **borrowed** Criminal Justice Facility Fund money is proposed to be shifted from the Garden Street Parking Structure to other projects, while \$785,000 in **cash** is being allocated back to the Garden Street Parking Structure via a designation in the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund to keep it whole should it ever be “re-started.” This makes sense to spend borrowed money now on projects that have an immediate need, while saving cash for a project that may not be built in the near future.

Mandates and Service Levels:

No change in service levels.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

As presented in the executive summary of this report.

Concurrences:

Criminal Justice Facility Fund and Courthouse Construction Fund Advisory Committee
Debt Advisory Committee