

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 5/31/05
Department Name: County Executive
Department No.: 012
Agenda Date: 06/07/05
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Michael F. Brown
County Executive Office

STAFF Lori Norton
CONTACT: Analyst, 568-3421

SUBJECT: 2005 California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Challenge Award Entries

Recommendation:

That the Board of Supervisors authorize the County Executive Officer to sign and submit the attached letter of endorsement for the following six (6) Santa Barbara County entries for the 2005 CSAC Challenge Awards:

- 1) Fire's "Mission Canyon Evacuation Drill"
- 2) Fire's "Car Seat Safety"
- 3) General Services' "Santa Barbara County Scorecard Web Portal"
- 4) Agricultural Commissioner's Office "Web-based Pesticide Use Reporting System"
- 5) Public Works' "Partnership Program"
- 6) Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services' "Consumer Art Calendar"

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal #1, An Efficient Government Able to Respond Effectively to the Needs of the Community.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

We request your Board concur and endorse the 6 Santa Barbara County entries to be submitted for the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) 2005 Challenge Awards Program. These annual awards recognize the innovative and creative spirit of California county governments for finding new and effective ways of providing programs and services to their citizens.

A panel of county and private sector officials will evaluate the entries. Two levels of award will be presented: Challenge Award Trophies and Merit Award Certificates. CSAC will notify winners in September and will present Challenge awards to recipient Counties at the CSAC Annual Meeting which will be held in Santa Clara County from November 29 – December 2, 2005.

A brief overview of the County's 2005 entries are:

- 1) Mission Canyon Evacuation Drill – Santa Barbara County Fire in collaboration with public and private agencies has created a Voluntary Wildland Fire Evacuation Drill Program for the urban / wildland interfaces. The collaboration is designed to raise the level of wildland fire awareness, taking a progressive step towards saving lives.
- 2) Car Seat Safety – A number of Santa Barbara County Firefighters, on a volunteer basis, were trained to be National Highway Transportation Safety Association certified car seat technicians. The Department offers a two-hour presentation at fire stations throughout the County covering topics such as selecting a car seat, proper installation, fitting and adjusting the seat for your child, etc. This effort is designed to enhance child safety by reducing the risk of injury or death resulting from automobile accidents.
- 3) Scorecard Web Portal – The Santa Barbara County “Scorecard Portal” is a one-stop web based information system where cost center managers effectively track finances, projects, performance, employees, and customers. The “portal” is an important building block in a foundation that deconstructs the goals of the community down to the smallest purchase, providing an accessible tool for the County, responding to the public, to know exactly where and how the public resources are expended.
- 4) Web-based Pesticide Use Reporting System – The Agricultural Commissioner’s Office successfully developed and replaced an antiquated reporting system with innovative technology through the use of web-based technology. The system provides a streamlined process to monitor and enforce approximately 80,000 – 100,000 reports annually, thereby providing a value-added service to customers.
- 5) Partnership Program - The Public Works Department offers a voluntary cost sharing concrete repair program as a way to reduce the backlog and liability of tree related concrete repairs to curbs, gutters, and sidewalks in subdivisions. Individuals can join in a 65 / 35% tax deductible partnership with the County to receive timely attention. The benefits to the community include aesthetically improved neighborhoods, better drainage, reduced liability, safer neighborhoods, correct tree species selection, and an enhanced sense of pride and neighborhood involvement.
- 6) Consumer Art Calendar – The Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Department, as part of an anti-stigma effort, is producing a high quality annual calendar featuring works by local artists who are challenged by mental disorders. By emphasizing their talents and not their disabilities, the calendar shows that individuals can lead fulfilling lives despite serious diagnoses.

We are proud to add our innovative, cost-effective programs to CSAC's ongoing recognition effort. We thank the department heads and staff who have submitted entries, all of which deserve an award.

Mandates and Service Levels:

Participation in the CSAC Challenge Award Program is an optional activity. The program provides for statewide recognition of exemplary Santa Barbara County programs. The Challenge Award Program is also an opportunity for examining new and best practices around the State.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

A total cost of \$210.00 (\$35.00 per entry) is being paid for by the County Executive Office.

Special Instructions:

The Clerk of the Board is requested to deliver an executed copy of the resolution to the County Executive Office.

Enclosures:

Six Challenge Award entries from Fire, General Services, Agricultural Commission, Public Works, and Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Departments.

cc: All Department Heads