



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: Public Works/Flood
Control/Water Agency
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: June 28, 2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
Board of Directors, Water Agency
Board of Directors, Flood Control and Water Conservation District

FROM: Department Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, 805-568-3010
Director(s)
Contact Info: Walter Rubalcava, Deputy Director – Water Resources, 805-568-3436

SUBJECT: Approval for Grant Applications for Water Resources Division Projects for FY
2022-2023, All Supervisorial Districts

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Authorize the Project Clean Water Manager or designee to seek and apply for clean water project and program grants from federal or state government agencies or other funding entities during FY 2022-2023; and
- b) Find that the proposed action is related to creation of a government funding mechanism and other fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and is therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Guideline Section 15378 (b)(4).

That the Board of Directors of the Water Agency:

- c) Authorize the Water Agency Manager or designee to seek and apply for water related project and program grants from federal or state government agencies or other funding entities during FY 2022-2023; and

- d) Find that the proposed action is related to creation of a government funding mechanism and other fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and is therefore not a project under California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Guideline Section 15378 (b)(4).

That the Board of Directors of the Flood Control District:

- e) Authorize the Engineering Manager or designee to seek and apply for flood control and fish passage projects and program grants from federal or state government agencies or other funding entities during FY 2022-2023; and
- f) Find that the proposed action is related to creation of a government funding mechanism and other fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and is therefore not a project under California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Guideline Section 15378 (b)(4).

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to authorize the Water Resources Division to apply for grant funding opportunities for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. The Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department is comprised of three distinct programs that include Project Clean Water, Water Agency, and the Flood Control District. These programs provide a wide-range of services to the County and on an ongoing basis seek grant funding from federal, state, and other sources to continue to help maintain these services at their current levels.

Since the inception of Santa Barbara County's Project Clean Water Program in 1999, the Water Resources Division has periodically obtained water quality and storm water management project grants from federal and state agencies. Funding through such grants has enabled the County to provide projects and programs to protect public health and to enhance environmental quality in Santa Barbara County watersheds and beaches.

The Water Agency has obtained water conservation project grants for the Santa Barbara County's "Regional Water Efficiency Program" since the 1990s from federal and state agencies. Funding through such grants has been an essential element in providing tools and programs to promote water conservation on a regional scale. As the lead agency on behalf of the cooperating partners for the Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP), the Water Agency has applied for Prop 50, Prop 84, and most recently, Prop 1 IRWMP grant funding that has resulted in bringing in over \$37 million to Santa Barbara County. The Water Agency has also obtained Prop 1 planning grant funding for preparation of a Countywide Integrated Storm Water Resource Plan and Sustainable Groundwater Planning grant funding toward Groundwater Sustainability Plan development for the Cuyama Basin.

The Flood Control District has received several grants over the last several years for a variety of flood control and fish passage projects. Without grant funding some of these projects would not have been financially feasible. Flood Control is requesting the authority to submit grant applications for flood control and fish passage projects. The majority of these projects are included in the County's Capital Improvement Program (CIP). These projects are approved by the Board as part of the CIP and funding for these projects are also included in the adopted budget.

Background:

Grant solicitations are often issued with a very short time period for submitting applications. The timeframe often does not allow the Water Resources Division to obtain Board approval prior to applying. Approval of these recommendations would allow the Water Resources Division to apply for appropriate grants within the time constraints of the granting agencies. Staff would return to the Board for final approval and acceptance of funds if grant funding were awarded.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Narrative:

These recommendations have no fiscal impacts at this time.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to email a copy of the minute order of these actions to clopez@countyofsb.org

Authored by:

Walter Rubalcava, Deputy Director – Water Resources Division, 805-568-3436