Tax Transfer between County of Santa Barbara and County Fire Protection District

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors May 1, 2012



Tax Transfer Overview

California Revenue and Taxation Code Section 99.02

As the County Board & District Board . . .

Conduct hearing on effect of tax transfer

As County Board . . .

 Consider and adopt transfer policy, effect findings, resolution and Gann Limit change

As District Board . . .

 Consider and accept tax transfer and Gann Limit change



Effect Findings I

- Revenues are available for this purpose because:
 - Unencumbered reserves and designations of \$21M are available
 - Tax transfer payment (\$5.9M) is equal to proposed allocation to the Fire Department in FY2012-13
- No increase in the fee to revenue ratio because:
 - Fees limited to the cost of delivering the service
 - Fees are updated and approved as the cost of service delivery increases
 - No new fees are resulting from this transfer





Effect Findings II

- The transfer will not impair the ability to provide existing services because:
 - The tax transfer is 0.7% of total County revenues
 - Departments have service funding available
 - The County retains 75-80% of incremental growth
 - Future property tax dollars have not been allocated and do not impact current available funding
- The transfer will not result in a reduction of property tax revenues to school entities.





Tax Transfer Decision Points

- Policy decision resulting from findings and hearing
 - Consider and confirm that 16-17% funding is needed and that tax transfer is preferred method
- Consider and adopt effect findings
- Select one tax transfer option & resolution
 - 16 or 17% base plus 20 or 25% of future increment
- Consider and adopt Gann Limit changes
 - Decreasing the County's and increasing the District's



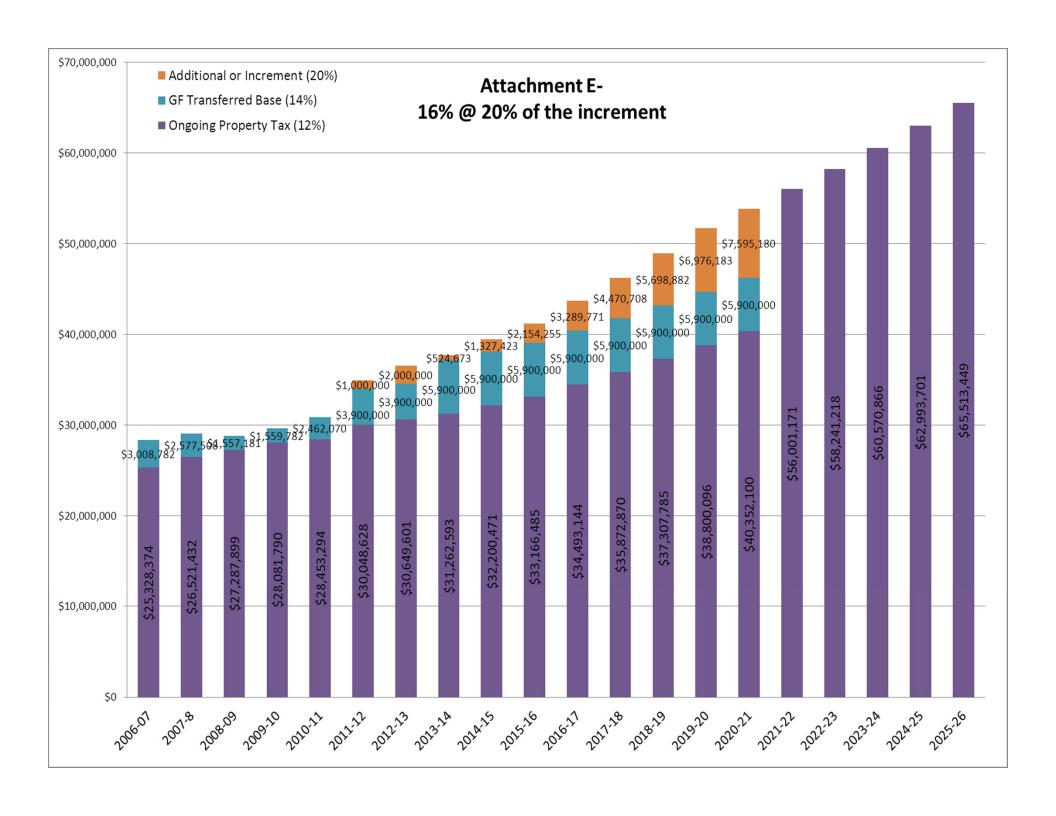
Tax Transfer Options

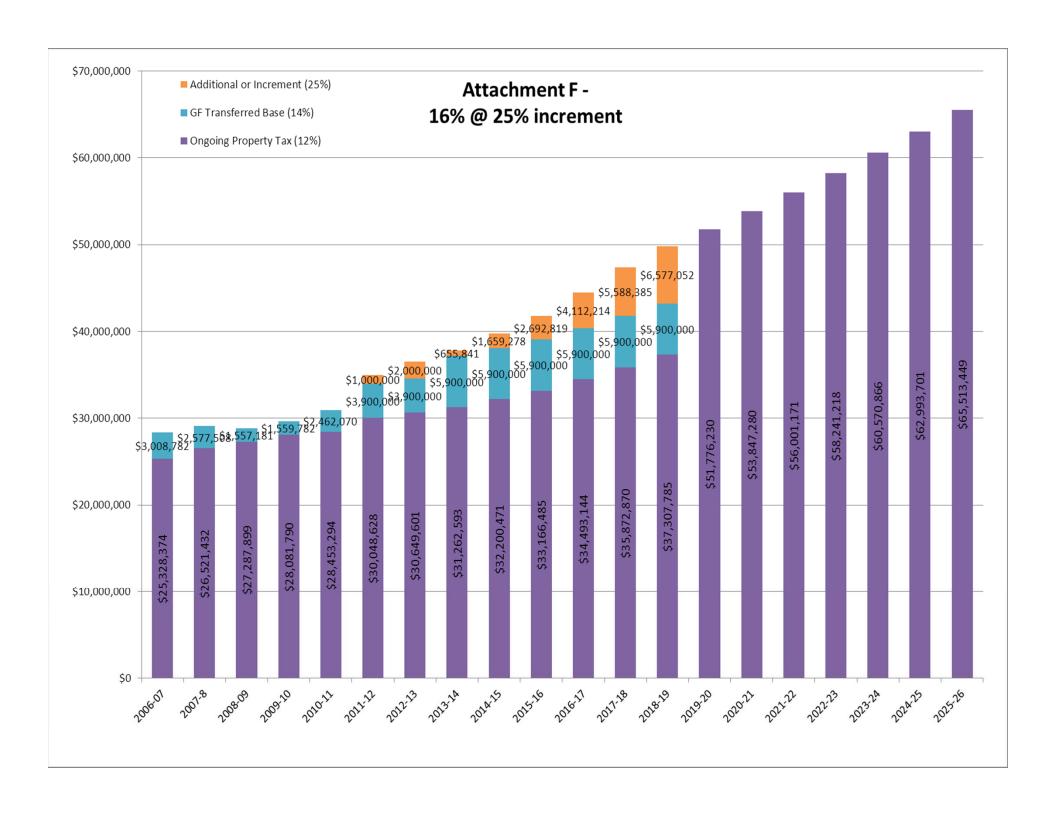
- \$5.9M property tax shift in FY2012-13 and after
- 20 or 25% share of property tax increment starting in FY2013-14
- Up to 16 or 17% of the allocable taxes from all the tax rate areas in the Fire District

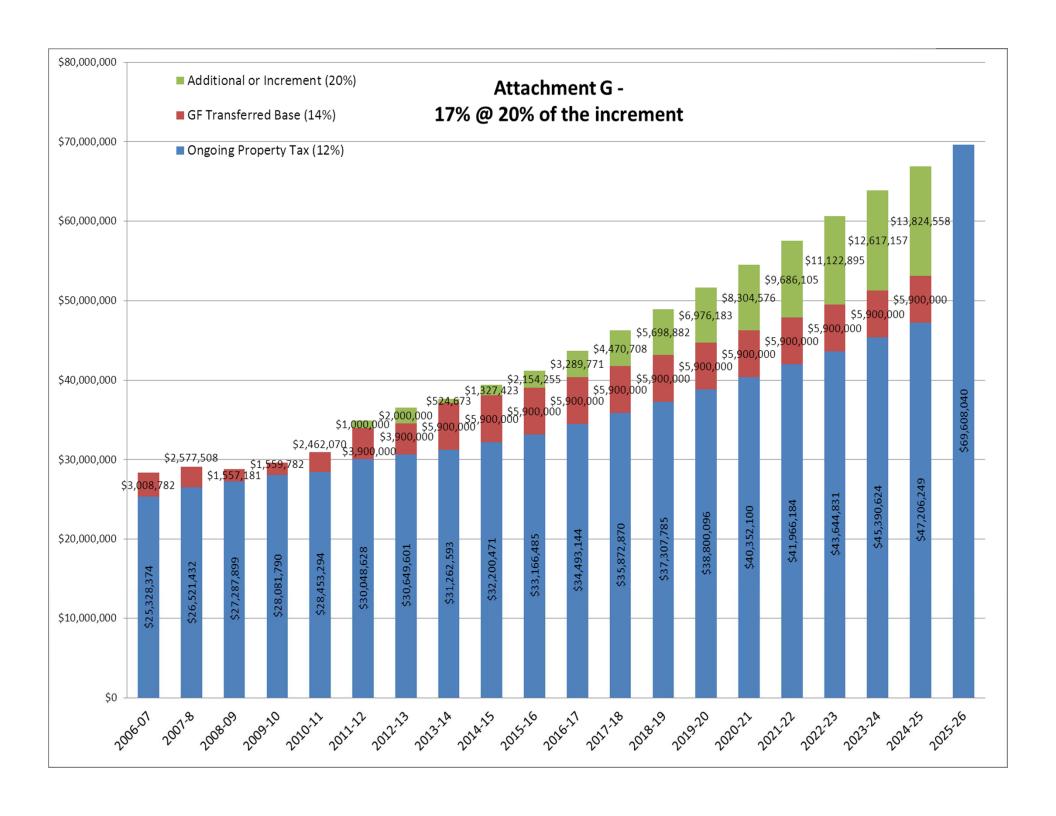
	20% of Increment	25% of Increment
16%	9 years	7 years
17%	13 years	10 years

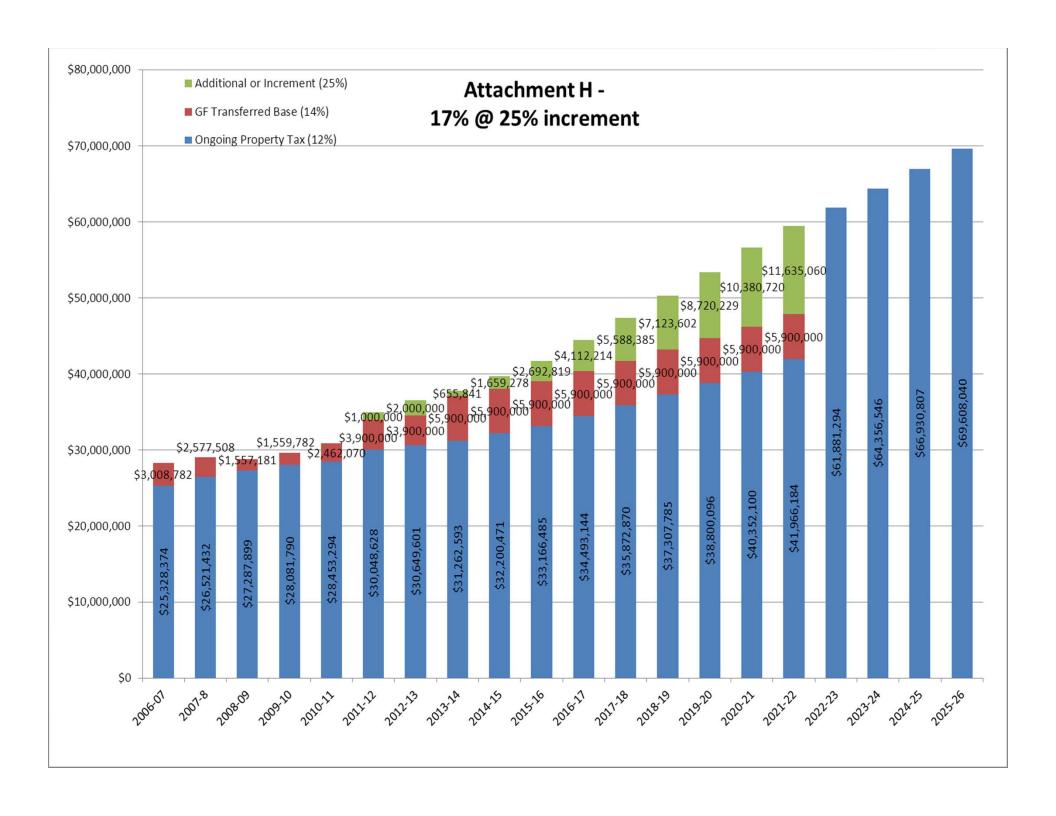












Gann Appropriation Limit Change

- Gann Amendment (1979) set a limit on the growth of expenditures more than base year plus inflation
- Constitutional and statutory provision to change when financial responsibility for services are transferred
- District's limit will increase, County's decrease



Recommendations

As County Board of Supervisors . . .

- Consider policy on Fire District funding by a property tax transfer to 16 or 17% is preferred
- Consider proposed findings and hearing results
- Consider one property tax transfer resolution
- Consider Gann Appropriation Limit change

As District Board of Directors . . .

- Consider accepting property tax transfer
- Consider Gann Appropriation Limit change





Questions

