



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: County Executive Office
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: April 3, 2018
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s) Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer, x3404
Contact Info: Matt Pontes, Assistant County Executive Officer, x3407
SUBJECT: Donation for Thomas Fire and 1/9 Debris Flow Expert Consultants

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Authorize the County Executive Officer to accept a donation in the amount of \$300,000 on a reimbursement basis from Partners for Resilient Communities to assist the County of Santa Barbara with augmented disaster consulting services related to the Thomas Fire and 1/9 Debris Flow; and
- b) Determine pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15378(b)(4) that the above actions are not a project subject to CEQA review, because it is a government activity that does not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

The Thomas Fire incident began on December 5, 2017. The subsequent storm and debris flow events that took place on January 9, 2018 were combined into the same local, State and Federal proclaimed emergency for disaster claiming purposes, and will be referred hereafter as the 1/9 Debris Flow.

Due to the unique and complex nature of this disaster, and the scope of both short and long-term recovery efforts, expert consultants have been engaged to assist the County of Santa Barbara in areas such as strategic planning, coordination and communication across multiple agencies, and guidance regarding state and federal programs.

Consulting services include but are not limited to the following:

- Consultation on policy issues related to recovery;
- Coordination of consultant resources hired by the County;
- Coordination with local, state and federal agencies;
- Development of overall recovery strategy;
- Strategic planning;
- State and federal disaster program guidance;
- Strategic communications;
- Engagement with community organizations;
- Assistance in vetting of supplemental consultants to support recovery requirements; and
- Provide such as other services as may be directed by the County Executive Office.

Partners for Resilient Communities has donated \$300,000 to the County of Santa Barbara to supplement the cost of retaining these expert consultants. This generous donation will enable the County of Santa Barbara Office of Emergency Management to implement several key strategies on an as-needed basis in order to provide a strategic and informed approach to long-term community recovery. Approval by the Board of Supervisors is required to formally accept this donation.

Background:

Partners for Resilient Communities is a local non-profit corporation organized for charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501 c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Wildfires have always been a regular occurrence in California, particularly in Santa Barbara. The unprecedented and historic debris flow conditions that occurred during the 1/9 Debris Flow have made it necessary for the County of Santa Barbara to gather as much information as possible in order to implement coordinated and strategic planning for long-term recovery efforts, as well as future storm events. This donation is being provided for use by the Office of Emergency Management to maximize and leverage County resources, and ensure the continuation of a comprehensive approach to recovery in the short, medium and long-term. A budget revision will be submitted at a future date once specific uses for the donated funds are identified. This recommendation adheres to the County donation policy.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

A budget revision will be submitted at a future date once specific uses for the funds are identified.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Acceptance of Donations and Gifts to the County

Authored by:

Andrew Myung, Cost Recovery Manager, x3408

cc:

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Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, x3412

Jeff Frapwell, Assistant County Executive Officer, x3432

Rob Lewin, Director, Office of Emergency Management, x5526