



**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: CEO
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: March 16, 2021
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Contact Info: Terri Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer
Kelly Hubbard, Director Office of Emergency Management
SUBJECT: **Second Amendment to the Foodbank of Santa Barbara County COVID-19 Funding Agreement**

DocuSigned by:
Mona Miyasato
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County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify and authorize the Chair to execute the Second Amendment of the funding agreement with the Foodbank of Santa Barbara County for emergency feeding services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This Second Amendment extends the term through September 30, 2021, and establishes a contract not to exceed amount of \$538,530; and
- b) Determine that the proposed action is related to the 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 exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378 (b)(4).

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to request the Board of Supervisors approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute the Second Amendment of the funding agreement with the Foodbank of Santa Barbara County for emergency feeding services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This amendment reflects the

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same eligible activities and possible reimbursement amount that were approved previously, but meets FEMA requirements for this type of disaster agreement to be based on 6-month interval periods. This Second Amendment extends the term through September 30, 2021, and establishes a contract not to exceed amount of \$538,530.

This amendment will allow the Foodbank of Santa Barbara County to continue to provide emergency feeding programs to assist vulnerable communities facing food insecurity due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The initial funding agreement and First Amendment allowed the Foodbank to pursue COVID-19 related emergency feeding reimbursement from the County for services provided beginning March 16 through March 31, 2021. Residents throughout the county continue to experience food insecurity as evidenced by ongoing demand at food distribution sites and the grocery home delivery services provided to homebound seniors.

Background:

The Foodbank of Santa Barbara County implemented emergency feeding programs to assist vulnerable communities facing food insecurity due to COVID-19 impacts. To help support the nutritional needs of vulnerable residents impacted, including homebound seniors, the County entered into a funding agreement with the Foodbank of Santa Barbara County for the initial term of March 16, 2020 through September 30, 2020. The First Amendment to the funding agreement extended the term through March 31, 2021.

One year from the inception of this agreement, local residents continue to experience food insecurity as the pandemic endures. The Foodbank is a critical lifeline for those who are unable to access sufficient food due to COVID-19 and allows at-risk seniors to continue to stay safe at home with grocery home delivery services. It is for these reasons that we recommend the Second Amendment to this agreement to allow for an additional six months and extend the term through September 30, 2021.

Based on the policy issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) addressing emergency feeding during COVID-19, the purchase and distribution of food constitutes as emergency protective measures necessary to save lives and protect public health and safety. The policy also provides that local governments may enter into formal agreements with private organizations, including private nonprofit (PNP) organizations such as food banks, to purchase and distribute food when necessary as an emergency protective measure in response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. In this case, federal public assistance funding is provided to the County, which is the legally responsible government entity. The County then reimburses the PNP for the cost of providing those services under the agreement. Per FEMA policy these agreements must be issued in 6 month increments.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Although part of the agreement, Foodbank does not plan to pursue reimbursement for food distribution centers due to complexities in FEMA required documentation, and the generosity of donors who have helped to supplement these efforts. However, Foodbank does intend to pursue reimbursement from the County per this agreement specifically for home delivery services only. The Foodbank will submit these eligible costs to the County with the appropriate documentation required for FEMA reimbursement processes.

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In February 2021, FEMA announced 100% federal reimbursement for eligible COVID-19 response costs, including emergency feeding services, for the emergency response period of January 2020 until September 30, 2021. Regardless of FEMA reimbursement, the County would be required to pay Foodbank for all eligible costs for which they submit appropriate documentation per this funding agreement. If unable to recover part or any of the costs, the County will ultimately be responsible.

Budgeted: No.

The costs associated with this proposed agreement are expected to be reimbursable under the federal Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act administered by FEMA.

Special Instructions:

Please email one (1) complete executed contract and one (1) minute order to sthompson@sbcoem.org

Attachment

- Attachment A: Second Amendment to the Funding Agreement between the County of Santa Barbara and Foodbank of Santa Barbara County
- Attachment B: First Amendment, dated October 1, 2020
- Attachment C: Original Agreement, dated July 14, 2020

Authored by:

Yaneris Muñiz, Emergency Manager, Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management