

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY**

DEPT: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

BOARD AGENDA # \*B-3

Urgent  Routine

AGENDA DATE February 13, 2001

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES  NO   
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES  NO

SUBJECT:

AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY TO PARTICIPATE WITH OTHER SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY  
COUNTIES IN A JOINT GRANT APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA TECHNOLOGY  
TRADE AND COMMERCE AGENCY'S RURAL E-COMMERCE PROGRAM.

STAFF  
RECOMMEN-  
DATIONS:

AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY TO PARTICIPATE WITH OTHER SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY  
COUNTIES IN A JOINT GRANT APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA TECHNOLOGY  
TRADE AND COMMERCE AGENCY'S RURAL E-COMMERCE PROGRAM.

FISCAL  
IMPACT:

If the grant application is successful the County may receive up to \$50,000 to complete and implement Connecting Stanislaus, an advanced communication infrastructure assessment and readiness study.

**BOARD ACTION**

No. 2001-99

On motion of Supervisor Blom, Seconded by Supervisor Caruso,  
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Mayfield, Blom, Simon, Caruso, and Chair Paul

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1)  Approved as recommended

2)  Denied

3)  Approved as amended

Motion:

Christine Ferraro

File No.

AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY TO PARTICIPATE WITH OTHER SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY COUNTIES IN A JOINT GRANT APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA TECHNOLOGY TRADE AND COMMERCE AGENCY'S RURAL E-COMMERCE PROGRAM.

Page 2

**DISCUSSION:** The San Joaquin Valley Supervisor's Association at their 2000 Fall Conference heard a presentation on "Connecting the San Joaquin Valley". After considerable discussion, the Supervisors voted to establish a Broadband Task Force for the purpose of discussing and planning a strategy on how advanced communication services help the Valley become more economically competitive.

The first meeting of the Broadband Task Force was held in Stanislaus County on February 1<sup>st</sup>. It was well attended, with representation from most of the eight counties in the San Joaquin Valley as well as industry, K-12 and higher education.

The Task Force decided to seek funding for an assessment of the regional readiness for advanced communication services, which will benefit each county by identifying its technological preparedness and readiness for participating in the global economy.

Specifically, the counties will be able to:

- Conduct an assessment of each community's readiness,
- Develop action initiatives for taking advantage of new communications technologies,
- Publish a report describing our readiness and a schedule for change, and
- Develop a strategy for achieving our goals.

Stanislaus County has taken the lead in conducting an advanced communication infrastructure assessment for our area. Other counties in the valley wish to follow our model. However, our assessment and readiness report is not final. Additional funding from this grant would make it possible to finish the infrastructure baseline map, prepare a proposal from each of the six developed initiatives and publish a report.

The grant is being offered by the California Technology Trade and Commerce Agency's Rural E-Commerce Program. The grant request will be prepared and submitted by the Great Valley Center on behalf of the San Joaquin Valley counties that decide to participate. It is anticipated that each county may receive up to \$50,000 for the communication assessment in their area. There is a one to one in-kind aggregate match requirement. This match requirement will be provided by county staff from all involved counties, utility companies and private sector participation.

AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY TO PARTICIPATE WITH OTHER SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY COUNTIES IN A JOINT GRANT APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA TECHNOLOGY TRADE AND COMMERCE AGENCY'S RURAL E-COMMERCE PROGRAM.

Page 3

POLICY

ISSUES:

The Board should decide if the county's participation in the San Joaquin Valley Counties' joint application to the California Technology Trade and Commerce Agency advances their priority of economic development and multi-jurisdictional cooperation.

STAFFING

ISSUES:

No additional impact.