

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

DEPT: AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

BOARD AGENDA # B-6

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE July 17, 2007

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES  NO

4/5 Vote Required YES  NO

(Information Attached)

SUBJECT:

Acceptance of a Presentation on the All-Hazards Food and Agricultural Emergency Response Template Developed for the Counties of Stanislaus and Fresno

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Accept the informational presentation on the All-Hazards Food and Agricultural Emergency Response Template.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The All-Hazards Food and Agricultural Emergency Response Template was developed through the joint support of Stanislaus and Fresno Counties. Stanislaus County utilized \$46,861 in funding from Homeland Security Grants from Fiscal Year 2004/2005 and Fiscal Year 2005/2006. Fresno County contributed \$70,000 through their Homeland Security funding.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2007-568

On motion of Supervisor Mayfield, Seconded by Supervisor Grover

and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Mayfield, Grover, Monteith, DeMartini, and Chairman O'Brien

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) \_\_\_\_\_ Denied

3) \_\_\_\_\_ Approved as amended

4) \_\_\_\_\_ Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST: Elizabeth A. King  
ELIZABETH A. KING, Assistant Clerk

File No.

**DISCUSSION:**

Agriculture is key to the economic base of Stanislaus County. Protecting Stanislaus County's strong agricultural economy/heritage is a Board priority. As part of the Board goal "managing threats to agriculture", Stanislaus County partnered with Fresno County to fund the development of an All-Hazards Food and Agricultural Emergency Response template. Disease outbreaks, pest infestations and biological and chemical contamination are serious threats to our food and agricultural infrastructure. As both counties learned during the Exotic Newcastle outbreak in Southern California, coordination between local, state and federal government is key for successfully responding to and maintaining an outbreak. All emergencies are local, and local government should be prepared to stand alone during the first 72 hours of an agricultural event before state and federal assistance arrives.

The All-Hazards Food and Agricultural Emergency Response Template was developed through Homeland Security Grant funding provided by both Stanislaus and Fresno Counties. Both counties recognize that biological events are not held to geographic boundaries and easily cross over county lines. Therefore, they instructed consultants James Lee Witt and associates to develop a template that could be used by all 58 counties within California. The template is based on the National Incident Management System (NIMS), Incident Command System (ICS) and Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). NIMS, ICS and SEMS are successful platforms for managing emergency events at the national, state and field level.

The development of the template is complete. Next steps include populating the template with input from local departments resulting in a plan specific to Stanislaus County. The Agricultural Commissioner's Office and the Office of Emergency Services representatives from both counties are coordinating with state and federal officials to incorporate the template statewide. The California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association adopted the template at their spring meeting last month.

**POLICY ISSUE:**

The Board may wish to evaluate whether support of this project would support and enhance the Board's priorities of a strong agricultural economy/heritage, a safe community, and efficient delivery of public services.

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

There is no staffing impact associated with this item.