

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

DEPT: Chief Executive Office

BOARD AGENDA # *B-2

Urgent Routine

AGENDA DATE April 21, 2009

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:

Approval of the Use of Community Development Funds to Fund a Portion of the Costs for the Development of a Countywide Growth Management Strategy

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve the use of \$100,000 of Community Development Funds to fund a portion of the costs for the development of a Countywide Growth Management Strategy.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If approved, \$100,000 of Community Development Funds would be set-aside to fund a portion of the costs for development of a Countywide Growth Management Strategy. Previous work in developing a scope of work for this effort anticipated a budgeted need of \$250,000. Details of a cost sharing formula to address the additional funding required will need to be worked out between StanCOG, the County and its nine cities.

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BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2009-249

On motion of Supervisor O'Brien, Seconded by Supervisor Monteith

and approved by the following vote,

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

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) Approved as recommended

2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

4) Other:

MOTION:

THIS ITEM WAS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR AND PLACED ON NON-CONSENT FOR DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION

Christine Ferraro

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

Approval of the Use of Community Development Funds to Fund a Portion of the Costs for the Development of a Countywide Growth Management Strategy

FISCAL IMPACT Continued:

As part of the 2007-2008 Final Budget, the Board of Supervisors set aside \$1,500,000 for the establishment of a Community Development Fund. On March 24, 2009, the Board of Supervisors approved the only other use of these funds to date, \$64,120 for the North Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Sidewalk Project.

DISCUSSION:

In the fall of 2005, the Mayors of the nine cities began a series of meetings to discuss the need for long-term planning. Increased traffic congestion, the loss of prime agricultural land and the increasing cost to provide sufficient water and sewer capacity raised the awareness of local elected officials of the need to properly plan for this growth on a local and countywide level. The County Board of Supervisors were invited to join in the discussions. In August 2006, the group agreed to the following key process steps:

- Identify the population growth expected in the County over the next several decades.
- Identify the areas within the County where growth should occur and where it should not occur.
- Develop several growth scenarios.
- Involve the public by conducting Town Hall meetings throughout the County.
- Obtain professional assistance to assist in developing the scenarios.

The Countywide Growth Management Strategy was to include policies and programs addressing land use, transportation, agricultural preservation, housing availability and affordability, and regional infrastructure issues such as water supply and quality and sewer.

On January 8, 2008, the Board of Supervisors authorized the application for a Caltrans Community-based Transportation Planning Grant for the development of this strategy. This grant application was not successful and progress towards this planning effort stalled.

Recently county staff was tasked with discussing potential ways that the Countywide Growth Management Strategy effort could be restarted. Staff came back with the recommendation that this Strategy be included as part of the scope of work for the development of the 2011 Regional Transportation Plan and associated Sustainable Communities Strategy which will be led by the Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG). StanCOG serves as the local Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and has been the lead agency for our region for the Blueprint Planning Process.

The development of a Countywide Growth Management Strategy will require the hiring of outside facilitation services. Previous budget estimates to complete this planned effort were estimated at \$250,000.

Approval of the Use of Community Development Funds to Fund a Portion of the Costs for the Development of a Countywide Growth Management Strategy

As part of the 2007-2008 Final Budget, the Board of Supervisors set aside \$1,500,000 for the establishment of a Community Development Fund. The purpose of the Community Development Fund, as communicated in the Final Budget, was “to provide funding for one-time projects/programs benefiting the unincorporated area that demonstrates strong local support/commitment and a general public benefit. Priority will be placed on infrastructure improvements, seed and local match funding, and strategic planning for the creation of improvement districts. All grants will place an emphasis on sustainability.”

Approval of the use of \$100,000 to fund a portion of the costs for the development of a Countywide Growth Management Strategy would be contingent upon approval of the nine cities to re-engage the Strategy process and the identification of a cost sharing formula to fund the additional costs associated with this effort.

POLICY ISSUES:

The Board of Supervisors is asked to consider whether the development of a Countywide Growth Management Strategy furthers the Board Priority of a Well-Planned Infrastructure.

STAFFING IMPACTS:

There are no staffing impacts associated with this item.