



Agenda Date: 2/26/2008

Agenda Placement: 7R

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Peterson, Robert - Director
Public Works
REPORT BY: Robert Peterson, Director of Public Works - 253-4351
SUBJECT: Federal Funding Requests for Fiscal Year 2009

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Public Works requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign a letter to Senators Feinstein and Boxer requesting federal funding and indicating the Board's priorities for several projects within the County.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Each year the Board and other governmental agencies in the County receive letters from our House Representative and two U.S. Senators asking if they will be making requests for federal funds for specific projects (earmarks) for the upcoming fiscal year. This year our federal representatives have asked that all agencies within a region work together to recommend projects jointly in order to help them better understand which projects have the broadest support and greatest priorities within the region. This year the County is submitting requests for projects that in the past have been submitted only by the Flood Control District and by the City of St. Helena. It is also submitting a request for the Airport. Although all projects are worthwhile and benefit the County's constituents, the following priority ratings are suggested for Board approval.

1. Napa River/Napa Creek Flood Protection Project - \$22.8 million (Energy and Water Appropriations)
2. Airport Glide Slope Installation Project - \$1.54 million (Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air Traffic Organization Program)
3. Napa River Navigation Dredging Project - \$3.6 million (Energy and Water Appropriations)
4. St. Helena Comprehensive Flood Protection Project - \$2.5 million (Energy and Water Appropriations)
5. Upper York Creek Dam Removal and Restoration Project - \$ Unspecified at this time (Energy and Water Appropriations)
6. St. Helena Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion - \$1 million (Energy and Water Appropriations)

The North Bay Water Reuse Authority (NBWRA), which could eventually benefit the MST recycled water pipeline project, is still seeking project authorization and therefore is not eligible to request funds in 2009.

The deadline for submitting the request forms for these projects is February 29 to the two Senators. The deadline for submittal to Congressman Thompson was February 20. The Senators are the only ones requesting prioritization of the projects. Forms for the above projects were submitted to Congressman Thompson's office on time. The Board is requested to authorize the Chair to sign the attached letter submitting the forms (not attached) to the two Senators with the priority listing indicated above.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Each year the Board and other governmental agencies in the County receive letters from our House Representative and two U.S. Senators asking if they will be making requests for federal funds for specific projects (earmarks) for the upcoming fiscal year. This year our federal representatives have asked that all agencies within a region work together to recommend projects jointly in order to help them better understand which projects have the broadest support and greatest priorities within the region. The CEO/City Managers group collaborated to compile the list of requests from all agencies. The Airport project was added by County staff at the last minute based on a request from Congressman Thompson's office and therefore is too late to be included by any other agency. The agencies participating this year are the City of St. Helena, City of Napa and Napa County. The Flood District, being a special purpose agency, will only submit requests for the two projects it is responsible for.

The Senators require that each agency prioritize the projects to further help them know where the greatest interest is within the region. This year the County is submitting requests for projects that in the past have been submitted only by the Flood Control District and by the City of St. Helena, with the exception of the airport project. Each agency that submits funding requests will establish its own priorities. Although all projects are worthwhile and benefit the County's constituents, the following priority ratings are suggested for Board approval.

1. Napa River/Napa Creek Flood Protection Project - \$22.8 million (Energy and Water Appropriations)
2. Airport Glide Slope Installation Project - \$1.54 million (FAA Air Traffic Organization Program)
3. Napa River Navigation Dredging Project - \$3.6 million (Energy and Water Appropriations)
4. St. Helena Comprehensive Flood Protection Project - \$2.5 million (Energy and Water Appropriations)
5. Upper York Creek Dam Removal and Restoration Project - \$ Unspecified at this time (Energy and Water Appropriations)
6. St. Helena Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion - \$1 million (Energy and Water Appropriations)

The North Bay Water Reuse Authority (NBWRA), which could eventually benefit the MST recycled water pipeline project, is still seeking project authorization and therefore is not eligible to request funds in 2009.

The airport request is for the installation of the glide slope equipment that was purchased by the FAA under a

previous earmark secured by Congressman Thompson. That earmark was intended to fully install and make operational the equipment, but due to cost overruns that did not happen. The Congressman desires to seek an additional earmark to complete the work that should have been done under the prior earmark and has asked us to include this in our request this year. Due to the lateness of this request, the other agencies have not had time to include support for this in their own requests.

The deadline for submitting the request forms for these projects is February 29 to the two Senators. The deadline for submittal to Congressman Thompson was February 20. The Senators are the only ones requesting prioritization of the projects. Forms for the above projects were submitted to Congressman Thompson's office on time. The Board is requested to authorize the Chair to sign the attached letter submitting the forms (not attached) to the two Senators with the priority listing indicated above.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- A . Letter to Senator Feinstein regarding Federal Funding Requests
- B . Letter to Senator Boxer regarding Federal Funding Requests

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi