



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 2/25/2019

Agenda Placement: 7C

Napa County Legislative Subcommittee Board Agenda Letter

TO: Napa County Legislative Subcommittee
FROM: Mary Booher for Minh Tran - County Executive Officer
County Executive Office
REPORT BY: Molly Rattigan, Deputy County Executive Officer - 253-4112
SUBJECT: Property Tax Backfill for FY 2019-2020

RECOMMENDATION

County Executive Officer requests discussion and possible action related to a request for property tax backfill in Fiscal Year 2019-2020 for properties damaged during the 2017 Napa Fire Complex.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Staff is seeking discussion and direction on pursuing the backfill of lost property taxes in Fiscal Year 2019-2020 following the 2017 wildfires. Sonoma County and Mendocino County have indicated interest in seeking this backfill. Staff will present a complete report at the Legislative Subcommittee meeting.

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

In Fiscal Year 2017-2018, the State Legislature and Governor took action to provide Napa County with a backfill of property taxes lost during the 2017 Napa wildfires. The same provision was provided to Sonoma County and Mendocino County. The losses were intended to backfill Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and Fiscal Year 2018-2019. The intent of the two year backfill was to allow ample time for the rebuilding process to commence. As of February 15, 2019, 149 of 662 (23%) of residential rebuild permits have been issued.

Senator Dodd and Senator McGuire's offices have approached Sonoma, Napa and Mendocino counties regarding the need for an additional year of property tax backfill based on recovery and rebuild rates. Sonoma and Mendocino have indicated an interest in one additional year, Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Additionally, the State Legislature recently approved an emergency mid-year budget allocation for three years of property tax backfill following the 2018 wildfires for Butte County and Lake County.

Staff will provide a report, included estimated lost property tax revenue in Fiscal Year 2019-2020 as a result of the rebuild rate following the 2017 wildfires. Staff is seeking discussion and action to actively pursue an additional year of backfiled property tax revenue.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Molly Rattigan