

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Planning and Building	(2) MEETING DATE 6/17/2014	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Kerry Brown, Planner/ 805-781-5713	
(4) SUBJECT Submittal of resolutions authorizing the Department of Planning and Building to submit applications to the California Coastal Commission and the Ocean Protection Council for two grants in the amount of \$50,000 each to conduct a sea level rise study for the Los Osos Community Plan update. District 2.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve and instruct the Chairman to sign the attached resolutions authorizing the Department of Planning and Building to submit applications for two grants, a California Coastal Commission Local Coastal Program Assistance Grant and an Ocean Protection Council Local Coastal Program Sea Level Rise Grant, in the amount of \$50,000 each to conduct a sea level rise study for the Los Osos Community Plan update.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) N/A	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ___) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ___)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Lisa M. Howe			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) District 2			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Planning and Building / Kerry Brown, Planner

VIA: Ellen Carroll, Planning Manager

DATE: 6/17/2014

SUBJECT: Submittal of resolutions authorizing the Department of Planning and Building to submit applications to the California Coastal Commission and the Ocean Protection Council for two grants in the amount of \$50,000 each to conduct a sea level rise study for the Los Osos Community Plan update. District 2.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve and instruct the Chairman to sign the attached resolutions authorizing the Department of Planning and Building to submit applications for two grants, a California Coastal Commission Local Coastal Program Assistance Grant and an Ocean Protection Council Local Coastal Program Sea Level Rise Grant, in the amount of \$50,000 each to conduct a sea level rise study for the Los Osos Community Plan update.

DISCUSSION

Background

On December 4, 2012, your Board authorized the Department to begin working on the Los Osos Community Plan update that is currently underway. It is likely that a sea level rise study will be required by the Coastal Commission to certify the update.

Recently, the State of California announced coordinated grant programs to support local government planning for sea-level rise and climate change and updates to Local Coastal Programs (LCPs). These grants support local coastal planning to develop new LCPs for certification in areas that are not currently certified and to update existing certified LCPs to reflect new information and changed conditions, especially in light of the effects of climate change. Both grants could fund a sea level rise study for the Los Osos Community Plan update.

Last year, the Planning Department applied unsuccessfully for an LCP Planning Assistance grant from the Coastal Commission. A component of that grant was a sea level rise study.

Grant Applications

Board of Supervisors resolutions (see Attachments 1 and 2) are required to authorize submittal of the two grant applications for the California Coastal Commission's Local Coastal Program Assistance Grant Program and the State Ocean Protection Council's Local Coastal Program Sea-Level Rise Grant in the amount of \$50,000 for each program. These are coordinated grant programs, but submitting an application for each program could increase the County's chances of obtaining grant funding. If the County is successful in obtaining grant funding, it is likely that funding would come from just one of the two grant programs. A summary from the grant applications is found in Attachment 3.

While the current Department budget includes funding for the Los Osos Community Plan update, staff expects that much of that funding will be used to prepare an Environmental Impact Report. Grant funding would enable the Department to include a sea level rise study. This technical study is needed to complete the Los Osos Community Plan update and Environmental Impact Report. This study would be done concurrently with the Plan update and within the existing schedule.

The County's EnergyWise (climate action) Plan includes the results of an assessment of county-specific climate change projections by the GEOS Institute and the Local Government Commission, based on climate modeling software. The projections include the expected long-term (year 2100) increase in sea level along the coast. The EnergyWise Plan also includes a number of mitigation and adaptation strategies to limit the effects of climate change.

A grant-funded sea level rise study would expand on the climate change modeling that has already been done, using that information to conduct more focused mapping of potential sea level rise in Los Osos. It would identify potential impacts specific to Los Osos, for example, increased coastal erosion, coastal flooding, infrastructure vulnerability and maintenance costs, loss of coastal wetlands and saltwater intrusion. The study would then recommend Los Osos-specific Local Coastal Program policies, development standards, revisions to existing standards or procedures, or other measures needed to mitigate or adapt to projected sea level rise. This would lead to measures to help sustain sensitive coastal resources in the long-term and assure a healthy community. It would also enable the Los Osos Community Plan update to more effectively implement the County General Plan and the EnergyWise Plan by including climate adaptation measures.

If either the Coastal Commission or the Ocean Protection Council grant application is approved, Department staff will conduct a consultant selection process to hire a consultant for the sea level rise study. Consultant contracts would be brought to your Board for approval as required.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

The Department of Planning and Building has primary responsibility for the grant application and administration and oversight of subsequent consultant work. County Counsel approved the resolutions as to form and legal effect.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This is a reimbursable grant that will require the County to expend project funds for professional services that will then be reimbursed through the State. If the County receives one of the grants, staff will request a mid-year FY 2014-15 budget adjustment to reflect the amount of the approved grant. This budget adjustment will contain revenue and professional services. Although matching funds are not required for the grant, staff time already allocated to the Los Osos Community Plan update will be used and proposed as an in-kind match. We expect to hear results of the grant awards in the fall of 2014.

RESULTS

Approving these resolutions will allow the Planning and Building Department to submit the grant applications. If either the Coastal Commission or the Ocean Protection Council grant application is approved, the County, with consultant assistance, will complete the sea level rise study in conjunction with the Los Osos Community Plan update. This technical study is needed to complete the Los Osos Community Plan update and Environmental Impact Report. This will help facilitate long-awaited future development on vacant parcels within the Los Osos Prohibition Zone, benefitting the local economy. The study funded by this grant is consistent with the County-wide goals of promoting safe and prosperous communities.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Coastal Commission Resolution of the Board of Supervisors

Attachment 2 - Ocean Protection Council Resolution of the Board of Supervisors

Attachment 3 – Summary from grant applications