

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - LAND USE
WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2024**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2

**SUBJECT: ADOPT RESOLUTIONS DESIGNATING OFFICIAL SIGNATORIES FOR
FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FLOODPLAIN
MANAGEMENT AND GRANT PROGRAMS AND RELATED CEQA
EXEMPTION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

San Diego County's unincorporated region has recently experienced significant flooding that has damaged infrastructure, residences, and businesses. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assists states and local communities with programs, technical support, and grants to help protect residents and businesses against flooding. FEMA's hazard mitigation assistance grant programs provide funding for eligible mitigation activities that reduce disaster losses and protect life and property from future natural disasters. Local funds can be used to leverage FEMA grants to construct drainage improvements that protect residents and businesses, especially those in underserved areas.

In California, many of these programs are administered by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) on behalf of FEMA. Grant funds are available for projects to rebuild communities after a major disaster in a way that reduces future disaster losses, help communities reduce risks from future disasters and natural hazards, and reducing the risk of flood damage to NFIP-insured buildings. FEMA currently offers the following hazard mitigation programs to eligible municipalities, agencies, and organizations:

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program
- Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC)

These FEMA programs can provide funding to support County of San Diego (County) flood protection and drainage improvement projects, such as culvert replacements and channel improvements that are identified in the Department of Public Works' Five-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP), as well as emergency projects or multi-jurisdictional projects that will benefit unincorporated county residents. Plans that are not on the 5-Year CIP Plan are not excluded and can still be considered for submittal however the majority of FEMA granted funded programs are competitive and projects that are on the 5-Year CIP Plan will potentially score better than those not identified on an existing plan. Because grants frequently require the recipient to provide matching funds, matching funds could be from the San Diego County Flood Control District, County Road Fund, partnering jurisdictions, other eligible matching grants, or previously allocated/approved County General Fund.

In addition, FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS) program enables residents and businesses to receive discounts on flood insurance premiums when their local jurisdictions undertake floodplain management activities that go above and beyond the minimum National Flood Insurance Program requirements. The County participates in this program and is currently rated as a "Class 6" Community, which equates to 20% reduction in flood insurance premiums for eligible property owners within the unincorporated county.

FEMA requires Board of Supervisors (Board) approval for the submission of grant applications, grant and CRS reports, and to accept FEMA grant funds. Alternatively, jurisdictions may designate agents to sign and submit these reports and documents, and to accept FEMA grant funds for up to a 3-year period. Without this designation of authority for signature, the Board will be required to sign documents required to process a FEMA grant. This removes the burden on staff and the Board to process day to day grant management and administration documents with FEMA. The Board last adopted the resolutions on July 14, 2021 (05). Those resolutions were approved for a three-year period and now need to be adopted again.

Today's request is to adopt two resolutions authorizing the Director of Public Works, Assistant Director of Public Works, Deputy Director of Public Works, and Flood Control District Manager, as official agents of the County and Flood Control District, to implement and submit documents, including but not limited to applications, agreements, and grant acceptance letters for FEMA programs to the County of San Diego and/or the San Diego County Flood Control District through July 17, 2027.

RECOMMENDATION(S)
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Acting as the Board of Supervisors:

1. Find that adoption of the proposed resolutions is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines because there is no possibility for the activity to cause a significant effect on the environment.
2. Adopt a resolution entitled: JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND SAN DIEGO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZING COUNTY AGENTS TO EXECUTE AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS; AND ACCEPT FUNDS FROM AWARDED GRANTS TO AND FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY OR CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR EMERGENCY FLOOD MITIGATION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION THE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, AND BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNITIES.
3. Adopt a resolution entitled: JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND SAN DIEGO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZING COUNTY AGENTS TO EXECUTE AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS; AND ACCEPT FUNDS FROM AWARDED GRANTS TO AND FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY OR CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM.

Acting as the Flood Control District Board of Directors:

1. Adopt a resolution entitled: JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND SAN DIEGO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZING COUNTY AGENTS TO EXECUTE AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS; AND ACCEPT FUNDS FROM AWARDED GRANTS TO AND FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

AGENCY OR CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR EMERGENCY FLOOD MITIGATION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION THE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, AND BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNITIES.

2. Adopt a resolution entitled: JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND SAN DIEGO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZING COUNTY AGENTS TO EXECUTE AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS; AND ACCEPT FUNDS FROM AWARDED GRANTS TO AND FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY OR CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The San Diego County Flood Control District strives to implement programs and projects that preserve, enhance, and promote quality of life, health and safety, sustainability, equity, and environmental resources while simultaneously complying with mandatory federal, state, and local regulations. Designating official signatories for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodplain management and grant funding programs streamlines the application process and could result in more grant funding opportunities for County of San Diego (County) and San Diego County Flood Control District (District). This would result in projects that improve public safety and mitigation of impacts from natural hazards which will benefit unincorporated communities by reducing or eliminating long term risk of flood damage.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed action to authorize the Director of Public Works to implement and submit documents to FEMA for flood control projects has health and well-being and economic sustainability benefits. This action will contribute to the County sustainability goal of protecting the health and well-being of everyone in the region by reducing flood risk and reducing costs for flood insurance.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with these recommendations. There may be future fiscal impacts for which staff would return back for consideration and approval by the Board. Upon return by staff funding for future costs will need to be identified by the department and will proceed once identified. At this time, there will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

(RELATES TO FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT AGENDA NO. FL02)

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Desmond, seconded by Supervisor Anderson, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent, and adopted the following:

1. Resolution No. 24-090, entitled: JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND SAN DIEGO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZING COUNTY AGENTS TO EXECUTE AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS; AND ACCEPT FUNDS FROM AWARDED GRANTS TO AND FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY OR CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR EMERGENCY FLOOD MITIGATION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION THE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, AND BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNITIES; and,
2. Resolution No. 24-091, entitled: JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND SAN DIEGO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZING COUNTY AGENTS TO EXECUTE AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS; AND ACCEPT FUNDS FROM AWARDED GRANTS TO AND FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY OR CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM.

AYES: Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

ABSENT: Vargas

State of California)
County of San Diego)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed
by Andrew Potter

