

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - LAND USE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 5

SUBJECT: ADOPT A RESOLUTION DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS AND EXECUTE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DISASTER RECOVERY AND MITIGATION RESILIENCE INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING PROGRAM FUNDS AND CEQA FINDING (DISTRICTS: 1, 2, 4)

OVERVIEW

In January 2024, the San Diego region experienced successive storms from an atmospheric river event that, in the community of Spring Valley, delivered unprecedented levels of rainfall and significant flooding. Other local communities also experienced heavy rainfall and flooding. The ensuing damage resulted in a Presidential disaster declaration for San Diego County and other areas in California.

The State of California, Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is administering the Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program funds allocated to California by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Those funds are supporting long-term recovery efforts through the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act due to the 2023 and 2024 severe winter storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides. HCD also allocated grant funding for a Mitigation Resilience Infrastructure and Planning Program (CDBG MIT-RIPP) to San Diego County (County). HCD defines mitigation activities as those that increase resilience to future disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship. These two programs, DR & MIT-RIPP are combined into one application. The County of San Diego has received a preliminary combined allocation of \$15,900,752 for the January 2024 storms. This includes \$10,210,410 under the CDBG-DR program to address long-term recovery efforts as a direct result of the 2024 floods and \$5,690,342 under the CDBG MIT-RIPP program to increase the county's resilience in future disasters. Cost estimates for CDBG-DR candidate projects approximately matched the amount of funding available. CDBG MIT-RIPP candidate projects were considered and ranked based on their ability to meet the intent of the funding, the timeline for completing work (June 2030), the program goal of benefitting census-established low-to-moderate income areas, submitting County program's priorities, and community interest. County staff developed candidate project lists, which were shared and discussed with HCD staff in advance of formal submission to improve the County's application quality and responsiveness. Projects are listed in order of priority, with rankings based on multiple scoring criteria identified by the State. HCD staff recommended that the County's application include eligible projects that exceed the initial \$15,900,752 combined allocation should additional funds become available. Accordingly, the County's application will include eligible projects totaling \$24,590,000. Final selection and award for all the projects listed below will be determined by the HCD.

As a result of the 2024 January floods in the region, and after careful evaluation of the technical requirements of the grant for eligibility, the County is proposing the following projects for submission to CDBG-DR.

- 1. Tijuana River Valley (TJRV) Smuggler's Gulch Sedimentation Basins (\$10M):** This project, located in District 1, would construct sedimentation capture basins at the south end of

Smuggler's Gulch which will help capture trash and sediment carried from Mexico, flowing into the U.S. side of the Pacific Ocean.

2. **Rio Way Culvert Repair (\$210,410):** This project, located in the District 4 community of Spring Valley, would repair portions of an existing pipe that has holes and corrosion.

To increase the region's resilience to future environmental disasters, and after careful evaluation of the technical requirements of the grant for eligibility, the County is proposing the following projects for submission to CDBG-MIT.

1. **TJRV Saturn Boulevard (\$2.5M):** The project, located in District 1, provides short-term mitigation to address air quality issues in the Tijuana River Valley. Currently, turbulent flows of the Tijuana River at the Saturn Boulevard crossing result in releases of dissolved gases, including hydrogen sulfide, which are found within the polluted Tijuana River Water. The project will install temporary pipe extensions to reduce turbulence and the resulting aerosolization of pollutants.
2. **Lang Avenue Culvert Repair (\$200,000):** This project, located in the District 1 community of Spring Valley, would repair portions of an existing corrugated steel pipe (CSP) that has holes and corrosion.
3. **Pecan Park Lane Erosion Repair (\$1.5M):** This project is located in District 2 in unincorporated El Cajon and intended to repair severe bank erosion along a portion of Los Coches Creek.
4. **Special Drainage Area 1 Master Plan Update (\$750,000):** SDA-1 is located in the unincorporated communities of Spring Valley and Casa de Oro in District 1 and District 4, and this project will include updating the drainage facility inventory, conducting condition assessments, completing hydrologic and hydraulic modeling, and evaluating mitigation alternatives.
5. **Bancroft Drive Area Drainage Study (\$200,000):** The project, located in the District 1 community of Spring Valley, is to perform a drainage study for the Bancroft Drive area between Valencia Street and Avocado Street.
6. **Whitaker Road Stormwater Master Plan (\$250,000):** This project, located in District 2, is to develop a master plan which aims to mitigate stormwater impacts and reduce flooding and property damage.

The following additional projects are also proposed in case additional CDBG-MIT funding becomes available:

1. **Estrella Drive Drainage Improvements (\$1.2M):** This project, located in the District 4 community of Casa de Oro, intended to rehabilitate and upgrade the existing stormwater culvert impacted by tree roots.
2. **Sweetwater Road Green Street Project (up to \$6M):** Located in the District 1 community of Spring Valley, this project would implement green infrastructure, such as tree wells, along Sweetwater Road (between St. George Street and Jamacha Boulevard).
3. **San Miguel Creek Floodplain Study (\$200,000):** The project, located in the District 1 community of Bonita, would produce a detailed floodplain analysis, which provides an elevation of flooding analysis to be used by the community for purposes of protecting people, structures, and the environment.

4. **Lamar Park Green Infrastructure (\$1.34M):** This project, located in the District 4 community of Spring Valley, requests the acquisition of a privately owned parcel located adjacent to Lamar Park to develop a planned trash capture project. It would divert water from an existing culvert located immediately north of the park into a below-ground full-trash capture unit, removing approximately 1,760 gallons of trash annually from the Sweetwater Watershed.

Today's action requests the Board of Supervisors authorize the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for the Land Use and Environment Group, Director of Public Works and Director of Parks and Recreation and any other County Department Director when necessary to apply for or secure funding, to apply for and execute agreements and other documents to secure State of California, Department of Housing and Community Development 2023-24 Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery Infrastructure and Mitigation Resilient Infrastructure and Planning (MIT-RIPP) Program funds with the projects listed in this Board letter. To reduce complexity in the application process, the County will apply for funds for projects that will be owned and managed by the County and the San Diego County Flood Control District (District). Subsequent agreements between the County and District may be necessary to provide for the completion of funded projects by or on behalf of the District.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Find that the requested Board action to seek available State disaster assistance funds for possible projects is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of CEQA Guidelines because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility the action may have a significant effect on the environment.
2. Adopt the Resolution entitled: A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING AND THE EXECUTION OF A STANDARD AGREEMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO, AND CERTAIN RELATED LOAN OR GRANT DOCUMENTS AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO, RELATED TO ANY AWARD MADE PURSUANT TO SUCH APPLICATION (ATTACHMENT A).
3. Adopt the Resolution entitled: RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO CERTIFYING THE "URGENT NEEDS" NATIONAL OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET IN THE APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM THE CDBG-DR AND MIT PROGRAMS (ATTACHMENT B).
4. Authorize the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for the Land Use and Environment Group, Director of the Department of Public Works and the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, and any other County Department Director when necessary to apply for or secure funding, or their designees to accept all funds awarded and to execute all grant related documents, including any annual extensions, amendments and/or revisions thereto that do not materially impact or alter the services or funding level.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program funds services and facilities to benefit the most vulnerable in our communities. The allocation of these federal grant funds is aligned with screening criteria that considers socioeconomic data, and eligibility calculations including census tract income levels. The projects deliver benefits to households that are considered Low-Moderate Income (LMI). Construction is administered in conformance with federal standards for labor practices, wage

requirements, safety standards, Working Families Ordinance and are subject to ongoing reporting and verification of compliance with these federal provisions. Further, the CDBG projects require construction contractors to hire and train workers from Section 3 (low- and very-low income) households. These employment opportunities must be both gender and race neutral. Both the administration of the infrastructure construction project and the use of the newly installed facilities are focused on maximizing benefits within our underserved communities.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Repairing and improving culverts, addressing erosion and making improvements to protect against storm and flooding are all projects that promote the health and well-being of residents, and provide environmental sustainability benefits of the region. These improvements will help to ensure we have resilient communities and infrastructure that serves our future needs.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with today's recommendation to apply for the Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery and Mitigation funds in the current Fiscal Year 2025-26. If the grant is awarded and approved for all eligible projects, today's request will result in costs and revenue of \$15,900,752. If additional grant funding is made available and is awarded for the additional projects identified in the Overview and Background sections of this Board letter, it could result in up to \$24,350,410 in costs and revenue. If awarded, appropriations and revenue for the funded projects will be included in the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Operational Plan and future Operational Plans for the Department of Public Works (\$11,600,410) and the Department of Parks and Recreation (\$12,750,000.00). The funding source will be the Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery and Mitigation program from the State of California Department of Housing & Community Development. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent, adopting the following:

1. Resolution No. 26-006, entitled: A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING AND THE EXECUTION OF A STANDARD AGREEMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO, AND CERTAIN RELATED LOAN OR GRANT DOCUMENTS AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO, RELATED TO ANY AWARD MADE PURSUANT TO SUCH APPLICATION; and;
2. Resolution No. 26-007, entitled: RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO CERTIFYING THE "URGENT NEEDS" NATIONAL OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET IN THE APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM THE CDBG-DR AND MIT PROGRAMS.

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

ABSENT: Anderson

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

