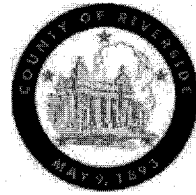


SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



ITEM
3.5
(ID # 4188)

MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, May 9, 2017

FROM : EXECUTIVE OFFICE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT :

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE OFFICE: California Operational Area Coalition Letter of Support, All Districts. [\$0]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Support the California Operational Area Coalitions request for a letter of support to the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) requesting that CSAC advocate on a federal level to preserve the National Preparedness and Protection Grant Program at its current fiscal year 2016/17 funding level.

ACTION: Policy

Kim Saruwatari *George A. Johnson*
Kim Saruwatari 5/1/2017 George A. Johnson 5/4/2017

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Tavaglione, seconded by Supervisor Ashley and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Washington and Ashley
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: May 9, 2017
xc: EO

Kecia Harper-Ihem
Clerk of the Board
By: *[Signature]*
Deputy

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A			Budget Adjustment: N/A	
			For Fiscal Year: N/A	

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE

BACKGROUND:

Summary

On March 16, 2017, the Executive Office of the President of the United States released the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2018/2019. Included in the budget proposal was the elimination or reduction in State and local grant funding by \$667 million for programs administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that are either unauthorized by the Congress, such as FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program, or that must provide more measurable results while also ensuring the Federal Government is not supplanting other stakeholders' responsibilities, such as the Homeland Security Grant Program. For that reason, the Budget also proposed establishing a 25 percent non-Federal cost match for FEMA preparedness grant awards that currently require no cost match.

The resulting loss of the aforementioned funding streams would impose a systemic, detrimental loss to local governments' ability to plan and respond to disasters. Local governments, including counties, cities, special districts, and school districts, would have grave difficulty responding to emergencies as a result of proposed funding cuts.

The National Preparedness and Protection Grant Program, which encompasses several state and local grants such as the State Homeland Security Grant Program, Port Security Grant Program, the Pre-Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program, are essential to increasing local capabilities in mitigating, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from all hazards.

For decades, counties throughout the State of California have successfully used funding from these grant programs to benefit public safety programs, collaborative and multi-jurisdictional disaster plans, essential training and exercises for response personnel and stakeholder agencies, procuring vital equipment and situational awareness programs, as well as educating the public on how to prepare for these hazards.

One such example of how these funding streams directly enhanced the local capability to respond to a disaster was the Dec. 2, 2015, San Bernardino terrorist attack, which left 14 San Bernardino County employees dead and critically injured 22 others. Following this horrific attack, the County and City of San Bernardino, as well as the Regional Disaster Medical Health Coordination Program, activated response plans to initiate and maintain situational awareness,

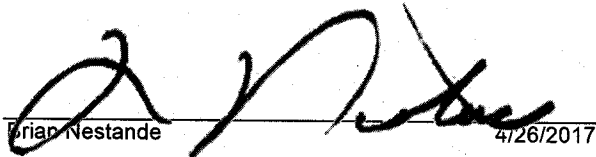
**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

share information, and locate mutual aid. The multi-jurisdictional response to the Dec. 2, 2015, San Bernardino terrorist attack was directly achieved from the collaborative response plans that are in place and funded by said grant programs.

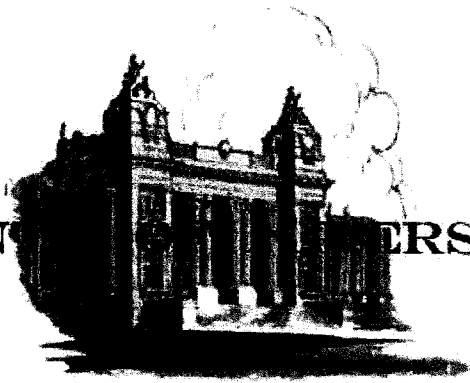
Trained and dedicated emergency management personnel, and up-to-date essential equipment, are vital to a robust, dynamic, and local emergency management response capability. The impact of the proposed reduction and addition of the local match requirement will adversely affect counties throughout California in their ability to implement and enhance their capabilities to mitigate, plan for, respond to, and recover from disasters. Should these funding streams be reduced or eliminated as proposed, smaller-scale incidents will increasingly become catastrophic.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

The action presented should not affect residents or businesses within Riverside County.


Brian Nestande 4/26/2017

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



Board of Supervisors

District 1	Kevin Jeffries 951-955-1010
District 2 Chairman	John F. Tavaglione 951-955-1020
District 3	Chuck Washington 951-955-1030
District 4	Vacant 951-955-1040
District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

May 9, 2017

Supervisor Keith Carson, President
California State Association of Counties
1100 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

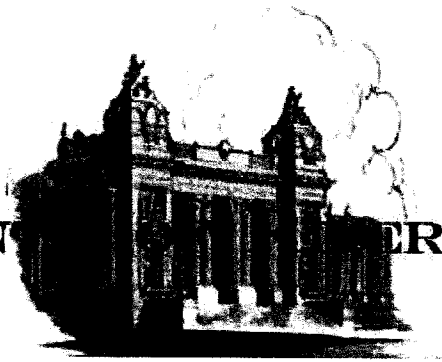
Dear Supervisor Carson,

On March 16, 2017, the Executive Office of the President of the United States released "America First – A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again." The budget proposal for fiscal year 2018/2019 includes a concerning 40% reduction to the National Preparedness and Protection Grant Program. Further exacerbating this impact to local governments, the proposal also includes a 25% local match requirement for all grant program funds, in addition to eliminating the Pre-Hazard Mitigation Grant program. The result of losing these funding streams will impose a systemic, detrimental loss to local governments' ability to plan and respond to disasters. Local governments, including counties, cities, special districts and school districts, will have grave difficulty responding to emergencies should this proposal come to fruition.

The National Preparedness and Protection Grant Program encompasses several state and local grants, including the State Homeland Security Grant Program, Port Security Grant Program, the Pre-Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, and the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program. These grants are essential to increasing local capabilities in mitigating, preparing for, responding to and recovering from all hazards. California, much like the rest of the country, is at risk for a number of natural and man-made hazards, such as foreign and home-grown terrorist attacks, catastrophic earthquakes, devastating floods, mud and debris flows, landslides, wildland fires, mass casualty incidents, and hazardous materials incidents.

For decades, the counties of California successfully used funding from these grant programs to benefit public safety programs, collaborative and multi-jurisdictional disaster plans, essential training and exercises for response personnel and stakeholder agencies, procuring vital equipment and situational awareness programs, as well as educating the public on how to prepare for these hazards. These funds and activities directly enhance and increase capabilities in regional interoperability, law enforcement, fire and rescue, incident command, emergency management, emergency medical services, disaster volunteers, and community resilience.

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



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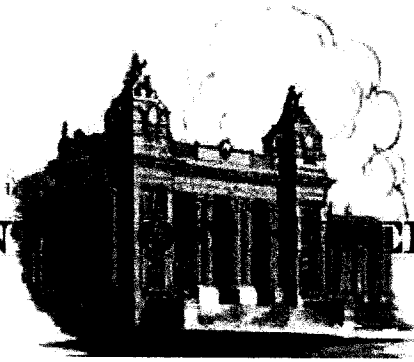
One such example of how these funding streams directly enhanced the local capability to respond to a disaster was the Dec. 2, 2015, San Bernardino terrorist attack, which left 14 San Bernardino County employees dead and critically injured 22 others. Following this horrific attack, the County and City of San Bernardino, as well as the Regional Disaster Medical Health Coordination Program, activated response plans to initiate and maintain situational awareness, share information, and locate mutual aid. The mutual aid response initiated with a request for multiple ambulance strike teams, and concluded with the coordination of more than 250 environmental health personnel to continue essential functions for the County of San Bernardino Public Health Department. Lessons learned from the mutual aid process of this incident initiated the creation of a formal mutual aid system for medical health response. The multi-jurisdictional response to the Dec. 2, 2015, San Bernardino terrorist attack was directly achieved from the collaborative response plans that are in place and funded by the grant programs named above.

Furthermore, counties across the nation use information management, tracking and sharing software known as WebEOC and ESRI GIS systems. These enterprise solutions have exponentially assisted local governments to implement cutting-edge technology to gather situational awareness, deploy and track needed resources, collect incident costs, share information from the operational boots-on-the-ground response, and visually display current situation maps. Emergency management and public safety programs rely on these enterprise solutions to prioritize policy-level response and recovery decisions. Without appropriate grant funding to continue annual licenses and technology upgrades, programs will be taken back to eras past where information and responses were incomplete and disjointed.

Trained and dedicated emergency management personnel, and up-to-date essential equipment, are vital to a robust, dynamic, and local emergency management response capability. By reducing grant-funding programs for local governments, local communities will become dependent on the federal government for complete response and recovery assistance following disasters. The notion of disasters no longer being local is contrary to the President's platform of local control. The federal government cannot immediately reach everyone following a disaster, especially following a catastrophic earthquake in which infrastructure will be heavily damaged. Local governments are the first responders and require appropriately sized numbers of personnel and equipment to respond to their community.

The impact of the proposed reduction and addition of the local match requirement will adversely affect counties throughout California in their ability to implement and enhance their capabilities to mitigate, plan for, respond to and recover from disasters. Should these funding streams be reduced or eliminated as proposed, smaller-scale incidents will increasingly become catastrophic.

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



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The California Operational Area Coalition urges the California State Association of Counties to advocate preserving, at a minimum, the National Preparedness and Protection Grant Program at its current fiscal year 2016/17 funding level.

Should you have any questions regarding these grant programs, please do not hesitate to contact our Deputy County Executive Officer, Brian Nestande at (951) 955-1110, bnestande@rceo.org. I look forward to working with you on this extremely important matter.

Sincerely,

Chuck Washington
Supervisor, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: County of Riverside Delegation