

52. Adopt resolution accepting unanticipated revenue in the amount of \$1,104,017 from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Community (BRIC) Grant program, and take related actions ()



County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

Agenda Item Submittal

From: Office of Response, Recovery and Resilience

Subject: Accept and Appropriate Grant Funding from the FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Community Phase 1 Grant

Meeting Date: June 24, 2025

Formal Title: Adopt resolution accepting unanticipated revenue in the amount of \$1,104,017 from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Community (BRIC) Grant program, and take related actions

Recommended Actions

1. Adopt resolution accepting unanticipated revenue from the FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Community Grant Program in the amount of \$1,104,017 into the Office of Response, Recovery and Resilience budget; and
2. Authorize the Director of the Office of Response, Recovery and Resilience to execute grant-related documents and activities.

Executive Summary

In January of 2023 OR3 submitted an application to the FEMA BRIC grant program for a phased project to deliver funding for public and private wildfire risk reduction activities. Phase 1 of the grant program which consists of environmental review and permitting processes, community outreach and project development was awarded in the third quarter of 2024. In early 2025, FEMA cancelled all BRIC Phase 2 awards which has eliminated the potential to implement this project as originally conceived. The Phase 1 grant award is still intact, however scope changes and performance period extensions are not expected. OR3 will utilize Phase 1 grant funds to the greatest extent possible. The goal will be to develop environmental permitting support documents and identify projects in the designated areas aligned with the original scope that will also provide the greatest opportunity to leverage these activities for future funding opportunities.

Discussion

The FEMA BRIC grant program made federal funds available to local communities for hazard mitigation activities. It did so with a recognition of the growing hazards associated with climate change, and of the need for natural hazard risk mitigation activities that promote climate adaptation and resilience with respect to those hazards.

FEMA provided financial assistance to eligible BRIC applicants for Hazard Mitigation Projects. The projects were required to be cost-effective and designed to increase resilience and public safety; reduce injuries and loss of life; and reduce damage and destruction to property, critical services, facilities, and infrastructure (including natural systems) from a multitude of natural hazards and the effects of climate change.

This BRIC grant program was highly competitive and had a lengthy approval process from FEMA. The County emulated BRIC applications from Sonoma, Napa and Nevada Counties and was working with them to replicate and learn from their Phase 1 processes, successes, and failures.

For context the original proposed activities designated for the \$20,000,000+ Phase 2 grant award were:

1. Private home hardening with ignition resistant materials (roof materials or siding, or both);
2. Develop defensible space & retain native plants around private homes;
3. Prepare shaded fuel breaks around Firewise communities to provide a green buffer by goat grazing, hand crews, and mechanical methods;
4. Remove flammable non-native trees and shrubs & restore habitat on private property;
5. Improve safety of private roads for evacuation through hazardous fuel reduction activities;
6. Improve safety of critical public road infrastructure for evacuation through hazardous fuel reduction activities; and
7. Educate citizens about their responsibilities for wildfire risk reduction.

While Phase 2 has been cancelled the County will utilize Phase 1 funds to develop important environmental permitting and project scope documents consistent with the original scope of work, a grant requirement, that can more broadly be used for future hazardous fuel reduction work at the landscape and residential scale. By leveraging this grant funding OR3 still hopes to develop valuable tools that can be used with future local (Measure Q) or State (Prop 4) grant funding opportunities. OR3 will collaborate with the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County and other partners to ensure alignment with other hazardous fuel reduction efforts.

Financial Impact

The total amount of unanticipated revenue to be accepted and appropriated is \$1,104,017. These funds will be appropriated into OR3's operating budget [GL186000/Object 41150] and expended in professional services [Object 62381 and OR3 staff time Object 51000], as detailed in the attached AUD-60 form.

The BRIC Program includes a 25% local match requirement for all eligible expenditures. While OR3 does not anticipate fully expending the awarded funds due to the constrained grant performance period, any portion of the grant that is utilized will require a corresponding 25% match contribution. OR3 anticipates meeting the match requirement through a combination of in-kind staff time from OR3 and the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County, as well as costs incurred under a professional services contract that is being funded through a separate Cal Fire grant awarded to the County through the Phase 3 County Coordinator Grant program by the California Fire Safe Council.

This approach leverages contributions from external partners and existing grant-funded activities to satisfy the match requirement, minimizing the need for new County General Fund resources. It also reflects strategic coordination of state and federal funding streams to advance local resilience planning.

Strategic Initiatives

Equity Framework - Leadership, Operations & Services, Communications & Education
Operational Plan - Sustainable Environment
Climate Action - Wildfire Prevention

Submitted By:

David Reid, Director

Recommended By:

Carlos J. Palacios, County Executive Officer

Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) did not significantly contribute to the development of this agenda item.

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Resolution No.

On the motion of Supervisor

Duly seconded by Supervisor

The following resolution is adopted:

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING UNANTICIPATED REVENUE

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Cruz is the recipient of funds, in the amount of \$ 1,104,017,
from the FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY,
for the BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITIES program; and

WHEREAS, the above-referenced funds are either in excess of those anticipated or are not specifically set forth in the current fiscal year budget for the County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code section 29130(b), such funds may be made available for specific appropriation by four-fifths vote of the Board of Supervisors;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Santa Cruz County Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector accept the amount of \$ 1,104,017 for the
BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITIES program.

GL Key	GL Object	JL Key	JL Object	Amount	Account Description
186000	41150	O25BRIC	41150	1,104,017	CONTR FR OTHER GOVT AGENCIES

and that such funds be and are hereby appointed as follows:

GL Key	GL Object	JL Key	JL Object	Amount	Account Description
186000	62381	O25BRIC	62381	1,031,793	PROF & SPECIAL SERV-OTHER
186000	51000	O25BRIC	51000	72,224	REGULAR PAY-PERMANENT

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California,
 this _____ day of _____, _____ by the following vote
 (requires four-fifths vote for approval):

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:


 Chair of the Board

ATTEST: _____
 Clerk of the Board

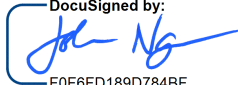
DEPARTMENT HEAD I hereby certify that the fiscal provisions have been researched and that the
 Revenue(s) (has been)(will be) received within the current fiscal year.

BY:  DocuSigned by:
 5FFF6E6813B1490... Date: 5/23/2025

 Department Head

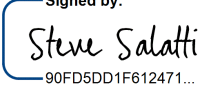
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER /  / Recommended to Board
 / _____ / Not Recommended to Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

 DocuSigned by:
 E0E6ED189D784BE

 Office of the County Counsel

APPROVED AS TO ACCOUNTING DETAIL:

 Signed by:
 90FD5DD1F612471...

 Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector

Distribution:

Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector
 County Counsel
 County Administrative Officer
 Originating Department

Certificate Of Completion

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Status: Completed

Subject: Complete with Docusign: BRIC AUD60_AP (1).pdf

Source Envelope:

Document Pages: 2

Signatures: 3

Envelope Originator:

Certificate Pages: 5

Initials: 1

Annie Puckett

AutoNav: Enabled

701 Ocean Street

Envelopeld Stamping: Enabled

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Time Zone: (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

Annie.Puckett@santacruzcountyca.gov

IP Address: 162.198.18.106

Record Tracking

Status: Original

Holder: Annie Puckett

Location: DocuSign

5/23/2025 10:18:25 AM

Annie.Puckett@santacruzcountyca.gov

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Pool: FedRamp

Storage Appliance Status: Connected

Pool: County of Santa Cruz

Location: Docusign

Signer Events

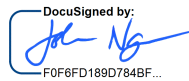
John Nguyen

John.Nguyen@santacruzcountyca.gov

Lead Assistant County County Counsel

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

Signature

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Timestamp

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Steve Salatti

Steve.Salatti@santacruzcountyca.gov

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

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David Reid

David.Reid@santacruzcountyca.gov

Director, Office of Response, Recovery & Resilience

County of Santa Cruz

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

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Elissa Benson

Elissa.Benson@santacruzcountyca.gov

Asst County Administrative Officer

County of Santa Cruz

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

DS


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Editor Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Intermediary Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp
Clare Peabody Clare.Peabody@santacruzcountyca.gov Emergency Services Analyst County of Santa Cruz Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None) Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure: Accepted: 10/11/2023 4:50:41 PM ID: d955a468-f62a-4a76-a765-66fd401891f3	<div>COPIED</div>	Sent: 5/28/2025 4:14:42 PM
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Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
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Completed	Security Checked	5/28/2025 4:14:42 PM
Payment Events	Status	Timestamps
Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure		

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- i. decline to sign a document from within your signing session, and on the subsequent page, select the check-box indicating you wish to withdraw your consent, or you may;
- ii. send us an email to nada.algharib@santacruzcounty.us and in the body of such request you must state your email, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We do not need any other information from you to withdraw consent.. The consequences of your withdrawing consent for online documents will be that transactions may take a longer time to process..

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