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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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Chief Executive Officer

Fesia A. Davenport

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

July 15, 2025

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ACCEPT FISCAL YEAR 2024 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
PERFORMANCE GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Board approval is requested to accept the County's allocation of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program. The grant is fully funded by the Federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and distributed by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). The grant will be used to support comprehensive emergency management activities at the local levels and to encourage the improvement of preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation capabilities for all hazards and disasters.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the County activities to be funded with FY 2024 EMPG from DHS do not constitute projects under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or, in the alternative, are exempt from CEQA for the reasons stated in this letter and in the record of the proposed activities;
2. Accept \$1,820,586 in funding for the FY 2024 EMPG Program under Assistance Listing Number 97.042, Subaward Number 2024-0050, as distributed through Cal OES with a Performance Period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026, and the allocation of a portion of such funds to the County's Chief Executive Office – Office of Emergency Management (OEM) in the amount of \$606,801 to support County emergency preparedness and response activities;

3. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), or her designee, to enter into subrecipient agreements with Disaster Management Areas (DMAs) providing for use and reallocation of funds, and to execute all future amendments, modifications, extensions, and augmentations relative to the subrecipient agreements, as necessary.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

DHS, through Cal OES, has approved grant funding for State and national homeland security efforts. The grant funding is provided to support comprehensive emergency management at local levels, and to encourage the improvement of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities for all hazards and disasters. The grant funds will be used to strengthen information sharing and collaboration among all levels of government, private industry, and non-governmental and community-based organizations; strengthen emergency planning for both intentional and natural disasters; encourage citizen preparedness while integrating the needs of vulnerable populations; provide guidance and support for enhancing primary and alternate emergency operations centers to increase regional readiness; and increase opportunities for professional training of emergency management personnel.

This letter finds that the recommended activities do not constitute projects or are exempt under CEQA. Following approval by the Board, and the signing of subrecipient agreements with DMAs, the grant funds would be made available at the local level.

The Board is requested to authorize the CEO to administer the grant, on behalf of the Los Angeles County Operational Area. The CEO or her designee will also be authorized to submit other grant documents including, but not limited to, amendments, modifications, extensions, performance reports, reimbursement requests and future applications.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support the County's Strategic Plan North Star 2 - Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

For FY 2024, the EMPG award is \$1,820,586. The program is fully funded by DHS, and distributed by Cal OES. The FY 2024 EMPG has a dollar-for-dollar funding match requirement, which the Operational Area will satisfy through matched personnel expenses.

Of the total grant award, the DMAs will be allocated \$1,213,785, and \$606,801 will be retained by OEM to support emergency preparedness and response activities.

The spending authority needed for FY 2025-26 will be requested by the CEO during the FY 2025-26 Supplemental Budget phase.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Cal OES has provided the Los Angeles County Operational Area with specific guidelines for the management and administration of these grants. These guidelines detail the activities and

expenditures that are allowable under these grants. The performance period of these grants is from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The acceptance of the grant funding and the proposed County activities to be funded by the grant do not constitute projects pursuant to CEQA because they are excluded from the definition of a project by Public Resources Code section 21065 and section 15378(b)(2)(4) and (5) of the State CEQA Guidelines on the basis that they are continuing administrative or organizational activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment; and/or include the creation of a government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities; which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment. In the alternative, the proposed County activities to be funded are categorically exempt from CEQA since they are within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that they meet the criteria set forth in section 15301(a) and (d) and 15322(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1(c) and (r) and 22(a) and (c) of the County's Environmental Documentation and Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G which apply to building leases, and educational or training programs. The County activities to be funded will result in negligible or no expansion of use. In addition, based on the records of the proposed exempt activities, the exempt County activities will comply with all applicable regulations, are not located in a sensitive environment and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, damage to scenic highways, listing on hazardous waste site lists compiled, pursuant to Government Code section 65962.5, or indications that the activities may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource that would make the exemptions inapplicable.

Each subrecipient is required to comply with CEQA, as applicable, to be reimbursed with grant funds. To the extent there are any changes proposed to the activities to be funded by the County retained funds, the proposed activities will be reviewed for any further findings which may be necessary under CEQA. CEO staff will continue to assist the lead federal granting agency, as necessary, to complete its requirement under the National Environmental Policy Act.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The grant will enable the County and DMAs to enhance capabilities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and natural disasters.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval by the Board, please send a copy of the adopted Board Letter to the Chief Executive Office - Homeland Security Grants Administration for processing.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

7/15/2025

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Respectfully submitted,



FESIA A. DAVENPORT

Chief Executive Officer

FAD:JMN:AC

AN:CH:LL

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller