



BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: **OCTOBER 6, 2022** ITEM: **6C**

SUBJECT: **Review of the State Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Mitigation Project Grant and Vote on Whether or Not to Provide Fully Reimbursable Funds for the Project**

DATE: September 26, 2022

FROM: Michele Richards, CEO

PRESENTATION BY: Ken Karns, COO

Action Item

BACKGROUND

The California Budget Act of 2021 included a one-time general fund allocation for the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to support the development and enhancement of community resilience centers. This funding was made available to improve both local fairgrounds and other community facilities to enhance the State's emergency preparedness capabilities, particularly in response to climate change. As part of this effort, CDFA has awarded the 32nd DAA a project grant for the mitigation of Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events from the resilience centers allocation.

The purpose of the PSPS allocation is to equip the OC Fair & Event Center with necessary backup power resources – or PSPS equipment – should the fairgrounds be used as an emergency/evacuation site or a PSPS event. This project would involve the design, development and construction of automatic transfer switches (ATS) and docking stations for the Costa Mesa Building, Huntington Beach Building and Santa Ana Pavilion. The project includes everything needed in the case of a PSPS event with the exception of the generator.

The project will be managed by California Construction Authority. While the grant from CDFA will provide funding for the estimated project cost of \$351,661.16, it also requires the 32nd DAA to provide the funding upfront. The District would then invoice CDFA after each phase of the project with reimbursement from CDFA expected within 90 days of receipt of each invoice.

The project is expected to be completed by the end of June, 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

Although reimbursable, the \$351,661.16 cost of this project is above the CEO's approval authority and requires Board approval. Staff and the Facilities Committee recommend

approval of the estimated \$351,661.16 for the upfront cost of the PSPS Mitigation Project, which will be reimbursed by CDFA. At the September 22 Board of Directors meeting, Chair La Belle and Directors Rubalcava-Garcia, Ruiz and Aitken reviewed, discussed and made a recommendation that the full Board approve at the next Board meeting.