RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

(Policy Item: Yes ___ No __X__) Discussion and provide direction to staff regarding an opportunity to participate in the Great Valley Center’s Infrastructure Assessment Grant program.

Please see attached staff report.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board has participated in other grant projects that they deem are beneficial to the County.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not participate in the grant project. There will be no detailed assessment of telecommunication infrastructure performed at this time.

COSTS:

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td>Budgeted Current FY</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.</td>
<td>Total Anticipated Costs</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.</td>
<td>Required Additional Funding</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>D.</td>
<td>Internal Transfers</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

SOURCE:

( X ) 4/5ths Vote Required $ 
A. Unanticipated Revenues $ 
B. Reserve for Contingencies $15,000 
C. Source Description:

Balance in Reserve for Contingencies, if approved:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:

Staff Report

Budget Action

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

This item on agenda as:

☑ Recommended
☐ Not Recommended
☐ For Policy Determination
☐ Submitted with Comment
☐ Returned for Further Action

Comment:

CAO's Initials: $/}

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office

Date:

ATTEST:

MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California

BY:

Deputy

x:\coadm\mary\winword\agenda\gve grant

Action Form Revised 5/92
<table>
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<tr>
<th>FUND</th>
<th>DEPT/DIV</th>
<th>ACCOUNT</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>PROJECT</th>
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<td>0419</td>
<td>E-commerce Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>001</td>
<td>0104</td>
<td>414-1090</td>
<td>GENERAL CONTINGENCY</td>
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</table>

**TOTAL** $15,000 $15,000

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**TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS**

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**TOTALS** $0 $0

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**ACTION REQUESTED:** (Check all that apply)

( ) Budget appropriation by Board of Supervisors (4/5ths Vote Required): Amending the total amount available in the county budget, or in any one fund of the budget, or appropriating Reserve for Contingencies;

( ) Transfer by Board of Supervisors (3/5ths Vote Required): Moving existing appropriations from one budget to another, or between categories within a budget unit;

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**JUSTIFICATION:** County match required for participation in the Great Valley Center's Infrastructure Assessment Grant.

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**DEPT HEAD SIGNATURE**

**DATE**

**APPROVED BY RES NO.**

**DATE**

**CLERK**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**AUDITOR'S USE ONLY**

**BA #**
MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTE ORDER

TO: GREG ITURRIA, County Administrative Officer
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
SUBJECT: Great Valley Center’s Infrastructure Assessment Grant Program Res. –01-164

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA,

ADOPTED THIS Order on June 5, 2001

ACTION AND VOTE:

Discussion and Direction to Staff Regarding and Opportunity to Participate in the Great Valley Center’s Infrastructure Assessment Grant Program (County Administrative Officer)

BOARD ACTION: Discussion was held. (M)Stewart, (S)Reilly, Res. 01-164 adopted approving participation and appropriating funds for this program/Ayes: Unanimous.

cc: File
Date: June 5, 2001

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Greg Iturria, County Administrative Officer

Re: Participation in San Joaquin Valley ACCESS: A Rural E-commerce Infrastructure Assessment Grant Program

Recommendation

Discuss opportunity to participate in the Great Valley Center’s Infrastructure Assessment Grant program and provide direction to staff.

Background

On April 16, the State of California announced $2 million in Rural E-commerce grants for nine California non-profit and educational institutions to help develop infrastructure that industries in California’s rural areas need in order to compete. The projects are located across the state; five projects are in the San Joaquin Valley, one in the North Coast, two in the greater Sacramento area and one in the Central Coast. It is hoped that these pilot projects will provide lessons that can be shared statewide to further shrink the access divide.

The Great Valley Center was awarded $375,000 for a comprehensive collection of rural E-commerce demonstration projects that will develop a network of public/private partnerships throughout each of the San Joaquin Valley counties of Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare. The project will conduct telecommunication assessments and create action plans for each of the counties, as well as provide increased technology literacy to the business communities of the region.

Seated within the Technology, Trade and Commerce Agency’s Division of Science, Technology and Innovation, the Rural E-Commerce Program provides matching grants to California non-profit corporations and public institutions. The objective of this program is to aid California in the development of an effective rural E-commerce business assistance infrastructure that encourages and supports the improvement and growth of rural communities throughout the state.
Discussion

Although the Great Valley Center applied for the E-commerce grant with the above eight counties in mind, they realize that Mariposa County has a close economic association with the San Joaquin Valley. They also realize that the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors works closely with the Board Members of these counties, particularly through the San Joaquin Valley Regional Association of County Supervisors (SJVRACS). At the last SJVRACS meeting, Great Valley Center staff offered to explore how Mariposa County could become a full participant in the program. On May 21, 2001, we were informed that a $15,000 cash contribution, plus a “soft” contribution of staff time would be required for Mariposa County to be included in the project. In addition, the Great Valley Center desires a commitment from the County no later than June 6, 2001, in order to prepare for the June 18, 2001, project kickoff meeting in Merced.

Project Process

At the June 18, 2001, project kickoff meeting in Merced, each participating county will be briefed on process details. The process will look roughly as follows:

Each county will form a Steering Committee for their portion of the project. The Steering Committee is envisioned to include county economic development and data processing staff, and representatives from the County’s key industries.

Then, the Steering Committee will hold meetings with telecommunication businesses and other businesses to identify existing infrastructure within the County. Potential action initiatives will be identified. After these meetings a report will be prepared.

The Steering Committee will then narrow the list of possible action initiatives. After these meetings, another report will be prepared.

Next, the Steering Committee will meet with various businesses and industries to “brainstorm” on the possible action initiatives. Then a report will be prepared.

The Steering Committee will next identify priorities and select the final action initiatives. A report describing the final selected action items will be prepared.

The final product of the San Joaquin Valley ACCESS Grant Project will be the locally developed action initiatives.

The assessment phase is estimated to require 6 months. The identification of priorities phase is anticipated to take a few months. The entire project is anticipated to be completed next spring.
County Obligation

In addition to the $15,000 cash contribution, County staff will be needed to do the following: 1) Identify meeting places, 2) Invite the appropriate persons and industry representatives to meetings, 3) Manage RSVPs from participants, 4) Purchase and arrange for any food and beverages that may be required (at County expense), 5) Provide any artwork or graphics that is desired for reports, and 6) Generally organize all local participation.

Administration, Planning and Data Processing staff, in addition to Board Members, will need to contribute some time to facilitate and participate in the project.

County Benefit

The County can potentially develop a comprehensive inventory of telecommunication infrastructures, including location of fiber optic lines and radio wave transmitters. With this information and the identified action initiatives, the Board of Supervisors can prepare a General Plan that carries out the initiatives. However, this assumes that the General Plan will be actively used to create infrastructure and accommodate the population growth that probably must accompany new infrastructure.

If the General Plan update ultimately identifies the role of the County in economic development as passive ("hands off"), and the General Plan is not designed to encourage growth where new telecommunication infrastructure is desired, then the "product" of participating in the San Joaquin Valley ACCESS Grant Project may not be of much use.

At this time it is unknown whether participating in this project will lead to other opportunities to join San Joaquin Valley counties in future grant projects and endeavors that would otherwise not be afforded Mariposa County.

General Plan Relationship

Parsons, the County’s General Plan consultant, will be conducting a very broad infrastructure assessment as part of the update process. However, they will not go to the detail of the San Joaquin Valley ACCESS Grant Project. If the Board were to decide not to participate in the grant project, but needed this level of detail at a later date for the economic development portion of the General Plan update, then staff would have to acquire the information by contacting individual telecommunication businesses.
Fiscal Impact

There are currently no appropriations in the County budget for the grant match. The Board could transfer an appropriation for the required $15,000 cash match from General Contingency if so desired. A Budget Action Form providing for this is attached if the Board chooses to do so.