RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2015-431

MEETING: September 15, 2015

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mary Hodson, CAO

RE: Request for Approval to Apply for National Endowment of the Humanities Grant

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve Applying for a National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) Digital Projects Start-up grant of $20,000 to fund the start-up of a GIS/historic sites interactive website project; and Authorize the County Administrative Officer to Sign the Grant Application.

The Start-Up grant is being requested to fund initial costs of project coordination for the Mapping Specialist and Grant Coordinator, creation of narrative for each historic site, an external hard drive for storage and other expenses necessary to create a template for the historic sites interactive website. Once the template is created, the County can apply for an implementation grant to launch and complete the project.

The General Plan (sections 1.7 and 14) emphasizes the importance of collection of historical information in Mariposa County. The complete project is to make a GIS layer of historic resources in the County, and have an interactive feature to allow members of the public access to the inventory forms for each site. This grant would provide start-up funds to initiate the project and then have a more cohesive prototype when applying for the primary implementation grant that has a deadline of February 17, 2016. This grant will be done in coordination with the Sr. GIS Specialist in the Planning Department.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
Mariposa County previously applied for an implementation grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities to fund the Historic Sites Interactive Web Map project. The response received from the grant readers/evaluators was that the project was not complete enough. This start-up grant will provide the financial resources necessary to get the project to an implementation level.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not approve applying for the National Endowment of the Humanities grant and do not authorize the County Administrative Officer to sign the NEH grant application. The County will be foregoing an opportunity to apply for grant funds to fund this project.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
There will be no financial impact, as there is no grant match or in-kind match required for this grant.

ATTACHMENTS:
National Endowment of the Humanities Grant Application  (PDF)
Budget_2015    (XLSX)
Endorsement of Historic Sites Study (2)   (PDF)
MariposaCo_LetterofSupport    (PDF)
Grant Narrative (1)(DOCX)

CAO RECOMMENDATION
Requested Action Recommended

Mary Hodson
Mary Hodson, CAO  9/10/2015

RESULT:   ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:   Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
SECONDER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier