RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2021-467

MEETING: August 10, 2021

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dallin Kimble, County Administrative Officer

RE: Approve Letters of Thanks for the Congressionally Directed Spending Request for Wawona Ambulance Bay

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve Letters of Thanks for the Congressionally Directed Spending Request for the Wawona Ambulance Bay; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Letters.

For many years, Mariposa County has provided a shelter for a National Park Service (NPS) ambulance to be parked in the Wawona area of Yosemite National Park. Through a mutual aid agreement, this ambulance has served the residents of Wawona and Yosemite West as well as visitor needs in Mariposa Grove, Wawona and Glacier Point.

Recently, Yosemite National Park replaced their ambulance from 1985 with a new model. The new ambulance will provide better services to those in need of medical care, but unfortunately does not fit in the shelter. As a result, the ambulance is being parked in Yosemite Valley, adding 45 minutes or more to the time needed to respond to demands in the southern portion of Yosemite National Park.

At the invitation of Senators Feinstein and Padilla, the County has requested $350,000 in federal funds to build a new ambulance bay in Wawona. Both senators advanced our request to the appropriations committee. While the outcome is yet uncertain, the attached letters thank the senators for advancing our request and their efforts in our behalf.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board routinely approves or ratifies letters that it determines to be in the best interest of the county.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not approve. The letters would not be sent.

ATTACHMENTS:
Federal Earmark Request_County of Mariposa_Sen Feinstein (PDF)
Federal Earmark Request_County of Mariposa_Sen Padilla (PDF)
RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Tom Sweeney, District II Supervisors
SECONDER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Sweeney, Long, Forsythe, Menetrey
August 10, 2021

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Congressionally Directed Spending Request—Wawona Ambulance Bay

Dear Senator Feinstein:

On behalf of the County of Mariposa, I want to thank you for your submittal of a request for funding to the Senate Appropriations Committee of $350,000 for the construction of an ambulance bay in the Wawona area near Yosemite National Park.

As you are aware, for many years, Mariposa County has provided a shelter for a National Park Service (NPS) ambulance to be parked in the Wawona area of Yosemite National Park. Through a mutual aid agreement, this ambulance has served the residents of Wawona and Yosemite West as well as visitor needs in Mariposa Grove, Wawona and Glacier Point. Recently, Yosemite National Park replaced their ambulance from 1985 with a new model. The new ambulance will provide better services to those in need of medical care, but unfortunately does not fit in the shelter. As a result, the ambulance is being parked in Yosemite Valley, adding 45 minutes or more to the time needed to respond to demands in the southern portion of Yosemite National Park. This project would construct a new garage in Wawona large enough to fit the new ambulance in order to improve response times in this area of the Park and County.

Thank you again for your submittal of this request—the benefits to the County of Mariposa and its residents would be invaluable. If you have any questions or need additional information, please don’t hesitate to contact Dallin Kimble, County Administrative Officer, at (209) 966-3222.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Marshall Long, Chair  
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors
August 10, 2021

The Honorable Alex Padilla
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Congressionally Directed Spending Request—Wawona Ambulance Bay

Dear Senator Padilla:

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Respectfully,

Marshall Long, Chair
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors