



# County of Monterey

**Item No.**

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

**Legistar File Number: 26-656**

**July 07, 2026**

**Introduced:** 6/29/2026

**Current Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Matter Type:** General Agenda Item

Approve expenditure of \$13,181 from the Board of Supervisors (District 3) discretionary funds to reimburse the City of Soledad for the purchase and installation of SmartBox Communication Boards that improve communication accessibility for non-verbal individuals and others with communication disabilities throughout the community.

### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

Approve expenditure of \$13,181 from the Board of Supervisors (District 3) discretionary funds to reimburse the City of Soledad for the purchase and installation of SmartBox Communication Boards that improve communication accessibility for non-verbal individuals and others with communication disabilities throughout the community.

### SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The City of Soledad purchased and installed SmartBox Communication Boards to improve accessibility and communication for non-verbal individuals and others with communication disabilities in public spaces. Developed by speech-language pathologists, the communication boards provide a simple, low-tech method for individuals to express basic needs, emotions, and requests without requiring expensive electronic devices or specialized technology.

The requested reimbursement of \$13,181 from District 3 discretionary funds will support this accessibility initiative by expanding inclusive communication opportunities and helping ensure all community members have a means to participate more fully in everyday interactions.

This expenditure provides a public benefit by promoting accessibility, inclusion, and equitable access to public spaces and services for individuals with communication disabilities throughout Monterey County.

### PUBLIC PURPOSE FINDINGS:

In approving this expenditure, the Board of Supervisors finds that the expenditure is for a public purpose and the transaction is not prohibited by Article XVI, Section 6 of the California Constitution. Any benefit to an individual is incidental to the significant public purpose identified in the description above.

### FINANCING:

There is no impact to the General Fund. Funds will be allocated from District 3's discretionary budget.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

This action supports community well-being by improving accessibility, promoting inclusion, and increasing equitable access to public facilities and services for individuals with communication disabilities.

- Well-Being and Quality of Life
- Sustainable Infrastructure for the Present and Future
- Safe and Resilient Communities
- Diverse and Thriving Economy

Prepared and Approved by: Supervisor Christopher Lopez, District 3

Attachments: 1: Invoice