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MONTEREY COUNTY

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Erik V. Lundquist, AICP, Director



HOUSING, PLANNING, BUILDING, ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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Date: August 29, 2022

To: Monterey County Board of Supervisors

From: Housing and Community Development
Karen Riley-Olms, Management Analyst II, x5132

RE: California Automated Permit Processing Program (CalAPP) GFO-21-402

On August 22, 2022, Housing and Community Development (HCD) applied on behalf of the County to the California Energy Commission for the California Automated Permit Processing Program (CalAPP) GFO-21-402 for up to \$80,000. The purpose of CalAPP is to provide funding for eligible California jurisdictions to establish online, automated solar permitting. Senate Bill 129 (Skinner, Budget Act of 2021) appropriates \$20 million in funding to the California Energy Commission (CEC) to support a funding program pursuant to this purpose.

If awarded, this funding will be used by HCD to implement SolarAPP+, an online standardized plan review software created by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory that can run compliance checks for eligible rooftop solar systems. Although SolarAPP+ is being offered at no fee, there are costs associated with integration with HCD's permitting system, consisting of County staff time and consultant fees.

As applications for CalAPP grant funds are to be evaluated and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, staff was unable to bring a concept letter to the Board in advance. Should the County be invited to accept an award for this funding, staff will bring it to the Board for consideration.

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