



County of Monterey

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

Board Report

File #: 12-297, **Version:** 1

Authorize the Agricultural Commissioner to submit a grant application to the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District for an AB2766 Grant for a Farm Tractor Emission Reduction Project in Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito counties.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

Authorize the Agricultural Commissioner to submit a grant application to the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District for an AB2766 Grant for a Farm Tractor Emission Reduction Project in Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito counties.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The Agricultural Commissioners of Monterey County, Santa Cruz County and San Benito County will jointly submit this AB2766 Grant Application to reduce ozone and PM10 emissions from farm tractors and other farm vehicles operating in the Air District. The Monterey County Agricultural Commissioner will administer the project for all three counties. This project will achieve highly cost effective emission reductions from farm vehicles and will help farmers modernize their tractor fleets and reduce their diesel fuel use and fuel costs.

The three county agricultural commissioners have conducted a number of highly successful farm vehicle emission reduction projects funded by the District. Through similarly successful agricultural equipment upgrade projects funded by the Air District in recent years, over 100 tractors and harvesters have been upgraded or replaced with modern, low emissions engines, eliminating over 500 tons of air pollution in the Air District. We are in the process of completing the latest grants, and those funds have been fully allocated for seven tractor replacements in the Air District.

The funds will be allocated to farms across Monterey County, Santa Cruz County and San Benito County proportional to each county's population. Participation in the program by the farming community is voluntary, with each participating farm expected to contribute significant funds toward the replacement purchase. Direct Path Strategies, Inc., under contract to the Monterey County Agricultural Commissioner's Office, will provide the project management and implementation services for this Grant.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The agricultural commissioners of Santa Cruz and San Benito counties support approval of this application.

FINANCING:

Approval of the recommended action will have no impact on the County General Fund. No matching funds are required from the County.

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