



County of Monterey

Item No.

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: 25-930

January 06, 2026

Introduced: 12/15/2025

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: General Agenda Item

Approve the expenditure of \$10,000 from the Board of Supervisors (District 2) discretionary funds to reimburse the First Mayor's House of Salinas City for essential operating costs previously funded by the City of Salinas. This support will allow the organization to remain open to the public and continue providing educational, cultural, and historical programming that preserves and showcases the community's heritage.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

Approve the expenditure of \$10,000 from the Board of Supervisors (District 2) discretionary funds to reimburse the First Mayor's House of Salinas City for essential operating costs previously funded by the City of Salinas. This support will allow the organization to remain open to the public and continue providing educational, cultural, and historical programming that preserves and showcases the community's heritage.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The First Mayor's House of Salinas City, also known as the Harvey-Baker House, is the oldest building in Salinas and serves as a history, art, and cultural center. The organization provides interactive educational programs for students, community exhibits, docent-led tours, and cultural events that deepen public understanding of local history.

Due to a lapse in City of Salinas funding, the First Mayor's House requires temporary operating support to continue covering essential costs including insurance, utilities, security, and partial accounting services. These operational expenses are necessary for the organization to remain open, safe, and accessible for public use.

More than 1,000 elementary school students participate annually in hands-on field trips that teach 1870s-era life and westward expansion. The site also collaborates with local institutions, including CSU Monterey Bay, the Monterey County Office of Education, and community organizations, and relies on a dedicated team of volunteers to support its programs. Funding from the Second District will help preserve this important community resource and ensure continuity of educational and cultural services to residents and students throughout the 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 the Second District's discretionary budget.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

This action supports community well-being by promoting cultural preservation, educational enrichment, and public engagement in local history.

- 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 Glenn Church, District 2

Attachments:

- 1: Invoice