

Background

- Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) provide direct and measurable economic benefits to the communities they serve. Established during the Carter administration, the SBDC program is the largest federally designated technical assistance program focused on supporting startup and growing small businesses in all fifty states and U.S. territories.
- The Central California Small Business Development Center (Central CA SBDC) network has been an accredited program since 2005 and has received multiple accolades for its support of small businesses across the 14 counties of Central California. University of California, Merced (UC Merced) has hosted the Central CA SBDC network since 2003 and continues to be committed to supporting the success of the program and all its host organizations as they deliver SBDC services across their respective service areas.

Current State of SBDC

- The Monterey and San Benito County Small Business Development Center (SBDC) has been operated by California Coastal Rural Development Corporation (Cal Coastal) for six (6) years and prior to that by California State University of Monterey Bay for ten (10) years.
- ♦ The local Monterey and San Benito Counties SBDC hosted by University of California, Merced (UC Merced) has recently issued a request for proposals (RFP) for a new local host as California Coastal Rural Development Corporation is no longer contracting with UC Merced for these services going into calendar year 2024.
- The County has received a request for local match funding, which is a requirement for any organization(s) interested in submitting a proposal to the RFP.

Local Match Partners

- Commitments from City Partners:

 - ♦City of Gonzales: \$5,000
 - ♦ City of King: \$5,000
 - ♦ City of Monterey: \$10,000
 - ♦City of Soledad: \$10,000

Recommendation

- It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution to:
 - ♦ a. Approve matching funds request from the Monterey County Business Council (MCBC) to support their efforts in submitting a proposal to an RFP issued by the University of California, Merced for Small Business Technical Assistance Services for Monterey and San Benito Counties; and
 - ♦ b. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to amend the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Adopted Budget for the County Administrative Office Contributions-Other Agencies (001-1050-CAO007-8029) to increase appropriations in the amount of \$32,000 financed by a decrease in appropriations in General Fund Contingencies (001-1050-CAO020-8034) (4/5th vote required).









