

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (H.R. 1, or "ARRA") into law with the intended purpose of creating/maintaining jobs and reenergizing the economy. The \$787 billion package provides for approximately \$212 billion in tax relief, with the remaining \$575 billion for funding of state and local community/economic development, education, energy and environment, infrastructure (transportation and water primarily), healthcare and other public assistance programs, and public safety. Additionally, ARRA contains significant new financing tools for state and local governments as well as several provisions designed to stimulate the purchase of tax-exempt bonds.

According to the Obama Administration on its website, www.recovery.gov, ARRA will create or save three to four million jobs, of which 396,000 will be in California over the next two years, and provide more than \$150 billion to low-income and vulnerable households.

As part of the package, ARRA includes funding to various federal agencies for a multitude of federal programs. These federal funds will be allocated primarily to State and local governments through formula or discretionary/competitive grants. Given the advanced timeline established for the implementation of ARRA, some federal agencies have reported formula block grant awards in mid-February and other agencies are expected to begin accepting grants in mid-March to late May, 2009. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that 74% of funds will be spent by September 2010 and many programs require "quick starts" that utilize 50% of funds within 120 days. To reiterate, the primary purpose of these programs is to create or maintain jobs.

In order to best position the County to implement ARRA locally, the County Executive Office has formed an Economic Recovery Team. This team will support departments as they identify quick start projects and programs in accordance with federal agency guidelines (including the quantification of jobs and broad economic benefits), apply for formula and discretionary grants and adhere to reporting protocols identified by both federal agencies and the Obama Administration, including the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board. The Economic Recovery Team includes support functions of compliance/reporting, financial accounting, human resources, legal, public information and the following eight issue areas:

1. Employment Services;
2. Social Services;
3. Housing Assistance;
4. Transportation and Natural Resources;
5. Public Safety;
6. Conservation Planning and Implementation;
7. Public Health; and
8. Intergovernmental Relations.

All of the potential federal funding programs are within these eight issue areas and affected departments have developed briefing sheets for their respective programs that describe the:

- Purpose of the program;
- Past use of program funds if applicable;
- Proposed use of funds, including programs and projects that maximize jobs, generate economic activity, achieve cost savings and/or provide other public benefits;
- Estimated jobs retained/created;
- Estimated economic impacts; and
- Total amount of funding nationwide;
- Estimated available funding to the County;
- Estimated available funding to other entities within the County;
- Funding methodology and program requirements;
- Timing for the use of funds;
- Federal and State agency (if applicable) responsible for administering the program.

For public reporting purposes, the County has created a website, <http://www.countyofsb.org/sbc/recovery/default.aspx>, which contains all of the above information.

The following tables summarize the estimated impacts on General Fund Contributions.

Funding Stream	Amount Awarded to Date	Impact on County General Fund
Surface Transportation Program	\$5,970,000	\$0
Health Care Centers	\$210,000	\$0
Subtotal	\$6,180,000	\$0

Funding Stream	Amount Awarded to Date	Impact on County General Fund
Workforce Investment Act (Adults)	\$600,000	\$0
Workforce Investment Act (Youth)	\$1,930,000	\$0
Workforce Investment Act (Dislocated Workers)	\$1,170,000	\$0
Food Stamps - SNAP	\$190,000	\$0
CDBG	\$540,000	\$40,661
Homelessness Prevention/Emergency Shelters	\$830,000	\$20,725
Bureau of Reclamation	\$3,700,000	\$0
Bryne (JAG)	\$140,000	\$0
FMAP	\$2,800,000	\$891,224*
Subtotal	\$11,900,000	\$952,610

* The Department of Social Services included FMAP savings as part of its FY 09-10 10% budget reduction strategy.