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Yolanda Baldovinos Interim, Agency Director

September 11, 2008



Honorable Board of Supervisors Administration Building Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Board Members:

**SUBJECT:** Temporary payments for assistance under the Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) necessitated by the impasse in the State budget

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

In order to allow for the continued provision of benefits to Alameda County residents eligible for assistance under the Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) it is recommended that your Board:

- Authorize the Social Services Agency (SSA) to make monthly payments to the Human Services Agency of San Mateo County (Beverly Beasley Johnson, Director) to offset the costs of benefits issued to Alameda County residents participating in the Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI).
- Increase the Social Services Agency's appropriation and revenues by \$1,000,000 as detailed in the attached Financial Recommendation.

## **SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:**

This letter requests action by your Board to increase appropriations and revenues to cover the costs of one month of Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) benefits for Alameda County clients. CAPI is a 100 percent state-funded program designed to provide monthly cash benefits to aged, blind, and disabled non-citizens who are ineligible for SSI/SSP solely due to their immigrant status. CAPI payment standards are \$10 less than SSI/SSP payment standards (\$20 for a couple).

San Mateo County administers the program for a ten county consortium, comprised of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Merced, Monterey, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma and Stanislaus. As part of Alameda's memorandum of understanding with San Mateo, San Mateo makes monthly benefit payments to Alameda County clients, and receives reimbursement from the State of California to offset the costs of these payments. Under normal circumstances, it is unnecessary for Alameda County (or the other

members of the consortium) to be involved in either the issuance of the CAPI payments or the State reimbursement process.

Unfortunately, the impasse in the state budget has suspended the reimbursement of CAPI benefits paid by San Mateo on behalf of the consortium counties. Our MOU with San Mateo states that in the event this happens, San Mateo will continue to issue benefits, but will invoice the consortium counties for the cost of the benefits issued to their clients. Once the State re-starts payment of CAPI benefits to San Mateo, San Mateo will reimburse the consortium counties the funds each county issued to San Mateo under the MOU.

Your Board's approval is necessary to advance San Mateo County the money needed to maintain current CAPI benefit payments If less appropriation is needed, SSA will return to your Board to request a downward adjustment to bring appropriation in line with expenses.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA/PROCESS:**

N/A

## **FINANCING:**

Since San Mateo County will return the money advanced when the Legislature passes a budget and the State resumes payments, there will be no increase in net County costs.

Sincerely,

Yolanda Baldovinos Interim Agency Director

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c: County Administrator County Counsel Auditor-Controller

V:\BoardLetters\2008\09-03-08 CAPI Payments

FINANCIAL RECOMMENDATION Subject of Board Letter:		N	AGENDA DATE:	9/30/2008
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