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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF VENTURA**

GOVERNMENT CENTER, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
800 SOUTH VICTORIA AVENUE, VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93009

March 24, 2009

Board of Supervisors  
800 S. Victoria Ave.  
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: Direction to CEO and PWA Director to Evaluate Cost of Implementing a FEMA CRS Program for the Unincorporated Area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Direct the Chief Executive Officer and Public Works Director to report back to our Board by April 14<sup>th</sup> with an analysis of the cost, staff effort, alternatives, and time needed to implement a FEMA CRS Program for the county unincorporated territory.

DISCUSSION:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program offers a Community Rating System (CRS) program that enables flood insurance policy holders to receive a discount on their insurance premiums if their local government has implemented a CRS program. CRS programs involves measures to reduce flood risk and flood losses, increase awareness of flood risk and flood insurance, and facilitate accurate flood insurance ratings.

The CRS program operates on a "points" basis with the percentage premium discount reflecting points awarded by FEMA. Points are awarded for engaging in any of 18 creditable activities, organized under four categories: Public Information, Mapping and Regulations, Flood Damage Reduction, Flood Preparation.

As the Flood Plain Administrator for the County unincorporated area, County government could implement a CRS program for the unincorporated areas (cities could implement their own programs). Given the thousand of properties in the unincorporated areas within flood plains, it behooves our Board to ascertain the cost of offering this program to our unincorporated area property owners.

Cordially,

Steve Bennett  
Supervisor, First District

Kathy I. Long  
Supervisor, Third District