
SISKIYOU COUNTY



SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Jon Lopey
Sheriff

January 16, 2017

Mr. Robert Oates, Project Director III
Board of State and Community Corrections
2590 Venture Oaks Way
Sacramento, CA 95833

RE: Request for time Extension for Project Establishment for AB 900 Grant ID #A20-12

Dear Mr. Oates,

The purpose of this letter is to formally request an extension for the State Public Works Board (SPWB) Project Establishment from March 2017 to October 2017 for the Siskiyou County AB900 Project.

As you are aware, the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors placed an initiative on the November 2016 ballot to create a sale's tax so the county could fund the gap that developed in the AB900 project, which was projected due to rising construction costs (approximately \$27M to \$36.9M). The tax initiative did not pass. Siskiyou County is re-examining funding and project scope reduction possibilities to conform to the AB900 award, or place the amount of the project close to the limit to enable a viable funding alternative. With the county's limited fiscal resources, it must be able to complete this project at or near the amount that was awarded under AB900. The county does not have the resources to fund the deficit amount. For these reasons Siskiyou County is asking for the project establishment extension to October 2017. This would allow the county to assess our ability to complete this project and present a modified scope to the BSCC for approval prior to project establishment. At least three potentially-viable alternatives are under review.

Since our Conditional Award was announced on November 8, 2012, we have been working diligently to complete all the required steps of the AB900 project up to the project establishment. The county will continue to work to present a viable project to the Department of Finance and the SPWB for consideration as soon as possible.

In July 2015, the BSCC changed our award from a partial award to a full award. With the changes to the project and the increased anticipated construction costs, Siskiyou County must explore additional scope changes to ensure the completion of the project. As you are aware, this renders the county ineligible to compete for SB 844 funding.

The county has contracted with the architectural firm of Nacht & Lewis to assist in preparing the material necessary for the project establishment with the SPWB. We are continuing to explore suitable alternatives and on January 10, 2017, the Board of Supervisors unanimously endorsed this extension request. The Board is committed to the serious examination of all possible options to ensure project success.

Siskiyou County greatly appreciates the previous time extensions granted by the BSCC and their willingness to assist us with the challenges we are facing due to fiscal shortfalls and rising construction costs.

I consider this jail project critical due to the rising crime rates in our county, infrastructure deficiencies in the old jail, safety challenges to inmates and staff, and other challenges, which, when considered in context with the new jail project, will serve to impact the public health and safety of this Department and the citizens we serve for many decades.

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Thank you for your consideration, assistance, and support in this matter. Should you have any questions please contact me at (530) 842-8300 or (530) 598-2910.

Sincerely,



Jon E. Lopey, Sheriff – Coroner