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Sutter County Stimulus Package Project List: $60 Million In ‘Shovel-Ready’ Road, Water And Building Projects

Sutter County has assembled a master list of $60 million in “shovel ready” projects for consideration if Congress approves President Barack Obama’s proposal for a public works stimulus package to revive the American economy.

The list, compiled by Public Works Director Douglas R. Gault, was forwarded to Congressman Wally Herger, Senators Diane Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, State Senator Sam Aanestad and Assemblyman Jim Nielsen.

The Sutter County list contains $30.2 million in road projects, $27 million in building projects, and $2.9 million in water projects. All projects could start within three to six months of funding approvals and be completed within one year.

The road projects list includes approximately $23 million for road rehabilitation projects throughout Sutter County. The building projects include $12.5 million for a new Human Services Building and $3.5 million for a new animal shelter. A majority of the water projects involve improvements to the water system for the community of Robbins, including the elimination of arsenic.

Because the Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency was formed in 2007 to coordinate flood control projects, Sutter County’s list does not include “shovel ready” levee projects. “Shovel-ready” projects are defined as those where construction can begin within six months after funding is received. Sutter County does not own or maintain any of the 240 miles of levees in the county; they are owned by the state and federal governments.

However, the approximately one mile long Levee District 1 setback levee project at Starr Bend has already received an appropriation for $16 million and is expected to be completed on schedule in 2009. An Army Corps of Engineers study on alternatives for other levee projects is not expected to be completed until 2010.

A proposed early implementation project to repair-in-place levees from Yuba City to southern Butte County is being considered by the Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency but that project and is not far enough along in the approval and engineering process to qualify as “shovel-ready.”

Sutter County “Stimulus Package Project” synopsis and cost estimates

Facilities:

- Construct 65,000 square foot Human Services building to consolidate services. $12,500,000.
- Construct 10,000 square foot Animal Control Facility to replace aging existing facility. $3.5 million.
- Replace aging and inefficient heating, ventilation and air-conditioning system at Sutter County Jail with modern HVAC system. $1.5 million.
• Construct 1,800 square foot steel building for Road Maintenance offices at the County’s Corporation Yard. $700,000.
• Install 4,000 feet of eight-inch ductile iron water main to replace existing two-inch line at Sutter County Airport and Whiteaker Hall, improving water flow for fire protection and reliable potable water service to several industrial buildings. $400,000.

Roads:

• Road rehabilitation projects, including overlays, cape seals, and slurry seals. Already identified for 2009 is 22.2 miles of county roads at cost of $1.2 million; the remainder would be for maintenance treatments for other substandard County roads. $23,100,000.
• Widen a 1.2 mile section of Butte House Road, including rerouting drainage through graded ditches and piping and seven fee of shoulder widening in each direction. (This project fully funded for 2010) $880,000.
• Preventative maintenance on 16 deteriorating bridges throughout Sutter County, applying a sealant to prevent future damage. $650,000.
• Replace a deep roadside ditch that presents a significant traffic hazard along Franklin Road with drainage piping. $900,000.
• Construct an eight-mile long Class 2 Bike Lane along George Washington Boulevard, with a four-foot pavement widening in each direction with associated signage and striping. $4 million $4,000,000.
• Construct a one mile long Class 2 Bike Lane along Franklin Road. $200,000.

Water Resources Projects

• Replace 5,000 feet of existing two-inch and three-inch galvanized water line with six-inch PVC water main in the community of Robbins, providing reliable potable water service and adequate fire service. $740,000.
• Install 32 water meters in the community of Robbins. $100,000.
• Demolish the water tower in the community of Robbins. $30,000.
• Purchasing an easement and installation of two eight-foot diameter treatment tanks, a filtration system and related equipment to remove arsenic from the water supply in Robbins. $870,000.
• Replace three underground tanks at the Robins Wastewater Treatment Plant with a new fiberglass tank. $300,000.
• Purchase a new storage container to house spill materials at the Robbins Wastewater Treatment Plant. $30,000.
• Installation of new 20 gallons-per-minute pump station and power supply in the drainage basin that serves the Sunset Estates subdivision west of Yuba City. $75,000.
• Replacement of undersized drainage culverts at 10 road crossing on the Live Oak Canal, and replace other drainage culverts under roadways at critical locations throughout the County. $750,000.