

FY 2022-23 Board of Supervisors Budget Request Form

Deadline: April 7, 2022

Please email completed form to CAO-Budget@sonoma-county.org

Supervisor: Chris Coursey and James Gore

Date: 04/06/2022

DESCRIPTION OF ONE-TIME FUNDING REQUEST

Instructions: Board budget requests are typically financed with one-time sources that are identified as part of the annual budget development process. As such, requests submitted on this form should be one-time in nature.

What will the funds be used for and why it is needed?

October of this year will mark the five year anniversary of the historic Tubbs Fire. The lives of 22 of our neighbors, friends, family and community members were lost in that tragedy. Supervisors Coursey and Gore would like to erect a memorial to honor and remember those who we have lost and to acknowledge the great strides our community made to unite in the wake of this calamity.

What is the amount of the one-time funding request?

\$250,000

What department will be responsible for implementing this item?

General Services.

Does this funding request leverage additional funding?

Whom should the County Administrator's Office contact for additional information?

Please contact Sean Hamlin of District 3 or Jen Mendoza of District 4.

Sonoma County Fire Memorial

Name of Board Member Requesting funding:

Supervisor James Gore

Supervisor Chris Coursey

Analysis:

The 2017 wildfires and subsequent fires in 2019 and 2020 have deeply impacted our communities. Crafting a memorial for these events is a major undertaking that will require significant staff resources, extensive community engagement, and which will realistically require more than a year to complete.

Budget

Determining an appropriate budget for this project will require additional information gathering of projects that have similarity in not just scope and scale, but also in the impact of the emotional weight this project will be required to carry. Two preliminary examples include:

- Santa Rosa Courthouse Square “Unum” project: \$300,000
 - o \$42,000 artist design fee
 - o \$224,000 fabrication/installation
 - o \$14,000 contingencies
 - o \$20,000 administration, community outreach, etc.
- Memphis Martin Luther King Memorial: \$700,000
 - o \$139,100 design fee
 - o \$560,900 fabrication

Budget Considerations for a Community Commemoration:

1. Experience and Capacity of Potential Artists. A public art project of this magnitude and weight will require the work of a skilled artist with experience in public art, process, and community engagement – among other skills.
2. Community Engagement. This will be critical to the success of this piece and therefore will require additional staff time as well as time from the artists. There are several “constituencies” that will be important to keep involved. The selection process will need to be highly transparent, offering community members many opportunities to be heard. In the end, it is likely that no project will fully satisfy all impacted community members.
3. Other Related Costs. Additional costs may include: site preparation (and acquisition, if necessary), maintenance and upkeep, stipends for artist finalists to prepare designs, costs for professional conservator to estimate maintenance costs of final selection, impact studies (if required), etc.
4. Other Staff Impacts. Various County staff will be impacted and may be needed to provide project management, permitting, legal counsel, etc.
5. Site/Location Selection. A site would need to be identified. If the site is on non-county-owned land, staff would need to negotiate an agreement with the property owner. The Board would also need to determine the process for selection of a site.

Timeline

For a project of this scope and size, a reasonable timeline is approximately 24-36 months (for example, the Courthouse Square “Unum” project, which is slated for installation in August 2022, was initiated in spring of 2019 – a 3.5 year timeline).

If the Board decides to go forward with the process, staff would work to develop a plan for the memorial. It may be possible to finalize this plan in time for a public announcement in October 2022 to mark the five year anniversary. The announcement could lay out the overall process, emphasizing the key areas that the community will have to participate in the process. This process will require ongoing feedback and guidance from the Board of Supervisors.