COUNTY OF SAN MATEO Departmental Correspondence

Date: **OCT** 5 2001

Hearing Date:

OCT 23 2001

TO:

Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM:

Brian Zamera, Director, Public Health and Environmental Protection

SUBJECT:

State funded Black Infant Health Project

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. Adopt an amendment to the Salary Ordinance, adding one full-time, unclassified Medical Office Assistant to provide administrative support for the expanded Black Infant Health project
- 2. Approve an Appropriation Transfer Request (ATR) in the amount of \$159,267.

Background

The state funded Black Infant Health (BIH) project provides individualized, community-oriented strategies that address the complex causes of the disproportionately high infant mortality rate in the African-American population. Objectives include: increasing the proportion of women receiving first trimester prenatal care; reducing the low birth weight percentage; reducing infant mortality among African-American babies; and, reducing maternal mortality. Only 81% of African American women entered prenatal care in the first trimester in 1997, with Caucasian, Asian, and Filipino women receiving first trimester care in higher percentages. The low birth weight percentage among African American babies in that year was 11.5%, by far the highest of any racial/ethnic group (Caucasian, 5.2%; Latino, 5.3%; Filipino 7.7%). The infant mortality rate among African-American infants varied from 2.7 to 14.8 per 1,000 live births between 1993 and 1997. This rate is generally one and a half to two times higher than the overall county infant mortality rate (Children in Our Community, January 2000).

Discussion

The Health Services Agency's Public Health and Environmental Protection Division has operated a well-regarded BIH project since 1991. In FY 2000-01, San Mateo County's BIH

Honorable Board of Supervisors Amendment to Salary Ordinance Page 2

project was awarded a State general fund augmentation of \$175,400, which will continue in subsequent years. As a condition of acceptance the number of clients served has increased, and the number of services broadened. An expanded Role of Men component is being implemented following State Maternal and Child Health Branch guidelines. With the addition of a new program component, and almost a doubling of the caseload, the need for increased office support has arisen. The Medical Office Assistant manages client intake using the State-mandated BIH management information system and provides general administrative support for all BIH staff.

Performance Measure	Current Program Results	Projected 2001-02
Low birth weight births among babies born to	7.8%	7.4%
African-American mothers in the program.		

County Counsel has reviewed and approved this amendment.

Term and Fiscal Impact

In order to meet State requirements to collect and input client data into the BIH management information system, and to allow for efficient operation of the expanded BIH program, the Public Health and Environmental Protection Division will need to hire a full-time, unclassified medical office assistant. This position will be funded by federal matching funds for the BIH program, which are first being allowed in FY 2001-02. These matching sources are permanent. The approved BIH allocation from the State Department of Health Services for FY 2001-02 is \$630,794, of which \$471,527 is included in the county's FY 2001-02 budget. The ATR is for the difference of \$159,267 which is anticipated to be an on-going augmentation. The amount budgeted for salaries and benefits is \$53,306 and the remainder of \$105,961 is for operating expenses such as travel, computers and facility cost. There will be no increase in net county cost.

RECOMMENDED

ORDINANCE NO.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SALARY ORDINANCE 04060

The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, ordains as follows

SECTION 1. Part 12 of the Ordinance is amended as indicated:

ORGANIZATION 62000 PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

- 1. Item E416S, Medical Office Assistant series, is increased by 1 position for a new total of 8 positions.
- **SECTION 2.** This action is effective at the start of the first pay period beginning thirty days following adoption.

REQUEST NO.

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO APPROPRIATION TRANSFER REQUEST

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C	•		nded the transfer of fun		hereinabove: that the recommendation	one of the County Ma
а	ger be approve	d and that the	transfer of funds as set	forth in said Re	equest be effected.	•
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Noes and against said resolution:

Supervisors:

Ayes and in favor of said resolution:

REQUEST NO. ATR2 - 23

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO APPROPRIATION TRANSFER REQUEST

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WHEREAS, the Department hereinabove named in the Request for Appropriation, Allotment or Transfer of F has requested the transfer of certain funds as described in said Request; and WHEREAS, the County Controller has approved said Request as to accounting and available balances, an County Manager has recommended the transfer of funds as set forth hereinabove:						
	Regularly pa	assed and ado	pted this	day of	, 19	

Noes and against said resolution:

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Ayes and in favor of said resolution: