MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 4, 2008

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Weekly Report for August 4, 2008

RMA – Redevelopment and Housing

On July 17, 2008, the County of Monterey was awarded approximately $900,000 in State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the Department of Housing and Community Development. This last round of funding was the most competitive ever for the State CDBG Program; out of 94 applications only 36 received funding (38% rate of success).

The County of Monterey received this funding in two categories: public facilities and public services. The public facilities funding will be used to assist with the construction of Interim Inc. Sunflower Gardens, an 18-unit supportive housing facility to be located in the City of Salinas, serving residents countywide. Sunflower Gardens will serve 23 very low-income adults with serious mental illness who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. This project will replace an existing leased facility located on Fort Ord. Interim Inc. is a non-profit organization that has extensive experience in developing and operating housing facilities with supportive services for adults with psychiatric disabilities. The supportive services component of the project will be carried out in partnership with the Behavioral Health Division of the Monterey County Health Department.

The public services funding will be used to provide a Homeowner Preservation and Foreclosure Prevention Services (HPFPS) Program through the Monterey County Housing Alliance, a certified HUD counseling agency. The HPFPS Program will provide counseling to current homeowners who are behind or at risk of becoming behind on their mortgage payments in order to stabilize their financial situation and bring their payments current. The cities of Greenfield, Soledad, and Gonzales have each agreed to provide $10,000 in local leverage funds. The Redevelopment and Housing Office will provide a total of $19,000 in local leverage funds from the Inclusionary and Redevelopment Housing programs to support service in the unincorporated areas of the County. These funds will ensure that workshops and services are not only marketed heavily but also physically provided in the aforementioned areas.