

S51B



County of Orange

MEMO

DATE: February 3, 2006
TO: Bill Campbell, Chairman
FROM: Thomas G. Mauk, County Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Exception to the Rule 21

Rob Richardson
for

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 CLERK OF THE BOARD
 ORANGE COUNTY
 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The County Executive Office is requesting a supplemental for the February 7, 2006 Board Hearing Meeting:

Board Meeting Date: February 7, 2006
Agency: Housing and Community Services
Subject: Hurricane Katrina/Rita Motel Assistance Plan
Calendar: Supplemental
Districts: All

Reason for Supplemental: Requested by Chairman Bill Campbell.

Concur: *Bill Campbell*
 Bill Campbell, Chairman
 Orange County Board of Supervisors

cc: Rob Richardson
 Assistant to the County Executive Officer

**SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA ITEM
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

S51B



ASR Control

MEETING DATE: February 7, 2006
LEGAL ENTITY TAKING ACTION: Board of Supervisors
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DISTRICT(S): All
SUBMITTING AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: Housing and Community Services
DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSON(S): Paula Burrier-Lund (714)480-2805
 Karen Roper (714)567-7418
 Mary Bishop (714)567-5162

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SUBJECT: Hurricane Katrina/Motel Assistance Plan

CEO CONCUR 	COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW <i>Approval Not Required</i> 	CLERK OF THE BOARD Discussion
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Budgeted: Yes **Current Year Cost:** \$91,800 **Annual Cost:** N/A
Staffing Impact: None **# of Positions:** None **Sole Source:** Yes
Current Fiscal Year Revenue: \$91,800
Funding Source: 15B Funds

Prior Board Action: None

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

1. Authorize 30 days of Motel Assistance Funding for up to 30 Hurricane Katrina/Rita evacuee households in an amount not to exceed \$91,800.
2. Authorize Director or designee to enter into a contract, in a form approved by County Counsel, effective from February 8, 2006 - June 30, 2006, with OperationOC/Orange County Rescue Mission, to administer the Motel Assistance Program.

SUMMARY:

FEMA has announced plans to terminate motel assistance to all evacuees by March 1, 2006. In the event FEMA does not extend motel assistance to evacuees still residing in motels in Orange County at that time, the cost to provide an additional 30 days motel assistance for up to 30 households, including administration costs, is approximately \$91,800.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Since the onset of post disaster relief efforts for Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita, a collaboration of public and private partners have been assisting evacuees relocating temporarily or permanently to Orange

County through a one-stop center located at the former Tustin Air Base, called OperationOC. FEMA has announced plans to terminate motel assistance to all evacuees as of February 13, 2006, except for special cases determined by FEMA. These evacuees, if approved, may get motel extensions until March 1, 2006. State OES has confirmed that FEMA will not release specific demographic information informing jurisdictions where evacuees are located or which evacuees will be receiving additional motel assistance. However, FEMA confirmed with HCS Homeless Prevention that they had contacted every evacuee residing in motels in Orange County and that all evacuees were given a special code number that would allow them to receive motel assistance until March 1, 2006. Simultaneously, HCS staff contacted every evacuee known to be residing in motels and asked whether they had contacted FEMA to receive the special code number that might allow them to continue receiving FEMA motel assistance until March 1st. If evacuees had not contacted FEMA, they were instructed to contact FEMA immediately to apply for the code number.

Below is a summary of the status of evacuees in Orange County based on information available to staff:

- The Red Cross reports they provided emergency assistance to 1051+ evacuees. However, as of November 2005, the Red Cross stopped providing motel assistance to evacuees and FEMA took over administration of the program.
- 689 individuals/305 families since the onset of the disaster have been assisted at OperationOC.
- It is estimated that up to 15-30 households could still be residing in motels in Orange County on March 1st and are therefore at risk for becoming homeless when FEMA terminates the motel assistance.
- OperationOC/Orange County Rescue Mission has agreed to administer the Motel Assistance Program. Motels have indicated that they would accept additional motel assistance from another provider, on behalf of evacuees. The Motel Assistance Program will provide limited assistance to evacuees who have not found more permanent housing.
- If requested, HCS and OperationOC could return to your Honorable Board with potential options and costs associated with longer-term housing options.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Motel Assistance Cost: \$76,500
OCRM 15% Administration Cost: \$11,475
HCS 5% Administration Cost: \$3,825

Total Cost: \$ 91,800

Funding to implement the motel assistance plan would be provided by utilizing 15B funds that consist of fees and liquidated assets from the mortgage revenue bond program and are intended for housing related expenditures.

STAFFING IMPACT:

N/A

REVIEWING AGENCIES:

N/A

EXHIBIT(S):

None

ATTACHMENT(S):

None