



CITY OF DEL REY OAKS

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DATE: November 18, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: John Guertin, City Manager

SUBJECT: Contribution to the Food Bank for Monterey County in Response to Federal SNAP Funding Gap

CEQA: Not applicable.

Recommendation

Receive the report regarding the City's contribution to the Food Bank of Monterey County and authorize an amendment to the FY 2025-26 Adopted Budget to utilize one-time General Fund fund balance for the \$5,000 contribution.

Background

The Monterey County City Managers group recently received a request for all cities in the County to contribute \$10,000 each to the Food Bank for Monterey County. The request is intended to help bridge the gap in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) funding resulting from the ongoing federal government shutdown.

For several of our larger neighboring cities, a \$10,000 discretionary contribution poses no significant budgetary challenge. However, this amount represents a more substantial impact for the City of Del Rey Oaks due to its smaller size and more limited discretionary resources.

The City does, however, have precedent for making proportional contributions to regional initiatives. A recent example is the City's annual support of the Small Business Development Center, where Del Rey Oaks contributes half the amount of other participating jurisdictions in recognition of our smaller fiscal capacity.

Discussion

After reviewing the request and discussing the matter with the Mayor, staff recommended that the City participate in this important regional effort at a proportional level. The Food Bank for Monterey County provides vital support to residents across the County, including several individuals and families within Del Rey Oaks.

Given the immediate need created by the lapse in federal SNAP benefits and the Food Bank's urgent call for assistance, the Mayor and City Manager determined that timely action was necessary. Accordingly, the City has responded with a contribution of \$5,000 to the Food Bank last week.

This approach reflects both the City's commitment to regional cooperation and our responsibility to steward local resources prudently.

Fiscal Impacts

The contribution was \$5,000. Staff recommends using one-time funding from the fund balance in the General Fund to cover the expenditure.

Respectfully submitted,

John Guertin
City Manager