

TO: The Honorable Anna Caballero, Chair
Senate Governance & Finance Committee
FROM: Nossaman LLP on behalf of the Monterey County Board of Supervisors
DATE: June 14, 2023
RE: **AB 444 (Addis) California Defense Community Infrastructure Program**

The County of Monterey is pleased to support Assembly Bill (AB) 444 by Assembly Member Dawn Addis. This measure will create the Military Infrastructure Matching Program which matches federal grants from the Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot program for infrastructure projects in military communities.

Currently the Department of Defense funds military community infrastructure projects through the Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program (DCIP). The DCIP was created to allocate funding to community infrastructure projects that support an active military installation and increase military value. While military communities can receive federal funding from the DCIP for infrastructure projects, there is no state-level program that supplements matching requirements for these federal grants. Communities are forced to rely upon local funds to meet high-dollar federal matching requirements, keeping many priority infrastructure projects out of reach.

AB 444 would authorize the Military Infrastructure Matching Program to provide grants to meet matching requirements for DCIP projects and also support these communities in identifying potential DCIP projects through other grants. Communities often need assistance in identifying, planning, and implementing these projects when they cannot afford to do so with local funds. This measure will solve this hurdle of “matching requirements” for many military communities.

For these reasons, Monterey County strongly supports AB 444. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Monterey County’s Public Policy Advisor, Ashley Walker of Nossaman LLP at 916-442-8888.

Sincerely,



Ashley Walker
Nossaman LLP

CC: Hon. Dawn Addis, 30th Assembly District, Author
Members, Senate Governance & Finance Committee
Hon. Anna Caballero, 14th Senate District
Hon. John Laird, 17th Senate District
Hon. Robert Rivas, 29th Assembly District
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)