



Board Agenda Background

Date: 3/17/2026
To: Board of County Commissioners
Through: Colton Rohloff, County Manager
From: Erica Duvic, Grants Administrator
Subject: Consideration of a CDS/CPF Grant Application and Letter of Support for Courthouse Complex Generators

RECOMMENDATION

Approval of the application and letter of support for a Congressionally Designated Spending/Community Project Funding Grant for the Courthouse Complex Generators for up to \$160,000.

BACKGROUND

Clear Creek County's courthouse/jail complex currently lacks sufficient backup generator capacity to sustain essential operations during extended power outages. This vulnerability was documented during the December 16–23, 2025 Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) event, in which Xcel Energy enacted planned outages across most of the County due to extreme wildfire risk wind conditions. Though the courthouse complex retained power during that event, Xcel could not guarantee continuity, preventing the County from opening an in-county shelter and forcing the temporary relocation of jail inmates. The County's After Action Review identified generator upgrades as a high-priority corrective action.

Community Project Funding (CPF) and Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) are federal, member-requested grants that provide targeted funding for local community projects such as infrastructure and public facilities. CPF is the term used in the House of Representatives; CDS is used in the Senate. The BOCC expressed interest in pursuing these funds and the generator project was identified as the most shovel-ready project available. Due to a short-notice CPF application deadline, staff submitted an application through Congressman Neguse's office prior to this item coming before the Board. The County will also apply jointly for CDS funding through Senators Bennett and Hickenlooper. This memo seeks Board authorization for that application and retroactive acknowledgment of the CPF submission. It also requests signature of a group letter of support for the application.

ANALYSIS

If awarded, the project would involve two components: rewiring the existing generator, which was originally installed to serve the emergency dispatch center that has since relocated outside the County and currently powers an empty space, and purchasing and installing a new generator. Together, these improvements would provide reliable backup power to the jail, Emergency Operations Center, in-county emergency shelter spaces, and the rooftop cell tower supporting first responder radio communications. Construction is estimated to last approximately one month with additional time required for procurement.

FISCAL IMPACT

CDS/CPF funds must be applied for through one of the Appropriation Committee's subcommittees and an account accepting requests. The County is applying through the Agriculture subcommittee's Rural Development, Community Facilities Grants, which requires a match. The total project cost is \$160,000 and the expected county match is \$40,000 (25%). The source of these matching funds has not been identified.



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The proposed project budget is based on estimates received from licensed electricians and includes a contingency for potential cost increases.

ATTACHMENT:

1. CDS CPF - Letter of Support