



# County of El Dorado

## Chief Administrative Office

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Date: January 25, 2023

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Don Ashton   
Chief Administrative Officer

RE: Retroactive Agreement with California Department of Public Health

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an explanation for the retroactive nature of an agreement with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) that will be coming to the Board for approval.

### Funding Overview

The five-year agreement with CDPH covers the following Preparedness grants currently housed in the EMS Agency:

1. Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)
2. Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP)
3. Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI)
4. Pandemic Influenza (Pan Flu)

The funding for the Preparedness grants originates from the Federal government and are made to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), which in turn sub-contracts with local jurisdictions (County of El Dorado). CDPH is responsible for initiating contracts with local jurisdictions. The previous five-year Preparedness Agreement between the County of El Dorado and CDPH expired on June 30, 2022. The new five-year agreement has a contract term of July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2027. Ideally, the contract renewal process occurs prior to, or near the expiration of the preceding contract. CDPH has indicated there are several reasons for the delays initiating the current five-year agreement, including:

1. Federal Permission for Carryforward Funding: Due to the COVID pandemic, CDPH requested that the Federal government carryforward the funds remaining on the 2017-2022 agreement into the new five-year agreement (2022-2027). Two different Federal agencies, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response (ASPR), had to approve this request which created delays for CDPH to initiate contracts with local jurisdictions.

2. Carryforward Funding Total: Following Federal approval to carryforward the remaining funds into the new five-year agreement, CDPH had to review, confirm, and approve the year-end expenditure reports submitted by all local jurisdictions. This took additional time for CDPH to complete, as it is not the normal process between funding agreements. Please note, we are in strong support of the carryforward funding and El Dorado County's anticipated carryforward funding which is included in the new five-year agreement of approximately \$100,000.
3. Timeliness of the Contracting Process: On a December 2022 conference call, CDPH indicated that El Dorado County was one of ten (10) remaining counties in the State who had not yet received the new contract package. There was no specific reason mentioned. During the application approval process, CDPH reached out to Program and Fiscal staff multiple times requesting information that was provided when our application was submitted in May 2022, but not yet updated in their files.

**Current Status:**

The County received the contract and supporting documents from CDPH on December 27, 2022, nearly six months after the start of the agreement. The contract was immediately forwarded to the Central Fiscal team to initiate approval of the agreement. Both Program and Fiscal staff had procedures in place prior to receiving the agreement from CDPH, so that the agreement could be expedited through County processes once it was received.

Both County Program and Fiscal staff have been very responsive to the requests from CDPH and have met the Preparedness grant application timelines. Without this agreement in place, El Dorado County would not receive \$2,730,297 in Preparedness funding over the next five years. This funding is critical in preparing the County and our medical/health partners for all hazards and disasters.

While the delay in bringing the five-year agreement to the Board of Supervisors makes the contract retroactive, the delays in receiving the contract earlier than December 27, 2022, were circumstances outside of the County's control.

Thank you for your consideration in approving this retroactive contract and if you have any questions or need additional information at this time, please let me know.