

**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** James L. App, City Manager  
**SUBJECT:** City Contribution for Disaster Relief  
**DATE:** January 15, 2008

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**NEEDS:** For the City Council to consider disposition of an unused donation for Hurricane Katrina disaster relief.

**FACTS:**

1. In 2005 the City Council authorized a \$10,000 grant to aid in disaster relief for the victims of Hurricane Katrina.
2. The Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo County was designated as the trustee of the disaster relief funds.
3. The Food Bank distributed news releases to alert those in need that funds were available for disaster relief/assistance.
4. Food Bank reported no requests to draw from the donated monies.
5. The \$10,000 remains on deposit at the Food Bank.
6. The Food Bank has suggested three options for disposition of the funds (see attached letter).

**ANALYSIS &**

**CONCLUSION:** Historically, the City has not offered grants/donations of this type. However, due to the unprecedented scope of the Katrina disaster, and because the City had received considerable assistance in responding to the earthquake disaster of 2003, the City Council determined to offer assistance.

Inasmuch as the assistance has not been deployed for the intended purpose, the Food Bank suggests three options for use:

- Authorize the Food Bank to use the \$10,000 as seed money for a local Disaster Fund.
- Authorize the Food Bank to use the \$10,000 to purchase food for existing Food Bank programs, specifically to provide hunger relief in Paso Robles.
- Return the money to the City.

The donated monies originate from discretionary sources (General Fund); therefore can be used for any legitimate government purpose or public benefit.

**POLICY**

**REFERENCE:** City Council's 2005 donation for Hurricane Katrina disaster relief.

**FISCAL**

**IMPACT:** Reallocation of \$10,000 committed in 2005 for disaster relief.

- OPTIONS:**
- A. City Council Authorize Reallocation of the \$10,000 to:
    - 1. Food Bank to establish a local Disaster Fund; or
    - 2. Food Bank for existing food programs for hunger relief in Paso Robles; or
    - 3. City's General Fund.
  
  - B. Amend, Modify or Reject the Option Above.

Attachments: 9/24/07 Food Bank Letter  
8/11/06 Food Bank Letter



# Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo County

A Community Collaboration to Help the Needy

## Main:

2212 Golden Hill Road,  
P.O. Box 2070  
Paso Robles, CA 93447  
805-238-4664 • fax 805-238-6956

## So. County:

1820 Railroad Road,  
Oceano, CA 93445  
805-481-4652 • fax 805-481-4698  
www.slofoodbank.org

*“Our County’s best food resource for any citizen in need.”*

**Executive Director**  
**Carl R. Hansen**

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RECEIVED  
CITY MANAGER

SEP 25 2007

CITY OF PASO ROBLES

September 24, 2007  
City of El Paso de Robles  
1000 Spring St.  
Paso Robles, CA 93446

Dear Mr. App,

At the council meeting of June 5<sup>th</sup>, we had a brief conversation regarding the status of the “Katrina Fund” of \$10,000. You suggested that I make a proposal to the City Council. I apologize for taking so long to get to it.

The history of the fund was reviewed in my letter of August 11, 2006, attached. We propose three possibilities, in the order of our preference, for your consideration:

1. To help the Food Bank respond locally to such emergencies as Katrina, we would use the \$10,000 as seed money for a Disaster Fund, and build it each year to the best of our ability while welcoming donations to the fund from others. The Food Bank has worked as part of a team to form a VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) among non-profits in the county, working closely with government-led emergency planning to respond when the need arises within the county. This fund would be the beginning of significant resources to make our response effective in partnership with other agencies.
2. The money could be used to purchase food for existing Food Bank programs, increasing our ability to respond to the reality of hunger in our midst every day on the part of our citizens in personal crises. It is possible to designate the use of the funds for those who live in or close to the City of Paso Robles.
3. Simply return the money to the City because it was not needed for the original purpose for which it was given.

Of course I would be happy to discuss the matter further, and work with you on any other ideas for the use of the funds that would seem appropriate to you – all in preparation for a presentation to the Council in the near future.

Thank you for your assistance in the continuing role of the City of Paso Robles being a meaningful partner with the Food Bank helping those in need.

Sincerely yours,

Carl R. Hansen  
Executive Director



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Dale Drew

1/12 ~~25~~ 9/22  
RECEIVED  
CITY MANAGER

AUG 14 2006

CITY OF PASO ROBLES

August 11, 2006  
City of El Paso de Robles  
1000 Spring St.  
Paso Robles, CA 93446

Att: Mr. James L. App, City Manager

Dear Mr. App:

Thank you for your letter of August 9, 2006 regarding the donation from the City of \$10,000 in response to Katrina. I am responding on Don Jacob’s behalf as he was interim Executive Director at the time, and I became Executive Director in December of 2005.

After receiving word of the Council’s decision, the Food Bank began to distribute news releases through the media and all of our agencies in the County, with a particular emphasis to those in Paso Robles. At the time, we felt there may be a significant re-settlement of people from the Gulf Coast at Camp Roberts. After receiving the grant in mid-September, we purchased \$5,000 of product to be set aside for Katrina victims as part of a larger order, and kept \$5,000 in a separate “Katrina Fund” bank account. Between September and December we received no requests for assistance. The few people we found who re-located in the County were not in need of assistance. That was the status of the fund when I arrived in December.

In January of 2006, it was clear that the funds were not likely to be used imminently, so we moved the inventory back into the general inventory for shelf-life reasons, and restored the \$5,000 in the Katrina Fund bank account, where it remains.

I have enclosed documentation for your information, and look forward to offering some ideas as to how this donation might continue to be utilized locally in the spirit in which it was given. Please advise as to how and when such a presentation to the staff and eventually to the Council might be appropriate.

This comes with our deepest appreciation for the support from the City of El Paso de Robles in the continuing work of the Food Bank Coalition to serve those who suffer hunger insecurity in Paso Robles and throughout the County.

Sincerely yours,



Carl R. Hansen  
Executive Director

FOOD BANK COALITION  
OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY  
HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF FUND  
P O BOX 2070  
PASO ROBLES CA 93447

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PASO ROBLES OFFICE  
1226 PARK STREET  
PASO ROBLES CA 93446

TELEPHONE: 805-237-4200

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On-Line banking is getting better, with a significant upgrade in August.  
Check for on-line banking news at [www.MissionCommunityBank.com](http://www.MissionCommunityBank.com)

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MCC BUSINESS ACCOUNT 2505649  
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LAST STATEMENT 06/30/06	10,000.00
CREDITS	.00
DEBITS	.00
THIS STATEMENT 07/31/06	10,000.00

