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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/05/09

SPONSOR Fischmann LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Dona Ana Talavera Area Master Plan SB 321

ANALYST Aubel

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$125.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 321 appropriates \$125 thousand from the general fund to the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance and Administration for a master plan for roads, flood control, drainage and arroyo management in FY10 in the Talavera area east of Las Cruces in Dona Ana County.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$125 thousand contained in this bill is a one time, non-recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY10 shall revert to the general fund. DFA notes that Dona Ana County would act as fiscal agent.

According to the December 2008 revenue estimate, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$293 million, or 2.6 percent, less than the FY09 appropriation. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to DFA, the master plan is critical to the public safety of the citizens who live in the Talavera Area, which is on the east side of Las Cruces outside the city limits by the New Mexico State University along the foothills of the Organ Mountains. The plan addresses potential flooding in this area and other nearby areas of Las Cruces. It is an older area of Las Cruces and in recent years has experienced rapid growth. Homes range from \$300,000 to \$2,000,000 and are located on 2 or more acres. Most of the roads are private and are dirt. Arroyos also flow through private property.

The flooding potential is high because the water drains down from the Organ Mountains. There are three major arroyos that affect this area. The water flows down the arroyos and goes into dammed controlled areas to prevent flooding.

In addition there is a major high school planned for this area. There is at least one major arroyo that will need to be crossed.

The population in Dona Ana County was approximately 193,888 in 2006.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

DFA notes that Mr. Jorde Granado, Public Works Director for the County of Dona Ana, feels confident that the master plan can be completed by 2010. Some of the work related to the master plan will be done in-house by the county and some of the work will be contracted out.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

DFA specifies that according to Mr. Granados, the projected cost of the plan is around \$170 thousand and the county will have to cover any costs over \$125 thousand. DFA indicates the county does support the bill.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The master plan most likely will not be completed and means of addressing flooding would not be developed.

MA/svb