

Office of the County Auditor
Auditor's Analysis

Council Bill No. 49-2024

Introduced: September 3, 2024

Auditor: Brenda Cachuela

Fiscal Impact:

Based on information provided by the Administration and reviewed by our Office, the fiscal impact of this legislation will be \$1,000,000 in Fiscal Year 2025.

Purpose:

The purpose of this legislation is to make an emergency appropriation and amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2025 to provide \$1,000,000 in additional spending authority to the Economic Development Authority (EDA) for grants to farmers impacted by the recent heat and drought conditions. The funds will be appropriated from the Agricultural Preservation and Promotion Fund to the EDA.

Other Comments:

The EDA will offer a primary grant of \$5,000 to each eligible farm operation that submits a form and signs an affidavit affirming losses due to the heat and drought. An additional secondary grant of up to \$25,000 will be available to farm operations that can substantiate more significant losses exceeding the initial grant of \$5,000.

While the Administration does not anticipate that there will be carryover given the demand of funding, any funds that are left over from the \$1,000,000 at the end of Fiscal Year 2025 will be carried over to be used for farmer grants in Fiscal Year 2026.