



AGENDA ITEM: 26-43

DATE OF MEETING: October 28, 2026

ACTION: ☒

INFORMATION: ☐

**RELEASE THE REMAINING EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION FACILITY  
ALLOCATION, AND COMMIT THE REMAINING MATERNAL FETAL MEDICINE  
CAPACITY BUILDING RESEARCH FUNDS**

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST**

Clarify the status of amounts previously reported as committed fund balance, release the remaining designated for completed Early Care and Education Facility Projects, and formally commit \$2,885,672 for the Maternal Fetal Medicine Capacity Building Initiative, effective October 28, 2026. The amounts reflect remaining balances as of June 30, 2026.

**BACKGROUND**

The Commission's investments in early care and education facilities and maternal fetal medicine were designed to build lasting capacity for Riverside County children and families. These investments support the places where children learn, access to specialized care during high-risk pregnancy, and research to improve care for pregnant women and young children.

Early Care and Education Facility Projects

The Commission has invested Proposition 10 funds in facility expansion, renovations, and improvements to indoor and outdoor learning environments. These investments support additional infant and toddler capacity and improve the safety and quality of existing child care settings. Projects have included classroom development, playground improvements, and partnerships that combine Proposition 10 funding with County, federal, and other resources.

Examples include completed improvements at ABC Center, ABC Village, Bermuda Dunes Learning Center, First School, The Growing Place, and Town and Country Day School, as well as the VIP Tots playground, celebrated at its May 2025 open house. The French Valley Discovery Hangar and Early Learning Center, Lakeland Village Child Care Center and Jan Peterson expansion site reached substantial construction completion in 2026.

Staff has identified \$414,400 in remaining fund balance proposed for release from the ECE facility project designation. Releasing this amount will make it available for future Commission priorities consistent with Proposition 10 requirements, while preserving funding needed to satisfy any remaining project obligations.

#### Maternal Fetal Medicine Capacity Building Initiative

The Commission's investment in the Maternal Fetal Medicine Capacity Building Initiative was designed to strengthen specialized care for high-risk pregnancies through provider recruitment, telehealth capacity, and coordination among hospitals, community health centers, and existing family support programs. The original proposal also included \$3 million to establish a research endowment focused on pregnancy and children ages 0–5. The research investment was intended to support new approaches to care, address health disparities, and improve connections across the regional maternal and child health system. Proposed priorities included a perinatal and neonatal consultation center and a countywide maternal transport system.

Because the proposed endowment arrangement could not be implemented under applicable requirements governing the holding and investment of Commission funds, the Commission retained the remaining allocation for its intended research purpose. The third amendment to Contract No. CF21100 extended the agreement through June 30, 2028, and continued funding for research focused on pregnancy and children ages 0–5.

As of June 30, 2026, the remaining initiative balance was \$2,885,672. This action establishes an express fund balance commitment to preserve the remaining investment for the approved initiative, including its research activities.

May 11, 2022 (Action Item 22-24): The Commission approved Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. CF21100, increasing the MFM Capacity Building Initiative contract from \$6,380,000 to \$6,580,000.

September 27, 2021 (Action Item 21-36): The Commission authorized \$5,000,000 in Proposition 10 funds for ECE Facility Projects. The approved budget impact included the commitment of \$5,000,000 of Proposition 10 fund balance.

May 12, 2021 (Action Item 21-16): The Commission approved Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. CF21100 for the MFM Capacity Building Initiative with no change to the \$6,380,000 contract maximum.

May 28, 2020 (Action Item 20-25): The Commission approved Contract No. CF21100 with Riverside University Health System Medical Center for the MFM Capacity Building Initiative for an amount not to exceed \$6,380,000.

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

That the Commission:

1. Release the remaining \$414,400 of General Fund balance committed for Early Care and Education Facility Projects; and
2. Commit \$2,885,672 of available General Fund balance to research focused on pregnancy and children ages 0-5 under the Maternal Fetal Medicine Capacity Building Initiative, consistent with Contract No. CF21100, as amended. Any change in purpose or release of the remaining committed balance shall require subsequent Commission action.

## **BUDGET IMPACT**

Adequate appropriation is included in the FY 26/27 approved budget. Future funding will be included in subsequent fiscal year budget requests, as applicable.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE**

Goal Area 1 – Quality Early Learning (92950)

Goal Area 2 – Comprehensive Health and Development (92945)

## **POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

None known.

## **ATTACHMENT**

None.