



**Presentation:**  
**Approve Contract with the Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transportation District**

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## Project Overview

- In June 2014, San Francisco Bridge Officials approved the construction of suicide prevention nets alongside the Golden Gate Bridge.
- Since the bridge opened in 1937, more than 1,400 people have killed themselves by jumping off the bridge, includes a record 46 suicides in 2013.
- The vote marks a last step in what has been a decades-long campaign by families of suicide victims.
- The stainless steel net was first approved by the board in 2008 over other suicide-prevention options, including raising the bridge's railing
- But funding for the project was a major obstacle.

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## Project Overview

- One of the more significant hurdles in funding the nets was overcome when the US president, Barack Obama signed a law making safety barriers and nets eligible for federal funds.
- The \$76 million dollar project will be funded through combined federal dollars, local tolls, and Mental Health Services Act (Prop 63) funds.



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## Project Overview

- The \$7 million dollars contribution from Prop 63, is the final piece of the funding puzzle made possible in this year's state budget by the prompting of Senator Steinberg and Senator Mark Leno.



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## Project Overview

- The MHSOAC's budget as set forth in the California Budget Act of 2014 passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Brown on June 20, 2014 including a \$7 million appropriation for a suicide prevent effort.



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## Project Overview

- The \$7 million was originally allocated in Fiscal Year 2013-14 as part of the Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013
- These funds were allocated in the 2014 Budget to specifically help fund the Golden Gate suicide barrier.
- Construction for the suicide deterrent system on the Bridge will begin in August 2014 and will be completed in December 2018.



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## Project Overview

- The Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District is the entity responsible for the construction of the suicide barrier, known as Golden Gate Bridge Physical Suicide Deterrent System Project.
- Because the \$7 million is in the Commission's budget it is necessary for the Commission to enter into an agreement with the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District.



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## Recommended Action

- MHSOAC Staff recommends approval of the contract with the Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transportation District.



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## Motion

- The Commission approves the contract with the Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transportation District not to exceed \$7 million dollars for the Golden Gate Suicide Deterrent System Project, and authorizes the Interim Executive Director to execute the necessary documents.

