

**RESOLUTION NO. .**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2025 LIGHT BULB AWARDS RECIPIENTS AND  
AWARDING \$1,000 TO EACH WINNER FOR A TOTAL OF \$8,000**

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**RESOLVED**, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors approved District 1's request to use their district-discretionary **Measure K** funds to support an Employee Suggestion Program focused on generating ideas relating to cost savings, operational efficiencies, and improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, the program was launched on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 as the Light Bulb Ideas Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the program received sixty-four submissions relating to operational efficiencies and improvements to County services; and

**WHEREAS**, a panel of judges evaluated the submissions based on impact, estimated cost savings, and feasibility; and

**WHEREAS**, the top eight ideas were selected for an award of \$1,000 each:

- Bycha Buxton: The Service Intake & Knowledge Automation Starter Kit is a 60-day, low risk pilot to cut inquiry backlogs and speed first responses in public facing inboxes. It combines Smart Intake for classification and routing, AI assisted

bilingual draft responses from approved templates with human review, and a curated Knowledge Snippets library to deliver consistent, ADA friendly answers.

- Cari Guittard: The Emergency Childcare Pilot Program aims to address a critical barrier that prevents EM and first responders from quickly deploying during emergencies: the lack of immediate, reliable childcare for their kids. Our innovative solution partners with local high schools to create a Disaster Service Corps of trained youth who can provide trauma-informed childcare during EOC activations, disasters, and extended training exercises.
- Craig Baumgartner: The "Adopt-a-Spot" Community Improvement Initiative proposes a program whereby San Mateo County departments (or cross-department alliances of motivated employees) volunteer to maintain small, publicly accessible county-owned or managed spaces. This is analogous to an "adopt-a-highway" program but focuses on areas like mini-parks, landscaped medians, portions of public trails, or the grounds around county buildings.
- Michael Richardson: This idea suggests five AI-powered solutions. These ideas include: (1) an AI email and document summarizer (2) an AI virtual assistant to handle routine resident inquiries, (3) AI predictive maintenance to reduce repair costs and extend asset life, (4) AI case file summarization to alleviate backlogs in the courts and Human Services Agency, and (5) an AI translation service to ensure equitable, timely communication with our diverse community.
- Mohammad Habib: Smart Route Planner for Field Visits auto-orders staff's daily client stops to minimize driving and hit time windows, then sends a one-tap route to the phone's map app with live ETAs. Built with Microsoft Power Apps/Automate and a standard routing API, it uses only addresses (no names/PHI) and can re-

optimize instantly when visits are added or canceled. The result is less time on the road and more time with clients.

- Sandra Perez: The new prefilled Shingrix syringe simplifies the vaccine administration process as the existing vaccine consists of two vials that must be combined before administration. Purchasing the prefilled syringe would simplify the injection process, prevent employee needle sticks, and save time.
- Simone Sagapolu: Currently, San Mateo County honors employees at the 10, 20, and 30-year milestones, yet our average length of service is 9.7 years. By waiting until 10 years, we risk missing the chance to recognize and re-engage employees earlier in their careers. Establishing a 5-year milestone event ensures contributions are celebrated sooner, strengthening loyalty and building the foundation for long-term service.
- Theisha Rush: The development and implementation of Mental Health Kits for youth (minors/non-minors) at the Youth Services Center (YSC) experiencing emotional and psychological distress while in our care/in custody. These pre-made, color-coded kits are designed to provide safe, developmentally appropriate tools that support regulation, self-soothing, and emotional stabilization.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED** that the Board of Supervisors approve the 2025 Light Bulb Ideas Award recipients, and direct the Human Resources Department to award \$1,000 to each recipient for a total of \$8,000 from previously authorized and transferred district-discretionary **Measure K** funds.

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