



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
County Manager



DATE: April 3, 2013
BOARD MEETING DATE: April 9, 2013
SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING: None
VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: John L. Maltbie, County Manager

SUBJECT: Form and Appoint Members of a Supervisorial District Lines Study Committee and Approval of an Outreach Budget

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Form a committee of nine members, composed of four elected officials and five public members who are also residents of the County, to study the matter of changing the boundaries of the supervisorial districts and develop recommendations for District boundaries;
2. Appoint Supervisors Adrienne Tissier and Warren Slocum to the committee;
3. Appoint City Council Members Gonzalo "Sal" Torres of Daly City and Laura Martinez of East Palo Alto to the committee;
4. Appoint the five public members as recommended by the County Manager: William Nack, Barbara Arietta, Hayden Lee, Rebecca Ayson and Raymond Lee;
5. Appoint as an alternate public member, Eric Reed, to serve in the event that one of the public members becomes unable to serve; and
6. Approve a \$100,000 outreach budget to assist with the redistricting process.

BACKGROUND:

Section 21500 of the Elections Code requires the County to adjust the boundaries of any or all of the supervisorial districts of the county following each decennial census. The County performed this adjustment in the Fall of 2011.

However, in November 2012 the voters of San Mateo County approve Measure B, which amended the San Mateo County Charter to provide that Supervisors be elected "by-district" rather than "at-large".

The County Manager's Office expects that this Charter Amendment may have resulted in increased community interest in the composition of the County's Districts and believes that it may be appropriate to review the current composition. This off-census review is specifically permitted by Section 21503 of the Elections Code. Further Section 21505 specifically provides for appointment of a committee composed of residents of the county to study the matter of changing the boundaries of the supervisorial districts. The County

Manager's Office believes that conducting outreach can be an important component of a successful process and is therefore proposing a \$100,000 outreach budget.

In February 2013, the County settled *Satorre v. Church*, a lawsuit that challenged the County's at-large election system. As part of that settlement, the parties agreed to present this issue to the Board. Further, the Plaintiffs were promised a mechanism to recommend Committee members to the Board.

DISCUSSION:

The County Manager's Office recommends that the Board appoint a nine-member committee made up of two members of the Board of Supervisors, two local city council members, five members of the general public and a non-voting alternate public member in the event that one of the chosen public members become unable to serve. The County Manager's Office recommends that the Board appoint Supervisor Adrienne Tissier, Supervisor Warren Slocum, Gonzalo "Sal" Torres of Daly City and Laura Martinez of East Palo Alto as the elected official members.

The County initiated an application process to solicit interest for the Committee. We received 30 applications. The representatives of the San Mateo County Leagues of Women Voters graciously agreed to vet the applications and recommend candidates. A memorandum from the League describing their process and candidates is attached. In addition, the Plaintiffs in the *Satorre v. Church* lawsuit have also recommended candidates. An email from the Plaintiffs is also attached. The Board has agreed to select the five public members and the alternate public member from the recommended candidates.

Based on the recommendations, the County Manager's Office proposes that the Board select public members from each of the five existing Districts and who will be part of a Committee that reflects the diversity of the County. Accordingly, the County Manager's Office suggests the following five public members: Hayden Lee of Millbrae (District 1), Raymond Lee of San Mateo (District 2), Barbara Arietta of Pacifica (District 3), William Nack of Menlo Park (District 4) and Rebecca Ayson of Daly City (District 5). Further, the County Manager recommends that Eric Reed of Belmont be appointed the alternate public member.

The target date for the completion of the committee's work—the end product being a recommendation to the Board on the composition of the districts—is September 13, 2013.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Outreach related to the redistricting process is anticipated to cost approximately \$100,000.