



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
County Manager



DATE: September 12, 2013
BOARD MEETING DATE: September 17, 2013
SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING: None
VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: John L. Maltbie, County Manager

SUBJECT: Authorization of Political Solutions, LLC to Review Sales and Transaction and Use Tax Records Regarding the County

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the County's state advocacy service provider, Political Solutions, LLC, to examine the State Board of Equalization's confidential sales and transactions and use tax records regarding the County pursuant to California Revenue and Taxation Code Section 7056.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

The State Board of Equalization (the "Board of Equalization") is restricted by statute from releasing confidential sales or transaction and use tax information to any persons except those officers, employees and contractors designated by County Board resolution. Political Solutions, LLC, in its capacity as the County's state advocacy service provider, is assisting lobbying efforts related to certain taxation matters before the Board of Equalization.

In order to pursue these efforts, the County's agreement with Political Solutions must comply with Revenue and Taxation Code Section 7056 and your Board must adopt a resolution certifying that the County's agreement with Political Solutions complies with Revenue and Taxation Code Section 7056. The agreement with Political Solutions has been amended to comply with Section 7056. At this time, it is in the County's best interest to provide a resolution to the Board of Equalization certifying that the agreement complies with Section 7056 and authorizing Political Solutions to examine sales or transaction and use tax information pertaining to taxes collected for the County by the Board of Equalization. Adopting such a resolution and providing it to the Board of Equalization will allow Political Solutions to review information relevant to taxation matters before the State Board of Equalization.

County Counsel has reviewed the Resolution as to form.

Approval of this Agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a

Collaborative Community by maximizing sales or transaction and use tax revenues. Sales and use tax revenue is a significant general purpose funding source that can be used at the Board's discretion to provide services that achieve the County's vision.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.