COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Human Resources

Date: June 6, 2016
Board Meeting Date: July 12, 2016
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Donna Vaillancourt, Human Resources Director

Subject: Donations, Volunteers, and Participants in Hack-SMC

RECOMMENDATION:
Adopt a resolution accepting donations and honoring and commending donors to, volunteers for, and participants in Hack-SMC 2016.

BACKGROUND:
Through the County's Agile Organization initiative, approved by the Board of Supervisors in March 2013, the organization continues to expand various work delivery models including the use of self-help, which aims to engage citizens in local governance through new technology. Over the years San Mateo County has increased the amount of information it makes available to citizens, and the County now makes entire datasets available online via the County's Open Data Portal. At the same time, a national movement has evolved with a focus on encouraging developers, engineers, entrepreneurs, students, techies, activists, designers, and citizens to use publicly-available tools and data to create webpages, applications (apps), and other resources to benefit local jurisdictions. That movement often uses the term "hacking" to refer to these efforts to reimagine the ways information can be used to improve our communities and the governments that serve them.

In the Bay Area, many local jurisdictions, including Alameda County and Palo Alto, have held organized civic hacking events.

DISCUSSION:
San Mateo County hosted its second civic hacking event, Hack-SMC, on May 21, 2016. Local civic hacking groups, schools (including high schools and colleges), and others were encouraged to sign up to participate in the event, during which teams competed to use County-provided datasets in unique and helpful ways. Various donors provided financial support and other gifts to offset event costs, to provide monetary awards for

the best concepts, apps, and websites designed during the competition, and to provide participants with a positive and encouraging environment. In addition, individuals and organizations agreed to volunteer their time to help make the event a success.

The attached resolution honors the donors, volunteers, and participants for being involved in this exciting event. In addition, the resolution is the vehicle by which the Board of Supervisors formally accepts financial donations for the event. To the extent that the financial donations exceed the anticipated prize amounts, funds will be kept and used for future civic hacking events hosted by the County, including the Apps Challenge scheduled for September 2016 where the finalists from this year's Hack-SMC event will compete for a grand prize.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the resolution as to form.

Approval of this resolution contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Collaborative Community as this event fosters involvement of citizens in creating novel services and tools that benefit the community while also involving individuals and entities as donors and volunteers.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2014-15 Actual	FY 2015-16 Projected
Number of Hack-SMC Participants	70	77

FISCAL IMPACT:
This event was organized by County staff during normal working hours, and the costs for organizing the event were minimal and incorporated into the existing staffing budgets of various departments. The event was hosted in a donated or County-owned facility, resulting in minimal cost for the venue. Other costs relating to the event such as food, minor facility-related costs (equipment and other services), and prizes for participants were primarily covered by donations from the community and participant registration fees. Other than these minor costs for staff organization, there is no impact on net county cost.