



County of San Mateo

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Department: COUNTY MANAGER

File #: TMP-1471

Board Meeting Date: 2/13/2018

Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors
From: John L. Maltbie, County Manager
Subject: County Manager's Report #2 of 2018

RECOMMENDATION:

Accept this informational report.

BACKGROUND:

This report will provide you with updates on a variety of County initiatives focusing on Public Safety, Health and Human Services, Community Services and Performance, in addition to reports on legislation and issues that require your action. We also will keep you and the public informed about new services, upcoming events and general updates.

DISCUSSION:

Health and Human Services

Serious flu season impacting community health, emergency room visits

Flu season has hit California hard and San Mateo County is no exception. To date, three people under 65 died in San Mateo County of influenza-related illness since October. Since Dec. 27, 2017, the San Mateo County Medical Center Emergency Department has had statistically significant increases in volume, as have emergency rooms at private facilities. A review of those cases show an increase in influenza-like illness which created volume peaks earlier in the season than in past years.

The County hospital's ED was also impacted by sick calls from staff but patient care was not negatively affected. Current patient numbers appear to be stabilizing but Health staff remain vigilant in case of additional volume peaks.

Community Services

Home for All Launches Second Unit Center

The County, along with its partners in the Home for All Initiative, launched an online Second Unit Center where interested homeowners can explore the possibility of building a second unit on their property. The one-stop shop (www.secondunitcentersmc.org) <http://www.secondunitcentersmc.org>) ≥ aims to demystify the process and provide tools and resources regardless of where in the county a

homeowner resides. The site provides a calculator for a rough estimate of costs and return on investment, resources for each particular city or town's regulations and an idea work featuring real-life second units and the residents in San Mateo County who made them a reality.

A 2017 study by U.C. Berkeley's Center for Community Innovation found that 54 percent of single-family homes in San Mateo County are "underutilized," meaning they have more bedrooms than occupants. Also, in the unincorporated area there are 15,18 parcels that could accommodate a second unit based on the County's recently updated regulations.

Performance

County budget earns highest honors

I am proud to announce that the County's budget document has once again earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The award is the highest form of recognition for governmental budgeting and reflects the budget's ability to serve well as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device. Congratulations to Budget Director Jim Saco and his entire team.

Measure K

Research confirms Big Lift success

The Learning Policy Institute, a nonprofit organization that conducts research to improve education policy and practice, highlighted the County's successful efforts to improve early childhood education in a report released late last month. *Building an Early Learning System that Works: Next Steps for California* uses the Big Lift as an example of inter-agency cooperation and a successful practice that, according to the authors, has "increased the quality of existing early learning sites."

The Big Lift is a collaboration between the County, the County Office of Education and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation to improve third-grade literacy outcomes. The Big Lift is funded largely by Measure K, the voter-approved half-cent sales tax.

News, Events & Updates

County website now 'secure'

This month the County completed the transition of its smcgov.org website and all its pages to HTTPS, making it even more secure for County and public users. HTTPS is an encrypted website protocol that ensures the connection is secure and prevents unauthorized third parties from intercepting data between our website and its users. Technical explanations aside, what does this really mean for our website users? Greater security and privacy, faster page load times, higher ranking in search engines for county services and information and assurance that the website is the County's official site.