



County of San Mateo

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Department: COUNTY MANAGER

Board Meeting Date: 12/10/2019

Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors
From: Michael Callagy, County Manager
Subject: County Manager's Report #20

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

New HSA director transitioning into role

Incoming Human Services Agency (HSA) Director Ken Cole's official first start date is Dec. 16 but he has already started meeting with HSA's leadership team to begin the transition and to hit the ground running. I want to thank Deputy County Manager Iliana Rodriguez for serving duo roles as also the interim HSA director during this period. I'd also like to publicly welcome Ray Hodges as the interim director of housing beginning on Dec. 16 when Ken moves to his new department. The commitment of these three individuals to public service and to the County is a shining example to us all.

Public Safety

OES to update key emergency plan

The Office of Emergency Services (OES) has secured State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) funding to update and improve the County's All-Hazards Debris Removal/Management Plan. The written plan establishes procedures and guidelines for managing disaster debris in a coordinated, environmentally responsible and cost-effective manner. The County's plan was last updated in December 2015, prior to the recovery planning lessons gleaned from the 2017 and 2018 North Bay fires. OES has hired a contractor to perform the work based on information from subject matter experts across nearly all County departments. OES and representatives from those departments held a project kick-off meeting last week and anticipates completion in May 2020.

Community Services

Bay Area counties struggling to hire U.S. Census takers

San Mateo County and the eight other Bay Area counties are having a hard time recruiting and hiring enough U.S. Census takers to meet its goal of approximately 58,000 applicants. To date, the region has reached only 32 percent of that goal, a shortcoming attributed to the area's affluence and the recent fires that impacted several counties. Job offers for field positions are made approximately 60 days prior to the required training; with April 1 fast approaching, our County census team and its counterparts are scrambling to recruit enough workers.

The County also continues its efforts to ensure a complete count among historically hard to count segments of our population by seeking proposals from nonprofits for Census 2020 community outreach projects. The Office of Community Affairs has completed its first two rounds of funding and issued its third Request for Proposal for contracts between \$1,000 and \$25,000. Proposals are due Dec. 19 and contracts will be award in January 2020.

County's marine protected areas on forefront of climate change

A recent opinion piece in the San Francisco Chronicle connected the positive impacts of the state's marine protected areas (MPA) - including Fitzgerald Marine Reserve - in the efforts to battle back climate change. California is home to the world's largest network of MPAs which can help buffer against climate change impacts. This is a good opportunity to point out that the San Mateo County MPA Collaborative was one of the first collaboratives formed and has included park staff, Department of Fish and Wildlife staff, San Mateo County Sheriff Department, nonprofits (Cal Academy of Sciences, Marine Mammal Center and others), and volunteers, including the Friends of FMR. The early days of getting the collaborative going required significant amount of work by all. It was also a significant turning point in how partnerships were formed and have succeeded.

News, Events & Updates

County staff to serve up holiday lunch for clients

HSA's 31st Annual Holiday Luncheon is taking place this Thursday, Dec. 12 at the VRS Café. I'm pleased to continue and cherish the tradition of County leadership and HSA volunteers hosting and serving a hot meal to agency clients. The holidays are truly the season of sharing and I am proud of my colleagues for taking the time to help spread some cheer - not to mention some delicious dishes from our VRS Catering Connection team - to hundreds of members of our community. I'd also like to acknowledge the individuals and local businesses whose donations help fund this wonderful event.