



# County of San Mateo

## Inter-Departmental Correspondence

**Department:** BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
**DISTRICT 3**  
**File #:** 25-480

Board Meeting Date: 6/10/2025

**Special Notice / Hearing:** None  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors  
**From:** Michael P. Callagy, County Executive  
**Subject:** Use of District-Discretionary **Measure K** Funds - Supervisorial Districts 1 and 3

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**Measure K:** Adopt a resolution:

- A) Authorizing the use of district-discretionary **Measure K** funds, not to exceed \$160,000 evenly split between Districts 1 and 3, to allow the District Attorney's Office to establish and fund a Human Trafficking Cybercrimes Unit Pilot Program in the District Attorney's Office; and
- B) Authorizing and approving the Human Trafficking Cybercrimes Unit Pilot Program and authorizing the District Attorney, or designee, to oversee implementation of the program.

### **BACKGROUND:**

**Measure K** is the half-cent general sales tax initially approved by San Mateo County voters in November 2012 and extended in November 2016 for a total of thirty years.

The Board of Supervisors (Board) held study sessions on **Measure K** expenditures and approved funds for the fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 budget cycle, divided equally among the five supervisorial districts, for one-time district-discretionary needs and projects. Districts 1 and 3 have submitted a request to use their district-discretionary **Measure K** funds as shown below and described in the Project Summary section of this memorandum:

<b>District/Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
District 1 (Supervisor Speier) and 3 (Supervisor Mueller) - Implement a Human Trafficking Cybercrimes Unit Pilot Program in the District Attorney's Office.	\$160,000

This item is consistent with the criteria for district-discretionary **Measure K** funds approved by the Board in December 2018.

**PROJECT SUMMARY:**

Human trafficking is among the world's fastest growing criminal enterprises and is estimated to be a \$150 billion-a-year global industry. Human trafficking, a form of modern-day slavery, profits from the exploitation of our most vulnerable populations. Human trafficking is the act of recruiting, transporting, transferring, harboring, or receiving individuals through force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of exploitation. This exploitation may include forced labor, sexual slavery, or other forms of commercial exploitation.

California, as a border state with a significant immigrant population and the world’s fourth largest economy, is one of the nation's top destination states for trafficking human beings. This Board of Supervisors voted 5-0 to approve the proclamation that commits the County San Mateo to reduce the conditions that enable exploitation, foster resilience, and create environments where individuals are safeguarded against human trafficking and other forms of violence.

In a January 2018 report by nonprofit Thorn, “The Role of Technology in Domestic Minor Sex Traffic,” 55% of respondents reported meeting their trafficker online. According to the Human Trafficking Institute’s 2020 Federal Human Trafficking Report, of the victims identified in federal sex trafficking cases between 2000 and 2020, 30% were recruited online. Advancements in technology have created and expanded the marketplace for human trafficking. Technology has reshaped how commerce takes place and removing it from the public arena, which has expanded the ease of entrapment and commercially exploiting individuals and children.

This request for \$160,000 in **Measure K** district-discretionary funds will allow for the District Attorney’s Office to establish and fund staffing to execute a Human Trafficking Cybercrimes Unit dedicated exclusively to the identification of human trafficking activities taking place online that can then be brought to full prosecution in San Mateo County. The services funded will be implemented through December 31, 2026.

**Total Measure K Request: Not to Exceed \$160,000**

**PERFORMANCE MEASURES:**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Target</b>
Establish and fund a Human Trafficking Cybercrimes Unit Pilot Program in the District Attorney’s Office.	Complete

The County Attorney’s Office has reviewed and approved the resolution as to form.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There are sufficient **Measure K** funds for this specific Fiscal Year 2025 **Measure K** request. These funds are budgeted in the Non-Departmental Services FY 2024-25 Adopted Budget. Unspent funds from the FY 2024-25 Adopted Budget related to this project will be rolled forward and transferred to the District Attorney’s Office during the September Revisions process and included in the FY 2025-26 budget package to the Board.