

**February 27, 2024**

**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS**

*The Minutes of the*

***REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS***

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS  
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
REGULAR MEETING  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024, 9:00 AM**  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, ROOM 310  
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Order Of Business

- A. **REGULAR SESSION:** Meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m.

**PRESENT:** Supervisors Nora Vargas, Chair; Terra Lawson-Remer, Vice-Chair; Joel Anderson; Monica Montgomery Steppe; Jim Desmond; also, Andrew Potter, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

- B. Statement (just cause) and/or Consideration of a Request to Participate Remotely (emergency circumstances) by a Supervisor, if applicable.
- C. Invocation was led by Reverend Marcus Lohrmann of Shephard of the Valley Lutheran Church.
- D. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jessica Newmyer.
- E. Presentations or Announcement of Proclamations and Awards:

Chairwoman Nora Vargas presented a proclamation declaring the week of March 4, 2024 to March 7, 2024, to be Environmental Health Week throughout the County of San Diego.

Chairwoman Nora Vargas and Supervisor Joel Anderson presented a proclamation declaring the Month of February 2024, to be American Heart Month throughout the County of San Diego.

Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer presented a proclamation declaring February 27, 2024, to be Dea Hurston Day throughout the County of San Diego.

Supervisor Jim Desmond presented a proclamation declaring the Month of February 2024, to be Black History Month throughout the County of San Diego.

- F. Non-Agenda Public Communication: Opportunity for members of the public to speak to the Board on any subject matter within the Board's jurisdiction but not an item on today's agenda.
- G. Approval of the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the Regular meeting of February 6, 2024; and, the Special meeting of January 30, 2024.

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Desmond, the Board of Supervisors approved the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the Regular meeting of February 6, 2024; and, the Special meeting of January 30, 2024.

**AYES:** Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

- H. Consent Calendar
- I. Discussion Items
- J. Board Member Committee Updates. This is an opportunity for Members of the Board to provide informational updates on their committee assignments. No action may be taken.

NOTICE: THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ANY ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THE ITEMS INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA. RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY COUNTY STAFF DO NOT LIMIT ACTIONS THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT RELY UPON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE BOARD LETTER AS DETERMINATIVE OF THE ACTION THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ON A PARTICULAR MATTER.

#### **Board of Supervisors' Agenda Items**

<b>Category</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Public Safety	1.	SHERIFF - ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION FROM THE SAN DIEGO HONORARY DEPUTY SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION [FUNDING SOURCE: DONATION FROM THE SAN DIEGO HONORARY DEPUTY SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION]
	2.	BLUE ENVELOPE PROGRAM UPDATE AND RECOMMENDATIONS [FUNDING SOURCE: EXISTING GENERAL-PURPOSE REVENUE]
Health and Human Services	3.	APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE CHILD AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING ADVISORY BOARD OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY BY-LAWS
	4.	APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHILDCARE AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS
Financial and General Government	5.	CERTIFICATION OF INITIATIVE PETITION: MEASURE TO FUND SAN DIEGO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND SAFETY PROJECTS THROUGH A HALF-CENT SALES TAX
	6.	EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION RATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 [FUNDING SOURCE: COMBINATION OF PROGRAM SPECIFIC REVENUES AND GENERAL-PURPOSE REVENUE]
	7.	ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM: SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION (2/6/24 - First Reading; 2/27/24 - Second Reading, unless the ordinance is modified on second reading)

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:  
SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE  
RELATING TO THE SAN DIEGO FLOODS 2024 EMPLOYEE LEAVE  
TO TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY & AN ORDINANCE AMENDING  
THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE (2/6/24 - First Reading; 2/27/24 -  
Second Reading, unless the ordinance is modified on second reading)
9. APPOINTMENTS: VARIOUS
10. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED
- Health and Human Services 11. COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT  
FRAMEWORK REPRIORITIZATION AND EVERGREEN  
COMPONENT FRAMEWORK RECOMMENDATIONS  
[FUNDING SOURCE: ARPA FOR PROGRAMS THAT CAN BE  
OBLIGATED BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR 2024, AND GENERAL  
PURPOSE REVENUE THROUGH THE LOST REVENUE STRATEGY  
FOR PROGRAMS THAT CANNOT BE OBLIGATED BEFORE THE  
END OF 2024]
- Financial and General Government 12. PROVIDING COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO EMPLOYEES WITH THE  
OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE AND FINANCE NEW VEHICLES AT  
DISCOUNTED FLEET PRICES
- Health and Human Services 13. SUSTAINABLE PLANNING FOR A FEDERALLY FUNDED  
LONG-TERM MIGRANT TRANSFER SITE AND SHELTER CENTER
- Financial and General Government 14. URGE PRESIDENT BIDEN TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE THE U.S.  
-MEXICO BORDER IN RESPONSE TO U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER  
PROTECTION STREET RELEASES RESUMING ON FEBRUARY 22,  
2024
15. ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DISASTER  
RELIEF DEFERRAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL PROPERTY TAX  
PAYMENTS FOR THE OWNERS OF PROPERTY DAMAGED OR  
DESTROYED IN THE GOVERNOR-PROCLAIMED SEVERE WINTER  
STORM DISASTERS
- Public Safety 16. EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENHANCING PROBATION STAFF  
WELLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH, AND EVALUATE  
CONDUCTING A DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW OF STAFF  
WORKLOADS  
[FUNDING SOURCE: GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE]
- Financial and General Government 17. ASSESMENT TO PROMOTE LONG-TERM SUCCESS FOR THE  
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
[FUNDING SOURCE: EXISTING GENERAL-PURPOSE REVENUE]

Closed Session     18.    CLOSED SESSION

Public                19.    NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMUNICATION  
Communication

1. **SUBJECT: SHERIFF - ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION FROM THE SAN DIEGO HONORARY DEPUTY SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

### **OVERVIEW**

County of San Diego Administrative Code Article III, Section 66 Acceptance of Gifts and Board of Supervisors Policy A-112, Acceptance and Use of Gifts and Donations, provide a process for accepting gifts by the administrative heads of each department in the County, subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors. This is a request to approve the acceptance of a \$34,500 donation to the Sheriff's Canine Unit from the San Diego Honorary Deputy Sheriff's Association, which will be used to purchase three canines.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **SHERIFF**

1. In accordance with County of San Diego Administrative Code Article III, Section 66 Acceptance of Gifts and Board of Supervisors Policy A-112, Acceptance and Use of Gifts and Donations, accept a \$34,500 donation from the San Diego Honorary Deputy Sheriff's Association.
2. Authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to sign a letter of appreciation on behalf of the Board of Supervisors and the County of San Diego to the San Diego Honorary Deputy Sheriff's Association.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The San Diego County Sheriff's Department provides law enforcement services that aim to protect everyone's human right to life, liberty, and security of person. The integration of explosive detection canines enhances the department's ability to protect the public's welfare and provide safety. These canines significantly improve the chances of intercepting explosive devices and mitigating the threat posed by the explosives. The Sheriff's Department strives for equitable outcomes in our communities, which means that the law enforcement services improve the quality of life for communities throughout the entire county.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

By enhancing the delivery of law enforcement services through increased explosive materials detection, the department is furthering the County's Sustainability Goal of protecting the health and wellbeing of everyone in the region. By integrating the canines into the department's first responder team, these canines are also available to assist the region's first responders through mutual aid agreements. The integration of explosive detection canines provides a benefit for all San Diego County residents and visitors.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for this request are not included in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Operation Plan for the Sheriff's Department. If approved, this request will accept a donation, and result in current year costs and revenue of \$34,500. The funding source is a donation from the San Diego Honorary Deputy Sheriff's Association. Future ongoing costs associated with the purchase of canines including, but not limited to, food and veterinary care, will be included in future years' Operational Plan for the Sheriff's Department. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe

NOT PRESENT: Desmond

## **2. SUBJECT: BLUE ENVELOPE PROGRAM UPDATE AND RECOMMENDATIONS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

### **OVERVIEW**

On September 26, 2023 (1), the Board of Supervisors (Board) directed the Chief Administrative Officer to identify County departments to collaborate with the Sheriff's Department in the implementation of the Blue Envelope Program, identify grants and other funding sources to fund ongoing needs of the program, and return to the Board in early 2024 with a set of recommendations and a cost analysis relevant to the complete implementation of the program within the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget.

The purpose of the Blue Envelope Program is to promote inclusivity and serve as an enhanced communication awareness tool between law enforcement officers and community members diagnosed with a condition or disability such as Autism Spectrum Disorder, dementia, anxiety, or other conditions that might require additional accommodations or awareness during a law enforcement contact. The Blue Envelope Program works by allowing the individual to readily display the Blue Envelope logo or present the Blue Envelope upon contact with law enforcement or other community service personnel. Blue Envelope branded products can contain the individual's identification, contact information, or pertinent vehicle operating documents such as the vehicle registration and proof of insurance.

In response to the Board's direction, the Public Safety Group Executive Office convened meetings with the Sheriff's Department to discuss their plans and strategies for implementing the Blue Envelope Program, including how County departments can support their implementation efforts, and to identify ongoing funding needs of the program. As of mid-January 2024, seven County departments are currently supporting program implementation by issuing Blue Envelope Program materials and the Sheriff's Department is in discussions with four other County departments to do the same. In addition, the Department of Human Resources (DHR) has been collaborating with the Sheriff's Department to thread and align with DHR's Neurodivergent Excellence Work Plans and to provide training support for enterprise-wide awareness of the Blue Envelope Program.

Today's requested actions are for the Board to receive the update related to the implementation of the Blue Envelope Program and authorize submission of grants that support Blue Envelope Program activities. If authorized and grant funds are awarded, Sheriff will return to the Board to accept grant funds and establish appropriations as necessary.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Receive an update related to the implementation of the Blue Envelope Program.
2. Pursuant to Board Policy B-29, authorize the Sheriff or designee, through June 30, 2029, to submit grant applications that support Blue Envelope Program activities and execute all required grant documents, including annual extensions, amendments and/or revisions thereto that do not materially impact or alter the services or funding level.
3. Waive Board Policy B-29 Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery, which requires prior approval of applications and full cost recovery for grants.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The implementation of the Blue Envelope Program in San Diego County is intended to promote inclusivity and serve as an enhanced communication awareness tool between law enforcement and community members diagnosed with a condition or disability such as Autism Spectrum Disorder, dementia, anxiety, or other conditions that might require additional accommodation or awareness during contact with law enforcement. Awareness and training provided by the Blue Envelope Program will assist law enforcement and other community service personnel with identifying, recognizing, and communicating more effectively with members of our community with a condition or disability. By providing a visible display of the program's logo, individuals can choose to voluntarily disclose, and provide awareness of, their needs to a law enforcement or other community service personnel. This program promotes effective communication, thus reducing misunderstandings, and encouraging positive interactions.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

This proposed action contributes to the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goal of engaging the community in meaningful ways and continually seeking stakeholder input to foster inclusive and sustainable communities. The Blue Envelope Program, as envisioned for San Diego County, is a collaboration between law enforcement, other first responders, county agencies, and community partners to encourage education, inclusion, and training to improve interactions with members of our community with a condition or disability. The goal is creating a means for equitable treatment for individuals who may need accommodations. Efforts will be made to ensure equitable access to and awareness of the program to prevent any potential bias or discrimination, furthering its impact on promoting equity.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

If approved, funds for this request will be included in the Fiscal Year 2024-26 CAO Recommended Operational Plan in the Public Safety Group. This request will result in an estimated one-time cost of \$75,000 for program materials related to the Blue Envelope Program, which includes both public outreach materials and participating organization training resources. The funding source is existing General Purpose Revenue. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A



**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe

NOT PRESENT: Desmond

**3. SUBJECT: APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE CHILD AND FAMILY  
STRENGTHENING ADVISORY BOARD OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY  
BY-LAWS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

On March 26, 2019 (11), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) established the Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board of San Diego County (CFSAB) to enhance the County of San Diego (County) commitment to prevent and respond to child abuse and neglect, and to protect the well-being of children and families. Since its inception, the CFSAB serves as a platform for cross-sector collaboration and provides transparent monitoring of the San Diego County child welfare system.

On June 13, 2023 (4), the Board adopted Ordinance No. 10851 which amended provisions in the San Diego County Administrative Code related to membership and duties of the CFSAB.

Today's action seeks Board approval to make non-substantive amendments to the CFSAB By-laws to align with Ordinance No. 10851. The CFSAB is governed by the provisions of the County Administrative Code, and pursuant to Board Policy A-74 Participation in County Boards, Commissions, and Committees, Section E (7), since the CFSAB is an advisory committee to the Board, the By-laws require Board approval.

Today's actions support the County vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by aligning the By-laws with the County Administrative Codes, which provides a framework for a county that is healthy, safe, and thriving for families in the foster care system.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Approve amended Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board of San Diego County By-laws.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The adopted Ordinance No. 10851 supports the San Diego County Board of Supervisors framework in achieving better outcomes for the community. Amending the San Diego County Administrative Code for the Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board of San Diego County (CFSAB) includes seeking feedback from stakeholders and community members. As

such, County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, Child and Family Well-Being (CFWB) implements programs, delivers services, and provides resources to families in the child welfare system in a consistent and equitable manner.

Further, amending the CFSAB By-laws includes composition changes of the CFSAB members, by increasing the number of voting members who represent a diverse cross-section of community stakeholders. These community stakeholders represent categories that include, but are not limited to, child abuse and juvenile justice prevention, individuals with lived experience, caregivers, and juvenile court partners. The CFSAB membership is comprised of: 45% white (non-Hispanic), 40% Hispanic or Latinx, 13% Black or African American, and 2% multiracial. Ensuring equitable representation of all stakeholders supports the commitment of CFWB to prevent child abuse and neglect. In addition, amending the CFSAB By-laws will allow members to provide feedback and reduce disproportionality in the foster care system. This will be accomplished by partnering with the community to promote equitable reporting practices and work with families to support efforts at keeping children safe from abuse or neglect.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's action supports the County of San Diego (County) Sustainability Goal #1 to engage the community in meaningful ways, and Sustainability Goal #2 to provide just and equitable access to County services, policy decision-making, and resource allocation. These goals will be supported by streamlining information to and from the public to ensure that it does not get siloed into one committee or advisory board, since the areas of child welfare support, services, resources, and staffing are intertwined. Additionally, both goals will be met by facilitating review of all components of the child welfare system in one setting, ensuring stakeholder input and feedback are received and considered by all Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board of San Diego County members.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommendation. There will be no change in net general fund costs and no additional staff years.

#### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A.

#### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe

NOT PRESENT: Desmond

4. **SUBJECT: APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

The San Diego County Child Care and Development Planning Council (CCDPC) is advisory to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) and the San Diego County Superintendent of Schools in order to identify local child care and development needs and issues and inform the State. The CCDPC is a statutory body for all counties per Assembly Bill (AB) 131 (Chapter 116, Statutes of 2021) and Welfare and Institutions Code, Child Care and Development Services Act [10207 - 10490], and Chapter 31 Local Planning Councils [10480 - 10487].

Today's actions request the Board to approve the routine annual appointments and reappointments to the CCDPC and approve the 2024 Certification of CCDPC Membership. The 2024 Certification of CCDPC Membership received approval from the San Diego County Superintendent of Schools on November 9, 2023.

Today's actions support the County of San Diego's (County) vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by continuing services that assist County families with their child care needs and improving access to quality child care and early education programs.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Appoint 12 new members to the San Diego County Child Care and Development Planning Council (CCDPC) to serve a two-year term to expire December 31, 2025.
2. Reappoint six members to the CCDPC whose terms are ending on December 31, 2023, to serve another two-year term to expire December 31, 2025.
3. Approve the 2024 Certification of CCDPC Membership and authorize the Clerk of the Board to certify the membership composition as required by the California Department of Social Services.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The San Diego County Child Care and Development Planning Council (CCDPC) Membership list recommendations are made with a good faith effort to appoint members ensuring that the ethnic, racial and geographic composition of the CCDPC is reflective of the population of the county. The 2024 membership list will be comprised of: 13% Black or African American, 27% Hispanic or Latinx, 7% Asian or Pacific Islander, 43% white (non-Hispanic), 3% Native American or Alaskan Native and 7% Middle Eastern. This demographic closely resembles the demographics of San Diego County.

CCDPC assesses the child care and child development needs of San Diego County children and develops a Child Care Plan to address those needs. The Child Care Plan provides recommendations gathered through community engagement solicited during CCDPC monthly meetings. Meeting times alternate between morning and evening to better accommodate working parents, child care providers and other community partners. Outreach is also conducted in the community by members of the CCDPC with emphasis on engaging areas of the community with the highest need and are conducted throughout the year to solicit new members.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's proposed actions support the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goal #2 to provide just and equitable access. This will be done by taking actions to provide building blocks to create a more equitable, accountable, accessible, and affordable child care system that meets San Diego County families' needs and pays the early learning and care workforce a fair and professional wage.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with these recommendations. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

#### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

#### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe

NOT PRESENT: Desmond

5. **SUBJECT: CERTIFICATION OF INITIATIVE PETITION: MEASURE TO FUND SAN DIEGO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND SAFETY PROJECTS THROUGH A HALF-CENT SALES TAX (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

#### **OVERVIEW**

The MEASURE TO FUND SAN DIEGO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND SAFETY PROJECTS THROUGH A HALF-CENT SALES TAX initiative petition was filed with the Registrar of Voters on November 17, 2023. The Registrar has examined the petition and finds it contains a sufficient number of valid signatures to submit to the Board of Supervisors for action.

In accordance with State law and Article 13 C of the California Constitution, the Board of Supervisors (Board) is now required to submit the initiative measure to the voters at the November 5, 2024, statewide general election. The Board may also order an impact report to be prepared for informational purposes to be provided via memorandum to each of the Board members.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Receive the certification from the Registrar of Voters that the initiative petition contains a sufficient number of valid signatures.
2. Adopt the resolution entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SUBMITTING TO THE VOTERS AN INITIATIVE MEASURE TO FUND SAN DIEGO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND SAFETY PROJECTS THROUGH A HALF-CENT SALES TAX for the purpose of submitting the initiative measure, without alteration, to the voters of San Diego County at the November 5, 2024 statewide general election.
3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a County specific impact report to be sent to each Board member via memorandum within 90 days.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

A person's vote can influence policy and who represents them in government, which in turn impacts their environment, health, and quality of life. The Registrar of Voters' conduct of fair, accurate, and transparent election processes allows all eligible citizens to have a part in matters that affect them.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

A person's vote has a direct influence on the sustainability of their neighborhood, community, and local region. By voting and being civically engaged, San Diego County residents have a direct impact on their health, equity, the economy, and environment. With the County's implementation of the vote center model, all active registered voters receive a ballot in the mail as required by current law. This increases accessibility by providing voters with the opportunity to consider the method that is most convenient for them to return their ballot and has the possibility of reducing vehicle miles traveled to cast their vote. In addition, voters have the option of receiving voter information guides electronically to reduce paper waste. The recommended action today aligns with the Governance lens of sustainability and the County of San Diego Sustainability Goal of providing just and equitable access to County services.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no current year fiscal impact associated with the requested recommendations. Funds will be included in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 CAO Recommended Operational Plan in the Registrar of Voters to conduct the November 5, 2024 Presidential General Election based on General Purpose Revenue and program revenues.

### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent, adopting Resolution No. 24-011, entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SUBMITTING TO THE VOTERS AN INITIATIVE MEASURE TO FUND SAN DIEGO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND SAFETY PROJECTS THROUGH A HALF-CENT SALES TAX.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe

NOT PRESENT: Desmond

6. **SUBJECT: EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION RATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

California Government Code Section 31454(b)(1) requires the Board of Supervisors to adjust the rates of San Diego County's employer and employee retirement contributions based on recommendations of the San Diego County Employees Retirement Association (SDCERA) Board of Retirement (Retirement Board). The Retirement Board approved the employer and employee contribution rates recommended by its actuary, The Segal Group, Inc., for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 on November 16, 2023.

While the employer contribution rates are different for Safety and General members, the aggregate employer rate (or weighted average rate) approved by the Retirement Board for FY 2024-25 is 50.17%, which is a decrease from the FY 2023-24 aggregate employer rate of 51.37%. The decrease in employer contribution rates results most significantly from the effect of amortizing the retirement fund's Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) over a larger than expected projected total payroll, primarily for General members.

The average employee (i.e. member) rate as a percentage of payroll decreased from 12.44% to 11.92%, primarily due to changes in active member demographics among retirement tiers along with various refinements to the actuarial methods used in the 2023 actuarial valuation, as approved by SDCERA. While overall employee contribution rates on average are decreasing, some Tiers are experiencing an increase.

Approval of today's recommendation would adopt employer and employee retirement contribution rates for inclusion in the Chief Administrative Officer Recommended Operational Plan (i.e. budget) for FY 2024-25.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION BOARD OF RETIREMENT and CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Adopt the San Diego County employer and employee retirement contribution rates for FY 2024-25 as recommended by the SDCERA actuary and approved by the Retirement Board on November 16, 2023.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Approval of this recommendation will implement the County's contribution rates for the normal cost and UAAL that will be funded in the FY 2024-25 Operational Plan to meet the County's obligation to provide a defined benefit pension plan for permanent employees. SDCERA's retirement benefits support a broad community of diverse employees and retirees, providing long-term financial support well after active employment with the County concludes.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Benefits provided by a secure and stable retirement fund help ensure the County can compete to attract and retain an appropriately sized, skilled and diverse workforce to design and implement policies, programs and services that ensure equitable and sustainable opportunities.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

If the recommendation to adopt the rates of employer retirement contributions is approved, the estimated total annual employer retirement contribution costs for the County and all participating employers will be approximately \$842.8 million for FY 2024-25, an increase of approximately \$70.1 million from the FY 2023-24 estimated total employer contribution.

The County is obligated to fund approximately 93% of the total annual employer retirement contribution, which is estimated at \$783.8 million in FY 2024-25, an increase of approximately \$65.2 million from the County's share of estimated annual employer retirement contributions in the prior fiscal year. Other participating employers are obligated to make the remaining 7% of contributions to SDCERA. These employers include San Diego Superior Court, Air Pollution Control District, San Dieguito River Valley Joint Powers Authority, Local Agency Formation Commission and San Diego County Office of Education. The County's actual cost of retirement will differ from this estimate due to the application of the contribution rates to the County's actual biweekly payroll instead of the SDCERA actuary's assumed payroll. The funding source is a combination of program specific revenues and General Purpose Revenue. No additional staff years are required.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe

NOT PRESENT: Desmond

7. **SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:  
SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE  
AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION (2/6/24 - First Reading; 2/27/24  
- Second Reading, unless the ordinance is modified on second reading)  
(DISTRICTS: ALL)**

#### **OVERVIEW**

On February 6, 2024 (6), the Board of Supervisors took action to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on February 27, 2024.

The Compensation Ordinance enacted by the Board of Supervisors establishes procedures for compensating County of San Diego employees. The Department of Human Resources provides recommendations for changes to the Compensation Ordinance based on legislative changes, environmental factors, and organizational changes with the goal of providing and retaining a skilled, adaptable, and diverse workforce. Today's actions reflect the compensation ordinance changes to accomplish this goal.

Today's recommendations are for the Board to approve the introduction of the ordinance (first reading) to amend the Compensation Ordinance. If the Board takes action as recommended, then on February 27, 2024, staff recommends the Board adopt the ordinances (second reading). If the proposed ordinance is altered on February 27, 2024, then on that date a subsequent meeting date will be selected for the ordinance's adoption.

#### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

##### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Approve the adoption of the Ordinance (second reading):

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE AND  
ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION**

If the proposed ordinance is altered on February 27, 2024, then on that date a subsequent meeting date will be selected for the ordinance's adoption.

#### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The Department of Human Resources is committed to assuring that equity is considered in classification and compensation. Today's recommendations provide amendments to the compensation ordinance that will assist the County of San Diego to provide and retain a skilled, adaptable, and diverse workforce for County departments and enables the County to deliver superior services to the residents and visitors of the County of San Diego.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The proposed actions amending the compensation ordinance aligns with the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goals by promoting sustainable economic growth for our community. The proposed actions included in this letter provide just and equitable wages and benefits.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with these recommendations. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.



## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent, adopting Ordinance No. 10890 (N.S.), entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe

NOT PRESENT: Desmond

8. **SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:**  
**SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:**  
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE**  
**RELATING TO THE SAN DIEGO FLOODS 2024 EMPLOYEE LEAVE**  
**TO TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY & AN ORDINANCE AMENDING**  
**THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE (2/6/24 - First Reading; 2/27/24 -**  
**Second Reading, unless the ordinance is modified on second reading)**  
**(DISTRICTS: ALL)**

### **OVERVIEW**

On February 6, 2024 (5), the Board of Supervisors took action to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on February 27, 2024.

This is a request to adopt an urgency ordinance and a regular ordinance regarding San Diego Floods 2024 Employee Leave. On January 22, 2024, San Diego County experienced a rainstorm that caused widespread damage to residential properties, and further storms are predicted for the region. This most recent storm impacted many employees of the County of San Diego it is anticipated that significant rainstorms in the weeks to come may also result in further flooding within the County. The urgency and regular ordinances will provide a paid leave provision to the Compensation Ordinance allowing up to 80 hours of paid leave to employees to deal with the after-effects of the storms that result in damage or destruction to their personal residences.

Today's recommendations are for the Board to adopt the urgency ordinance to amend the Compensation Ordinance that will take effect immediately and approve the introduction of a regular ordinance (first reading) to amend the Compensation Ordinance. If the Board takes action as recommended, then on February 27, 2024, staff recommends the Board adopt the regular ordinance (second reading). If the proposed regular ordinance is altered on February 27, 2024, then on that date a subsequent meeting date will be selected for the regular ordinance's adoption.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Approve the adoption of the Ordinance (second reading) entitled:  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE AND  
ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The Department of Human Resources is committed to assisting its employees during this difficult time by providing additional paid leave to address employees' needs to deal with the after-effects of the storms that result in damage to, or destroy, their personal residences. Today's recommendation provides amendments to the compensation ordinance providing up to 80 hours of paid leave to assist those County of San Diego employees impacted.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The amendments to the Compensation Ordinance will implement the San Diego Floods 2024 Employee Leave which provides up to 80 hours of paid leave to County employees, who suffer significant damage because of major flooding that result in damage and/or destruction to their personal residences, and who need time off from work to address those needs. This ordinance will take effect immediately so those employees can address health and safety issues associated with the impacts of the floods.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for these recommendations are included in the 2023-24 Adopted Operational Plan. The estimated fiscal impact of the San Diego Floods 2024 Employee Leave is approximately \$500,000. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent, adopting Ordinance No. 10891 (N.S.), entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe

NOT PRESENT: Desmond

**9. SUBJECT: APPOINTMENTS: VARIOUS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

These appointments are in accordance with applicable Board Policy A-74, "Citizen Participation in County Boards, Commissions and Committees."

**RECOMMENDATION(S)****SUPERVISOR JOEL ANDERSON**

Appoint Kaye Kelley Turpin to the BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD Seat No. 6 for a term to expire March 12, 2024.

Waive Board Policy A-74 and re-appoint James Cooper to the RAMONA DESIGN REVIEW BOARD, Seat No. 6 for a term to expire February 27, 2027.

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Re-appoint John Snyder to the SOLID WASTE HEARING PANEL, Seat No. 2, to complete the current term and begin a new term to expire March 10, 2028.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

County government includes standing and special citizen boards, commissions, committees, and task forces formed to advise the Board of Supervisors and County staff on issues and policy and to serve as links to the community. Boards, commissions, and committees provide an inter-relationship between the residents and the government of the County. The nominations in this Board Letter enable the County of San Diego to provide individual residents the opportunity to impart valuable insight and input into the operation of the government.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego has over one hundred boards, commissions, committees, and task forces that serve as voice in the County government. Advisory bodies are an essential role in resident engagement that allow citizens to participate on issues relating to the welfare and quality of life in the County. They are fundamental to the County of San Diego's ability to navigate complex and dynamic policy challenges, are a conduit to the County Bureaucracy, and a broker to community voice. This board letter supports the County of San Diego Sustainability Goal No.1 by "encourage[ing] people and diverse stakeholders to partner and participate in decisions that impact their lives and communities."

**FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe

NOT PRESENT: Desmond

**10. SUBJECT: COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

Board Policy A-72, Board of Supervisors Agenda and Related Process, authorizes the Clerk of the Board to prepare a Communications Received for Board of Supervisors' Official Records. Routine informational reports, which need to be brought to the attention of the Board of Supervisors yet not requiring action, are listed on this document. Communications Received documents are on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)****CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Note and file.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

## **SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT**

This board letter is a list of documents received by the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and/or Board of Supervisors from other entities, other county departments, the public, and internal documents presented to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors or the Board of Supervisors. This contributes to the overall sustainability of the county by engaging the community in meaningful ways and promote an environment that provides equitable access opportunities for public engagement.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

## **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe

NOT PRESENT: Desmond

11. **SUBJECT: COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT  
FRAMEWORK REPRIORITIZATION AND EVERGREEN  
COMPONENT FRAMEWORK RECOMMENDATIONS  
(DISTRICTS: ALL)**

## **OVERVIEW**

On January 9, 2024 (12), the Board of Supervisors (Board) received an update on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Framework. Established by the Board in 2021, the ARPA Framework ensures that ARPA resources attributed to San Diego County most effectively respond to the needs of our region's residents and invest in the long-term health and safety of the region. The update provided information on progress of the programs of the ARPA Framework, the anticipated remaining funding resources of these programs, and the Evergreen component of the ARPA Framework, which has not been programmed. Besides this update, the Board took action to support the staff recommendations, including considerations for how to program the projected remaining ARPA Framework balance of \$67.0 million anticipated at the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25. In addition, the Board also directed the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to include priorities from all Board members when developing proposals for how to program remaining funds in the Evergreen component of the Framework. Priorities were to be focused on behavioral health, housing, climate change, economic prosperity, homelessness, and workforce, and were sent to the CAO by Board members via memorandum.

Since this time, on January 30, 2024 (1), the Board directed the use of \$10.0 million of the Evergreen component of the ARPA Framework to make funding available to meet the emergency needs caused by widespread flooding, mudslides, erosion, and storm debris resulting from the atmospheric river that moved through San Diego County on January 22, 2024. With this approval, the remaining amount allocated to the Evergreen component which is immediately available is now \$35.6 million.

Today's action includes direction for the CAO to reinvest any reimbursements received from this \$10.0 million into Evergreen program(s) upon completion of all proper audits and reviews of any expense claims. Given a Framework balance of \$67.0 million and the remaining Evergreen component of the Framework balance of \$35.6 million, these recommendations will ensure that ARPA funding available to the County of San Diego will be fully invested in the region. Staff will return to the Board with future action to implement the Framework and Evergreen programming as needed.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Approve staff's recommendation for the projected remaining American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Framework balance of \$67.0 million as stated in Attachment A.
2. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to make administrative changes within the adopted ARPA Framework as needed to ensure the intent of the Board of Supervisors allocations in the programs is met. Examples of such permitted changes include but are not limited to adjusting within the programs listed if spending trajectories for original balances change or other funding is identified.
3. Approve one of the following options for the use of the Evergreen component funding:  
Option A:
  - i. To be used for program(s) that could draw down matching funds, philanthropic donations, grants, or other funding that measures performance both on self-sustaining revenue streams and level of public benefit.Option B:
  - i. To be used for program(s) that could draw down matching funds, philanthropic donations, grants, or other funding that measures performance both on self-sustaining revenue streams and level of public benefit, and/or supporting a lasting public benefit in the areas of behavioral health, housing, climate change, economic prosperity, homelessness, and workforce.
4. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to reinvest any reimbursements of the \$10.0 million allocation to emergency needs made on January 30, 2024 (1), into Evergreen program(s), after all proper audits and reviews of any expense claims have been completed.
5. Direct the Auditor and Controller to establish an interest bearing trust fund, the "2024 Flood Reimbursement Fund" with interest earnings allocated and distributed to this fund, to deposit reimbursements in Recommendation 4 above.

6. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate the remaining balance of the Evergreen component of the ARPA Framework based on the following options:
- Option A:
- i. Allocate \$15.0 million for the implementation of the Senate Bill 43 of 2023 (Involuntary Behavioral Health Treatment) program (SB 43 program). These amounts will support the implementation of SB 43, which may include, among other things, expanded services and supportive infrastructure in hospital and community-based settings, support for the Public Conservator, increased crisis stabilization unit capacity, training and education capacity, and substance use disorder services capacity including a harm reduction model.
  - ii. Allocate \$15.6 million to the Innovative Housing Trust Fund to be used for Notice of Funding Availability for affordable housing construction, acquisition and rehabilitation.
  - iii. Allocate \$5.0 million for Efforts to Address and Prevent Homelessness.
  - iv. Upon availability of funding as directed in Recommendation #4, allocate the funding received, up to \$10 million, in Expanding San Diego's Behavioral Health Workforce.

**OR**

Option B:

- i. Allocate \$15.0 million for the implementation of the SB 43 program as specified in Option A.
- ii. Allocate \$10.0 million in expanding San Diego's Behavioral Health Workforce.
- iii. Allocate \$10.6 million in the Innovative Housing Trust Fund as specified in Option A.
- iv. Upon availability of funding as directed in Recommendation 4, allocate the funding received, up to \$10 million, in Efforts to Address and Prevent Homelessness.

**OR**

Option C:

- i. Allocate \$10.0 million for the implementation of the SB 43 program as specified in Option A.
- ii. Allocate \$10.6 million in the Innovative Housing Trust Fund as specified in Option A.
- iii. Allocate \$15.0 million for the establishment of a Regional Workforce Housing Program.
- iv. Upon availability of funding as directed in Recommendation #4, allocate the funding received, up to \$10 million, in Expanding San Diego's Behavioral Health Workforce.

7. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to utilize ARPA funds directly or leveraged through a lost revenue strategy under the final ARPA guidance based on previously allocated General Purpose Revenue for the remaining amount allocated to the Evergreen component of the Framework of \$35.6 million, and to make the appropriate budget adjustments in future operational status letter updates as necessary.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's actions provide the mechanism to present and ensure the most effective use of the County of San Diego framework for the use of American Rescue Plan Act funding in support of the most vulnerable residents in the county. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the lives of individuals, businesses, and communities across San Diego County. To support the most vulnerable, an equity lens and a quantitative and qualitative data-driven approach were used to prioritize and integrate consideration of racial and gender equity in the recommendations to guide the distribution of COVID-19 response and recovery-related federal, State, and local funding and resources. These actions also align with regional efforts to ensure economic prosperity and equitable access to high-quality jobs in the green economy especially for underrepresented populations in these fields, and provide and retain a skilled, adaptable, and diverse workforce for County departments and enable the County to deliver superior services to the residents and visitors of San Diego County region.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The proposed actions support the County of San Diego (County) Sustainability Goal #2 to provide just and equitable access to County services, policy decision-making, and resource allocation in support of sustainable communities, and Sustainability Goal #4 to protect the health and wellbeing of everyone in the region by ensuring the ARPA Framework including the Evergreen component supports just and equitable access to County services.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds associated with this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Operational Plan. For recommendations on the projected remaining ARPA Framework balance of \$67.0 million, if approved, this request will result in one-time costs and revenue of \$67.0 million. The funding source will be ARPA for programs that can be obligated before the end of the year 2024, and General Purpose Revenue through the lost revenue strategy for programs that cannot be obligated before the end of 2024.

For recommendations on the remaining amount allocated to the Evergreen component of the ARPA Framework, if approved, this request will result in one-time costs and revenue of \$35.6 million. These ARPA funds may be used directly or leveraged through a lost revenue strategy to redirect existing General-Purpose Revenue, which will in turn be available for the Evergreen recommended programs. For any reimbursements received from the \$10.0 million allocation to emergency needs made on January 30, 2024 (1), the funds will be held in an interest bearing Trust Fund (2024 Flood Reimbursement Fund), and pending completion of all proper audits and reviews of any expense claims, will become available to Evergreen program(s) approved by the Board.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

## **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Vargas, seconded by Supervisor Lawson-Remer, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions:

1. Approved staff's recommendation for the projected remaining American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Framework balance of \$67.0 million as stated in Attachment A.

2. Authorized the Chief Administrative Officer to make administrative changes within the adopted ARPA Framework as needed to ensure the intent of the Board of Supervisors allocations in the programs is met. Examples of such permitted changes include but are not limited to adjusting within the programs listed if spending trajectories for original balances change or other funding is identified.
3. Approved the following option for the use of the Evergreen component funding:  
Option B:
  - i. To be used for program(s) that could draw down matching funds, philanthropic donations, grants, or other funding that measures performance both on self-sustaining revenue streams and level of public benefit, and/or supporting a lasting public benefit in the areas of behavioral health, housing, climate change, economic prosperity, homelessness, and workforce.
4. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to reinvest any reimbursements of the \$10.0 million allocation to emergency needs made on January 30, 2024 (1), into Evergreen program(s), after all proper audits and reviews of any expense claims have been completed.
5. Directed the Auditor and Controller to establish an interest bearing trust fund, the "2024 Flood Reimbursement Fund" with interest earnings allocated and distributed to this fund, to deposit reimbursements in Recommendation 4 above.
6. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate the remaining balance of the Evergreen component of the ARPA Framework based on the following option:  
Option B:
  - i. Allocate \$15.0 million for the implementation of the SB 43 program as specified in Option A.
  - ii. Allocate \$10.0 million in expanding San Diego's Behavioral Health Workforce.
  - iii. Allocate \$10.6 million in the Innovative Housing Trust Fund as specified in Option A.
  - iv. Upon availability of funding as directed in Recommendation 4, allocate the funding received, up to \$10 million, in efforts that support natural disaster prevention and preparedness.
7. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to utilize ARPA funds directly or leveraged through a lost revenue strategy under the final ARPA guidance based on previously allocated General-Purpose Revenue for the remaining amount allocated to the Evergreen component of the Framework of \$35.6 million, and to make the appropriate budget adjustments in future operational status letter updates as necessary.

AYES:Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond



**12. SUBJECT: PROVIDING COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO EMPLOYEES WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE AND FINANCE NEW VEHICLES AT DISCOUNTED FLEET PRICES (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

The Board of Supervisors has continually enhanced the benefits and opportunities available to our dedicated County of San Diego employees. In addition to the many programs and incentives the Board has approved, the potential exists for us to also help our employees purchase vehicles at discounted prices similar to those available to the County when acquiring vehicles through fleet purchases. The County could further assist employees by offering them low-cost financing for those vehicle purchases through a zero or low-interest revolving loan fund.

Given the significant number of County employees who rely on their own personal vehicles to commute to work and for other essential tasks, providing access to a discounted vehicle purchase program could offer substantial benefits. Such a program would not only potentially lower the financial burden on County employees but also enhance their overall well-being and quality of life. I believe such a program would be well received by the County workforce and would help the County remain competitive with other jurisdictions, particularly as local housing prices and other cost of living factors remain at historically high levels. I am, therefore, recommending that the Board direct the interim Chief Administrative Officer to explore the feasibility of implementing a discounted vehicle purchase and financing program.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**SUPERVISOR JOEL ANDERSON**

Direct the Interim Chief Administrative Officer to:

1. Conduct a comprehensive analysis of existing vehicle purchase programs available to governmental entities and private-sector organizations with a focus on identifying models that could be adapted to best suit the needs of County of San Diego employees.
2. Evaluate the potential cost savings and administrative requirements associated with implementing and managing a vehicle purchase program for County of San Diego employees.
3. Assess the level of interest among County of San Diego employees in participating in such a program through surveys or other means of gathering feedback.
4. Identify any potential legal or regulatory considerations that may need to be addressed in the development and implementation of the proposed program.
5. Report back to the Board in 180 days with an analysis and the options available to implement a vehicle purchase and financing program.
6. Designate \$15 million in American Rescue Plan Act Evergreen Funds for a revolving loan fund necessary to implement this program.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

By providing opportunities for County employees to share in the discounted vehicle rates available to the County through vehicle fleet acquisitions and offering them zero or low-low interest loans, we can uplift underserved and lower-income members of the County workforce, by potentially reducing their commute times, saving them money and increasing their overall quality of life.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County has undertaken numerous actions to advance sustainability throughout the enterprise. By implementing a vehicle purchase assistance program, our employees will be provided an opportunity to more economically purchase new, cleaner and “green” alternative fuel vehicles, reducing vehicle emissions in the San Diego region.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The initial funding source for the recommended actions is \$15 million in remaining American Rescue Plan Act Evergreen Fund resources. Future funding for the vehicle purchase assistance program will be available through the repayment of vehicle loans to the County by program participants.

### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

The proposed program is likely to result in the purchase of additional vehicles in the San Diego region. This action would assist local car dealers by providing them an opportunity to sell a greater number of vehicles to County employees than they would without such a program in place.

### **ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT**

N/A

### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Desmond, the Board of Supervisors directed the Interim Chief Administrative Officer to:

1. Conduct a comprehensive analysis of existing vehicle purchase programs available to governmental entities and private-sector organizations with a focus on identifying models that could be adapted to best suit the needs of County of San Diego employees.
2. Evaluate the potential cost savings and administrative requirements associated with implementing and managing a vehicle purchase program for County of San Diego employees.
3. Assess the level of interest among County of San Diego employees in participating in such a program through surveys or other means of gathering feedback.
4. Identify any potential legal or regulatory considerations that may need to be addressed in the development and implementation of the proposed program.
5. Report back to the Board in 180 days with an analysis and the options available to implement a vehicle purchase and financing program.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**13. SUBJECT: SUSTAINABLE PLANNING FOR A FEDERALLY FUNDED  
LONG-TERM MIGRANT TRANSFER SITE AND SHELTER CENTER  
(DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

San Diego county is proud of our binational community, and of the work done by our local partners every day to assist those seeking asylum in our country. Over the past several years, the number of asylum seekers coming to our region through the U.S.-Mexico border has increased as those individuals flee crises and persecution in their home countries.

As part of a short-term mitigation strategy, the County of San Diego (County) provided funding in October of 2023 for the creation of a Migrant Center (Center) to assist with supporting the sheer number of asylum seekers coming through our border and traveling to their final destination and provided additional funding in December of 2023 to extend those efforts. This Center was operated by SBCS and augments the efforts of Catholic Charities Diocese of San Diego and Jewish Family Service, who receive federal Shelter and Services Program (SSP) funding to manage shelter operations to assist the most vulnerable asylum seekers. SBCS subcontracted with several smaller community-based organizations headquartered in south, central, and east San Diego and with various local shelters. In the absence of an ongoing, dedicated funding stream, the Center ceased operations at the end of February.

On February 6, 2024 (11) the Board of Supervisors (Board) directed staff to look for a sustainable plan for the future to support the migrants entering our community and to prevent street releases. This direction contained a two-part strategy: first, to work with the current fiscal agent of SSP funds on ways to maximize this funding stream; and two, to develop a concept paper and advocacy plan to create a long-term, federally funded, Migrant Transfer Site and Respite Shelter. County staff did meet with current fiscal agent for SSP who provided important operational insight into their current program and funding. The SSP funds are currently not allocated in the form of a competitive grant. Grant awards are announced with the recipient and amount, and are reimbursed to the fiscal agent, not provided in advance for services.

Today's actions recommend that the Board receive the Concept Paper and Advocacy Plan, approve a corresponding addition to the Legislative Program, and authorize application for any associated grant funding that would be received in advance of services performed.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Accept the report titled "Concept Paper and Advocacy Plan for a Long-Term Migrant Transfer Site and Respite Shelter" and direct the Interim Chief Administrative Officer to update the Concept Paper on an as-needed basis with current and relevant information.
2. Add to the County's 2024 Legislative Program, Priority Issues, support for a Long-Term Migrant Transfer Site and Respite Shelter, consistent with the Concept Paper.

3. Pursuant to Board Policy B-29, authorize the Interim Chief Administrative Officer, or their designee, to apply for any grant funds and/or allocations for migrant sheltering and services that provide funding in advance of services performed.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego's (County) vision is for a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, regardless of residency and immigration status. Today's action provides a long-term and sustainable plan for welcoming migrants coming to the San Diego region to seek asylum into the United States. Migrants seeking asylum are coming to the United States in search of a better life for themselves and their families. The number of migrants passing through San Diego County and onto their final destination has steadily increased. To address the increase, the County of San

Diego relied on its values as a welcoming and binational community to invest in a centralized migrant intake center to provide migrants with information to continue their journey, food, and other basic support services. The centralized migrant intake center has prevented more than 80,000 street releases into San Diego communities and at mass transit stations.

To do this work, the County actively communicated and engaged with the federal government, the state government, and many non-governmental organizations (NGOs) providing critical aid and services to asylum seekers. NGOs include Jewish Family Service, SBCS, Casa Familiar, and the fiscal agent for federal SSP funding in San Diego County, Catholic Charities Diocese of San Diego. The County's work with these organizations has allowed the County to understand and appreciate how migrants passing through San Diego County are fleeing violence, political persecution, and trauma. All persons, regardless of where one lives, or immigration status, deserve dignity and our respect.

In the absence of federal funding and support, the County along with our community partners have bridged an important gap and have assisted a very vulnerable population with critical support and services to ensure their path to a new future is possible.

The attached concept paper and advocacy plan demonstrate how the County humanely and compassionately provided an important resource for migrants passing through San Diego region. To ensure the resources and services the County currently provides to migrants through the migrant intake center remain long-term, and to prevent street releases in San Diego communities, the attached concept paper details how a federal migrant transfer shelter can be considered and implemented, including the specifications, staffing needs of the CBOs to run it, and potential costs. The County consulted and relied on feedback from our NGO partners to identify what is needed in the region to operate such a shelter and what services and requirements would be required.

The County remains committed to this endeavor and looks forward to advocating for a sustainable and long-term plan for supporting and protecting an extremely vulnerable population.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

As a proud binational community, San Diego is the first point of entry into the United States for many who are seeking asylum. By providing for the coordination of resources to ensure a humanitarian response while simultaneously providing for the safety of the migrants and our communities, we can meet the needs of those temporarily in our region without compromising the resources that benefit those we serve.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with these recommendations. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years. There may be fiscal impacts associated with future related recommendations which staff would return to the Board for consideration and approval.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

## **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Vargas, seconded by Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe

NOES: Desmond

14. **SUBJECT: URGE PRESIDENT BIDEN TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE THE U.S. -MEXICO BORDER IN RESPONSE TO U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION STREET RELEASES RESUMING ON FEBRUARY 22, 2024 (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

## **OVERVIEW**

San Diego County faces an imminent crisis as street releases of migrants by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) are, at the writing of this letter, set to resume on February 22nd, alongside the closure of the SBCS-led and County-funded migrant transition center. This situation arises without any identified funding or assistance from the federal government to handle the expected surge in street releases or to support the ongoing operations of the current migrant transition center.

As a diverse border community, San Diego has a long-standing tradition of welcoming newcomers. Over the past decade, our community-based organizations (CBOs) have navigated fluctuating numbers of migrants crossing our land border, successfully piecing together funding to meet their needs. However, the lifting of Title 42 restrictions on immigration in May 2023 has overwhelmed our CBOs, leading to an unprecedented situation at San Diego's border and transit stations. Despite continuous advocacy for meaningful immigration reform and additional resources from the federal government, our efforts have not yielded the necessary support. The County's \$6 million in stop-gap funding to mitigate street releases has been depleted, and we are in the midst of a humanitarian crisis.

On February 15, 2024, I wrote a letter to President Biden urgently requesting the temporary closure of the border as a measure to prevent the anticipated influx and continuation of street releases to alleviate the burden on our communities. Today, I'm asking the Board to approve direction to the CAO to send a letter on behalf of the County to the Biden Administration to take swift action in temporarily closing the U.S.-Mexico border. This step has the potential to provide us with the time needed to secure additional funding and resources to support our efforts in mitigating migrant street releases.

#### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

##### **SUPERVISOR JOEL ANDERSON**

Direct the Interim Chief Administrative Officer through the Office of Economic Development and Government Affairs to send a letter to the White House from the Board of Supervisors urging the temporary closure of the U.S.-Mexico border.

#### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The resumption of street releases without adequate resources to manage them disproportionately impacts vulnerable populations, including asylum seekers, immigrants, and individuals experiencing homelessness. Without immediate action, these communities will bear the brunt of the humanitarian crisis, exacerbating existing disparities and inequities. Closing the border is essential to protect the well-being and safety of all residents and new arrivals, particularly those most marginalized and at risk.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT**

By addressing the influx of migrants through proactive measures such as a border closure, we can mitigate the strain on our local resources and infrastructure. Sustainable management of our community's resources is paramount to ensure long-term resilience and stability. Closing the border temporarily will allow us to better manage and allocate resources, reducing the environmental and social impact associated with the humanitarian crisis. This action aligns with our commitment to building a sustainable future for San Diego County and its residents.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with these recommendations.

#### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

By proactively addressing the situation through a border closure, we aim to safeguard the interests of businesses and ensure continuity in economic activities. This action will help maintain stability in the business environment, protect livelihoods, and support the long-term economic prosperity of the region. Collaborative efforts between the public and private sectors are essential to navigate this challenging period and sustain the vibrancy of our local economy.

#### **ACTION:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Desmond, for the Board of Supervisors to direct the Interim Chief Administrative Officer through the Office of Economic Development and Government Affairs to send a letter to the White House from the Board of Supervisors requesting to limit asylum seekers until there is control of the border.

A substitute motion was introduced.

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors directed the Interim Chief Administrative Officer to send a letter to the Majority Leader of the Senate, Chuck Schumer, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mike Johnson, to work with President Biden to pass a Bipartisan Immigration Reform Bill to Fix the Border by addressing the delays in processing asylum, increase funding for FEMA to support local governments and NGOs, and modernize border security.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**15. SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DISASTER RELIEF DEFERRAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS FOR THE OWNERS OF PROPERTY DAMAGED OR DESTROYED IN THE GOVERNOR-PROCLAIMED SEVERE WINTER STORM DISASTERS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

In the winter of 2024, San Diego County experienced severe storms bringing intense rainfall and causing widespread flooding, mudslides, and debris flows threatening life and safety, structures, and other critical infrastructure ("2024 Winter Storms"). The impacts from these winter storms also caused evacuations, road and school closures, and widespread damage to public and private property.

The San Diego County Assessor (Assessor) is working to deliver the maximum property tax relief aid allowed under the law to those affected by the 2024 Winter Storms and now facing extensive recovery efforts.

The Assessor is responsible for assessing all taxable property for property tax purposes. The Assessor is also responsible for reassessing real property upon a change in ownership or new construction. The Assessor is responsible to administering property tax relief from calamity claims received from a Governor proclaimed disaster.

Revenue and Taxation Code Section 170 provides that every owner of taxable property, or any person liable for the taxes thereon, whose property was damaged or destroyed due to misfortune or calamity, may apply for reassessment of that property in its damaged condition. Upon receiving a proper application, the Assessor shall reduce the values appearing on the assessment roll by the percentages of damage or destruction and the taxes due on the property shall be adjusted accordingly.

Revenue and Taxation Code Section 194.1 provides for the deferral of an upcoming property tax installment payment where an application for misfortune or calamity reassessment is filed due to a disaster for which the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency. Any owner of eligible property on or before the next property tax installment payment date may, in conjunction with the claim for reassessment, apply to the Assessor to defer payment of that upcoming installment of property taxes on the regular secured roll for the current fiscal year.

Additionally, Revenue and Taxation Code Section 194.9 provides that counties may adopt an ordinance to permit the deferral of unpaid nondelinquent current fiscal year supplemental roll taxes on eligible property if the owner files with the assessor a claim for deferral on or before the next property tax installment payment date. Supplemental taxes deferred shall be due on the last day of the month following the month in which the corrected bill is mailed or the delinquent date of the next installment of the original bill, whichever is later.

Today's proposed actions include the introduction of an ordinance authorizing the deferral of supplemental roll property taxes for owners of properties damaged or destroyed by the governor-proclaimed severe winter storm disasters. If approved, the ordinance will be scheduled for adoption on March 12, 2024. If the proposed ordinance is altered on March 12, 2024, then on that date a subsequent meeting date will be selected for the ordinance's adoption.

#### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**CHAIR NORA VARGAS AND SUPERVISOR MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE  
AND ASSESSOR/RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK JORDAN Z. MARKS**

On February 27, 2024 (first reading):

Approve the introduction of the Ordinance (first reading):

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DISASTER RELIEF DEFERRAL OF  
SUPPLEMENTAL PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS FOR THE OWNERS OF  
PROPERTY DAMAGED OR DESTROYED IN THE GOVERNOR-PROCLAIMED  
SEVERE WINTER STORM DISASTERS.**

If, on February 27, 2024, the Board takes the actions recommended in Item 1 above, then on March 12, 2024 (second reading):

Submit the Ordinance for further Board consideration and adoption.

#### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The current law allows property tax relief when there is a Governor proclaimed disaster. This relief is not extended to new homeowners. Adoption of this ordinance would allow equitable application of property tax disaster relief.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The adoption of this Ordinance, to provide for the deferral of supplemental roll property taxes, will provide immediate financial relief to property owners who have experienced loss due to the disaster caused by the most recent severe winter storms. It will contribute to the health and well-being of San Diego County residents and allow them to concentrate on recovering from the disaster, securing housing, food, healthcare, and property repairs, rather than paying scheduled property taxes.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Operational Plan as part of projected General-Purpose Revenue in Finance Other. If adopted, the Ordinance authorizing the deferral of supplemental roll property taxes for the owners of property damaged or destroyed in this governor-proclaimed severe winter storm disasters, will result in a projected deferral of up to an additional \$250,000 in supplemental property tax revenue, based on a 1% tax rate. The County of San Diego receives and would realize a delay in receipts for only a small fraction of



this amount. Supplemental property tax revenue is apportioned under modified Assembly Bill 8 (AB8) factors, which allocates supplemental property tax revenue and refunds amongst all jurisdictions, excluding basic aid school districts, regardless of the jurisdiction where the subject properties are located. There will be no change in net general fund costs and no additional staff years.

#### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

#### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Vargas, seconded by Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on March 12, 2024.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

NOT PRESENT: Lawson-Remer

16. **SUBJECT: EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENHANCING PROBATION STAFF WELLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH, AND EVALUATE CONDUCTING A DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW OF STAFF WORKLOADS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

#### **OVERVIEW**

Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer and Chairwoman Nora Vargas have been working closely with San Diego County law enforcement agencies and community advocates to keep our communities safe by advancing criminal justice reform and increasing public safety. Investing in local public safety services includes investing in our San Diego County Probation Department (Probation). The County's Chief Probation Officer, Tamika Nelson, has been working to make Probation a leading department in the state. Probation supports community safety by supervising justice-involved youth and adults and working with County departments, criminal justice agencies, and community partners to provide rehabilitative services. These services help youth and adults restore their lives, reconnect with their families, and become contributing members of the San Diego County community.

Probation faces challenges in recruiting and retaining critical staff. In response to the need of hiring officers, Probation launched a recruitment campaign with successful inroads on X, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. During the campaign, there was an increase in submitted job applications. Probation is continuing a recruitment campaign to maintain a presence as a hiring agency within social media. The Board assisted Probation's recruiting and retention challenges by implementing signing bonuses and retention, relocation, and lateral incentives. However, retaining officers continues to be challenging due to the high demands of the position, with officers managing high stress situations.

Research shows that officer stress stems from two primary sources: 1) the demands of responding to critical incidents, and 2) more mundane organizational stressors, ranging from understaffed shifts to mandatory overtime. Studies show reducing officer stress and increasing officer wellness can reduce the number of critical incidents and increase positive engagement with all clients. Promoting employee wellness further enhances Probation's ability to retain and recruit personnel. Supporting officers' physical, mental, and emotional health is fundamental to creating safer communities, building meaningful relationships, and providing better services to the residents of San Diego County.

In 2015, the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing highlighted officer safety and wellness as one of the six pillars for policing. In its final report, the task force recommended the promotion of officer wellness at all levels of law enforcement. More recently, the Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act, passed into U.S. law in 2018, has supported the expansion of wellness services across federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies. Unfortunately, probation departments are often overlooked in state and federal grant opportunities.

The Probation Department aims to foster a culture of wellness within the organization. The benefits of a wellness unit or program includes better job performance, it assists with recruitment and retention, and enhances relationships internally and with those outside the department. Having access to wellness resources can lead to fewer complaints, less sick days, and less uses of force. These issues can be family dynamics, financial management, or repeated exposure to stressful events.

Numerous publications from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Department of Justice, public safety entities, and the behavioral health community all indicate that there is a growing need to invest and provide wellness resources to those working in the profession of public safety and community corrections.

The Board of Supervisors must also continue supporting Probation's recruitment and retention efforts, especially for officers providing high quality of services to those in the County's care. As an integral part of our ongoing commitment to public safety, to the well-being of our community, and the continued support of the Chief Probation Officer in addressing the recruitment and retention challenges experienced by Probation, we would like to explore opportunities for proactively improving staff wellness and mental health. This approach aligns with Probation's mission to provide the highest quality of service through family and community engagement, restorative practices, and employee-focused enrichment.

This board letter is a continuation of a series of studies aimed at improving San Diego County public safety by promoting the highest standard of care. Proactive measures focused on agencies that serve youth are vitally important as they contribute not only to a safer community now but also to the long-term well-being and success of our County.

Whereas the mission of the San Diego County Probation Department is to provide the highest quality of service, this board letter is bringing forward a study that explores ways to enhance the work of those who serve the public by engaging an external consultant to collaborate with department leaders to conduct an analysis of probation staff workloads, in addition to an evaluation of retention efforts, for the purpose of making recommendations for improvement. The Probation Department is appreciative of the Board's support in furthering the department's mission and vision.

#### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

##### **VICE-CHAIR TERRA LAWSON-REMER AND CHAIRWOMAN NORA VARGAS**

1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to work with the Probation Department to look for opportunities and resources to enhance staff wellness and mental health and return to the Board in 180 days with recommendations for enhancing the wellness program that would benefit the department and its employees.
2. Direct the CAO to work with the Probation Department to conduct an impartial departmental review of staff workloads, to be done by an independent consultant with no previous working relationship with the Probation Department. The consultant is required to collaborate with an essential internal team from the Probation Department, including key managers, line personnel, and labor leaders. In 180 days, provide the Board a written progress report, to include a status update on the consultant procurement. Upon completion of the study, return to the board with a report on key findings from the study.
  - a. In accordance with Section 401, Article XXIII of the County Administrative Code authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting to issue a Competitive Solicitation for the development of a Probation Department staffing study, and upon successful negotiations and determination of a fair and reasonable price, award contracts for a term of one year, with four option years and up to an additional six months if needed, and to amend the contracts as needed to reflect changes to services and funding.

#### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's actions set out to strengthen the San Diego County Department of Probation as we aim to advance fairness and equity. It is important to envision better outcomes for underserved and diverse communities disproportionately impacted by the justice system.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The Board-directed action to provide a data-driven approach to public safety, improving and expanding rehabilitative treatment and services contributes to the County of San Diego's sustainability goals of engaging the community, providing just and equitable access, and protecting health and wellbeing. Investing in the organizational capacity improves the work lives of those who serve, which impacts the quality of service received by the public.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Operational Plan for the Probation Department. The funding source is existing General Purpose Revenue. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Vargas, seconded by Supervisor Lawson-Remer, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**17. SUBJECT: ASSESMENT TO PROMOTE LONG-TERM SUCCESS FOR THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

### **OVERVIEW**

On May 19, 2020, the Board of Supervisors laid the foundation for the Leon L. Williams San Diego County Human Relations Commission (HRC), a pivotal initiative aimed at cultivating positive human interactions, nurturing respect, and upholding the integrity of every individual, irrespective of gender, religion, culture, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, or citizenship status. Comprised of thirty-one dedicated members, the HRC embodies a commitment to advancing its vision and mission.

The Commission was designed to function as a vital resource for the Board of Supervisors and County departments and addresses issues pertaining to human rights and relations. Commissioners assume the role of liaisons to community groups, offering insights on effective outreach and engagement strategies, and conducting assessments to gauge progress in mitigating hate crimes, bias, human rights violations, and related concerns.

The Commission is actively engaged in the revision of its bylaws. This revision encompasses the incorporation of a comprehensive screening process, which includes an affirmation document for current members to sign, underscoring their commitment to uphold the outlined mission, vision, and affirmation statements. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in violations of the Human Relations Commission Code of Conduct, potentially leading to censure and/or removal from the Commission. Additionally, the Commission is in the process of developing a supplemental application, mirroring the affirmations contained in the document. This initiative is complemented by the inclusion of an assessment and a mandatory anti-bias training, cultural awareness, and Conflict Resolution training.

As this process is developed, it is recommended that the HRC break from meeting. This will allow for the Office of Equity and Racial Justice to work with a third-party consultant to assess the current structure and role of the Human Relations Commission and provide recommendations to the Board for review to ensure the HRC's long-term success. In addition, it is clear that performing and completing this work is particularly vital given feedback from the members of the commission and the community.

Pending Board approval of recommendations from the third-party assessment and approval of the updated bylaws, HRC meetings will be allowed to resume the critical work of promoting positive human relations across the region.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **CHAIRWOMAN NORA VARGAS**

1. Direct the Interim Chief Administrative Officer to work with the Office of Equity and Racial Justice to work with a third-party consultant to assess the current structure and role of the Human Relations Commission. In performing the scope of work, the consultant is required to work with county staff, including the Office of Equity and Racial Justice, County Counsel and other key stakeholder departments, as may be necessary, to optimize the HRC's policies, procedures, practices and long-term health and effectiveness.
2. Return to the Board of Supervisors a written report, presenting the findings of the consultant's assessment, as well as recommendations and an implementation plan for resuming the work of the HRC for review and approval by the Board of Supervisors.
3. Direct the Interim Chief Administrative Officer to provide periodic updates to monitor and guide HRC's ongoing progress, milestones, and maturation.
4. Direct the Interim Chief Administrative Officer to work with the Office of Equity and Racial Justice to pause all meetings of the HRC until the Board of Supervisors has received the written report from the third-party consultant.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The establishment and ongoing initiatives of the Leon L. Williams San Diego County Human Relations Commission demonstrates a commitment to fostering equity and inclusivity within San Diego County. By serving as a pivotal resource for the Board of Supervisors and County departments on matters concerning human rights and relations, the Commission aims to address systemic issues that contribute to tension and conflict.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The Leon L. Williams San Diego County Human Relations Commission is dedicated to sustainability through its ongoing commitment to fostering positive, enduring impacts within San Diego County. Our mission to reduce sources of tension and conflict aligns with a vision of building a sustainable community where equity, justice, and inclusivity thrive.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Operational Plan in the Chief Administrative Office. If approved, this request will result in one-time costs of up to \$100,000 to implement today's actions, including funding the costs of the third-party consultant. The funding source is existing General Purpose Revenue. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

## **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Vargas, seconded by Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**18. SUBJECT: CLOSED SESSION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION  
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)  
Cleveland National Forest Foundation v. County of San Diego;  
San Diego Superior Court, Case No. 37-2024-00000536-CU-WM-CTL

**ACTION:**

Noting for the record that Closed Sessions matters were heard on February 28, 2024; County Counsel reported that for Closed Session, the Board of Supervisors took no reportable actions.

**19. SUBJECT: NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMUNICATION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

Jeff No Way spoke to the Board regarding mind control.

Jana spoke to the Board regarding a vaccine injury support group.

Kera spoke to the Board regarding Supervisor Lawson-Remer and about the smell of chemicals in the air.

Mark spoke to the Board regarding the United Nations Agenda 21.

Michael Brando spoke to the Board regarding behavioral health.

Jim Ellis spoke to the Board regarding leadership.

Terri-Ann Skelly spoke to the Board regarding the negative impacts of marijuana and tobacco use in the Black population.

Barbara Gordon spoke to the Board regarding support of American Heart Month and the negative impacts of marijuana use on the heart.

Truth spoke to the Board regarding human rights.

Angela Assoulin spoke to the Board regarding support for human rights of Palestinians.

Consuelo spoke to the Board regarding the Board's actions.

Bryant Rumbaugh spoke to the Board regarding engaged citizens.

Anthony Avalos spoke to the Board regarding flood survivors and the need for peer support specialists.

Paul the Bold spoke to the Board regarding housing vouchers for flood victims.

Rebecca Yang spoke to the Board regarding support for Palestinian-Americans.

Megan Stuart spoke to the Board regarding the negative impacts of marijuana use on youth.

Aimee Werth spoke to the Board regarding the conflict in Gaza and pro-Israeli donations to elected officials.

Becky Rapp spoke to the Board regarding negative impacts of marijuana use on youth.

**ACTION:**

Heard, Referred to the Chief Administrative Officer.


There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

ANDREW POTTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of San Diego, State of California

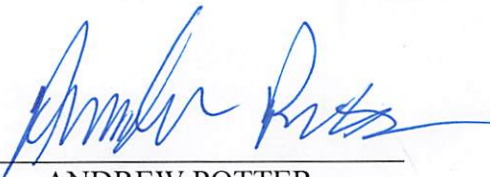
Consent: Vizcarra  
Discussion: Zurita

NOTE: This Statement of Proceedings sets forth all actions taken by the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors on the matters stated, but not necessarily the chronological sequence in which the matters were taken up.

Approved by the Board of Supervisors, on Tuesday, March 12, 2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NORA VARGAS  
Chair

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ANDREW POTTER  
Clerk of the Board

02/27/2024