

County of Santa Clara

Office of the County Executive

County Government Center
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70 West Hedding Street
San Jose, California 95110



November 15, 2022

TO: Honorable Members of the Finance and Government Operations Committee
Jeffrey V. Smith M.D., J.D., County Executive

FROM: Martha Wapenski, Deputy County Executive

SUBJECT: Off-Agenda Report on Government Fellowship Program Capacity Building

At the October 20, 2022 Finance and Government Operations Committee meeting (Item No. 11), Supervisor Lee requested information on the Government Fellowship Program's capacity to support expansion of the Program for the upcoming year.

The Government Fellowship Program (GFP) receives an ongoing budget allocation of \$66,000, which allows the County to host the equivalent of eight full-time fellows for 10 weeks at a stipend amount of \$8,000 each. During the Fiscal Year 2023 budget process, the Board of Supervisors approved the Adopted Budget which included a one-time allocation of \$150,000 to support the expansion of GFP. With this funding, the summer 2023 cohort may include up to 20 Fellows, provide an increase stipend of up to \$10,000 for each full-time placement, and allow for some placements to be expanded beyond the 10-week term.

During summer and fall of 2022, County Administration began expanding its GFP outreach both internally and externally to broaden its pool of placements and applicants. Staff has leveraged the support of past site supervisors and GFP alumni to extend programmatic reach and has the operational capacity to support the expansion.

c: Honorable Board of Supervisors
Chief Board Aides
Greta Hansen, Chief Operating Officer
James R. Williams, County Counsel
Tiffany Lennear, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Jason McCluskey, Budget and Public Policy Analyst
Mary Ann Barrous, Agenda Review Administrator

Board of Supervisors: Mike Wasserman, Cindy Chavez, Otto Lee, Susan Ellenberg, S. Joseph Simitian
County Executive: Jeffrey V. Smith