



**Contra
Costa
County**

To: Board of Supervisors
From: David Twa, County Administrator
Date: July 10, 2018

Subject: Authorizing the County Counsel to Prepare Ordinance Summaries

RECOMMENDATION(S):

ADOPT Ordinance No. 2018-20, authorizing the County Counsel to prepare ordinance summaries in accordance with Government Code section 25124.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Staff estimates that publishing an ordinance summary in the newspaper typically costs less than \$500, while publishing the full text of a 30-page ordinance can cost up to \$10,000.

BACKGROUND:

When the Board of Supervisors adopts an ordinance, Government Code section 25124 requires that it be published in the newspaper. This requirement can be satisfied by either publishing the full ordinance text within 15 days after the ordinance is passed, or publishing a summary of the ordinance at least five days before the ordinance is considered for adoption and publishing the summary again within 15 days after the ordinance is passed. If an ordinance summary is published, the full text of the ordinance must be posted in the Clerk of the Board's office or on the County's website at least five days before the ordinance is

☒ APPROVE

☐ OTHER

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY
ADMINISTRATOR

☐ RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD
COMMITTEE

Action of Board On: **07/10/2018** ☒ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER

Clerks Notes:

VOTE OF SUPERVISORS

AYE: John Gioia, District I Supervisor
Candace Andersen, District II Supervisor
Diane Burgis, District III Supervisor
Karen Mitchoff, District IV Supervisor
Federal D. Glover, District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: July 10, 2018

David Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Contact: Thomas Geiger, Assistant
County Counsel (925) 335-1800

By: June McHuen, Deputy

cc:

BACKGROUND: (CONT'D)

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considered for adoption and within 15 days after the ordinance is passed. If an ordinance summary is published, Government Code section 25124 also requires the Board to designate an official to prepare the summary. The attached ordinance authorizes the County Counsel to prepare to prepare ordinance summaries in accordance with Government Code section 25124 when the County Counsel determines it is appropriate to do so. If this ordinance is adopted, the Board would no longer have to authorize the County Counsel to prepare ordinance summaries on a case-by-case basis.

Publishing an ordinance summary instead of the full text of a lengthy ordinance results in significant cost savings. Staff estimates that publishing an ordinance summary in the newspaper typically costs less than \$500. Publishing the full text of a 30-page ordinance can cost up to an estimated \$10,000.

The attached ordinance also revises Ordinance Code Chapter 24-12 to make all references to the County Counsel gender neutral.

CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

The Board would continue to have to authorize the County Counsel to prepare ordinance summaries on a case-by-case basis.

ATTACHMENTS

Ordinance 2018-20