



EL DORADO COUNTY
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

MEMO

June 19, 2017

To: Honorable Members, Board of Supervisors

From: Don Ashton 
Chief Administrative Officer

cc: Shawne Corley
Assistant Chief Administrative Officer

Subject: Supplemental Memo - Alternatives for Continuation of Senior Legal Program

The Addenda Agenda for the June 20, 2017, Board of Supervisors meeting reflected a revised recommendation for the Senior Legal Program FY 2017-18 Budget, providing for the extension of the program for 7 to 8 months while HHSA and the Chief Administrative Office explore options for transferring the program to an alternate service delivery model. The recommendation was based on numerous discussions with HHSA staff and others involved in and interested in the program.

This supplemental memo has been prepared in response to requests for additional options to extend and/or maintain the existing Senior Legal Program. My office has prepared the following for your review and consideration. As you are aware, discussion of the Senior Legal Program is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 20th.

Program Summary

The Senior Legal Program currently operates with 3.5 FTE employees, 1.5 Attorney, 1 Paralegal and 1 Secretary. If the program were to be fully funded for FY 2017-18, the total budget would equal \$472,246. Should the Board choose to fully fund the program for FY 2017-18, I am recommending that retained donation funds be used in FY 2017-18 to help offset the General Fund cost of the program. With donation funds fully budgeted in FY 2017-18, the program would require an additional \$105,000 of General Fund dollars in order continue to operate with *no changes* to staffing levels or service levels (approximately \$90,000 General Fund is currently included in the budget to fund the program through August). Additional General Fund dollars are currently not available in the FY 2017-18 Recommended Budget. Therefore, the following are offered as options to free-up \$105,000 in the budget effective July 1, 2017, so that those dollars may be diverted to support the Senior Legal Program, keeping in mind that there are likely risks associated with some of the following options, which may be raised during the discussion on Tuesday.

Options

The most viable option is to approve the recommendation currently before the Board, and if year end fund balance is higher than anticipated, use \$105,000 to fund the Senior Legal program through the end of the year. As you are aware, my current recommendation is to use any unanticipated year end fund balance to set funds aside to ease the implementation of the expected CalPERS cost increases. Board policy also provides that the Board could choose to set funds aside to fund OPEB liabilities. In the event year end fund balance is not higher than anticipated, the Board could then choose to reduce the Appropriation for Contingency by \$105,000.

Other options for consideration include:

- (1) Reduce the Appropriation for Contingency by \$105,000 now, effective July 1, 2017.
- (2) Reduce the \$5,000,000 increase to the Designation for Capital Projects by \$105,000.
- (3) Increase Department Overhead cost recovery from Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) programs; thereby reducing the General Fund cost of programs funded by the CCP dollars by \$105,000.
- (4) Further decrease the contract value for Indigent Defense by \$105,000.
- (5) Reduce the increase in Net County Cost in the District Attorney budget (net county cost increase in FY 2016-17 of approximately \$195,000 due primarily to lost revenue, with additional net county cost increase in FY 2017-18 of \$368,861 due to increased costs and decreased revenue) by \$105,000 in recognition of lost revenues and an increasing General Fund cost.
- (6) Reduce the transfer to the Accumulated Capital Outlay fund for planned ADA improvements to County facilities by \$105,000.
- (7) Reduce the increase in funding provided to Information Technology for hardware upgrades by \$105,000.

It is important to note that these are one-year options. Continuation of the program in FY 2018-19 will require a significantly higher level of General Fund support if there are no other changes to program costs or revenues.

Lastly, the Board should keep in mind funding has not been identified for other priorities such as medical marijuana regulation and enforcement, new space for the District Attorney's Office, community planning efforts and funding related to the El Dorado Hills/Latrobe annexation property tax transfer.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require additional information.