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TO: Sabrina B. Landreth City Administrator

### AGENDA REPORT

FROM: Ian Appleyard Director, HRM

SUBJECT: Semi-Annual Vacancy Report **DATE:** October 22, 2018

City Administrator Approval Date: RECOMMENDATION

#### Staff Recommends That The City Council Receive The Semi-Annual Informational Report On Budgeted Vacant Positions Through September 24, 2018.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is an informational report that provides an update on vacant positions as of September 24, 2018, which includes status of vacancies; market conditions; recruitment process, strategies and challenges; and workforce analysis. The total budgeted full-time positions was 4,447.67 FTE with 742.37 Full-Time Employee (FTE) positions vacant, resulting in a 16.69% vacancy rate. This report breaks down the status of each vacancy by department (Attachment A), the status of the 183.91 FTE positions that were added in FY 2018-19 (Attachment B), and the status of vacant positions in the Oakland Public Works Department and the Department of Transportation (Attachment C).

Human Resources Management (HRM) Department's recruitment priorities are set by the City Administrator, and, subsequently, in coordination with individual departments. In some instances, high priority recruitments do not correlate to high-volume recruitments and, therefore, may not reduce the overall vacancy rate.

#### **BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY**

The Human Resources Management Department (HRM) provides a semi-annual report at the request of both the Finance and Management Committee and Public Works Committee. This report examines vacancy data as of September 24, 2018. HRM works closely with all City Departments to determine the precise status of all vacancies. This report also analyzes a number of additional elements that describe the City of Oakland's current vacancy situation.

#### **ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES**

For the purposes of this report, vacancies are described as **non-encumbered** and encumbered. Non-encumbered means that the position is available to be filled. Encumbered

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means that the position's funding is tied to a specific purpose, such as overtime, temporary staffing, acting assignments or, in some cases, a continuous recruitment is being conducted.

As of September 24, 2018, there were 742.37 FTE positions vacant citywide with 220.12 FTE encumbered as described above. Therefore, 522.25 FTE are non-encumbered, yielding a citywide vacancy rate to 11.74% of positions.

In general, six percent to eight percent of positions are vacant at any one time. The percentage of vacant positions supports the budgeted "vacancy factor" of 0.0 percent to 8.5 percent, depending on the department. In the case of the Library, the budgeted vacancy factor is 8.5 percent. The budgeted vacancy factor is a percentage of a department's overall budgeted base salary costs. Additionally, this report regarding vacant positions always reflects a snapshot in time. The number of vacant positions and which positions are vacant changes constantly. The budgeted vacancy factor is a fixed ratio applied to the total base salary allocation for a given department. Therefore, the number of vacant positions does not correlate directly to the budgeted vacancy factor.

#### **Status of Vacancies – City Wide**

The vacancy rate increased from the previous vacancy report (April 24, 2018) because of the addition of 183.91 FTE to the FY 2018-19 Midcycle Adopted Budget. **Table 1** below shows all vacant positions (encumbered and non-encumbered), resulting in a 16.69% vacancy rate. **Table 2** shows only non-encumbered positions, resulting in a 11.74% vacancy rate.

Table 1: Citywide Vacancy Sumr Encumbe		ibered and	d Non-
Туре	All Positions	Vacant	% Vacant
Total Sworn	1,434	205	14.30%
Total Miscellaneous	3,013.67	537.37	10.31%
Total	4,447.67	742.37	16.69%

Table 2: Citywide Vacancy St	Immary (Non-	Encumber	ed Only)
Туре	All Positions	Vacant	% Vacant
Total Sworn	1,434	64	4.46%
Total Miscellaneous	3,013.67	458.25	15.21%
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The non-encumbered vacancy rate (**Table 2**) is the historic data point for the report. **Table 3** shows the non-encumbered rate reported since May 14, 2012. HRM has not tracked the historical city-wide vacancy rate (encumbered and non-encumbered).

	Table 3: History V	acancy Rates	
Vacancy	# of budgeted	# non-	% Vacant
Report Date	positions	encumbered	
		vacancies	
5/14/12	3,796.53	259.88	6.88%
5/20/13	3,813.39	295.88	7.75%
9/22/14	3,937.26	341.01	8.66%
10/5/15	4,151.78	432.72	10.42%
10/24/16	4,186.84	377.07	9.00%
11/14/17	4,279.22	406.70	9.50%
4/24/18	4,282.97	419.50	9.79%
11/13/18	4,447.67	522.25	11.74%

When Departments submit vacancy information, standard descriptors are available from which to choose. **Table 4** is a summary of vacancy status, sorted by most frequent (Recruitment Plan in Progress) to least (Hire Authorization in Progress). The most frequent status is encumbered vacancies (220.12), which is broken down more specifically below. "Recruitment Plan in Progress" means the vacancy is in the planning stage either at HRM or within a department (exempt from civil service). "Requisition Pending Approval" is the queue for HRM management to assign to an analyst. There can be multiple requisitions for one classification.

Table 4: Summary of Vacancy St	atus
Status of Vacancy	FTE
Recruitment Plan in Progress	119.23
Requisition Pending Approval	89.77
Encumbered (Continuous Academies)	85.00
Depart Interview Process	64.60
Recruitment Open (application intake)	55.53
On Hold (by Dept)	51.14
Approved (pending HR assignment)	31.00
Encumbered (Dept Interview/FF Trainee)	29.00
Encumbered	28.13
Encumbered (Temp staffing)	29.00
Eligible List Referred to Dept	22.00
Encumbered (OT for minimum staffing)	21.00
Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)	20.23
Job Offer Extended	16.00
On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)	16.00
Encumbered (linked to PT class)	14.99
Encumbered (underfilled)	13.00
Recruitment Closed (screening apps)	12.00
Eligible List Available	11.00
HR Assessment & Scoring	10.00
Hire Authorization in Progress	3.75
Total:	742.37

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#### **Status of Vacancies – Departments**

**Table 5** shows the total vacancy rate by department, sorted by high to low percentage, with outliers below. As noted above, there are cases where vacancies are encumbered within each department. For example, the Fire Department has 29 vacant positions encumbered for Firefighter Trainee and 20 vacant positions encumbered for minimum staffing overtime. The Police Department has 85 vacant positions encumbered for the Police Officer Trainee classification.

Table 5: Vacancy Rates by Department				
City of Oakland Departments	No. of Authorized positions (FTE)	No. of vacant positions (FTE)	Vacancy Rate	
Library*	275.27	78.94	28.68%	
Housing & Community Dev	68.50	17.50	25.55%	
Planning & Building	172.50	41.00	23.77%	
Transportation	317.04	74.25	23.42%	
Police Commission	14.00	3.00	21.43%	
Public Works	631.57	111.52	17.66%	
City Administrator	79.10	13.10	16.56%	
Human Services	236.93	39.16	16.53%	
Human Resources	49.00	8.00	16.33%	
Economic & Workforce Dev	51.60	8.00	15.50%	
Police	1,310.50	189.50	14.46%	
Fire	612.10	85.55	13.98%	
Finance	160.00	22.00	13.75%	
Parks & Recreation**	228.14	30.41	13.33%	
Information Technology	81.00	10.00	12.35%	
City Auditor	10.00	1.00	10.00%	
Mayor	13.00	1.00	7.69%	
City Attorney	77.00	4.00	5.19%	
City Council	30.92	0.44	1.42%	
City Clerk	17.50	0.00	0.00%	
Public Ethics Commission	6.00	0.00	0.00%	
Violence Prevention	3.00	3.00	100.00%	
Race & Equity	3.00	1.00	33.33%	
Citywide Vacancy Rate	4,447.67	742.37	16.69%	

\*Reduced vacancies by 4.74 to accommodate Library part-time staffing

\*\*Reduced vacancies by 17.44 to accommodate OPR part-time staffing

#### National and Regional Market Conditions

According to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics, the nation's unemployment rate is 3.9%, the lowest since 1969. The racial breakdown of national unemployment for white is 3.4%; black or African American is 6.5%; for Asian is 3.3%; and Latino or Hispanic is 4.5%.

According to Employment Development Department, the California unemployment rate is 4.1%, the lowest since 1976. The Oakland-Fremont-Hayward area has a 3.1% unemployment rate. These conditions are a significant issue when recruiting for qualified and diverse candidates in the public sector.

The California International City/County Management Association (Cal-ICMA) recently published its Talent Initiative Report (**Attachment D**) which concludes that talent development has now become a key business imperative for local governments. Based on the report, there are eight key findings, many of which apply to the City of Oakland:

- 1. In the face of the baby-boomer "retirement wave," local governments have not adequately built a talent pipeline.
- 2. Local governments can no longer rely on "stealing" talent from other agencies. More than ever, public agencies need to grow their own talent.
- 3. Based on the meaning and purpose of our work, local government has a competitive advantage in attracting and retaining talent. However, we in local government are not telling our story.
- 4. Talent retention is largely about learning, challenge and engagement. Employees who are learning and growing are more likely to stay with an organization.
- 5. Talent development happens in the middle. The problem is that mid-managers typically do not perceive developing talent and coaching direct reports as primary functions.
- 6. Retooling organizational cultures to better attract and retain early-career talent will enhance our organizations for all employees and improve performance and productivity.
- 7. Winning the war for talent is more about culture than money.
- 8. The top development need for emerging leaders is "soft" leadership skills, including communication skills.

To understand how Oakland compares to regional jurisdictions, HRM surveyed nine agencies and received eight responses. The survey results, provided in **Table 6**, show that while there is a wide range of rates, the average regional vacancy rate is 16.19 percent.

Table 6: Surveyed Agencies Vacancy Rates					
Comparator Agencies	No. of Depts	No. of Budgeted positions	No. of vacant positions	Vacancy Rate	
City of Berkeley	18	1,496	234	15.64%	
City of Concord	10	422	23	5.45%	
Contra Costa County	23	10,763	1,855	17.23%	
City of Fremont	14	937	92	9.82%	
City of Hayward	13	913	102	11.19%	
City of Richmond	24	756	50	6.61%	
City & County of San Francisco*	49	37,132	6,500	17.51%	
City of San Jose	23	6,412	668	10.42%	
<b>Regional Vacancy Rate Avera</b>	ge	58,831	9,524	16.19%	
City of Oakland	23	4,447	742	16.69%	
*Vacancy data as of March 2018. Current dat	a not availa	ble until mid to la	ate Novemeber	2018.	

Common classifications that are difficult to recruit for from among the above jurisdictions include, Police Officer, Police Communications Dispatcher, Information Technology, skilled trades and engineer. The City of Oakland has difficulty recruiting for Head Start Instructors, skilled trades, equipment mechanics and internal services (human resources and finance). In terms of greatest number of vacancies, Police Officer (42), Public Works Maintenance Worker (24) Firefighter/Paramedic (31) and Assistant Engineer II (19) have the highest number.

#### **City of Oakland Recruitment Process**

There are several key documents that govern the civil service recruitment process. First, the City of Oakland Charter, Article IX (Section 900) – Personnel Policy, requires a comprehensive personnel system based on merit. Second, the Personnel Manual of the Civil Service Board details the rules that govern the competitive civil service. Third, the labor agreements between the City and labor groups may address recruitment, selection and promotional processes. There are also Federal and State laws, City administrative policies, uniform recruitment guidelines and best practices that impact the recruitment process.

The amount of time a recruitment takes varies depending on the type of job and the complexity of the testing needed to identify the most qualified candidate(s). **Figure A** shows the typical recruiting process for non-sworn positions. HRM has been working to reduce the amount of recruitment time, while staying compliant with applicable labor agreements and the Civil Service Rules.

**Figure A** shows the flowchart of the recruitment process from the identification of a vacancy to when it is filled. The below flowchart is a framework. Due to the complexity of recruitments, there can be multiple actions for any one stage.



Figure A: Non-Sworn Recruitment Process

#### **Recruitment Strategies**

HRM works closely with the City Administrator's Office and Department Heads to develop shortand long-term strategies for filling vacancies, including enhancing cross-departmental communication, identifying recruitment priorities, better outreach and education and collaborating on efficiencies. Below are recent strategies that have short- and long-term positive impacts to the recruitment process.

- <u>HRM and Department Coordination</u>: HRM is partnering with departments, in close coordination with City Administration, to better set priorities based on service needs. Departments are assuming more responsibilities, including recruitment planning, job analyses and assessor identification. This allows for portions of the planning process to be completed before an HR Analyst is assigned the recruitment. HRM expects this strategy to reduce the hiring timeline by 1-3 weeks, depending on the recruitment.
- 2. <u>Additional HR Staff</u>: Adding HRM staff to recruitment and training efforts will be the primary long-term recruitment and retention solution. As part of the mid-cycle budget, a supervising analyst and two lead analysts were added to the recruitment unit. HRM is in the recruitment planning and interview process for these positions and anticipates filing them within 120-140 days. However, there is a high demand for qualified public-sector human resources talent and market conditions are unpredictable. If full staffing is achieved, it is anticipated that HRM can increase its recruitment capacity by 30-40 additional recruitments once the new employees are proficient. In the meantime, a part-time annuitant was hired in October to add recruitment capacity.
- <u>Recruitment Consultant</u>: With Council's approval, a three-year contract was signed with Cooperative Personnel Service (CPS) to provide on-call recruitment services for departments. HRM will oversee the services, which will enable departments to expedite priorities. CPS will manage approximately 5-7 low-volume, specialized civil service recruitments and are currently working with Public Works and HRM recruitments. HRM expects the first recruitments to be complete in late December and positions filled by early February 2019.
- 4. <u>Retention Efforts</u>: It is anticipated that the City of Oakland will experience attrition rates that will keep pace with hiring efforts. By expanding organizational development resources, the City must continue to retain and grow its current workforce. During the mid-cycle budget, Council approved the addition of a support staff position to city-wide training efforts, providing increased capacity for retention efforts.
- 5. Exempt recruitments to Departments: HRM is transitioning two civil service exempt recruitments to departments. For over 10 years, HRM has conducted summer hiring for the Oakland Parks, Recreation, and Youth Development (OPRYD) Department, dedicating approximately 400 staff hours annually to the effort. HRM is transitioning these recruitments to OPRYD. HRM has also transitioning many aspects of the Police Officer Trainee recruitment to the Oakland Police Department (OPD), which will increase outreach efforts and save HRM resources. HRM expects this strategy to increase the recruitment capacity by 10-15 recruitments once the transition is completed by Spring 2019.

- 6. <u>Continuous recruitments</u>: For some difficult to fill positions, or positions with ongoing vacancies, HRM has opened continuous recruitments on the online application platform. This effort is increasing the supply of applicants for testing and potential appointment. Examples of classifications opened continuously include Police Communication Dispatcher, Head Start Instructor, Police Cadet, and various positions in the City Attorney's Office. Currently, there are only four Police Communication Dispatcher vacancies, which is a historic low.
- 7. <u>Union Partnership</u>: One reason for the low Police Communications Dispatcher rate is the Service Employees International Union, Local 1021 agreed that all candidates who passed the examination can be certified to OPD. There has been improved communication and coordination on class specification updates with labor groups, saving time on recruitments. The City and labor groups are exploring other ways to efficiently fill vacancies.
- 8. <u>SWAP Program</u>: By addressing the Risk Management issues, HRM partnered with OPW in reviving the Sherriff's Office Work Alternative Program (SWAP). It is anticipated that this program will contribute over 20,000 hours annually of services through relatively low-risk work activities such as raking, weeding, and collecting debris.
- 9. <u>Improved Marketing</u>: While the ability to fill vacancies can be challenging, it is vital that the City use social media and the updated website to spread information about job postings and to showcase the City of Oakland as an employer of choice. HRM and the City Administrator's Office are expanding the use of on-line platforms such as LinkedIn, Nextdoor, and Facebook to search for highly qualified employees. The HRM recruitment video, developed last year, won third place in a national competition. HRM understands the need to expedite hiring to keep potential candidates interested and available. Additionally, HRM and Departments are improving "candidate care" by increasing communication and customer service to potential employees.
- 10. <u>Community Partnerships</u>: HRM has been increasing outreach to potential applicants and educational opportunities for current city employees through community partnerships. HRM Staff meets regularly with members of Peralta Community College District's Workforce Development Unit to partner in helping develop our existing workforce and to outreach potential applicants. Additionally, HRM will be participating in a public-sector job fair in early-2019 hosted by Peralta.
- 11. <u>Other Efforts</u>: HRM, in partnership with the City Administrator's Office, is carefully dissecting the recruiting process and is evaluating minimum qualifications for positions that have yielded a low number of qualified applicants, reducing testing hurdles for some recruitments and improving "candidate care" for all that express interest in working for the City of Oakland.

#### **Recruitment Challenges**

There are several challenges that will continue to inhibit the progress the City of Oakland makes on reducing the number of vacancies.

- 1. <u>Balancing Compliance and Efficiencies</u>: The Charter, Civil Service Rules and Labor Agreements are the pillars of the competitive civil service. HRM will continue to comply with governing laws, rules and agreements. Where there is an opportunity to reform and agree, HRM will continually seek efficiencies in a transparent manner.
- <u>Cascade Effect</u>: Many vacant positions are filled by current employees who promote or transfer from other positions. This is a critical aspect of succession planning. From January 1 to September 1, 2018, 261 full-time employees were hired. Of these, 129 (49%) were hired from other full-time positions, resulting in another vacancy. The cascade effect makes it difficult to address the overall vacancy rate.
- 3. <u>Attrition and Separations</u>: Another challenge the city faces with filling positions is keeping up with the rate of attrition. As demonstrated in **Figure B**, over the last five years, the number of hires does not keep pace with the number of separation.



#### Figure B: Separations and Hires by Fiscal Year

	Table 7: Separation Reasons				
FY	Total	Retirement	Resignation	Other	
13-14	231	100	98	33	
		43%	42%	14%	
14-15	266	108	115	. 43	
		41%	43%	16%	
15-16	282	113	132	.37	
		40%	47%	13%	
16-17	310	131	140	39	
		42%	45%	13%	
17-18	290	117	139	34	
		40%	48%	12%	

**Table 7** provides for additional information on reasons for separation. The number of retirements and resignations is nearly equal for the last five years.

4. <u>Succession Planning</u>: HRM is encouraging departments to begin planning for impending staff retirements and to continue efforts for succession planning. As demonstrated in **Figure C**, 339 full-time employees have at least 23-years of service and are age 50 or older. If not properly planned for, the retirement of these individuals will result in loss of institutional knowledge and will negatively impact services and the vacancy rate.

#### Figure C – Potential Retirement Eligible Employees



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#### FISCAL IMPACT

This item is for informational purposes only and does not have a direct fiscal impact or cost. All positions reflected in this report are budgeted positions.

#### **PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST**

No outreach was necessary for this report beyond the standard City Council agenda noticing procedures.

#### COORDINATION

Human Resources Management Department staff coordinated the collection and verification of data provided in this report with staff in each of the City's departments, the Finance Department's Budget Bureau, and the Office of the City Attorney.

#### SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

*Economic*: There are no economic impacts associated with this informational report. *Environmental*: There are no environmental impacts associated with this informational report. *Social Equity*: There are no social equity impacts associated with this informational report.

#### ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends acceptance of this semi-annual informational report on budgeted vacant positions through September 24, 2018.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Greg Preece, Human Resource Manager, at (510) 238-3112.

Respectfully submitted,

IAN APPLEYARD Director, Human Resources Management

Reviewed by: Greg Preece, Human Resources Manager

Attachments and Data Prepared by: Lisa Wright, HR Operations Supervisor

Attachment:

A – Citywide Vacancies by Department

B – New Vacancies Created in Midcycle Adopted Policy Budget FY 2018-19

C – Vacancies in Oakland Public Works and the Department of Transportation

D – Talent 2.0 - A Modern Approach to Attracting & Retaining Top Talent in Local Government

DEPT	JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLE	FTE	STATUS OF VACANCY/REQ
COUNCIL	City Councilmember's Assistant	0.44	On Hold (by Dept)
COUNCIL Total		0.44	· ·
MAYOR	Special Assistant to the Mayor I	1.00	Encumbered
MAYOR Total	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1.00	
CAO	Admin Asst to City Administrator	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
CAO	Animal Care Attendant	1.00	Depart Interview Process
CAO	Animal Control Officer	3.00	Job Offer Extended
CAO	Animal Control Officer, PPT	0.50	Depart Interview Process
CAO	Animal Control Supervisor	1.00	Encumbered (linked to PT class)
CAO	Assistant City Administrator	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
CAO	City Administrator Analyst	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
CAO	Public Information Officer II	1.00	
CAO		0.60	On Hold (by Dept)
CAO	Receptionist, PPT		Encumbered (linked to PT class)
	Veterinarian	1.00	Encumbered (linked to PT class)
CAO	Veterinary Technician	2.00	Depart Interview Process
CAO Total		13.10	
OCA	Deputy City Attorney II	1.00	Recruitment Open (application intake)
OCA	Deputy City Attorney IV	1.00	Recruitment Open (application intake)
OCA	Deputy City Attorney V	1.00	Recruitment Open (application intake)
OCA	Legal Administrative Assistant	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OCA Total		4.00	
HRM	Administrative Assistant II (CONF)	1.00	Encumbered (temp agency)
HRM	Human Resource Analyst (CONF)	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HRM	Human Resource Analyst, Principal	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HRM	Human Resource Analyst, Senior	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HRM	Human Resource Technician, Senior	1.00	Eligible List Available
HRM	Program Analyst I	1.00	Encumbered (temp agency)
HRM Total		8.00	
AUDITOR	Performance Audit Manager	1.00	Job Offer Extended
AUDITOR Total		1.00	
FINANCE	Account Clerk II	2.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
FINANCE	Accountant III	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
FINANCE	Accounting Supervisor	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
FINANCE	Accounting Technician	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
FINANCE	Budget & Management Analyst	1.00	
FINANCE			Requisition Pending Approval
	Budget & Mgmt Analyst, Asst.	1.00	Recruitment Closed (screening apps)
FINANCE	Budget Administrator, Assistant	1.00	Encumbered (underfilled)
FINANCE	Business Analyst II	1.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
FINANCE	Manager, Finance	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
FINANCE	Program Analyst II	1.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
FINANCE	Public Service Rep, Sr	1.00	Encumbered (acting)
FINANCE	Public Service Representative	5.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
FINANCE	Revenue & Tax Admin, Asst	1.00	Job Offer Extended
FINANCE	Revenue Assistant	3.00	Recruitment Closed (screening apps)
	Tay Enforcement Officer II	1.00	Recruitment Closed (screening apps)
FINANCE	Tax Enforcement Officer II	1.00	
FINANCE FINANCE Total		22.00	(
	Account Clerk II		Job Offer Extended
FINANCE Total		22.00	Job Offer Extended
FINANCE Total POLICE POLICE	Account Clerk II Accountant II	<b>22.00</b> 1.00 1.00	Job Offer Extended Recruitment Plan in Progress
FINANCE Total POLICE POLICE POLICE	Account Clerk II Accountant II Administrative Analyst II	<b>22.00</b> 1.00 1.00 1.00	Job Offer Extended Recruitment Plan in Progress Depart Interview Process
FINANCE Total POLICE POLICE POLICE POLICE	Account Clerk II Accountant II Administrative Analyst II Administrative Assistant I	22.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00	Job Offer Extended Recruitment Plan in Progress Depart Interview Process Job Offer Extended
FINANCE Total POLICE POLICE POLICE POLICE POLICE	Account Clerk II Accountant II Administrative Analyst II Administrative Assistant I Business Analyst III	<b>22.00</b> 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00	Job Offer Extended Recruitment Plan in Progress Depart Interview Process Job Offer Extended Recruitment Plan in Progress
FINANCE Total POLICE POLICE POLICE POLICE POLICE POLICE	Account Clerk II Accountant II Administrative Analyst II Administrative Assistant I Business Analyst III Crime Analyst	<b>22.00</b> 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 2.00	Job Offer Extended Recruitment Plan in Progress Depart Interview Process Job Offer Extended Recruitment Plan in Progress Depart Interview Process
FINANCE Total POLICE POLICE POLICE POLICE POLICE	Account Clerk II Accountant II Administrative Analyst II Administrative Assistant I Business Analyst III	<b>22.00</b> 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00	Job Offer Extended Recruitment Plan in Progress Depart Interview Process Job Offer Extended Recruitment Plan in Progress

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DEPT	JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLE	FTE	STATUS OF VACANCY/REQ
POLICE	Crossing Guard, PPT	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
POLICE	Deputy Chief of Police (PERS)	1.00	Encumbered
POLICE	Intake Technician	1.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
POLICE	Latent Print Examiner II	1.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
POLICE	Lieutenant of Police (PERS)	1.00	Depart Interview Process
POLICE	Management Assistant	4.00	On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
POLICE	Office Assistant I	1.00	On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
POLICE	Police Communications Dispatcher	4.00	Depart Interview Process
POLICE	Police Communications Operator	7.00	Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)
POLICE	Police Officer (PERS)	42.00	Recruitment Open (application intake)
POLICE	Police Officer Trainee	85.00	
			Encumbered (Continuous Academies)
POLICE	Police Personnel Oper Specialist	10.00	Requisition Pending Approval
POLICE	Police Records Specialist	1.00	Eligible List Referred to Dept
POLICE	Police Services Technician II	10.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
POLICE	Project Manager III	1.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
POLICE	Sergeant of Police (PERS)	9.00	Eligible List Available
POLICE	Student Trainee, PT	0.50	Depart Interview Process
POLICE Total		189.50	
FIRE	Assistant Chief of Fire Department	1.00	Encumbered (underfilled)
FIRE	Battalion Chief	2.00	Depart Interview Process
FIRE	Captain of Fire Department	12.00	Encumbered (linked)
FIRE	Emergency Planning Coordinator, Sr	2.00	Depart Interview Process
FIRE	Engineer of Fire Department	10.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
FIRE	Fire Communications Dispatcher	1.00	Job Offer Extended
FIRE	Fire Communications Supervisor	1.00	Encumbered (linked to TCSE)
FIRE	Fire Fighter	21.00	Depart Interview Process/FF Trainee
FIRE	Fire Fighter Paramedic	10.00	Depart Interview Process/FF Trainee
FIRE	Fire Investigator	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
FIRE	Fire Marshal (Non-Sworn)	1.00	Encumbered (linked to TCSE)
FIRE	Fire Marshall, Assistant	1.00	Encumbered (acting)
FIRE		7.00	Eligible List Referred to Dept
FIRE	Fire Prevent Bureau Inspect, Civil		
	Fire Protection Engineer	1.00	Depart Interview Process
FIRE	Fire Suppression Dist Inspect PT	1.00	Depart Interview Process
FIRE	Lieutenant of Fire Department	9.00	Encumbered (OT for minimum staffing)
FIRE	Management Intern, PT	1.75	Depart Interview Process
FIRE	Office Assistant I, PPT	0.60	Depart Interview Process
FIRE	Temp Contract Svcs Employee, PT	0.20	On Hold (by Dept)
FIRE	US&R Wrhs & Logistics Spec	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
FIRE	Vegetation Management Supervisor	1.00	On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
FIRE Total		85.55	
OPW	Accountant I	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Administrative Analyst II	1.00	Eligible List Referred to Dept
OPW	Administrative Assistant II	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Administrative Services Manager II	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Assist Director, Pub Works Agency	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Assistant to the Director	1.00	Hire Authorization in Progress
OPW	Auto Equipment Mechanic	3.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Business Analyst III	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Capital Improvement Project Coor	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Clean Community Supervisor	1.00	
OPW OPW			Requisition Pending Approval
	Construction & Maintenance Mechanic	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Construction & Maintenance Supv I	3.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Construction Inspector (Field)	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Construction Inspector Sup (Field)	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Construction Inspector, Sr (Field)	1.00	Depart Interview Process

DEPT	JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLE	FTE	STATUS OF VACANCY/REQ
OPW	Custodial Services Supervisor I	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Custodian	6.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Custodian, PPT	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Electrical Engineer II	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Electrical Painter	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Engineer, Assistant II (Office)	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Engineer, Civil (Field)	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Engineer, Civil (Office)	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Engineer, Transportation Assistant	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Engineering Intern, PT	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Environmental Program Specialist	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Facilities Complex Mgr, Asst	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Fleet Specialist	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Gardener Crew Leader	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Gardener II	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Heavy Equipment Mechanic	3.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Heavy Equipment Operator	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Heavy Equipment Service Worker	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Heavy Equipment Supervisor	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Litter/Nuisance Enforcement Officer	4.00	
OPW	Maintenance Mechanic	3.00	HR Assessment & Scoring
OPW	Management Assistant	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW OPW		1.00	Encumbered
OPW OPW	Manager, Capital Improvement Pgrm		Requisition Pending Approval
OPW OPW	Manager, Environmental Services	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
	Manager, Equipment Services	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Office Assistant II	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Painter	3.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Park Attendant, PPT	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Park Attendant, PT	3.52	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW -	Park Equipment Operator	1.00	On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
OPW	Park Supervisor I	2.00	On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
OPW	Program Analyst II	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Program Analyst III	1.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
OPW	Project Manager	2.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Public Service Rep, Sr	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Public Works Maintenance Worker	13.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Public Works Supervisor I	3.00	Recruitment Closed (screening apps)
OPW	Public Works Supervisor II	1.00	Recruitment Closed (screening apps)
OPW	Sewer Maintenance Leader	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Sewer Maintenance Worker	2.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Stationary Engineer	2.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Student Trainee, PT	2.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Support Services Supervisor	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Tree Supervisor I	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Tree Trimmer	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW Total		111.52	
DOT	Accountant I	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Arboricultural Inspector	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Assistant to the Director	1.00	Depart Interview Process
DOT	Business Analyst II	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Construction Inspector (Field)	3.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Drafting/Design Technician, Sr	1.00	Encumbered (linked to TCSE)
DOT	Electrical Const & Maint Planner	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Electrical Engineer III	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Engineer, Assistant II (Office)	14.00	Requisition Pending Approval
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			······································

Engineer, Civil (Office) Engineer, Civil Principal Engineer, Transportation	2.00	Requisition Pending Approval Requisition Pending Approval
		Requisition Pending Approval
Engineer, Transportation		
	4.00	Requisition Pending Approval
Engineer, Transportation Assistant	1.00	Encumbered (underfilled)
Engineer, Transportation Supv	1.00	Eligible List Referred to Dept
Engineering Technician II (Office)	1.00	Eligible List Referred to Dept
Heavy Equipment Operator	3.00	Requisition Pending Approval
Office Assistant II	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
Parking Control Technician, PPT	5.25	Requisition Pending Approval
	the second s	On Hold (by Dept)
		Eligible List Referred to Dept
		On Hold (by Dept)
		HR Assessment & Scoring
		Depart Interview Process
		Recruitment Plan in Progress
		HR Assessment & Scoring
		HR Assessment & Scoring
		Requisition Pending Approval
		Requisition Pending Approval
		Encumbered (linked to PT class)
		Requisition Pending Approval
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
Transportation Planner, Senior		Requisition Pending Approval
		Recruitment Plan in Progress
		Encumbered (linked to TCSE)
	1.00	Hire Authorization in Progress
	1.00	Depart Interview Process
Information Systems Manager II	1.00	Job Offer Extended
Information Systems Spec II	2.00	Requisition Pending Approval
Project Manager II	2.00	On Hold (by Dept)
Reprographic Shop Supervisor	1.00	Recruitment Open (application intake)
	10.00	
Facility Security Assistant	1.98	Recruitment Plan in Progress
Facility Security Assistant, PPT	0.75	Recruitment Plan in Progress
Naturalist, Supervising	1.00	Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)
Office Assistant II	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
Program Analyst II	1.00	Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)
	1.00	On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
Recreation Center Director	1.00	Recruitment Closed (screening apps)
		Recruitment Closed (screening apps)
		Recruitment Plan in Progress
		Recruitment Plan in Progress
		Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)
		Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)
		Recruitment Plan in Progress
		Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)
		Recruitment Plan in Progress
Account Clark III		On Hold (by Do-4)
		On Hold (by Dept)
Administrative Analyst I	1.00	Depart Interview Process
	4 00	
Associate Director, Library Services	1.00	Encumbered (acting)
	1.00 1.00 1.00	Encumbered (acting) Encumbered (linked to ELDE) Encumbered (Interim)
	Engineering Technician II (Office) Heavy Equipment Operator Office Assistant II Parking Control Technician, PPT Program Analyst I Program Analyst II Program Analyst III Project Manager Project Manager II Public Works Maintenance Worker Public Works Supervisor I Public Works Supervisor I Public Works Supervisor II Sign Maintenance Worker Spatial Database Analyst III Student Trainee, PT Surveying Technician, Sr (Field) Traffic Sign Maker Transportation Planner, Senior Business Analyst IV Exec Asst to the Director Information Systems Manager I Information Systems Manager II Information Systems Manager II Project Manager II Reprographic Shop Supervisor Facility Security Assistant Facility Security Assistant Facility Security Assistant Program Analyst II Program Analyst II Public Service Representative	Engineering Technician II (Office)         1.00           Heavy Equipment Operator         3.00           Office Assistant II         1.00           Parking Control Technician, PPT         5.25           Program Analyst I         1.00           Program Analyst II         5.00           Program Analyst III         2.00           Project Manager         1.00           Project Manager II         1.00           Public Works Maintenance Worker         11.00           Public Works Supervisor I         1.00           Public Works Supervisor I         2.00           Sign Maintenance Worker         2.00           Spatial Database Analyst III         1.00           Student Trainee, PT         1.00           Traffic Sign Maker         1.00           Trasportation Planner, Senior         1.00           Information Systems Manager I         1.00           Information Systems Manager II         1.00           Information Systems Spec II         2.00           Project Manager II         2.00     <

DEPT	JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLE	FTE	STATUS OF VACANCY/REQ
LIBRARY	Librarian I, PPT	4.24	
LIBRARY	Librarian II	4.24	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Librarian, Senior	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY		1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Librarian, Supervising Library Aide		Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)
		17.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	12.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Assistant	8.00	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Assistant, Senior	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Assistant, Senior, PPT	2.40	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Asst, PPT	10.50	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Automation Supervisor	1.00	Encumbered
LIBRARY	Literacy Assistant	1.00	Encumbered (linked to PT class)
LIBRARY	Museum Guard	1.00	Encumbered (linked to PT class)
LIBRARY	Program Analyst I, PT	0.20	Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)
LIBRARY	Program Analyst III	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Student Trainee, PT	0.60	Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)
LIBRARY Total	· ·	78.94	
RACE & EQUITY	Administrative Assistant II	1.00	Depart Interview Process
ACE & EQUITY To		1.00	
POLICE COMM	Administrative Analyst II	1.00	Depart Interview Process
POLICE COMM	Complaint Investigator II	1.00	Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)
POLICE COMM	Complaint Investigator III	1.00	Job Offer Extended
<b>OLICE COMM Tot</b>		3.00	
VIOLENCE PA	Administrative Analyst II	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
VIOLENCE PA	Deputy Dir, Public Ethics Comm	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
VIOLENCE PA	Director of Human Services	1.00	Encumbered (Interim)
<b>IOLENCE PA Tota</b>		3.00	
HSD	Accountant III	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
HSD	Administrative Assistant I	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
HSD	Administrative Assistant II	1.00	Eligible List Referred to Dept
HSD	Assistant to the Director	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
HSD	Case Manager II	3.00	On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
HSD	Case Manager, Supervising	1.00	Job Offer Extended
HSD	Cook III	1.00	Eligible List Available
HSD	Early Childhood Center Director	1.00	Recruitment Open (application intake)
HSD	Early Head Start Instructor	3.00	Recruitment Open (application intake)
HSD	Food Service Worker, PT	1.00	Recruitment Open (application intake)
HSD	Head Start Instructor	1.00	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
HSD	Headstart Program Coordinator	1.00	Recruitment Open (application intake)
HSD	Health & Human Svcs Prgm Planner	1.00	Encumbered
HSD			Encumbered
HSD	Manager, Human Services	1.00	Encumbered
HSD	Office Assistant I, PPT	0.60	Encumbered
	Office Assistant I, PT	1.06	
HSD	Outreach Developer	1.00	Encumbered
HSD	Program Analyst I	3.00	Depart Interview Process
HSD	Program Analyst II	3.00	Requisition Pending Approval
HSD	Recreation Attendant I, PT	10.50	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HSD	Senior Center Director	2.00	Recruitment Open (application intake)
HSD Total		39.16	· .
PBD	Administrative Services Manager I	1.00	Depart Interview Process
PBD	Assist Director, Pub Works Agency	1.00	On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
PBD	Deputy Director/Building Official	1.00	Encumbered (Executive Recruitment)
PBD	Deputy Director/City Planner	1.00	Encumbered (Executive Recruitment)
PBD	Engineer, Assistant II (Office)	2.00	Encumbered (underfilled)
PBD	Engineer, Civil Supv (Office)	1.00	Eligible List Referred to Dept

DEPT	JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLE	FTE	STATUS OF VACANCY/REQ
PBD	Inspection Services Manager	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
PBD	Management Assistant	1.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
PBD	Manager, Zoning	1.00	HR Assessment & Scoring
PBD	Office Assistant II	1.00	Depart Interview Process
PBD	Permit Technician II	2.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
PBD	Planner I	1.00	Job Offer Extended
PBD	Planner II	2.00	Job Offer Extended
PBD	Planner III	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
PBD	Planner III, Historic Preservation	1.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
PBD	Planner IV	1.00	Depart Interview Process
PBD	Planner V	1.00	Encumbered (Interim)
PBD	Planning Investigator	1.00	Encumbered
PBD	Principal Inspection Supv	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
PBD	Process Coordinator II	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
PBD	Process Coordinator III	2.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
PBD	Program Analyst III	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
PBD	Public Service Representative	2.00	Depart Interview Process
PBD	Specialty Combination Inspector	11.00	Depart Interview Process
PBD Total		41.00	
EWD	Accountant II	1.00	Encumbered (linked to ELDE)
EWD	Graphic Design Specialist	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
EWD	Program Analyst I	1.00	Depart Interview Process
EWD	Real Estate Agent	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
EWD	Real Estate Services Manager	1.00	Encumbered
EWD	Student Trainee, PT	1.00	Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)
EWD	Urban Economic Analyst II	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
EWD	Urban Economic Coordinator	1.00	Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)
EWD Total	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	8.00	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
HCD	Accountant I	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HCD	Administrative Assistant I	1.00	Depart Interview Process
HCD	Business Analyst III	1.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
HCD	Community Dev Prgm Coordinator	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HCD	Development/Redevelopment Pgrm MGR	1.00	On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
HCD	Hearing Officer	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HCD	Home Management Specialist III	1.00	On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
HCD	Housing Development Coordinator III	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HCD	Housing Development Coordinator IV	1.00	Encumbered (provisional)
HCD	Loan Servicing Administrator	1.00	Encumbered (acting)
HCD	Program Analyst I	2.00	Requisition Pending Approval
HCD	Program Analyst III	2.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HCD	Rehabilitation Advisor III	1.00	Recruitment Open (application intake)
HCD	Student Trainee, PT	0.50	Inactive (no immediate plans to fill)

Grand Total

742.37

DEPT	JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLE	FTE	PPC#	STATUS OF VACANCY/REQ
CAO	Receptionist, PPT	0.60	41465	Encumbered (linked to PT class)
CAO	Public Service Representative	1.00	41466	Filled
CAO	Animal Care Attendant	1.00	41467	Filled
CAO Total		2.60		-
OCA	Deputy City Attorney II	1.00	41468	Recruitment Open (application intake)
OCA Total		1.00		
HRM	Human Resource Analyst, Principal	1.00	41332	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HRM	Human Resource Analyst, Senior	1.00	41333	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HRM	Human Resource Analyst, Senior	1.00	41334	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HRM	Administrative Assistant II (CONF)	1.00	41469	Encumbered (temp agency)
HRM Total	······································	4.00	~ <u>~~</u>	
FINANCE	Account Clerk II	1.00	41471	Approved (pending HR assignment)
FINANCE	Account Clerk II	1.00	41472	Approved (pending HR assignment)
FINANCE	Tax Auditor II	1.00	41470	Filled
INANCE Total		3.00		
POLICE	Crime Analyst	1.00	41473	Depart Interview Process
POLICE	Police Officer Trainee	35.00	41474	Encumbered (Continuous Academies)
POLICE	Crossing Guard, PT	6.00	41475	Encumbered (PT staff)
POLICE Total		42.00		
FIRE	Vegetation Management Supervisor	1.00	41476	On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
FIRE	Fire Prevent Bureau Inspect, Civil	1.00	41477	Eligible List Referred to Dept
FIRE	Fire Prevent Bureau Inspect, Civil	1.00	41478	Eligible List Referred to Dept
FIRE	Fire Prevent Bureau Inspect, Civil	1.00	41479	Eligible List Referred to Dept
FIRE	Fire Prevent Bureau Inspect, Civil	1.00	41480	Eligible List Referred to Dept
FIRE	Fire Prevent Bureau Inspect, Civil	1.00	41481	Eligible List Referred to Dept
FIRE	Fire Prevent Bureau Inspect, Civil	1.00	41482	Eligible List Referred to Dept
FIRE	Budget & Grants Administrator	1.00	41483	Filled
FIRE Total		8.00	41400	
OPW	Management Assistant	1.00	41335	Encumbered
OPW	Public Service Rep, Sr	1.00	41336	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Capital Improvement Project Coor	1.00	41337	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Project Manager	1.00	41339	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Construction Inspector (Field)	1.00	41340	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Student Trainee, PT	2.00	41341	
OPW	Litter/Nuisance Enforcement Officer	1.00	41341	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Litter/Nuisance Enforcement Officer	1.00	41343	HR Assessment & Scoring HR Assessment & Scoring
OPW	Litter/Nuisance Enforcement Officer	1.00	41344	HR Assessment & Scoring
OPW	Public Works Maintenance Worker	1.00	41346	
OPW	Public Works Maintenance Worker	1.00	41340	Approved (pending HR assignment)
OPW OPW	Litter/Nuisance Enforcement Officer	1.00		Approved (pending HR assignment)
OPW OPW	Public Works Maintenance Worker		41349	HR Assessment & Scoring
OPW OPW		1.00	41350	Approved (pending HR assignment)
OPW OPW	Clean Community Supervisor Public Works Maintenance Worker	1.00	41351	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW OPW		1.00	41352	Approved (pending HR assignment)
OPW OPW	Public Works Maintenance Worker	1.00	41353	Approved (pending HR assignment)
	Capital Improvement Project Coor	1.00	41338	Filled
OPW	Street Maintenance Leader	1.00	41345	Filled
	Street Maintenance Leader	1.00	4134	Filled
OPW Total		20.00	44054	-
	Assistant to the Director	1.00	41354	Depart Interview Process
DOT	Spatial Database Analyst III	1.00	41355	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Engineer, Assistant II (Office)	1.00	41356	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Student Trainee, PT	0.50	41357	Encumbered (linked to PT class)

DEPT	JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLE	FTE	PPC#	STATUS OF VACANCY/REQ
DOT	Program Analyst II	1.00	41358	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Public Works Supervisor I	1.00	41359	Filled
DOT	Student Trainee, PT	0.50	41360	Encumbered (linked to PT class)
DOT Total		6.00		
ITD	Business Analyst IV	1.00	41361	Encumbered (linked to TCSE)
ITD	Project Manager II	1.00	41362	On Hold (by Dept)
ITD Total		2.00		
LIBRARY	Program Analyst III	1.00	41363	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Librarian II	1.00	41364	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Administrative Analyst I	1.00	41365	Depart Interview Process
LIBRARY	Account Clerk III	1.00	41366	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41367	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41368	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41369	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Librarian I	1.00	41370	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Assistant	1.00	41371	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Librarian I, PPT	0.60	41372	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41373	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41374	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41375	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Asst, PPT	0.60	41376	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Asst, PPT	0.60	41377	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41378	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Asst, PPT	0.60	41379	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Asst, PPT	0.60	41380	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Asst, PPT	0.60	41381	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41382	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41383	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41384	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41385	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Librarian I	1.00	41386	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Asst, PPT	0.60	41387	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Librarian I, PPT	0.60	41388	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Librarian I, PPT	0.60	41389	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41390	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Librarian I, PPT	0.60	41391	Encumbered (linked to PT class)
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41392	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41393	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41394	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41395	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41396	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Assistant	1.00	41397	Job Offer Extended
LIBRARY	Library Assistant	1.00	41398	Job Offer Extended
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41399	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41400	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Assistant, Senior, PPT	0.60	41401	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Asst, PPT	0.60	41402	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41403	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41404	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Assistant, Senior, PPT	0.60	41405	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Asst, PPT	0.60	41406	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Asst, PPT	0.60	41407	On Hold (by Dept)

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DEPT	JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLE	FTE	PPC#	STATUS OF VACANCY/REQ
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41408	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Librarian I, PPT	0.60	41409	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Asst, PPT	0.60	41410	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Asst, PPT	0.60	41411	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41412	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41413	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Assistant	1.00	41414	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41415	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Assistant, Senior, PPT	0.60	41416	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41417	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41418	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Assistant	1.00	41419	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41420	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41421	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Assistant, Senior, PPT	0.60	41422	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Assistant, Senior	1.00	41423	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Assistant	1.00	41424	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41425	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41426	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Librarian I, PPT	0.60	41427	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Assistant	1.00	41428	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41429	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Librarian I, PPT	0.60	41430	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Asst, PPT	0.60	41431	On Hold (by Dept)
LIBRARY	Library Aide, PPT	0.60	41432	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY	Library Aide	1.00	41433	Recruitment Plan in Progress
LIBRARY Total	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	54.20		
RACE & EQUITY	Administrative Assistant II	1.00	41434	Depart Interview Process
CE & EQUITY To	ital	1.00		-
HSD	Office Assistant I, PT	0.53	41436	Encumbered
HSD	Food Service Worker, PT	1.00	41438	Recruitment Open (application intake)
HSD	Recreation Attendant I, PT	5.00	41439	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HSD	Recreation Attendant I, PT	5.50	41440	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HSD	Health & Human Svcs Prgm Planner	1.00	41446	Encumbered
HSD	Accountant II	1.00	41444	Filled
HSD	Administrative Assistant I	1.00	41435	Filled
HSD	Head Start Coach Coordinator	1.00	41543	Filled
HSD	Head Start ERSEA & Data Coord	1.00	41443	Filled
HSD	Head Start Facilities Coordinator	1.00	41442	Filled
HSD	Head Start School Ready Coord	1.00	41542	Filled
HSD	Head Start/EHS Sub Inst, PT	1.00	41441	Encumbered (PT staff)
HSD	Office Assistant I, PT	1.09	41437	Encumbered
HSD	Program Analyst II, PPT	0.99	41445	Filled
HSD Total		22.11		
PBD	Planner IV	1.00	41447	Depart Interview Process
PBD	Public Service Representative	1.00	41448	Depart Interview Process
PBD	Permit Technician II	1.00	41449	Approved (pending HR assignment)
PBD	Specialty Combination Inspector	1.00	41450	Depart Interview Process
PBD	Specialty Combination Inspector	1.00	41451	Depart Interview Process
PBD	Specialty Combination Inspector	1.00	41452	Depart Interview Process
PBD	Specialty Combination Inspector	1.00	41453	Depart Interview Process
PBD	Principal Inspection Supv	1.00	41454	Requisition Pending Approval

DEPT	JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLE	FTE	PPC#	STATUS OF VACANCY/REQ
PBD	Inspection Services Manager	1.00	41455	Requisition Pending Approval
PBD	Specialty Combination Inspector	1.00	41456	Depart Interview Process
PBD Total		10.00		
EWD	Urban Economic Analyst II	1.00	41457	On Hold (by Dept)
EWD Total		1.00		
HCD	Loan Servicing Administrator	1.00	41458	Encumbered (acting)
HCD	Housing Development Coordinator III	1.00	41459	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HCD /	Accountant I	1.00	41460	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HCD	Program Analyst III	1.00	41461	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HCD	Hearing Officer	1.00	41462	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HCD	Hearing Officer	1.00	41463	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HCD	Hearing Officer	1.00	41464	Recruitment Plan in Progress
HCD Total		7.00		

**Grand Total** 

183.91

DEPT	JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLE	FTE	STATUS OF VACANCY/REQ
OPW	Accountant I	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Administrative Analyst II	1.00	Eligible List Referred to Dept
OPW	Administrative Assistant II	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Administrative Services Manager II	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Assist Director, Pub Works Agency	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Assistant to the Director	1.00	Hire Authorization in Progress
OPW	Auto Equipment Mechanic	3.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Business Analyst III	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Capital Improvement Project Coor	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Clean Community Supervisor	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Construction & Maintenance Mechanic	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Construction & Maintenance Supv I	3.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Construction Inspector (Field)	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Construction Inspector Sup (Field)	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Construction Inspector, Sr (Field)	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Custodial Services Supervisor I	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Custodian	6.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Custodian, PPT	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Electrical Engineer II	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Electrical Painter	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Engineer, Assistant II (Office)	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Engineer, Civil (Field)	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Engineer, Civil (Office)	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Engineer, Transportation Assistant	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Engineering Intern, PT	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Environmental Program Specialist	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Facilities Complex Mgr, Asst	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Fleet Specialist	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Gardener Crew Leader	1.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Gardener II	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Heavy Equipment Mechanic	3.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Heavy Equipment Operator	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Heavy Equipment Service Worker	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Heavy Equipment Supervisor	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Litter/Nuisance Enforcement Officer	4.00	
OPW	Maintenance Mechanic	3.00	HR Assessment & Scoring
OPW	Management Assistant	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW OPW	Manager, Capital Improvement Pgrm	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Manager, Environmental Services	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Manager, Equipment Services	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Office Assistant II	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Painter	3.00	
OPW	Park Attendant, PPT	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW OPW	Park Attendant, PT	3.52	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Park Equipment Operator	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Park Supervisor I		On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
OPW OPW		2.00	On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
OPW OPW	Program Analyst II		Requisition Pending Approval
OPW OPW	Program Analyst III	1.00	Approved (pending HR assignment)
in the second	Project Manager	2.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Public Service Rep, Sr	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW OPW	Public Works Maintenance Worker	13.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Public Works Supervisor I	3.00	Recruitment Closed (screening apps)
OPW	Public Works Supervisor II	1.00	Recruitment Closed (screening apps)
OPW	Sewer Maintenance Leader	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Sewer Maintenance Worker	2.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress

DEPT	JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLE	FTE	STATUS OF VACANCY/REQ
OPW	Stationary Engineer	2.00	Requisition Pending Approval
OPW	Student Trainee, PT	2.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
OPW	Support Services Supervisor	1.00	Encumbered
OPW	Tree Supervisor I	1.00	Depart Interview Process
OPW	Tree Trimmer	3.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress

DOT	Accountant I	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Arboricultural Inspector	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Assistant to the Director	1.00	Depart Interview Process
DOT	Business Analyst II	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Construction Inspector (Field)	3.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Drafting/Design Technician, Sr	1.00	Encumbered (linked to TCSE)
DOT	Electrical Const & Maint Planner	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Electrical Engineer III	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Engineer, Assistant II (Office)	14.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Engineer, Civil (Office)	2.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Engineer, Civil Principal	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Engineer, Transportation	4.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Engineer, Transportation Assistant	1.00	Encumbered (underfilled)
DOT	Engineer, Transportation Supv	1.00	Eligible List Referred to Dept
DOT	Engineering Technician II (Office)	1.00	Eligible List Referred to Dept
DOT	Heavy Equipment Operator	3.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Office Assistant II	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
DOT	Parking Control Technician, PPT	5.25	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Program Analyst I	1.00	On Hold (by Dept)
DOT	Program Analyst II	5.00	Eligible List Referred to Dept
DOT	Program Analyst III	2.00	On Hold (by Dept)
DOT	Project Manager	1.00	HR Assessment & Scoring
DOT	Project Manager II	1.00	Depart Interview Process
DOT	Public Works Maintenance Worker	11.00	Recruitment Plan in Progress
DOT	Public Works Supervisor I	1.00	HR Assessment & Scoring
DOT	Public Works Supervisor II	2.00	HR Assessment & Scoring
DOT	Sign Maintenance Worker	2.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Spatial Database Analyst III	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Student Trainee, PT	1.00	Encumbered (linked to PT class)
DOT	Surveying Technician, Sr (Field)	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT	Traffic Sign Maker	1.00	On Hold (Job spec revisions or FEHA)
DOT	Transportation Planner, Senior	1.00	Requisition Pending Approval
DOT Total		74.25	

**Grand Total** 

185.77

### TALENT 2.0 ——A Modern Approach to Attracting & Retaining Top Talent in Local Government

Spring 2018 Report





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#### CAL-ICMA TALENT INTIATIVE

Cities, towns, counties, and special districts across the state are experiencing persistent challenges attracting and retaining qualified employees. These concerns led to the creation of the Cal-ICMA Talent Initiative.

The Talent Initiative launched with the goal to engage chief executives, human resources professionals, and emerging leaders in a conversation about effective local government talent strategies.

We began with three questions:

- What are the kinds of talent challenges that confront cities, counties, and special districts in California?
- What obstacles hinder our efforts to address talent challenges?
- What are the best practices from public and private sectors, culture-building strategies, and other resources we can use to better attract, retain, and grow talent?

This report presents the results of the outreach and research conducted by the Talent Initiative Team and provides a resource for local government leaders seeking to improve how they attract and retain and develop future talent.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Completion of this undertaking could not have been possible without the participation and assistance of so many people whose names may not all be enumerated. Their contributions are sincerely appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. However, the group would like to express their deep appreciation particularly to the following:

Anil Comelo, Santa Clara Valley Water District Ashley Garcia, City of Costa Mesa Brian Haworth, City of Temple City Bryan Whitemyer, City of Oakdale Dan Rich, City of Mountain View Daniel Singer, Management Partners Don Maruska, ICMA Coaching Program Donna Vaillancourt, County of San Mateo Erin Steffen, City of Berkeley Kevin Duggan, ICMA Lori Sassoon, City of Rancho Cucamonga Michael Bruckner, City of Arcadia Miranda Lutzow, City of Waterford Nancy Hetrick, Management Partners Peter Castro, City of Indian Wells Rob Houston, City of Fountain Valley Rita Ossolinski, ICMA

Thank you.

Dominic Lazzaretto, City of Arcadia Nat Rojanasathira, Town of Danville Frank Benest, ICMA

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### Purpose

The purpose of the Cal-ICMA Talent Initiative is to help managers in local government focus on the business imperative of attracting, retaining, and growing talent.

#### **Assessment Activities**

To assess the talent challenges facing local governments in California, the Cal-ICMA Talent Initiative Team reviewed current talent management literature, administered a survey of 372 senior managers, conducted interviews with private and non-profit sector thought leaders, and facilitated 11 focus groups throughout California involving 272 local government managers.

#### Key Findings About The Talent Challenge

Local governments have not adequately prepared for the baby-boomer retirement wave and are struggling to fill the void; yet there is reason for hope. Local governments possess a potential advantage in attracting and retaining today's talent. This is because today's work force seeks meaning in their work and wants to make a difference. At its core, the purpose of local government is to serve communities and provide for a high quality of life for residents. Careers in local government are an opportunity to contribute to building communities – what better way to have impact?

Local governments can no longer rely on "stealing" talent from other agencies; more than ever, public agencies need to grow their own talent. Employees who are learning and growing are more likely to stay with an organization. Talent development must be integral to every manager's core duties. Successfully attracting and retaining talent requires a positive organizational culture. Ae traditionally bureaucratic governmental culture inhibits innovation, discourages experimentation, and turns away the best talent. Retooling organizational cultures to better attract and retain early-career talent will enhance organizations for all employees and positively affect performance and productivity.

#### Challenges in Attracting, Retaining and Growing Talent

Managers who participated in the 11 focus groups identified an array of challenges that need to be addressed. They also expressed the need to engage elected officials in a conversation about the issues. A few of the key challenges they identified include:

Attraction/Recruitment

- Agencies are experiencing a large number of vacancies in key positions, and there are fewer seasoned department heads and other senior managers to recruit from other local government agencies.
- Internal candidates frequently lack sufficient management experience and leadership ("soft") skills.
- The hiring process in local governments can be lengthy and includes factors that make it less competitive with other sectors, including testing requirements and minimum qualifications that can disqualify untraditional candidates.
- Job specifications and operating practices (e.g., job duties, work schedules) in local government organizations can be inflexible.
- Agencies do not allocate sufficient resources to market or brand their organizations.

**Retention & Development** 

- Local governments have not made training and professional development a priority.
- Long commutes, high-cost housing, and lack of child care all work against retention.
- Traditional or even "stodgy" organization cultures are not inspiring for early-career professionals.
- The deep recession and restructuring of organizations have resulted in the elimination of mid-manager and other "step-up" positions.

. .

- Political in-fighting and uncivil discourse discourage talented professionals from entering or staying in the public sector.
- Mid-career professionals are reluctant to pursue higher-level positions when there are adversarial politics and impacts on work-life balance.

#### **Themes from Thought Leaders**

The Talent Initiative Team conducted four interviews with recognized "Thought Leaders" from the technology and non-profit sectors in order to enhance our understanding of how to better compete for talent. Themes included:

- 1. Early-career professionals want to have a role in addressing social problems; they want to have an impact.
- 2. These professionals lack an understanding that local governments are in the business of solving community problems; the profession must do a better job of branding this message and adapting organizational culture to engage enterprising millennials.
- 3. Talent initiatives need the active encouragement and support of senior leadership.
- 4. Local governments must tell their story, especially regarding the opportunity to serve and make a difference.

#### Findings & Recommendations

The Talent Initiative report identifies a variety of actions, both large and small, that local governments can make to increase their chances for successfully attracting, retaining, and growing talent.

A fundamental recommendation of this effort is to ensure that every manager understands that the professional development of their employees is a primary job duty and that all employees take responsibility to grow and develop in their work. If both leaders and employees embrace their roles, all other recommendations can follow. Assistance from Professional Organizations Professional organizations play an important role in championing local government as a noble, rewarding, engaging, and thriving job sector. Therefore, regional and professional organizations should be enlisted to assist advancing the Talent Initiative by:

- Developing sample branding materials including enticing job announcements that all government agencies can customize and use in their efforts to attract talent (Cal-ICMA with ILG)
- Hosting educational sessions that highlight the importance of attracting, retaining, engaging, and developing talent and address the challenges identified through the Talent Initiative (Cal- ICMA, LCC, MMANC/SC, CSAC, and others)
- Promoting shared service models for delivering training and development programs on a regional basis (CPAAC)
- Expanding ICMA student chapters and outreach efforts to universities to engage early-career professionals (MMANC/SC)
- Focusing on leadership development (with emphasis on "soft skills") for mid-managers and aspiring leaders (Cal- ICMA, MMANC/SC, ELGL)
- Conducting "Future County Department Heads" and "Future City Manager" seminars (CACE, CSAC Institute, Cal-ICMA)
- Drafting model language for employment agreements to provide greater flexibility addressing staffing challenges (CALPELRA)

#### **Key Recommendations**

**Attracting Talent** 

- Eliminate minimum qualifications for entry-level positions
- Update job postings to focus on meaning, values, learning, skills development, and organizational culture
- Hire for potential and learning agility vs. technical skills and knowledge

- Expand recruitment reach by using social media sites and new technologies
- Offer internships or fellowships to students, independently or through the ICMA Local Government Management Fellowship Program

**Retaining and Developing Talent** 

- Assess the leadership pipeline and develop home-grown talent
- Provide staff with training and professional development opportunities annually, develop specific learning outcomes
- Offer mentoring and coaching to aspiring professional
- Utilize multi-departmental and crossfunctional project action teams
- Use interim or acting assignments or provide job rotation opportunities to fill roles or "try out" staff
- Ensure that all supervisors are accountable for the development of their staff and follow up regularly

#### **Retooling Organizational Culture**

- Use on-boarding activities with new employees to engage them with top management and discuss organizational values and "What we care about"
- Incorporate more flexibility in scheduling, holiday closures, and other ways to do our work
- Create opportunities for face-to-face interactions with top management
- Create a "culture of appreciation" and recognition
- Promote more autonomy for employees and provide opportunities to work on the whole project

- Increase employee engagement, including active listening, engaging them in problem-solving, and promoting a sense of community and belonging
- Promote a practice of ongoing performance conversations with employees (not just annual performance evaluations)

#### **Encouraging Employee Initiative**

- Promote growth and development as a core element of each employee's job responsibilities
- Encourage employees to identify their career development goals and support their ability to achieve them
- Invite each employee to include desired professionaldevelopment plans in their regular reviews with a supervisor

#### Follow-Up Action Steps

The Cal-ICMA Talent Initiative Team seeks to advance the recommendations contained in this report by:

- Updating the Cal-ICMA website to include tools, a knowledge-sharing database, and other resources for organizations to use in implementing the Talent Initiative locally.
- Continuing to solicit exemplary programs and examples of best practices that can be shared via the Cal-ICMA website.
- Learning from the private sector and adapting and communicating relevant practices.
- Engaging professional associations in discussions about their roles and contribution in implementing these recommendations; developing an implementation plan.
- Creating a "Great Places" program to showcase talent management efforts and acknowledge organizations that are implementing the best practices contained in this report.

*Further Information* For further information about the Cal-ICMA Talent Initiative visit

https://icma.org/cal-icma/talentinitiative

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# INTRODUCTION

To remain viable and effective into the future, local governments must implement new ways to address the challenge to attract, retain, and grow employees.

he competition for talent in California is fierce. Times are changing and more than ever before, today's workforce is willing to move between agencies—and sectors—to find workplaces that are engaging and will help them meet their personal goals. If we don't reconsider our collective appeal and change our practices our staffing challenges will persist.

The Cal-ICMA Talent Initiative was created to help chief executives, human resources officers, and emerging local government leaders focus on the business imperative of attracting, retaining, and growing talent. As such, we engaged leaders in the following conversations:

- What are the talent challenges that confront cities, counties, and special districts in California?
- What obstacles hinder efforts to address talent challenges?
- What best practices can be used to better attract, retain, and grow talent?

Over the past two years, the Cal-ICMA Talent Initiative Team solicited feedback about the persistent talent-related challenges in local government. Nearly 400 surveys were completed by chief executives, human resources directors, middle managers, and emerging leaders. Additionally, 11 focus group meetings totally 272 individuals were held throughout the state—from San Diego County and the Coachella Valley to the Central Coast, Bay Area and the Capitol Region. The team also conducted interviews with thought leaders from the private sector.

A number of themes emerged. First and foremost, was the recognition that local governments have not done enough to build an adequate talent pipeline to address the staffing needs of today and the future.

#### **Boomer Impacts**

The baby boomer generation—those born between 1946 and 1964—responded in great numbers to President John F. Kennedy's call for service: "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." Today, baby boomers comprise a large share of the public workforce—especially in senior management—and as their retirement wave hits, there are significant implications for local government.

As baby boomers retire in the next decade, Talent Initiative findings revealed a critical concern: the readiness of those behind them. Over the past few decades, local governments have trended toward flatter organizations. This trend peaked during recent recessionary times as additional midmanager positions were cut. In addition, training budgets were reduced or eliminated. Now, as boomers are vacating key leadership roles many agencies face the reality that their leadership pipeline is insufficient.

The next generation of leaders will emerge; however for many organizations it will be rough road to get there. Agencies will encounter challenges that demand fresh thinking and an imperative to embrace "talent development" as an established tenet of its organizational philosophy. Importantly, for this transition to be successful, employers must learn and understand the motivations of their future leaders.

#### Game Changers

Increasingly, local governments are filling open positions with the next generation of employees. This new generation has a set of priorities and professional values that are different from those who came before them.

Research has shown that at a macro level employees of each generation seek different meaning and purpose in their work. For example, baby boomers are described as work-centric and define themselves by their professional accomplishments. Millennials (born between 1980 and 1997) do not define themselves simply by their profession. They seek meaning in the work they do and value having a life-work balance.

In his book, *Drive!*, author Daniel Pink declared, "Meaning is the new money." While previous generations were satisfied with process-based work that offered consistency and reliability, today's workforce wants to be creative, collaborative, and inspired by what they are doing. Clear organizational goals, translated into the dayto-day work experience, are one of the strongest motivators of younger professionals. The ability to provide rewarding, tangible, service-focused work at the local level can be a competitive advantage for attracting and retaining talent. Local government must capitalize on this advantage.

The question remains whether the new workforce recognizes government as a force for good and a means to translate their passion into making a difference at the ground level.

Leading professional associations play a role in championing local government as a noble, rewarding, and engaging job sector. Specifically, the Talent Initiative concluded that our collective success hinges on our ability to articulate what local government can offer prospective employees and how those advantages are communicated. This is referred to as the "Employee Value Proposition." The workforce of tomorrow is multi-generational and highly diverse. The most successful organizations will be those that best understand this fact.

#### **Organizational Culture**

Another key finding the Talent Initiative is the importance of organizational culture and its implications on employee retention. According to a June 2017 Gallup poll, six in 10 millennials are looking for new employment opportunities. Leadership practices affect how employees feel about their organization and how long they choose to stay. For many of today's employees retention is linked to learning, challenge, and engagement. When employees work in an environment that helps them thrive and grow, they are more likely to stay.

In light of this, organizations must let go of their concern that developing employees will simply result in losing them to another agency ("We don't want to be a training ground for other organizations"). Retention strategies must extend beyond compensation and incentive packages. To be successful, they must include fostering a work environment that engages employees in continuous learning and instills a sense of purpose. Agencies can no longer rely on the practice of "stealing" employees from each other. More than ever, public agencies are competing for talent—and to be successful, they need to re-brand and reposition themselves as learning organizations that foster innovation, engagement, and personal satisfaction.

## ATTRACTING & RECRUITING TALENT

Without the right employees, no organization can achieve its mission. Gone are the days where local governments can be passive in their recruitment efforts. To be successful, agencies must accept that they are in competition for the best talent.
he only exposure to the inner-workings of local government for most Americans is Letter the City of Pawnee, Indiana, the fictitious community featured in NBC's hit sitcom, Parks and Recreation. For many, local government work remains a mystery. This suggests a great opportunity to tell the story of how local government services are fundamental to the daily lives and activities of all Americans. Research has shown that across industries a whopping 50% of employees lack a sense of meaning and purpose at work. A career in local government offers a strong community-oriented mission and focus on public service. This should create a competitive advantage for attracting talent.

An important hurdle to overcome is the distrust of government held by many. A 2017 survey from the Pew Research Center reported an overall level of trust in government at near historic lows: only 20% say they trust the government to do what's right always or most of the time; 68% say they trust the government only part of the time; and 11% state that they never trust the government to do what's right. Local governments are viewed in a more positive light than other levels of government; however, to combat this general perspective, local governments must work to build trust and promote the profession as a mission and service-oriented field.

Today's workforce has the power to affect positive change in attitude toward local government. They are asking the following questions:

- Are there big problems to solve in local government?
- Am I interested in solving these big problems?
- Will I be empowered to help solve the big problems?

Leaders must listen, respond, and engage the workforce to demonstrate that employees are empowered to solve community problems. In addition, agencies must modernize and build an adaptable public sector that is prepared to address 21st-century challenges.

#### Challenges to Replenishing Talent

The Center for State and Local Government Excellence reported in 2017 that the recruitment and retention of qualified public sector employees tops the list of workforce challenges. This finding was echoed by a 2012 study by the Society for Human Resource Management forecasting that by 2022, talent development will be the highest priority for human resource functions.

"Leaders must listen, respond, and engage the workforce to demonstrate that employees are empowered to solve community problems."

Human resource officers are signaling a looming workforce crisis. And findings of the Talent Initiative offer the top five reasons for this phenomenon. These are listed below and explored in the following sections:

- Retirement
- Candidates
- Compensation
- Bureaucracy
- Mismatch

## RETIREMENTS

The baby-boomer "retirement wave" is here. In April 2017, the City of Los Angeles reported that over 40% of its 45,000 employees would be eligible for retirement by 2018. This trend reflects a larger issue for employers across sectors, as over a quarter-million U.S. employees reach 65 years of age each month. As governments generally tend to have a larger share of these employees than the private sector, the impact is even greater on us. Talent Initiative participants reported large numbers of vacancies in key positions, compounded by fewer seasoned department heads and other senior managers to recruit from other local government agencies. In many cases, this has resulted in the loss of valuable institutional knowledge, the disruption and short-staffing of departments, and lengthy and costly (replacement) recruitment processes.

#### **Recommendations**

- 1.1 Use retirees. Taking a cue from the federal government, consider a phased retirement plan that allows employees the opportunity to work part-time after reaching a certain age. As part of the arrangement, require that a portion of the employee's time be spent mentoring their replacement. Alternately, recruit retired workers—on a temporary basis—to help fill a knowledge gap as they train younger workers to take on legacy assignments.
- 1.2 Succession plan. Make succession planning a priority and an ongoing business practice. This can be done in a number of ways—for example, through confidential discussions between employees and managers about retirement plans and a plan to transfer knowledge in anticipation of a critical, soon-to-be-vacate position. Succession planning can be good for morale; investing in workforce development and promoting from within encourages staff to take on new responsibilities and sends the message that they are valued.
- 1.3 Anticipate needs. Monitor external factors that could affect your organization's ability to recruit employees—for example, economic drivers and the size of college graduating classes. Local governments should also look inside their organizations to see who will be retiring, who's likely to move on, and what talent is available to fill anticipated vacancies over the next three to five years. Additionally, agencies must invest in training for its employees to meet changing industry needs and implement best practices.

## CANDIDATES

A common theme reavealed by city managers in the focus groups is that internal candidates are often not ready to move into management roles where they are experiencing high rates of turnover. Promoting or hiring inexperience managers is considered risky, as these candidates—although having the technical skills—may lack management or leadership skills.

The pool is event smaller for positions that require both strong technical skills and management experience. In addition, fewer candidates have the necessary certifications to take on new roles (i.e., engineers, water treatment plant operators, and agricultural commissioners), and others lack the comprehensive training legally required for public safety officers, and health and social service workers.

Local governments have been slow to emerge from the Great Recession. According to a June 2016 Governing article, "State and local governments have 500,000 fewer employees than they did in 2008 due to layoffs, hiring freezes, and a growing number of eligible employees choosing to retire." With fewer workers in the pipeline, local governments may simply not have enough people available in their organizations for promotions.

- 2.1 Open up recruitments. Local governments must revise their job descriptions and minimum qualifications in order to attract a broad pool of candidates. In fact, qualified private sector candidates are often weeded out of the recruitment process. Local governments should also market and advertise positions differently---e.g., selling the values of public sector work and posting job announcements using private sector techniques and platforms (i.e., LinkedIn, Glassdoor, Indeed, industry-specific websites, etc.).
- 2.2 Promote government. Local governments need to better tell a story about the value and nobility of public service. This requires a concerted effort from professional

organizations (e.g., ICMA and MMANC/SC) and cities banding together. It also requires proactive approaches that outreach to high schools and universities to promote the values of public service careers. Initiatives worth exploring: ICMA's "Life, Well Run" campaign, the City of Sacramento's "Summer at City Hall" program, and ILG's "Engaging Youth" project.

- 2.3 Hire for potential. Hiring for potential rather than just hiring for experience especially for entry-level positions—can pay huge dividends in building long-term talent. Candidate attributes like curiosity, determination, and the ability to "Learn on the fly" can yield new organizational perspectives, a culture unafraid of new challenges, and an insightful talent pipeline. The bonus: employees often feel loyal to organizations that "gave them their shot," which can lead to greater retention.
- 2.4Grow talent. To attract the next generation of talent, local governments must become learning organizations. In doing so, they must invest in internship programs (like the ICMA Local Government Fellowship Program) that attract talent and provide challenging assignments. These opportunities help agencies identify future talent and fill work gaps, while also availing interns with relevant experience for entrylevel positions. Additionally, interns can provide insight to emerging workforce drivers, and serve as a brand ambassador to recruit other interns-and a future workforce.
- 2.5 Be flexible. While the civil service provides structure and process for personnel management, for many organizations it is often many decades old. This means that the rules and protocols can be disconnected with today's market realities and employee needs. Left as is, outdated civil service rules will put local governments into an even more serious labor crisis.

## COMPENSATION

A longstanding benefit of the public sector has been its stable pension and retirement system. This has been a key component of an agency's employee recruitment strategy. However, with the 2012 passage of the California Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA), adjusted pension tiers and lower benefits for new hires may no longer offer a competitive edge for local governments.

Geographic challenges also exist. Local governments in rural areas cannot offer salaries competitive to more urban areas. Housing in urban areas is costly and there is a shortage of affordable childcare options, resulting in employees commuting long distances from areas with lower costs of living. Another complexity to this reality: dual-income households must weigh the mutual benefits of relocation, both financially and based on family needs.

Finally, the private sector offers high compensation packages —including bonuses —for in-demand technical positions like health care workers, doctors, engineers, and IT and healthcare professionals. Adding to this is the perception of challenging projects, career progression opportunities, support systems, and flexible work schedules—in contrast to a perception that the public sector is rigid, dull, and lacking opportunities for personal and professional growth.

#### Recommendations

- 3.1 Consider options. In a post-PEPRA world, local governments are challenged to find ways to provide retirement security, particularly as an employee retention and attraction strategy. Options for consideration: employer-sponsored deferred compensation plans, enrollment in Social Security, extended-term life insurance policies, and contributions toward retiree health benefits or long-term care coverage.
- 3.2 Showcase strengths. Studies show that today's workers value a high quality of life. For rural agencies that cannot offer

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high compensation packages, employee attraction strategies should highlight local community strengths—recreational and cultural amenities, high-performing schools, affordably priced housing, smalltown charm, and proximity to the "Big city."

- 3.3 Provide incentives. A variety of perks can help attract top talent to local government—from childcare subsidies and student loan repayments to signing bonuses, housing assistance, and critical position pay. While these suggestions can have cost impacts, agencies should focus on providing incentives that are most important to its employees and which align with the values of its organizational culture.
- 3.4 Offer growth. Governments take on large, important projects that can offer major growth and career opportunities. As such, these should be used as selling points for hard-to-fill jobs that compete with the private sector. According to Governing Magazine contributor Elizabeth Kellar, the message to workers should be "Wanted: Smart people with a passion to fix things so our society is a great place to live."

## BUREAUCRACY

According to NYU professor Paul Light, the government's reputation for bureaucracy drives away potential candidates. Case in point: local government's recruitment process. Many agencies are locked in outdated processes (e.g., testing requirements and minimum qualifications) that stand in the way of bringing in the best and the brightest. While these procedures may be fine for recruiting employed, mid-career professionals, they aren't nimble enough to attract those who often need a job quickly for income. Governments can take up to six months to fill positions and may lose candidates to the private sector where recruitments can be completed in a matter of days.

There is also the simple matter of job descriptions and titles. They are often hard to understand, can sound dry and uninteresting, and often use industry-oriented language. They also visually appear stodgy yet overwhelming, as they are dominated by text that over-describes the duties and requirements of the position.

Agencies need to revamp their recruitment approach and incorporate new practices to effectively showcase positions and their importance to the organizational culture. Governments also need to look "Outside the box" when advertising job openings, going beyond the use of traditional government websites and trade journals if it expects to attract fresh talent.

- 4.1 Go brand. Agencies are in a prime position to brand themselves—to help create an image of their organization to potential employees. In doing so, local governments should consider updating job descriptions to emphasize meaning, values, learning, and skills development. Job announcements can also be retooled to include a narrative of the organizational culture, and to reposition the tone of "Are you good enough to work for us?" to "Why you want to work with us!"
- 4.2 Streamline process. Shorten hiring processes and make them responsive to avoid losing high-performers to other jobs. Agencies should also employ an "open until filled" protocol that allows managers to quickly interview a candidate rather than wait for the conclusion of the application period.
- 4.3 Improve the experience. Put yourself through your agency's job application process. Pretend you're the job seeker and get a feeling for any improvements that can help refine a candidate's application experience. Consult with other human resource professionals to ensure revisions meet legal mandates and incorporate industry best practices. And finally, gather survey data and other analytics about why candidates are or are not applying.
- 4.4 Think mobile. The current generation is mobile. This means that job seekers now use a smartphone for their job search. Local agencies—if they haven't already— should

invest in online human resources software to ensure that job postings and online applications are easy to find and apply to from a mobile device. Not only does this optimize candidate interest, but expedites internal application reviews.

4.5 Be social. Online platforms like LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter, are becoming the standard for job searches. When agencies use these tools for job advertisements, it casts a wider recruitment net. It also conveys a perception that an organization is progressive. But don't limit your social media presence to recruitment—use these platforms to tell your agency's story and the accomplishments of your employees.

## MISMATCH

A mismatch is apparent between the new workforce and the environment of local government.

Today's employee is motivated by meaningful work that offers passion and purpose. They also question the way "Things have always been done." The bureaucracies of local government may prevent employers from capitalizing on the creative insights of their emerging talent. It could also result in higher rates of turnover if these employees don't feel a sense of purpose—and pride—in their employer.

A large number of agencies have not fully explored what their workforce wants from a career in public service—in other words, what makes them tick. The needs and concerns of a baby boomer are the not the same as a millennial. While both generations have a passion for public service, younger workers often have debt and limited experience that may affect their future career choices. As for those who prefer to stay in government, they want clear opportunity paths to develop their skills and careers. Governments need to commit to that in order to remain competitive.

Many young professionals are digital natives who have grown up with technology. Many studies cite modern technology as one of the most important aspects of their workplace. Today's generation of workers expect experience with new technologies to remain competitive in the job market and do their jobs. Many public agencies operate on legacy systems that fall behind the expectations of today's digital generation.

- 5.1 Offer feedback. Most employees want feedback, as they're used to receiving instantaneous feedback from technology, and have grown accustomed to asking questions and sharing opinions. Having engagement strategies in place—and marketing them as a recruitment tool can have a positive impact on attracting employees and cultivating their career satisfaction in local government.
- 5.2 Articulate vision. Employees want to know the big picture of their employer, and they are curious in all work-related matters—even if it's outside their defined area of responsibility. Agencies should make a concerted effort to articulate and reinforce organizational values that provide today's employees with a purpose for their work. If not, they can expect to lose this talent to other organizations that do make it a priority.
- 5.3 Express value. Investing in employees by helping them develop new skills not only benefits organizations but also shows employees that they are valued. Offer cross-cutting and stretch assignments that meet the desire to gain experience and provide for opportunity paths. If feasible, look to also create progressive work environments that allow for collaboration (e.g., open concept offices), offer flexible work schedules, and reward innovation.
- 5.4 Teach generationally. Today's workplace is multi-generational—in fact, five generations are working side-by-side. Studies show that colleagues learn more from each other than they do from formal training. It is more important than ever to establish a culture of coaching across age groups. For example, a reciprocal mentoring

program can allow younger staff to teacher older colleagues about technology trends. Meanwhile, the more experienced employee shares institutional knowledge with the younger worker. Such an approach can lessen generational tensions in the workplace while providing the collaborative environment younger professionals desire.

- 5.5 Embrace technology. The majority of today's workers grew up surrounded by digital technology. If they don't have the technology tools they want or need, they may look elsewhere. While public sector budgets are limited, agencies need to explore the types of technology investments they lack—not only for system improvements and efficiencies, but also as a means of building a workforce that will carry local government into the future.
- 5.6 Start discussions. According to Gallup's recent State of the Workforce report, flexible scheduling and work-from-home opportunities play a major role in an employee's decision to take or leave a job. The public sector will eventually be pushed into breaking down long-established structures and policies to accommodate these needs. While this could take years, even decades, discussions with elected officials on future workforce trends need to begin now (e.g., work/life efforts).

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# RETAINING & DEVELOPING TALENT

Local government leaders recognize that talent is mobile and that they must create "organizational stickiness" that encourages employees to stay, grow, develop, and contribute to the long-term health of the agency.

n recent years, California's unemployment rate has been at historic lows. To remain competitive, many local governments invested more time and resources to be attractive to recruits (e.g., competitive salaries, benefits packages, relocation fees) than in employee retention. While this can be an effective strategy, an over-emphasis on talent attraction and hiring without equal emphasis on talent retention and development may create problems for local governments.

As the economy continues to strengthen and job fluidity reduces tenure, these factors will put even more pressure on local governments to retain the talent they have worked so hard to secure. Agencies without a holistic approach to the entire employee lifestyle— from attraction through onboarding and training—may lose talent and be tasked with an continuous loop of new hiring.

#### The Case for Retention

Simply put, retention refers to the techniques employed by an organization to keep its employees for a longer period of time. So why is this important? According to Talent Initiative participants, a focus on reducing employee turnover makes sense for the following reasons:

- Turnover is expensive. The Society of Human Resource Management estimates that every time an organization replaces a salaried employee, it costs six to nine months' salary on average. For an employee making \$70,000 a year, that could mean \$35,000 to \$52,000 in recruiting and training expenses. As for costs in replacing a department head or chief executive officer/city manager, the Center for American Progress predicts an even higher price tag (e.g., twice the annual salary).
- You lose institutional knowledge. When top talent seeks employment elsewhere, an organization is losing those individuals' talents, ideas, and institutional knowledge. Although there are tools and strategies that agencies can put into place for retaining institutional knowledge (e.g., documentation, exit interviews) this does not fully replace the benefits of an employee who has firsthand knowledge of the organization and

its specific processes. Importantly, a longstanding positive employee can be integral to maintaining and modeling the desired organizational culture.

- It creates inconsistency. If an organization or department has a revolving door of employees, it is difficult to maintain momentum. Instead of managers focusing on larger goals, they are required to retrain new employees, while also keeping their other employees engaged.
- It affects camaraderie. Studies consistently show that peers rank among the top reasons for why employees love their job. But if organizations experience a transient workforce, this could easily prevent a positive work culture of inter-office bonding and productivity. This could have a ripple effect that leads more employees to leave the organization.
- People notice. Community members interact with local government on a regular basis.
  When employees they are used to dealing with leave—especially in numbers—it signals trouble. This can also create negative press, cause political conflict, and be publicized on sites like Glassdoor, which can impact future recruitment efforts.

"An over-emphasis on talent attraction and hiring without equal emphasis on talent retention and development may create problems for local governments."

#### **Employee Retention & Development Strategies**

According to Talent Initiative participants, there are six main reasons why employees leaves an organization:

Lack a work-life balance

- Compensation is emphasized and other "soft" benefits are absent
- Undefined or negative organizational culture
- Not enough employee coaching and feedback
- Managers lack skills and training
- Professional development is not a priority

The following pages further elaborate on these themes and include recommended strategies to improve employee retention.

## BALANCE

The private sector is making the business case for work-life balance. And according to Talent Initiative participants, local government should pay attention.

Today's workforce has many competing responsibilities: work, children, housework, volunteerism, elderly parent care—and the list goes on. These commitments place stress on individuals and families, resulting in a worklife conflict that has physical and mental health implications.

Data from the U.S. Census Bureau shows that Californians spend an average of 28.9 minutes commuting to work each day, giving California the fifth-worst commute times in the nation. In metropolitan areas such as the San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles and San Diego regions, workers can often travel as much as one-anda-half to two hours to work each day. Long commutes contribute to the stress of employees which translates to lower productivity, greater absenteeism, and less connection to the team and work environment.

A report by the Society for Human Resource Management found that 89% of human resource professionals reported an increase in employee retention by simply offering flexible work arrangements. Flexible work scheduling does not typically mean fewer overall work hours. Rather, it refers to adapting work schedules to accommodate family and personal needs such as school pick-up/ drop-off, attending sporting/cultural events, and daycare needs. It also can increase productivity for those employees that are more focused in off-peak times or result in fewer life distractions.

Work-life balance offers employees a greater sense of control and ownership over their lives. Local governments that utilize live-work policies can provide a competitive edge for employee attraction. Such policies also increase employee loyalty and the continuity of in-house expertise. While the nature of public agencies does not allow some positions to have flexible schedules (e.g., public safety, building inspections, front counter operations), other positions (e.g., analysts, information technology technicians, finance, planners, engineers) may be suited for greater flexibility. To avoid creating an environment of "classes" (those who have flexibility and those who do not), public agencies that have successfully implemented flexible scheduling have been transparent to all employees about how some positions do not allow for as much flexibility.

- 6.1 Provide flextime. Flextime is a type of alternate schedule that gives an employee latitude in choosing their particular hours of work, or freedom to change work schedules from one week or the next depending on personal needs. Under this arrangement, employees are typically expected to be at work during certain core hours of the workday. They are given the opportunity to choose—within certain parameters—their start and stop times as long as they work the required number of hours each day.
- 6.2 Go home. Another flexible work arrangement, telecommuting, allows employees—on a regular, predetermined basis—to working from home or another site. Technology such as video conferencing (e.g., Skype for Business or Google Hangouts) can show that employees are working from home and are available to chat or video conference. Studies have shown that employees who work just one or two days a week from home are not only more productive but less likely to quit their jobs. They also work at peak times with

fewer interruptions and distractions, have more freedom from peer pressure, and spend less time commuting.

- 6.3 **Compress schedules.** A compressed work week allows employees to work the normal total number of hours, but complete those hours in fewer days. The most common variation of this work week is called the 4/10, in which employees work four 10hour days instead of five eight-hour days. This type of arrangement—along with the 9/80-is becoming more common, employees are said to accomplish more from a compressed work week than the typical "9 to 5" model. With planning, workers can have a compressed schedule while continuing to provide reliable service delivery to the community.
- 6.4 Split jobs. Job sharing allows two parttime employees to share a single full-time position. Salary and benefits are usually prorated on the basis of what proportion of the job each person shares. Talent Initiative findings revealed that working parents with small children saw job sharing as a highly attractive option when considering an employment opportunity. Furthermore, a report in Human Resources Executive found that two employees sharing one job are more productive than one employee working full time.
- 6.5 Be partial. Consider permanent part-time arrangements that offer anywhere from 20 to 29 hours per week. Such opportunities can give employees—especially those with high levels of family commitment—the ability to decide which days they work and how long they work on those days. Incentives that can help attract employees to this arrangement include prorated health and retiree benefits, equal wages (full and part-time staff earn the same hourly rate), access to training and development programs, and other benefits available to full-time employees.

### INCENTIVES

As work-life balance and flexible work options top the list as a key retention strategy, Talent Initiative participants also supported the value of employee incentive programs. According to one participant, "When it comes to perks versus pay, employee perks matter more than you think."

While Google and Twitter are famous for their over-the-top perks—professionally catered meals, on-site acupuncture, even improv classes—local governments can also achieve positive results by offering reasonable incentives, especially those not offered at other agencies. Research consistently shows that incentives that do not directly impact an employee's lifestyle and finances are the least coveted. In other words, ping-pong tables in the break room are not as valued as wellness programs, performance pay, or even opportunities for volunteerism. These incentives, along with a sampling of others, are provided below.

Employees want to feel appreciated, and there are a number of low-cost ways to do so. But local governments are cautioned that incentives aren't "One size fits all," and many may have only shortterm effects on employee morale and retention. Agencies should evaluate their incentives regularly to ensure they're still attractive to current and potential employees.

#### Recommendations

7.1 Give bonuses. As a retention tool, merit pay rewards top talent with additional compensation. It sends a powerful message about what the organization expects from employee performance and contribution; it also sends the message that their hard work is appreciated and important. Merit pay can motivate top talent, as long as the performance factors being monetized matter to the individual and relate to their personal development. Also, in order to remain a motivating tool, the bonus program should not slide into an acrossthe-board benefit.

- 7.2 Encourage volunteerism. Today's workforce is charitably-minded and places a high value on giving back. Allowing paid time off for volunteering provides employees with a means to engage and make a difference. It also allows them to indirectly learn soft skills like teamwork, communication, and leadership-all of which can carry over into the workplace as a retention strategy. But the benefit doesn't stop there. Organizations that make volunteering a priority can use this as a recruitment tool, and the positive image it generates reinforces the public service mission of local government.
- 7.3 Be well. More than ever, employees expect a focus on health and wellness in the workplace. Opportunities like on-site yoga classes, access to city-operated fitness facilities, free gym memberships-even Weight Watchers support groups-can help retain employees seeking healthy lifestyles. A number of Talent Initiative participants reported that these perks are generally low-cost and, in many cases, offered free of charge by an organization's employee assistance program or through health insurance providers. The added benefits to local governments: happier employees, reduced absenteeism, and potentially lower-cost insurance premiums.
- 7.4 Go casual. Studies have shown that employers can boost morale by allowing employees to wear business casual attire. Many experts believe that if an organization wants to build and retain a team of resourceful and creative employees, it stands to gain from a relaxed dress code. Other cited benefits of business casual attire: employee cost savings from dry cleaning; and the impression that local government employees are more accessible and relatable to the public (as opposed to the "suited-up bureaucrat").
- 7.5 Give titles. According to a recent study by the Society for Human Resource Management, 63% of professionals would rather get a promotion without a

pay increase than a pay bump without a promotion. The title change recognizes job achievement and enhances a sense of purpose. With a title change, employees can expect to have more responsibilities and more opportunities. While the realities of limited resources, civil service rules, and change-adverse leadership can present barriers, providing employees with promotion-like "working titles"— even creative titles like "Director of Innovation" will have a tremendous impact on retention.

- 7.6 Celebrate great. Validation has the power to retain employees and drive up productivity. For example, once a quarter, ask employees for nominations of managers and supervisors who are "great talent developers." Celebrate these managers as organizational role models at a managers' forum, citywide all-hands meeting, or at the honoree's staff meeting.
- 7.7 Assess competitors. Salary may not be the only reason an employee chooses to stay, but it's still near the top of the list. Organizations that underpay their employees relative to peers may lose their top talent. Every few years, local governments should determine what their competitor agencies are paying and adjust their compensation plan accordingly. This can be done through informal surveys; or more objectively through a formalized compensation study that benchmarks salaries, benefits, performance pay, and other indicators to comparable agencies. Studies should include the comparison of all compensation and benefits-retirement plans, insurance, and other pay-not just salaries. Often, an employee may leave based on these components and not just the salary.

## CULTURE

Today's workforce places an emphasis on organizational culture. But for many agencies, it remains a mysterious and "squishy" concept that can mean many different things. According to Forbes contributor Josh Bersin, culture is, "The set of behaviors, values, artifacts, reward systems and rituals that make up your organization." One can feel "culture" when they visit or encounter local government because it reflects observable patterns of behavior—from an employee's enthusiasm to the appearance of an office, to how the organization provides services and responds to inquiries. Ideally, organization culture is defined, nurtured, and protected. But for most organizations, culture casually develops over time as a collection of the beliefs, experiences, and behaviors of its employees—and is heavily influenced by the management team.

Consensus from Talent Initiative participants suggested that local governments must have a positive organizational culture to effectively compete for today's top talent.

The stereotypical traits of the government workplace—rigid bureaucracy, low energy, fearful of change—are no longer acceptable. Today's workforce wants to be invested in their work and committed to their employers. If an organization's culture is undefined or faltering, it is likely that its employees are ready to move on.

#### Recommendations

8.1 Acknowledge realities. Transforming an organizational culture is challenging and often an uphill battle for local governments. Organizational culture is formed over years of interaction among employees, and often echoes a prevailing management style, informal norms, and a set of personnel rules. Nevertheless, actively fostering a specific organizational culture is possible. It requires understanding, time, prioritization, and constant attention. It requires the education and solid support of key officials, e.g., chief executives, department heads, and the governing board.

8.2 Identify influences. Before attempting any kind of culture-change initiative, take the time to understand the current culture and the way that things are done. Keep in mind the saying, "Culture eats strategy for breakfast." In other words, culture is intrinsically more powerful than an agency's formal priorities, mission statements, and long-term strategic plans. Culture is not about fancy workspaces and catchy slogans, but rather how employees respond to challenges, interact with each other, make decisions, and define success (i.e., what is celebrated, rewarded, reinforced, or even penalized). When you know what you are, then you can begin to develop into what you want to become.

- 8.3 Start conversations. Positive culture change, requires that management start a conversation with employees. Ask them about the agency's Employee Value Proposition (EVP), which centers on two key questions:
  - Why would a talented professional want to join and stay with us?
  - Why would a talented professional be reluctant to join and stay with us?

As part of this conversation, top management can ask if the organization provides opportunities for employees to:

- Express their opinions (and whether those opinions are respected)
- Learn and grow and be challenged
- Interact with senior management
- Work on big meaningful challenges
- Work with some measure of autonomy
- Have the tools and resources needed to do a good job
- Feel supported by others
- Experience flexibility in respect to scheduling

Management must then take action on responses to the conversation and work with all levels of the organization to positively address the issues raised by employees.

- 8.4 Revisit statements. The publicsector environment is fluid. An organization's mission and vision—along with its guiding values—can become outdated. In the case for defining a new organizational culture, an update of mission and core belief statements can help provide a clear picture of where the organization is, and where the organization wants to go. This type of strategic exercise can articulate the new culture by setting the baseline for future policy decisions, continued organizational transformation, and clear employee expectations.
- 8.5 Provide support. Management buy-in and employee training are crucial components that allow for successful organizational change. Beyond supporting a new culture, agency leaders must commit to changing their own behaviors and lead by example. As for employees, they need to understand what is expected of them (e.g., a new customer service protocol or an emphasis on cross-department collaboration). An ongoing commitment to training, mentoring, and effective communication is critical as it helps both managers and employees unlearn old behaviors, while instilling new values, expectations, and behaviors.
- 8.6 Modify systems. Successful organizational change means that employees understand and accept new realities and they can perform better and enjoy greater job satisfaction. This requires that agencies review and amend formal policies and practices to align to the new culture (e.g., training and employee development opportunities; criteria for employee selection, promotions, pay increases; and employee engagement at all levels). If current pratice rewards individual performance but the new philosophy requires teamwork, the misalignment can undermine the successful change in culture.

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## MANAGERS

According to a 2015 Gallup study, 50% of Americans have left their job because of a bad boss. "People leave managers, not companies."

Managers drive so much of one's work experience. They help determine what projects employees work on, who they work with, and when and if they get promoted. They're the person most likely to help employees when they have a problem. However, poor managers can damage the morale, motivation, and productivity of their teams based on their actions—or inaction.

Talent Initiative participants reported that in local government, identifying and removing poor managers is not easy. Some have lost sight of their role; others may simply not have the skills or training to lead their team.

Skilled managers and supervisors are more critical than ever to the success of an organization. This is not because employees can't function without direction, but because managers play a large role in talent management. Good managers and supervisors:

- Set clear expectations
- Provide ongoing feedback
- Ensure that employees have the tools and resources they need
- Remove obstacles
- Ensure that the opinions of employees are heard and taken into account
- Celebrate progress
- Conduct professional development conversations with staff
- Provide learning and growth opportunities
- Maintain a positive outlook and communicate the overall vision, especially when things go sideways

Middle managers (e.g., division managers and program managers) often are not trained or

encouraged to coach their employees. Many mid-level managers do not perceive coaching or developing their staff as a primary responsibility. This has to change. First-line managers have the most daily impact on service delivery and can establish habits that will carry into the future. They can also have the biggest impact on employee retention and satisfaction throughout the organization.

A challenge for organizations is that many managers believe they are stretched too thin and do not have the time or energy to develop themselves or promote the development of others. All managers need to understand that professional development of their employees is a primary job responsibility that must be integrated into how they do their jobs.

- 9.1 Ask questions. Manager training shouldn't be a "One size fits all" approach. Each manager has specific performance issues that need to be addressed-and the best way to know where managers need training is by asking those they supervise. Ensure employee confidentiality in providing candid responses and include questions that require specific examples of areas for improvement or growth. Soliciting this input is crucial for developing manager-specific training plans. Also, executives should ask managers where they think they're the most in need of improvement. Good managers are typically self-aware of their personal limitations and areas for growth.
- 9.2 Consider contracts. Whether part of an employment agreement or incorporated into the annual evaluation form, a training contract gives managers control over what skills or knowledge they should acquire, the classes they plan to attend, and how they are evaluated. Managers must play an active role in developing these contracts so they are empowered to chart their skill development goals. This exercise reinforces a learning culture and provides managers with an opportunity to acknowledge success when they meet critical milestones.

- 9.3 Train soft. While many managers possess technical aptitude, many lack the softor "people"-skills to manage people. Today's expectations for managers are essentially those of capacity building instigators—that is, they should provide for a work environment that allows for productivity, positivity, fulfillment, and innovation. Without soft skills- effective communication, delegation, diplomacy, conflict management, even selfawareness-managers will not be equipped to be an effective instrument of progress. Nor will they have the ability to hold their teams together. Incorporate effective supervision and coaching in manager/ supervisor evaluations. Public agencies often grade managers and supervisors based on projects accomplished and deadlines met, not how they are supervising staff.
- 9.4 Get personal. As part of its talent management strategy, local governments should consider personality testing and education—especially for its management team. These types of assessments—e.g., Myers-Briggs Type Inidcator and DiSC allow supervisors to understand how different personality types motivate their employees and what makes them successful. This information can help managers develop stronger connections with their team, which can lead to greater engagement and retention.
- 9.5 Prioritize funding. Management training can be a major cost for many organizations, regardless of their size. However, the cost of training is minimal when compared to high turnover costs, lawsuits, or employee grievances.
- 9.6 Review progress. If we promote new supervisors, managers, and directors based on potential, the initial learning curve may be steeper than normal. Take additional care to know which areas require the most growth and ensure they are learning the skills needed to be successful on the job. Establish regular check-ins and ask

questions to review progress. This is especially true for first-time supervisors.

## ONBOARDING

According to a recent white paper by accounting firm KPMG, more than 80% of all new hires decide whether or not to stay at their new job within six months of joining. Onboarding helps: nearly 60% of new hires are likely to be with the same organization three years later because of an effective on-boarding process.

The concept of onboarding refers to the process of acclimating employees to their new job and the culture of the organization. It goes beyond the day-long employee orientation of completing paperwork and reviewing workplace policies. It is a comprehensive exercise that extends from the initial job offer to the point when the employee is a contributing asset to the organization.

Effective onboarding includes orientation, training, feedback, and follow-up---a process that could last upwards of a year. A strong onboarding strategy explores the values and mission of the local government organization. It also discusses mutual expectations, equips new hires with the knowledge and resources required to do their job, and allows them to see how they fit into the organization.

Talent Initiative participants overwhelmingly reported a desire for their agency to have an established onboarding program. They understand it helps create loyal and valued employees that can yield significant returns on investment.

#### Recommendations

10.1 Be impressionable. The time between the offer letter and start date is crucial because new hires may still be interviewing with other agencies. Use this as an opportunity to make a favorable impression by sending a small gift (e.g., a promotional item) or letter from the chief executive, department head, or supervisor welcoming them to the organization. Small gestures like this can make employees feel excited about joining an agency--especially if they have doubts. Such actions also reinforce the notion that the organization is well-run and has a stake in their future.

- 10.2 Optimize orientation. Send new hires a welcome packet that contains information about the organization, what they can expect on orientation day, as well as necessary paperwork that needs to be completed immediately—e.g., health insurance and tax forms. Request that the employee completes these materials at home, eliminating the paperwork stack usually handled on the first day. This allows time for more engaging orientation activities that inspire the new employee and help them to acclimate.
- 10.3 Institute a checklist. Developing an employee orientation checklist is a crucial first step in providing a smooth transition for new employees. Start with the basics set up their computers, order business cards, show them where the restrooms are—then add items that are unique to your workplace and which need to be communicated. As this tool is developed, test it on new employees and solicit their feedback on items that might have been helpful to know (or to have) in their first days and weeks on the job.
- 10.4 Provide mentors. Onboarding mentoring programs set new hires "Off on the right foot" by giving them an insight into how their job fits within the overall organization, and how their new role links with their own career goals. A well-selected and well-matched mentor can also provide a candid picture of the new employee's roles and establish expectations while sharing knowledge and insight for employee success. This dialogue creates a culture of openness. Being selected as a mentor also has a positive impact on that employee's morale
- 10.5 Connect employees. Joining a new organization may be a difficult experience for many. Pairing a new employee with a peer "buddy" who is not in the employee's

immediate workgroup can help the employee understand and adapt to the organization's culture.

10.6 Go long. The onboarding process should be a one-year journey for the employee. It takes time for employees to understand job-specific nuances, adjust to a new organizational culture, and learn workrelated technologies. Agencies, if they haven't already, should outline milestones to ensure that new hires are assimilating as expected and continuing to increase productivity. The onboarding process should also include opportunities to forge relationships with other employees, and monthly employee check-ins with human resources personnel or their mentor to ensure a path to success.

## SKILLS

While onboarding teaches new employees the skills and knowledge they need before setting out on their own, Talent Initiative participants stressed the importance of ongoing training programs. Without this resource, employees are often left to navigate a system of informal learning and development tactics through job shadowing and tribal knowledge sharing.

Talent Initiative findings support research from the Society for Human Resource Management that employers care more about employee soft skills than they do technical abilities. One key reason is that they help facilitate human connections, which is a important in a service-oriented business like local government. Employees with effective soft skills build relationships with internal teams, work well with elected officials, and effectively serve the general public.

This is not to say that technical skills aren't important. They are. But in a comparative sense, training a new employee for a particular hard skill—like how to use a computer program—is easier to do than training an employee a critical soft skill—like patience—to learn the program. Talent Initiative participants stressed the connection of ongoing training to talent retention. *Recommendations* 

- 11.1 Teach writing. "Writing skills are a silver bullet," reported one Talent Initiative participant. Strong writing advances all aspects of local government—from effective problem solving and analysis, to teamwork and leadership. Public-sector jobs require a substantial amount of written communication. Investing in strong written communication skills will save time and improve results daily. It can boost confidence, open the door to promotions, and help employees convey information—whether in a staff report or email—succinctly, persuasively, and effectively.
- 11.2 Hone communication. Government employees interact with a number of audiences: peers, external colleagues, elected officials, and the general public. Today's emerging talent benefits from learning techniques on effective presentations, public speaking, minimizing nervousness, and addressing conflict. Many Talent Initiative participants recommended the training resources of CAPIO and MMANC/SC. Hosting a local Toastmasters Club was also cited as best practice for communication and leadership skills development.
- 11.3 Build astuteness. While many in today's emerging workforce have professional degrees, many of them lack political savvy and an understanding of local government challenges. And the reality is, most of this is learned on the job. Offering aspiring leaders opportunities to attend community and governing board meetings, assist in writing and developing presentations, and taking on policy-related projects are great ways to expose them to government inner workings. They can take advantage of programs offered by the LCC, ICMA, CSMFO, and other professional organizations to learn more about current legislation and fiscal trends that can affect local government.
- 11.4 Train critically. In addition to the "soft" skills of effective communication, political

savvy and other interpersonal skills. Critical thinking is important for success. Skills enable employees to weigh the pros and cons of solutions to problems before choosing a way forward; they also equip them with the tools and approaches to logically structure recommendations before making a final decision.

- 11.5 Map talent. Talent mapping is a technique commonly used in the United Kingdom and Canada to document information about key staff and the skills required to support organizational changes ahead. It asks questions about where an agency wants to be short- and long-term, and what skills are needed to get there. This exercise helps leaders project future human resource needs, and devise training paths and leadership development programs to grow employees to become tomorrow's workforce. It also allows local governments to create a roadmap for succession planning and future recruiting efforts.
- 11.6 Budget it. While most governments know that investing in talent means increased productivity and employee loyalty, many don't make it a funding priority. According to the Association for Talent Development, organizations should provide at least 40 hours of training annually for each employee with total employee development costs at 4.3% of payroll. This sets a goal moving forward. The support of elected officials and the inclusion of employee development programs into policy documents (like an organization's strategic plan) is critical for making it a reality.
- 11.7 Take a bite. Use interim and temporary assignments to provide stretch opportunities for employees. It gives the organization a chance to test employees and lets employees hone their skills.

## ASSESSMENT

A talented and skilled workforce is the lifeblood of every organization. As the battle for talent escalates, local governments need to make ongoing assessment a key component of its employee retention strategy. This includes ongoing evaluation of comparative data from professional organizations; the performance review process; and regular employee interviews that seek to understand personal and professional goals.

- 12.1 Research trends. Keep up-to-date on what is happening in the industry by attending conferences. Membership in professional associations can shed light on primary drivers of turnover; they can also highlight retention strategies and technologies that other agencies are using and finding effective. Benchmarking surveys are also useful, as they can provide data on where an organization stands on issues like pay, benefits, and perks.
- 12.2 Rethink reviews. More and more, corporate America is doing away with annual performance reviews. The reasons are many, from the stress they cause to the amount of time they take. Annual reviews are seen as a system that looks at past practices, as opposed to today's need for daily performance management. Providing instead for more frequent manageremployee check-ins-quarterly, monthly or even weekly-encourages more meaningful conversations in which accomplishments are recognized and developmental areas are discussed. This ongoing dialogue also allows for fresh and relevant feedback, more real-time information, and increased employee engagement.
- 12.3 Identify flight paths. Employees, regardless of age, want to know "where they stand." With proper training, experience, and education, is there a path to advancement within the organization? Is that in the next year, three years, or five years? When employees have a clear idea that there are advancement opportunities within the agency and understand what it will take to get there, they are more likely to stay and grow with the organization.

12.4 Go 360°. Local government performance reviews are usually based on a single perspective. Shifting this practice to a 360° model provides for performance feedback that is solicited from all directions in the organization, i.e., peers and direct reports that can add insight into how well the employee is working with their team. This feedback provides a balanced view of the skills and contributions an employee makes to the organization, as well as to their impact on furthering collective organizational goals. It also allows managers to evaluate the input from many sources to note similarities and trends, and identify areas that may need additional support.

12.5 Self assess. Asking an employee to evaluate his or her own performance can be extremely effective. Employees are often more critical of their performance than managers. It can also help initiate dialogue, encourage personal growth, and result in greater employee accountability.

12.6 Say stay. A stay interview is a retention strategy that engages employees. Effective stay interviews ask employees why they want to continue working for the agency and what might make them leave—using structured questions and an open dialogue. Experts recommend doing them at least once a year. This may increase to at least twice a year for positions where there is a high rate of turnover.

12.7 Ask after. A common private-sector practice is to conduct post-exit interviews two weeks to three months after an employee leaves a position. Research suggests that this additional time can improve interview answers by up to 50%. Once removed from the emotion of leaving a job, former employees offer more constructive feedback. A former employee may now treat this opportunity as an advisor, knowing the agency is taking steps to learn and improve its organizational culture.

## ENGAGING ELECTED OFFICIALS

Elected Officials are often overlooked in talent management efforts, when, in fact, they are essential participants. They are the public face of the organization's culture and establish funding for programs and services, including employee training and development. uman resources (HR) is an internal management function that is not always shared with policymakers. Typically, the only times elected officials are exposed to HR matters are during the budget process, labor negotiations, or a closed-session when things have gone terribly wrong.

Policy-makers often lack information on workforce trends and challenges that would benefit from their support (e.g., difficulty recruiting for certain classifications, turnover rates, retirement projections). Consider looking for ways to include workforce information in regular reports to the legislative body. During the budget process, rather than strictly discussing personnel in terms of numbers, share a story about the profession's challenges to actively recruit and keep good talent. Look for ways to celebrate employee achievements at public meetings.

"Elected officials need to understand that their goals are reliant upon the talent within the organization."

Focus group participants recommended more sharing of data with policy-makers. This includes information associated with the organization's workforce analysis (which may highlight an agency's vulnerability to baby-boomer retirements or the loss of talent), maps of where employees live and commute time data, the costs of losing talent, as well as the results of employee engagement surveys.

#### Recommendations

13.1 Invite feedback. Pose two simple questions to your elected officials: why would a talented professional want to join and stay with us? and why would a talented professional be reluctant to join and stay with us? Inviting input from elected officials may result in a conversation that can support your agency's efforts on recruitment, changes to personnel policies, labor negotiations, compensation analysis, and organizational culture. Does your elected body see themselves as a positive aspect of your employee value proposition (creating a supportive environment and culture of appreciation)? Or do they recognize how they may adversely impact recruitment efforts (dysfunctional councils that create a negative environment)?

- 13.2 Discuss trends. As part of budget discussions, take a few minutes to highlight your efforts on recruitment and retention. Share what's working and what can be improved. If you're making personnel cuts, explain how you may explore flexible work schedules or improved organizational culture as a way to mitigate a reduction in employee morale. If you have planned retirements in the upcoming budget period, share your strategies on how to recruit for the positions or build your talent pipeline.
- 13.3 Consider updates. One of the biggest obstacles reported by Talent Initiative participants was the existence of outdated civil service rules that hinder and agency's ability to promote good talent or provide employees with temporary or interim promotional assignments. Reviewing personnel policies and outdated rules with elected officials and bargaining units (if appropriate) may help all parties understand how antiquated rules can effect leadership development and retention efforts.
- 13.4 Reinforce civility. The behavior of elected officials on the dais does not go unnoticed by the public or the media. Elected officials may not realize that their behavior is directly attributable to an employee's willingness to join or stay in an organization. In a dysfunctional political environment, employees at the management level may cope and continue with their work, but may be reluctant to take the next step. Facilitated workshops

and study sessions may be an appropriate venue to discuss civility and its impact on recruitment and retention.

- 13.5 Stretch safely. In some organizations, department heads or division managers are the only staff members permitted to deliver staff reports or presentations to elected officials. This is a missed opportunity to coach and guide the leadership pipeline on how to effectively deliver presentations and develop other soft skills. With coaching and guidance, staff can "stretch safely." An added benefit: elected officials can see how your agency is developing the talent pipeline.
- 13.6 Defend staff. Executives and elected officials alike need to support local government employees by responding directly to abusive comments and attacks on staff. Many Talent Initiative participants reported how much employees appreciate the presiding officer (e.g., mayor, president of the board) or chief executive publicly defending staff when being attacked publicly.
- 13.7 Support development. Many agencies reported that training and development is one of the first expenditure categories to be cut during budget reductions. Elected officials should be reminded that staff development helps foster employee engagement and productivity, and simply keeping staff on payroll without training is not an effective way to build a dynamic workforce for the community.
- 13.8 Manage expectations. While it may be necessary to hold evening or weekend meetings for the convenience of the public, elected officials need to be mindful of how excessive after- hours meetings can have an impact on employees' work-life balance and morale. Limiting the number of special council, board, committee, or commission meetings may help. Set an expectation with elected officials that staff should not be contacted on weekends or after hours unless in an emergency (and set an

expectation with staff that they are not to respond to elected officials after-hours unless there is an emergency).

13.9 Foster appreciation. Managers can create a "culture of appreciation" among staff and the elected body by acknowledging staff for a job well done. Specific acknowledgment of team members following staff reports or presentations can help showcase the hard work that is being done. Inviting the city council and commissioners to an annual employee recognition luncheon can help showcase appreciation in action.

## **TAKING ACTION**

"A journey of a thousand miles starts with a single step." - Laozi, Chinese Philosopher



## TEN IDEAS TO IMPLEMENT TODAY

This Talent Initiative report provides a menu of diverse recommendations for local government executives. Leaders can start anywhere they'd like in implementing any or all of the recommendations in this report to better attract, retain, and grow talent.

Here are ten ideas to consider in beginning your efforts:

- 1. Conduct a simple workforce analysis (i.e., showing retirement risk now and in five years for different employee groups).
- 2. Eliminate minimum qualifications for entrylevel positions; hire for potential or learning agility.
- 3. Enhance job announcements to showcase the meaning and purpose of the work, organizational values and culture, and opportunities to grow and develop.
- 4. Fully utilize "stretch" assignments, including participation on cross-functional project teams.
- Train all supervisors and managers on how to coach and conduct development conversations with all direct reports.
- 6. Ensure that supervisors and managers provide ongoing performance feedback to employees, not just a once-a-year performance evaluation.
- 7. Conduct "stay interviews" with key talent (or better yet with all employees).
- 8. Hire one or several university interns and limited-term Management Fellows (those graduating with master's degrees).
- 9. Incorporate more flexibility into scheduling including, where appropriate, telecommuting.
- 10. Ensure ongoing face-to-face interaction between employees and top management.

Bonus Idea: Start a conversation with all employees about enhancing organizational culture (and then do something!).

## A CALL TO ACTION

Talent Initiative research suggests that agencies are losing the battle for talent. We need to act now if our organizations are to remain competitive in the face of the challenges impacting our communities.

We encourage you to take the following steps now:

- Discuss this report's Executive Summary with your executive team.
- Start a conversation with key employees regarding your agency's Employee Value Proposition. Ask three questions:
  - Why would a talented professional want to join us and stay with us?
  - Why would a talented professional be reluctant to join us and stay with us?
  - What can we all do to enhance our Employee Value Proposition?
- Conduct a study session or other conversation with the governing board about your Employee Value Proposition; engage governing board members in helping top management address talent challenges.
- Implement a few ideas from the Ten Ideas to Implement Today section of this report.

Start your journey to becoming an Employer of Choice!