SUMMARY OF PROPOSED FY2019/20 FEE CHANGES BY DEPARTMENT

1. AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER / SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES – (Exhibit I)

The Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures proposes a 2% to 3% fee increases, ranging from \$0.75 to \$8.00 on fees based on the current year's fee. While the recommended fees for two fees are less than the actual costs to perform the service, the department's proposal is to phase in the fee increases to minimize impact on small farm operations and is comparable to fees in seeking services from neighboring counties.

The department is recommending the establishment of three new fees CNG (for the calibration of natural gas devices), LNG (for the calibration of liquefied natural gas devices) for an increasing rate starting calendar year 2019 for \$75, \$125 and \$185 for each of the succeeding years. The other new fees are for Industrial Hemp Registration for \$900.00 and for computing scales for \$23. All of the three new fees are set by statute. In addition, the department proposes to delete the Service Agent Exam Fee as this is administered at the state level.

The department anticipates nominal increase in revenue resulting from fee increases.

2. ASSESSOR/RECORDER – (Exhibit II)

The Assessor's Office recommends decreasing twenty fees ranging from \$1 to \$109, representing 1% to 126% decrease and increasing one fee by \$1, which is a 1% increase. Some fee decreases are due to decrease in the department's productive hourly rate due to filling of vacant positions with lower step rate with no longevity and decreased indirect overhead cost. Some fees are decreasing due to change in the methodology in calculating for the rate to better align fees with the services provided. Two fees, one for Redevelopment projects and the other for Property System Special Project Request, are being deleted as the Assessor no longer provides these services. In addition, the department recommends adding one new fee for \$10 for List of Transfers Data Service.

The Recorder's Office also recommends decreasing five fees ranging \$1 to \$2, representing a range from 2% to 25% decrease in the Recorder's Office due to decrease in its productive hourly rate due to filling of vacant positions with lower step rate with no longevity and decrease overhead cost resulting from additional option in the delivery of service, the E-Recording system. The department recommends deleting one new fee, Official Record Copies – Ist page Coin Operated fee since it no longer has coin operated microfilm machine.

The department anticipates nominal decrease in revenue resulting from fee decreases.

3. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – (Exhibit III)

The Department of Resource Management calculates a composite hourly rate for each division separately. These composite hourly rates reflect direct operational costs in addition to the department's full administrative costs, which are proportionally allocated to each of the operating divisions. Fees are based on the average time it takes to perform a specific fee for service multiplied by the composite hourly rate to recover direct operational and indirect administrative overhead costs for providing the service.

a. Environmental Health – (Exhibit III-A)

The Department of Resource Management proposes to revise its existing fees to reflect a composite hourly rate increases and the anticipated time to perform services for environmental health and hazardous materials programs. This results in environmental health program fees increasing from 0.3% to 7.5% or \$1 to \$732 with a median increase of 5.4% or \$24. Almost all hazardous materials program fees will be increasing from 6.1% to 6.4% or \$7 to \$214 with a median increase of 6.3%, or \$40. This increase excludes the Program 4- Refinery fee which is increasing by 6.3% or \$4,303.

The department proposes to add three new fees in Program 16 - Consumer/Food, one new fee in Program 21 Hazardous Materials/Hazardous Waste and one new fee in Program 48 – Miscellaneous Fees. The new fees in Program 16 - Consumer/Food are added due to the adoption of new laws that became effective January 1, 2019 that added requirements to the state's food code. These laws include the permitting of host facilities that support catering operations and registration of out of town caterers who are not already registered with the department. A new law also requires permitting of microenterprise home kitchens (MEKs) if a local jurisdiction (city or county) has adopted an ordinance within its jurisdiction that specifically allows the preparation and selling of up to \$50,000 of perishable and potentially hazardous foods from a private home kitchen. Currently neither the County nor any city in the county has adopted a local ordinance to allow MEKs. The new fee in Program 21 Hazardous Materials/Hazardous Waste is for a Petroleum Refinery Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMBP) review fee. The new fee aligns itself with the typical cost to perform this service and provides an efficient reimbursement method.

The new fee in Program 48 – Miscellaneous Fees is a \$0 fee for Business License Review-Veteran Exemption to memorialize compliance with exemption criteria required by the Business and Profession Code section 16102, for honorably discharged veterans operating certain businesses, a practice that is already being implemented by the department for issuance of permits/licenses.

The proposed increase to existing fees and addition of the new fees will allow continued cost recovery given the time required to perform all environmental health related inspections and services.

The department anticipates an increase in revenue of \$172,779 from increases to the existing fees and from the new recommended fees.

b. Planning Services – (Exhibit III-B)

From FY2009/10 through FY2017/18 the Board opted to accept the Department of Resource Management's recommendation to discount Planning Service fees and adopted modest fee increases ranging from 0% to 4.9% to spur economic activity but were below the actual cost to provide the service. Given the improving economy, in FY2018/19 the Board accepted the department's recommendation to balance the need to recover costs of services with the need to reduce impact to businesses and the public by increasing fees for services used frequently by 7% and those services that were used less frequently by 24%. The intent was that all service fees would be increased over a two to three year period to fully recover actual costs.

For FY2019/20 the Department of Resource Management recommends continuing this phased fee increase approach. Most fees for services used routinely (generally smaller scale applications/projects), such as administrative permits, lot line adjustments, minor use permit applications, building permit reviews, and business license reviews and those related to

agriculture will be increased from 13.8% to 14.5% with a median increase of 13.9% to begin to catch up to the actual cost for service. This results in increases for fees that are routinely used from \$7 to \$632 with the median increase being \$92. This phased fee approach provides approximately 10% less than the actual costs for the service. The other remaining fees, many of which are not routinely used or are for complex services such as General Plan Amendments or re-zonings, will be increased from 10.3% to 11.2% or from \$10 to \$1,081 with a median increase of 10.5% or \$151 to immediately recover costs for services. This percentage of increase is lesser compared to fees for services used routinely as these fees were raised to actual cost in FY2018/19 and were not discounted during that fiscal year.

The department is also recommending a change in the classification of some fees in FY2019/20. The time associated with some land use and subdivision projects is variable and establishing a base fee is difficult given the various issues specific to an individual application. This can result in undercharging applicants for services with very complex projects within the same fee category as less complex projects. The department does have the ability, and is charging for actual time, but this creates confusion for the applicants as they do not know the actual cost until billing is made which takes place after work is performed considering that there is the applicant's expectation that the fee is the set price. To address these issues and assist in full cost recovery, the Department is recommending changing many of its land use and subdivision fees to be a non-refundable initial fee deposit which will be collected at the time the application for the project is submitted. If the completion of the project exceeds beyond the time included in the initial non-refundable fee deposit, an additional fee deposit will then be required prior to continuing to perform the work in completing the project. The deposit method is used by most counties in the Bay Area which aims to reduce confusion while improving cost recovery.

The department is recommending establishing a new \$0 fee for Business License New/Renewal Review- Veteran Exemption to memorialize compliance with exemption criteria required by the Business and Profession Code, section 16102, for honorably discharged veterans operating certain businesses, which is already being implemented within the department for issuance of permits/licenses.

The department anticipates an increase of approximately \$25,618 in fee revenue resulting from fee revisions.

c. Building and Safety – (Exhibit III-C)

The Department of Resource Management recommends that the County fee table Exhibit IIIC-Building and Safety Division reflect the State of California code fee table references as revised by the International Code Council in August 2018. This results in an average increase in building permit valuation fees of approximately \$90 for a standard 3,000 square foot residential home and of \$350 for a standard 10,000 square foot commercial building. The department also recommends increasing most of the building supplemental service fees for inspection and other miscellaneous fees by 6%, resulting in fee increases from \$3 to \$100 due to increases in operating costs and the time required to perform inspection services. This increase will improve cost recovery for services while still being reasonable to support development.

The hourly rate for code compliance is decreasing by \$103 or 42% resulting in a decrease of \$130 for re-inspection fees. The decrease in hourly rate is a technical adjustment resulting from the proposed addition of a new Code Compliance Officer in FY2019/20, which spreads the cost for providing services to the higher number of employees. The department also proposes to

increase \$6 or 21% on the business license renewal code enforcement review fee based on cost and additional time required to perform the service.

The department is recommending the addition of a new \$0 fee for Business License Renewal Code Enforcement Review-Veteran Exemption to memorialize compliance with exemption criteria required by the Business and Profession Code, section 16102, for honorably discharged veterans operating certain businesses, which is already being implemented within the department for issuance of permits/licenses.

The department anticipates a \$21,411 net increase in the Building Division's revenue and a \$1,680 net increase in Code Compliance Division's revenue from the fee revisions.

d. Administrative Services (Exhibit III-D)

The Department of Resource Management proposes to revise its existing fees for Administrative Services work in the Business License program from 3.6% to 7.1%, resulting in a fee increase ranging from \$2 to \$5 for review and processing of initial, renewal and revised business licenses applications. The fee increases offset operational cost increases and are based on administrative staff's hourly rate and estimated time to perform the functions.

The department is recommending the addition of a new \$0 fee for Business License -Veteran Exemption to memorialize compliance with exemption criteria required by the Business and Profession Code, section 16102, for honorably discharged veterans operating certain businesses, which is already being implemented within the Department for issuance of permits/licenses.

The department anticipates an increase of approximately \$1,366 in revenues resulting from fee increases.

e. Public Works/Engineering/Surveyor – (Exhibit III-E)

The Department of Resource Management proposes a \$4 increase in productive hourly rate for Civil Engineer and decreases of \$13 for Engineering Technician and \$10 for the County Surveyor due to filling vacancies at lower step rate. As a result of the proposed changes in the productive hourly rates, most permit fees and service hourly rates are proposed to increase from 0.6% to 13.8%, or from \$2 to \$76, with the median increase being 4.3% or \$15. The proposed fee increases include surveyor map check fees, transportation permit, encroachment permit, major grading permit, road signage, and fees associated with land development and land use review, such as those for subdivisions and building reviews. The department also proposes to delete fees for Building Envelope Review as the costs associated with this service are recovered through grading permit or subdivision review fees.

The department is recommending twenty-three new fees associated with land development and land use review projects to recover costs from assisting the Planning Services Division in processing applications. These include fees associated with pre-application land use review and with the permitting or review of administrative permits, new development agreements, environmental evaluations, performance standards, sign permits, specific plans, policy plan overlays, variance permits, use permits, marsh development permits, and minor subdivisions. These new fees range from \$141 to \$2,119 with the median new fee being \$211. When an application is submitted to Resource Management for these permits or reviews, the Planning

Services Division collects a fee for their services and acts as the lead division. Public Works reviews each of these applications with respect to road improvement standards, determining the need for encroachment or grading permits, assessing traffic flow and ensuring adequate access. Presently Public Works does not collect a fee for most of these services. Since the majority of these permits are for private development, the time spent by Engineering and Survey staff is not Road Fund eligible cost and must be reimbursed by the applicant. The department is also proposing a new fee for Map Reproduction – electronic copy for \$24 for providing customers with electronic map files in place of printed paper or mylar maps, and adding the hourly rates for Engineering Technician \$98, Civil Engineer \$131, and County Surveyor \$134 in the Road Division for research requested by the public and time spent in excess of the fee collected, which align with the same existing hourly rates listed for the Surveyor/Engineer Division.

The department anticipates an increase of approximately \$20,886 in revenue, \$9,524 from increases to existing fees and \$11,362 from new fees.

4. PUBLIC GUARDIAN – (Exhibit IV)

The cost of operating the Office of Public Guardian are not covered by the fees received from various clients and estates managed by the office. The fees assessed by the Public Guardian's office are reviewed by County Counsel and the Superior Court and are developed based on costs or market rates and the client's ability to pay whichever is lower. The Public Administrator's fee schedule is subject to the Probate Code. The department proposes increase in all of its fees resulting from the increase of productive hourly rate.

5. TAX COLLECTOR/COUNTY CLERK – (Exhibit V)

The department is recommending decreases of four fees for electronic records requests, as they may be considered a public record act requests and department cannot charge for ancillary tasks necessarily associated with the retrieval, inspection and handling of the file.

The department projects a decrease in revenue of \$22,620 resulting from decreases of four fees.

6. AUDITOR-CONTROLLER – (Exhibit VI)

The Auditor-Controller provides various services such as auditing, property tax information, accounting and payroll services for independent special districts, title companies and other agencies. The department proposes to increase six fees ranging from \$0.40 to \$10 increase and a decrease of \$0.62 for one fee based on the respective services provided. The rates are based on budgeted numbers; however, the subsequent year's rate calculations include a roll forward adjustment based on actuals.

The department anticipates nominal increase in revenue resulting from fee increases.

7. **REGISTRAR OF VOTERS** – (Exhibit VII)

The Elections Code and the Government Code establish the majority of the fees charged by the Registrar of Voters (ROV). The department's objective is to recoup all costs associated with conducting and providing election services to outside agencies.

ROV recommends decreases to five fees resulting from decreased rate due to decreased billable indirect overhead costs: (1) \$0.15 decreases in two fees; (2) a \$1 decrease in the Vote-by-Mail (VBM) Subscription resulting from a decrease in the productively hourly rate for staff and the time to provide easily accessible downloadable VBM files that are updated daily and available to subscribers; (3)a \$2.25 decrease in Certification of Documents to align with the required fixed fee by statute and (4) decrease in the fee to agencies utilizing ROV's election support services, which is also based on the actual hourly rate for respective staff to provide election support services along with the department's overhead rate. The department is proposing to decrease the overhead rate from 106% to 101%.

The department projects a nominal decrease in revenue resulting from fee decreases.

8. CLERK OF THE BOARD – (Exhibit VIII)

The Clerk of the Board proposes decrease of one fee by \$8 for Certified Verbatim Transcript – Assessment Appeals Board due to decrease in productive hourly rate resulting from filling of vacant position at a lower step rate with no longevity. The department very seldom receives requests for this service; therefore, no impact on revenue is anticipated from the fee decrease.

9. COUNTY COUNSEL – (Exhibit IX)

County Counsel's fee schedule reflects an increase of \$2 or 1% in the hourly rate for services. The department anticipates nominal increase in revenue resulting from the fee increase.

10. HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES – (Exhibit XI)

Health and Social Services (H&SS) evaluated its existing fee structure and compared it to both actual costs and similar provider fees in the market. Following these reviews, H&SS made appropriate revisions to the FY2019/20 fee schedule.

The majority of the H&SS service fees are dependent on federal and state reimbursement. Payments received from these programs are subject to audits that could result in cost settlements.

Fees charged to the general public represent approximately 1.95% of the department's fee-for-service revenues. Patients are charged on a sliding fee discount scale to ensure income or lack of insurance is not a barrier to physical, behavioral, and dental health care.

Mental Health specialty clinics use the UMDAP system (Uniform Method of Determining the Ability to Pay) which is based on an annual sliding scale liability based on the client's or responsible party's ability to pay as required by Welfare and Institutions Code § 5709 and 5710 and the California Code of Regulations, title 9, Division 1, section 524.

Primary and dental care clinics use a sliding fee discount scale, consistent with the requirements of the 42 Code of Federal Regulations 51c.303 which governs the use of funds under Section 330 of the Public Health Act and Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA), the federal oversight agency for Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) designated clinics.

HRSA also requires that fees be based on reasonable costs <u>and</u> locally prevailing charges. H&SS is proposing changes to the primary care and dental health fees to comply with this requirement.

Health and Social Services may need to adjust its fees charged to clients during the year as reimbursement rates from Medi-Cal, Medicare or other third party payers change, actual cost per unit information becomes available, or as the volume of services changes to allow us to recover more of our actual costs. Any new procedures added during the fiscal year will be based on existing or established methodologies for setting rates.

The H&SS fee schedule includes charges for the following divisions: (a) Behavioral Health Services, (b) Public Guardian/Public Administrator, and (c) Health Services.

a. Behavioral Health Services

Mental Health

With the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 1297, billing for Short Doyle MediCal direct services changed from using the State Maximum Allowances (SMA) billing rates to an option where Counties bill interim rates based on an approximation of their actual costs based on the Mental Health cost report. These interim rates will be reconciled with the state during a cost settlement process. The proposed rates are based on the submitted FY2017/18 cost report (subject to DHCS audit) plus an inflation factor based on the most recent available home health basket market index plus 3% COLA.

Linked with the fee schedule is a Uniform Method of Determining the Ability to Pay system (UMDAP) mandated by the state which is an annual deductible liability based on gross family income of the client/responsible person. Once the annual liability is met each treatment year, mental health services are free to the client so that critical access to services will not be impeded.

• Substance Abuse

Substance Abuse services are contracted out to a network of substance abuse providers. The published rates are based on the contract rates.

b. Public Guardian/Public Administrator

The cost of operating the Office of Public Guardian are not covered by the fees received from the various clients and estates managed by the office. The fees assessed by the Public Guardian's office are reviewed by County Counsel and the /Superior Court and are developed based on costs or market rates and the client's ability to pay whichever is lower. The Public Administrator's fee schedule is subject to Probate Code.

c. Health Services

Targeted Case Management (TCM)

TCM fees are established based on an annual cost report submitted to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS).

Medical Marijuana Identification Card

In June 2009, the Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution to impose annual program fees of \$100.00 for Medi-Cal recipients and \$200.00 for non-MediCal clients to recover the costs of administering the Medical Marijuana Identification Card program.

With the passage of Proposition 64 in November 2016, counties may only charge 50% of the \$100.00 previously charged to Medi-Cal clients or \$50.00, 50% of the \$200.00 previously charged to non-MediCal clients or \$100.00, and zero charge to County Medical Services Program (CMSP) clients.

Vital Statistics

Vital Statistics is not requesting any change in fees at this time.

California Children Services (CCS)

The CCS program may collect an assessment and/or enrollment fee based on a sliding scale established by the DHCS/CCS program.

• Family Health Services (FHS)

The fee schedule for Family Health Services (FHS) has been set and adjusted utilizing several approaches.

Primary Care	 local prevailing rates based on national averages with adjustments for geographic variability and applicable percentile. actual staff time and cost to provide the service (e.g., administering injections). negotiated contract rates or invoice amounts for certain laboratory procedures and vaccines. cost per visit based on the FY2017/18 Medicare cost report for setting "G" code fees.
Dental Care	 local prevailing rates based on national averages with adjustments for geographic variability and applicable percentile.

The proposed fees include changes over current rates based on the methodologies described above to better align charges with the cost of providing services and maintain consistency with locally prevailing rates as required by HRSA.

HRSA also requires the establishment of a sliding fee discount scale which should be applied uniformly to all patients and to all services within the approved scope of project for a FQHC designated clinic. The scale must discount the amount on the fee schedule for patients at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) with patients at or below 100% of the FPG receiving a full discount <u>and</u> have at least three discount pay classes above 100% and at or below 200% of the FPG.

The table below is the Sliding Fee Discount Scale for FHS primary and dental care clinics specifically designed to meet HRSA requirements and ensure that income or lack of insurance is not a barrier to care.

% of Poverty Based on Federal Poverty Level	% of Fee Discounted
0 – 100%	100%
101 – 138%	80%
139 – 170%	60%
171 – 200%	50%

• .Public Health Laboratory

Some of the proposed fees are changing to keep them in line with current market rates.

11. SHERIFF -- (Exhibit XIII)

The Sheriff's Office recommends increasing 17 existing fees to recover actual administrative and/or service related costs as allowed by state statutes or regulations. These increases are primarily due to increases in productive hourly rates resulting from employee merit/step increases and number of minutes to perform certain tasks. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office proposes to decrease 5 existing fees this year due to slight decreases in lower operational cost and the number of minutes to perform certain tasks.

In addition, the proposed fee schedule reflects 41 fees unchanged from the current fee schedule. Specifically, 3 remain unchanged as actual costs have not increased and 35 fees remain the same because the fees are established or capped by statute. Moreover, 3 existing fees tied to Alternative to Custody program (i.e., Work Furlough Fee, Work Release Fee, and Electronic Monitoring Fee) are driven by the client's hourly wage earned and the ability to pay.

The Sheriff's Office recommends deleting the following fees:

- Firearm Storage Daily Fee, as this fee has been consolidated into the Firearm Administrative and Daily Storage Fee.
- Body Storage Costs per Day, as this fee has been consolidated into the Body Transport and Storage Fee.
- Transportation of High-risk Inmate to Inmate's Personal Doctor, as this fee has been consolidated into the Transportation of Inmate to Inmate's Personal Doctor. This fee now reflects a per deputy charge so as to accommodate those inmates assessed as either low-risk or high-risk.

The Sheriff's Office also recommends deletion of 11 existing fees with concurrence with County Counsel in Exhibit XIII as these services are not provided to the public and the amount charged to another agency would be enumerated in a contract or memorandum of agreement. These fees are:

- Background Investigation Level 1
- Background Investigation Level 2
- Background Investigation Level 3
- Background Investigation (Failed)
- Background Investigation (Probation Department Only)
- Hourly rate for Sergeant

- Hourly rate for Deputy Sheriff
- Hourly rate for Security Officer
- Hourly rate for Dispatcher
- Hourly rate Patrol vehicle
- Local Criminal History-agency use only

Government Code section 29552 authorizes the State Controller to allocate funds for booking fees from the Enhancing Law Enforcement Activities subaccount in the amount of \$35M for local governments. Therefore, Solano County cannot charge booking fees under Government Code section 29550.

However, pursuant to Government Code section 29551(b), Solano County may charge a jail access fee. The fee is equal to the actual costs of booking an arrestee into the local detention facility, to a local agency that exceeds their three-year average number of non-felony bookings. Arrests for municipal code violations and most misdemeanor violations are included in the criteria for billing for the non-felony bookings. Arrests for driving under the influence offenses, domestic violence misdemeanor offenses and enforcement of protective orders are excluded from the billable jail access fees. The jail access fee is being recommended to increase by \$72.86 and has been included in the fee exhibit. This fee is computed by the Auditor-Controller.

Given the proposed fees this year, the Sheriff's Office estimates a net decrease in revenue of \$2,724 if the Board approves the fee revision

12. ANIMAL CARE – (Exhibit XVII)

The Sheriff's Office oversees the operations of Animal Care and Control Services.

The Sheriff's Office recommends nominally increasing 11 existing fees to recover actual administrative, and/or service related costs. These increases are primarily due to minor increases in productive hourly rates resulting from employee merit/step increases. The proposed fee schedule also reflects decreasing 12 existing fees to reflect lower operational costs.

There are 44 existing fees that remain unchanged, of which 12 are for licensing and are based on similar fees charged by neighboring jurisdictions and eight for adoptions. Included as unchanged are four related to dangerous dog tags, permits and hearings that are set by County ordinance, and three impound penalties established by statute. Unchanged fees also include four where the actual cost of the service is unknown (livestock boarding for example), and 13 where actual costs remained constant.

The proposed fees will result in an estimated nominal increase of \$3,669 in revenue.

13. HUMAN RESOURCES – (Exhibit XVIII)

The Department of Human Resources proposes a \$10 increase for Skill Development Training to reflect the cost to perform the service. The department anticipates a nominal increase in revenue as a result of the fee revision.

14. DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES – (Exhibit XIX)

The Department of Child Support Services proposes fee adjustment from \$25 to \$35 based on State statute for the annual fee from the custodial party for the families that have never received Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) if at least \$550 is collected annually on their behalf. This fee is effective October 1, 2019.

15. GENERAL SERVICES - NUT TREE AIRPORT – (Exhibit XX)

The Department of General Services – Nut Tree Airport proposes fee adjustments. Hangar rental rates will increase by 3% which occurs annually per hangar rental agreements. There is one fee proposed to be increased by 16% for \$174 per month for the rental fee for the storage units in the airport's hangar area to align its fee with the current market trend comparable to other county per square foot rate on the airport. Development application fees will also increase by 2% based on the airport's adjusted hourly rate.

The department anticipates an increase of approximately \$22,924 in revenues resulting from fee increases.

As an Enterprise Fund the County can establish reasonable rates, fees and charges to recover operating costs. The proposed fee schedule and fee adjustments are authorized under County Code Chapter 2.4-20 and California Constitution, article XI, section 7. Pursuant to the County grant obligations with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) the County is also required to operate the airport as a financially self-sustaining enterprise.