



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
**Inter-Departmental Correspondence**

County Counsel

**DATE:** October 2, 2002

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** October 22, 2002

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Thomas F. Casey III, County Counsel

**SUBJECT:** Elimination of the Fish and Wildlife Committee, the Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Board, and the SUCCESS Advisory Committee

**Recommendation**

Adopt a resolution eliminating the Fish and Wildlife Committee, the Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Board, and the SUCCESS Advisory Committee.

**Background**

In 1997, your board adopted a resolution transferring oversight, appointment and staffing of three advisory groups to different county departments. The Fish and Wildlife Committee was transferred to the Environmental Services Agency, the Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Board was transferred to the Children's Executive Council, and the SUCCESS Advisory Committee was transferred to the Human Services Agency.

**Discussion**

In connection with our ongoing review of county boards, commissions and advisory committees, we have learned that each of those three groups should now be eliminated.

\* **Fish and Wildlife Committee.**

This group was formed by the Parks and Recreation Commission in 1990 to recommend expenditures of the Fish and Game Propagation Fund and to advise on other Fish and Wildlife related issues in County Parks. In 1997, the Board adopted a resolution transferring appointment, oversight and staffing responsibility to the Environmental Service Agency, (formerly the Department of Environmental Services). As the Environmental Services Agency is currently struggling with budget reductions and a significantly reduced administrative staff, it has concluded that the relatively limited scope of work performed by this Committee will be more appropriately and efficiently performed by the Parks and

Recreation Commission. Therefore, the Director of Environmental Services has proposed to dissolve the Fish and Wildlife Committee.

\* **Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Board.**

This group was previously mandated, but is no longer required by the State Dept. of Health Services, the agency which funds much of the MCAH programs. The physician who oversees the Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health program in the Public Health Division has advised that the board no longer exists, and that its functions are being taken care of by other entities. Therefore, he has recommended its elimination.

\* **SUCCESS Advisory Committee.**

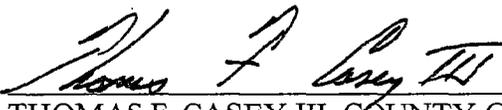
This group was created to advise the Human Services Agency on the implementation of the SUCCESS welfare reform demonstration project. The project was terminated because of an adverse ruling in a lawsuit in 1999, and would have expired in any event in March, 2000. Thus, the SUCCESS Advisory Committee ended in March or April 2000. In May, 2000, your board approved the establishment of the Human Services Advisory Committee (HSAC), which performs a broader scope of activities than the SUCCESS Advisory Committee, including the review of the Human Services Agency's strategic plan.

**Vision Alignment**

This action is consistent with Commitment 9, responsive, effective and collaborative government, and Goal 20, "government decisions are based on careful consideration of future impact, rather than temporary relief or immediate gain," in that the changes accurately reflect the governmental decision making process that has evolved over the past five years.

**Fiscal Impact**

There is expected to be some cost savings associated with the efficiency of having Park and Recreation staff and commissioners perform the relatively limited scope of work previously performed by the Fish and Wildlife Committee.

  
THOMAS F. CASEY III, COUNTY COUNSEL

TFC:DPB/sw

cc: John Maltbie, County Manager  
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Margaret Taylor, Director of Health Services  
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