



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence

County Counsel

DATE: July 14, 2006

BOARD MEETING DATE: August 1, 2006

SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING: None

VOTE REQUIRED: 4/5

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Thomas F. Casey III, County Counsel

SUBJECT: Adoption of Ordinance Enacting a Reorganized Title 2 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt an ordinance Reorganizing Title 2 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code by Repealing Title 2, Chapters 2.04 through 2.206, and Adding Title 2, Chapters 2.00 through 2.95.

VISION ALIGNMENT:

Commitment: Responsive and effective and collaborative government.

Goal(s): County employees understand, support and integrate the County vision and goals into their delivery of services.

BACKGROUND:

The San Mateo County Ordinance Code, first organized in the 1950's, has since then retained its original basic structure and organization. The Code is currently divided into broad groups, which are referred to as "Titles." A multiplicity of subject matters, ranging from county structure to regulation of political activity to provisions for County property, is currently contained in Title 2 without any further organization.

DISCUSSION:

Title 2 is the primary law on County organization and operations. This reorganization would update Title 2 by the enactment of a newly organized Title 2 of the ordinance code, grouping ordinances by subject matter into new "Articles." The basic articles would cover County Structure, County Administration, Health Services,

Human Services and Housing, Public Safety and Administration of Justice, Public Works and County Property, Environmental Services, County Employment, Internal Financial Procedures and Contracts and Taxpayer Services and Recordation of Official Acts. Individual code sections with similar subject matter would be grouped together in chapters under the appropriate article. We have also removed provisions which no longer need to be in the ordinance code.

Once adopted by this Board, Title 2 will be provided to the publisher of the County's code for compilation and publication. This ordinance also provides that the County Counsel may approve such editorial or minor changes in numbering or language as may arise during the publication process.

With this completion of the update of Title 2, we plan to continue our review and update of the Ordinance Code. Title 3 deals with Public Safety, Morals and Welfare and we anticipate that it will take several months to complete that review.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Adoption of this ordinance involves no fiscal impact other than payment for its publication.