To: Honorable Board of Supervisors
From: Michael Callagy, County Manager
Subject: County Manager’s Report #12 of 2019

RECOMMENDATION:
Accept this informational report.

BACKGROUND:
This report will provide you with updates on a variety of County initiatives focusing on Public Safety, Health and Human Services, Community Services and Performance, in addition to reports on legislation and issues that require your action. We also will keep you and the public informed about new services, upcoming events and general updates.

DISCUSSION:

Public Safety
SMC Alert hits subscriber milestone
SMC Alert, the countywide emergency notification system, recently enrolled its 100,000th subscriber. Each subscriber helps make the entire county and its residents that much more prepared for disasters and other emergencies by receiving alerts that help them make informed decisions for themselves and their families. The Southern California and East Bay earthquakes and ongoing wildfire dangers are just recent examples of why preparation and notifications are so important. I commend the Office of Emergency Services, the Sheriff’s Office and our partner cities for their successful efforts to grow our enrollment.

Community Services
VRS heats up its culinary training with new smoker
Summertime barbecues around the County just got a little hotter thanks to a new smoker in use by Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) and Catering Connection, programs operated through the Human Services Agency to help those with disabilities and other barriers achieve employment and self-sufficiency. Training on the new smoker gives Catering Connection workers another culinary skill which they can use to secure future jobs. The County Manager’s Office recently employed the crew
and its smoker for a Heart Walk fundraising barbecue at County Center and there is little wonder as to why they sold out in little over an hour.

Performance
County named digital counties leader
The Center for Digital Government (CDG) and the National Association of Counties (NACo) recognized the County of San Mateo as a digital counties leader for its use of innovative technology practices. Thanks to the hard work of our Information Services Department, its partner departments and the support of your Board, the County placed fifth in the 500,000-999,999 population category of the 17th annual Digital Counties Survey. The annual survey looks at the best technology practices of counties across the United States.

Measure K
Big Lift celebrates another successful Inspiring Summer
Thanks to Measure K funds, students in seven school districts across San Mateo County enjoyed four weeks of reading, science, arts projects, field trips and more through the Inspiring Summers program offered to qualified families by The Big Lift. Inspiring Summers helped more than 1,200 incoming kindergarten through second-grade children combat summer learning loss. The full-day programs that include a healthy breakfast and lunch wrapped up this month with closing ceremonies where parents and guests enjoyed student performances and the students received graduation certificates.

Affordable housing coming to Redwood City
Local officials and advocates for affordable housing recently celebrated the groundbreaking for a 20-unit complex in downtown Redwood City. Habitat for Humanity Greater San Francisco will offer the units for sale to qualified individuals and families. The 20 units, from one to three bedrooms, will be spread over six floors at 612 Jefferson Ave. In October 2018, your Board supported the project with $80,000 in Measure K funds and $500,000 from other sources.