# CLARK COUNTY <br> STAFF REPORT 

## DEPARTMENT: Human Resources <br> DATE: <br> July 18, 2023

## REQUESTED ACTION:

Approve the full -year 2023 salary realignments and the compensation philosophy for nonrepresented employees based on the results of the Baker Tilly classification and compensation study.
Q ConsentHearing
County Manager

## BACKGROUND

For the past several years the county has experienced difficulties in hiring and retaining employees. This is evident by the number of vacant positions throughout the county. One significant factor in the county's inability to hire and retain employees is uncompetitive salaries. In August 2022, the County Council approved funding for a classification and compensation study. Through a competitive process, the firm Baker Tilly was selected to perform the study. Realizing that the study could not be completed before the beginning of the 2023 compensation year, the Council approved funding in the 2023 budget and placed it in contingency with the expectation that it would be used to fund the results of the study for the 2023 full- year salary realignments.

In September 2022, the County formed an Executive Committee to direct the study. The Executive Committee includes the Deputy County Manager, who stepped in when the Human Resources Director position became vacant, the Treasurer who serves on behalf of the offices of the Treasurer, Auditor, and Assessor, and the Sheriff who serves on behalf of the offices of the Sheriff, Clerk, and Prosecuting Attorney.

Baker Tilly began its work in October 2022 and completed job title review, job evaluation, base pay market assessment, and draft pay plans and grade assignments for positions based on job evaluation scores. In brief, the work consisted of assessing each county position and placing them in a salary range based on an internal and external job evaluation process. The salary ranges were developed from a market review of public peer organizations, private sector published salary data, and similar positions within Clark County. Public peer organizations were selected by the Executive Committee based on multiple factors including organization size, geographic location, and competition for talent (considering where our employees are leaving our county for other employment). The salary ranges are considered a fair representation of the position's value in the current labor market; based on job duties, qualifications, etc.

In June 2023, Baker Tilly provided the draft placement and range data to the County Finance Team. The County Finance Team applied the data to the County's current compensation plans, adjusting the salaries of positions that were below market. The total salary realignment was calculated for all positions and all funds. A placeholder Change Request No. BGT-22-23AD was adopted in the 2023 annual budget process to set aside contingency for this study. It is anticipated that the 2023 financial impacts of the study will fall within the budgeted amount for 2023 except for impacts for Fund 1042: Public Safety and General Sales Tax Fund which will be addressed in the 2023 Fall Budget Supplemental. This is based on the following assumptions:

1. All positions below market are moved up to the new market ranges.
2. Positions with salaries already at market do not change.
3. Positions with salaries above market do not decrease.
4. Salary realignments for 2023 are capped at 15 percent or movement to the minimum of the new range.
5. A rate premium equal to the salary realignment percent will be added to the new base salary from August 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023, for non-represented employees hired prior to June 1, 2023.
6. Realignments for the Sheriff's Office, Department of Jail Services, and Prosecuting Attorney personnel are paid through Public Safety Sales Tax Fund, Fund 1042. This practice is consistent with the 2023 Deputy Sheriffs Guild and Corrections Deputy Guild contract increases.

The Finance Team, using the proposed salary realignments, incorporated the changes into the longterm fund forecast models for the General Fund, Public Safety Sales Tax Fund, Road Fund, and Planning and Code Fund and has determined that they are sustainable using the standard model assumptions.

HR Policy 9.6 outlines the process for realignments. For this specific realignment request, an exception to the policy is being requested to align with the assumptions stated above. Going forward the policy will be reviewed and updated. Changes to compensation for 2023 are allowable under the Clark County Charter 5.2 and WAC 357-28-095 authorizing employers the ability to provide additional pay to support the recruitment or retention of specific positions. These positions are identified in the Baker Tilly classification and compensation study recommending realignment to market rates with the new base salaries effective August 1, 2023. In addition, the premium pay will be added to the new base salary as described in no. 5 above.

## COUNCIL POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Pursuant to the Clark County Home Rule Charter and Human Resources Policy, the County Council has the authority to approve overall compensation policies, including, but not limited to, base pay, step increase programs, etc.

## ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no implications for administrative policy.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

N/A

## BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

| YES | NO |  |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| X |  | Operating Budget Impacts |
|  | X | Capital Budget Impacts |
| X |  | Action falls within existing budget capacity. |
|  | X | Action falls within existing budget capacity but requires a change of purpose within <br> existing appropriation. If YES, please complete the budget impact statement. If <br> YES, please route this Staff Report through the Budget Director and then to the <br> County Manager. |
| X |  | Additional budget capacity is necessary and will be requested in the next <br> supplemental or annual budget. If YES, please complete the budget impact <br> statement. If YES, please route this Staff Report through the Budget Director and |


|  | then to the County Manager. This action will be referred to the county council with a <br> recommendation from the county manager. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

## BUDGET DETAILS

| Dollar Amount | $\$ 852,683$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Fund | Multiple Funds (please see Budget Impact Attachment) |
| Cost Center | Multiple |
| BASUB | Salaries Ledger Accounts |
| Program | Multiple |

## Emily Ewetring

$\qquad$
-..................- - gadget Director

## DISTRIBUTION:

Council staff will post all Consent/Separate Business/Hearing staff reports to The Web. https://www.clark.wa.gov/council-meetings
kathleen OHO
$\qquad$

County Manager
Primary Staff Contact Name and Extension: Amber Emery ext. 4308


Deputy County Manager


John Hock $\qquad$
Sheriff

## APPROVED:

CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON
CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL

DATE: $\qquad$
SR\# $\qquad$

## APPROVED:

Kathleen Otto, County Manager
DATE: $\qquad$

## BUDGET IMPACT ATTACHMENT

## Part I: Narrative Explanation

I. A - Explanation of what the request does that has fiscal impact and the assumptions for developing revenue and costing information.

Part II: Estimated Revenues

| Fund \#/Title | $\begin{gathered} \hline 2023 \\ \text { Annual Budget } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} 2024 \\ \text { Annual Budget } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \hline 2025 \\ \text { Annual Budget } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | GF | Total | GF | Total | GF | Total |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| , |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |

II. A - Describe the type of revenue (grant, fees, etc.)

## Part III: Estimated Expenditures

III. A - Expenditures summed up.

A placeholder Change Request No. BGT-22-23AD was adopted in the 2023 annual budget process to set aside contingency for this study. It is anticipated that the 2023 financial impacts of the study will fall within the budgeted amount for 2023 except for impacts for Fund 1042: Public Safety and General Sales Tax Fund. Any impacts for this fund will need to be appropriated in the 2023 Fall Supplemental Budget process. Future year increases will be budgeted via the Budget Office position costing process as part of the annual baseline budget development. Future years' estimated impacts are represented in the multiple major fund 6-year forecasts and are subject to bargaining for some positions. This information has been reviewed by the Budget Director on 06/29/23.

| Fund \#/Title | FTE's | 2023 |  | 2024 |  | 2025 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | GFnual Budget | Annual Budget |  | Annual Budget |  |  |
|  | GF | Total | GF | Total | GF | Total |  |
| $0001 /$ General Fund |  | $\$ 367,310$ | $\$ 367,310$ |  |  |  |  |
| 1012/Road Fund |  |  | $\$ 45,627$ |  |  |  |  |
| 1042/Public Safety Sales Tax |  |  | $\$ 509,155$ |  |  |  |  |
| Health Dept |  |  | $\$ 16,755$ |  |  |  |  |
| 1041/ARPA |  |  | $\$ 57,088$ |  |  |  |  |
| Various Other Funds |  |  | $(\$ 143,252)$ |  |  |  |  |
| Total |  | $\$ 367,310$ | $\$ 852,683$ |  |  |  |  |

III. B - Expenditure by object category

| Fund \#/Title | 2023 |  | 2024 |  | 2025 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Annual Budget |  | Annual Budget |  | Annual Budget |  |
|  | GF | Total | GF | Total | GF | Total |
| Salary/Benefits | $\$ 367,310$ | $\$ 852,683$ |  |  |  |  |
| Total | $\$ 367,310$ | $\$ 852,683$ |  |  |  |  |

## Title \& Grade Assignment - Non-Represented



| Title \& Grade Assignment- Public Safety |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Proposed Title | Grade | Minimum | Maximum |
| Chief Deputy Sheriff - Criminal (M2) | 110 | \$147,934 | \$198,245 |
| Chief Deputy Sheriff - Civil (M2) | 110 | \$147,934 | \$198,245 |
| Chief Deputy Sheriff - Administrative (M2) | 110 | \$147,934 | \$198,245 |
| Deputy Director of Jail Services | 110 | \$147,934 | \$198,245 |
| Title \& Grade Assignment - Attorney |  |  |  |
| Proposed Title | Grade | Minimum | Maximum |
| Deputy Prosecuting Attorney I (M2) | 402 | \$88,711 | \$133,067 |
| Deputy Prosecuting Attorney II (M2) | 403 | \$98,470 | \$147,705 |
| Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Senior (M2) | 405 | \$121,325 | \$181,988 |
| Chief Civil/Criminal Prosecuting Attorney (N | 406 | \$134,670 | \$202,005 |
| Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney (M1) | 407 | \$149,484 | \$224,226 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Title \& Grade Assignment - Public Health |  |  |  |
| Proposed Title | Grade | Minimum | Maximum |
| Deputy Health Officer (M2) | 501 | \$147,706 | \$214,174 |
| Medical Examiner Associate (M2) | 503 | \$175,490 | \$254,461 |
| Health Officer-Adminstrator (M1) | 503 | \$175,490 | \$254,461 |
| Chief Medical Examiner (M1) | 506 | \$227,264 | \$329,533 |

Title \& Grade Assignment - M3

|  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

