

County of Santa Clara  
Office of the County Executive



24-5278

**DATE:** April 16, 2024 (Item No. {{item.number}})

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Greta S. Hansen, Chief Operating Officer  
Margaret Olaiya, Director, Finance Agency

**SUBJECT:** Direct Pay Ordinance Amendment

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Introduce and preliminarily adopt Ordinance No. NS-300.983, an Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara amending Section A15-17 of Article 3 of Chapter I of Division A15 of the Santa Clara County Ordinance Code relating to the Direct Payment List.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

This action will have no impact to the County General Fund. Funding for court reporter services for workers' compensation matters is included in the Office of the County Executive Risk Management Division's Fiscal Year 2023-2024 approved budget.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION AND BACKGROUND**

The Office of the County Executive is requesting an amendment to the Direct Payment List to increase the amount in Direct Pay Code H.38, Worker's Compensation legal fees, from \$25,000 per vendor per year to \$50,000 per vendor per year.

The Office of the County Counsel provides legal support to the Worker's Compensation Program, including conducting depositions during claims litigation. Depositions require the use of a court reporter. The Office of the County Counsel utilizes a pool of vendors that are paid using Direct Pay Code H.38, which currently has a limit of \$25,000. Increasing this limit to \$50,000 per vendor per year would allow for the utilization of vendors to support the level of services that have been required over the past few years. The increase would also allow greater flexibility for use of more cost-effective vendors.

**CHILD IMPACT**

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on children and youth.

**SENIOR IMPACT**

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on seniors.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

The recommended action will have no/neutral sustainability implications.

## **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

Upon approval and adoption of ordinance, Clerk of the Board is to notify Michele Seaton and Melissa Loo in the Office of the County Executive.

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

- Ordinance NS 300 983 amending Direct Payment List redlined
- Ordinance NS 300 983 amending Direct Payment List