



March 11, 2024

Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Clara
70 W. Hedding Street – 10th Floor, East Wing
San José, CA 95110
Sent via electronic mail

Re: Item 16, Recommendations Relating to Budget Inventory Guidelines

Dear President Ellenberg and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

I write to you on behalf of the Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits (SVCN), an alliance of community-based organizations working to advance the role, voice, and capacity of the nonprofit community in Santa Clara County so it can be a force for positive social change and support the creation of equitable, vibrant, and thriving communities.

We appreciate President Ellenberg and Supervisor Arenas for their thoughtful referral relating to inventory guidelines for the next two fiscal years. We agreed that the inventory process should be restructured to be responsive to equity and district needs and be more transparent, accessible, and consistent.

We also appreciate County Administration for preliminarily meeting with SVCN representatives to discuss changes to the inventory process as well as potential long-term approaches. Whereas we acknowledge the ongoing budget deficit and the short timeframe, we suggest that Administration return to the Board in September with additional options to address how these changes impact nonprofits and how potential RFP processes could offer streamlined procedures for piloting new program ideas, meeting emerging community needs, and supporting nonprofit organizational capacity, as further outlined in SVCN's January letter to the Board.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns.

Regards,

Kyra Kazantzis, CEO

About SVCN

Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits (SVCN) advances the role, voice, and capacity of the nonprofit community in Santa Clara County so it can be a force for positive social change and support the creation of equitable, vibrant, and thriving communities. SVCN has committed to be a change-agent and a model of possibility by centering racial justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion principles in everything SVCN does internally and externally. One of our strategic commitments is to support the nonprofit ecosystem by being a trusted source and hub of information, resources, and connection for nonprofits across Silicon Valley, that facilitates nonprofit collaboration and collective impact. We also leverage our power, positionality, and access, in order to partner with, amplify, and support community to influence decision-makers to change systems in ways that address the biggest challenges facing nonprofits and the communities they serve. SVCN's nonprofit membership is 170+ strong; we also offer Ally Membership to individuals, businesses, and foundations. To learn more about SVCN please visit www.svcn.org.