



County of Fresno

Hall of Records, Rm. 301
2281 Tulare Street
Fresno, California
93721-2198

Legislation Text

File #: 21-0159, **Version:** 1

DATE: April 27, 2021
TO: Board of Supervisors
SUBMITTED BY: Daniel C. Cederborg, County Counsel
SUBJECT: Amendment to Master Schedule of Fees - Section 600

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

- 1. Conduct first hearing to amend the Master Schedule of Fees, Charges and Recovered Costs Ordinance by amending Section 600 - County Counsel, Subsection 601 - Legal Services; and waive reading of the Ordinance in its entirety and set the second hearing for May 11, 2021;**
- 2. Designate County Counsel to prepare a fair and adequate summary of the proposed Ordinance; and**
- 3. Direct the Clerk of the Board to post and publish the required summary in accordance with Government Code, Section 25124(b)(1)**

Approval of the recommended actions will amend an existing fee in the Master Schedule of Fees, Charges, and Recovered Costs (MSF) based on actual County Counsel costs, effective June 28, 2021. The fee is charged to departments with third-party funding and all other public agencies that County Counsel provides legal services to. This item is countywide.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION(S):

Your Board may choose not to amend the MSF Ordinance and direct County Counsel staff to use the current fee or propose an alternate fee, which may not recover 100% of departmental staff costs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no increase in Net County Cost associated with the recommended actions. It is anticipated that the proposed rate, \$150 per hour, a 6% (\$9) increase over the FY 2019-20 adopted rate, will allow the County Counsel's Office to recover the cost of providing services to third-party funded departments and all other public agencies that County Counsel provides legal services to.

DISCUSSION:

The County Counsel's Office has completed a review of the hourly rate charged to third-party funded departments and public agencies for legal services. As a result, it has been determined that there should be an increase from the current hourly rate of \$141 to a new hourly rate of \$150. The adjustment requested reflects current costs for salaries, benefits, services, supplies and overhead as noted on Exhibit A of the Ordinance. The County Counsel hourly rate for attorneys was last updated in 2020.

The recommended rate and methodology applied for cost recovery have been reviewed and approved by the Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector. If adopted by your Board, the recommended rate will take effect

June 28,2021.

REFERENCE MATERIAL:

BAI #40, May 26, 2020

ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED AND/OR ON FILE:

Ordinance, including Exhibit A
On file with Clerk - Ordinance Summary
Attachment A - Hourly rate

CAO ANALYST:

Raul Guerra