

2024 Critical Needs County Attorney's Office

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October 24, 2023

Strategic Plan Objectives Supported By Critical Needs Request

- **Service Quality –**
 - **Ensures continued timely and high-quality legal support in development and related matters.**



Operating Indicators – Litigation and Employment

Litigation

- **Civil litigation filings have been extremely high for the past four years.**
 - **2019 Filings: 37**
 - **2020 Filings: 48**
 - **2021 Filings: 51**
 - **2022 Filings: 113**
 - **2023 YTD Filings: 31**
- * Increased proportion of high effort/high profile litigation as well.**



Operating Indicators – Litigation and Employment

Employment Hearings (termination appeals, unemployment hearings, EEOC/CCRD Charges)

- **2021 – 23**
- **2022 – 15**
- **2023 YTD – 24**

Code Enforcement

- **2021 (Abatement + Litigation): 32**
- **2022 (Abatement + Litigation): 32**
- **2023 YTD (Abatement + Litigation + Demolition): 29**

2020 Retirement of long-time transactional attorney; position reconfigured to assist with litigation and employment.



Operating Indicators – Code Enforcement

Abatements

- **2022: 12**
- **2023: 8**

Code Litigation

- **2022: Active - 9 Completed - 15**
- **2023: Active - 32 Completed - 22**



Transactional Matters

The County's land use, water, real estate, assessment, and other infrastructure-related transactional matters have remained steady.

The County Attorney's Office continues to provide review of files assigned within eDARP. Attorney review is required for items within the following file types, often requiring multiple reviews in the same calendar year: AASI, AL, EX, ID, MS, PUD, PUDSP, SF, SKP, SP, VA and VR.

Water Reviews completed:

2021: 39

2022: 29

2023 YTD: 26



Two Transactional Positions Currently Combined

POSITION 1	POSITION 2
<p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise BOA and attend meetings • Advise PC and attend meetings • Attend BoCC land use hearings • Draft and review several types of land use agreements • Draft and review regulations and ordinances • Legal advice to staff <p>Special Districts, PIDs, LIDs</p> <p>Public Works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MS4 permit and stormwater drainage • ROW related to new development • Draft and review contracts and IGAs • Draft and review regulations and policies • Legal advice to staff <p>Public Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise Board of Health and attend meetings • Draft and review contracts and MOUs • Draft and review resolutions • Draft and review regulations and policies • Legal advice to staff 	<p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise PC and attend meetings • Attend BoCC land use hearings • Water sufficiency reviews • 1041 regulations and applications • Draft and review several types of land use agreements • Draft and review regulations • Legal advice to staff <p>Public Works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ROW acquisition for capital projects • Draft and review contracts and IGAs • Draft and review regulations and policies • Legal advice to staff <p>Environmental Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation easements • Wetlands management <p>Real estate transactions</p>



Critical Needs and Justification

- **Seeking one transactional attorney to support ongoing/increasing County needs.**
- **Demand for litigation and code enforcement anticipated to continue.**
- **Continuing need for land, water, real estate, support of Countywide elected officials, and general transactional support requires an additional attorney.**



Base Budget & Critical Needs

<u>Description</u>	<u>2024 Base Budget</u>	<u>2024 Critical Needs/Requests</u>	<u>2024 PBB</u>
General Fund	\$ 1,601,921	\$ 170,710	\$ 1,772,631
Restricted Funding	\$ 4,467,392	\$ -	\$ 4,467,392
Total Budgeted Funding	\$ 6,069,313	\$ 170,710	\$ 6,240,023

Funding Request 2024

On going:

- **Land Use/Transactional Attorney (1 FTE)**





Questions?