From the County Administrator

May 23, 2014

Members of the Board of Supervisors:

I am pleased to transmit to you the FY2014/15 Recommended Budget as a balanced budget of \$826,255,908 that overcomes many financial obstacles to successfully address the Board's strategic priorities and remains consistent with the County's fiscally prudent management policies. The Recommended Budget reflects a decrease of \$42,857,936 or 4.9% from the FY2013/14 Adopted Budget,



this is primarily due to the one-time inclusion of construction costs for the new AB 900-funded Stanton Correctional Facility in FY2013/14.

The FY2013/14 Recommended Budget reflects the sustained efforts to address complex local, State and Federal initiatives that place significant demands on staff time and limited resources with the objective of securing long-term results that will benefit this county, such as continued efforts to support and protect Travis Air Force Base and the Delta. The County has also been focused for several years on the ongoing implementation of programs and services stemming from State realignment, including juvenile justice services and local adjustments to accommodate state prison overcrowding (AB 109) resulting in changes to criminal offender supervision, jail sentencing, and mental health services. Most recently, we have been implementing California's version of the Affordable Care Act with the expanded medical coverage, health care access, and changes in employment and eligibility.

This Budget reflects Solano County's gradual emergence from the Great Recession with some lingering effects of that harsh economic downturn. While the assessed property tax rolls show signs of recovering values and unemployment has dropped from the high of 12.5% in January 2010 to a preliminary estimate of 7% in April 2014, Solano County lags behind the Bay Area and Sacramento in its rate of recovery, which is more due to our location between these two regions than any one factor. Reliance on federally and state-funded assistance is still higher than pre-recession levels. Nearly one out of every five residents (22.6%) in Solano County is receiving some sort of public assistance, which stresses and challenges this organization to meet the needs of the community. The expanded eligibility rules for Medi-Cal as part of the implementation of the Affordable Care Act and the addition of more than 16,000 individuals into the Medi-Cal program over the last 15 months means potentially better health care for residents in the future, but will initially impact local health care providers. The housing market continues to offer mixed signals as home prices climb and the inventory of homes for sale and the numbers of sales decline. A brighter economic sign is that the commercial activity continues to refill vacant commercial properties and reduce the available inventory. More individuals are going back to work and recent employer surveys suggest that there will be more jobs added in the coming year. The overall timid economic growth nationally, coupled with continued uncertainty over the ultimate effects of Federal Budget reductions and Sequestration and State realigned programs, requires any economic optimism to be tempered with caution.

The Recommended Budget proposes a modest 19.55 new FTE positions beyond what the Board approved during FY2013/14, which primarily addressed expanding operational needs related to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, the 2011 Realignment of Public Safety, and Mental Health, and final preparations for bringing online the



County of Solano

Recommended Budget

Stanton Correctional Facility. Additional funding – from State and Federal sources as well as an improving economy – provides much of the resources to address these expanded programs and services. The Budget also reflects modest increases in employee salaries and the continued escalation of health care and retirement costs.

The FY2014/15 Recommended Budget was compiled based on the requirement that each department target and submit a "no increase" in General Fund cost budget. While achieving this was not possible in all situations, it does reflect a concerted effort by departments to offset increasing operational costs by exploring other ways to provide services without increasing expenditures. This thoughtful approach balances staffing, physical space, and how we provide services when residents want to access them through the use of automation and self-help portals.

While the County Budget for FY2014/15 is balanced, there remains a structural gap between revenues and expenses in the General Fund (although much smaller than in prior years), and we are relying on the use of one-time funding from Fund Balance to fill the gap. Going forward, we will continue to adhere to the prudent financial management policies that enabled us to weather the Great Recession and its aftermath and begin to emerge a leaner, focused organization utilizing streamlined processes and automation to assist in the delivery of services.

Crafting a balanced budget is always an arduous task. Our Department Heads and their fiscal staffs, along with members of my staff, have spent the past five months compiling data, projecting expenses, revenues, workloads and staffing needs, and meticulously reviewing programs to achieve a balanced budget. I am proud and appreciative of everyone who contributed to this very time-consuming, yet important work. I especially want to thank the CAO Budget Team who compiled the Recommended Budget: Assistant County Administrator Nancy Huston, Ron Grassi, Ian Goldberg, Michelle Heppner, Stephen Pierce, Emily Combs, Chris Rogers, Jodene Nolan, Marc Fox, and Auditor-Controller Simona Padilla-Scholtens and her staff.

In closing, I want to recognize and thank the Department Heads, the County employees, and our community partners who have continued the ongoing effort to identify opportunities to redesign services and reduce costs to enable the community to receive excellent and needed services while the County continues its efforts to address shortfalls in General Fund Revenues and comply with new mandates. As we move forward in an increasingly more positive economic posture, we must continue forging collaboration – inside and outside of the organization and at all levels – to ensure Solano County remains the place known for its partnerships and leadership in providing innovative, high quality, effective and fiscally responsible services for our residents.

Buythe Elonsello

Birgitta E. Corsello County Administrator

Board of Supervisors



Linda J. Seifert Chair District 2



Erin Hannigan **Vice Chair** District 1



James P. Spering District 3



John M. Vasquez District 4



Skip Thomson District 5

SOLANO COUNTY'S MISSION

To serve the people and to provide a safe and healthy place to live, learn, work and play.

SOLANO COUNTY'S VISION

The County of Solano will be locally and nationally recognized for its partnerships and leadership in providing innovative, effective and fiscally responsible services that result in the highest quality of life for its residents.

CORE VALUES

Integrity: Be open and honest, trustworthy, ethical and fair

Dignity: Treat all persons with respect

Excellence: Provide quality, integrated, sustainable and innovative public services Accountability: Take ownership, be fiscally responsible and result-driven Leadership: Be personally responsible and a positive example for others

GOALS

Improve the health and well-being of those who live and work here Ensure responsible and sustainable land use Maintain a safe community Invest in and for the future



County of Solano

Budget Team & Department Head Listings

Budget Team		
County Administrator	Birgitta Corsello	784-6100
Assistant County Administrator	Nancy Huston	784-6107
Health and Public Assistance	Ron Grassi	784-6933
Public Safety	lan Goldberg	784-6116
General Government/Transportation/Budget Forecasting	Emily Combs	784-6113
General Government/Education	Chris Rogers	784-6481
General Government/Land Use/Economic Development	Stephen Pierce	784-6122
Legislative, Intergovernmental and Public Affairs Officer	Michelle Heppner	784-3002
Public Communications Officer	Matthew Davis	784-6111
Budget Document Production	Jodene Nolan	784-6108
General Revenues & Property Taxation	Simona Padilla-Scholtens	784-6280
Indirect Cost	Phyllis Taynton	784-6288
Budget Training	Ray Catapang/Magen Yambao	784-6942
Department Head Listing		
Agricultural Commissioner-Sealer of Weights & Measures	Jim Allan	784-1310
Assessor-Recorder	Marc Tonnesen	784-6200
Auditor-Controller	Simona Padilla-Scholtens	784-6280
Chief Information Officer/Registrar of Voters	Ira Rosenthal	784-6675
Cooperative Extension	Morgan Doran	784-1317
County Administrator	Birgitta Corsello	784-6100
County Counsel	Dennis Bunting	784-6140
Child Support Services	Pamela Posehn	784-3606
District Attorney	Don du Bain	784-6800
General Services	Mike Lango	784-7900
Health & Social Services	Ann Edwards	784-8400
Human Resources/Risk Management	Marc Fox	784-6170
Library	Bonnie Katz	784-1500
Probation	Christopher Hansen	784-7600
Public Defender-Conflict Public Defender	Lesli Caldwell	784-6700
Resource Management	Bill Emlen	784-6765
Sheriff-Coroner	Tom Ferrara	784-7030
Treasurer-Tax Collector-County Clerk	Charles Lomeli	784-6295
Veterans Services	Ted Puntillo	784-6590
Workforce Investment Board (WIB)	Robert Bloom	864-3370

Organizational Chart

Board of Supervisors



Erin Hannigan District 1



Linda J. Seifert District 2



James P. Spering District 3



John M. Vasquez District 4



Skip Thomson District 5



County Counsel Dennis Bunting



County Administrator Birgitta Corsello

Elected Officials



Auditor-Controller Simona Padilla-Scholtens



District Attorney



Don du Bain



Assessor-Recorder Marc Tonnesen



Sheriff/Coroner Tom Ferrara



Tax Collector/County Clerk/Treasurer Charles Lomeli

Appointed Officials



Ag. Comm./Sealer Jim Allan



General Services Mike Lango



Human Resources Marc Fox



H&SS Ann Edwards



Public Defender Lesli Caldwell



Library Bonnie Katz



Resource Mgmt. Bill Emlen



Veterans Services Ted Puntillo



CIO/ROV Ira Rosenthal



Probation Christopher Hansen



UC Coop Extension Morgan Doran



Child Support Services Pamela Posehn

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