## Recommendation for a New Executive Pay Plan

## Personnel and Reorganization Committee

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## BACKGROUND

The CEX directed a county-wide compensation and organizational review of Executive and Managerial level occupations that are not part of the annual salary benchmark study

Driving factors include:

- Structures have not been reviewed holistically for many years
- Employees "maxed-out"
- Recruitment challenges in many cases
- Internal Equity/Alignment issues
- Negative impacts on morale/performance


## Background: Complaints from Managers

## Ranges are not reflective of market rates.

Pay is Negatively impacting recruiting/morale.

- Advertised ranges not always competitive - not attractive to best candidates.
- New employees are sometimes hired-in above long-term employees.

Significant number of employees at max.

- Salary growth limited to structure movement (MRA).

No/little flexibility to relieve internal equity/alignment issues.

- Compression:
- subordinate pay very close to supervisor's pay.
- employees with less experience sometimes paid more than employees with greater experience.
- Inversion: subordinate in some cases paid more than supervisor.


## Compensation Study Update

## Ended Vendor Contract for Compensation Study in Late Fall.

Workplan for Appointed and Director Level Positions:

- Completed Data Gathering from Comparator Jurisdictions;
- Completed Data Analysis of Pay Plan for Executive Level Positions;
- Completed Proposed Pay Plan to consolidate pay grades.

Workplan for Managerial Level Positions (including S31 and above)

- Completed Data Gathering from Comparator Jurisdictions and other data sources;
- Completed Data Analysis for Management Positions;
- Will recommend regrades for management classifications out of market following current process for the annual salary benchmark study.


## Current Executive Pay Plan

| GRADE | MIN | MID | MAX |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| E01 | $\$ 70,438$ | $\$ 93,918$ | $\$ 117,397$ |
| E02 | $\$ 73,833$ | $\$ 98,444$ | $\$ 123,055$ |
| E03 | $\$ 77,404$ | $\$ 103,205$ | $\$ 129,007$ |
| E04 | $\$ 81,164$ | $\$ 108,219$ | $\$ 135,274$ |
| E05 | $\$ 82,783$ | $\$ 110,377$ | $\$ 137,972$ |
| E06 | $\$ 86,795$ | $\$ 115,726$ | $\$ 144,659$ |
| E07 | $\$ 91,073$ | $\$ 121,432$ | $\$ 151,789$ |
| E08 | $\$ 95,448$ | $\$ 127,263$ | $\$ 159,079$ |
| E09 | $\$ 102,517$ | $\$ 136,689$ | $\$ 170,862$ |
| E10 | $\$ 107,631$ | $\$ 143,507$ | $\$ 179,384$ |
| E11 | $\$ 112,882$ | $\$ 150,509$ | $\$ 188,137$ |
| E12 | $\$ 117,857$ | $\$ 157,143$ | $\$ 196,429$ |
| E13 | $\$ 123,671$ | $\$ 164,895$ | $\$ 206,118$ |
| E14 | $\$ 136,765$ | $\$ 182,353$ | $\$ 227,942$ |

Department Heads at grades E-5 through E-13. Deputy County Executives only are at E-14.

## Executive Actual Pay to Current Pay Plan

A tool used to perform the internal equity analysis is a (graphic) regression of actual pay to the current pay plan.


## How did we get here?

We have far more levels in our current executive pay plan than any of our peers

# Comparators' Pay Structure Practices 

Executive Pay Structure Practices:
Grades per Level


## Proposed Structure for Executive (Appointed) Positions

- Collapse Grades - (only 10 of 14 in use).
- Keep current alignment of jobs
- Modestly increase maximums to align with and reflect the market.
- Ranges will be reviewed annually to ensure they appropriately accommodate jobs.


## Proposed Structure: Why is this the solution?

No immediate cost impact.

- New structure is not "regrading" under current Personnel Regulations.
- Most actual pay is highly competitive with market, though a few adjustments may be needed

Gives flexibility to relieve internal equity/alignment issues.

## Enhances recruiting.

- Advertised ranges now actually aligned to market
- Advertised ranges now attractive to potential candidates.

Improves morale.

- Provides opportunity for salary growth.
- Enhances ability to reward performance.
- Eliminates politicking over grades.


## Structure and Pay Decision Guidelines

## COST CONTROLS

- A market-based level structure uses definitive, quantitative market data to ensure competitive ranges on which to base pay decisions.
- Range for each level is anchored by benchmark jobs.



## PROPOSED SLOTTING ALIGNMENT

## Note: Based on Current pay plan

DIR,FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DEPT
DIRECTOR OF COURT SERVICES
DIR, DEPT OF PUB SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS
DIR COUNTY LIBRARY
DIRECTOR OFFICE STRATEGY MGMT HHS
DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT \& MATERIAL MAN

## Proposed Pay Plan for Appointed and Director Positions

Maximum expanded 10\%
Appointed and Director Pay Plan

| GRADE | MIN | MID | MAX |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| A-4 | $\$ 147,492$ | $\$ 199,114$ | $\$ 250,736$ |
| A-3 | $\$ 133,370$ | $\$ 180,050$ | $\$ 226,730$ |
| A-2 | $\$ 121,736$ | $\$ 164,344$ | $\$ 206,951$ |
| A-1 | $\$ 102,933$ | $\$ 138,960$ | $\$ 174,987$ |

## Other Managerial Positions: Ongoing Review

- Over the past year, staff has worked closely with agency management through workforce planning meetings to discuss occupations for which it is difficult to recruit and retain the appropriate talent.
- Based on these discussions and further analysis, recommendations have been developed and in the process of being shared with agencies before finalizing for a July 2020 implementation.
- Recommendations are data-driven following current compensation benchmark methodologies.
- Those included in the proposed plan will be implemented in FY 2021 will be accommodated in the existing budget.


## Compensation Benchmarking Methodology

- Market Competitiveness - The County will maintain a competitive level for compensation administration with at least the external salary range mid-point average of comparator organizations in the local Washington DC area.
- Comparator Organizations - Arlington County; City of Alexandria; District of Columbia; Loudoun County; Montgomery County; Prince George's County; and Prince William County. Other employers (authorities, commissions, jurisdictions, local DC area private sector organizations, etc.) may also be considered as comparators, when appropriate, to address recruitment or retention issues.
- Data Sources:
- Public Sector: Comparator Organizations, Local Government Personnel Association (LGPA)
- Private Sector: National Capital Area Compensation Survey (formerly HRANCA), HCA Healthcare Survey, Mercer


## Compensation Benchmarking Methodology (Continued)

- Market Ratio Thresholds - Market ratio thresholds for all occupational groups are 95 percent to 105 percent of the external salary range mid-point average of the surveyed class specifications. If an occupation falls below the 95 percent threshold applicable recommendations will be administered.
- Pay Increase Adjustments for Impacted Employees of a Regrade - If an employee's pay is below the current salary grade mid-point, the employee receives a pay adjustment of 3 percent of the new salary grade mid-point. If an employee's pay is at or above the current salary grade mid-point, the employee receives a pay adjustment of 1.5 percent of the new salary grade mid-point.


## Questions?

