LIVERMORE
CALIFORNIA

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT **ITEM NO. 8.1**

DATE: November 23, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Dustin J. Claussen, Administrative Services Director

SUBJECT: Resolution adopting 180-day wait period exception to hire retired annuitant, Erik Peterson, former Finance Manager, in accordance with Government Code section 7522.56 of the Public Employees' Retirement Law.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution approving the hiring of retired annuitant, Erik Peterson, former Finance Manager, in accordance with Government Code section 7522.56 of the Public Employees' Retirement Law.

SUMMARY

A California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) retiree who returns to employment with a CalPERS agency is referred to as a "retired annuitant." CalPERS generally requires retirees to serve a180-day waiting period between their retirement date and their first day of post-retirement employment. Government Code 7522.56 permits an agency's governing body to waive this requirement when the appointment is critically needed. This appointment is not intended to fill a vacant or regular City position. This limited duration assignment is specifically intended to support development of the City's upcoming budget and provide training and transitional assistance. The appointment is necessary due to the specialized nature of the work and current staff capacity and will end when identified projects are completed.

DISCUSSION

The Finance Division of the Administrative Services Department is experiencing several staffing transitions. These changes have resulted in loss of institutional knowledge, particularly related to the City's implementation of its LEAP enterprise resource planning (ERP) system.

Erik Peterson, the City's former Finance Manager, possesses specialized knowledge of the City's financial operations, LEAP system, and historical financial processes. His temporary appointment would focus on several limited-duration special projects, including enhancing and documenting LEAP financial reporting, developing budget preparation tools and training materials, supporting the LPFD financial services transition, and documenting critical financial procedures to facilitate staff cross-training.

These projects are particularly important given the recent staffing transitions within the Finance division and the upcoming biennial budget process. Mr. Peterson's assistance would allow the City to complete these specialized projects, preserve institutional knowledge, and support the transition of responsibilities to existing staff. The appointment would be limited to these temporary assignments.

As fewer than 180 days have passed since Mr. Peterson retired, City Council approval is required to waive the applicable waiting period. The appointment will be limited in duration and scope, will not exceed 960 hours in a fiscal year, and will end upon completion of the budget and transition assignments.

FISCAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE IMPACTS

Retired annuitants are not entitled to any city employment benefits or property rights associated with regular employment. Therefore, the cost of hire is limited to salary only. The maximum fiscal impact is approximately $79,560 based on the retired annuitant working the maximum 960 hours and will be funded through savings generated by vacant positions in the Administrative Services Department.

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution
2. Exhibit A - Conditional Offer Letter

Prepared by: Kristen Hilton
Human Resources Manager

Approved by:

Marianna A. Burch
City Manager

Fiscal Review by:

Dustin Claussen
Administrative Services Director