LIVERMORE
CALIFORNIA

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

DATE: September 14, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Kristen Hilton, Acting Administrative Services Director

SUBJECT: Resolution adopting 180-day wait period exception to hire retired annuitant, Christina Olson, former Administrative Services Director, 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, Christina Olson, former Administrative Services Director, 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 to newly hired employees. 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

Christina Olson recently retired from the City of Livermore after serving as the Administrative Services Director. Since her retirement, the City has hired a new Administrative Services Director and Finance Manager. Both positions have significant responsibilities related to development and administration of the City's budget. The City is currently beginning preparation of the next two-year budget for FY 2027-29, making timely training and knowledge transfer particularly important.

This appointment would be for a limited-duration special-project assignment. Her work will be restricted to assisting with budget development and providing training and transitional support to the newly hired employees. Her institutional knowledge of the City's financial operations, budget processes, systems,

and organizational practices make her uniquely qualified to perform this work, and she will only serve in a temporary, supplemental capacity to complete the identified special projects and facilitate and effective transition.

As fewer than 180 days have passed since Ms. Olson 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 $102,574 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.

COMMUNITY PILLAR

5: A City That Works

GOAL

8: Attract, develop, engage, and retain a diverse and highly skilled workforce across the organization.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution
2. Exhibit A - Conditional Offer Letter

Prepared by: Kristen Hilton
Acting Administrative Services Director

Approved by:

Marianna A. Burch
City Manager

Fiscal Review by:

Kristen Hilton
Acting Administrative Services Director