CITY OF SALINAS
COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: **FEBRUARY 19, 2019**

DEPARTMENT: **PUBLIC WORKS**

FROM: **DAVID JACOBS, DIRECTOR**

BY: **ERIC SANDOVAL, GIS ADMINISTRATOR**

TITLE: **INNOVATION TEAM UPDATE**

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

No action is required. This Report presents information to the City Council regarding activities of the City's Innovation Team

RECOMMENDATION:

No recommendation is provided since this Report is presented for informational purposes only.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Innovation Team is led by the City Manager and was formed in the summer of 2017. The Innovation Team supports the City's Strategic Plan goal of Effective and Sustainable Government through innovative practices and a culture of data-driven, decision making. The team is comprised of representatives from various departments and has focused its efforts on implementing organizational change thru new business processes, enhanced workflow, the implementation of new technology and supporting government transparency by increasing access to city datasets and information.

BACKGROUND:

As we enter a new decade, the challenges facing the City of Salinas and its residents continue to grow and become more complex. With limited resources and staff and the growing expectations from our residents, the City of Salinas will need to rethink how it does business if it hopes to meet the needs of our community. In the summer of 2017, the Innovation Team was created by the City Manager to help the City of Salinas utilize data and flexible technologies for better performance, innovation and community engagement. The Team developed a Mission Statement as follows:

The Innovation Team supports the City's Strategic Plan goal of Effective and Sustainable Government through innovative practices and a culture of data-driven decision making.

Over the past 18 months Innovation Team members have worked on various project to help establish a data-driven, decision making culture at the City.

Accomplishments To Date

- Salinas Connect/QAlert
- Open Data Policy for government transparency
- Open Data Portal
- Data Governance policies
- Performance Management Program Evaluation
- Revenue Recovery Study
- Code Enforcement Pre-Notification Study
- Partner with the Alliance for Innovation to host a Regional Innovation Summit

Upcoming Projects
- Partner with the City of Gilroy to establish a Regional Working Group
- Partner with John Hopkins University to host a Regional Training Workshop
- Create a CIP Tracking Dashboard
- WAZE Traffic data integration
- Bloomberg Philanthropy What Works Cities certification
- Smart City certification

There are many grant and training opportunities that will help City staff evaluate and make improvements to their current work flow and day-to-day activities. Staff's work must be done well AND with limited resources. One Goal of the Innovation Team is to establish systems that provide tools for staff to target their efforts on solutions that have significant impact. It's critical that we have the support of executive management and the City Council for this work, if staff is to provide the best and most effective customer service to our residents.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

Not a Project. The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378).

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

The Innovation Team supports the City's Strategic Plan goal of Effective and Sustainable Government through innovative practices and a culture of data-driven decision making.

DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:

The City Manager has chosen staff members from various departments to participate on the Team and contribute to efforts of achieving its goals. The Team meets bi-monthly, to discuss new opportunities and work on the implementation of new processes.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

There are no additional impacts on the General Fund. The Team is supported by Capital Improvement Project (CIP) 9111: Technology and Business Process Innovation

ATTACHMENTS:

None