March 13, 2018

Re: Making Ends Meet in Marin

Dear Colleagues:

Supervisors Connolly and Rice bring this request to receive a presentation from First 5 Marin on “Making Ends Meet in Marin”, a report on the high cost of housing and child care in Marin.

In December, First 5 Marin held a community forum called, “Making Ends Meet in Marin.” The report released that day illustrates how unaffordable housing combined with the high cost of licensed child care in Marin is exorbitantly expensive for families with young children.

The fair market rent for a two-bedroom unit in Marin is over $3,000 per month. And the average cost of licensed child care for one infant and one preschooler is also $3,000 per month. ($1333 for the preschooler; $1666 for the infant) According to the Insight Center for Community Economic Development, a family of four (with an infant and preschooler) needs an annual income of $102,223 to make ends meet in Marin.

Almost 35% of Marin families with children do not meet this “self-sufficiency standard”—that's over 10,000 families.

Representatives from the Marin Economic Forum will address the board to summarize the report: CEO Robin Sternberg and chief economist Dr. Robert Eyler. Amy Reisch, executive director of First 5 Marin, will introduce the presenters.

Respectfully,

Damon Connolly

Katie Rice