



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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CARLOS J. PALACIOS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

## PRESS RELEASE

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### PALACIOS APPOINTS DIRECTOR OF GENERAL SERVICES

Santa Cruz County Administrative Officer Carlos J. Palacios is pleased to announce the selection of Michael Beaton as Director of General Services.

As Director of Administrative Services for the Health Services Agency since 2012, Beaton has been an effective leader and problem-solver who takes on additional responsibilities and challenges with skill and savvy. In that role, Beaton acted as both CFO and CIO for one of the County's largest and most complex agencies, helping oversee a \$143 million annual budget and 500-plus employees.

"Michael's background, abilities and enthusiasm make him an ideal fit to lead a department tasked with making sure County operations run smoothly," Palacios said. "I look forward to having him join our leadership team."

"I'm excited about working with the great staff at General Services, and am grateful for the trust County leadership has placed in me," Beaton said.

The County's General Services Department oversees a range of internal and external services, including facilities oversight, construction and fleet management, purchasing and more. The department also oversees county fire services, and is responsible for the administration of the Office of Emergency Services.

Beaton has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Fresno State University and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Western Governors University. In 2014, he was certified by FEMA as a Professional Emergency Manager.

He replaces Nancy Gordon, who retired in 2017.