



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

701 OCEAN STREET, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4073

(831) 454-2000 WWW.SANTACRUZCOUNTY.US

CARLOS J. PALACIOS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Jason Hoppin

831-454-3401

COUNTY BUDGET EFFORTS RECOGNIZED

County Administrative Officer Carlos J. Palacios is pleased to announce that Santa Cruz County has been awarded a second Distinguished Budget Presentation Award by the Government Finance Officers Association, a Chicago-based professional association that serves to enhance government finance operations.

The Award recognizes Santa Cruz County's efforts to improve transparency and accountability in the 2018-19 budgeting process, both of which have been adopted as County values by the Board of Supervisors through the 2018-2024 Strategic Plan.

County Proposed and Adopted budgets, Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports and numerous audit reports are available on the County's website, www.santacruzcounty.us. The County also uses an [interactive, online budget tool](#) to explain County revenues and expenditures.

"Santa Cruz County is an open government, committed to giving our residents easy access to information about government operations, particularly when it comes to allocating public funds," County Administrative Officer Carlos Palacios said. "This award recognizes our efforts in this area."

The Award recognizes that the County met or exceeded nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation, including how well the budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device. Nationwide, there are more than 1,600 participants in the Budget Awards Program.

The 2019-21 Proposed Budget will be released in May.