



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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CARLOS J. PALACIOS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

NEWS RELEASE



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COUNTY, SEIU REACH TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

The County of Santa Cruz is pleased to announce a tentative agreement between the County and SEIU Local 521.

Under terms of the tentative agreement between the County and SEIU's bargaining team, SEIU employees would see an 11.5 percent pay increase over the three-year contract. In addition, more than 700 SEIU employees would see supplementary raises through adjustments to job classification pay scales intended to make these positions more competitive with peer counties. The County will also continue to contribute 90-95 percent of the cost of employee health care.

"We strongly believe this tentative agreement provides a framework to further strengthen a workforce that meets the needs of the community," County Administrative Officer Carlos Palacios said. "We are grateful to the bargaining teams on both sides, which worked diligently to reach an agreement."

Valued at more than \$41 million, the agreement must be ratified by SEIU members and the Board of Supervisors before becoming final. SEIU membership is expected to schedule the vote in the upcoming week.

Representing 1,700 of the County's 2,800 employees, SEIU is Santa Cruz County's largest union of 10 bargaining units in County government.

For details of the tentative agreement, visit

<https://santacruzcountyca.gov/Departments/Personnel/NegotiationsUpdate.aspx>.