

# County of Santa Clara



Office of the County Executive  
70 West Hedding Street, East Wing 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Jose, CA 95110  
(408) 299-5119

---

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 10, 2008

Contact: Gwendolyn Mitchell/Laurel Anderson  
Office of Public Affairs  
(408) 299-5119

## **County of Santa Clara Appoints Harrison Deputy County Executive**

SAN JOSE, CALIF. – The County Executive announced today that he has appointed Emily C. Harrison as a Deputy County Executive. Ms. Harrison brings to the position nearly 30 years of public service experience with the City of Palo Alto, City of San Jose and City of Orange.

“Emily is an experienced manager who has substantial and first-hand knowledge of the kind of challenges facing Santa Clara County,” said County Executive Pete Kutas. “Her extensive finance management experience and a strong commitment to high quality services will benefit the Office of the County Executive and the county as a whole.”

Ms. Harrison has served as the Assistant City Manager of the City of Palo Alto for the past 10 years, providing oversight for the annual \$375 million budget and preparation of \$53 million annual capital improvement program. She initiated and led the city’s sustainability efforts including city council adoption of the first Sustainability Policy and Green Building Policy, as well as recognition as Santa Clara County’s first municipal “Green Business.”

In her role as Palo Alto’s Deputy City Manager, she identified the need for a long-range plan for repairing the city’s aging infrastructure including buildings, streets and sidewalks, traffic and transportation systems, and over 4,300 acres of parks and open space.

**-more-**

Prior to joining the City of Palo Alto, she held positions with the City of San Jose and City of Orange.

“As a county resident, I am pleased to have the opportunity to serve in the capacity of Deputy County Executive,” Harrison said. “The County of Santa Clara is a leader in so many areas from fiscal management to technology, and it will be a privilege to be a part of the organization.”

Ms. Harrison holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of California at Riverside and a master’s degree in public administration from San Jose State University. She is a program graduate of Leadership Palo Alto and Berkeley Executive Seminar. She was a board member and president of Palo Alto Kiwanis and board member of the former YWCA Mid-peninsula.

Ms. Harrison is 52 years of age. Her appointment as Deputy County Executive is effective May 12, 2008. Her salary will be \$199,018.

###