

Baker Tilly's Methodology

### **Project Overview**

- ✓ Data Collection: project planning with HR, data requested from County, and initiation of project.
- Position Review: Conduct job evaluation using the County's existing job descriptions to establish internal equity.
- ✓ Pay Plan Development: pay plan development, grade assignments, and implementation calculations.
- Project Completion: final report delivered, council presentation, project documentation delivery, training for HR.



#### **The Process**

Signed agreement to conduct study Oct / Nov 2022

1st Draft pay plan delivered to County April 2023 New agreement to include all remaining positions May 2023

New draft pay plan with all County positions July 2023 Internal Equity

#### **Job Evaluation**

 Baker Tilly has a point factor job evaluation tool called SAFE® which was developed specifically for measuring local government jobs to determine internal value.

- A point factor evaluation, such as SAFE, allows for a consistent, equitable and defensible means of establishing a hierarchy of jobs (internal equity) and is compliant with the Equal Pay Act.
- The result of this process is a total score for each position.

| COMPENSABLE FACTOR       | WEIGHT | DESCRIPTIONS / MEASUREMENT                               |  |
|--------------------------|--------|--|--|
| 1. Education             | 16%    | Minimum formal education level required by the position  |  |
| 2. Experience            | 12%    | Minimum years of experience required by the position     |  |
| 3. Level of Work         | 14%    | Degree of difficulty of work performed by the position   |  |
| 4. Human Relations       | 8%     | Type and level of human interactions                     |  |
| 5. Physical Demands      | 5%     | Physical exertion performed by the position              |  |
| 6. Working Conditions    | 7%     | Environmental conditions experienced by the positions    |  |
| 7. Independence to Act   | 12%    | Degree of independence to make decisions and act on them |  |
| 8. Impact of Actions     | 12%    | Severity of consequences as a result of decisions        |  |
| 9. Supervision Exercised | 14%    | Type and level of supervision exercised                  |  |
|                          | 100%   | TOTAL  |  |

#### **Pay Plan Development**

Baker Tilly led discussions with the county's project team to answer the following questions about their current and desired pay system:

- ➤ How many pay plans do you have / want?
- ➤ What type of pay plan do you have / want? Open range or step/grade?
- ➤ What criteria will be used to classify positions to the pay plan?
- ➤ What is the County's desired position within its defined labor market?
- ➤ What laws or regulations need to be accommodated with the pay plan?

Ultimately, Baker Tilly built a new open range pay plan for the County with a \$15.00 per hour minimum wage.

➤ Positions were assigned to the proposed pay plan with consideration to existing midpoints and grade groupings, job evaluation scores (internal equity), and other factors such as career progressions and supervisor-subordinate separation.

Current Pay Plan

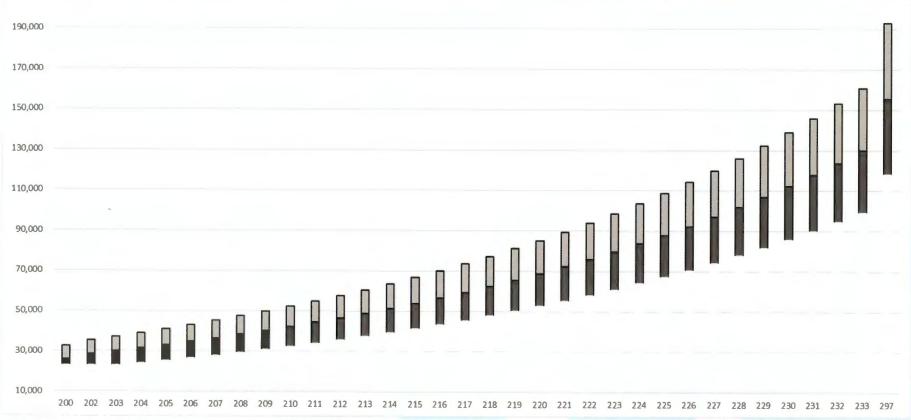
### **Pay Plan Development**

- The current pay plan is an open range plan with 34 grades inconsistently ranging from 200 to 297.
  - The minimum of grade 200 is \$11.00 per hour.
- The range spread (distance from minimum to maximum) is about 61% on average.
  - As a best practice, range spreads this wide are usually reserved for executive level positions and may not accommodate positions in lower grades.
- The midpoint differential (distance between each grade at the midpoint) is about 5% on average.
  - This creates significant overlap
- Distance between minimum to midpoint (31%) is not equal to distance between midpoint and maximum (24%).
  - Usually, the midpoint is the mathematical middle of the range.

|       | 1       | Annual   |         |                 |                  |
|-------|---------|----------|---------|-----------------|------------------|
| Grade | Minimum | Midpoint | Maximum | Range<br>Spread | Midpoint<br>Diff |
| 200   | 22,880  | 25,979   | 32,552  | 42.3%           | -                |
| 202   | 22,880  | 28,642   | 35,422  | 54.8%           | 10.2%            |
| 203   | 22,963  | 30,077   | 37,190  | 62.0%           | 5.0%             |
| 204   | 24,024  | 31,554   | 39,083  | 62.7%           | 4.9%             |
| 205   | 25,314  | 33,176   | 41,018  | 62.0%           | 5.1%             |
| 206   | 26,603  | 34,819   | 43,035  | 61.8%           | 5.0%             |
| 207   | 27,934  | 36,546   | 45,240  | 62.0%           | 5.0%             |
| 208   | 29,328  | 38,418   | 47,507  | 62.0%           | 5.1%             |
| 209   | 30,784  | 40,310   | 49,858  | 62.0%           | 4.9%             |
| 210   | 32,323  | 42,349   | 52,374  | 62.0%           | 5.1%             |
| 211   | 33,946  | 44,450   | 54,974  | 61.9%           | 5.0%             |
| 212   | 35,630  | 46,675   | 57,741  | 62.1%           | 5.0%             |
| 213   | 37,398  | 49,005   | 60,590  | 62.0%           | 5.0%             |
| 214   | 39,291  | 51,480   | 63,627  | 61.9%           | 5.1%             |
| 215   | 41,267  | 54,018   | 66,810  | 61.9%           | 4.9%             |
| 216   | 43,326  | 56,722   | 70,138  | 61.9%           | 5.0%             |
| 217   | 45,427  | 59,550   | 73,674  | 62.2%           | 5.0%             |
| 218   | 47,757  | 62,566   | 77,334  | 61.9%           | 5.1%             |
| 219   | 50,128  | 65,666   | 81,349  | 62.3%           | 5.0%             |
| 220   | 52,666  | 68,973   | 85,259  | 61.9%           | 5.0%             |
| 221   | 55,245  | 72,384   | 89,502  | 62.0%           | 4.9%             |
| 222   | 58,032  | 76,003   | 94,037  | 62.0%           | 5.0%             |
| 223   | 60,923  | 79,830   | 98,717  | 62.0%           | 5.0%             |
| 224   | 64,022  | 83,824   | 103,646 | 61.9%           | 5.0%             |
| 225   | 67,184  | 88,005   | 108,826 | 62.0%           | 5.0%             |
| 226   | 70,554  | 92,394   | 114,296 | 62.0%           | 5.0%             |
| 227   | 74,048  | 97,053   | 119,995 | 62.1%           | 5.0%             |
| 228   | 77,771  | 101,878  | 126,006 | 62.0%           | 5.0%             |
| 229   | 81,661  | 106,954  | 132,309 | 62.0%           | 5.0%             |
| 230   | 85,758  | 112,320  | 138,923 | 62.0%           | 5.0%             |
| 231   | 90,022  | 117,936  | 145,850 | 62.0%           | 5.0%             |
| 232   | 94,494  | 123,822  | 153,130 | 62.1%           | 5.0%             |
| 233   | 99,258  | 130,021  | 160,826 | 62.0%           | 5.0%             |
| 297   | 118,227 | 155,584  | 193,024 | 63.3%           | 19.7%            |

**Current Pay Plan** 

## **Pay Plan Development**



Current pay plan as a chart to demonstrate overlap of pay ranges.



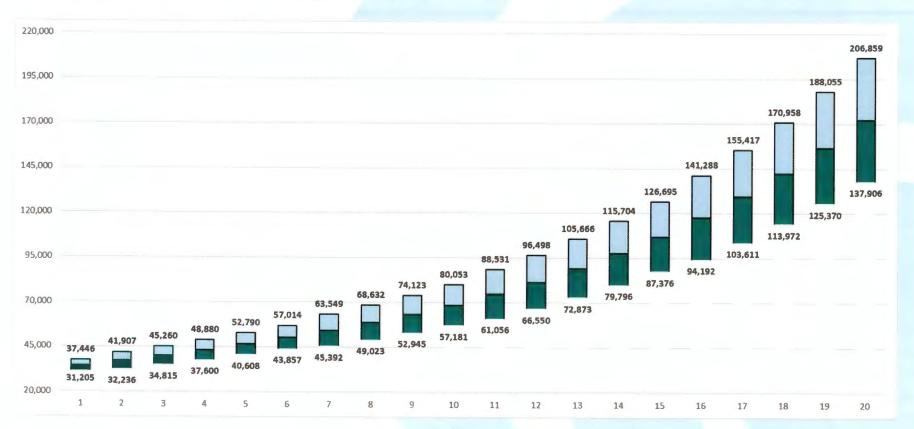
### **Pay Plan Development**

- The proposed pay plan is an open range plan with 20 grades ranging from 1 to 20.
  - The minimum of grade 1 is \$15.00 per hour.
- The range spreads increase from 20% to 50%.
  - A narrow range spread allows employees in those ranges to arrive at their midpoint sooner.
- The midpoint differentials increases from 8% to 9.5% to 10%.
  - · This creates less overlap
- Overall, this pay plan has fewer grades because the midpoint differences are wider and, therefore, fewer grades are needed to cover the same space.
  - Fewer grades that are further apart vs. more grades with more overlap.

| Grade | Minimum   | Midpoint  | Maximum   | Range<br>Spread | Mid Diff |
|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|----------|
| 1     | \$31,205  | \$34,325  | \$37,446  | 20%             | 8.00%    |
| 2     | \$32,236  | \$37,071  | \$41,907  | 30%             | 8.00%    |
| 3     | \$34,815  | \$40,037  | \$45,260  | 30%             | 8.00%    |
| 4     | \$37,600  | \$43,240  | \$48,880  | 30%             | 8.00%    |
| 5     | \$40,608  | \$46,699  | \$52,790  | 30%             | 8.00%    |
| 6     | \$43,857  | \$50,435  | \$57,014  | 30%             | 8.00%    |
| 7     | \$45,392  | \$54,470  | \$63,549  | 40%             | 8.00%    |
| 8     | \$49,023  | \$58,828  | \$68,632  | 40%             | 8.00%    |
| 9     | \$52,945  | \$63,534  | \$74,123  | 40%             | 8.00%    |
| 10    | \$57,181  | \$68,617  | \$80,053  | 40%             | 8.00%    |
| 11    | \$61,056  | \$74,793  | \$88,531  | 45%             | 9.00%    |
| 12    | \$66,550  | \$81,524  | \$96,498  | 45%             | 9.00%    |
| 13    | \$72,873  | \$89,269  | \$105,666 | 45%             | 9.50%    |
| 14    | \$79,796  | \$97,750  | \$115,704 | 45%             | 9.50%    |
| 15    | \$87,376  | \$107,036 | \$126,695 | 45%             | 9.50%    |
| 16    | \$94,192  | \$117,740 | \$141,288 | 50%             | 10.00%   |
| 17    | \$103,611 | \$129,514 | \$155,417 | 50%             | 10.00%   |
| 18    | \$113,972 | \$142,465 | \$170,958 | 50%             | 10.00%   |
| 19    | \$125,370 | \$156,712 | \$188,055 | 50%             | 10.00%   |
| 20    | \$137,906 | \$172,383 | \$206,859 | 50%             | 10.00%   |

#### **Proposed Pay Plan**

# **Pay Plan Development**



Proposed pay plan as a chart to demonstrate less overlap of pay ranges.



Implementation

### **Cost Analysis**

Baker Tilly prepared 3 implementation scenarios for the County to consider in its adoption of the new pay plan.

- ➤ No employee would receive a salary decrease.
- ➤ Calculations were for base pay only
- Option 1 is the minimum action required to bring all employees within compliance.
- ➤ Option 3 helps with compression by moving employees further into their range relative to their years in position.

| 50.3% | <b>Employees Below Minimum</b> |         |
|-------|--------------------------------|---------|
| 39.2% | Employees Within Range         | Advance |
| 9.5%  | Employees Above Maximum        | 1       |

- 1. Move to minimum if current salary is below the minimum.
- 2. Move to minimum or 2% adjustment, whichever is greater.
- 3. Move to minimum if below, then 0.5% adjustment for each year in position.

# **Baker Tilly Recommendations**

- Approve the new pay plan with a \$15.00 minimum wage.
- Approve position grade assignments.
- Approve an implementation scenario that addresses the County's compensation philosophy, business goals, and that is fiscally sustainable.
- Continue efforts like this to maintain the classification and compensation system:
  - Routinely review positions, job descriptions, and market conditions.
  - Adjust the pay structure and salaries, annually, to keep pace with the market.
  - Adopt general increases, annually, to reward employees and ensure advancement through assigned pay ranges.

