## Classification and Compensation Study for the City of North Port, FL



- Evergreen Solutions
- Study Process
- Outreach Summary
- Current Conditions
- Compensation Philosophy
- Classification Review Results - Internal Equity
- Compensation Review Results - External Equity
- Proposed Pay Plans and Implementation
- Additional Recommendations


## Evergreen Solutions, LLC

## National Public Sector Consulting Practice:

- Performed worked in 45 States
- Over 300 Compensation and Classification Studies
- Extensive Public Sector Human Resources experience
- Full-service Human Resources Consulting Practice


## Expertise:

- School Systems
- Higher Education Institutions
- State Agencies
- County Governments
- City Governments
- Quasi-Governmental Organizations


## Experience:

- City of Cape Coral, FL
- City of Delray Beach, FL
- City of Fort Myers, FL
- City of Sarasota, FL
- City of Venice, FL
- Town of Longboat Key, FL
- Charlotte County, FL
- Manatee County, FL
- Pinellas County, FL
- Sarasota County, FL


## Study Process

## Completed:

$\checkmark$ Conducted employee outreach.
$\checkmark$ Reviewed conditions of the current pay system.
$\checkmark$ Reviewed the City's Compensation Philosophy.
$\checkmark$ Analyzed internal equity by reviewing Job Assessment Tool (JAT) input; developed proposed class structure.
$\checkmark$ Analyzed external equity/market competitiveness of the current pay system.
$\checkmark$ Analyzed the relationship between internal and external equity for every classification.

## Study Process (cont.)

$\checkmark$ Developed pay structure for exempt and non-exempt positions at market and $3 \%$ ahead of market.
$\checkmark$ Developed options and selected best approach for implementing the proposed pay structure.
$\checkmark$ Estimated annualized salary cost for implementing the new structure.

## Remaining:

[ Finalize study results/recommendations; provide final report.
] Revise/provide job descriptions utilizing existing descriptions and input from employees' JATs.

## Outreach Summary

Comments provided by employees, supervisors, and senior leaders during employee outreach included that:

- They enjoy a stable work schedule, good benefits, and (perceived) job security.
- Pay compression in the salary ranges is a concern; causes some challenges in hiring experienced new employees.
- Job titles do not always reflect current roles and responsibilities; duties have expanded without additional compensation.
- Revisions to and implementation of a new performance evaluation form/system are/will be appreciated; the change is welcomed.


## Current Conditions

## Reviewed current pay system:

- Distinct open-range pay plans for Exempt, Non-Exempt, IAFF, and PBA
- Range (width) spreads averaged 44\% for Exempt and Non-Exempt; $38 \%$ for IAFF and PBA


## Analyzed employees' salaries distribution across pay ranges:

Exempt and Non-Exempt

| 1st Quartile | 2nd Quartile | 3rd Quartile | 4th Quartile |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $52.5 \%$ | $8.4 \%$ | $12.9 \%$ | $26.2 \%$ |

IAFF and PBA

| 1st Quartile | 2nd Quartile | 3rd Quartile | 4th Quartile |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $30.3 \%$ | $13.1 \%$ | $10.3 \%$ | $46.3 \%$ |

## Compensation Philosophy

Reviewed the City's Compensation Philosophy:

```
Desired Market
Position
```



## Internal Equity

## Reviewed JAT employee input; determined internal equity:

by reviewing all job classifications to determine the relationships between the type of work performed by employees; assigned a composite score to each classification that quantified the classification's level of five separate compensatory factors, based on responses to the JAT.
and made title change recommendations, e.g.:

| Current Class Title | Recommended Class Title |
| :--- | :--- |
| ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER | Administrative Services Manager |
| BUSINESS ADVOCATE | Business Liaison |
| CUSTOMER SERVICE REP.I | Utilities Staff Assistant I |
| SOLID WASTE HELPER | Solid Waste Assistant |
| STAFF ASSISTANTI | Fleet Service Writer |

## External Equity

Utilizing best practice methodology, developed a tool to survey public sector competitive and comparable organizations to assess the market position of the City's current pay plans:

## Target (Peer) selection included:

- competitive organizations within a geographic proximity (approximately 50-75 mile radius) to the City;
- similar comparable size organizations; and
- comparable relative population being served by the organization.


## Benchmark selection involved:

- selecting a cross-section of the City's classifications, so that the surveyed positions made up a subset of all work areas and job levels in the City.


## External Equity (cont.)

Target (peer) selection included surveying competitive organizations within the City's geographic proximity and appropriate comparable organizations outside the local labor market.

| Target List | Reason |
| :--- | :--- |
| Bradenton, FL | Competitive |
| Cape Coral, FL | Competitive |
| Daytona Beach, FL | Comparable |
| Delray Beach, FL | Comparable |
| Fort Myers, FL | Competitive |
| Homestead, FL | Comparable |
| Kissimmee, FL | Comparable |
| Lakeland, FL | Comparable |
| Naples, FL | Comparable |
| North Miami, FL | Comparable |
| Punta Gorda, FL | Competitive |
| Sarasota City, FL | Comparable |
| Sebring, FL |  |


| Target List | Reason |
| :--- | :--- |
| St. Petersburg, FL | Comparable |
| Tampa, FL | Comparable |
| Tamarac, FL | Comparable |
| Venice, FL | Competitive |
| Charlotte County, FL | Competitive |
| Collier County, FL | Comparable |
| Desoto County, FL | Competitive |
| Hillsborough County, FL | Comparable |
| Lee County, FL | Competitive |
| Manatee County, FL | Competitive |
| Pinellas County, FL | Comparable |
| Sarasota County, FL | Competitive |
| Englewood Water District | Competitive |

## External Equity (cont.)

Data collected outside of the City's local market was adjusted for cost of living using a cost of living factor; this allows salary range data from to be compared in spending power relevant to the City.
$>$ Values over 1.0 indicate a lower cost of living for the market peer
> Values under 1.0 indicate a higher cost of living than the City

Note: Values obtained from current data from the Cost of Living Index (COLI) published by the Council for Community and Economic Research.

| Market Peers | COL Factor |
| :--- | :---: |
| Cape Coral, FL | 1.05 |
| Daytona Beach, FL | 1.09 |
| Delray Beach, FL | 0.97 |
| Fort Myers, FL | 1.05 |
| Kissimmee, FL | 1.17 |
| Naples, FL | 0.99 |
| Punta Gorda, FL | 1.09 |
| Sarasota City, FL | 1.00 |
| St. Petersburg, FL | 1.00 |
| Venice, FL | 1.09 |
| Charlotte County, FL | 0.99 |
| Collier County, FL | 1.03 |
| Hillsborough County, FL | 1.05 |
| Lee County, FL | 1.07 |
| Manatee County, FL | 0.97 |
| Pinellas County, FL | 1.00 |
| Sarasota County, FL | 1.00 |

## External Equity (cont.)

## Cost of Living Adjustment Example:

| Market Peers | COL Factor |
| :--- | :---: |
| Cape Coral, FL | 1.05 |
| Daytona Beach, FL | 1.09 |
| Delray Beach, FL | 0.97 |
| Fort Myers, FL | 1.05 |
| Kissimmee, FL | 1.17 |
| Naples, FL | 1.99 |
| Punta Gorda, FL | 1.00 |
| Sarasota City, FL | 0.97 |
| St. Petersburg, FL | 1.00 |
| Venice, FL | 1.09 |
| Charlotte County, FL | 0.99 |
| Collier County, FL | 1.03 |
| Hillsborough County, FL | 1.05 |
| Lee County, FL | 1.07 |
| Manatee County, FL | 0.97 |
| Pinellas County, FL | 1.00 |
| Sarasota County, FL | 1.00 |

## Before COL Adjustment:

Delray Beach \$100,000

After COL Adjustment:

Delray Beach \$100,000 X . $97=\$ 97,000$

The cost of living adjustment in this example lowers the peer's salary ranges to be properly compared to North Port's salary ranges.

## External Equity (cont.)

Conducted a public sector salary survey; collected salary range data from 18 peers; analyzed external (market) equity:

| Peer Data Collected |
| :--- |
| Cape Coral, FL |
| Daytona Beach, FL |
| Delray Beach, FL |
| Fort Myers, FL |
| Kissimmee, FL |
| Naples, FL |
| Punta Gorda, FL |
| Sarasota City, FL |
| St. Petersburg, FL |
| Venice, FL |
| Charlotte County, FL |
| Collier County, FL |
| Hillsborough County, FL |
| Lee County, FL |
| Manatee County, FL |
| Pinellas County, FL |
| Sarasota County, FL |
| Englewood Water District |


| Peer Data Not Collected |
| :--- |
| Bradenton, FL |
| Homestead, FL |
| Lakeland, FL |
| North Miami, FL |
| Sebring, FL |
| Tampa, FL |
| Tamarac, FL |
| Desoto County, FL |

## External Equity (cont.)

## Compared collected data at the average to City's salary ranges:

## Exempt and Non-Exempt

|  | Differential at <br> Range Minimum | Differential at <br> Range Midpoint | Differential at <br> Range Maximum |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Overall Average | $-3.0 \%$ | $-9.3 \%$ | $-13.8 \%$ |

## IAFF and PBA

|  | Differential at the <br> Range Minimum | Differential at the <br> Range Midpoint | Differential at the <br> Range Maximum |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Overall Average | $-\mathbf{- 1 0 . 8 \%}$ | $-12.9 \%$ | $-14.5 \%$ |

[^0]
## External Equity (cont.)

Collected private sector salary range data for subset of benchmark classifications and compared the data at the average:

|  | Differential at <br> Range Minimum | Differential at <br> Range Midpoint | Differential at <br> Range Maximum |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Overall Average | $-2.0 \%$ | $-15.2 \%$ | $-24.2 \%$ |

Note: Results do not indicate that all classifications were ahead or behind the survey results.
Note: Data were obtained from the Economic Research Institute (ERI).

## Proposed Pay Plans

## Developed new, Competitive, At Market pay plans:

> Open-range design
$>$ Range spreads: 50\%
Easy to administer, flexible

Exempt and Non-Exempt - At Market

| Proposed <br> Minimum | Proposed <br> Midpoint | Proposed <br> Maximum | Range Spread |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\$ 48,188.14$ | $\$ 60,235.18$ | $\$ 72,282.21$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 51,561.31$ | $\$ 64,451.64$ | $\$ 77,341.96$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 55,170.60$ | $\$ 68,963.25$ | $\$ 82,755.90$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 59,032.54$ | $\$ 73,790.68$ | $\$ 88,548.82$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 63,164.82$ | $\$ 78,956.03$ | $\$ 94,747.23$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 67,586.36$ | $\$ 84,482.95$ | $\$ 101,379.54$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 72,317.40$ | $\$ 90,396.76$ | $\$ 108,476.11$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 77,379.62$ | $\$ 96,724.53$ | $\$ 116,069.43$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 82,796.20$ | $\$ 103,495.25$ | $\$ 124,194.29$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 88,591.93$ | $\$ 110,739.91$ | $\$ 132,887.89$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 95,679.28$ | $\$ 119,599.11$ | $\$ 143,518.93$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 103,333.63$ | $\$ 129,167.03$ | $\$ 155,000.44$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 111,600.32$ | $\$ 139,500.40$ | $\$ 167,400.48$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 120,528.34$ | $\$ 150,660.43$ | $\$ 180,792.51$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 130,170.61$ | $\$ 162,713.26$ | $\$ 195,255.91$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 27,611.25$ | $\$ 34,514.06$ | $\$ 41,416.88$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 29,544.04$ | $\$ 36,930.05$ | $\$ 44,316.06$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 31,612.12$ | $\$ 39,515.15$ | $\$ 47,418.18$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 33,824.97$ | $\$ 42,281.21$ | $\$ 50,737.46$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 36,192.72$ | $\$ 45,240.90$ | $\$ 54,289.08$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 38,726.21$ | $\$ 48,407.76$ | $\$ 58,089.31$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 41,437.04$ | $\$ 51,796.30$ | $\$ 62,155.56$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 44,337.64$ | $\$ 55,422.04$ | $\$ 66,506.45$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 47,884.65$ | $\$ 59,855.81$ | $\$ 71,826.97$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 51,715.42$ | $\$ 64,644.27$ | $\$ 77,573.13$ | $50.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 55,852.65$ | $\$ 69,815.81$ | $\$ 83,778.98$ | $50.0 \%$ |

## Proposed Pay Plans cont.)

## Developed new, (optional) 3\% Above Market pay plans:

## > Open-range design

> Range spreads: 50\%
> Easy to administer, flexible

| Exempt and Non-Exempt - 3\% Above Market |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Proposed <br> Minimum | Proposed <br> Midpoint | Proposed <br> Maximum | Range Spread |
| \$49,849.80 | \$62,312.25 | \$74,774.70 | 50.0\% |
| \$53,339.29 | \$66,674.11 | \$80,008.93 | 50.0\% |
| \$57,073.04 | \$71,341.30 | \$85,609.55 | 50.0\% |
| \$61,068.15 | \$76,335.19 | \$91,602.22 | 50.0\% |
| \$65,342.92 | \$81,678.65 | \$98,014.38 | 50.0\% |
| \$69,916.92 | \$87,396.15 | \$104,875.38 | 50.0\% |
| \$74,811.11 | \$93,513.88 | \$112,216.66 | 50.0\% |
| \$80,047.89 | \$100,059.86 | \$120,071.83 | 50.0\% |
| \$85,651.24 | \$107,064.05 | \$128,476.86 | 50.0\% |
| \$91,646.82 | \$114,558.53 | \$137,470.24 | 50.0\% |
| \$98,978.57 | \$123,723.21 | \$148,467.85 | 50.0\% |
| \$106,896.86 | \$133,621.07 | \$160,345.28 | 50.0\% |
| \$115,448.60 | \$144,310.76 | \$173,172.91 | 50.0\% |
| \$124,684.49 | \$155,855.62 | \$187,026.74 | 50.0\% |
| \$134,659.25 | \$168,324.06 | \$201,988.88 | 50.0\% |
| \$28,147.39 | \$35,184.24 | \$42,221.09 | 50.0\% |
| \$30,117.71 | \$37,647.14 | \$45,176.56 | 50.0\% |
| \$32,225.95 | \$40,282.44 | \$48,338.92 | 50.0\% |
| \$34,481.77 | \$43,102.21 | \$51,722.65 | 50.0\% |
| \$36,895.49 | \$46,119.36 | \$55,343.23 | 50.0\% |
| \$39,478.17 | \$49,347.72 | \$59,217.26 | 50.0\% |
| \$42,241.65 | \$52,802.06 | \$63,362.47 | 50.0\% |
| \$45,198.56 | \$56,498.20 | \$67,797.84 | 50.0\% |
| \$48,814.45 | \$61,018.06 | \$73,221.67 | 50.0\% |
| \$52,719.60 | \$65,899.50 | \$79,079.40 | 50.0\% |
| \$56,937.17 | \$71,171.46 | \$85,405.75 | 50.0\% |

## Proposed Pay Plans (cont.)

Utilizing the new plans; individually assigned a range for each classification:

- Utilized both internal and external equity results
- Some pay ranges increased, some remained relatively the same

Utilizing the new pay plan/ranges; developed the best option (considering compression and compensation philosophy) and cost estimates for implementing the proposed pay plans.

## Implementation (At Market Pay Plans)

## Range Placement Capped at Midpoint, and 2\% if Above (Midpoint):

Assuming the competitive at market Exempt and Non-Exempt pay plans are implemented, employees would have their salaries adjusted in the new plan based on the relative position of their salary in the current plan's range (range penetration). For employees' salaries below the new midpoints, a calculation is performed to determine the range penetration of their current salary in the current structure, and their salaries are adjusted to the same relative position in the new structure. Then, a calculation is performed to advance salaries toward the new midpoint. These increments are designed to give larger increases (in percentage terms) to those at the lower end of the pay range and adjustments vary depending on employee tenure. If the calculated adjustment is less than two percent, the salary is adjusted by two percent. Employees'salaries at or above the new midpoints would be adjusted by two percent provided their salary does not exceed the new maximums.

- Total annualized estimated cost = $\mathbf{\$ 1 , 2 1 7 , 4 8 8}$
- \# employees who would receive adjustments $=350$
* Cost estimate includes salary only (no benefits) and includes the cost of bringing all employees to the minimums of the proposed pay range.


## Implementation (At Market Pay Plans)

## Example: Salary Adjustment - At Market Pay Plans

## Current:

Salary range: \$56,435-\$83,101
Employee's salary is \$66,369 (37.3\% range penetration) and below midpoint. Employee has 7.0 years tenure.

| Min <br> $0 \%$ | st <br> Quartile <br> $25 \%$ | Mid <br> $50 \%$ | Max <br> $100 \%$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\$ 56,435$ |  | $\$ 69,768$ | $\$ 83,101$ |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | Current Salary |  |  |
| $\$ 66,369$ |  |  |  |

## Proposed:

Salary range: \$59,033 - \$88,549 Employee's salary requires an annual adjustment of $\$ 4,470$ to place salary at same range penetration (37.3\%) in new range and then move toward midpoint. Resulting range penetration is $40 \%$.

| Min <br> $0 \%$ | st <br> Quartile <br> $25 \%$ | Mid <br> $50 \%$ | Max <br> $100 \%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $\$ 59,033$ |  | $\$ 73,791$ | $\$ 88,549$ |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | Proposed Salary |  |  |
|  | $\$ 70,839$ |  |  |

## Implementation (3\% Above Market Pay Plans)

## Range Placement Capped at Midpoint, 2\% if Above (Midpoint):

Assuming the competitive, 3\% above market Exempt and Non-Exempt pay plans are implemented, employees would have their salaries adjusted in the new plan based on the relative position of their salary in the current plan's range (range penetration). For employees' salaries below the new midpoints, a calculation is performed to determine the range penetration of their current salary in the current structure, and their salaries are adjusted to the same relative position in the new structure. Then, a calculation is performed to advance salaries toward the new midpoint. These increments are designed to give larger increases (in percentage terms) to those at the lower end of the pay range and adjustments vary depending on employee tenure. If the calculated adjustment is less than two percent, the salary is adjusted by two percent. Employees'salaries at or above the new midpoints would be adjusted by two percent provided their salary does not exceed the new maximums.

- Total annualized estimated cost = \$1,530,002.
- \# employees who would receive adjustments = 353
* Cost estimate includes salary only (no benefits) and includes the cost of bringing all employees to the minimums of the proposed pay range.


## Implementation (3\% Above Market Plans)

## Example: Salary Adjustment - 3\% Above Market Pay Plans

## Current:

Salary range: \$56,435-\$83,101
Employee's salary is \$66,369 (37.3\% range penetration) and below midpoint. Employee has 7.0 years tenure.

| Min | $1^{\text {st }}$ Quartile | Mid | Max |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $0 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $50 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| $\$ 56,435$ |  | $\$ 69,768$ | $\$ 83,101$ |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | Current Salary |  |  |
|  | $\$ 66,369$ |  |  |

## Proposed:

Salary range: \$61,068 - \$91,602
Employee's salary requires an annual adjustment of $\$ 6,913$ to place salary at same range penetration (37.3\%) in new range and then move toward midpoint.
Resulting range penetration is $40 \%$.

| Min | $1^{\text {st }}$ Quartile | Mid | Max |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $0 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $50 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| $\$ 61,068$ |  | $\$ 76,335$ | $\$ 91,602$ |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | $\$ 73,282$ |  |

## Implementation (cont.)

Compared external equity results at the time of the study and after new pay plans are implemented:

Current Plans:

|  | Differential at <br> Range Minimum | Differential at <br> Range Midpoint | Differential at <br> Range Maximum |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Overall Average | $-3.0 \%$ | $-9.3 \%$ | $-13.8 \%$ |

## Proposed Plans: Competitive, At Market

|  | Differential at <br> Range Minimum | Differential at <br> Range Midpoint | Differential at <br> Range Maximum |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Overall Average | $3.8 \%$ | $0.1 \%$ | $-2.4 \%$ |

## Implementation (cont.)

Compared external equity results at the time of the study and after new pay plans are implemented:

Current Plans:

|  | Differential at <br> Range Minimum | Differential at <br> Range Midpoint | Differential at <br> Range Maximum |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Overall Average | $-3.0 \%$ | $-9.3 \%$ | $-13.8 \%$ |

## Proposed Plans: 3\% Above Market

|  | Differential at <br> Range Minimum | Differential at <br> Range Midpoint | Differential at <br> Range Maximum |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Overall Average | $6.4 \%$ | $2.9 \%$ | $0.4 \%$ |

## Implementation (cont.)

Reviewed salary quartile analysis at the beginning of study; and after new plans are implemented:

Current Plans:

| 1st Quartile | 2nd Quartile | 3rd Quartile | 4th Quartile |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $52.5 \%$ | $8.4 \%$ | $12.9 \%$ | $26.2 \%$ |

## Proposed Plans:

> Have wider range spreads; anchored at new market midpoints
> Will continue to improve market placement of employees' salaries

| Implementation Option | 1st Quartile | 2nd Quartile | 3rd Quartile | 4th Quartile |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| At Market Adjustment | $51.0 \%$ | $21.5 \%$ | $14.2 \%$ | $13.3 \%$ |
| At 3\% Above Market Adjusment | $49.2 \%$ | $12.4 \%$ | $12.6 \%$ | $25.8 \%$ |

Midpoint

## Additional Recommendations

- Review pay practices (including incentives); recommend revisions as appropriate to align with the compensation philosophy and be competitive with peers.
- Finalize study results.
- Communicate study results to employees.
- Administer and maintain the new plan; make pay grade/range adjustments as necessary.
- Conduct a comprehensive study every three to five years.


## Thank You

## Additional Questions?

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[^0]:    Note: Results do not indicate that all classifications were ahead or behind the survey results.
    Note: Employees with salaries close to the midpoint of a pay range should be fully proficient in their classification and require minimal supervision to complete their job duties while performing satisfactorily. Within this framework, grade midpoint is commonly considered to be the salary an individual could reasonably expect for similar work in the market.

