

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 2025, 9:00 AM AND WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2025, 9:00 AM**

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER,  
BOARD CHAMBER, ROOM 310  
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

**GENERAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 2025 9:00 AM**

Order Of Business

- A. Roll Call
- B. Statement (just cause) and/or Consideration of a Request to Participate Remotely (emergency circumstances) by a Supervisor, if applicable.
- C. Invocation
- D. Pledge of Allegiance
- E. Presentation or Announcement of Proclamations and Awards
- F. Non-Agenda Public Communication: Individuals can address the Board on topics within its jurisdiction that are not on the agenda. According to the Board's Rules of Procedure, each person may speak at only one Non-Agenda Public Communication session per meeting. Speakers can choose to speak during either the General Legislative or Land Use Legislative Session.
- G. Approval of the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the sessions of June 3, 2025, June 4, 2025, and June 9, 2025; Special Meeting of June 9, 2025; Housing Authority meeting of June 4, 2025; In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority meetings of June 3, 2025 and June 9, 2025; and, Redevelopment Successor Agency meeting of January 28, 2025.
- H. Consent Agenda
- I. Discussion Items
- J. Board Member Committee Updates. This is an opportunity for Members of the Board to provide informational updates on their committee assignments. No action may be taken.
- K. Recess to Wednesday, June 25, 2025, at 9:00 AM for the Land Use Legislative Session

NOTICE: THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ANY ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THE ITEMS INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA. RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY COUNTY STAFF DO NOT LIMIT ACTIONS THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT RELY UPON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE BOARD LETTER AS DETERMINATIVE OF THE ACTION THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ON A PARTICULAR MATTER.

Supporting documentation and attachments for items listed on this agenda can be viewed online at [www.sandiegocounty.gov/cob](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/cob) or in the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at the County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 402, San Diego, CA 92101. To access the meeting virtually and offer public comment via a call-in option, please go to: [www.sandiegocounty.gov/telecomments](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/telecomments) for instructions.

#### ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:

Agendas and records are available in alternative formats upon request. Contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors office at 619-531-5434 with questions or to request a disability-related accommodation. Individuals requiring sign language interpreters should contact the Countywide ADA Title II Coordinator at (619) 531-4908. To the extent reasonably possible, requests for accommodation or assistance should be submitted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting so that arrangements may be made. An area in the front of the room is designated for individuals requiring the use of wheelchair or other accessible devices.

#### LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION ASSISTANCE:

Language interpretation services for public speakers are available upon request to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at least 72 hours prior to the meeting (refer to Board Policy A-139 for additional information). Please contact the Clerk of the Board's office at (619) 531-5434 or via e-mail at [publiccomment@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:publiccomment@sdcounty.ca.gov).

#### LEVINE ACT NOTICE: DISCLOSURES REQUIRED ON SPECIFIED ITEMS (GOVERNMENT CODE § 84308)

The Levine Act states that parties to any proceeding involving a license, permit or other entitlement for use pending before the Board must disclose on the record of the proceeding any campaign contributions of more than \$500 (aggregated) made by the parties or their agents to Board Members within the preceding 12 months. Participants with financial interests, and agents of either parties or participants, are requested to disclose such contributions also. The disclosure must include the name of the party or participant and any other person making the contribution; the name of the recipient; the amount of the contribution; and the date the contribution was made. This disclosure can be made orally during the proceeding or in writing on a request to speak.

### **Board of Supervisors' Agenda Items**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

All agenda items listed under this section are considered to be routine and will be acted upon with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board of Supervisors or the Chief Administrative Officer so requests, in which event, the item will be considered separately in its normal sequence.

<b>Category</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Financial and General Government	1.	AUTHORIZATION FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TO PARTICIPATE IN VIENNA SOCIAL HOUSING FIELD STUDY
	2.	APPROVE ADJUSTMENT OF COMPENSATION FOR THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (CAO), CLERK OF THE BOARD, AND PROBATION CHIEF; APPROVE AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT FOR THE PROBATION CHIEF; AND, APPROVE CONTRACT AMENDMENTS FOR THE CAO AND CLERK OF THE BOARD
	3.	ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM: SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE: ORDINANCES AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS AND THE TENTATIVE AGREEMENTS PENDING RATIFICATION FOR THE EMPLOYEE BARGAINING UNITS - AE, CL, FS, HS, MM, PR, PS, RN, SS, AND SW REPRESENTED BY SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION, LOCAL 221 (SEIU); AM, AS AND DA REPRESENTED BY THE DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION (DDAA); PD AND PM REPRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC DEFENDER ASSOCIATION OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY (PDA); AND FOR SPECIFIED UNREPRESENTED EMPLOYEES - CE, CEM, EM, MA, NA, NE, NM, NS AND UM AND AMENDING SECTIONS 494 AND 495 OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (6/9/25 - First Reading; 6/24/25 - Second Reading, unless the ordinance is modified on second reading)
	4.	APPOINTMENTS: VARIOUS
	5.	COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

<b>Category</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Financial and General Government	6.	COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 ADOPTED BUDGET RESOLUTION FOR COUNTY FAMILY OF FUNDS, ENTERPRISE FUNDS AND INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS, AND PRIOR YEAR ENCUMBRANCES (4 VOTES)
	7.	ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY SERVICE AREAS, COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICTS, CERTAIN MAINTENANCE DISTRICTS AND PERMANENT ROAD DIVISIONS (4 VOTES)
Health and Human Services	8.	STRENGTHENING EMERGENCY HOUSING FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

- |  |     |   |
|--|-----|---|
|  | 9.  | RESPONDING TO POTENTIAL FEDERAL IMPACTS FROM THE<br>“ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL ACT” TO PROTECT FOOD SECURITY,<br>HOUSING, AND HEALTHCARE AND WAIVE BOARD POLICY A-72   |
|  | 10. | ADVANCING REGIONAL ACTIONS TO ADDRESS THE TIJUANA<br>RIVER SEWAGE AND WAIVE BOARD POLICY A-72   |
| Financial and<br>General<br>Government | 11. | ADVANCING FOOD JUSTICE BY SUPPORTING THE SAN DIEGO<br>FOOD BANK AND SUNCOAST MARKET CO-OP   |
|  | 12. | APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO AND SUNSET OF BOARD POLICIES<br>RELATED TO ECONOMIC PROSPERITY AND PROCUREMENT AND<br>ADOPT AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XXIII OF THE SAN<br>DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCES<br>RELATING TO COUNTY CONTRACTING (6/24/2025 - FIRST<br>READING; 8/26/2025 - SECOND READING UNLESS ORDINANCE IS<br>MODIFIED ON SECOND READING) |

1. **SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TO PARTICIPATE IN VIENNA SOCIAL HOUSING FIELD STUDY (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

In accordance with Board of Supervisors Policy D-7, Out-of-County Business and Related Guidelines and Processes and Administrative Code section 470, Supervisor Joel Anderson and Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe are requesting approval to attend the Fall 2025 Global Policy Leadership Academy (GPLA) Social Housing Field Study: “International Best Practices in Mixed-Income Housing” in Vienna, Austria. This six-day program is coordinated by GPLA and LeSar Development Consultants and will immerse delegates in a series of lectures, panels, and site visits to multiple social housing developments.

Supervisor Anderson and Supervisor Montgomery Steppe were both invited to participate in this field study as panelists, sharing insights from San Diego’s housing efforts while learning from Vienna’s internationally recognized housing model. Their participation in this field study will offer valuable insights and best practices that can inform San Diego County’s efforts to increase affordable housing supply, reduce homelessness, and pursue sustainable development.

Today’s request is for the San Diego County Board of Supervisors to approve both Supervisors’ travel to Austria to attend the study scheduled for September 21 through September 27, 2025.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**SUPERVISOR JOEL ANDERSON AND SUPERVISOR MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE**

Per Administrative Code 470, approve Supervisor Joel Anderson and Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe’s travel to Austria for participation in the Fall 2025 Global Policy Leadership Academy’s Vienna Social Housing Field Study: “International Best Practices in Mixed-Income Housing” scheduled for September 21 through September 27, 2025.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Participating in the Vienna Social Housing Field Study aligns with the San Diego County Board of Supervisors’ (Board) ongoing commitment to equity in housing and service delivery. Vienna’s housing model demonstrates successful strategies for integrating low- and moderate-income housing across diverse neighborhoods, reducing housing insecurity, and fostering mixed-income communities. The insights gained from this international delegation will support the County in identifying policy solutions that promote access, inclusion, and affordability for all residents, particularly those in historically underserved communities.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

This action supports the County of San Diego’s Sustainability Goal of fostering resilient, livable communities. Vienna’s planning approach combines social housing with strong environmental and transportation planning principles, offering models that could inform the County’s future land use, energy efficiency, and housing design policies.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2025-26 CAO Recommended Operational Plan in the Board of Supervisors District Two and District Four budgets based on General Purpose Revenue. The estimated cost is up to \$20,000 for each office budget. This request will not result in any change in net General Fund cost or require additional staff years.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

2. **SUBJECT: APPROVE ADJUSTMENT OF COMPENSATION FOR THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (CAO), CLERK OF THE BOARD, AND PROBATION CHIEF; APPROVE AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT FOR THE PROBATION CHIEF; AND, APPROVE CONTRACT AMENDMENTS FOR THE CAO AND CLERK OF THE BOARD (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

## **OVERVIEW**

The Board of Supervisors completed 2025 performance evaluations for the following Board appointed executives: Chief Administrative Officer (“CAO”), Clerk of the Board, and Chief Probation Officer (“Probation Chief”). Today's action approves a salary increase for the CAO, Clerk of the Board, and the Probation Chief. In addition, today's action approves a new employment contract and amendments to existing employment contracts.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **VICE-CHAIR TERRA LAWSON-REMER**

1. Approve adjustments to the pay for the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Clerk of the Board, and Chief Probation Officer (Probation Chief). The compensation for the CAO is set at an hourly rate of \$197.51 effective June 27, 2025. Clerk of the Board is set at an hourly rate of \$113.55 effective June 27, 2025; and compensation for the Probation Chief is set at an hourly rate of \$137.61 effective June 27, 2025.
2. Approve the Employment Agreement between the County of San Diego and the Probation Chief and authorize the Vice Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute the agreement.
3. Approve the Amendment to the Employment Agreement between the County of San Diego and the CAO and authorize the Vice Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute the agreement.
4. Approve the Amendment to the Employment Agreement between the County of San Diego and the Clerk of the Board and authorize the Vice Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute the agreement.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

This action is requested to compensate experienced leaders in their respective capacities as CAO, Clerk of the Board, and Probation Chief. The County of San Diego promotes a culture of equity, belonging, and racial justice. We serve the needs of communities with diverse groups

including Black, Indigenous, people of Color, LGBTQIA+, people with disabilities, people of low-income, the young, the older, immigrants, refugees and communities that have historically faced inequality and inequity. In addition, the County centers its budgetary efforts on equity through the continued implementation and operationalization of the Budget Equity Assessment Tool. The tool ensures there is a framework to use an equity lens to evaluate the development of the County's budget.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego is building a sustainable future for all. The County's strategic plan guides County activities to ensure sustainability as it relates to the region's economy, climate, environment, and communities. These collective efforts strengthen communities, ensure accountability, and protect public resources by aligning available resources through services and initiatives.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds associated with this request are included in the fiscal year 2025-26 Operational Plan.

### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

3. **SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:**  
**SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:**  
**ORDINANCES AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE**  
**AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION RELATING TO**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS AND THE TENTATIVE AGREEMENTS**  
**PENDING RATIFICATION FOR THE EMPLOYEE BARGAINING**  
**UNITS - AE, CL, FS, HS, MM, PR, PS, RN, SS, AND SW**  
**REPRESENTED BY SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL**  
**UNION, LOCAL 221 (SEIU); AM, AS AND DA REPRESENTED BY THE**  
**DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION (DDAA); PD AND**  
**PM REPRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC DEFENDER ASSOCIATION OF**  
**SAN DIEGO COUNTY (PDA); AND FOR SPECIFIED**  
**UNREPRESENTED EMPLOYEES - CE, CEM, EM, MA, NA, NE, NM,**  
**NS AND UM AND AMENDING SECTIONS 494 AND 495 OF THE**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (6/9/25 - First Reading; 6/24/25 - Second**  
**Reading, unless the ordinance is modified on second reading)**  
**(DISTRICTS: ALL)**

### **OVERVIEW**

On June 9, 2025 (1), the Board of Supervisors took action to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on June 24, 2025.

Today's actions reflect the compensation changes that have been negotiated with three Unions/Associations, compensation changes for the unrepresented employees and other compensation changes. The County reached tentative agreements for three-year Memorandum of Agreements (MOA) with the Service Employees International Union, Local 221 (SEIU), the Deputy District Attorneys Association (DDAA), and the Public Defender Association of San

Diego County (PDA), which are currently undergoing the Unions/Associations ratification process. In addition, this board letter includes changes to Sections 494 and 495 of the Administrative Code to reflect negotiated changes.

Today's recommendations are for the Board to approve the introduction of two ordinances (first reading) to amend the Compensation Ordinance and Administrative Code. If the Board takes the actions as recommended, then on June 24, 2025, staff recommends the Board adopt the ordinances (second reading). If the proposed ordinance is altered on June 24, 2025, then on that date a subsequent meeting date will be selected for the adoption of the ordinances (second reading).

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Approve the adoption of the Ordinances (second reading):

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE SECTIONS AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION RELATING TO THE TENTATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH THE DDAA, PDA, SEIU, AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION RELATING TO SPECIFIED UNREPRESENTED AND UNCLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, SECTION 494, JOB-REQUIRED LICENSES AND SECTION 495, TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENT

If the proposed ordinance(s) are altered on June 24, 2025, then on that date a subsequent meeting date will be selected for adoption of the ordinance(s).

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's actions reflect a strong partnership between the County and our Unions/Associations, demonstrating our shared commitment to equitable salaries, market adjustments, and fair compensation. These efforts support recruitment, retention and benefits for all employees.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The proposed action amending the Compensation Ordinance and Administrative Code aligns with the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goals by promoting sustainable economic growth for our community. The proposed actions included in this letter provide just and equitable wages and benefits.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Today's recommendations are estimated to result in ongoing costs and one-time costs as noted in the table below. The estimated fiscal impact is comprised of ongoing base salary and benefit increases, ongoing market and range increases, ongoing flex credit increases, and one-time monetary payments. Funding for ongoing costs is included in the Fiscal Year 2025-27 CAO Recommended Operational Plan, supported by General Purpose Revenues and various program funding.

One-time payments are contingent upon a change to the County's Reserve Policy which provides additional one-time funds.



Included in the today's compensation ordinance amendment is a change to the Tier D retention premium. This change would result in future fiscal impacts and will be included in future Operational Plans.

<i>in millions</i>		<b>FY25-26</b>	<b>FY26-27</b>	<b>FY27-28</b>
A	Ongoing Base Salary and Benefit Increases	62.9	70.0	62.9
B	Ongoing Market & Range Increases	47.0	36.7	36.9
C	Ongoing Flex Credit Increases	6.8	13.5	13.5
<b>D (A+B+C)</b>	<b>Total Ongoing Cost (incremental)</b>	116.7	120.2	113.3
<b>E</b>	<b>Total One-time Cost</b>	23.8	11.4	5.6
<b>F (D+E)</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	140.5	131.6	118.9

#### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

#### **4. SUBJECT: APPOINTMENTS: VARIOUS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

##### **OVERVIEW**

These appointments are in accordance with applicable Board Policy A-74, "Citizen Participation in County Boards, Commissions and Committees."

##### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

##### **VICE-CHAIR TERRA LAWSON-REMER**

Waive Board Policy A-135, "Process for Board of Supervisors Appointments to the Retirement Board," and appoint Ashley Rodriguez Thompson to BOARD OF RETIREMENT (SDCERA), Seat 5, for a term to begin on July 1, 2025 and expire July 1, 2028.

##### **SUPERVISOR JOEL ANDERSON**

Appoint John Sullivan to SAN DIEGO MILITARY AND VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL, Seat 6, for a term to expire June 24, 2029.

##### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Appoint Nicole Aguilar to HIV PLANNING GROUP, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, Seat 40, for a term to expire June 24, 2029.

Re-appoint Ivy Rooney to HIV PLANNING GROUP, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, Seat 43, for a term to expire June 24, 2029.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

County government includes standing and special citizen boards, commissions, committees, and task forces formed to advise the Board of Supervisors and County staff on issues and policy and to serve as links to the community. Boards, commissions, and committees provide an inter-relationship between the residents and the government of the County. The nominations in this Board Letter enable the County of San Diego to provide individual residents the opportunity to impart valuable insight and input into the operation of the government.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego has over one hundred boards, commissions, committees, and task forces that serve as voice in the County government. Advisory bodies are an essential role in resident engagement that allow citizens to participate on issues relating to the welfare and quality of life in the County. They are fundamental to the County of San Diego's ability to navigate complex and dynamic policy challenges, are a conduit to the County Bureaucracy, and a broker to community voice. This board letter supports the County of San Diego Sustainability Goal No.1 by "encourage[ing] people and diverse stakeholders to partner and participate in decisions that impact their lives and communities."

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

### **5. SUBJECT: COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

#### **OVERVIEW**

Board Policy A-72, Board of Supervisors Agenda and Related Process, authorizes the Clerk of the Board to prepare a Communications Received for Board of Supervisors' Official Records. Routine informational reports, which need to be brought to the attention of the Board of Supervisors yet not requiring action, are listed on this document. Communications Received documents are on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

#### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

##### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Note and file.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

## **SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT**

This board letter is a list of documents received by the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and/or Board of Supervisors from other entities, other county departments, the public, and internal documents presented to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors or the Board of Supervisors. This contributes to the overall sustainability of the county by engaging the community in meaningful ways and promote an environment that provides equitable access opportunities for public engagement.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

6. **SUBJECT: COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 ADOPTED BUDGET RESOLUTION FOR COUNTY FAMILY OF FUNDS, ENTERPRISE FUNDS AND INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS, AND PRIOR YEAR ENCUMBRANCES (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

### **OVERVIEW**

On June 12, 2025, the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors (Board) concluded budget hearings for the Fiscal Years 2025-26 and 2026-27 Operational Plan. At these hearings, the Board received public testimony and a presentation of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Recommended Operational Plan. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 29088, a resolution is submitted for adoption of the budgets for Fiscal Year 2025-26 for the County Family of Funds, Enterprise Funds and Internal Service Funds. Also requested is authority to carry-forward prior year encumbrances and related funding. Today's actions request the Board to consider changes to the CAO Recommended Operational Plan and approve the resolutions adopting the budget.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Approve the CAO Recommended Operational Plan Change Letter to revise the CAO Recommended Operational Plan.
2. Consider any Operational Plan change requests submitted after the close of the budget hearing, if applicable. **(4 VOTES)**

*If additional time is needed to identify funding sources or otherwise balance the budget based on the Board's direction and recommendations above, this item may be continued to June 25, 2025, if necessary. If additional time is not needed, then take the following actions:*

3. Adopt a resolution entitled: ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2025.
4. Authorize the Auditor and Controller to carry-forward appropriations and applicable estimated revenue for prior year encumbrances in all County funds. **(4 VOTES)**

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego is committed to promoting a culture of equity, belonging, and racial justice. We serve all communities, including Black, Indigenous, people of Color, LGBTQIA+, people with disabilities, low-income individuals, the young, the elderly, immigrants, refugees, and those who have faced inequality.

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Recommended Operational Plan aims to allocate resources to address inequities in County programs and services. This plan is based on community input, data analysis identifying disparities, and meaningful assessment of outcome indicators.

In 2021, the County introduced a Budget Equity Assessment Tool. This tool helps County departments prioritize services and allocate resources with equity in mind. Each year, departments must identify equity components to evaluate budget changes that impact their ability to deliver services and support their goals. The questions in this tool ensure that the County applies an equity lens when developing the budget.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego is working towards a sustainable future for everyone. Our strategic plan guides our activities to ensure sustainability in the region's economy, climate, environment, and communities. We aim to strengthen communities by pursuing legislative policies and collaborating with stakeholders to enhance services that help residents become self-sufficient, increase economic sustainability, and reduce poverty.

County departments contribute by implementing their own sustainability plans, which reflect their priorities and inform financial planning and decision-making. This ongoing effort helps each department increase the overall sustainability of their operations. These collective efforts strengthen communities, ensure accountability, and protect public resources by aligning available resources through services and initiatives.

The proposed budgetary plans for the Fiscal Years 2025-27 in the CAO Recommended Operational Plan support the County's Strategic Initiative of Sustainability. This aligns resources with services while maintaining fiscal stability and ensuring long-term solvency.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Recommendation 1 includes increased total spending authority of \$18,037,659 totaling \$7,657,359,208 for the County Family of Funds (General Fund, Capital Outlay Funds, Debt Service Fund and Special Revenue Funds) which will result in ongoing expenditure requirements that will increase net General Fund cost, and will require allocation of ongoing resources beginning in Fiscal Year 2026-27. The recommendation also provides spending authority of \$47,871,058 for the Enterprise Funds and \$787,248,065 for the Internal Service Funds, which is unchanged from the CAO Recommended Operational Plan. The total spending authority for the County Family of Funds, Enterprise Funds and Internal Service Funds is \$8,492,478,331. This is a portion of the total revised recommended spending authority Countywide, which is \$8,634,508,957; the remaining amounts are reflected in additional Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget Board Letters for consideration, including for the San Diego Sanitation District; County Service Areas, Community Facilities Districts, Certain Maintenance Districts and Permanent Road Divisions; San Diego County Fire Protection District; and County of San Diego Successor Agency to the County of San Diego Redevelopment Agency; and San Diego County Flood Control District.

Recommendation 3 provides spending authority of \$7,657,359,208 for the County Family of Funds for Fiscal Year 2025-26. The recommendation also provides spending authority of \$47,871,058 for the Enterprise Funds and \$787,248,065 for the Internal Service Funds.

Recommendation 4 authorizes the Auditor and Controller to carry over appropriations and any related revenues from the prior year. The exact amount of carry-forward budget is not known at this time and will not be finalized until the accounting cycle for Fiscal Year 2024-25 has been completed in August 2025.

The fiscal impact of Recommendation 2 will be determined prior to adoption of the budget if Operational Plan change requests are received after the close of budget hearings.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

7. **SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY SERVICE AREAS, COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICTS, CERTAIN MAINTENANCE DISTRICTS AND PERMANENT ROAD DIVISIONS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

## **OVERVIEW**

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 29088, this request recommends the approval of a resolution to adopt the budget for the County Service Areas, Community Facilities Districts, Certain Maintenance Districts and Permanent Road Divisions for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Approve the CAO Recommended Operational Plan Change Letter.
2. Consider change requests submitted after the close of the budget hearing, if applicable.  
**(4 VOTES)**

*If additional time is needed to identify funding sources or otherwise balance the budget based on the Board's direction and recommendations above, this item may be continued to June 25, 2025, if necessary. If additional time is not needed, then take the following action:*

3. Adopt a resolution entitled: ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY SERVICE AREAS, COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICTS, CERTAIN MAINTENANCE DISTRICTS, AND PERMANENT ROAD DIVISIONS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2025.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego is committed to promoting a culture of equity, belonging, and racial justice. We serve all communities, including Black, Indigenous, people of Color, LGBTQIA+, people with disabilities, low-income individuals, the young, the elderly, immigrants, refugees, and those who have faced inequality.

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Recommended Operational Plan aims to allocate resources to address inequities in County programs and services. This plan is based on community input, data analysis identifying disparities, and meaningful assessment of outcome indicators.

In 2021, the County introduced a Budget Equity Assessment Tool. This tool helps County departments prioritize services and allocate resources with equity in mind. Each year, departments must identify equity components to evaluate budget changes that impact their ability to deliver services and support their goals. The questions in this tool ensure that the County applies an equity lens when developing the budget.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego is working towards a sustainable future for everyone. Our strategic plan guides our activities to ensure sustainability in the region's economy, climate, environment, and communities. We aim to strengthen communities by pursuing legislative policies and collaborating with stakeholders to enhance services that help residents become self-sufficient, increase economic sustainability, and reduce poverty.

County departments contribute by implementing their own sustainability plans, which reflect their priorities and inform financial planning and decision-making. This ongoing effort helps each department increase the overall sustainability of their operations. These collective efforts strengthen communities, ensure accountability, and protect public resources by aligning available resources through services and initiatives.

The proposed budgetary plans for the Fiscal Years 2025-27 in the CAO Recommended Operational Plan support the County's Strategic Initiative of Sustainability. This aligns our resources with services while maintaining fiscal stability and ensuring long-term solvency.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The recommended action provides spending authority of \$32,724,130 for the County Service Areas, Community Facilities Districts, Certain Maintenance Districts and Permanent Road Divisions for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

## **8. SUBJECT: STRENGTHENING EMERGENCY HOUSING FOR HOMELESS VETERANS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

### **OVERVIEW**

Veteran homelessness remains a deeply pressing issue in San Diego County, which is home to one of the largest concentrations of military personnel and veterans in the United States. With more than 240,000 veterans living in the region, San Diego carries a distinct responsibility to ensure that those who have bravely served our nation are fully supported as they transition to civilian life. Yet for too many veterans, this transition is marked by challenges in securing stable housing, accessing healthcare, and connecting to critical support services.

While the County has made important strides in reducing homelessness among veterans, there continues to be a significant need for focused, sustained efforts. Veterans are still at disproportionate risk of falling into homelessness, often due to a combination of behavioral

health conditions, economic hardship, and the breakdown of support networks that once existed during military service. These compounding issues require solutions that are both immediate and tailored to the veteran experience.

Today's action proposes exploring the feasibility of a targeted pilot program that would increase the number of Regional Housing Assistance Program (RHAP) beds specifically dedicated to homeless veterans. This initiative also includes evaluating enhanced funding options for associated services such as case management, behavioral health support, and rental assistance.

By increasing RHAP capacity to serve veterans, the County can provide more direct, dependable pathways out of homelessness-supporting long-term stability and reaffirming our commitment to honor and care for those who served.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **SUPERVISOR JIM DESMOND**

Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to report back in 90 days on the feasibility of a pilot program expanding the Regional Housing Assistance Program to add beds for homeless veterans in the unincorporated area, including the number of beds needed, projected costs, and potential funding sources.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Increasing RHAP capacity to serve veterans ensures equitable access to emergency housing for those facing unique challenges from their military service. Veterans are more likely to experience mental health issues, substance use, and limited support networks. Targeted resources help meet these needs and build trust in public systems. With a 26% drop in veteran homelessness shown in the 2025 PIT Count, focused interventions are proving effective. Setting aside RHAP beds will sustain this momentum and embed equity in housing access.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Increasing RHAP capacity to serve veterans experiencing homelessness supports the County of San Diego's sustainability goals by promoting access to housing and improving health and social well-being for those who have served in the military. By reducing barriers to emergency shelter and connecting veterans to supportive services, this initiative contributes to a more resilient, inclusive, and responsive community that upholds the health, dignity, and long-term stability of all residents.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this recommendation. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years required for the purpose of creating the report as described. There may be fiscal impacts associated with future related recommendations which staff would return to the Board for consideration and approval. The projected number of beds, associated costs, and potential funding sources including possible impact on net General Fund cost will be listed in the report and will inform any future staff recommendations.

### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

9. **SUBJECT: RESPONDING TO POTENTIAL FEDERAL IMPACTS FROM THE “ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL ACT” TO PROTECT FOOD SECURITY, HOUSING, AND HEALTHCARE AND WAIVE BOARD POLICY A-72 (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

H.R. 1, the budget reconciliation bill known as the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act”, is now moving through Congress and represents a significant rollback of long-standing federal commitments-shifting hundreds of millions in new costs and adding new administrative burdens onto local governments like the County of San Diego. This bill is poised to dismantle essential supports for food, housing, and healthcare, just as the community’s needs continue to grow.

San Diegans rely on these federal programs-funded by our own tax dollars-to stay fed, housed, and healthy. If enacted, this bill will directly impact our most vulnerable populations. Families will face longer Medi-Cal renewal times and added reporting requirements, putting children, seniors, and people with disabilities at greater risk of delayed or lost coverage.

Meanwhile, proposed cuts to federal housing and homelessness programs-including a 44 percent reduction to HUD funding-threaten core safety net services. More than 10,000 Section 8 vouchers in San Diego County could be affected, as well as rental assistance for people living with HIV/AIDS and for formerly homeless residents. Behavioral health providers also face steep reductions to substance use and mental health funding as the need for crisis services grows. Proposed cuts to nutrition assistance programs like SNAP could leave thousands of local families struggling to put food on the table-particularly the thousands of seniors and children who rely on these programs to keep food on the table.

Together, these federal actions threaten to erode years of progress in reducing hunger, preventing homelessness, and maintaining access to healthcare.

The CAO Recommended Operational Plan for Fiscal Years 2025-26 & 2026-27 (County Budget) is a balancing act under extraordinary fiscal constraints. Through targeted efficiencies and one-time savings, the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) delivered a structurally balanced plan that protects core services-public safety, infrastructure, environmental health, and basic welfare-without relying on recurring reserves.

However, the recommended County Budget includes reductions to several high-leverage prevention programs: Medi-Cal and CalFresh staffing, tenant legal aid, and LGBTQ+ affirming homelessness prevention. While these reductions closed short-term gaps, they also leave San Diegans more vulnerable just as federal policy changes are set to increase need and administrative workload.

This item directs the CAO to immediately begin planning through a two-part response:

- **A rapid assessment** of service capacity and staffing needs to be reported to the Board of Supervisors by **July 22, 2025**; and



- A **comprehensive strategy** to address the most severe impacts of anticipated federal cuts, including bolstering key programs identified in this item, and report back to the Board of Supervisors with recommendations on **September 30, 2025**. This should include funding strategies that would be sufficient to fully fund the programs, leveraging multiple potential funding sources, including but not limited to: unassigned fund balances made available by a revised reserve policy, state and federal grants, intergovernmental cost-sharing, philanthropic partnerships, and other potential revenue options that will ensure critical programs remain fully operational, protect today's service levels, and prevent harmful delays.

The goal is to ensure that the County of San Diego is equipped to quickly respond and minimize disruptions to food assistance, housing stability, and healthcare and protect core services in the face of significant federal cost shifts.

Key areas of focus include:

- **Health and Self-Sufficiency:** Keep eligibility offices fully staffed so Medi-Cal and CalFresh renewals remain timely. This includes analyzing how many additional workers are needed to handle new administrative burdens such as reduced backdating, twice-yearly re-certifications, and monthly work-reporting requirements. The CAO will report back in July with staffing needs and in September with a hiring and training plan supported with funding options.
- **In-Home Supportive Services:** Assess anticipated service gaps and workforce shortages created by proposed state-level policy changes, including caps on provider hours and immigration-related eligibility restrictions. Identify one-time funds to support the upcoming IHSS contract and ensure continued care for seniors and people with disabilities. Report back with initial analysis in July and funding recommendations in September.
- **Behavioral Health Bridge Housing:** As federal behavioral health funding declines, maintain continuity of care by investing in 220 sober-living bridge housing placements for clients in outpatient treatment. These placements reduce the use of crisis systems and support long-term recovery. Report back in September with funding options.
- **Food Security:** To mitigate the impact of federal SNAP reductions, analyze Self-Sufficiency Services staffing needed to prevent delays in the processing of CalFresh applications. The CAO will report back with a communication plan to notify recipients about final benefit disruptions caused by federal budget changes using multi-channel outreach and community partners.
- **Housing and Homelessness:** Prepare for cuts to federal housing programs by expanding proven local tools: the Innovative Housing Trust Fund, tenant legal services, and LGBTQ+ affirming homelessness prevention program. These programs have helped stabilize vulnerable households at modest cost. Report back in September with funding strategies to sustain and expand local capacity.

As federal funding dries up, our communities will face real hardship. While the County of San Diego cannot backfill every loss, we must mobilize every available tool-unlocking reserve funds, exploring new revenue sources, and forging partnerships-to protect our communities from the worst impacts and hold the line on essential services.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**  
**SUPERVISOR TERRA LAWSON-REMER AND SUPERVISOR MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE**

1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to conduct an analysis of the County of San Diego's operational capacity needs in response to the proposed federal and state changes, including but not limited to:
  - a. Conduct an analysis of Self-Sufficiency Services staffing needs to preserve current processing speeds and wait times for Medi-Cal and CalFresh applications. Without adequate staffing to absorb the increased administrative burden and red tape in proposed federal legislation, thousands of San Diego residents risk losing access to vital healthcare and food assistance. This analysis should quantify additional staffing required each year to preserve service levels while absorbing the increased administrative burden imposed by proposed federal changes, and detail recruitment, training, and retention efforts that will be needed. This analysis should be done in consultation with the Medicaid Ad Hoc Subcommittee, to ensure alignment with broader County efforts to safeguard access to care. Report back by July 22, 2025, with this analysis.
  - b. Conduct an analysis of In-Home Supportive Services provider shortfalls and anticipated service-delivery gaps that are projected to result from proposed state legislative changes including, but not limited to, caps to overtime and travel hours, which will disproportionately impact rural individuals with care needs. Report back by July 22, 2025, with this analysis.
2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a notification plan to alert CalFresh recipients of service levels changes if and when H.R. 1 is finalized and signed into law. Report back by July 22, 2025, with a communications plan that can be implemented once policy details have been formalized. The plan should include a multi-channel communication system-such as text messages, automated calls, emails, and posters-with materials available in multiple languages. It should also identify community partners (e.g., food banks, clinics, and school districts) to help disseminate information about federal service disruptions.
3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a comprehensive strategy to address the most severe impacts of anticipated federal cuts, including options to sustain key programs identified in this item. This strategy should include identification of potential funding sources that should include, but not be limited to: unassigned fund balances made available by a revised reserve policy, mid-year budget adjustments through operating results, state and federal grants, intergovernmental cost-sharing, philanthropic partnerships, and other potential revenue options-to cover these expenses without undermining other critical services. Report back by Board on September 30, 2025 with options and recommendations.
  - a. Self-Sufficiency staffing to support continued processing of Medicaid, CalFresh, CalWORKS and other critical eligibility programs
  - b. In-Home Supportive Services Memorandum of Understanding
  - c. Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (Residential Recovery)
  - d. Senior Transportation Program
  - e. Supporting Partnerships in CalAIM and Medi-Cal Transformation

- f. LGBTQ+ Affirming Homelessness Prevention & Housing Support
- g. Affordable Housing Development (Innovative Housing Trust Fund)
- h. Tenant Legal Services

4. Waive Board Policy A-72 Agenda and Related Process, Section 2.C.2.ii, which establishes required timelines for review when preparing a Board Letter.

#### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

This action supports the County of San Diego's ability to advance equity by directing resources toward initiatives that address longstanding disparities in housing, and access to culturally responsive services. By identifying flexible funding options, the County of San Diego can remain responsive to the needs of communities that have too often been underserved.

Prioritizing these types of efforts ensures that equity is not sidelined during times of fiscal constraint but centered in how we respond to today's challenges and prepare for the future.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

This action promotes a more sustainable approach to governance by enabling investments that prevent costly downstream interventions and reduce pressure on crisis systems. Stabilizing housing and building institutional capacity to meet residents' needs all contribute to long-term fiscal and environmental resilience. By pursuing diverse funding sources beyond the General Fund-including grants, partnerships, and any unassigned balances-the County of San Diego strengthens its ability to deliver proactive solutions that conserve resources, reduce harm, and support a thriving region over time.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action at this time. This item directs staff to explore potential funding sources. Any future fiscal impacts will depend on the specific options identified. This action does not result in a change to the net General Fund cost and does not require any additional staff years.

#### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

10. **SUBJECT:      ADVANCING REGIONAL ACTIONS TO ADDRESS THE TIJUANA RIVER SEWAGE AND WAIVE BOARD POLICY A-72  
                         (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

#### **OVERVIEW**

This year's budget reflects the harsh fiscal reality facing cities and counties across California. County staff have worked to deliver a balanced budget despite inflation, economic pressures, and continued federal instability. But while the budget meets our legal obligation, it does not meet every community need, particularly for families living on the frontlines of environmental pollution.

Nowhere is that gap more visible than in the Tijuana River Valley and our coastal communities, where residents continue to face the fallout of recurring sewage spills, toxic air, and industrial waste. Our Congressional delegation secured \$650 million to upgrade the South Bay

International Wastewater Treatment Plant, a major step forward. But construction will take years, and the project addresses only part of the broader contamination problem. In the meantime, millions of gallons of polluted runoff continue to flood into our region, and our residents are left to shoulder the consequences.

Alongside water contamination, dangerous levels of hydrogen sulfide continue to pose a serious public health risk for residents in the Tijuana River Valley and surrounding communities. This toxic gas, released from decaying sewage and industrial waste, has been linked to headaches, respiratory irritation, and long-term health concerns. Families have reported nausea and fatigue, schools have raised alarms, and frontline neighborhoods continue to bear the brunt.

In response, the County and the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District are purchasing 10,000 air purifiers to help reduce indoor exposure—but this is a temporary stopgap, not a systemic fix. Without deeper investments in monitoring, mitigation, and long-term health protections, the crisis will only escalate. This is not an infrastructure nuisance; it is a growing public health emergency that demands urgent, coordinated action.

This year's budget required tough choices. Without new revenues or changes to County reserve policy, not every urgent need could be addressed. As a result, some critical investments were left unfunded, especially those responding to long-standing environmental harms. While public testimony at the June 2025 Budget Hearings reflected a wide range of community needs, the crisis in the Tijuana River Valley remains especially urgent. Local governments must continue to step up.

In partnership with Imperial Beach Mayor Paloma Aguirre, this action supports key elements of her County Sewage Action Plan — including targeted stormwater upgrades to eliminate toxic hot spots, enhanced school air filtration, a hydrogen sulfide health study, and strengthened regional coordination. These community-driven priorities reflect what South County families are experiencing every day.

The proposed program options areas include:

**Matching Funds to Protect Kids from Toxic Air at School:**

Create a County matching fund to support air filtration and HVAC upgrades in schools and childcare centers impacted by Tijuana River pollution, leveraging contributions from school districts, APCD, state and federal grants, philanthropy, and others.

**Launching an Epidemiological Public Health Impact Study:**

Initiate a multi-year health impact study on chronic hydrogen sulfide exposure by convening County public health staff, academic researchers, and philanthropic partners to generate the region's first longitudinal dataset on exposure and health outcomes.

**Infrastructure Matching Funds to Eliminate Toxic Hot Spots:**

Establishing a County matching fund to remediate toxic hot spots along the Tijuana River — starting with hydrogen sulfide releases at Saturn Boulevard — through stormwater infrastructure upgrades that reduce surface disturbance and protect public health.

**Economic Impact Study:**

Commission a comprehensive economic impact analysis of the sewage crisis — expanding beyond the County’s prior survey on small business impacts limited to Imperial Beach — to quantify losses to tourism, business, and property values and strengthen advocacy for state and federal investment.

**Designating a County Sewage Crisis Chief:**

Designate a dedicated County lead to coordinate emergency response efforts, secure funding, align agency actions, and keep impacted communities informed and engaged.

These proposals are practical responses to ongoing community impacts and reflect the urgency of addressing long-standing local health and infrastructure failures. In moments of fiscal pressure, it is especially important that we remain clear on our values and ensure public health, environmental safety, and accountability are uplifted.

This item does not propose new spending today but directs the Chief Administrative Officer to evaluate the programmatic options, recommend the most impactful and feasible next steps, and develop a funding and implementation strategy for those selected.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)****VICE-CHAIR TERRA LAWSON-REMER**

1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to evaluate the programmatic options below and develop strategic recommendations identifying which initiatives the County may prioritize for implementation—focusing on opportunities aligned with core County functions, that offer the greatest public health impact, and that can be leveraged to attract outside funding.

Based on that prioritization, develop an implementation roadmap for the selected programs, including potential funding strategies, which should include, but not limited to unassigned fund balances made available by a revised reserve policy, mid-year quarterly budget adjustments through operating results, state and federal grants, philanthropic partnerships, intergovernmental cost-sharing, and other potential revenue options.

The programs are as follows:

- a. **Matching Funds to Protect Kids from Toxic Air at School:** including air filtration and HVAC upgrades in schools and childcare centers impacted by cross-border pollution, leveraging contributions from school districts, the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District, state and federal grants, and philanthropic partners;
- b. **Launching an epidemiological public health impact study** on chronic hydrogen sulfide exposure by convening County public health staff, state and federal agencies, academic researchers, and philanthropic funders to assess long-term health outcomes among impacted residents;
- c. **Infrastructure Matching Funds to Eliminate Toxic Hot Spots** to remediate infrastructure and toxic hot spots along the Tijuana River — such as upgrades at Saturn Boulevard to mitigate aerosolization.

- d. **Economic Impact Study** to assess the full scope of losses caused by the sewage crisis — including impacts to small businesses, property values, and regional tourism — to strengthen future funding and mitigation efforts;
- e. **Designating a County Sewage Crisis Chief** to coordinate emergency response efforts, secure and align infrastructure funding, engage with partner agencies, and keep affected communities informed and supported. The position should be structured and organized in a manner that ensures focused leadership while making efficient use of existing County resources.

Return to the Board on September 30, 2025, with strategic recommendations for Board consideration.

- 2. Establish an ad hoc subcommittee of this Board, entitled the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on the Tijuana River Sewage Crisis, and appoint Supervisors representing the most impacted coastal communities, District 1 and District 3. The subcommittee will provide focused oversight of mitigation efforts, explore new opportunities and partnerships, coordinate interagency and binational collaboration, and develop actionable recommendations for further Board action. It shall also guide the integration of health and environmental monitoring data, support public engagement efforts, identify aligned funding opportunities, and ensure readiness for emergency response needs as they arise.
- 3. Waive Board Policy A-72 Agenda and Related Process, Section 2.C.2.ii, which establishes required timelines for review when preparing a Board Letter.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Residents living near the Tijuana River have faced ongoing exposure to unsafe air and environmental hazards. This item prioritizes practical investments, like school air filtration and health impact studies, that respond to clear, place-based risks affecting working families and children. By focusing resources where the health consequences are most acute, the County is taking a fair and measured approach to ensure all communities have access to basic public safety and clean environments, regardless of geography.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

This item supports long-term regional stability by addressing preventable public health threats and infrastructure gaps that, if ignored, will become more costly and disruptive over time. Improving indoor air quality in schools, gathering reliable health data, and coordinating regional response efforts all contribute to a more proactive, cost-effective approach to managing environmental risks. Identifying funding now allows the County to strengthen its ability to respond to future challenges without placing additional strain on core services or emergency systems.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action at this time. This item directs staff to explore potential funding sources; any future fiscal impacts will depend on the specific funding options identified. This action does not result in a change to the net General Fund cost and does not require any additional staff years.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

The persistent impacts of the Tijuana River sewage crisis have disrupted local commerce, deterred tourism, and placed an ongoing burden on small businesses operating in coastal and border-adjacent communities. By identifying funding to improve conditions in affected areas, this item supports efforts to restore public confidence, reduce business disruption, and strengthen the long-term economic stability of communities that have faced repeated environmental setbacks beyond their control.

### **11. SUBJECT:     ADVANCING FOOD JUSTICE BY SUPPORTING THE SAN DIEGO FOOD BANK AND SUNCOAST MARKET CO-OP (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

#### **OVERVIEW**

Access to healthy foods affects a person's health, dental, physical and mental well-being, longevity, and quality of life. Unfortunately, many communities-particularly those in low-income areas or rural regions-lack access to affordable and nutritious food options, which can lead to disparities in health outcomes. Healthy food options are vital in ensuring individuals can lead a healthy life and reduce the risk of chronic diseases, such as obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and certain cancers.

On June 4, 2024 (12), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) directed the development of a Food Justice Community Action Plan (FJCAP). The FJCAP sought to identify actions the County of San Diego (County) could take to reduce food insecurity, eliminate food deserts, improve access to locally grown produce, and increase collaboration between the County and organizations involved in the local food system.

The Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank (San Diego Food Bank) was founded in 1977 and is the largest hunger-relief organization in San Diego County and the fourth largest independent food bank in the United States. Across San Diego County, one in four individuals are food insecure and the percentage of children and youth that are food insecure is even higher at 32 percent. The San Diego Food Bank plays a vital role in our local safety net, serving 400,000 people each month through partnerships with 450 nonprofits, and is a critical link to basic needs for low-income seniors, working poor families with children, malnourished students, and homeless families and individuals. Additionally, the San Diego Food Bank serves 39,000 active-duty military, veterans, and their families. The San Diego Food Bank is on pace to distribute 50 million pounds of food and basic needs supplies through June 30, 2025.

In March 2025, the San Diego Food Bank was informed that nearly \$2 million worth of the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) food items was unexpectedly cancelled by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). These cancellations total approximately 1.8 million pounds of food and include nutrient-dense, high-value items such as frozen proteins, milk, and eggs. This unanticipated loss in federal funding represents a 40% decrease in TEFAP funding to the San Diego Food Bank, the state designated and sole provider of TEFAP for San Diego County. As a result, clients have seen a decrease in the number of items in their TEFAP bag from 16 to 9 items.

With reductions in federal funding for food assistance, San Diego children and families will be more vulnerable to food insecurity. Hunger and poor nutrition can increase the likelihood of an individual developing chronic health conditions, behavioral health challenges, children experiencing developmental delays, and weakening of the immune system. Hunger also worsens educational outcomes as children struggle to focus in school. Food assistance programs help bolster economic stability for low-income families. When residents don't have to choose between food and other essentials like housing or medication, they are better able to participate in the local economy. Supporting the San Diego Food Bank as they continue to serve our region's most vulnerable individuals and families in this time of funding uncertainty will reap short- and long-term social and economic benefits for San Diego County.

The California Center for Cooperative Development, also known as SunCoast Market Co-Op (SunCoast), seeks to open a self-sustaining and community-owned cooperative grocery store in Imperial Beach, which would become South County's first food cooperative. SunCoast was formed by residents in 2016 to increase access to healthy food in the community. As of May 2025, SunCoast has over 1,200 member-owners and began construction on its food co-op in January 2025. SunCoast will be a key partner in tackling food insecurity and enhancing healthy food access in San Diego County as Imperial Beach and the surrounding communities are disproportionately impacted by food insecurity and chronic, non-communicable disease such as diabetes and heart disease that are strongly influenced by dietary patterns.

According to regional data from the San Diego Hunger Coalition, 30-40% of people residing within the 91932 zip code representing Imperial Beach are food insecure. Additionally, 40-60% of people in the 92173 zip code (San Ysidro), 20-30% of people in the 92154 zip code (Nestor, Palm City, Otay Mesa) and 30-40% of people in the 91911 (Southwest Chula Vista) are food insecure. Census tracts within Imperial Beach and surrounding communities are also deemed Low Income and Low Access (LILA) by the USDA Food Access Research Atlas. LILA designation identifies census tracts that are both low-income and low-access to food, utilizing a variety of factors including poverty rates and median family income to assess the challenges faced by residents in accessing nutritious food options. SunCoast operations are projected to increase access to nutritious food for people living in LILA neighborhoods, generate \$6.5 million annually for the regional economy, provide a supportive retail outlet to 150 farms and vendors across all five County Supervisorial Districts, and promote decarbonization through a variety of initiatives including the reduction of vehicle miles traveled for the delivery of produce and travel distance for residents to purchase groceries.

The Board has taken previous action recognizing the importance of advancing food justice. As the County of San Diego continues this work to enhance the local food system, the County has a unique opportunity to support vital community partners through today's actions, which will benefit residents across the County. The San Diego Food Bank will continue to serve hundreds of thousands of people in San Diego County monthly, serving nutritious meals to students, veterans, seniors, working poor families, and homeless families and individuals. In alignment with Board Policy B-58, today's action will grant \$250,000 to the California Center for Cooperative Development to support inventory, staff salaries, and marketing efforts for the SunCoast Market Co-Op, and \$500,000 to the San Diego Food Bank to supplement inventory for food distributions and mobile partners. These investments will strengthen the region's local food system, support communities disproportionately impacted by food insecurity, and help ensure more residents have access to affordable, nutritious food.



## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **SUPERVISOR MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE AND SUPERVISOR JOEL ANDERSON**

1. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, to execute a grant agreement in the amount of \$250,000 in accordance with Board Policy B-58 with the California Center for Cooperative Development to support inventory, salaries, and marketing efforts focused on increasing access to healthy food in the community.
2. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, to execute a grant agreement in the amount of \$500,000 in accordance with Board Policy B-58 with the San Diego Food Bank to support inventory for food distributions and mobile pantries.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Low-income and rural people in the United States may have limited access to healthy foods because of their distance to affordable food options. Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) experience the highest rates of poverty, food insecurity, and diet-related illness. BIPOC communities also experience significant disparities in farming, business, and land ownership, limiting opportunities for community wealth-building, power, and leadership. Prior research shows that food insecurity varies based on demographic characters. Black and Hispanic people, immigrants, and people with disabilities are more likely to be impacted by food insecurity. By supporting community efforts to provide healthy foods, we are ensuring that we are building healthier and stronger communities.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's action contributes to the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goals of engaging the community in meaningful ways and protecting the health and well-being of everyone in the region by expanding the market for healthy, sustainable, and local food for communities who have long been underserved and may be affected by the impacts of living in a food desert or having other barriers like income or transportation access.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for this request are not included in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Operational Plan for the Land Use and Environment Group Office / Office of Sustainability and Environmental Justice (Department). If approved, this request will result in one-time costs of \$750,000. The Department will use existing appropriations that are available due to operational savings; the funding source is General Purpose Revenue. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**12. SUBJECT: APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO AND SUNSET OF BOARD POLICIES RELATED TO ECONOMIC PROSPERITY AND PROCUREMENT AND ADOPT AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XXIII OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCES RELATING TO COUNTY CONTRACTING (6/24/2025 - FIRST READING; 8/26/2025 - SECOND READING UNLESS ORDINANCE IS MODIFIED ON SECOND READING) (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

The County of San Diego (County) is committed to building a more inclusive and resilient regional economy, especially through supporting the prosperity of small businesses, nonprofits and community-based organizations. This is achieved through a variety of programs and services, and through leveraging its purchasing power. The County spends over \$2 billion annually on contracts.

On April 30, 2024 (12), the Board directed staff to explore ways to expand the County's reach to local businesses through outreach and education, reviewing current programs to enhance local business participation in County procurements, and aligning with California Assembly Bill 2019 (2022) to support small and disadvantaged business enterprises. On August 27, 2024 (22), the Board further directed the Chief Administrative Officer to evaluate the County's use of State and federal business certifications and report back on recommendations, including formalizing local participation requirements for County contracts, increasing the local business preference policy, establishing a small business advancement policy, creating a technical assistance program, and funding an insurance and bonding assistance program.

To ensure these efforts to expand economic opportunity are inclusive and community-informed, the County launched a multi-phase community engagement strategy. This initiative gathered input from business owners, nonprofits, and community leaders on how to strengthen the County's role in supporting local economic development, especially through procurement. Nearly 400 organizations representing broad and diverse communities, including veteran-owned businesses, nonprofits, small businesses, economic development and business support organizations participated in surveys, workshops, stakeholder meetings, and webinars.

Incorporating community feedback, the County has been advancing changes to better support small and local businesses. Key efforts include the creation of a dedicated Small Business Development Unit with a dedicated Small Business Manager to serve as a liaison, expanded technical assistance to help small businesses navigate the County's procurement processes, and the development of new and innovative programs designed to meet the needs of diverse business communities.

California AB 2019, signed into law in 2022, was written to support small business enterprises across California. Among other initiatives, AB 2019 requires a State small business liaisons to develop economic equity action plans, codifies the State's goal of 25% procurement participation for small businesses, tasks the Office of Small Business and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Services with recommending simplified procurement procedures to increase opportunities for small and micro businesses, while encouraging those enterprises which are

minority-owned, women-owned, and LGBTQ+-owned businesses, and allows small businesses to self-identify as being minority-, woman-, or LGBTQ+-owned to also have increased access to procurement opportunities.

Today's recommended updates and improvements already made at the staff level align with the provisions of AB 1919. The County's engagement efforts conducted over the past year have informed the work outlined in this Board Letter and may serve as the foundation for an economic equity action plan. Today's recommendations simplify several procurement procedures, which would increase opportunities for small, minority-owned, women-owned, and LGBTQ+-owned businesses to help us achieve the 25% small business participation goal. County staff recently bolstered efforts to encourage higher rates of participation in the self-identification process. These demographic metrics will be used for annual analysis of the effectiveness of all these efforts and will guide the County's outreach strategies, program development, and improvements to procurement. While the recommended actions in this Board Letter align the County to AB 1919, there is still more that can be done. County staff will continue to proactively review implementation strategies of other counties and return to the Board with further recommendations.

Today's actions require two steps. On June 24, 2025, the Board is requested to approve the introduction of an Ordinance amending Article XXIII of the San Diego County Administrative Code relating to County contracting (first reading). If the Board takes actions as recommended, then, on August 26, 2025, the Board is requested to consider and adopt the Ordinance (second reading, unless the ordinance is modified on the second reading). Additionally, today's actions request that the Board approve amendments to Board Policies related to economic prosperity and procurement to be effective on September 25, 2025.

- A-71 - San Diego County Economic Development
- A-87 - Competitive Procurement
- B-53 - Small Business Policy
- B-39a - Veteran-Owned Businesses (VOB) and Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise (DVBE) Program
- B-67 - Environmentally Preferable Procurement

Today's actions further request the Board to sunset several Board Policies related to County procurement that have been consolidated into the language of other existing policies.

- A-137 - Environmentally Responsible Use of Copy and Printing Paper
- F-40 - Procuring Architectural, Engineering, and Related Professional Services
- F-47 - Procuring Professional Services to Assist with County Acquisition and Leasing of Real Property

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

On June 24, 2025:

1. Approve the introduction of the Ordinance (first reading):  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XXIII OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY  
CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCES RELATING TO COUNTY  
CONTRACTING.

If, on June 24, 2025, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors takes action as recommended, then on August 26, 2025:

1. Consider and adopt (unless the ordinance is modified on second reading):  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XXIII OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCES RELATING TO COUNTY CONTRACTING.
2. Approve the amendments set forth in Attachments D - M to the following Board Policies to be effective September 25, 2025, and, except for Board Policy A-71, set a sunset review date for these Board Policies of December 31, 2032:
  - A-71 - San Diego County Economic Development
  - A-87 - Competitive Procurement
  - B-39a - Veteran Owned Business (VOB) and Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise (DVBE) Program
    - i. Board Policy B-39a to be renamed Veteran Owned Business (VOB) and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) Program
  - B-53 - Small Business Policy (SBP)
    - i. Board Policy B-53 to be renamed to Board Policy B-53 Small-Local Business Policy (SLBP)
  - B-67 - Environmentally Preferable Procurement
3. If recommendation #2 is approved, sunset the following Board Policies effective September 25, 2025:
  - A-137 - Environmentally Responsible Use of Copy and Printing Paper
  - F-40 - Procuring Architectural, Engineering, and Related Professional Services
  - F-47 - Procuring Professional Services to Assist with County Acquisition and Leasing of Real Property
4. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to report back annually in September of each year on the progress and outcomes achieved in the prior fiscal year.

#### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Revisions to policy documents will reinforce equity, expand opportunities for small-local businesses, and reduce barriers to participation. Today's actions to approve and adopt changes to procurement-related policies and Administrative Code sections will enhance equity and community strength and are a major step toward expanding opportunities for small-local businesses to participate in County contracting.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's actions align with the County of San Diego's (County) Sustainability Goal #1 to engage the community in meaningful ways and continually seek stakeholder input as the recommendations reflect what was heard during numerous community engagement activities and listening sessions with the business community. In addition, the proposed policy changes align with the County's Sustainability Goal #2 to provide just and equitable access to County contracting by simplifying current procurement policies, increasing procurement authority limits, and expanding the County's local business preference.

Additionally, the proposed changes to Board Policy B-67 align with the County's Sustainability Goal #7 by promoting responsible purchasing practices that reduce pollution, waste, and resource consumption. These updates reflect a broader commitment to considering the full life cycle impacts and costs of County purchases - enabling the County to lead by example in minimizing environmental harm, reducing exposure to harmful products, and promoting fiscal and social responsibility.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

If the proposed increase to the local preference program from the currently established 5% (not to exceed \$50,000) to 15% (not to exceed \$150,000) is approved and implemented, the potential increased contract costs are estimated to be around \$1.3 million. The actual costs incurred would depend upon the outcomes of specific bids, with a maximum preference ceiling of \$150,000 per procurement. Existing departments funding sources will be used to pay for associated increased contract costs. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

#### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego (County) encourages the participation of small-local businesses in County contracting opportunities. Today's actions to approve and adopt changes to procurement policies will enhance equity and community strength and are a major step toward expanding opportunities for small-local businesses. By achieving the program's goal of directing 25% of County approximate annual procurement spend of \$2 billion to small-local businesses, approximately \$500 million per year would remain in San Diego County.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.