

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025, 9:00 AM AND WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2025, 9:00 AM

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

GENERAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION
TUESDAY, MAY 6, 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 April 22, 2025 and April 23, 2025; and, the San Diego County Fire Protection District meeting of April 22, 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, May 7, 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 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 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.

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.

Category	#	Subject
Public Safety	1.	SHERIFF - REQUEST TO ISSUE A COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION FOR A JAIL REENTRY CASE MANAGEMENT APPLICATION
	2.	SHERIFF'S OFFICE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S 22ND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

3. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:
SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:
NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
ARTICLE XX OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE
ORDINANCE CODE, RELATING TO SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE, SAN
DIEGO COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AND COUNTY
SERVICE AREA 17 CHARGES AND FEES (4/22/25 - FIRST READING;
5/6/25 - SECOND READING UNLESS ORDINANCE IS MODIFIED ON
SECOND READING)
4. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:
SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:
NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE
SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE ARTICLE XX
SECTION 364.6, RELATING TO MEDICAL EXAMINER FEES AND
CHARGES
- Health and
Human Services 5. AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF OLDER ADULT SERVICES
REVENUE AGREEMENTS AND GRANTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-26
THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2028-29, AND AUTHORIZE APPLICATION
FOR FUTURE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROGRAMS
SERVING OLDER ADULTS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
6. AUTHORIZE ACTIONS RELATED TO THE 2026-2027 COMMUNITY
ACTION PLAN AND APPROVE REVISED BY-LAWS
7. APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF NILSA HIGGINS AS TENANT
COMMISSIONER FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
- Financial and
General
Government 8. APPROVAL OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODES: VARIOUS
AGENCIES
9. APPOINTMENTS: VARIOUS
10. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- | Category | # | Subject |
|------------------------------|-----|---|
| Public Safety | 11. | ANNUAL REPORT ON GUN VIOLENCE AND UPDATE ON GUN
VIOLENCE REDUCTION WORK PLAN |
| Health and
Human Services | 12. | APPROVE AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XV-B OF THE
SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RELATING TO
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CHARGES AND FEES |
| | 13. | ENDING VETERAN HOMELESSNESS |

14. SET A HEARING FOR JUNE 3, 2025:
FALLBROOK - APPROVE ACQUISITION OF APPROXIMATELY 3.04 ACRES OF LAND FROM NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (05/06/2025 - SET HEARING; 06/03/2025 - HOLD HEARING), APPROVE EXEMPT SURPLUS PROPERTY DECLARATION AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION
15. SUPPORT FOR ONE HOMEKEY+ PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT WITH THE SAN DIEGO HOUSING COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZE AN AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED CEQA FINDING
- Land Use and Environment 16. EXPANDING ACCESS TO AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS (AEDs) FOR PRIVATE SPORTS FACILITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS
- Financial and General Government 17. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING:
ADOPT A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING COUNTY COUNSEL HOURLY BILLING RATES FOR ATTORNEY AND PARALEGAL SERVICES
18. SUPPORTING NEW TOOLS TO ADDRESS THE TIJUANA RIVER SEWAGE CRISIS
19. ADOPT AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 7, DIVISION 3 AND AMENDING TITLE 4, DIVISION 2, CHAPTER 1 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF REGULATORY ORDINANCES, RELATING TO UNAUTHORIZED CAMPING AND PROTECTION OF OPEN SPACE AND PUBLIC WORKS INFRASTRUCTURE (5/6/2025 - First Reading; 5/20/25- Second Reading unless ordinance is modified on second reading)
20. PUBLIC HEARING IN COMPLIANCE WITH ASSEMBLY BILL 2561 (AB 2561), CODIFIED IN GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 3502.3, REGARDING COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO VACANCIES, RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION EFFORTS
21. APPROVAL OF A DISPOSITION AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT AND CEQA EXEMPTIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING ON COUNTY LAND LOCATED AT 5202 UNIVERSITY AVE., SAN DIEGO AND 620 E. VALLEY PKWY., ESCONDIDO
22. REFORMING THE COUNTY RESERVE POLICY TO PROTECT CORE SERVICES AND VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES AND WAIVE BOARD POLICY A-72
23. CLOSED SESSION

1. SUBJECT: SHERIFF - REQUEST TO ISSUE A COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION FOR A JAIL REENTRY CASE MANAGEMENT APPLICATION (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The San Diego County Sheriff's Office (Sheriff) Reentry Services Division (RSD) uses evidence-based practices to provide effective and efficient services while maintaining high standards of public safety. RSD's existing case management system, Offender360 (O360), has been in use since 2014. It was designed for Internet Explorer which makes it technologically obsolete, and no longer able to meet RSD's needs. Reentry Services requires a highly scalable, flexible, and customizable product that can provide the usability Correctional Counselors need along with the data analysis to further the division's evidence-based focus. There is a critical need to replace this outdated system with a solution capable of meeting contemporary system requirements.

Today's action requests the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors to authorize a competitive solicitation to replace O360 with a Jail Reentry Case Management Application to be deployed in the Government Cloud (GovCloud). This design will be more secure and agile for implementing technological advancements, providing exceptional system resilience, and meeting the region's public safety needs today and in the future. Within a safe and expandable GovCloud infrastructure, the system will optimize case management procedures, enhance program tracking and guarantee adherence to legal and regulatory requirements.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

SHERIFF

In accordance with Board Policy A-87, Competitive Procurement, and Section 401, Article XXIII of the County Administrative Code, authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting, to issue a competitive solicitation for a cloud-native Jail Reentry Case Management Application, including deployment of provisional systems as necessary for demonstration and evaluation, and upon successful negotiations and determination of a fair and reasonable price, award a contract for a Jail Reentry Case Management Application for up to one year and four one-year option periods and up to an additional six months if needed, subject to the availability of funds and a need for the services, and to amend the contracts as needed to reflect changes to requirements, services and/or funding, subject to approval of the Sheriff.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

In seeking a modern and flexible case management system for reentry services that increases equity for incarcerated persons the San Diego Sheriff's Office is focusing on just and equitable access for the reentry population, that includes individuals from San Diego County's BIPOC communities. Successful reentry and reintegration allow individuals to remain contributing members of their communities. Jail Reentry Case Management Application will support Reentry Services Correctional Counselors, deputies, and other relevant stakeholders in managing incarcerated person services, tracking progress, creating, and managing reentry plans, and ensuring compliance with federal and state regulations such as Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS), Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP).

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Due to the unique detention and reentry environment, it is critical to have a Case Management Application that allows for accurate, detailed, and accessible records. This request furthers the County's Sustainability Goal of providing just and equitable access to County services. Incarcerated persons need access to quality case management to include tracking and referral to educational and psychosocial intervention programs while in custody. Access to quality programs is vital for incarcerated persons to be successful when they return to society. The Sheriff's reentry programs can provide meaningful experiences and credentials, which are beneficial for employment opportunities upon release.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with today's requested action to issue a competitive solicitation. The contracts are anticipated to be awarded in September 2025. Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Years 2025-27 CAO Recommended Operational Plan for the Sheriff's Office. The funding source is California Department of Health Care Services Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) Justice-Involved Capacity Building Program funds. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

2. SUBJECT: SHERIFF'S OFFICE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S 22ND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION (DISTRICT: 3)

OVERVIEW

On May 4, 2021 (08), the Board of Supervisors (Board) authorized the execution of a four-year agreement with the State of California's 22nd District Agricultural Association (District) for law enforcement and traffic control services to be provided by the Sheriff's Office for the period of July 2, 2021, through May 31, 2025. The District manages and operates the Del Mar Fairgrounds on behalf of the State of California, and hosts events such as the San Diego County Fair and other interim events.

Today's action requests that the Board approve the execution of a new agreement between the County of San Diego and the State of California's 22nd District Agricultural Association, for the period of June 1, 2025, through May 31, 2030. This item also requests to waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grants, and Revenue Contracts Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery which requires prior approval of the submission of grants and revenue applications requirement of docketing Revenue Contracts with the Board at least 60 days prior to effective date of the contract. Negotiations between the Sheriff and the District were not concluded in time to meet the 60-day requirement.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

SHERIFF

1. Approve and authorize the Clerk of the Board to accept and execute, upon receipt, an agreement with the State of California's 22nd District Agricultural Association for the period of June 1, 2025, through May 31, 2030, for an estimated amount of \$2,871,369 for law enforcement and traffic control services for the San Diego County Fair and other interim events at the Del Mar Fairgrounds.
2. Authorize the Sheriff to execute all required contract documents, including any extensions, amendments, and/or revisions thereto that do not materially impact either the program or funding level.
3. Waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery that requires docketing revenue contracts with the Board at least 60 days prior to effective date of contract.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

With approval to execute the agreement with the State of California's 22nd District Agricultural District, the Sheriff's Office will be able to provide law enforcement services that aim to protect everyone's human right to life, liberty, and security of person and property. Additionally, the agreement is for traffic control, and this will ensure that the residents of the communities are not impacted as they carry out their daily lives while the events being held at the Del Mar Fairgrounds.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

This negotiated agreement is for staffing and equipment necessary to provide the highest level of public safety service to individuals that attend events at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Funding necessary staffing ensures that the workload of responding to calls for service, investigating crimes, assisting the community, and the multitude of support efforts is covered during these events which furthers the County's Sustainability Goals of Equity and Justice.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Operational Plan in the Sheriff's Office. If approved, this request will result in current year estimated costs and revenue of \$165,495 and an estimated \$2,705,874 over the remaining term of the five-year agreement from July 1, 2025 through May 31, 2030. The funding source is revenue from the State of California's 22nd District Agricultural Association (District). Subsequent year costs and revenues will be included in future year Operational Plans for the Sheriff's Office and will be adjusted, as necessary, based on negotiated labor agreements and other adjustments or service level changes. The District will reimburse the Sheriff's Office for all actual costs. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

3. **SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:
SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:
NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
ARTICLE XX OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE
ORDINANCE CODE, RELATING TO SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE,
SAN DIEGO COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AND
COUNTY SERVICE AREA 17 CHARGES AND FEES (4/22/25 - FIRST
READING; 5/6/25 - SECOND READING UNLESS ORDINANCE IS
MODIFIED ON SECOND READING) (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

On April 22, 2025 (15), the Board of Supervisors took action to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on May 6, 2025.

San Diego County Fire (County Fire), which includes the Community Risk Reduction Fire Marshal services, Emergency Medical Services (County EMS) Office, acting as the Board of Supervisors (Board) designated Local EMS Agency (LEMSA), and the County Service Area 17 (CSA 17) ambulance transportation zone, recently conducted a review of fees and rates to ensure compliance with Board Policy B-29 (Fees, Grants, and Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery), which requires County departments to recover the costs to provide services to agencies or individuals. As a result, County Fire is proposing actions that support the cost of providing services, while ensuring fair and equitable fee levels for customers and the public. After reviewing the current fees and rates, County Fire staff is proposing to increase 21 fees, decrease one fee, add one new fee, and remove 4 fees reflecting prior Board authorizations to dissolve County Service Area 69 ambulance transportation services. County Fire is also proposing 15 new rates for businesses and organizations requesting on-site and dedicated presence of fire apparatus and staff. For reference, a fee is a fixed charge for a service provided, whereas a rate is an hourly amount charged for the total amount of time spent providing the requested service. The Auditor and Controller reviewed and approved the supporting documentation and the methodology for establishing the fees in this proposal for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

Fire Marshal Fees:

County Fire staff reviews residential and commercial projects in the San Diego County and Deer Springs Fire Protection Districts to ensure compliance with the County Fire Code and California Fire Code. Fire Marshal staff are also responsible for performing annual business and State-mandated inspections. While a fee currently exists in the administrative code for annual business and State-mandated inspections, those inspections are currently done at no cost to the businesses and other facilities, resulting in a shortfall of outside revenue in order to offset the cost of providing this service. Fire Marshal fees were last updated for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22. The revised fee package includes charging for those services beginning in FY 2025-26.

Emergency Medical Services Office Fees:

County EMS has the responsibility to credential Emergency Medical Technicians and paramedics, authorize Mobile Intensive Care Nurses, inspect and permit private ambulances, permit air ambulances, approve continuing education providers, and designate Base Hospitals and Trauma Centers. On May 21, 2024 (21), the Board approved a three-year phased increase for County EMS fees. The updated fees before the Board today are based on the second year of the

phased approach and take into consideration an annual analysis of staff time and costs for each service so that full cost recovery is achieved by year three. Due to the Board's approved three year phased approach, full cost recovery for these services will not be achieved in FY 25-26 and a waiver of B-29 is requested as the fees collected will not fully cover the cost of services provided.

County Service Area 17 Fees:

County EMS is responsible for the administration of CSA 17, which provides contracted ambulance transportation services for the incorporated cities of Del Mar, Solana Beach, and Encinitas, the communities of Del Mar Heights and Del Mar Terrace, and the unincorporated areas of Rancho Santa Fe, 4-S Ranch, and a portion of Elfin Forest. The proposed ambulance transport user fee received support from the CSA 17 Advisory Committee and would be consistent with the San Diego County Fire Protection District's Board of Directors approved fee for the SDCFPD Ambulance Service Area. In CSA 17, the average collection rate on fees assessed is about 26% due to various reimbursement rates from Medicare, Medi-Cal, commercial insurance, and patient private pay. Since 100% of the fee assessed on ambulance transports are not collected, full cost recovery for services will not be achieved in FY 25-26 and a waiver of B-29 is being requested. CSA 17 fees were last updated for FY 2021-22 when an Out-of-County fee for ambulance transports was added to the fee schedule. Prior to FY 21-22, the current resident and non-resident ambulance transport fees were approved by the Board on June 14, 2011 (7).

Today's action requests that the San Diego County Board of Supervisors approve amendments to Article XX of the San Diego County Administrative Ordinance Code to fees charged for services by County Fire's Community Risk Reduction, County EMS, and CSA 17. The Board last approved revisions to some of County Fire's fees on May 18, 2021 (1), County EMS fees on May 21, 2024 (21), and CSA 17's fees on May 4, 2021 (18).

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Consider and adopt (unless ordinance is modified on second reading):

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XX OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCE CODE, RELATING TO SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE, SAN DIEGO COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AND COUNTY SERVICE AREA 17 CHARGES AND FEES

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Services and oversight provided by San Diego County Fire is partially supported through a fee charged to individuals and agencies applying for new residential and commercial building permits, tenant improvement permits, gate and grading permits, and special event permits. County Fire provides this detailed level of oversight ensuring residents in the San Diego County and Deer Springs Fire Protection Districts receive equitable fire protection by appropriately inspecting residential and commercial properties and ensures compliance with the County Fire Code and California Fire Code.

County EMS provides regional leadership and regulatory oversight of the EMS delivery system and ensures that residents in all areas of the County have access to safe, effective, and equitable prehospital care from trained and verified EMS professionals. County EMS also ensures this through appropriately credentialing licensed and verified personnel, permitting and inspecting privately operated transport vehicles, and designating specialized hospital facilities as required by State statute.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's actions are supportive of the County's Sustainability goals to provide just and equitable access to County services by ensuring all residential and commercial properties are appropriately inspected and comply with County Fire Code and California Fire Code. By ensuring all EMS responders are duly credentialed in a comprehensive and timely manner, all private ambulances (including air ambulances) are permitted and inspected, continuing education providers have accurate and current lesson plans and course records, and hospitals have the correct specialty care designations. Lastly, ensuring communities remain resilient and capable of responding to the immediate needs of individuals and families within CSA 17.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact in the current fiscal year. If approved, this request will result in an estimated increase in revenue of \$685,000 in County Fire, and \$3.5 million in CSA 17 in Fiscal Year 2025-26. Costs and revenue for this request will be included in the Fiscal Year 2025-27 CAO Recommended Operational Plan for County Fire and CSA 17. The funding source is fees paid by agencies or individuals for services. The proposed fees will not cover all the operating costs for these services in County Fire and CSA 17. Estimated unrecovered costs of \$1.9 million will be supported by existing General Purpose Revenue for County Fire (\$0.3 million), and existing property tax for CSA 17 (\$1.6 million). There is no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed fees and rates for County Fire will have an impact on the business community within the San Diego County Fire Protection District and the Deer Springs Fire Protection District.

4. **SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:**
SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:
NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE
SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE ARTICLE XX
SECTION 364.6, RELATING TO MEDICAL EXAMINER FEES AND
CHARGES (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

On April 22, 2025 (16), the Board of Supervisors took action to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on May 6, 2025.

The San Diego County Department of the Medical Examiner (Medical Examiner) is responsible for investigating and determining the cause and manner of death for all homicides, suicides,

accidents, and sudden and/or unexpected deaths according to California Government Code Section 27491 and Health and Safety Code Section 102850.

The Medical Examiner recently conducted a review of all six (6) of its fees and rates to ensure compliance with Board Policy B-29 (Fees, Grants, and Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery), which requires County departments to recover the costs to provide services to agencies or individuals. As a result, the Medical Examiner is proposing to increase five (5) fees and to decrease one (1) fee. The Auditor and Controller reviewed and approved the supporting documentation and methodology used to determine the proposed fees to be adjusted in this proposal for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

Today's action requests that the Board of Supervisors (Board) approve amendments to Article XX of the San Diego County Administrative Code. The Board last approved revisions to the Medical Examiner fees on May 21, 2024 (20), when the Board approved the introduction of an amended ordinance, which included a directive to phase in the fees over two years. Today's request includes two steps, first the ordinance will be introduced on April 22, 2025, then it will be scheduled for consideration and adoption on May 6, 2025. If the proposed ordinance is altered on May 6, 2025, then on that date, a subsequent meeting date will be selected for the ordinance's adoption. A waiver of Board Policy B-29 is also requested as the phased fees will not achieve full cost recovery in the second year of implementation of the five fees proposed for increase.

RECOMMENDATION(S)
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Consider and adopt:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE
ARTICLE XX SECTION 364.6, RELATING TO MEDICAL EXAMINER FEES AND
CHARGES

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The San Diego County Department of the Medical Examiner (Medical Examiner) mission is to contribute to safe communities and to justice and equity for the residents of San Diego County by certifying the cause and manner of death for all homicides, suicides, accidents, and sudden and/or unexpected deaths in the county. The Medical Examiner has and continues to identify ways to reduce departmental costs to provide its services to the public. Fees paid by customers, ensure that Medical Examiner services, which benefit a single agency or individual, do not reduce resources available to the entire region.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed adjustments to the San Diego County Department of Medical Examiner (Medical Examiner) fee structure are a result of the cumulative increase of the cost drivers such as salaries and benefits, services and supplies, and associated departmental and countywide costs. The adjustments to the Medical Examiner fees are based on available expenditure and revenue data and time studies. The proposed actions support the County of San Diego's Strategic Initiative of Sustainability to align the County's available resources with services to maintain fiscal stability and ensure long-term solvency.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact in the current fiscal year. If approved, the revised County of San Diego Department of Medical Examiner (Medical Examiner) fees will be effective July 1, 2025.

Related anticipated costs for services and revenue from the fees will be included in the Fiscal Year 2025-27 CAO Recommended Operational Plan for the Medical Examiner. At the Board of Supervisors directive on May 21, 2024, fee increases are being phased in over two years which will result in the Medical Examiner not achieving full cost recovery during that timeframe. For Fiscal Years 2025-26 and 2026-27, revenue from fees paid by customers is estimated at \$6,500 each year and will not fully cover operating costs for the services provided. The unrecovered estimated costs of \$95 each year will be supported with General Purpose Revenue (GPR) included in the Fiscal Year 2025-27 CAO Recommended Operational Plan for the Medical Examiner. There is no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

5. **SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF OLDER ADULT SERVICES REVENUE AGREEMENTS AND GRANTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2028-29, AND AUTHORIZE APPLICATION FOR FUTURE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROGRAMS SERVING OLDER ADULTS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA), Aging & Independence Services (AIS) serves as the region's federally designated Area Agency on Aging and administers programs focused on the safety and well-being of older adults and persons with disabilities. These services align with the Aging Roadmap, the County plan to ensure the region has programs and communities that equitably support the needs and leverage the contributions of all older adults in the county.

On April 30, 2024 (7), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) approved Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 revenue agreements, grants, and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the California Department of Aging to fund various programs that support older adults and persons with disabilities, allowing them to remain safely in their homes and access community resources. These programs and services support the goals and objectives established in the AIS 2024-2028 Area Plan, approved by the Board on April 9, 2024 (6). Required by the Older Americans Act (OAA), the AIS Area Plan 2024-2028 details how AIS will utilize funds received through the OAA to provide services that meet the identified needs of older adults, persons with disabilities, and their caregivers throughout the county.

This item requests the Board authorize the acceptance of federal and State revenue agreements and grants for FY 2025-26 through FY 2028-29 to support these programs and services.

Today's action requests the Board waive Board Policy B-29, authorize the acceptance of \$8,899,859 of federal and State revenue agreements and grants in FY 2025-26, \$808,811 in FY 2026-27, \$808,811 in FY 2027-28, and \$80,000 in FY 2028-29, authorize the Clerk of the Board to execute revenue agreements and grants upon receipt, and authorize the Deputy Chief

Administrative Officer of HHSA to apply for future funding opportunities that support programs serving older adults, persons with disabilities, and their caregivers. Additionally, today's action would account for the required County match for the remainder of the MOU through FY 2028-29.

These actions support the County vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by ensuring the County will continue to receive federal, State, and other funding to administer necessary programs and services for older adults, persons with disabilities, and their caregivers.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Waive Board Policy B-29: Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Full Cost Recovery, which requires full cost recovery of grants and revenue contracts.
2. Approve and authorize the Clerk of the Board to execute, upon receipt, the following revenue agreements and grants:
 - California Department of Aging Agreements (CalFresh Expansion and SNAP-Ed/CalFresh Healthy Living (CF-2526-23) and Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MS-2526-07))
 - Veterans Administration San Diego Healthcare System (Veteran Directed Home and Community Based Service Program)
 - University of California San Diego Research Foundation/Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program
3. Authorize the Clerk of the Board, subject to the approval of the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer of the Health and Human Services Agency or designee, to execute all required documents related to the revenue agreements, and grants in Recommendation 2, including any extensions, amendments or revisions thereto that do not materially impact either the program or the funding level.
4. Authorize acceptance of the grant from the Corporation for National Community Service for the Retired Senior and Volunteer Program.
5. Authorize the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer of the Health and Human Services Agency or designee, to apply for future funding opportunities that support programs serving older adults, persons with disabilities and their caregivers.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

There are nearly 710,000 San Diegans over the age of 60, and by 2029, that number is expected to increase to more than 824,500. Additionally, the population over the age of 85 in San Diego County is projected to grow faster than any other age group. The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency, Aging & Independence Services (AIS) provides a wide array of services to meet the needs of this growing population and ensures the welfare of older adults, persons with disabilities, and their caregivers.

AIS receives recurring input and feedback regarding programs and services through its various committees. On April 14, 2025, AIS received additional community input and feedback through the annual Area Plan Public Hearing. The Area Plan, required by the Older Americans Act (OAA), details how AIS will utilize funds received through the OAA to provide services that meet the identified needs of older adults, persons with disabilities, and their caregivers, countywide. Accepting revenue agreements and grants will allow the County to continue administering vital programs and services for older adults and persons with disabilities, improving the quality of life for groups of all ages.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Working with partners to improve and expand programs and services that contribute to the safety and welfare of older adults and persons with disabilities will advance the County of San Diego (County) Sustainability Goal #1 to engage the community in meaningful ways; Sustainability Goal #2 to provide just and equitable access to County services; and Sustainability Goal #4 to protect the health and well-being of everyone in the region. Specifically, programs and services provided with this funding allows older adults and persons with disabilities to remain safely in their homes and access necessary community resources. Additionally, the funded programs help meet the needs of caregivers, reduce isolation, and increase social connections.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 CAO Recommended Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in costs of \$8,910,767 and revenue of \$8,899,859 in FY 2025-26, costs and revenue of \$808,811 in FY 2026-27, costs and revenue of \$808,811 in FY 2027-28, and costs and revenue of \$80,000 in FY 2028-29. In addition, annual costs of \$644,044 associated with the required match of the previously approved Memorandum of Understanding on April 30, 2024 (7) are anticipated for FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27, FY 2027-28, and FY 2028-29.

The funding sources include:

- State General Fund, Federal Medicaid Program;
- Federal SNAP-ED/CalFresh - Healthy Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services;
- Veterans Administration San Diego Healthcare System;
- Corporation for National & Community Service; and
- University of California San Diego.

A waiver of Board Policy B-29 is requested because the funding does not offset all costs. The B-29 costs are \$654,952 for FY 2025-26, and \$644,044 each year for FY 2026-27, FY 2027-28, and FY 2028-29, and will be funded with existing General Purpose Revenue allocated for these programs. The public benefit for providing these services, which allow older adults and those with disabilities to remain safely in their homes and access resources, far outweighs these costs. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

6. **SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE ACTIONS RELATED TO THE 2026-2027 COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN AND APPROVE REVISED BY-LAWS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

As the region's designated Community Action Agency, the County of San Diego (County) is eligible to receive an annual allocation of federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) revenue. CSBG funds local programs that increase economic security for individuals and families, as well as supports civic engagement in low-income communities across all of San Diego County, particularly around addressing barriers to economic inclusion. CSBG revenue is available to California Community Action Agencies each year through a revenue agreement with the California Department of Community Services and Development (CSD), pending the submission of a two-year Community Action Plan. On June 13, 2023 (5), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) authorized the Clerk of the Board to execute the CSBG revenue agreements for calendar years 2024 and 2025, and any amendments in alignment with the Plan for those same years.

Today's proposed action requests the Board to authorize submission of the 2026-2027 Community Action Plan (Plan) to CSD and accept approximately \$3,550,000 annually in CSBG funding for the periods of January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026, and January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027. Today's proposed action also requests Board authorization to execute CSBG revenue agreements and any amendments, and to pursue additional funding opportunities to address barriers to economic inclusion and promote civic engagement in the region's low-income communities. Lastly, today's proposed action requests the Board to approve updates to the Community Action Board By-laws.

The programs outlined in the 2026-2027 Plan support the County vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically for communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. Allowing the continuation of CSBG-funded programs helps to improve lives by strengthening economic inclusion and civic engagement in low-income communities throughout the region.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Authorize submission of the calendar years 2026 and 2027 Community Action Plan and acceptance of approximately \$3,550,000 annually of Community Services Block Grant funding from the California Department of Community Services and Development, for the periods of January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026, and January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027.
2. Authorize the Clerk of the Board, upon receipt, to execute all required revenue agreement documents, including any annual extensions, amendments, and/or revisions thereto that do not materially impact or alter the services or funding level.

3. Authorize the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Health and Human Services Agency, to apply for future funding, including grants, supplemental funding and other funding opportunities for programs or projects that address barriers to economic inclusion and promote civic engagement in the region's low-income communities.
4. Approve the revised By-laws for the Community Action Board that incorporates clarifying language for a clear democratic selection process for the representatives of the low-income sector and incorporates Assembly Bill 2449 limited teleconferencing scenarios.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Strategy and Community Engagement (DSCE) strives to enhance community engagement and collaboration and devote efforts to meet the needs of underserved communities. The County Community Action Partnership (CAP), within DSCE, is the locally designated Community Action Agency for San Diego County, and addresses identified issues of poverty through Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding. CSBG-funded programs advance equity and opportunity for economically disadvantaged communities through the DSCE mission of creating innovative and strategic solutions with our partners for collective impact in creating healthy, safe, and thriving communities.

To utilize CSBG funding, CAP is required to gather community input through a Community Needs Assessment every two years, which utilizes data and information collected to be incorporated into program design and service delivery, to reflect the needs and priorities of the community. Strategies for expanding input during this process include utilizing existing meetings consisting of stakeholders from various sectors, such as the Resident Leadership Academy Council and Regional Community Leadership Team Meetings, leveraging a text messaging campaign supported through County Self-Sufficiency Services for CalFresh recipients, and a series of needs assessment presentations to gather feedback. CSBG funding advances equitable opportunities as information collected through the Community Needs Assessment is made available to community stakeholders for their own use in developing and enhancing programs and services addressing similar needs.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's proposed action supports the County Sustainability Goal #1 of engaging the community, Sustainability Goal # 2 of providing just and equitable access, and Sustainability Goal #4 to protect the health and well-being of everyone in the region. This will be accomplished by engaging the public and providing residents with opportunities for self-sufficiency through the Community Action Board meetings, which facilitate discussion regarding program development and oversight of the biennial Community Needs Assessment. These programs serve to remove barriers from low-income families seeking crisis stabilization services, provides opportunities for equitable access to health resources, and reduces the demand on other County and community services.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 CAO Recommended Operational Plan for the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in costs and revenue of approximately \$1,775,000 in FY 2025-26, costs and revenue of

approximately \$3,550,000 in FY 2026-27 and cost and revenue of \$1,775,000 in FY 2027-28. The funding source is the Community Services Block Grant from the California Department of Community Services and Development. Funds for subsequent years will be included in future Operational Plans. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

7. **SUBJECT: APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF NILSA HIGGINS AS TENANT COMMISSIONER FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

The Housing Authority of the County of San Diego (County Housing Authority) Board of Commissioners consists of five members of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors and two tenant commissioners. The tenant commissioners, as voting members of the County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, provide a formal mechanism for participant involvement in the interpretation and enforcement of policies and procedures of housing programs administered by the County Housing Authority.

Today's action requests that the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) approve the appointment of Nilsa Higgins to fill the Senior Tenant Commissioner seat in which the new term will begin on June 1, 2025. In accordance with the California Health and Safety Code section 34290 (b), the Senior Tenant Commissioner seat must be filled by a tenant in either the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher or Public Housing program who is 62 years of age or older.

This item supports the County of San Diego (County) vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. In addition, this item supports the County Framework for Ending Homelessness and the Housing Blueprint. This will be accomplished by incorporating the voice of the customer with lived experiences when reviewing and approving key programs.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Appoint Nilsa Higgins to serve as Senior Tenant Commissioner for the Housing Authority of the County of San Diego Board of Commissioners for a two-year term commencing on June 1, 2025.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The Housing Authority of the County of San Diego (County Housing Authority) administers various rental subsidy programs, funded by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), intended to assist very low-income families, the elderly, homeless Veterans, and persons with disabilities to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private

market. As mandated by federal regulations, at least 75% of applicants must qualify as an extremely low-income family with income at or below 30% of area median income (\$39,700 for a family of two and/or \$49,600 for a family of four), and the remaining applicants must not exceed the low-income maximum of 50% of the area median income (\$66,150 for a family of two and/or \$82,700 for a family of four).

The County Housing Authority incorporates transparency and open government in the development of policy and budget through presentations to the Resident Advisory Board and involvement of tenant commissioners. Resident Advisory Board meetings are held throughout the year and facilitate discussion regarding housing needs within the community. Tenant commissioners serve on the County Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners, as required by law. One of the two appointed tenant commissioner seats must be filled by a tenant who is 62 years of age or older. The recruitment was open to current Public Housing residents and Housing Choice Voucher (or Section 8) participants. To engage interested candidates in serving as a tenant commissioner, the County Housing Authority issued a recruitment announcement, a fact sheet, and application via U.S. mail, and via email bulletin. The County Housing Authority is committed to continuing efforts to provide rental assistance and advancing equitable access and opportunity for households served in these programs to live in safe and affordable housing.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed action to approve the appointment of Nilsa Higgins to fill the Senior Tenant Commissioner seat vacancy will contribute to the County of San Diego Sustainability Goals #1 of engaging the community in meaningful ways, Sustainability Goal #2 of providing just and equitable access, and Sustainability Goal #4 of protecting the health and wellbeing of everyone in the region. Engaging the public and assisting tenants in the policy planning process create intentional collaborative community engagement opportunities that strengthen healthy, safe and thriving communities. The inclusion of tenant commissioners brings a lived experience lens to the governing body of the Housing Authority of the County of San Diego when approving program activities, such as the Public Housing Agency Plan, the annual budget requests for funding, changes in program administration, and implementation of housing programs. These programs serve to remove barriers from low-income families seeking to live in areas of greater economic opportunity. Equitable access to housing reduces the demand for community services, which may lessen the overall environmental impact on the region.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Housing Authority of the County of San Diego (County Housing Authority) Recommended Budget. If approved, this request will result in costs and revenue of \$50 per diem compensation for each County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners meeting attended by the tenant commissioners in FY 2025-26, in accordance with California Health and Safety Code section 34274. This per diem compensation will result in annual costs of approximately \$300. The funding source is federal funds provided for the County Housing Authority's program administration. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

If approved, today's request will have a positive impact on the business community as it supports the governance of the Housing Authority of the County of San Diego and programs that provide rental assistance income to participating landlords.

8. SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODES: VARIOUS AGENCIES (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The Board of Supervisors serves as the Code Reviewing Body for any local agency, other than cities, with jurisdiction wholly within the County, pursuant to Government Code Section 82011. The recommended action would approve the proposed amendments to the Conflict of Interest codes for Motivated Youth Academy, North County Transit District, and Vista Irrigation District.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Approve the Conflict of Interest codes for the following agencies:

- Motivated Youth Academy
- North County Transit District
- Vista Irrigation District

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

County government includes standing and special boards, commissions, committees and task forces formed to advise the Board of Supervisors and County staff on issues and policies 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 and as such must provide transparent, bias-free decision-making. The Board of Supervisors serves as the Code Reviewing Body for any local agency, other than cities, with jurisdiction wholly within the County, pursuant to Government Code Section 82011. Under the California Political Reform Act, a public official has a disqualifying conflict of interest in a governmental decision if it is foreseeable that the decision will have a financial impact on their personal finances or other financial interests. In such cases, there is a risk of biased decision-making that could sacrifice the public's interest in favor of the official's private financial interests. To avoid actual bias or the appearance of possible improprieties, the public official is prohibited from participating in the decision.

The recommended action would approve the amended Conflict of Interest codes submitted by Motivated Youth Academy, North County Transit District, and Vista Irrigation District. The Conflict of Interest codes in this Board Letter enables the County of San Diego to provide transparency and accountability to individual residents, ensuring equitable operations of the government that are free from undue influence.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Under the Political Reform Act, all public agencies are required to adopt a Conflict of Interest code that designates positions that are required to file the Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700). Conflict of Interest codes must be maintained as updated and accurate to ensure that necessary public officials report their personal financial interests. These required filings provide public transparency about possible conflicts of interest and to ensure governmental decisions are made in the best interest of the public. This Board Letter supports the County of San Diego's sustainability goal of, "Engaging the community to partner and participate in decisions that impact their lives and communities and transparently share results of outcomes."

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this recommendation. There will be no change in General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

9. 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,” and Board Policy A-77, “Appointments to Fill Vacancies and Cancellation of Election where Insufficient Nominations Filed Prior to Uniform District Election and Citizen Planning Group Election”. Board Policy I-1, “Planning and Sponsor Group Policies and Procedures.”

RECOMMENDATION(S)

SUPERVISOR MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE

Appoint Paul Houston to the COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, Seat 8, for a term to expire January 4, 2027.

SUPERVISOR JIM DESMOND

Appoint Laura Bassett to the CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, Seat 5, for a term to expire January 7, 2030.

Appoint Thomas Bowman to the FALLBROOK AIRPARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE, Seat 3, for a term to expire January 4, 2027.

Appoint Michael Richman to the HIDDEN MEADOWS COMMUNITY SPONSOR GROUP, Seat 1, for a term to expire January 8, 2029.

Appoint Robert Riha to the HIDDEN MEADOWS COMMUNITY SPONSOR GROUP, Seat 6, for a term to expire January 4, 2027.

Appoint Edward Van Liew to the HIDDEN MEADOWS COMMUNITY SPONSOR GROUP, Seat 7, for a term to expire January 8, 2029.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Appoint Laurie Walsh to the ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, Seat 16, for a term to expire May 6, 2028.

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

10. 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

11. SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT ON GUN VIOLENCE AND UPDATE ON GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION WORK PLAN (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

This item was continued from the April 22, 2025 (17) General Legislative Session.

On February 6, 2024 (14), the Board of Supervisors (Board) received the Gun Violence Reduction Program (GVRP) Work Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 and directed staff to return in early 2025 with an initial update on Work Plan actions. On February 6, 2024 (15), the Board directed that the annual report on gun violence in San Diego be combined with the GVRP Work Plan update in early 2025.

Since then, Public Safety Group Executive Office (PSG EXO) staff developed an implementation plan for the GVRP Work Plan and engaged and collaborated with County departments, community stakeholders, non-governmental organizations, and public agencies to advance the strategies and actions contained in the GVRP Work Plan. The GVRP Work Plan, is, and will remain, driven by data to meet the evolving needs of San Diego County residents, identify emerging trends, and assess effectiveness of actions and interventions.

The annual gun violence report presented today provides relevant data on gun violence in San Diego County, including the number of privately made, non-serialized firearms, commonly known as ghost guns, recovered by the San Diego Sheriff's Office. Additionally, data from the Department of the Medical Examiner and Emergency Medical Services is included, covering firearm-related hospitalizations, emergency department visits, homicides, and suicides. The GVRP Work Plan update provides current progress on Work Plan actions for FY 2024-25 and outlines Work Plan actions to be carried out in FY 2025-26.

Today's requested actions are for the Board to receive the annual report on gun violence in San Diego County and to receive an update on the GVRP Work Plan.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Receive an annual report on gun violence in San Diego County and
2. Receive an update on the Gun Violence Reduction Program Work Plan.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

According to John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Center for Gun Violence Solutions, 48,204 people died by firearms in the United States in 2022. This presents an average of one death every 11 minutes. In San Diego County, from 2020-2024, there were 1,071 deaths by firearm (734 were suicide and 337 were homicide). Between January 2021 and September 2024, there were 823 firearm-related emergency department visits and 639 firearm-related hospitalizations among the County's six trauma facilities. While gun violence impacts people of

all ages, genders and racial/ethics backgrounds, it does not impact people equally. In San Diego County, the firearm-related homicide rate for Black residents in 2024 was 7.1 per 100,000 people, while Asian residents had the lowest rate at 0.0. Hispanic residents have the highest proportion of firearm-related hospitalizations and emergency department visits in the county between 2021 and September 2024. Regional suicide data shows that White men over the age of 65 have the highest rates of firearm-related suicide in the County.

The strategies outlined in the FY 2024-25 Gun Violence Reduction Program Work Plan are designed to make a direct impact on preventing firearm-related violence in the short term, while also addressing the root causes that contribute to risk in the long run. By concentrating programs, services, and practices on the communities and individuals most affected by violence and its underlying factors, the goal is to create lasting solutions. Prioritizing equity, the objectives are to reduce disparities and disproportionality, while improving the health, safety, and well-being of residents through collaborative partnerships, innovation, and active community involvement, in alignment with the County of San Diego's Equity Strategic Initiative.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's proposed actions have contributed to the County of San Diego Sustainability Goals by creating long-term systemic changes that address the root causes of violence while fostering safe, resilient communities. Staff have leveraged County resources from departments that aid in mental health services and community building efforts to assist in reducing the social and economic disparities that often contribute to violence. The Gun Violence Reduction Program (GVRP) Work Plan identifies programs and policies that prevent gun violence, reduce suicides, increase awareness of gun violence and suicide prevention through educational materials, and strengthen support services for firearm injury victims and their families. Actions included in the Work Plan are supported by community partnerships and collaboration, particularly the GVRP Community Partnership Council, and the GVRP County Leadership Committee. These groups play a crucial role in providing guidance, identifying opportunities and challenges, and helping to develop ongoing solutions.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with today's recommendations to receive an annual report on gun violence in San Diego County and an update on the Gun Violence Reduction Program Work Plan. Staff will return to the Board for authorization and approval of funding source(s) for any future related actions with a fiscal impact. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

- 12. SUBJECT: APPROVE AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XV-B OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RELATING TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CHARGES AND FEES (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

This item was continued from the April 22, 2025 (18) General Legislative Session.

The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) is an integrated health, housing, and social service organization with a robust service network that spans across the San Diego County region and contributes to making people's lives healthier, safer, and self-sufficient. Services provided by HHSA provide vital resources and care to some of the most vulnerable San Diego County residents. Today's action requests the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) approve amendments to Article XV-B of the San Diego County Administrative Code related to fees and rates established for services delivered in two HHSA departments, Public Health Services and Behavioral Health Services. The Board last approved revisions to HHSA fees and rates on May 21, 2024 (5).

The proposed ordinance represents a comprehensive package that seeks to support the cost of providing services, while maintaining fees that are fair and reasonable for customers and the public. In accordance with Board Policy B-29 (Fees, Grants, and Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery), HHSA recently conducted a review of HHSA fees and rates, in order to ensure costs are fully recovered for services provided to agencies or individuals. A total of 127 HHSA fees and associated costs were reviewed, resulting in proposed additions, adjustments, and determinations to maintain existing fees.

Today's action requires two steps. On May 6, 2025, it is requested that the Board consider an ordinance amending sections of the San Diego County Administrative Code related to HHSA fees. If the Board takes the action as recommended, then on May 20, 2025, the proposed ordinance will be brought back to the Board for consideration and adoption.

This item supports the County vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by ensuring that the County has optimized its health and social services delivery system to ensure efficiency, integration and innovation while maintaining fiscal stability.

RECOMMENDATION(S)
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

On May 6, 2025:

Approve the introduction of the ordinance (first reading):

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XV-B OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RELATING TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CHARGES AND FEES

If on May 6, 2025, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors takes action as recommended,
then on May 20, 2025

Consider and adopt (second reading):

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XV-B OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RELATING TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CHARGES AND FEES

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

To develop the cost recovery proposal, the County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) performed an analysis of all services provided to customers to examine the tasks and functions performed, including the direct and indirect costs of performing those tasks in relation to the specific services. Criteria were established to determine fair and reasonable fees for direct services provided.

The proposed ordinance represents a comprehensive package that seeks to support the cost of providing HHS services, while maintaining fees that are fair and reasonable for customers and the public. Updates include County Public Health Services, Public Health Laboratory (PHL) fees that are either tied to environmental testing, such as testing of drinking water or foodborne illness investigations, or clinical fees such as tests for communicable disease outbreaks, among others. The proposed ordinance will also include a revised rate for the Edgemoor Skilled Nursing Facility to align with updated full cost recovery information.

Today's action would update fees for services provided by the County that help to promote health and safety and have an impact on the lives of Black, Indigenous, People of Color, women, people with disabilities, immigrants, youth, the LGBTQ+ community, and other underserved groups.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's proposed action supports the County of San Diego (County) Sustainability Goal #2 to provide just and equitable access by aligning available County resources with services to maintain fiscal stability and ensure long term solvency.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are not included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 CAO Recommended Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in no additional costs and an estimated increase in revenue of \$281,936 in FY 2025-26. There is no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

13. SUBJECT: ENDING VETERAN HOMELESSNESS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

This item was continued from the April 22, 2025 (19) General Legislative Session.

Homelessness remains a critical issue in the County of San Diego, particularly among the veteran population. As one of the largest military communities in the United States, San Diego is home to over 240,000 veterans who have made significant sacrifices in service to our country. However, many face substantial challenges during their transition from active duty to civilian life, including securing stable employment, accessing healthcare, and finding affordable housing in an increasingly competitive market.

The transition to civilian life often results in the loss of the support structures that veterans relied on during their active-duty military service. Combined with the region's rising housing costs, this leaves veterans vulnerable to homelessness.

According to a 2023 study by the Journal of American Medical Association psychiatry, veterans are more likely to suffer from mental health challenges and substance use disorders than the general population. Addressing veteran homelessness is not only a moral imperative but also a strategic priority for the County.

The County has made important strides in recent years to address homelessness, with targeted initiatives specifically focused on reaching functional zero for veteran homelessness. These efforts have yielded promising results, including increased housing placements, improved coordination with service providers, and expanded access to mental health and substance use disorder treatment. However, the scale and urgency of the issue demands a more streamlined, collaborative, and scalable response to accelerate progress and ensure that no veteran is left behind.

By creating a by-name list and targeting landlords via social media, the County will leverage data-driven, evidence-based strategies to expedite access to stable housing and treatment to end veteran homelessness regionwide.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

SUPERVISOR JIM DESMOND

1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a social media campaign that targets landlords to encourage increased participation in the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program and report back to the Board within 180 days with a strategy, cost and funding options. This strategy should include retargeting landlords who have previously participated in the program or expressed interest.
2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a strategy to end veteran homelessness using a by-name-list specific to veterans and report back to the Board within 180 days.
3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to assess the feasibility of establishing a fund to provide landlords participating in the VASH voucher program with financial assurance for property damage caused by VASH tenants and report back to the Board within 180 days.
4. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to collaborate with other jurisdictions to deploy the veteran by-name-list strategy regionwide. Report back with an update on collaboration efforts within 180 days.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Veterans are disproportionately impacted by substance use and mental health challenges, which can make securing stable housing more difficult. By developing a by-name list and engaging directly with landlords, we can improve access to housing and offer those who have served a stronger pathway to long-term stability.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed action to identify funds to increase landlord participation in housing homeless veterans would contribute to the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goal of protecting health and wellbeing. Creating a veteran-specific by-name-list also contributes to the County of San Diego's Sustainability goal of protecting health and wellbeing.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for the actions requested are included in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Operational Plan based on existing staff time in the Health and Human Services Agency funded by General Purpose Revenue and other funding sources. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years. There may be fiscal impacts associated with recommendations included in staff's report back to the Board, depending on the proposed strategy and feasibility. Any necessary appropriation and funding changes or additions would return to the Board for consideration and approval.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

14. **SUBJECT: SET A HEARING FOR JUNE 3, 2025:
FALLBROOK - APPROVE ACQUISITION OF APPROXIMATELY 3.04
ACRES OF LAND FROM NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT (05/06/2025 - SET HEARING; 06/03/2025 - HOLD
HEARING), APPROVE EXEMPT SURPLUS PROPERTY
DECLARATION AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF REQUEST
FOR PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE
HOUSING AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION (DISTRICT: 5)**

OVERVIEW

The County of San Diego (County) administers various housing programs to increase access to affordable housing options for San Diego County residents. The 6th Cycle Regional Housing Needs Assessment, which covers the planning period of October 2021 through October 2029, indicates that 68,959 units are needed regionally for very low, and low-income individuals and households. Units reserved for very low and low-income individuals and households serve tenant populations earning below 80% area median income, which is currently \$92,700 for a one-person household and \$132,400 for a four-person household. Addressing the housing needs of residents is essential for their self-sufficiency and well-being.

On August 31, 2021 (6), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) directed the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to utilize \$5 million for innovative and sustainable affordable housing policy research, affordable housing policy development and implementation and evaluation of affordable housing pilot programs that advance equity, sustainability, and affordability. Additionally, on May 2, 2023 (9), the Board directed the CAO to explore opportunities to acquire land in Fallbrook and other communities for the development of affordable senior housing and return to the Board with an identified property or properties and funding options, including recommendations to utilize up to \$2.5 million based on unassigned General Fund balance. The Board also authorized the Director, County Department of General

Services, to negotiate the acquisition of such site(s), execute option agreement(s), begin due diligence, and return for the necessary funding and approvals of the purchase(s).

Today's item requests the Board to set a hearing for June 3, 2025, to consider approval of the purchase of the Property and direct the Clerk of the Board to provide public notice of the hearing. If approved, staff will return to the Board on June 3, 2025, to request authorization to purchase the Property in Fallbrook, declare it exempt surplus land and authorize a request for proposals to select an affordable housing developer for the site or retain or dispose of the site for other permissible uses. This item aligns with the County Housing Blueprint by ensuring the County continues to focus on prevention and housing stability by addressing root causes, such as housing affordability. Additionally, today's actions support the County vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by supporting the expansion of affordable housing that is equitable and sustainable and meets the needs of the community for years to come.

RECOMMENDATION(S)
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

On May 6, 2025:

1. Find that the proposed action to set a hearing is not subject to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is an administrative action and not an approval of a project as defined by CEQA and does not commit the County of San Diego (County) to a definite course of action under sections 15352 and 15004(b)(2)(A).
2. Set a hearing for June 3, 2025, at which time the Board of Supervisors (Board) may authorize the Director, Department of General Services (DGS), to exercise the option to purchase an approximately 3.04-acre portion of Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 103-233-23 for the appraised value of \$2,064,000.
3. Direct the Clerk of the Board to provide notice of the June 3, 2025, hearing via publication and posting as required by law.

If, on May 6, 2025, the Board takes the actions recommended in Items 1 - 3 above, then on June 3, 2025:

1. Find that the proposed acquisition of a portion of APN 103-233-23 is exempt from CEQA because it does not commit the County to a definite course of action with respect to construction of any project per CEQA Guidelines sections 15352 and 15004(b)(2)(A), which allows agencies to designate a preferred site for CEQA review and enter into land acquisition agreement when the agency has conditioned the agency's future use of the site on CEQA compliance. There are no development plans currently in place for the site, and any potential impacts would be too speculative to analyze at this point. The Board hereby conditions any future use of the site upon CEQA review and compliance.

2. Authorize the Director, DGS or designee, to exercise the option to purchase an approximately 3.04-acre portion of APN 103-233-23 for the appraised value of \$2,064,000 from North County Fire Protection District (utilizing the unassigned General Fund Balance) and to execute all escrow and related documents necessary to complete the purchase of a portion of APN 103-233-23.
3. Find that the proposed actions to declare the property exempt surplus land and issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) are not subject to review under CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3) because the actions are not a project as defined in Section 15378 of the CEQA Guidelines.
4. Find that a portion of APN 103-233-23 proposed to be acquired from North County Fire Protection District is not needed for County use at this time, but that the property can be used to potentially provide affordable housing to individuals or households of low or moderate income, or other alternative uses.
5. Find that the 3.04-acre portion of APN 103-233-23 is exempt surplus land under Government Code Section 54221(f)(1)(A) of the Surplus Land Act because it will be disposed of pursuant to Government Code Section 25539.4 for the development of affordable housing in accordance with the requirements of those Sections.
6. Authorize the Director, DGS in consultation with the Director, Housing and Community Development Services, to issue an RFP for the sale for nominal value and development of a portion of APN 103-233-23 for affordable housing in accordance with the requirements contained in Government Code Section 25539.4, to evaluate the proposals for negotiation, and to negotiate with the selected proposers the terms of a Disposition Development Agreement (DDA) that will document the conditions of the sale for the property, and return to the Board for approval of the DDA.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Housing affordability and housing insecurity are key drivers of regional and statewide poverty rates. The high cost of housing impacts all San Diegans, but the burden falls disproportionately on low-income residents. Supporting affordable housing needs of low-income residents including seniors advances equity and reduces financial burden, leading to better physical and mental health outcomes and improved community stability. Purchasing land for potential development of affordable housing creates private sector jobs and economic opportunities in San Diego County and contributes to the County of San Diego efforts to address local housing shortages and meet the needs of low-income residents for years to come. The development of future affordable housing on the identified Fallbrook site is contingent upon the approval of a General Plan Amendment. If approved, a Request for Proposal will be issued, based on findings from a Market Study, to ensure future development aligns to the community's needs, particularly for low-income seniors.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's proposed actions for the Board of Supervisors to set a hearing for June 3, 2025, to consider the acquisition of the proposed property supports the County of San Diego (County) Sustainability Goal #2 to provide just and equitable access to County resource allocation in support of sustainable communities and Sustainability Goal #4 to protect health and well-being

of residents. This proposed action supports the building of safe and affordable housing and providing community resources that are equitable and sustainable. These efforts improve the overall health and well-being and reduces barriers for low-income residents.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Operational Plan for the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in total costs of \$2,432,000. This includes \$2,064,000 for the acquisition of a portion of Assessor's Parcel Number 103-233-23, \$10,000 for escrow and title fees, \$300,000 for staff time, consultant and due diligence costs related to the proposed acquisition and future Request for Proposal effort, \$18,000 for consultant services to conduct a market analysis, and \$40,000 for land caretaking costs prior to conveyance to a developer. The funding source is unassigned General Fund balance set aside for evaluation of affordable housing pilot programs that advance equity, sustainability and affordability. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

- 15. SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR ONE HOMEKEY+ PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT WITH THE SAN DIEGO HOUSING COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZE AN AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED CEQA FINDING (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

On November 26, 2024, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), in collaboration with the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet), announced the availability of \$2.1 billion of Homekey+ program funds, of which \$148.2 million are available for the San Diego region, including \$91.9 million for Veterans housing. Homekey+ is the permanent supportive housing component of Proposition 1 passed by California voters in March 2024 that supports the State's goal to reduce homelessness and protect vulnerable populations through changes to the Mental Health Services Act.

Homekey+ provides an opportunity for regional and local public entities to develop permanent supportive housing for Veterans and people living with a behavioral health challenge, including mental health and/or substance use challenges, who are at-risk of or experiencing homelessness. Eligible applicants include cities, counties, regional and local public agencies including Public Housing Authorities who may apply independently or jointly with a development partner.

In partnership, the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC), the City of San Diego, and County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency will expand on prior Homekey efforts to ensure Homekey+ funding allocated to the region is secured and leveraged to provide additional housing resources to the most vulnerable members of our community.

Today's actions request the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) find that the proposed actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act. They also request authorization of up to \$7 million in General Purpose Revenue made available through the

American Rescue Plan Act revenue loss strategy to be reserved for the County's one-time capital contribution for one Homekey+ partnership development with SDHC. In addition, the Board is requested to authorize the execution of documents related to this one-time capital contribution. Today's actions further request authorization of a revenue agreement with SDHC to provide approximately \$3.4 million to support operations for no more than 40 units eligible for services under the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA). This is contingent upon receipt of HCD/CalVet Homekey+ funding. Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers through SDHC will support the remaining non-BHSA eligible households. Finally, the Board is requested to authorize approximately \$0.4 million of BHSA funding annually for behavioral health support services for no more than 40 units.

This item aligns with the County Framework for Ending Homelessness and Housing Blueprint by ensuring the County continues to focus on housing stability by addressing root causes, such as permanent supportive housing and supports. Additionally, today's actions support the County vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by ensuring vulnerable populations at risk of or experiencing homelessness have access to suitable living environments, as well as enhancing their quality of life by creating decent and safe affordable housing coupled with supportive services.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Find in accordance with Section 15060(c)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, that the proposed actions described herein are administrative in nature and not a project as defined by the state CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5).
2. Authorize up to \$7 million in General Purpose Revenue made available through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) revenue loss strategy to be reserved for San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC), or a to-be-formed limited partnership for the acquisition and rehabilitation of one development. Reservation of funds is contingent upon completion of an appraisal review, a financial feasibility review, and SDHC's award of funding through the Housing and Community Development (HCD) and California Department of Veterans Affairs' (CalVet) Homekey+ application process. ARPA Framework funding would be redirected primarily from funds allocated for Homekey Round 3 developments. If HCD and CalVet funds are not awarded, the reservation of County funds is void.
3. Authorize the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Health and Human Services Agency or designee to, upon successful appraisal review, underwriting, and financial feasibility review, execute any and all documents related to the capital loan for up to \$7 million to SDHC or a to-be-formed limited partnership to support one Homekey+ development and perform any actions necessary to administer or implement the Homekey+ loan.

4. Authorize the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Health and Human Services Agency or designee to, upon the SDHC's successful Homekey+ application, enter into an agreement with SDHC outlining the terms of use for a five-year operating reserve of approximately \$3.4 million of Behavioral Health Services Act funds for no more than 40 -units at the development.
5. Authorize the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Health and Human Services Agency or designee to, upon the SDHC's successful Homekey+ application, allocate approximately \$0.4 million of Behavioral Health Services Act funds annually for behavioral health support services, beginning in Fiscal Year 2026-27. Services include, but are not limited to screenings, outreach, engagement to tenants, light case management, clinical case management, housing stabilization, and care coordination, for no more than 40 units within the development.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The 2024 Point-in-Time Count (PITC) identified 10,605 individuals as living on the streets or in shelters throughout the county with the majority or 64% within the city of San Diego. There were approximately 544 unsheltered Veterans in the region as of January 2024 as well as 321 sheltered Veterans. According to a 2023 study by the Journal of American Medical Association Psychiatry, Veterans are at a higher risk of experiencing mental health challenges and substance use disorders, compared to the general population. Based on the latest behavioral health data collected in the 2023 PITC, a proportion of San Diego County's unsheltered homeless adults reported behavioral health conditions, with 28% (1,441 out of 5,171) experiencing serious mental illness and 34% (1,758 out of 5,171) experiencing substance use disorder. This underscores the critical need for integrated housing and behavioral health interventions tailored to this vulnerable population. The County of San Diego is committed to finding equitable solutions to prevent and end homelessness by providing supportive services and permanent supportive housing options.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's proposed actions support the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goal #2 to provide just and equitable access by ensuring affordable housing developments are restricted to individuals and families experiencing homelessness and chronic homelessness by cultivating strong relationships with other local governmental entities and community partners, thereby allowing a symbolic relationship that has, at its core, a mutual, mission-driven goal to serve the communities that have been disproportionately impacted by poverty.

FISCAL IMPACT

Recommendation 1

There is no fiscal impact with this recommendation. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

Recommendations 2 and 3

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency (HHSa). If approved, this request will result in a reservation of up to \$7 million for the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) in FY 2024-25. The funding source is existing General Purpose Revenue previously made available through the ARPA revenue loss strategy. Reservation of funds is contingent upon completion of an appraisal

review, a financial feasibility review, and SDHC's award of funding through the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) Homekey+ application process. If HCD and CalVet funds are not awarded, the reservation of County funds is void. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

Recommendation 4

Funds for this request are not included in the Fiscal Year 2025-26 CAO Recommended Operational Plan in HHSA. If approved, today's recommendations will result in no new costs or revenue in FY 2025-26 and \$0.4 million in FY 2026-27, with an estimated total cost of \$3.4 million over a five-year period. The funding source is Behavioral Health Services Act. Funds for subsequent years will be included in future Operational plans. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

Recommendation 5

Funds for this request are not included in the FY 2025-26 CAO Recommended Operational Plan in HHSA. If approved, today's recommendations will result in no new costs or revenue in FY 2025-26 and approximately \$0.2 million in FY 2026-27, with an estimated annual cost of \$0.4 million for behavioral health support services. The funding source is Behavioral Health Services Act. Funds for subsequent years will be included in future Operational plans. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

Impending federal policy changes may have significant impacts on the financial sustainability of local mental health and substance use treatment programs funded through Medicaid, or Medi-Cal in California, and may significantly impact the County's ability to financially sustain behavioral health Medi-Cal programs.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

This proposal will have a positive impact on the business community, since the recommended actions will result in construction work to be performed at the property that is awarded funding. Contracts resulting from these recommendations may be executed with private sector firms and will involve a competitive bidding process.

- 16. SUBJECT: EXPANDING ACCESS TO AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS (AEDs) FOR PRIVATE SPORTS FACILITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

Today's action seeks to expand access to automated external defibrillators (AEDs) for private sports facilities, youth sports teams and similar organizations within the San Diego region. The goal is to enhance public safety and emergency preparedness where athletes and community members engage in sports or other physical activities. Given the physical nature of sports and the potential risks involved, it is essential that sports facilities and other locations where athletic activities take place are equipped this life-saving equipment. However, unfortunately many private sports facilities and organizations lack these critical devices due to financial constraints. What's more, California State Assembly Bill 1467 (AB 1467) - a.k.a. the "Nevaeh Youth Sports Safety Act" - will require youth sports organizations that offer an athletic

program to have access to an AED during any official practice or match, beginning January 1, 2027. While this legislation is noble, youth sports teams often rely on donations and fundraising to make large purchases. This could make complying with the bill challenging for many youth sports teams.

The County of San Diego (County) should take steps to expand access to AEDs for sports facilities and youth sports organizations throughout our region. Pursuing efforts to get AEDs into more sports facilities would result in a significantly safer environment for athletes, sports teams personnel, and spectators alike. AEDs not only enhance emergency preparedness, but their presence also demonstrates a commitment to health and safety that can have psychologically beneficial impacts on the community. It's in this spirit that today's item directs the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to explore opportunities to provide AEDs to private sports facilities, and youth sports teams working to comply with AB 1467. Options may include but are not limited to creating a County grant and/or rebate program to cover the costs of procuring AEDs, offer training programs for sports teams personnel, and maintenance supplies such as replacement batteries and electrode pads.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

SUPERVISOR JIM DESMOND

- 1) Direct the CAO to explore opportunities to expand access to automated external defibrillators (AEDs) for sports facilities and similar organizations such as youth sports teams, and report back within 120 days. Options may include but are not limited to developing a County grant or rebate program or partnering with a community-based organization. At a minimum, this should include:
 - a) Determine scope of potential grant and/or rebate programs and necessary funding amounts. This should be informed by appropriate and relevant stakeholder outreach, as determined by the CAO.
 - b) Determine potential program eligibility criteria. As a guiding principle, priority consideration should be given to facilities and organizations that demonstrate a financial need, lack existing AED access, and serve youth sports leagues or other high-contact sports.
 - c) Determine appropriate grant and/or rebate application requirements. The application process should be simple and easy to navigate.
 - d) Explore potential AED grant or rebate program funding source(s) and options.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

By increasing the availability of AEDs, today's action aims to ensure access to life-saving emergency equipment for economically disadvantaged organizations and underserved communities.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

By making life-saving emergency equipment more accessible to sports facilities and similar organizations, today's action supports the County's commitment to prioritize and enhance the health and well-being of residents across the San Diego region.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for exploring opportunities to expand access to automated external defibrillators (AEDs) for sports facilities and similar organizations are included in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Operational Plan. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years. There may be fiscal impacts associated with future related recommendations which staff would return to the Board for consideration and approval.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

17. **SUBJECT: NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING:
ADOPT A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING COUNTY COUNSEL
HOURLY BILLING RATES FOR ATTORNEY AND PARALEGAL
SERVICES (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

Today's action requests that the Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution relating to hourly billing rates for the Office of County Counsel. The proposed rates are the result of an analysis of County Counsel's services and costs to determine whether the full cost of its services are recovered pursuant to Board of Supervisors Policy B-29 "Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery" (Board Policy B-29).

The Auditor and Controller has reviewed and approved the supporting documentation and methodology for establishing the rates in this proposal for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

Today's action includes adoption of a resolution relating to County Counsel hourly billing rates. If approved, the proposed resolution will take effect on July 1, 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Pursuant to Article IX, Section 143, of the San Diego County Administrative Code, adopt a resolution entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO RELATING TO COUNTY COUNSEL HOURLY BILLING RATES FOR ATTORNEY AND PARALEGAL SERVICES.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed action would amend the attorney and paralegal hourly billing rates for legal services provided to billable clients, including County departments, special districts, and enterprise funds. These rates are intended to cover the full cost of County Counsel's services. By collecting the full cost of services, the County ensures that services that benefit a single agency or individual does not reduce the resources that could be available to the entire region for other vital services that are provided by County departments.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed rates support the recovery of County Counsel's full cost of providing legal services. This helps the County achieve economic sustainability and long-term fiscal stability by aligning resources with services, while continuing to provide critical services.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this proposal will be included in the Fiscal Year 2025-27 CAO Recommended Operational Plan for Office of County Counsel. If approved, the proposed rates will ensure full cost recovery for services provided. Further, the proposed attorney and paralegal rates are projected to result in approximately \$3,200,000.00 of annual revenue generated from the hourly billable services provided to clients. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

18. SUBJECT: SUPPORTING NEW TOOLS TO ADDRESS THE TIJUANA RIVER SEWAGE CRISIS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

When the smell of raw sewage forces teachers to run air purifiers during class and makes lifeguards sick just doing their jobs, you know we're facing more than just a beach closure problem. The Tijuana River sewage crisis is polluting the air we breathe, threatening our public health, and disrupting everyday life across San Diego County, especially in communities that have borne the brunt of cross-border pollution for decades.

For years, South County residents have endured the devastating impacts of raw sewage flowing into the Tijuana River Valley and nearby coastlines, with billions of gallons contaminating our waterways, parks, and communities. This crisis has already led to over 1,000 consecutive days of beach closures, threatening public health, hurting small businesses, and putting working people, from lifeguards to military personnel, directly in harm's way.

Thanks to the steadfast leadership of our San Diego Congressional delegation, the region has secured \$650 million in federal funding to modernize the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant - a hard-fought and long-overdue investment. This funding provides a critical boost for capital improvements, long-term operations, and maintenance of the plant that has historically been underfunded.

At the same time, Congressional leadership under Speaker Mike Johnson is advancing shortsighted cuts to clean water, public health, and infrastructure, putting additional pressure on state and local governments to step up. In the face of these challenges, our region must be ready with every available tool to protect public health and the safety of our coastline.

Two key bills now advancing will help us do exactly that:

- State Senate Bill 10, introduced by State Senator Steve Padilla, would authorize SANDAG to dedicate revenue from the soon-to-open Otay East Port of Entry to support sewage treatment and mitigation efforts, potentially generating millions of dollars for

critical projects. These are not local tax dollars, they are revenues generated at a federal facility that would be authorized for reinvestment to address federal environmental responsibilities.

- House of Representatives Bill H.R. 1948, introduced by Representative Scott Peters, would enable the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) to accept funding from state, regional, and local partners to advance urgently needed sanitation and flood control projects.

These proposals are separate and distinct, but each would create additional tools to help protect the health and safety of our residents and coastlines for generations to come. This is more than just fixing pipes - it's about delivering clean water, safe air, and peace of mind for the families who have endured this crisis for too long.

Today's action recommends that the Board direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to express the County's support for both pieces of legislation, consistent with Board Policy M-2. I urge my colleagues to support this item and help us continue the fight to safeguard public health and our region's coastal environment.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

VICE-CHAIR TERRA LAWSON-REMER

Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to express the County's support for State Senate Bill 10 and House of Representatives Bill 1948, consistent with Board Policy M-2.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

This item advances equity by improving health and environmental conditions for working-class and immigrant communities in South San Diego County, who have long borne the brunt of cross-border pollution. Persistent beach closures, water contamination, and environmental degradation disproportionately harm residents, small businesses, and frontline workers. This item helps secure sustained investments to address these longstanding inequities.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

This item advances sustainability by reducing sewage discharges into the Tijuana River Valley and Pacific Ocean, improving water quality, and protecting coastal ecosystems. Cleaner water supports public health, preserves marine habitats, and strengthens long-term climate resilience for San Diego County's communities and natural environment.

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.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

Beach closures and chronic pollution have severely harmed the region's coastal economy, reducing tourism, visitor spending, and local business activity. Long-term exposure to environmental hazards also undermines community health and economic vitality across San Diego County. This item supports efforts to protect key economic assets and promote sustainable growth.

19. **SUBJECT: ADOPT AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 7, DIVISION 3 AND AMENDING TITLE 4, DIVISION 2, CHAPTER 1 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF REGULATORY ORDINANCES, RELATING TO UNAUTHORIZED CAMPING AND PROTECTION OF OPEN SPACE AND PUBLIC WORKS INFRASTRUCTURE (5/6/2025 - First Reading; 5/20/25- Second Reading unless ordinance is modified on second reading) (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

On March 11, 2025 (13), staff presented options to the Board of Supervisors (Board) to enhance the current County of San Diego (County) Ordinance (County Regulatory Code Section 73.108) to address Unauthorized Camping in the Unincorporated Area. The options included components that address fire risk, adding protections to additional areas, and formalizing encampment abatement practices. Based on direction from the Board, the following enhancements will be included to amend the County's current ordinance relating to Unauthorized Camping and Protection of Open Space and Public Works infrastructure:

- Enhancement A: Add provisions related to fire risk.
- Enhancement B: Add protections in specific areas such as open spaces and Public Works infrastructure.
- Additional Enhancement: Add provision that specifies before enforcement actions occur, sufficient and appropriate shelter beds must be available for all unhoused individuals in the unincorporated area, and appropriate shelter beds must be offered to eligible individuals and refused, except in cases where there is an imminent public safety or public health risk, such as a fire or an outbreak of a contagious disease.

Today's item requests the Board to approve the introduction of an ordinance relating to unauthorized camping and the protection of property owned, leased or managed by the County, including open space and Public Works infrastructure such as culverts, channels, crosswalks, sidewalks, pathways, streets or public rights of way, and airports. If the Board takes action as recommended, then on May 6, 2025, staff recommends the Board adopt the ordinance (second reading). If the proposed ordinance is altered on May 6, 2025, then on that date, a subsequent meeting date will be selected for the ordinance's adoption.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

On May 6, 2025

1. Approve the introduction of the Ordinance (first reading)
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 7, DIVISION 3 AND AMENDING TITLE 4, DIVISION 2, CHAPTER 1 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF REGULATORY ORDINANCES, RELATING TO UNAUTHORIZED CAMPING AND PROTECTION OF OPEN SPACE AND PUBLIC WORKS INFRASTRUCTURE

If, on May 6, 2025, the Board takes action as recommended in item 1 above, then on May 20, 2025:

2. Approve the adoption of the Ordinance (second reading):
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 7, DIVISION 3 AND AMENDING TITLE 4, DIVISION 2, CHAPTER 1 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF REGULATORY ORDINANCES, RELATING TO UNAUTHORIZED CAMPING AND PROTECTION OF OPEN SPACE AND PUBLIC WORKS INFRASTRUCTURE

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed Ordinance aims to balance public safety and the rights and dignity of individuals experiencing homelessness. The County has and will continue a ‘services first’ approach which means impacted individuals are first contacted and offered to be connected to available resources including sufficient and appropriate shelter beds. The ordinance would also address fire and environmental degradation risks that could worsen existing inequities faced by the unincorporated communities.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommended actions support the County of San Diego’s Sustainability Goal #4 of protect the health and wellbeing of everyone in the region by addressing fire risk, protecting open space, and Public Works facilities from the negative impacts of encampments in the unincorporated area.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item’s recommendation. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

- 20. SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING IN COMPLIANCE WITH ASSEMBLY BILL 2561 (AB 2561), CODIFIED IN GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 3502.3, REGARDING COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO VACANCIES, RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION EFFORTS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

On September 22, 2024, Governor Newsom signed into law Assembly Bill 2561 (AB 2561). Codified in Government Code section 3502.3, AB 2561 requires public agencies to present the status of vacancies by bargaining unit, and to present recruitment and retention efforts at a public hearing at least once per fiscal year prior to budget adoption. Recognized employee organizations are entitled to make a presentation at the hearing for positions within the organizations’ bargaining unit.

Government Code section 3502.3 also requires public agencies with vacancies that exceed 20% in a single bargaining unit, to provide additional information including the average number of days to complete the hiring process from when a position is posted and opportunities to improve compensation and other working conditions.

This is a request for the Board of Supervisors to receive the 2025 Vacancy, Recruitment and Retention presentation in compliance with AB 2561, and to receive and consider public comment.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Hold a public hearing on May 6, 2025, in accordance with Government Code section 3502.3

2. Receive the 2025 County of San Diego Vacancy, Recruitment and Retention presentation.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Equity is essential in efforts to attract and retain an engaged workforce. Today's presentation provides vacancy, recruitment and retention efforts that will inform the County of San Diego of the status vacancies and areas of challenges in hiring. This will support County departments in retaining a skilled, adaptable, and diverse workforce to provide essential services to the communities served in San Diego.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Maintaining a strong workforce through effective recruitment and retention directly supports the County's sustainability goals by enhancing our ability to consistently deliver essential services. Strong retention, and strategic staffing efforts ensure we minimize potential service disruptions and maximize resource efficiency, enabling the County to respond effectively to community needs and safeguard against future economic and social vulnerabilities.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with today's request to hold a public hearing and receive the 2025 County of San Diego Vacancy, Recruitment, and Retention presentation related to AB 2561. There is no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

21. **SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF A DISPOSITION AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT AND CEQA EXEMPTIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING ON COUNTY LAND LOCATED AT 5202 UNIVERSITY AVE., SAN DIEGO AND 620 E. VALLEY PKWY., ESCONDIDO (DISTRICTS: 4 & 5)**

OVERVIEW

The San Diego region faces a severe and chronic shortage of affordable housing units that directly impacts housing insecurity and housing cost burden for lower-income households across San Diego County. Over the past decade, the region has produced only enough very low-income housing to meet 10% of the need. Given this housing crisis, we need to leverage every available option to develop more affordable housing. One of these options is the redevelopment of excess County of San Diego (County)-owned property into affordable homes.

On March 1, 2022 (17), the Board of Supervisors (Board) authorized staff to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to qualified firms to begin the competitive selection process for the ground lease and development of affordable housing on County property located at 620 E. Valley Parkway in the city of Escondido. San Diego Community Housing Corporation in partnership with National Community Renaissance of California (SDCHC/CORE) was chosen with a proposed 134 affordable senior units in addition to an approximately 5,800 sq. ft. childcare center that will be open to the public (Project). The Project meets the requirements of California

Government Code section 25539.4. Staff and SDCHC/CORE have finalized the terms of a Disposition and Development Agreement (DDA) and are now returning for approval of that agreement as well as the relevant California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) finding.

On April 4, 2023 (30) the Board authorized staff to explore viability of a potential conveyance of 5202 University Avenue (University Ave.), in the City of San Diego to San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC).

The University Ave. site is adjacent to Casa Colina, an affordable housing development owned and operated by SDHC. Casa Colina will be undergoing a densification and rehabilitation project in the coming years and as a result, the County and the SDHC are in a unique position to leverage vital public resources to maximize the benefit to the public. In accordance with Board authorization to explore the viability of a potential conveyance to SDHC of University Ave., SDHC has advised that SDHC's standard development practice is to ground lease property to its nonprofit affiliate who will then partner with an affordable housing developer to construct the affordable housing project. SDHC operates in this manner because SDHC does not have the capacity to construct projects or apply for certain affordable housing funding. Staff and SDHC have finalized the terms of the DDA and are now returning for approval of that agreement as well as the relevant CEQA finding.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

620 E. Valley Pkwy. (Recommendations 1 through 3)

1. Find that the proposed action to authorize execution of a Disposition and Development Agreement (DDA) for development of affordable housing at 620 E. Valley Pkwy., Escondido is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15332.
2. Authorize the Director, Department of General Services (DGS), to execute the DDA with San Diego Community Housing Corporation in partnership with National Community Renaissance of California (SDCHC/CORE) or an affiliate entity, to execute the Ground Lease and any other attachments to the DDA and perform any actions in furtherance of or necessary to administer or implement the DDA and Ground Lease, including but not limited to, approving, and executing amendments to the DDA, the Ground Lease, and their attachments.
3. Authorize the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Health and Human Services Agency, or a designee, to execute the Regulatory Agreement and any amendments to the Regulatory Agreement on 620 E. Valley Pkwy., Escondido and perform any actions in furtherance of or necessary to administer or implement the DDA, Ground Lease, and Regulatory Agreement.

5202 University Ave. (Recommendations 4 through 6)

4. Find that the proposed action to authorize execution of a DDA for development of affordable housing at 5202 University Ave., San Diego is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15332.

5. Authorize the Director, DGS, to execute the DDA with SDHC or an affiliate entity, to execute the Grant Deed and any other attachments to the DDA and perform any actions in furtherance of or necessary to administer or implement the DDA, including but not limited to, approving, and executing amendments to the DDA, and its attachments.
6. Authorize the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Health and Human Services Agency, or a designee, to execute the Regulatory Agreement and any amendments to the Regulatory Agreement on 5202 University Ave. and perform any actions in furtherance of or necessary to administer or implement the DDA and Regulatory Agreement.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's recommendations will result in the development of much-needed affordable housing in the region. The 6th Cycle Regional Housing Needs Assessment indicates that 68,959 units are needed regionally for very low, and low-income individuals and households. Restricted affordable housing for low-income households may serve seniors, families, homeless, at-risk of homelessness, veterans, homeless with serious mental illness, and transitional aged youth. All units reserved for low-income individuals and households serve tenant populations earning below 80% area median income, currently \$92,700 for a one-person household and \$132,400 for a four-person household.

This item aligns to the County Framework for Ending Homelessness and the Housing Blueprint by ensuring the County continues to focus on prevention and housing stability by addressing root causes, such as housing affordability. Additionally, today's actions support the County vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically for those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by ensuring low-income residents have long-term housing stability and fosters a deeper connection to one's neighborhood and community.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's proposed actions support the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goals to provide just and equitable access; and to protect health and wellbeing. The recommended actions will provide just and equitable access to housing for extremely low, very low, and low-income individuals and households countywide, including those who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. These actions also align with the goal to protect the environment as well as health and wellbeing, which will be accomplished by requiring sustainability features for each site that are in alignment with California Tax Credit Allocation Committee requirements, and our regional efforts to decarbonize.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Operational Plan in the Department of General Services, Facilities Management Internal Service Fund. If approved, this request will result in total estimated costs and revenue of \$100,000 in Fiscal Year 2024-25 for staff time, consultant costs, as well as short and long-term site management costs for both sites.

The funding source is an internal agreement with the Health and Human Services Agency supported by existing General Purpose Revenue. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

**22. SUBJECT: REFORMING THE COUNTY RESERVE POLICY TO PROTECT
CORE SERVICES AND VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES AND WAIVE
BOARD POLICY A-72 (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

The County of San Diego's (County) recently released CAO Recommended Operational Plan for Fiscal Year 2025-26, commonly referred to as the recommended budget, is balanced and demonstrates strong fiscal discipline and careful belt-tightening to manage projected funding deficits. County leadership has shown commendable responsibility in safeguarding taxpayer dollars and prioritizing essential local needs.

However, the County now faces escalating threats from proposed deep cuts to the federal budget—cuts that jeopardize the critical services which thousands of our residents rely on. The proposed reductions include \$40 million lost from the Centers for Disease Control, nearly \$880 billion in national Medicaid cuts, roughly a third of the County's Medicaid dollars, and significant threats to housing assistance that put local families, seniors, and veterans at risk. These aren't abstract numbers. The proposed cuts will impact our neighbors, children, parents, and seniors, who rely on the services the federal government now wants to walk away from.

The County must step in to fill the void the federal government leaves behind. We can't control what Congress does, but we can ensure our local government has the tools to protect our communities. That means planning responsibly, spending wisely, and updating outdated financial policies that don't reflect the needs or risks we face today.

It is time to update our County's reserve policy. Our current policy, last updated in 2017, is outdated and overly restrictive. It inflates reserve requirements by including one-time capital projects and ignores significant flexible funds already under local control, limiting our ability to respond to federal shortfalls.

Today, the County calculates emergency reserves based on *all* spending, including major one-time capital projects. Such spending could easily be delayed in a crisis. That's like saving for a rainy day by budgeting for a future kitchen remodel. Under national best practices from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), reserves should be based on the regular expenses we cover in day-to-day operations. The inflated formula we currently use requires setting aside approximately \$973 million based on Fiscal Year 2024 numbers, tens of millions more than what national best practices suggest. A more accurate standard would be approximately \$945 million for Fiscal Year 2024, based on our true operating costs.

In addition, the County's current reserve policy only counts "unassigned" dollars, overlooking hundreds of millions in "assigned" funds that remain flexible and fully within the Board of Supervisors' (Board) control. GFOA best practices recommend counting both, because in a true emergency, what matters most is whether funds are locally controlled and available to protect our communities.

The updates we propose today will free up approximately \$380 million in flexible, Board-controlled funds—“Unlocked Reserves.” To protect taxpayers and safeguard core services, we propose guardrails on how these funds may be used. We propose that these funds may be used only when the County faces cuts in federal or state funding, or during a recognized economic recession. Even then, no more than 25% could be spent in any single fiscal year. This ensures the County stays ready to respond to real emergencies, not short-term pressures, preserving fiscal strength while protecting San Diego families when they need it most.

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) flagged the need to reform the reserve policy earlier this year, on February 11, 2025, recognizing that the County’s current approach is not in accord with best fiscal practice. By modernizing our reserve policy, we will ensure our fiscal house remains strong, without forcing false choices between maintaining a prudent reserve and meeting urgent community needs. The ordinance also preserves accountability: any use of reserves would still require a Board vote and must be tied to an emergency or core service protection.

When federal leaders walk away, local government must lead. This ordinance ensures our ability to act with clarity, flexibility, and responsibility, not austerity. Our job isn’t just to protect balance sheets or protect people. It’s to protect both, ensuring we meet urgent needs today while safeguarding San Diego’s future.

This ordinance ensures we can do exactly that.

Today’s item is being agendized as a late docket as an urgent response to the CAO’s Draft Operational Plan that was released on May 1, 2025.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

SUPERVISOR TERRA LAWSON-REMER AND SUPERVISOR MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE

1. 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.
2. Approve the introduction of the Ordinance:
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE VII OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RELATING TO BUDGET AND FINANCIAL
PROCEDURES AND APPROPRIATION, REVENUE AND STAFFING LIMITATIONS

If, on May 6, 2025, the Board takes action as recommended, then on May 20, 2025:

3. Consider and adopt the Ordinance:
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE VII OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RELATING TO BUDGET AND FINANCIAL
PROCEDURES AND APPROPRIATION, REVENUE AND STAFFING LIMITATIONS
4. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a list of options and recommendations for potential allocation of the first fiscal year of the “Unlocked Reserves,” consistent with the County’s Strategic Plan; accept input from Board offices through memo submissions, if submitted; and return to the Board by October 21, 2025, with a proposed framework for the first year of “Unlocked Reserves” for further Board direction.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Modernizing the County’s reserve policy enhances our ability to respond to emergencies and fiscal challenges in a way that protects core services relied upon by historically underserved communities. By ensuring greater flexibility and transparency in how reserves are defined and managed, this policy change supports more equitable budget decisions, particularly during times of economic uncertainty when service disruptions disproportionately affect low-income residents, seniors, and working families.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Aligning the County’s reserve policy with best practices strengthens long-term fiscal sustainability by ensuring that reserve targets are realistic, risk-informed, and based on ongoing operational needs. A more accurate and transparent reserve framework allows for better planning, reduces the risk of unnecessary service cuts, and supports a resilient public sector capable of withstanding economic and environmental disruptions over time.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with today’s recommended action. There will be no change in General Fund costs and no additional staff years as a result of acting on the recommendations within this Board letter.

The proposed amendments will include, in part, amounts in the General Fund Reserve that have already been encumbered for operations of the County. While these amounts are identified to support ongoing programs and services, they remain within the control of the Board and may be reallocated. The proposed amendments will also make available an amount of Unassigned General Fund balance, and the proposed direction to the CAO will provide information for the Board’s consideration as it relates to management of fund balances and the use of one-time resources in light of federal decisions.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

Modernizing the County’s reserve policy supports a more stable and predictable fiscal environment, which benefits the broader business community. By aligning with best practices and ensuring greater transparency in reserve planning, this policy change reduces the likelihood of abrupt service reductions that could disrupt local economic activity. A well-calibrated reserve framework also signals strong fiscal governance, reinforcing confidence among private sector partners, vendors, and investors in the County’s long-term financial health.

23. SUBJECT: CLOSED SESSION (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION**
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)
T.H. v. County of San Diego;
San Diego Superior Court Case No.: 37-2021-00032808-CU-PO-CTL

- B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)
Nicholas Yphantides v. County of San Diego;
San Diego Superior Court Case No.: 37-2021-00026013-CU-OE-CTL
- C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)
Nura Kanj, et. al. v. County of San Diego, et. al.;
San Diego Superior Court Case No.: 37-2023-000038557-CU-PA-CTL
- D. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)
Thomas Rainey, et al v. County of San Diego, et al.;
United States District Court, Southern District of California Case No.: 3:19-cv-
01650-DMS-SBC