



LOCAL 221

Service Employees International Union, CLC

Aug. 19, 2025

San Diego County Board of Supervisors
1600 Pacific Highway
San Diego, CA 92101

Meeting Date: August 26, 2025
Agenda Item No. 23
Distribution Date: August 20, 2025
Batch No. 01

RE: Support for Unlocking the County Reserves

Dear Chairperson Lawson-Remer and other Board Members,

On behalf of **Service Employees International Union, Local 221**, I am writing to express strong support for the **Board Letter to Unlock County Reserves**, brought forward by Supervisors Terra Lawson-Remer and Monica Montgomery-Steppe.

San Diego County is facing serious fiscal uncertainty due to unprecedented state and federal disinvestment in essential programs. Cuts to MediCal, CalFresh, housing assistance, behavioral health and other core services, alongside unfunded mandates and increased local burdens could be devastating. They risk destabilizing the vital safety net that many SEIU Members administer and undermining the County's ability to meet urgent community needs, likely to make these problems even more intractable.

As a diverse, member-driven organization working in many occupations to make our counties a safe and healthy place to live, work and raise our families, we know firsthand how vital County services are at the core of a healthy county. These services cannot be left to wither because of ruthless decisions made in Washington or the whim of Sacramento lawmakers.

We strongly support the **proposal to unlock a portion of the County's reserves** to stabilize critical services at risk of cuts in the near term. These reserves represent a vital tool to cushion the community from harm and bridge urgent funding gaps. The public dollars potentially available will be invested in sensible, thoughtful ways that ensure that our most vulnerable, including children, seniors and the disabled, continue to receive critical support and services.

By updating how County reserves are calculated, this policy will free up around \$300 million, without having to create additional public debt to the community or businesses. This policy also places stronger safeguards and accountability around the resulting reserve funds, ensuring that they can only be used in true emergencies. It allows for a fiscally responsible, values-driven approach that allows the County to create a safety net for its communities and ensures that public money serves the public good.

San Diego ~ Imperial Counties

4004 Kearny Mesa Road ~ San Diego, CA 92111 ~ (858) 560-0151 ~ Fax (858) 560-1299





LOCAL 221

Service Employees International Union, CLC

We urge the Board Members to move forward and thank you for your leadership during this challenging moment. The decisions made today will shape the well-being of San Diego's communities for years to come.

Sincerely,

Crystal Irving, MSW

**President
SEIU Local 221**

San Diego ~ Imperial Counties

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From: [Karina Piu \(She/Her\)](#)
To: [FGG, Public Comment](#)
Subject: [External] The Center's Letter of Support - Unlocking County Reserves
Date: Wednesday, August 20, 2025 9:13:18 AM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[LOS County Reserves Item 7Aug205.docx](#)

Good morning,

I have attached The San Diego LGBT Community Center's letter of support for unlocking the county reserves here.

Best,

Karina Piu

Policy and Advocacy Coordinator

Pronouns: she/her

The San Diego LGBT Community Center

Mailing: PO Box 3357 San Diego, CA 92163

Street: 3909 Centre St. San Diego, CA 92103

e: kpiu@thecentersd.org

c: (619) 455-9009

Tax ID# 23-7332048



CalTAP Workshop for Veterans at The Center on August 18

California Transition Assistance Program (CalTAP) is designed to inform and connect veterans to their earned federal and state benefits as well as provide continued support and assistance. Veterans are invited to join us at The Center on August 18 to get information about transitioning from the military.

Monday, August 18, 2025, from 9am-12pm. RSVP at

<https://bit.ly/center-caltap>



The Red Hot Dance for Queer Women on August 23

Get ready for a fun night of dancing at The Center! We are excited to welcome back DJ Muezette as we create a lively space for all queer women on our accessible dance floor. The event is a \$10 suggested donation at the door and includes drinks and appetizers. The Red Hot Dance is a 21+ event.

Saturday, August 23, 2025, from 6-9pm at The Center Auditorium.
[Visit our website](https://thecentersd.org/red-hot) for more info and to RSVP.

*** WARNING ***

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Serving the lesbian,
gay, bisexual
& transgender
community of
San Diego County
since 1972.

August 20, 2025

San Diego County Board of Supervisors
1600 Pacific Highway
San Diego, CA 92101

**RE: Support for Sustainable Fiscal Planning Subcommittee Proposal and
Unlocking the County Reserves**

Dear Chair Lawson-Remer and Members of the Board,

On behalf of The San Diego LGBT Community Center, I am writing to express our strong support for the proposal to establish an **Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Sustainable Fiscal Planning** and the **Board Letter to Unlock County Reserves**, both brought forward by Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer and Supervisor Monica Montgomery-Steppe.

San Diego County is facing serious fiscal uncertainty due to unprecedented state and federal disinvestment in essential programs. Cuts to Medicaid, SNAP, housing, Medi-Cal, and other core services, alongside unfunded mandates and increased local burdens, risk destabilizing the safety net and undermining the County's ability to meet urgent community needs.

As the largest health and human services provider for LGBTQ+ folks in the San Diego region, we know firsthand how vital County services are to the well-being of our residents, especially low-income communities, working families, older adults, veterans, and people with disabilities. The Center provides housing resources, senior services including food banks and free meal programs, free and confidential STI testing, and so many more services and programming that meet the needs of our community with support from the County. These services cannot be left vulnerable to unpredictable decisions made in Washington or Sacramento.

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 3357
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Tax ID #: 23-7332048

We believe the **Sustainable Fiscal Planning Subcommittee** offers a proactive, community-centered approach to

- Safeguard essential services;
- Explore equitable, sustainable local financing solutions;
- Protect vulnerable residents from preventable harm; and
- Maintain the County's strong financial standing and long-term investments.

Additionally, we strongly support the **proposal to unlock a portion of the County's reserves** to stabilize critical services at risk of cuts in the near term. These reserves represent a vital tool to cushion the community from harm and bridge urgent funding gaps. The public dollars potentially available will be



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invested in sensible, thoughtful ways that ensure that our most vulnerable, including children, seniors, and the disabled, continue to receive critical support and services.

By updating how County reserves are calculated, this policy will free up around \$300 million, without having to create additional public debt to the community or businesses. This policy also places stronger safeguards and accountability around the resulting reserve funds, ensuring that they can only be used in true emergencies. It allows for a fiscally responsible, values-driven approach that allows the County to create a safety net for its communities through smarter planning for its constituents, and ensures that public dollars serve the public good.

We urge the Board to move forward on both proposals and thank you for your leadership during this challenging moment. The decisions made today will shape the well-being of San Diego's communities for years to come.

Sincerely,

Gloria Cruz Cardenas (she/they)
Chief Impact Officer
The San Diego LGBT Community Center

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Tax ID #: 23-7332048

From: [Liliana Soriano Garista](#)
To: [FGG, Public Comment](#)
Subject: [External] Letter of Support
Date: Wednesday, August 20, 2025 1:26:27 PM
Attachments: [ISDF_CBA RevBL+Reserve Letter of Support.docx](#)

Good Afternoon,

On behalf of my organization Youth WillI & as members of the Community Budget Alliance Coalition I am submitting this letter of support to "Unlock County Reserves" that will be on the agenda next week Tuesday.

Find the letter attached.

Kind regards,
Liliana

Liliana Soriano Garista | (She/They)
Director of Policy and Fiscal Affairs
Mobile: 619.764.0032





8/20/2025

San Diego County Board of Supervisors
1600 Pacific Highway
San Diego, CA 92101

RE: Support for Sustainable Fiscal Planning Subcommittee Proposal and Unlocking the County Reserves

Dear Chair Lawson-Remer and Members of the Board,

On behalf of Youth Will, a member of the Community Budget Alliance, I am writing to express our strong support for the proposal to establish an **Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Sustainable Fiscal Planning** and the **Board Letter to Unlock County Reserves**, both brought forward by Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer and Supervisor Monica Montgomery-Steppe.

San Diego County is facing serious fiscal uncertainty due to unprecedented state and federal disinvestment in essential programs. Cuts to Medicaid, SNAP, housing, Medi-Cal, and other core services, alongside unfunded mandates and increased local burdens, risk destabilizing the safety net and undermining the County's ability to meet urgent community needs.

As an organization committed to the improvement of youth development and prioritizing the health of San Diego's youth, we know firsthand how vital County services are to the well-being of residents, especially low-income communities, working families, and many other vulnerable groups. Services like these should not be jeopardized by unpredictable decisions made by those in power, whether in Washington or Sacramento.

We believe the Sustainable Fiscal Planning Subcommittee offers a proactive, community-centered approach to

- Safeguard essential services;
- Explore equitable, sustainable local financing solutions;
- Protect vulnerable residents from preventable harm; and
- Maintain the County's strong financial standing and long-term investments.

Additionally, we strongly support the proposal to unlock a portion of the County's reserves to stabilize critical services at risk of cuts in the near term. These reserves represent a vital tool to cushion the community from harm and bridge urgent funding gaps. The public dollars potentially available will be invested in sensible, thoughtful ways that ensure that our most vulnerable, including children, seniors, and the disabled, continue to receive critical support and services.

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We urge the Board to move forward on both proposals and thank you for your leadership during this challenging moment. The decisions made today will shape the well-being of San Diego's communities for years to come.

Sincerely,
Liliana Soriano
Director of Policy
Youth Will