

**Finance-Other**

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## Description

This group of programs includes miscellaneous funds and programs that are predominantly Countywide in nature, have no staffing associated with them, or exist for proper budgetary accounting purposes. Responsibility for these funds and programs rests primarily with departments in the Finance and General Government Group.

The following provides a brief description of the purpose of these organizational units along with supporting and explanatory information:

### Cash Borrowing

These appropriations fund the cost of financing the County's short-term cash borrowing program. During the course of the fiscal year, the County will experience temporary shortfalls in its cash flow due to the timing of expenditure and receipt of revenue. To meet these cash flow needs the County issues Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRANS). In addition, the County borrows cash to support the Teeter Plan. Under this plan the County has agreements with a number of taxing entities in the region whereby the County apportions to those entities the total amount of property tax due even though some taxpayers may not pay timely. In return, the County receives all the delinquent taxes and the penalties and interest due. Property tax revenues have historically been subject to delinquency rates of between 1.5 to 4.5 percent.

### Community Enhancement

Community Enhancement funds are appropriated to fund cultural activities, museums, visitor and convention bureaus, economic development councils, and other similar institutions which promote and generate tourism and/or economic development at the regional and community levels throughout San Diego County. Per Board of Supervisors Policy B-58, Funding of the Community Enhancement Program, the amount of funding proposed by the CAO for Community Enhancement approximately

equals the amount of Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) revenues estimated to be collected each year. Applications for funding are submitted to the Board of Supervisors by March 1 preceding the new fiscal year, with approval of projects given through the budget adoption process. The amount for Fiscal Year 2005-06 is the same as Fiscal Year 2004-05, and the appropriations for Fiscal Year 2006-07 are based on an anticipated 3.0 percent growth in TOT revenues.

### Community Projects

The Community Projects program provides grants to community organizations for furtherance of public purposes at the regional and community levels throughout San Diego County. The funding level is reviewed each year by the Chief Administrative Officer and is contingent on the availability of fund balance. Recommendations for grant awards are made throughout the year by individual Board members subject to approval by the Board as a whole.

### Contributions to the County Library System

These General Fund appropriations are provided to augment the County Library Fund. The amounts for Fiscal Years 2005-06 and 2006-07 are the same as the Fiscal Year 2004-05 Adopted budget.

### Contingency Reserve—General Fund

A Contingency Reserve of \$15.6 million is appropriated for Fiscal Years 2005-06 and 2006-07. These appropriations are a source of funding for unanticipated needs or events that may occur during the fiscal year.



Examples of potential needs include emergency repairs, one-time projects, or Countywide appropriation and revenue shortfalls.

### Contributions to Capital Outlay Fund

These appropriations represent the General Fund cost for Capital development or land acquisition projects. For Fiscal Years 2005-06 and 2006-07 appropriations are for land acquisition for the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) and for the creation of a permanent base for the Sheriff's helicopter at the Fallbrook Community Airport. See the Capital Program for more information on these projects as well as a list of open capital projects.

### Lease Payments-Bonds

The appropriations for this program are related to the annual lease payment due on the County's outstanding Certificates of Participation. Previously, the appropriations included the General Fund contribution for lease purchase payments that were in turn paid out of the Capital Outlay Program. To simplify budgeting and accounting beginning in Fiscal Year 2004-05, lease payments are paid directly from the General Fund instead of the Capital Outlay Program. Lease purchase payments show a net decrease in Fiscal Year 2005-06 due to the scheduled completion of payments offset by the transfer of responsibility for the \$0.4 million annual payment on the Housing Authority building from the Housing Authority to the General Fund. The Housing Authority made a lump sum transfer of funds in Fiscal Year 2004-05 to cover its remaining payments. See the Capital Program for the detail on the lease purchase payments.

### Contribution to Capital/Debt Reduction

Appropriations in Fiscal Years 2005-06 and 2006-07 are for pending capital and/or debt reduction opportunities.

### Countywide General Expenses

The primary objective of these appropriations is to fund Countywide projects and other Countywide needs. The major components of the Countywide General Expenses are:

- Payment on Enterprise Resource Planning System Bonds,
- Reserve for periods of recession and economic slowdown,
- Contribution to the Information Technology (IT) Internal Service Fund to support the Countywide component of the IT outsourcing contract, and
- Contribution to the Employee Benefits Internal Service Fund to support workers' compensation costs based on the transfer settlement between the County and the State for pre-calendar year 2000 workers' compensation cases for Court employees.

### Countywide Shared Major Maintenance

In Fiscal Years 2005-06 and 2006-07, appropriations totaling \$2.0 million are provided for major maintenance projects at County facilities that are shared by departments from multiple groups. Appropriations for major maintenance projects are otherwise budgeted by the department/group that directly benefits from the improvements.

### Employee Benefits Internal Service Fund (ISF)

In Fiscal Year 1994-1995, the County established an Employee Benefits Internal Service Fund (ISF) to report all of its employee-risk management activities. This fund accounts for claim payments and administrative costs of the County's self-insured Workers' Compensation program, Unemployment, and Medical and Dental benefit reserves.



The rates charged to individual departments for workers' compensation costs are based 70% on the last five years' actual claims experience and 30% based on rates determined by the Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau (WCIRB) of California. A reserve for Workers' Compensation Claims liability has been established with a current level of \$34.0 million. For Fiscal Year 2005-06, \$3.4 million is scheduled to be added to the Workers' Compensation Reserve and in Fiscal Year 2006-07 an additional \$4.2 million is scheduled to be added, increasing it to \$37.4 million in Fiscal Year 2005-06 and \$41.6 million in Fiscal Year 2006-07. As a result of the County's Work Safe, Stay Healthy program, claims expenses have somewhat declined, enabling the County to redirect resources to building a prudent reserve as required of a self-insured program and determined by an actuarial analysis.

Unemployment insurance rates are determined based on historical costs and apportioned based on departmental staff hours.

The Medical and Dental reserves are held as required of a self-insured program.

### **Local Agency Formation Commission Administration**

These appropriations are allocated to the San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) in accordance with provisions in State Law (Government Code Section 56381). LAFCo is an independent government agency with countywide authority. LAFCo performs studies and renders jurisdictional decisions affecting the boundaries and government structure of cities and special districts. Through Fiscal Year 2000-01, LAFCo was funded exclusively by the County and user fees. Beginning with Fiscal Year 2001-02, funding for LAFCo is shared by the County, the 18 cities, and 65 independent special districts in San Diego County.

### **Public Liability Insurance Internal Service Fund (ISF)**

In Fiscal Year 1994-1995, the County established the Public Liability Insurance Internal Service Fund (ISF) to report all of its public-risk management activities. The County is self-insured through this ISF for premise liability at medical facilities, medical malpractice, errors and omissions, false arrest, forgery, and general liability. The cost of insurance to General Fund departments, other funds, and special districts is distributed based on a weighted risk factor: 90% allocated based on the last five years' loss experience, and 10% based on staff hours of exposure. The County contracts with an actuary to annually assess the long-term liability of the fund to determine an adequate level of reserves. The most current analysis estimates a long-term liability of \$17.5 million, thus the current reserve of \$19.5 million is deemed adequate for this fund. Due to relatively low levels of claims expense over the past few years compared to budget, the Public Liability Insurance ISF's fund balance (over and above the reserve) has grown and will be used in the amounts of \$9 million in Fiscal Year 2005-06 and \$9.0 million in Fiscal Year 2006-07 in lieu of charges to departments. Departments will collectively pay \$2.0 million annually of the anticipated costs.

### **Pension Obligation Bonds**

The San Diego County Employees Retirement Association (SDCERA) is a public employees retirement system that was established by the County of San Diego on July 1, 1939, and is administered by the Board of Retirement to provide service retirement, disability, death and survivor benefits for its members. The Retirement Fund is supported by member contributions, County contributions and investment income from the Retirement Association assets. The County's contribution consists of a normal component and an Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) component. On three occasions the County has found it financially advantageous to refinance a portion of the UAAL by issuing Pension Obligation Bonds. The County of San



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Diego issued \$430.4 million of taxable Pension Obligation Bonds (POBs) in February 1994, \$737.3 million of POBs in October 2002 (of which \$550.0 million was paid to the Retirement Fund and \$187.3 million was used to refinance a portion of the 1994 Taxable Bonds and pay costs of issuance) and \$454.1 million of POBs in June 2004. During Fiscal Year 2004-05, the remaining balance on the 1994 POBs was economically defeased by using one-time resources to purchase a guaranteed investment contract (GIC) that will be used to make the final three years' payments.

The appropriations for Fiscal Years 2005-06 and 2006-07 support bond principal and interest payments as well as administrative expenses for the 2002 and the 2004 POBs.

They also provide for the annual payment for the 1994 POBs that, although economically defeased, must, for accounting reasons, still be reflected as annual expenditures in the County's budget until completely redeemed in Fiscal Year 2007-08.

#### **Debt Service Local Boards**

This cost represents the debt service cost for Majestic Pines, which was issued in January 1973 for the construction of a water distribution system. The debt will be paid off in January 2012. The cost is offset by a special assessment on property located within the service area.



Expenditures

	Fiscal Year 2004-05 Adopted Budget	Fiscal Year 2004-05 Adjusted Actuals	Fiscal Year 2005-06 Adopted Budget	Fiscal Year 2006-07 Approved Budget
Cash Borrowing Program	\$ 7,625,000	\$ 12,962,697	\$ 12,700,000	\$ 12,700,000
Community Enhancement	3,000,000	3,006,899	3,000,000	3,090,000
Community Projects	10,000,000	5,216,077	10,000,000	10,000,000
Contribution to County Library	3,550,000	3,511,176	3,550,000	3,550,000
Contingency Reserve General Fund	15,600,000	—	15,600,000	15,600,000
Contributions to Capital Outlay Fund	2,000,000	14,207,650	3,150,000	2,800,000
Contribution to Capital/Debt Reduction	—	—	3,672,952	24,455,205
Lease Payments-Bonds	46,779,800	45,282,973	46,577,150	42,861,841
Countywide General Expense	76,700,945	81,616,377	43,154,886	54,510,540
Countywide Shared Major Maintenance	—	—	2,000,000	2,000,000
Local Agency Formation Commission Administration	225,647	225,647	243,000	252,720
Employee Benefits Fund (ISF)	35,401,399	32,013,963	35,650,654	36,755,049
Public Liability Insurance (ISF)	10,500,000	10,954,301	11,000,000	11,000,000
Pension Obligation Bonds	126,553,344	66,689,885	110,514,605	116,460,563
Debt Service Local Boards	29,750	28,250	31,375	27,750
Total	\$ 337,965,885	\$ 275,715,895	\$ 300,844,622	\$ 336,063,668

