



**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

9325 HAZARD WAY, STE 100, SAN DIEGO, CA 92123-1217  
(858) 694-2739

**HA DANG**  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/  
SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

**GARRETT COOPER**  
ASST. AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/  
SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES

March 20, 2025

**INVITATION - FEE PROPOSAL WORKSHOPS**  
**Price Accuracy and Requested Device Inspections**

The County of San Diego Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures (AWM) is committed to providing important services that support consumer confidence and fair business competition for the San Diego region.

Recognizing that many customers are managing economic uncertainties due to possible interruptions to their business operations and rising input costs, AWM continues to leverage the essential use of technology and business process streamlining to limit cost increases, improve customer service, and promote regulatory compliance. AWM strives to enhance program effectiveness and efficiency to achieve positive outcomes and a collective impact. Since the last Fee Proposal, AWM has improved operational efficiency by leveraging technology and streamlining processes. Innovations include apps for mobile field inspections, customer service, and submeter inventory tracking. Increased staff proficiency with technology innovations and newly implemented business processes, along with past efficiencies, has provided AWM Weights and Measures customers with a savings of \$72,000 over the past five fiscal years. New cost savings and past cost savings continue to be applied to cost proposals to reduce the cost increases. Without these operational efficiencies implemented in these past five fiscal years, fees would have needed to increase an additional 4% on average each year.

This Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Fee Proposal demonstrates our commitment to the Board of Supervisors (Board) that cost recovery is a regular part of business, ensuring compliance with Board Policy B-29 - *Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery*. This Policy directs departments to recover the cost of services from those who receive and benefit from the services provided; any exceptions require the Board's approval. This Fee Proposal aligns the needed resources with quality service for customers and represents cost recovery as a regular part of AWM's fiscal management. In addition, our customers have stated their preference for annual fee updates to plan for changes.

You are invited to attend one of the workshops below to learn more and ask questions about these proposed fees. The content of these workshops will be the same, with two dates to accommodate your schedule.

In-Person Meeting	Tuesday, April 1, 2025
Time:	<b>3 PM – 4 PM</b>
Meeting Location:	5530 Overland Dr., Room 124, San Diego, CA 92123
Website	<a href="https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/awm/">https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/awm/</a>
RSVP:	(858) 694-2778 or <a href="mailto:sdawm@sdcountry.ca.gov">sdawm@sdcountry.ca.gov</a>
Virtual Meeting	Wednesday, April 2, 2025
Time:	<b>5 PM – 6 PM</b>
Meeting Location:	<a href="https://sdcounty-ca-gov.zoom.us/j/84211032211?pwd=aabOda8bt4lafHtopYLEpPAZkUw2N5.1">https://sdcounty-ca-gov.zoom.us/j/84211032211?pwd=aabOda8bt4lafHtopYLEpPAZkUw2N5.1</a>
Website:	<a href="https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/awm/">https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/awm/</a>
RSVP:	(858) 694-2778 or <a href="mailto:sdawm@sdcountry.ca.gov">sdawm@sdcountry.ca.gov</a>

The Board approved the last fee proposal for the current FY 2024-25 in May 2024. The fees proposed for FY 2025-26 will be necessary to address projected cost increases and to ensure compliance with Board Policy B-29. The fees proposed listed below are for Fiscal Year 2025-26 and address cost increases based on negotiated labor agreements and the County’s standard assumptions. The proposed fee increases for FY 2025-26 will be necessary to partially address cost increases based mostly on projected negotiated labor agreements.

Based on this year’s cost review, AWM is proposing increases to 6 fees, while leaving 39 fees unchanged due to these being capped by the State. This proposal is applicable to fees associated with the registration fees and re-inspection hourly rates for Price Verification and the hourly rate for the requested inspection of water submeters and non-commercial devices. On average, the increase for Price Accuracy fees is \$12 for an overall adjustment of approximately 5.5%. The request device inspection hourly rates will increase by \$12 for an overall adjustment of approximately 6.8%.

We will present the following fee adjustments for the Programs below to the County Board of Supervisors on May 7 and 21, 2025, for approval to be effective July 1, 2025. The fee adjustments are as follows:

<b>Price Accuracy Annual Registration</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>New Fee</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>Tier 1 Registration</b> (1-3 Point-of-Sale Stations)	\$162	\$173	\$11
<b>Tier 2 Registration</b> (4-9 Point-of-Sale Stations)	\$220	\$235	\$15
<b>Tier 3 Registration</b> (10 or more Point-of-Sale Stations)	\$274	\$293	\$19
<b>Re-inspection Hourly Rate</b> for Non-compliance	\$172	\$174	\$2
<b>Commercial Weights &amp; Measure Devices</b>			
Non-Commercial Device Inspection Hourly Rate	\$176	\$188	\$12
Non-Registered Water Submeter Fee Hourly Rate	\$176	\$188	\$12

If you have questions regarding the fees, please contact Deputy Sealer of Weights and Measures Austin Shepherd by phone at (858) 614-7726 or by email at [Austin.Shepherd@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Austin.Shepherd@sdcounty.ca.gov).

### **Language Access:**

If you need this notice translated, please email [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov) to request a copy in your preferred language. Translation will be available at the public meeting if requested 72 hours prior to the meeting. Please send translation requests and any questions to [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov).

لطلب نسخة من هذا الإشعار بلغتك المفضلة، يرجى إرسال بريد إلكتروني إلى [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov) ستكون الترجمة متاحة في الاجتماع العام إذا طُلبت قبل 72 ساعة من الاجتماع. يرجى إرسال طلبات الترجمة وأي أسئلة إلى [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov).

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Kung kailangan mong isalin ang notice na ito, mangyaring mag-email sa [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov) upang humiling ng kopya ng notice na ito sa iyong gustong wika. Magiging available ang pagsasalin sa pampublikong pulong kung hihilingin 72 oras bago ang pulong. Mangyaring magpadala ng mga kahilingan sa pagsasalin at anumang mga katanungan sa [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov).

이 통지서를 번역해야 하는 경우 [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov)로 이메일을 보내 원하는 언어로 된 이 통지서 사본을 요청하십시오. 회의 72시간 전에 요청하면 공개 회의에서 번역이 제공됩니다. 번역 요청 및 질문은 [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov)로 보내주십시오.

ایمیل بزنید تا یک نسخه از این اعلامیه را به زبان دلخواه [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov) اگر به ترجمه این اعلامیه نیاز دارید، لطفاً به خود درخواست کنید. در صورت درخواست 72 ساعت قبل از جلسه، ترجمه در جلسه عمومی در دسترس خواهد بود. لطفاً درخواستهای ترجمه ارسال کنید [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov) و هرگونه سؤال را به

Haddii aad u baahan tahay in ogaysiiskan la tarjumo, fadlan iimayl u dir [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov) si aad u codsato koobiga ogeysiiskan oo ku qoran luqadda aad doorbidayso. Turjumaada waxaa laga heli karaa kulanka dadweynaha haddii la codsado 72 saacadood ka hor kulanka. Fadlan u soo dir codsiyada tarjumaada iyo wixii su'aalo ah [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov).

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Nếu bạn cần dịch thông báo này, vui lòng gửi email tới [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov) để yêu cầu một bản sao của thông báo này bằng ngôn ngữ ưa thích của bạn. Bản dịch sẽ có sẵn tại cuộc họp công cộng nếu được yêu cầu 72 giờ trước cuộc họp. Vui lòng gửi yêu cầu dịch thuật và bất kỳ câu hỏi nào tới [sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcountry.ca.gov)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### 1. Why is AWM proposing fee adjustments when businesses are impacted by economic uncertainty?

This proposal addresses projected cost increases provides the resources needed for AWM to continue providing services that support public health and safety, a resilient food supply, agricultural trade, consumer confidence, and a sustainable environment for the region. Through these services, the County balances environmental, community, and economic interests to enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors. The proposal would provide the resources needed for quality services that support your business continuity and the regional economy. In addition, our customers have stated their preference for annual fee updates to plan for fee changes. This Proposal also demonstrates AWM's commitment to the Board that cost recovery is a regular part of business to ensure compliance with Board Policy B-29 *Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery*. This policy directs departments to recover the cost of services from those who receive and benefit from the services provided; any exceptions require the Board's approval. This Fee Proposal aligns the needed resources with quality service level and represents cost recovery as a regular part of AWM's fiscal management. The last Fee Proposal was approved by the Board in May 2024 for Fiscal Year 2024-25.

Recognizing that many customers are managing economic uncertainties due to possible interruptions to their business operations and rising input costs, we continue to leverage the essential use of technology and business process streamlining to limit cost increases, improve customer service, and promote regulatory compliance.

### 2. What has AWM done to contain costs?

Recognizing that many customers are managing economic uncertainties due to possible interruptions to their business operations and rising input costs, AWM continues to leverage the essential use of technology and business process streamlining to limit cost increases, prioritize resources in key areas, improve customer service, and promote regulatory compliance. AWM strives to enhance program effectiveness and efficiency to achieve positive outcomes and a collective impact. Since the last Fee Proposal, AWM has improved operational efficiency by leveraging technology and streamlining processes. Innovations include apps for mobile field inspections, customer service, and submeter inventory tracking. Increased staff proficiency with technology innovations and newly implemented business processes along with past efficiencies has provided AWM customers with a savings of \$120,000 over the past five fiscal years. New cost savings and past cost savings continue to be applied to cost proposals to reduce the cost increases. Without these operational efficiencies implemented in these past five fiscal years, fees would have needed to increase an additional 4% on average each year.

### 3. How was the Fee Proposal developed?

The methodology used to develop fees for AWM is an approach that is consistent across the County of San Diego (County) enterprise and is followed by other groups with fee proposals, such as the Health and Human Services Agency and the Public Safety Group. AWM conducts annual analysis of its programs including a review of State mandates, program operations, inspection frequencies, service levels, and benchmarking to obtain a comprehensive understanding of how our fees compare to similar counties. We looked at the projected program costs for Fiscal Year 2025-26, cost savings due to operational efficiencies, and available County and State funding sources to limit increased costs where applicable to come up with the proposed fee changes.