

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS  
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026, 10:00 AM AND WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2026, 9:00 AM**  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER  
BOARD CHAMBER, ROOM 310  
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

**GENERAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026, 10:00 AM**

Order Of Business

- A. REGULAR SESSION: Meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m.

PRESENT: Supervisors Terra Lawson-Remer, Chair; Monica Montgomery Steppe, Vice-Chair; Paloma Aguirre, Chair Pro Tem; Joel Anderson; Jim Desmond; also, Andrew Potter, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

- B. Invocation was led by Reverend Pakrad Berjekian.

- C. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Luciana, Gabby, Madison, and Sophia with Girl Scouts of San Diego during the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony at 9 am.

- D. Presentations or Announcement of Proclamations and Awards:

Vice-Chair Monica Montgomery Steppe presented a proclamation declaring April 21, 2026, to be African American Wellness Center for Children and Families Day throughout the County of San Diego.

Vice-Chair Monica Montgomery Steppe and Chair Pro Tem Paloma Aguirre presented a proclamation declaring the Month of April 2026, to be Child Abuse Prevention Month throughout the County of San Diego.

Chair Pro Tem Paloma Aguirre presented a proclamation declaring April 21, 2026, to be Tijuana River Coalition Day throughout the County of San Diego.

Supervisor Joel Anderson presented a proclamation declaring April 21, 2026, to be Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day throughout the County of San Diego.

Supervisor Jim Desmond presented a proclamation declaring the Month of April 2026, to be Month of the Military Child Month throughout the County of San Diego.

- E. 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.

- F. Approval of the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the sessions of March 24, 2026 and March 25, 2026; and, minutes for concurrent Special District meeting of the County of San Diego Redevelopment Successor Agency of January 28, 2026.

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors approved the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the sessions of March 24, 2026 and March 25, 2026; and, minutes for concurrent Special District meeting of the County of San Diego Redevelopment Successor Agency of January 28, 2026.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

- G. Consent Agenda
- H. Discussion Items
- I. 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.
- J. Recess to Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at 9:00 AM for the Land Use Legislative Session

**Board of Supervisors' Agenda Items**

<b>Category</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Public Safety	1.	AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE AND AWARD CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS FOR A NEW TRAINING TOWER AT THE COUNTY FIRE TRAINING CENTER, WORKOUT SHED AT PALOMAR MOUNTAIN FIRE STATION, FIRE STATION VENT REPLACEMENT, AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION
	2.	SHERIFF - REQUEST TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FOR THE SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY PROPOSITION 4 GRANT PROGRAM, AUTHORIZE COMPETITIVE SOLICITATIONS FOR THE EXPANSION OF REENTRY LANDSCAPE AND HORTICULTURE PROGRAMS, AND AUTHORIZE A GOVERNING BODY RESOLUTION
	3.	SHERIFF - ACCEPT THE SHERIFF'S ANNUAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT REPORT AND REVIEW AND RENEW THE MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE POLICY ORDINANCE PER SECTION 449 TO ARTICLE XXV OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCES
	4.	DISTRICT ATTORNEY - ACCEPT THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S ANNUAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT REPORT AND REVIEW AND RENEW THE MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE POLICY ORDINANCE ARTICLE LXIV SECTION 955 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCES

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| Health and<br>Human Services           | <p>5. AUTHORIZE COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT FOR CALWORKS EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES AND CONSULTANT SERVICES</p> <p>6. AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING FOR REFUGEE HEALTH PROGRAMS AND APPLY FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>7. AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING TO ADDRESS SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS AND APPLY FOR FUTURE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:<br/>SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:<br/>ADOPT AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ARTICLE XV OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE REGARDING THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY AND ADDING ARTICLE XVII REGARDING THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT</p> |
| Land Use and<br>Environment            | <p>9. SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OF GIFTS AND DONATIONS AND RATIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS AND DONATIONS EXCEEDING \$5,000 TO THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY LIBRARY AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION</p>   |
| Financial and<br>General<br>Government | <p>10. ENHANCED TRAFFIC SAFETY IN UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES THROUGH INCREASED CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL COORDINATION</p> <p>11. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE, ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION AND AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (4/21/2026- First Reading; 5/5/2026- Second Reading, unless the ordinance is modified on second reading)</p> <p>12. APPOINTMENTS: VARIOUS</p> <p>13. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED</p> <p>14. MODERNIZING THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHARTER TO STRENGTHEN TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND INDEPENDENT OVERSIGHT</p>   |
| Health and<br>Human Services           | <p>15. EXPANDING REGIONAL HOMELESS DIVERSION EFFORTS: REALLOCATING BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FUNDS AND AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH THE SAN DIEGO HOUSING COMMISSION</p>  |

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| Public Safety                          | 16. EXPANDING IMMIGRANT LEGAL DEFENSE AND KNOW YOUR RIGHTS RESOURCES THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MEXICAN CONSULATE  |
| Financial and<br>General<br>Government | 17. CONTINUED ITEM FROM MARCH 24, 2026 (20):<br>ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEES THAT DEMONSTRATES TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY |
|  | 18. ESTABLISHING A PROCESS FOR CONDUCTING COUNTY POLLING ACTIVITIES  |
|  | 19. ESTABLISHING A FULLY STANDARDIZED PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST REVIEW, DOCUMENT COMPILATION AND RESPONSE PROCESS   |
|  | 20. LAUNCHING THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FILM INITIATIVE TO DRIVE REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH AND JOB CREATION  |
|  | 21. RECEIVE THE CITIZENS' LAW ENFORCEMENT REVIEW BOARD (CLERB) ANNUAL REPORT   |
|  | 22. PROMOTING INCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT IN BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS: STRATEGIES ALIGNED WITH SENATE BILL (SB) 707  |
|  | 23. AMENDMENTS TO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RULES OF PROCEDURE TO COMPLY WITH SB 707 AND UPDATE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROVISIONS   |
|  | 24. CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS TO CONDUCT TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS  |
|  | 25. CLOSED SESSION   |
|  | 26. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMUNICATION  |

**1. SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE AND AWARD CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS FOR A NEW TRAINING TOWER AT THE COUNTY FIRE TRAINING CENTER, WORKOUT SHED AT PALOMAR MOUNTAIN FIRE STATION, FIRE STATION VENT REPLACEMENT, AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION (DISTRICTS: 2, 4 AND 5)**

**OVERVIEW**

San Diego County Fire (County Fire) partners with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to provide fire protection and emergency medical services from 21 fire stations, including around-the-clock paramedic level staffing, specialized rescue services, and coordination of an ambulance transportation program. Fifteen County Fire stations were built prior to County Fire's formation in 2008, with the oldest station in Descanso being over 80 years old. Over time, County Fire and the Department of General Services (DGS) have made significant facility improvements and built new stations to ensure CAL FIRE staff are safe, healthy, and have the resources to provide life-saving services to residents. On January 13, 2026 (9), the Board of Supervisors (Board) directed the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to authorize County Fire to pilot a major maintenance or capital construction project and determine if financial efficiencies can be realized by leveraging technical expertise and construction delivery methods utilized by CAL FIRE on state-owned fire stations.

One of County Fire's priority projects is the installation of a fire training tower. This project would enhance CAL FIRE staff's ability to respond to emergencies, including in multi-story buildings, to rescue the public while protecting staff. County Fire is requesting Board approval for the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting to advertise and award a construction contract or contracts for the construction of Capital Project 1026822 San Diego Fire Training Tower estimated at \$3,650,000 and authorization for the Director, San Diego County Fire, or their designee, to serve as the County Officer responsible for administering the contract or contracts, and to find this project exempt from CEQA.

County Fire has determined the need for an additional workout shed at the Palomar Mountain Fire Station estimated at \$200,000 to provide for staff safety, and today's actions include requesting authority for the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting to advertise and award a construction contract or contracts for the site work of a workout shed at the Palomar Mountain Fire Station, authorization for the Director, San Diego County Fire, or their designee, to serve as the County Officer responsible for administering the contract or contracts, and find this project exempt from CEQA.

On March 11, 2025 (3), the Board authorized County Fire to accept federal grant funding for fire station hardening projects. While most of this work has been exempt from public works contracting requirements, it has been determined that the vents on top of County-owned fire stations do not meet public works requirements and therefore need Board approval to proceed. The estimated construction costs are \$300,000. Today's actions include requesting authority of the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting to advertise and award a construction contract or contracts for the installation of ember-resistant vents on five County-owned fire stations, authorization for the Director, San Diego County Fire or their designee, to serve as the County officer responsible for administering the contract or contracts, and find this project exempt from CEQA.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**  
**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Find that the proposed project for the installation of a prefabricated fire training tower at the Fire Training Center located at 11880 Campo Road, Spring Valley, CA 91978 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15303 and 15304.
2. Authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting to advertise and award a construction contract or contracts and to take any action authorized by Section 401, et seq. of the Administrative Code, with respect to contracting for the site work and assembly of a fire training tower at the Fire Training Center.
3. Designate the Director, San Diego County Fire, or their designee, as the County officer responsible for administering the contract or contracts for the site work and assembly of a fire training tower at the Fire Training Center.
4. Find that the proposed project for the installation of a stand-alone workout shed at Fire Station (FS)-79 Palomar Mountain located at 21610 Crestline Road, Palomar Mountain, CA 92060 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15303 and 15304.
5. Authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting to advertise and award a construction contract or contracts and to take any action authorized by Section 401, et seq. of the Administrative Code, with respect to contracting for the site work of a workout shed at the Palomar Mountain Fire Station.
6. Designate the Director, San Diego County Fire, or their designee, as the County officer responsible for administering the contract or contracts for the site work of a workout shed at the Palomar Mountain Fire Station.
7. Find that the proposed project for the installation of ember-resistant vents at FS-36 (14024 Peaceful Valley Ranch Road, Jamul, CA 91935), FS-37 (2383 Honey Springs Road, Jamul, CA 91935), FS-56 (3407 Highway 79, Julian, CA 92036), FS-82 (3410 Dye Road, Ramona, CA 92065), and FS-85 (25858 Highway 78, Ramona, CA 92065) is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301.
8. Authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting to advertise and award a construction contract or contracts and to take any action authorized by Section 401, et seq. of the Administrative Code, with respect to contracting for the installation of ember-resistant vents at FS-36 (14024 Peaceful Valley Ranch Road, Jamul, CA 91935), FS-37 (2383 Honey Springs Road, Jamul, CA 91935), FS-56 (3407 Highway 79, Julian, CA 92036), FS-82 (3410 Dye Road, Ramona, CA 92065), and FS-85 (25858 Highway 78, Ramona, CA 92065).
9. Designate the Director, San Diego County Fire, or their designee, as the County officer responsible for administering the contract or contracts for the site work of ember-resistant vents at County-owned fire stations.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD) includes some of the region's most geographically isolated and lowest-income communities. CAL FIRE staff, who provide first responder services on behalf of the County, also partner with tribal fire departments to respond to emergencies and protect residents. Enhancing County Fire facilities supports further investment in our underserved communities.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD) includes some of the region's most geographically isolated and lowest-income communities. CAL FIRE staff, who provide first responder services on behalf of the County, also partner with tribal fire departments to respond to emergencies and protect residents. Evaluating new service delivery methods for County Fire's stations can support further investment into our under-served communities.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for Capital Project 1026822 San Diego Fire Training Tower project are included in Fiscal Year 2025-26 Operational Plan in the Capital Program Funds for a total of \$4,500,000. The total cost for the training tower is estimated at \$3,650,000. Today's request to advertise and award construction is just for the Training Tower project. Funding sources for the Training Tower are Fire Mitigation Fees (\$1,650,000) and SDCFPD Fire Mitigation fund balance (\$2,000,000). Staff will return to the Board to advertise and award construction for the restroom in a future Board letter.

Total construction funds of \$500,000 are included in Fiscal Year 2025-26 Operational Plan in San Diego County Fire for an additional workout shed at the Palomar Mountain Fire Station (\$200,000) and the installation of ember-resistant vents on County-owned fire stations (\$300,000). The funding sources are existing General Purpose Revenue (\$200,000) and FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant (\$300,000). There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

If approved, this project will have positive impacts on the business community. At least one public works construction project will be made available for private construction companies to competitively bid and employ local residents.

### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**2. SUBJECT: SHERIFF - REQUEST TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FOR THE SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY PROPOSITION 4 GRANT PROGRAM, AUTHORIZE COMPETITIVE SOLICITATIONS FOR THE EXPANSION OF REENTRY LANDSCAPE AND HORTICULTURE PROGRAMS, AND AUTHORIZE A GOVERNING BODY RESOLUTION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

The San Diego River Conservancy Proposition 4 Grant Program, approved by California voters in 2024, provides funding to support watershed protection, wildfire resilience, habitat restoration, and workforce development aligned with the San Diego River Conservancy’s mission. The San Diego Sheriff’s Office (Sheriff), Reentry Services Division (RSD), seeks to utilize this funding to support the expansion of the Reentry Landscape and Horticulture Programs at the East Mesa Reentry Facility as part of its development to enhance program services, focused on environmental education, climate-resilient training, and sustainable practices for individuals in custody. This funding will also support enhancements to the Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility to expand the use of outdoor learning spaces for horticulture students, offering more shade, reducing water usage, and supporting biodiversity. Students will learn how to create a biodiverse habitat with growing conditions that improve air quality, support stormwater management, and accommodate oak tree growth at various stages. Grant resources would also support new training spaces, modern classroom enhancements, educational equipment, and technology to strengthen sustainability-focused career technical education.

Today’s action requests authorization from the Board for the Sheriff to apply for and accept up to \$2,023,054 in grant funding from the San Diego River Conservancy, including reviewing and executing all related documents for the Proposition 4 Grant Program, and adopt the required resolution. This action also seeks authorization for the Department of Purchasing and Contracting to issue competitive solicitations necessary to support program expansion. This action is not a project under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); therefore, no environmental determination is required. If awarded, the funding will enhance rehabilitative programming, expand access to environmental and vocational training within reentry facilities, and support climate-resilient initiatives benefiting both participants and the broader community.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**SHERIFF**

1. Authorize the San Diego Sheriff’s Office (Sheriff) to apply for and, if awarded, accept an estimated amount of up to \$2,023,054 in grant revenue from the San Diego River Conservancy for the San Diego Conservancy Proposition 4 Grant Program.
2. Authorize the Sheriff to apply for and accept grant funding from San Diego River Conservancy Proposition 4 Grant in subsequent years if there are no material changes to the grant terms and funding levels.
3. Authorize the Sheriff and/or designee to review and execute in this year and subsequent years, all required San Diego River Conservancy Proposition 4 grant and grant-related documents including any agreements, annual extensions, amendments, and/or revisions thereof that do not materially impact or alter the services or funding levels.

4. Adopt a resolution entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY PROPOSITION 4 GRANT PROGRAM.
5. In accordance with Section 401, Article XXIII of the County Administrative Code, authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting to issue competitive solicitations as needed to support the expansion of the Reentry Landscape and Horticulture programs for incarcerated persons at the reentry facilities, and upon successful negotiations and determination of a fair and reasonable price and subject to an award of grant funds, award contracts for a term of up to one year, with up to four option years and up to an additional six months if needed, and to amend the contracts as needed to reflect changes in services and funding as included in the Proposition 4 Grant Program.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Acceptance of the San Diego River Conservancy Proposition 4 Grant Program, to be used by the San Diego Sheriff's Office, Reentry Services Division to enhance the Landscaping and Horticultural Program, will support the improvement of learning objectives and expansion of workforce training and environmental education offered to those incarcerated in the County of San Diego. This contributes to a more effective and equitable justice system as the funding supports the initial development of program enhancements, offering access to environmental education and vocational programs to various populations in detention facilities that may have been restricted in the past due to their secure setting. Enhanced program services would offer equitable programming opportunities while providing nature-based solutions for climate resilience. These funds would support an expansion of the Landscaping and Horticultural Programs at both East Mesa Reentry Facility and the Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility, directly benefitting San Diego County parks, while expanding on the environmentally conscious education and employment opportunities for the individuals in these programs.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The San Diego River Conservancy Proposition 4 Grant Program furthers the Sustainability goals of the County of San Diego (County) by helping the San Diego Sheriff's Office enrich career technical education programs for the incarcerated population that contribute to best sustainability practices, while improving successful reentry through employment pathways in a field that contributes to climate resilience. This program expansion, will add to students education and experience in both small-scale and commercial level composting, contribute to County reforestation efforts as the program provides oak trees offering shade and improved air quality to San Diego County parks, and contribute to the ongoing development of enhanced program services focused on training, education, and sustainability practices for incarcerated individuals within Sheriff's custody.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with today's request to apply for and accept grant funding in the estimated amount of up to \$2,023,054 from the San Diego River Conservancy Proposition 4 Grant Program and requested action to issue a competitive solicitation. There are no matching funds required. Funds for this request will be included in the Fiscal Year 2026-27 CAO Recommended Operational Plan for the San Diego Sheriff's Office. The funding source is the

San Diego River Conservancy Proposition 4 Grant Program, also referred to as the 2024 Climate Bond. There will be no change in the net general fund cost and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent, adopting Resolution No. 26-023, entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY PROPOSITION 4 GRANT PROGRAM.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

- 3. **SUBJECT: SHERIFF - ACCEPT THE SHERIFF'S ANNUAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT REPORT AND REVIEW AND RENEW THE MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE POLICY ORDINANCE PER SECTION 449 TO ARTICLE XXV OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCES (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

On September 30, 2021, Governor Newsom signed into law Assembly Bill 481 (AB 481), which is codified in Government Code sections 7070-7075. Assembly Bill 481 is intended to increase transparency, accountability, and oversight surrounding the acquisition and use of military equipment by state and local law enforcement. The San Diego County Sheriff's Office (Sheriff's Office) currently owns equipment that falls under the identified categories of Government Code 7070.

On April 8, 2025 (2), the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved and renewed the ordinance titled "An Ordinance Adding a New Section 449 to Article XXV of the San Diego County Code of Administrative Ordinances for Approval of Sheriff's Military Equipment Use Policy" (Attachment B). To continue utilizing its military equipment, which is necessary to provide public safety and protect residents and businesses of San Diego County, as well as those who visit, the Sheriff's Office has reviewed its military equipment use policy and created an Annual Military Equipment Report (Attachment A) pursuant to the requirements of Government Code 7072, which requires law enforcement agencies to present an annual report to their governing body on the use of the equipment, complaints, or concerns regarding the use of the equipment, results of any internal audits on the use of the equipment, the annual costs for the equipment, the quantity possessed by the agency, and the intent to purchase additional equipment in the following year.

Today's request is for the San Diego County Board of Supervisors to accept the Annual Military Equipment Report, and review and renew Ordinance 10777 relating to the military equipment use policy.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**SHERIFF**

1. Accept the San Diego County Sheriff's Office Annual Military Equipment Report (Report) and determine each type of equipment in the Report has complied with the standards for approval set forth in Government Code section 7071(d).
2. Review and renew the Ordinance:  
AN ORDINANCE ADDING A NEW SECTION 449 TO ARTICLE XXV OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCES FOR APPROVAL OF SHERIFF'S MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE POLICY.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The San Diego County Sheriff's Office (Sheriff's Office) provides law enforcement services that aim to protect everyone's human right to life, liberty, and security of person. It is the policy of the Sheriff's Office to be transparent in the purchase and use of military equipment. Decisions regarding the use, procurement and funding of military equipment take into consideration the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and allows for public input. The Sheriff's Office also strives for equitable outcomes in our communities, which means that the law enforcement services afford our communities a chance to lower crime and improve quality of life throughout the entire jurisdiction.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

By enhancing the delivery of law enforcement services, the department is furthering the County's Sustainability Goal of protecting the health and wellbeing of everyone in the region. By maintaining these types of equipment and having it available for the region's first responders through mutual aid agreements, the department is providing a benefit for all San Diego County residents and visitors.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with today's request to accept the Annual Military Equipment Report, and review and renew Ordinance 10777 relating to the military equipment use ordinance governing the San Diego County Sheriff's Office's Military Equipment Use Policy. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**4. SUBJECT: DISTRICT ATTORNEY - ACCEPT THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S ANNUAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT REPORT AND REVIEW AND RENEW THE MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE POLICY ORDINANCE ARTICLE LXIV SECTION 955 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCES (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

On September 30, 2021, Governor Newsom signed into law Assembly Bill 481 (AB 481). Codified in Government Code sections 7070-7075, AB 481 requires the governing body of a law enforcement agency to annually renew approval of a military equipment use policy for such equipment to be requested, acquired, or deployed by the agency. On May 10, 2022 (1), and annually thereafter, the Board of Supervisors has approved and adopted the San Diego County District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigation Military Equipment Use Policy (Policy) under Article LXIV Section 955 of the San Diego County Code of Administrative Ordinances (Ordinance 10789).

Government Code 7072 also requires law enforcement agencies to present an annual report to their governing body on the use of the equipment, complaints, or concerns regarding the use of the equipment, results of any internal audits on the use of the equipment, the annual costs for the equipment, the quantity possessed by the agency, and the intent to purchase additional equipment in the following year.

Today's request is for the Board of Supervisors to accept the San Diego District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigation Annual Military Equipment Report (Report), determine that each type of equipment has complied with the standards for approval set forth in Government Code section 7071(d), and to review and renew Ordinance 10789 relating to the Military Equipment Use Policy in compliance with AB 481.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

1. Accept and file the San Diego District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigation Annual Military Equipment Report per Government Code section 7071(d) and determine each type of equipment in the Report has complied with the standards for approval set forth in Government Code section 7071(d).
2. Review and renew Ordinance 10789:  
**AN ORDINANCE ADDING ARTICLE LXIV TITLED DISTRICT ATTORNEY AND NEW SECTION 955 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCES FOR APPROVAL OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE POLICY.**

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The District Attorney's Office seeks to ensure an equitable and transparent justice system for all San Diego communities. To advance fairness and equity, the District Attorney's Office is committed to gathering community input, while simultaneously assessing current and emerging public safety risks and needs when making decisions regarding the use, procurement, and

funding of state defined military equipment. As part of the District Attorney’s ongoing dedication to public safety, the actions in this Board Letter would provide local law enforcement services to facilitate equitable outcomes throughout San Diego communities by protecting human rights, liberties, and security of all residents.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The proposed action contributes to the County of San Diego’s sustainability goals of community engagement and safety. Investing in local law enforcement services and equipment enables a local and coordinated response, bringing critical incidents to a prompt and safe resolution while safeguarding public safety. Investments in local resources also enhance investigative support services and the overall prosecutorial process. To prevent, prosecute, and protect San Diego communities from harm, the District Attorney’s Office’s use of local resources and equipment not only increases organizational capacity, but it leads to positive social and economic enhancements contributing to overall regional sustainability.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with today’s request to receive and consider approving the San Diego County District Attorney’s Annual Military Equipment Report related to Government Code section 7071(d). There is no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

- 5. **SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT FOR CALWORKS EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES AND CONSULTANT SERVICES (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency, Self Sufficiency Services provides a comprehensive array of mandated California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) employment and supportive services to assist families with limited financial resources in achieving economic independence. These integrated services include employment and training activities, housing and stabilization supports, childcare assistance, and other supportive services designed to promote long-term self-sufficiency. Services are coordinated and delivered through contracted providers across the region, with current contracts scheduled to end on December 31, 2026. As the current agreements approach expiration and program requirements continue to evolve, the County has an opportunity to both procure services and evaluate the existing delivery model to ensure it remains responsive to community needs and aligned with State direction.

To support this effort, and as part of the County’s ongoing commitment to operational efficiencies and continuous program improvement, a comprehensive assessment of the current employment services delivery model is needed to identify future opportunities to structure the program. To ensure a thorough, objective, and fiscally responsible evaluation, it is recommended that the County engage a consultant to conduct this assessment. Once the consultant has completed the assessment, the findings will be presented to the Board through a formal Board Memorandum.

Today’s item requests the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) authorize a competitive procurement of CalWORKs employment and supportive services allowing a continuation of these services to participants without interruption.

Today’s actions advance the County vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all and our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by upholding practices that align with community priorities and improving transparency and trust while maintaining strong fiscal management.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. In accordance with Section 401, Article XXIII of the County Administrative Code, authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting, to issue a Competitive Solicitation for CalWORKs Employment Services and upon successful negotiations and determination of a fair and reasonable price, award one or more contracts for an initial term of one year and four one-year options and up to an additional six months, if needed, and subject to the approval of the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee; and to amend the contract as required, to reflect all changes in programs, services and funding.
2. In accordance with Section 401, Article XXIII of the County Administrative Code authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting to issue a Competitive Solicitation or take other authorized action for Consultant Services to conduct an assessment of the CalWORKs Employment Services and associated supportive services program components, including an analysis of a potential in-house model for service delivery, and upon successful negotiations and determination of a fair and reasonable price, award contracts for a term of one year, with three option years and up to an additional six months, if needed and subject to the approval of the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee; and to amend the contracts as needed to reflect changes to services and funding.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego Self-Sufficiency Services provides programs that promote job readiness, education, employment training and placement, housing stability, and other supports to help low-income families achieve economic independence. Services are designed to meet families at any point in their journey toward long-term self-sufficiency and are delivered at accessible locations by culturally responsive, trauma-informed staff. This approach ensures equitable access to comprehensive, personalized support and emphasizes economic stability, safety, health, and overall well-being, creating pathways for all families to thrive.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today’s actions support the County of San Diego (County) 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. These goals will be accomplished by continuing to offer and strengthen existing programs and services for families in need of comprehensive, tailored support to achieve economic stability, safety, health, and overall quality of life.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-28 CAO Recommended Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in estimated costs and revenue of \$50,0500,000 in FY 2026-27, which includes an estimated one-time cost of up to \$500,000 for the assessment of the CalWORKs employment services and associated supportive services program component and estimated costs and revenue of \$50,000,000 in FY 2027-28. The funding sources include federal and State CalWORKs Allocation revenue, Refugee Support Services federal funding and one-time Realignment. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

- 6. **SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING FOR REFUGEE HEALTH PROGRAMS AND APPLY FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services receives funding from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to support Refugee Health Programs, which includes the Refugee Health Assessment Program (RHAP) and the Refugee Health Promotion Project (RHPP).

Refugee Health Programs provide newly arrived refugees, asylees, victims of trafficking, and other eligible entrants with culturally and linguistically appropriate health assessments, including follow-up and referrals for health conditions identified in the assessment process. The County contracts with a community provider to complete comprehensive health assessments that focus on screening for and prevention of communicable diseases; early identification and diagnosis of chronic diseases; assessment of immunization status for children and adults; mental health screenings; and referrals to health providers for further medical evaluation and treatment within the first three months of arrival. The County uses the data to develop prevention and intervention strategies, and to allocate resources to reduce disparities.

Today's action requests the San Diego County Board of Supervisors authorize the acceptance of funding for the Refugee Health Programs from CDPH for the term of October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, for approximately \$412,911, and the pursuit of future funding opportunities to support Refugee Health Programs.

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. These efforts support our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by providing the necessary programs to reduce the spread of disease and improve health outcomes in San Diego County.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery, which requires prior approval of grant applications and full-cost recovery of grants.
2. Authorize the acceptance of approximately \$367,911 in grant funds from the California Department of Public Health for the period of October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, for the Refugee Health Assessment Program, and authorize Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, upon receipt, to execute all required grant documents, including any annual extensions, amendments and/or revisions that do not materially impact the services or funding level.
3. Authorize the acceptance of approximately \$45,000 in grant funds from the California Department of Public Health for the period of October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, for the Refugee Health Promotion Project, and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, upon receipt, to execute all required grant documents, including any annual extensions, amendments and/or revisions that do not materially impact the services or funding level.
4. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, to pursue future funding opportunities to support the Refugee Health Programs.

#### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, focuses on providing and expanding equitable access to healthcare. Examples include offering transportation services to medical appointments, housing for individuals experiencing homelessness while receiving treatment, and treatment for uninsured and underserved populations.

The Refugee Health Assessment Program (RHAP) provides culturally and linguistically-appropriate comprehensive health assessments not only to these newly arrived refugees but also Special Immigrant Visa holders, asylees, federally-certified victims of trafficking, and other eligible entrants. RHAP focuses on screening for and prevention of communicable diseases; early identification and diagnosis of chronic diseases and other

important conditions; assessment of immunization status for children and adults; mental health screening; and referral to health providers for further medical evaluation, treatment, and follow-up. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024, a total of 1,324 eligible persons in San Diego County received a health assessment through RHAP, with 52% of those individuals completing the health assessment with 90 days of their arrival in the United States.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's proposed action supports the County of San Diego (County) Sustainability Goal #2, to provide just and equitable access to County services and resources, particularly in the investment of historically underserved communities that are disproportionately impacted by communicable diseases. These actions also support Sustainability Goal #3 by transitioning to a green, carbon-free economy, by continuing to transition delivery of services to telehealth platforms whenever possible without sacrificing quality and thereby decreasing vehicle mileage for clients and employees. Additionally, today's action supports Sustainability Goal #4, by protecting the health and well-being of everyone in the region, ensuring access to medical care for those newly arriving to the United States.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **Recommendation #2: Authorize Acceptance of Approximately \$367,911 from the California Department of Public Health**

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2027 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in estimated costs of \$300,997 and estimated revenue of \$275,933 in FY 2025-26 and estimated costs of \$100,332 and estimated revenue of \$91,978 in FY 2026-27. The funding source is the California Department of Public Health. A waiver of Board Policy B-29 is requested because the funding does not offset all costs. These unrecovered costs are estimated to be \$25,064 in FY 2025-26 and \$8,355 in FY 2026-27, for a total of \$33,419. The funding source for these costs will be existing Realignment. The public benefit for providing these services far outweighs the B-29 unrecoverable costs. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

#### **Recommendation #3: Authorize Acceptance of Approximately \$45,000 from the California Department of Public Health**

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2027 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in estimated costs of \$38,449 and estimated revenue of \$33,750 in FY 2025-26 and estimated costs of \$12,816 and estimated revenue of \$11,250 in FY 2026-27. The funding source is the California Department of Public Health. A waiver of Board Policy B-29 is requested because the funding does not offset all costs. These unrecovered costs are estimated to be \$4,699 in FY 2025-26 and \$1,566 in FY 2026-27, for a total of \$6,265. The funding source for these costs will be existing Realignment. The public benefit for providing these services far outweighs the B-29 unrecoverable costs. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

7. **SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING TO ADDRESS SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS AND APPLY FOR FUTURE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (DISTRICT: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) remain a significant public health concern locally and across California and the United States. STIs can be associated with increased risk of HIV acquisition and transmission and can cause multiple health complications, including infertility, blindness, hearing loss, and death. Surveillance data demonstrate that the incidence of reportable bacterial STIs increased in San Diego County starting in 2003 and continued to increase through 2022. In 2023 and 2024, data has started to show decreases in STI rates.

The County of San Diego (County) receives funding from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to implement public health activities related to prevention, testing, treatment, referral, surveillance, disease investigation, partner services, and community partnerships to support the most vulnerable and underserved individuals living with, or at risk for, sexually transmitted infections. This work is done in collaboration with community-based organizations within our Local Health Jurisdiction and supports increasing access to STI clinical services for LGBTQ+ populations.

On November 25, 2025, CDPH notified the County of funding for the next five fiscal years for the STI Prevention and Collaboration grant. Today's action requests the San Diego County Board of Supervisors approve and authorize the acceptance of approximately \$5,736,290 in funding for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2031, to support core STI prevention and control activities in San Diego County and authorize applications for additional funding opportunity announcements to support STI testing and prevention resources throughout the region.

Today's action 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 through services that link residents who are vulnerable to HIV and STIs to testing and prevention resources, as well as ensuring that residents with STIs are linked to care and treatment services.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**  
**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Authorize the acceptance of approximately \$5,736,290 in funding from the California Department of Public Health, STD Control Branch, for the period of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2031, and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, to execute all required documents, upon receipt, including any extensions, amendments, or revisions thereto that do not materially impact the program or funding level.
2. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, in this and future fiscal years, to apply for additional funding for HIV and sexually transmitted infection prevention, testing, diagnostic and/or treatment services.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

In San Diego County, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) disproportionately impact communities of color (particularly Black/African American residents), youth, and gay, bisexual, and men who have sex with men. According to the 2024 STI data from the County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, HIV, STD and Hepatitis Branch, local STI transmission rates were higher among Black/African Americans and other/mixed-race women and men than among other populations. Specifically, the rate of gonorrhea in Black/African American males was 2.8 times higher than that of white males and 2.6 times that of Hispanic males. In addition, the rate of infection in Black African American females for 3.4 times higher that of while females and 3.1 times that of Hispanic females.

Over the past few years, the County has conducted various community engagement activities focused on identifying and addressing disparities among populations most impacted by HIV and STIs in San Diego County. Currently, there are community engagement projects that focus on the HIV needs of Asian/American Pacific Islander population, and community engagement is occurring with Black/African American, Latino/Hispanic and transgender individuals with a greater emphasis on STIs, particularly congenital syphilis. Funds from the California Department of Public Health will enhance clinical services for LGBTQ+ populations.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's proposed action supports the County of San Diego (County) Sustainability Goal #2 to provide just and equitable access to County services and resources, and Sustainability Goal #4 to protect the health and well-being of San Diegans. This will be accomplished by increasing the capacity and skill of our disease intervention staff with an aim to prevent, identify, and treat sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Testing, identification, and treatment of STIs will improve the overall health of communities, reduce the demand of associated care services, while increasing effectiveness of care providers and lowering operating costs.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for this request will be included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-28 CAO Recommended Operational Plan for the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in estimated annual costs and revenue of \$1,147,258 through FY 2030-31 for a total of \$5,736,290. The funding source for this grant is the California Department of Public Health. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

8. **SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:  
SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:  
ADOPT AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ARTICLE  
XV OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE  
REGARDING THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY AND  
ADDING ARTICLE XVII REGARDING THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
SERVICES DEPARTMENT (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

On March 24, 2026 (06), the Board of Supervisors took action to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on April 21, 2026.

On August 26, 2025 (24), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the establishment of an Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Social Safety Net and Behavioral Health Systems Transformation (Subcommittee) to explore, study, plan and recommend actions to support and strengthen the County of San Diego’s social safety net and behavioral health system. The Subcommittee was tasked with, among other efforts, advising the Board on transforming the Behavioral Health Services (BHS) department into a distinct organization.

To establish BHS as a distinct organizational structure, County Administrative Code must be amended. Today’s action brings forward an ordinance to repeal and replace County Administrative Code Article XV related to the Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) to remove the duties and responsibilities of BHS, as defined by applicable laws and regulations, and establish a new County Administrative Code Article XVII that sets out the duties and responsibilities of BHS as a standalone organizational structure distinct from HHS. The proposed action requires two steps. Today’s first action requests the Board to approve the introduction of an Ordinance amending the County Administrative Code relating to HHS and adding a new Administrative Code article related to BHS (first reading). If the Board approves today’s recommended action, then on April 21, 2026, the Board is requested to consider and adopt the Ordinance.

If approved, these actions will advance the transformation of BHS into a distinct organization and support a more optimal operational structure that is positioned to support better health outcomes, a better experience of care for beneficiaries, and more efficient use of resources.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Consider and adopt the Ordinance (second reading):

**AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ARTICLE XV OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE REGARDING THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY AND ADDING ARTICLE XVII REGARDING THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT.**

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego (County) Behavioral Health Services (BHS) serves as the specialty mental health plan for Medi-Cal eligible residents, providing a comprehensive system of care for mental health and substance use needs. BHS strives to ensure services are accessible, culturally responsive, and aligned with the unique needs of San Diego's diverse communities, while equitably distributing resources to reach those most in need.

In 2023, nearly one in three San Diegans were Medi-Cal eligible, with Hispanic/Latino residents having the highest eligibility rate at 38%. For Medi-Cal members experiencing serious mental illness or substance use challenges, BHS delivers care through County-operated and contracted programs, designed to address social determinants of health. As a specialty mental health plan, BHS is re-organizing internally to strengthen its ability to allocate resources equitably and design services that are impactful and responsive to community needs by maintaining and expanding access to treatment and care for populations historically underserved by behavioral health systems.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's actions support to the County of San Diego (County) 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. These goals will be advanced by strengthening the behavioral health system of care to ensure long-term sustainability of accessible and culturally responsive services. By transforming into a distinct organization, BHS is building a more optimized organizational structure for delivering mental health and substance use services. This will allow for more efficient allocation of resources, enhanced care coordination, and greater capacity to reach historically underserved communities.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with these recommendations. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent, adopting Ordinance No. 10990 (N.S), entitled: AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ARTICLE XV OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE REGARDING THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY AND ADDING ARTICLE XVII REGARDING THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

9. **SUBJECT: SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OF GIFTS AND DONATIONS AND RATIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS AND DONATIONS EXCEEDING \$5,000 TO THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY LIBRARY AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

The San Diego County Library (County Library) enhances the quality of life in the San Diego region by providing a physical and virtual hub of education, entertainment, and culture. The County Library operates 33 branches, two bookmobiles, four Library Outreach Vans, and five 24/7 Library-To-Go kiosks. The County Library serves over one million residents across all unincorporated communities and the cities of Del Mar, El Cajon (and Fletcher Hills), Encinitas (and Cardiff-by-the-Sea), Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Poway, Solana Beach, San Marcos, Santee, and Vista. From time to time, individuals, service groups, and businesses offer gifts and donations to our County Library. Gifts and donations help expand important public services and programs, while also supporting the purchase of additional library materials and supplies to better serve the region’s diverse population.

Board of Supervisors (Board) Policy A-112, *Acceptance and Use of Gifts and Donations*, permits the acceptance of donations by the administrative head of each department of the County of San Diego (County). County Administrative Code Section 66, *Acceptance of Gifts*, requires County Board ratification of the acceptance of such gifts and approval prior to the expenditure of the gift if the gift exceeds \$5,000.

During the reporting period of July 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, donations to the County Library totaled \$492,739.02. Of the total amount, \$165,428.64 were cash donations, and \$327,310.38 were non-cash donations. Non-cash donations, or in-kind donations, are non-monetary contributions of material goods, services, or expertise. Of the cash donations received, \$112,229.16 were matched by the Library Fund budget through the Dollar-for-Dollar Donation Matching Program. Cash donation amounts matched by the Library Fund are determined by the donor, up to \$275,000. The matching fund program was created by the County Board to give donors a sense of pride for taking part in the growth of their local County Library. Donations received during this reporting period were used to purchase library materials, such as books and eBooks, music, and equipment for library branches, as well as facilitate cultural celebrations and support County Library programs.

Today's proposed actions are to accept the County Library's Report of Gifts and Donations for the period of July 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, to ratify the County Library's acceptance of those gifts and donations totaling \$492,739.02, and authorize the Chair of the Board to sign a letter of appreciation to the donors whose donations exceed \$5,000.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Find that the proposed action is not subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3) because it is not a project as defined in Section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines because it involves organizational or administrative governmental activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.
2. In accordance with County of San Diego (County) Administrative Code Section 66, *Acceptance of Gifts*, and Board of Supervisors (Board) Policy A-112, *Acceptance and Use of Gifts and Donations*, accept the San Diego County Library Report of Gifts and Donations for the period of July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.
3. In accordance with County Administrative Code Section 66 and Board Policy A-112, ratify the acceptance of gifts from July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025, for \$492,739.02 that exceed \$5,000.
4. Authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to sign letters of appreciation on behalf of the County of San Diego to donors listed in Attachment B.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The acceptance of gifts, grants, and donations will allow for the purchase of additional library materials, such as books and eBooks, equipment for library branches, and bookmobiles to support programs that encourage participants of all ages to engage in reading and activities that bring the community together. Donations and grants allow the San Diego County Library (County Library) to provide additional supplies and services to youth, families, and communities to encourage the sharing of experiences, cultural traditions, and resources to strengthen a sense of belonging. Gifts and donations received are monitored and publicly disclosed in accordance with all applicable County policies. Expenditures are internally tracked by the County Library to ensure transparency and accountability of donations and gifts received and to provide for the equitable distribution of resources.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Acceptance of the County Library's Report of Gifts and Donations supports several of the County of San Diego's (County) Sustainability Goals, including Sustainability Goal No. 2, providing just and equitable access, by allowing stakeholders to support the collection in ways that are both meaningful to them and expand the library collection in areas like non-English languages and diverse books. Since the library collection serves the entire region, and not just one branch, these donations benefit all library users, regardless of where they live. Donations to the County Library also support County Sustainability Goal No. 7, eliminating greenhouse gases, by purchasing and offering eBooks, which do not need to be physically transported from a vendor or between County Library branches as customers across the region request them.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with today’s recommendations. The San Diego County Library (County Library) received \$492,739.02 in cash and non-cash donations exceeding \$5,000 in value between July 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025. Of these donations, \$165,428.64 were in cash, and \$327,310.38 were in non-cash donations. Of the cash donations, \$112,229.16 qualified for an equal amount of matching funds from the County Library at the request of the donors and was used for specific requests by the donor and/or library materials, such as books, supplies, and program branch activities in Fiscal Year 2025-26. The funding source of the matching funds is available prior year County Library Fund fund balance. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

- 10. **SUBJECT: ENHANCED TRAFFIC SAFETY IN UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES THROUGH INCREASED CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL COORDINATION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

Speeding and other unsafe driving behaviors continue to be a serious issue for many of the unincorporated communities in the County of San Diego (County), leading to injuries and fatalities on County-maintained roadways. Other impacts are reported as well, including road closures and damage to critical infrastructure, for example traffic signals. Specifically, complaints of unsafe driving continue to be brought up by communities in District 5, particularly from those living in the Valley Center and Bonsall community plan areas. Residents and other groups are expressing a growing concern about excessive speeds, limited law enforcement presence, and other road conditions that elevate traffic safety risks in their neighborhoods.

In response to these concerns, today’s item seeks to coordinate a traffic and road safety strategy to reduce the amount of speeding and other unsafe driving behaviors on County-maintained roads. The actions presented today include a renewed focus on our engagement with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to advocate for increased patrol coverage, targeted enforcement aligning with traffic collision data-sharing with the Department of Public Works (DPW), and advocacy for legislation to increase the number of CHP patrol officers made available to the unincorporated areas of the County. Together, these efforts are aimed at increasing law enforcement presence to help deter unsafe driving, leading to improved road safety conditions in communities experiencing elevated traffic risks.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**  
**SUPERVISOR JIM DESMOND**

1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to coordinate, on a frequent and on-going basis, with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to request additional patrol presence, targeted speed enforcement operations, and collaborative data sharing with the Department of Public Works (DPW) related to high-risk segments in unincorporated areas as needed, with an initial focus on the communities of Valley Center and Bonsall.
2. Direct the CAO to include in the Board’s Legislative Program support for legislation to increase the number of CHP patrol officers made available for the unincorporated areas of the County of San Diego.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Unincorporated communities often rely on a limited network of rural road corridors where speeding and collisions have a disproportionate impact on residents, commuters and tribal communities with fewer available alternative routes. Enhancing traffic safety through strengthening our coordination with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) will promote greater access to safer roads for populations that historically have fewer traffic calming tools and limited law enforcement presence due to geographic distance from population centers.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Reducing speeding and other unsafe driving behaviors will decrease traffic interruptions caused by collisions and could support fuel efficiency by encouraging steadier driving speeds. Today’s item will enhance the resilience and overall operation of rural road networks, where a road closure can significantly and disproportionately delay area residents, first responders, and other users of the road.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with these recommendations. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

11. **SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE, ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION AND AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (4/21/2026- First Reading; 5/5/2026- Second Reading, unless the ordinance is modified on second reading) (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

### **OVERVIEW**

The Compensation Ordinance, enacted by the Board of Supervisors (Board), establishes procedures for compensating County of San Diego employees. The Department of Human Resources recommends updates based on organizational needs to attract and retain a skilled, adaptable, and diverse workforce. Today's proposed amendments support this goal.

Today's recommendations are for the Board to approve the introduction of the amendments to the Compensation Ordinance and the Administrative Code (first reading). If the Board takes action as recommended, then on May 5, 2026, staff recommends the Board adopt the ordinances (second reading). If the proposed ordinances are altered on May 5, 2026, then on that date a subsequent meeting date will be selected for the adoption of the ordinances.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

##### **On April 21, 2026:**

1. Approve the introduction of the Ordinances (first reading):  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ADMINISTRATIVE CODE SECTIONS

##### **If, on April 21, 2026 the Board takes action as recommended in item 1 above, then, on May 5, 2026:**

2. Approve the adoption of the Ordinances (second reading):  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ADMINISTRATIVE CODE SECTIONS

If the proposed ordinance(s) are altered on May 5, 2026, then on that date a subsequent meeting date will be selected for adoption of the ordinance(s).

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The Department of Human Resources is committed to ensuring equity in classification and compensation. Today's recommended amendments to the Compensation Ordinance and Administrative Codes will help the County of San Diego attract, retain, and support a skilled, adaptable, and diverse workforce, enabling the delivery of efficient, high-quality services to residents and visitors.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The proposed amendments to the Compensation Ordinance and Administrative Code support the County of San Diego’s Sustainability Goals by promoting sustainable economic growth through just and equitable wages and benefits.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with today’s actions. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent, and took action to further consider and adopt the Ordinances on May 5, 2026.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**12. 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, Board Policy I-1, “Planning and Sponsor Group Policies and Procedures”, and pursuant to San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Board Policy No. 002 “Policy Advisory Committee Membership”.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**CHAIR TERRA LAWSON REMER**

Pursuant to San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Board Policy No. 002 (Policy Advisory Committee Membership), appoint Supervisor Joel Anderson as an Alternate on the SANDAG Borders Committee and Regional Planning Committee.

**SUPERVISOR JOEL ANDERSON**

Appoint Brandon Fender to JULIAN COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP, Seat 10, to complete the unexpired term, set to expire January 4, 2027.

Appoint Carol Fowler to RAMONA DESIGN REVIEW BOARD, Seat 4, for a term to expire April 21, 2029.

**SUPERVISOR JIM DESMOND**

Re-appoint Colleen Lukoff to the North County Cemetery District, Seat 2, for a term to expire January 7, 2030.

Appoint Lucia Rodriguez to the NORTH COUNTY GANG COMMISSION, Seat 2, to complete the unexpired term, set to expire January 4, 2027.

Appoint Alejandro Zermeno to the NORTH COUNTY GANG COMMISSION, Seat 5, to complete the unexpired term, set to expire January 4, 2027

**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

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**13. 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

### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**14. SUBJECT: MODERNIZING THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHARTER TO STRENGTHEN TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND INDEPENDENT OVERSIGHT (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

### **OVERVIEW**

San Diego County has grown into one of the largest and most complex county governments in the nation, managing more than \$8.6 billion in annual public spending and delivering essential services to over 3.3 million residents. With that scale comes an even greater responsibility to ensure public dollars are used effectively and decisions reflect the needs of the people we serve. As the County has grown, public expectations for transparency, accountability, and independent oversight have grown as well, yet the County's governing framework has not kept pace with that reality.

For many years, community organizations, civic leaders, and residents across the region have consistently called for greater transparency, clearer performance reporting, and stronger independent oversight of County decision-making. Together, these concerns make it harder for the public to understand how decisions are made, whether programs are working, and how their tax dollars are being spent. These concerns point to a widening gap between the scale and complexity of County government today and the oversight systems designed to ensure accountability to the public.

Key decisions affecting County budgets, programs, and service delivery are often shaped through internal staff-level analysis, with limited independent capacity to verify assumptions, evaluate performance, or assess policy alternatives. This creates two related challenges: it makes it harder for the public to clearly understand how decisions are made and how public dollars are spent, and it limits the ability of the Board of Supervisors, acting on behalf of County residents, to provide informed, effective oversight of a large and permanent County bureaucracy.

This charter modernization effort responds directly to those long-standing calls from residents and community stakeholders. Its purpose is to strengthen independent oversight, improve transparency and access to information, and clarify accountability so residents can have greater confidence that County government is working effectively, efficiently, and in the public interest.

### **Core Reform Priorities:**

The proposed Charter updates establish core accountability tools designed to improve public understanding and strengthen effective oversight, including:

- **Independent Ethics Oversight** - Establishing independent ethics oversight applicable to elected County officials to ensure ethical standards are upheld through a transparent and impartial process that strengthens public trust in County leadership.
- **Independent Fiscal and Budget Analysis** - Providing the Board of Supervisors and the public with independent, impartial analysis of County budgets, long-term fiscal impacts, and policy tradeoffs before major decisions are made so public dollars are protected and tradeoffs are clearly understood.
- **Independent Evaluation of County Programs and Services** - Creating independent capacity to assess program performance and outcomes, strengthening accountability for results and service delivery, and helping the County improve what works and fix what doesn't.
- **Transparency in County Spending and Performance** - Expanding public access to clear, timely, and usable information about County spending, operations, and program performance so residents can more easily see how their government is performing.
- **Modernization and Clarification of Charter Provisions** - Updating outdated or unclear Charter language to improve clarity and legal durability and align with state law.
- **Accountability for Senior Appointed Leadership** - Creating and modernizing confirmation, removal, and accountability requirements for senior leadership roles to strengthen transparency and public confidence.
- **Clear and Reasonable Term Limits** - Aligning term limits for County elected leadership with California's 12-year legislative model by establishing a limit of three four-year terms for members of the Board of Supervisors and establishing a Charter framework that would apply the same three four-year limit to other Countywide elected offices if enabling legislation is ever enacted in the future by the State of California. This approach ensures immediate alignment for Supervisors while creating a consistent and standardized long-term accountability framework for all Countywide elected offices. This

approach to term limits balances the importance of ensuring competence, expertise, and stability of elected leadership, with the value of encouraging new ideas and safeguarding against entrenchment.

- **Cost-Neutral Implementation** - All reforms will be implemented with no additional cost to taxpayers. This measure relies on existing resources, modernizes outdated structures, and reduces inefficiency, duplication, and waste. Over time, stronger oversight and clearer accountability are expected to yield long-term savings by preventing fraud, improving program effectiveness, and ensuring public dollars are spent as intended.

These reforms are designed to give residents, taxpayers, and their elected representatives stronger tools to understand, evaluate, and oversee how County government operates. The package is structured to be implemented without additional cost to taxpayers.

**Today’s action creates a community-led Charter Reform Implementation Task Force that will be convened to guide implementation, upon voter adoption.** The Task Force will also be charged with developing a “County Bill of Rights” to clearly communicate the public’s expectations for transparency, accountability, access, and equitable service delivery under the modernized Charter (see Appendix for examples).

This action advances Charter reforms that respond to long-standing calls from residents and community leaders for stronger transparency, accountability, and independent oversight. If approved, the ordinance will return for a second reading on May 19, 2026, before being placed on the November 2026 ballot. Because these changes involve the County Charter, voters will have the final decision on how their government is structured and how accountability is strengthened.

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

1. Adopt a Resolution entitled: RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO ENTITLED “A TRANSPARENT, ACCOUNTABLE, MODERN COUNTY GOVERNMENT.”
2. Approve the introduction of the Ordinance (first reading) entitled: AN ORDINANCE CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE CONSOLIDATED WITH THE STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026 FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE VOTERS AMENDMENTS TO THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHARTER ENTITLED “A TRANSPARENT, ACCOUNTABLE, MODERN COUNTY GOVERNMENT.”
3. Submit the Ordinance for further Board consideration and adoption (second reading) on May 19, 2026.

4. If the proposed amendments to the County Charter are passed, create the Charter Reform Implementation Task Force (The Task Force), co-chaired by Jack McGrory and Dr. Kyra Greene. Each member of the Board of Supervisors shall appoint one additional member to serve on the Task Force. The co-chairs may appoint additional temporary or advisory members as necessary to ensure subject-matter expertise and effective implementation. The Task Force shall be staffed by the Office of County Counsel and shall operate for a two-year period following its establishment.

#### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

This action supports the County's commitment to equitable service delivery by strengthening transparency, accountability, and independent oversight of County government operations. Ensuring that public resources are managed effectively and that performance information is accessible to all residents supports more equitable outcomes across all communities served by the County.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

This action supports the County's long-term fiscal and operational sustainability by establishing independent oversight mechanisms and improving access to budget and performance information. Strengthening accountability structures and evidence-based decision-making supports responsible stewardship of public resources over time.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with today's actions and there will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years. There may be future fiscal impacts [related to Recommendation 4], which staff would bring back to the Board for consideration and approval.

#### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

The proposed Charter reforms do not create new regulatory burdens or costs for businesses. By improving transparency, fiscal discipline, and government effectiveness, the reforms are expected to foster a more stable, predictable, and competitive local economic environment.

#### **ACTION 14.1:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions:

1. Adopted Resolution No. 26-024 entitled: RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO ENTITLED "A TRANSPARENT, ACCOUNTABLE, MODERN COUNTY GOVERNMENT."
  - Amend the Resolution as follows:
    - a. Amend Section 500.4(e) of the Charter amendments to add "if not appointed by the Board"
    - b. Add to Section 501(b) of the Charter amendments to state, "The Board may, by ordinance, establish the Public Defender as an Officer to be appointed by the Board."
    - c. Amend the ballot question in the resolution and ordinance to include potential Board appointment of the Public Defender

2. Approved the introduction of the Ordinance (first reading) entitled:  
AN ORDINANCE CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE CONSOLIDATED WITH THE STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026 FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE VOTERS AMENDMENTS TO THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHARTER ENTITLED “A TRANSPARENT, ACCOUNTABLE, MODERN COUNTY GOVERNMENT.”
3. Submitted the Ordinance for further Board consideration and adoption (second reading) on May 19, 2026.
4. If the proposed amendments to the County Charter are passed, create the Charter Reform Implementation Task Force (The Task Force), co-chaired by Jack McGrory and Dr. Kyra Greene. Each member of the Board of Supervisors shall appoint one additional member to serve on the Task Force. The co-chairs may appoint additional temporary or advisory members as necessary to ensure subject-matter expertise and effective implementation. The Task Force shall be staffed by the Office of County Counsel and shall operate for a two-year period following its establishment.
5. Authorized County Counsel to modify the text of the measure or the ballot question as required to conform to any requirements of the California Elections Code, other law, or the County Registrar of Voters.

AYES: Aguirre, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe

NOES: Anderson, Desmond

**ACTION 14.2:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Desmond, for the Board of Supervisors to amend the existing motion to add a provision to the Charter that the extension of the term limits to three terms does not apply to members of the current Board of Supervisors.

*(Motion failed for lack of a second vote.)*

- 15. SUBJECT: EXPANDING REGIONAL HOMELESS DIVERSION EFFORTS: REALLOCATING BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FUNDS AND AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH THE SAN DIEGO HOUSING COMMISSION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

For too many San Diego families, a single missed paycheck, an unexpected car repair, or a landlord unwilling to negotiate is all it takes to tip from housing instability into homelessness. In a region where rents have climbed steadily and the cost of living continues to squeeze working families, the margin between housed and unhoused has never been thinner.

And yet, for the first time in years, the data shows real signs of progress. The 2025 Point-in-Time Count found 9,905 individuals experiencing homelessness across the County, a 7% decrease from 2024. Over the past 12 months, our region is finally housing people faster than they are falling into homelessness: an average of 1,187 people per month are getting housed, against 1,089 falling into homelessness for the first time. Programs like homeless diversion are a critical reason the curve is turning.

### **Homeless Diversion**

Diversion connects people at the moment of crisis with case management support and flexible financial assistance. This help is provided before trauma compounds, before costs multiply, and before a short-term emergency becomes a chronic condition. Outreach staff help people think through their options, who in their network might help, what immediate resources exist, and connect them with rental assistance, security deposits, moving costs, and utility payments. The most cost-effective response to homelessness turns out to be the most common-sense one: intervene early and stop it before it spirals. Diversion won't resolve every case, but by reducing inflows into the shelter system, it frees up beds and resources for people with more complex needs.

In 2023, the Board made its first investment in a regional Homeless Diversion Fund, partnering with philanthropic organizations and the Regional Task Force on Homelessness to deploy \$1.5 million across 28 community-based organizations countywide. Nearly 600 individuals (489 households) received these services, which included problem-solving support alongside flexible funds to help people get into stable housing. Ninety-six percent retained stable housing after 12 months, at an average one-time cost of \$3,150 per household, compared to more than \$15,000 for a typical six-month emergency shelter stay. At its peak, the program accounted for 9% of all exits from homelessness across the region.

### **Expanding a Second Round of the Homeless Diversion Program**

Today's action builds on that success at greater scale. The County will invest up to \$1.1 million toward a second round of the regional Homeless Diversion Fund, leveraging philanthropic partnerships to reach approximately \$2 million in total funding, projected to help approximately 600 households exit homelessness. Additional funding partners include the San Diego Foundation, Prebys Foundation, Cushman Foundation, Jewish Community Foundation, and the City of San Diego.

The program will be administered by the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC), which has operated its own diversion program since 2017, assisting more than 900 households across the region. SDHC already has the experience, the provider and philanthropic funder relationships, and the networks to scale this work quickly. Philanthropic partners have also expressed interest in co-investing alongside the County, and SDHC's existing relationships with those partners make it well positioned to coordinate those commitments.

The effort would be regional and not limited to a specific city. SDHC goal is work with at least 20 providers across the region to train frontline staff and provide diversion services. One-third of the County's funds would be committed to serving individuals in the unincorporated communities.

Funding comes from a reallocation of \$1.1 million from the Building Partnerships Program, a County program that made funds available for community partners to purchase sleeping cabins for emergency housing. The program has not generated significant community interest, with only one grant for six sleeping cabins awarded to date and two additional similar sized projects currently under review. Redirecting these remaining funds to a proven, high-impact diversion program puts existing resources to work where the evidence is strongest. Today's action also approves a single source contract with SDHC to administer the program, reflecting their unique capacity to stand up an effort of this scale and regional reach without delay.

SDHC will report to the County on program outcomes-households served, assistance provided, and long-term stabilization rates-using HMIS data and direct participant follow-up at six-month and one-year intervals to ensure accountability and continuous program improvement.

This investment will help hundreds of households avoid the trauma of prolonged homelessness and free up shelter capacity for people with the greatest needs. When we meet people at the moment of crisis with the right support, we don't just save money. We keep families housed before a short-term emergency has the chance to become something much harder to undo.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **CHAIR TERRA LAWSON-REMER AND SUPERVISOR JOEL ANDERSON**

1. Approve the reallocation of \$1,100,000 from Building Partnerships Program based on existing General Purpose Revenue based on revenue loss strategy through the American Rescue Plan Act framework, towards homelessness diversion efforts.
2. In accordance with section 2. A. 16) of Board Policy A-87, Competitive Procurement, approve and authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting to enter into negotiations with San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) and subject to successful negotiations and a determination of a fair and reasonable price, award a contract for Homeless Diversion Fund program administration for up to one year and four option periods and an additional six months if needed, to reflect changes to requirements and funding.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Housing instability and homelessness disproportionately affect low-income households, seniors on fixed incomes, people with disabilities, and communities of color who face longstanding barriers to stable housing. Expanding the Homeless Diversion Fund helps address these disparities by providing early, flexible support, such as rental assistance or security deposits, that can prevent households from falling deeper into homelessness. By intervening early and working through community-based organizations across the region, this program helps ensure residents facing the greatest barriers have a pathway to remain safely housed.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in costs and revenue of \$1.1 million in Fiscal Year 2025-2026. The funding source is existing General Purpose Revenue through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) revenue loss strategy, which will be reallocated from remaining funds in the Building Partnerships Program under the Homeless Services section of the ARPA Framework. Approval of this item will result in no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Anderson, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

- 16. **SUBJECT: EXPANDING IMMIGRANT LEGAL DEFENSE AND KNOW YOUR RIGHTS RESOURCES THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MEXICAN CONSULATE (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

As federal immigration enforcement expands, more San Diego families are being pulled into detention and removal proceedings without legal representation. Unlike criminal defendants, individuals facing immigration removal proceedings have no constitutional right to appointed counsel. Without an attorney, even individuals with strong legal claims are routinely removed without ever having a chance to make their case.

Everyone deserves due process and a fair day in court. Since 2022, the County of San Diego's Immigrant Legal Defense Program (ILDP) has made that principle real: nearly two-thirds of ILDP clients whose cases reached a decision were granted relief by a judge, compared to just 5% of those without legal representation. The ILDP is administered through the County's Office of the Public Defender, which provides legal representation to individuals facing removal proceedings who cannot afford private counsel. The program has proven cost-effective, with legal costs nearly 80% less than hiring a private attorney.

Aggressive mass deportation sweeps are tearing local families apart, destabilizing neighborhoods, and eroding trust in government. These operations undermine due process and swiftly remove people from their homes and communities. Without an attorney, even individuals with strong legal claims are far less likely to succeed. The impacts are immediate and long-lasting: kids left without parents, workers ripped from jobs, and families forced into crisis overnight.

Mixed-status and binational families are bearing the brunt of this enforcement wave. San Diego County is home to at least 200,000 Mexican nationals, nearly half of whom are estimated to have uncertain or unresolved documentation status and may face heightened risk of detention and family separation-and with enforcement expanding and demand growing, new resources are needed to meet the moment. That concentration of need makes the Consulate General of Mexico in San Diego (Mexican Consulate) a natural partner in expanding the County's response.

Today's action directs and authorizes County staff to negotiate and execute two Memoranda of Agreement with the Mexican Consulate, providing additional information and legal resources, covering at least a two-year period:

- **Know Your Rights Resources:** Families need accurate information about their rights-and they need it before an enforcement event occurs. The Mexican Consulate already provides essential resources and services toward that end: helping families make contingency plans for their children in the event of detention or deportation, so that U.S.-born children don't unnecessarily enter the foster care system, and providing emergency assistance and family reunification support. County facilities-libraries, health clinics, social services offices-are trusted spaces where residents already go for help, making them ideal channels for extending the reach of Know Your Rights materials to the families who need them most.
- **Investments in the ILDP to Offset County Costs:** The Mexican Consulate has expressed interest in co-investing in legal defense for individuals facing removal proceedings, making it a natural partner for the ILDP. Mexican nationals represent approximately 24% of individuals in the ILDP's existing client database, making this partnership directly relevant to the program's current caseload. Consular funding would expand access to post-arrest interventions-including bond assistance, habeas corpus motions, and vacatur motions-that are essential in preventing prolonged detention, correcting prior convictions that carry unwarranted immigration consequences, and ensuring due process for individuals navigating complex immigration proceedings.

These two MOAs reflect the County's commitment to ensuring that every family in San Diego has access to both the information and the legal support they need to defend their rights.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **CHAIR TERRA LAWSON-REMER AND CHAIR PRO TEM PALOMA AGUIRRE**

1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Mexican Consulate to increase access to Know Your Rights Material at County facilities for the general public.
2. Approve and authorize the Public Defender to execute a revenue agreement to accept funds from the Mexican Consulate for the purposes of providing legal services to Mexican nationals, including but not limited to: Bond Assistance, Habeas Motions and Vacatur Motions.
3. Authorize the Public Defender to execute any extensions, amendments, or revisions thereto, that do not materially impact either the program or funding level.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Every San Diegan deserves clear access to information about their rights and the government resources available to them. Today's action distributes educational materials designed to reduce the financial and time barriers that too often prevent members of our community from getting the support they need.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

When families have access to legal counsel and accurate information about their rights, they are better able to remain stably housed, employed, and connected to the social services they rely on. Family separation and sudden deportation create cascading instability-pushing children into foster care, destabilizing household finances, and increasing demand on County safety-net programs. By expanding legal defense capacity and distributing Know Your Rights resources through trusted County facilities, today's action strengthens the resilience of mixed-status families and the communities that depend on them. A community where residents can access due process and plan for uncertainty is a more stable, resilient community for everyone.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this board letter. The Mexican Consulate will take on the sole expense of preparing, printing, and delivering the materials to the County and any expenses related to immigration services for Mexican Nationals. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

## **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended.

AYES: Aguirre, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe

NOES: Anderson, Desmond

17. **SUBJECT: CONTINUED ITEM FROM MARCH 24, 2026 (20):  
ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEES THAT DEMONSTRATES  
TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

## **OVERVIEW**

On March 24, 2026 (20), the Board of Supervisors continued this item to April 21, 2026.

Board of Supervisors Policy A-74, Participation in County Boards, Commissions, and Committees provides significant guidance and rules governing the activities of standing and special boards, commissions, committees and task forces formed to advise the Board of Supervisors and County staff on issues of policy and to serve as links to the community. However, Policy A-74 does not provide this same level of guidance or rules to govern the actions and meeting procedures of ad hoc subcommittees created by the Board and entirely comprised of members of the Board of Supervisors.

In order for our constituents to stay apprised of and participate in these meetings, particularly when important policy and financial matters are discussed and acted upon, Board Policy A-74 should be amended to include rules and guidance for the operations of ad hoc subcommittees created by the Board. County residents could benefit by having full access to ad hoc subcommittee meeting information, by having the opportunity to attend and submit information during or after subcommittee meetings and to review records of the items considered and acted upon during those meetings.

Among the actions to be required by ad hoc subcommittees should be the timely postings of meeting agendas prior to meetings, Countywide notification to citizens of scheduled meetings and the on-line posting of meeting materials and records. Such actions would mirror efforts taken by the County to ensure the public is aware of, and can attend, regular Board of Supervisors meetings and the numerous meetings of boards, commissions, committees, councils, panels, teams and task forces created to advise the Board and County staff.

To maintain the County's high standards of transparency, I recommend that the Board direct the Chief Administrative Officer to establish a County web page for ad hoc subcommittee activities and that the Clerk of the Board coordinate with County Counsel to amend Board Policy A-74, or draft a new Board policy if necessary, to clearly identify the actions that Board of Supervisors ad hoc subcommittees must comply with to ensure the proper level of transparency. The amendments should specify how these meetings are conducted and how the public can attend and monitor meeting activities and access materials both in real time and following the meetings.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **SUPERVISOR JOEL ANDERSON**

- 1) Direct the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to coordinate with County Counsel and return to the Board in 30 days with amendments to Board Policy A-74, "Participation in County Boards, Commissions, and Committees," or draft a new Board policy if necessary, to require, but not be limited to, the following actions by Board ad hoc subcommittees:
  - a. create and publicly post agendas for all subcommittee meetings at least 72 hours prior to a meeting;
  - b. conduct all subcommittee meetings in an accessible public location, ensuring they are open to the public;
  - c. require all subcommittee meetings, including presentations to the subcommittees, to be streamed live, recorded, and posted so the public can view them in real time and following meetings.
  - d. record and make available to the public the minutes for all subcommittee meetings;
  - e. maintain and make available to the public copies of all presentations, handouts, and other supporting documents submitted, distributed, or used during all subcommittee meetings;
  - f. record, maintain, and make available to the public any public communications submitted during all subcommittee meetings;
  - g. maintain and make available to the public all memos to or from the subcommittee;
  - h. make available to the public the member rosters, purpose, and expected duration of each subcommittee;

- i. make available to the public subcommittee consultant information (name, contact information, cost, contract term, information generated by consultant);
  - j. include the participation of at least one County staff member, designated by the Chief Administrative Officer, in each agendized subcommittee meeting.
- 2) Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to establish and maintain a County webpage listing current Board ad hoc subcommittees, and post all of the information and documentation identified in Recommendation #1 on that webpage.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Regular Board of Supervisors meetings are conducted in a manner that guarantees the public can participate by viewing and submitting communications regarding the Board's publicly noticed meetings. Board Policy A-74 also requires the County's advisory standing and special boards, commissions, committees, and task forces to abide by procedures and rules that ensure the opportunity for public participation. These practices allow all County residents, regardless of their ethnicity, economic situation, age, physical condition, religious beliefs, or other backgrounds or characteristics to express their views and witness deliberations and decisions made by entities operating under County purview. By amending Board Policy A-74 to establish requirements for Board ad hoc subcommittees, the County can ensure that these subcommittees also act in an open and transparent manner.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Amending Board Policy A-74 to establish consistent and transparent procedures and rules for Board ad hoc subcommittees will help to ensure that subcommittee decisions and recommendations will better reflect Countywide priorities, enhancing the County's fiscal and operational sustainability. This action will assist in the County's efforts to continue to provide equitable access to essential programs and services for our region's underserved populations.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with today's actions. There may be future fiscal impacts associated with future related recommendations, which staff would return to the Board for consideration and approval. If approved, the recommended action will result in no change in General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

Ad hoc subcommittees created by the Board have been tasked with considering, adopting and bringing recommendations to the full Board of Supervisors that could directly impact the County's business community. By ensuring all subcommittees adhere to a consistent open and transparent process, the region's businesses will have an opportunity to monitor and participate in the meetings and activities of the Board's ad hoc subcommittees.

### **ACTION 17.1:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Desmond, to take action as recommended, amending recommendation 1)b. to state, "b. conduct all subcommittee meetings in an accessible public location, inconsideration of security concerns, ensuring they are open to the public."

*(Motion was withdrawn.)*

**ACTION 17.2:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Desmond, the Board of Supervisors tabled the item for further discussion at the session on April 22, 2026 at 9 a.m.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**ACTION 17.3:**

Noting for the record this item was heard on April 22, 2026; ON MOTION of Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Lawson-Remer, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions:

- 1) Directed the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to coordinate with County Counsel and return to the Board in 30 days with options, with pros and cons identified, for amendments to Board Policy A-74, "Participation in County Boards, Commissions, and Committees," or draft a new Board policy if necessary, to require, but not be limited to, the following actions by Board ad hoc subcommittees:
  - a. create and publicly post agendas for all subcommittee meetings at least 72 hours prior to a meeting;
  - b. require all subcommittee meetings, including presentations to the subcommittees, to be streamed live, recorded, and posted so the public can view them in real time and following meetings.
  - c. record and make available to the public the minutes for all subcommittee meetings;
  - d. maintain and make available to the public copies of all presentations, handouts, and other supporting documents submitted, distributed, or used during all subcommittee meetings;
  - e. record, maintain, and make available to the public any public communications submitted during all subcommittee meetings;
  - f. maintain and make available to the public all memos to or from the subcommittee;
  - g. make available to the public the member rosters, purpose, and expected duration of each subcommittee;
  - h. make available to the public and the Board, subcommittee consultant information (name, contact information, cost, contract term, information generated by consultant);
  - i. include the participation of at least one County staff member, designated by the Chief Administrative Officer, in each agenda item subcommittee meeting.
- 2) Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to establish and maintain a County webpage listing current Board ad hoc subcommittees, and post all of the information and documentation identified in Recommendation #1 on that webpage.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**18. SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING A PROCESS FOR CONDUCTING COUNTY POLLING ACTIVITIES (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

Members of County government periodically conduct polling activities to gauge public opinion and specifically, levels of support and opposition, to matters that may be considered by the Board of Supervisors and the public. Polling can be a valuable tool to understand public sentiment on policy issues and the information it provides can prove helpful in determining whether there is sufficient public interest in moving forward to place an initiative before County voters.

As a public agency entrusted with using taxpayer resources to deliver on the needs of our constituents, we must ensure that all taxpayer funded polling activities are conducted in an unbiased manner and that no methods - such as “push polling” - are used to influence voter opinions. It is equally important to confirm that public funds are used in compliance with all applicable laws and are not applied, intentionally or unintentionally, for campaign or political purposes.

To strengthen transparency and legal compliance, I recommend that the Board direct the Chief Administrative Officer to work with County Counsel to develop and implement a strategy and process governing the use of County funds for polling and related activities. This process should require County Counsel to review and approve proposed polling questions before they are used as well as the scope of work and compensation terms for any polling firms retained by members of County government. It should also ensure public access to the information used to poll County residents, the polling results and polling consultant contracting details.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**SUPERVISOR JOEL ANDERSON**

Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to work with County Counsel to develop and implement a strategy and process governing the use of County funds for polling and related activities. This process should:

- a. require County Counsel to review and approve proposed polling questions before they are used as well as the scope of work and compensation terms for any polling firms retained by members of County government;
- b. require the following be posted online within 30 days of consultant completion of work:
  - i. polling questions that were used;
  - ii. demographic data of those polled;
  - iii. polling data results;
  - iv. consultant contract terms, scope and compensation

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommended actions will enhance transparency and accountability in County government processes, benefitting all residents regardless of their ethnicity, economic situation, age, physical condition, religious beliefs, or other backgrounds or characteristics.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommended actions support organizational sustainability through the establishment of consistent and legally compliant procedures. It will also help to ensure that limited County funds are used in a prudent and thoughtful manner.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with today's actions. There may be future fiscal impacts associated with future related recommendations, which staff would return to the Board for consideration and approval. If approved, the recommended action will result in no change in General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

This action is not expected to impact local businesses. Under the recommended action, contracting processes would remain unchanged, aside from ensuring existing legal standards are consistently applied.

## **ACTION:**

Noting for the record this item was heard on April 22, 2026; ON MOTION of Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Lawson-Remer, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions:

1. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to work with County Counsel to develop and implement a strategy and process governing the use of County funds for polling or community surveys contracted by a third party and related activities. This process should:
  - a. County Counsel to review and approve proposed polling or community survey questions before they are used as well as the scope of work and compensation terms for any polling firms retained by members of County government;
  - b. require the following be posted online within 30 days of consultant completion of work:
    - i. polling questions that were used;
    - ii. demographic data of those polled;
    - iii. polling data results;
    - iv. consultant contract terms, scope and compensation
2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to return to the Board with a full fiscal analysis.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

19. **SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING A FULLY STANDARDIZED PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST REVIEW, DOCUMENT COMPILATION AND RESPONSE PROCESS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

## **OVERVIEW**

The California Public Records Act (PRA) was enacted in 1968 to guarantee the public the right to access government records from state and local agencies in a timely and transparent manner. Once a request is submitted, agencies have ten days to respond, indicating whether they will provide the requested records or informing the requester they will need more time to comply

with the request. An extension, which is allowable for unusual circumstances, such as voluminous or off-site records, is generally limited to fourteen days. Although agencies can withhold certain records, that action can only be taken if the requested information involves a specified exemption or privilege, such as personnel and medical files, preliminary drafts or notes, pending litigation or investigation records, or information protected by attorney-client privilege.

In 2022, the Board of Supervisors updated Board Policy A-54, “Public Access to County Records,” directing the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to establish a centralized Public Records Act Unit. This unit serves as the main point of contact for the public to request records and coordinates with County departments to provide timely responses to PRA requests. In 2024, the County implemented a software solution allowing the public to submit requests and assisting staff in managing and routing requests. Since then, the Clerk of the Board has coordinated responses to over 12,000 public records requests.

The County currently processes PRA requests through an online portal called NextRequest which requires the County to provide requestors an initial response within the required ten calendar days. These responses acknowledge requests while County staff determines if responsive and disclosable records exist. However, once a PRA request is received, it is often sent to the various County departments and staff expected to have responsive records. This process allows for differing interpretations and practices by the numerous PRA coordinators designated by their departments to oversee PRA request responses.

To ensure consistent County responses to PRA requests, I recommend that the Board direct staff to update Board Policy A-54 to establish a fully standardized PRA request review, document compilation and response process designed to improve efficiency, consistency, transparency, and compliance with statutory requirements. Under the proposed framework, all PRA requests received by the County would be routed to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and County Technology Office, where requests would be logged, tracked, and assigned appropriate deadlines to ensure adherence to the timelines set forth in the California Public Records Act. The Technology Office would then be responsible for initiating the records search and compilation of responsive electronic records across relevant systems and departments, creating a more streamlined and organized process for handling PRA requests. Responsible departments would still be required to conduct a review of any paper records.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**  
**SUPERVISOR JOEL ANDERSON**

Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to coordinate with the Clerk of the Board, County Technology Office, County Counsel and other relevant departments to update Board Policy A-54, “Public Access to County Records,” to establish a fully standardized and coordinated Public Records Act (PRA) request review, document compilation and response process that would apply to all County departments, including elected offices, utilizing the NextRequest system, and return to the Board within 90 days with recommendations to implement the new process.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommendation to explore a fully standardized Public Records Act (PRA) request review, document compilation and response process is expected to positively contribute to equity by promoting consistent, fair, and transparent access to public records for all members of the community. The standardized process would help ensure that PRA requests are handled uniformly across departments, reducing disparities that may arise from inconsistent practices or varying levels of departmental resources. Improved tracking, oversight, and response timelines will enhance accessibility for individuals and communities who rely on public information, including those who may face barriers navigating complex government systems.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The proposed action to establish a fully centralized PRA process will support long-term organizational sustainability by promoting a more efficient and coordinated use of County resources. By streamlining intake, tracking, document compilation and review procedures, the County may reduce duplicative efforts, minimize delays, and improve overall operational effectiveness. The standardized approach would also enhance the County's ability to adapt to increasing volumes and complexity of PRA requests, ensuring processes remain scalable, consistent, and aligned with evolving legal and technological requirements. These improvements will contribute to maintaining fiscal stability and responsible resource management while supporting transparent and accountable government operations.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action at this time. There may be future fiscal impacts associated with future related recommendations which staff would return to the Board for consideration and approval. At this time, there will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

The proposed recommendation is expected to have a positive impact on the business community. A more standardized and efficient PRA process will provide businesses with clearer expectations, more consistent response timelines, and improved access to public records that may be necessary for due diligence, compliance, or operational planning. By reducing delays and inconsistencies, this approach will enhance transparency and reliability in interactions with the County, supporting a more predictable and business-friendly environment.

## **ACTION:**

Noting for the record this item was heard on April 22, 2026; ON MOTION of Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Desmond, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Administrative Officer to coordinate with the Clerk of the Board, County Technology Office, County Counsel and other relevant departments to work on establishing a fully standardized and coordinated Public Records Act (PRA) request review, document compilation and response process that would apply to all County departments, including elected offices, utilizing the NextRequest system, by (1) collecting feedback from all of the CPRA Coordinators about the current PRA process, (2) analyzing if there is sufficient staffing for any new PRA process, and (3) estimating the cost of any new software that may be needed to implement any new PRA process and report back to the Board within 120 days with recommendations to implement the new process.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**20. SUBJECT: LAUNCHING THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FILM INITIATIVE TO DRIVE REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH AND JOB CREATION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

Film and media production represent a powerful economic engine capable of generating immediate local spending and long-term workforce opportunity for San Diego County residents. Productions inject revenue directly into hotels, restaurants, construction trades, transportation services, small businesses, and technical professions, while supporting high-quality careers in skilled trades, creative industries, and emerging digital media fields. As competition for production activity intensifies and state-level incentives expand, jurisdictions with coordinated infrastructure, streamlined operations, and performance-based local incentives are best positioned to capture sustained economic benefits.

San Diego County possesses the natural assets, experienced workforce, and diverse locations necessary to compete as a premier production destination. In recent years, the Office of Economic Development and Government Affairs (EDGA) has advanced film-related coordination efforts, supported permitting across County departments, facilitated production inquiries, and strengthened relationships with industry partners. These efforts have demonstrated both the demand for filming in the region and the measurable economic impact that production activity can generate when properly supported. Notably, EDGA's coordination helped facilitate the production of *One Battle After Another*, which filmed extensively across San Diego County and injected nearly \$6.8 million in direct spending into the local economy, supporting local workers, vendors, and hospitality businesses. The foundational work completed by EDGA has positioned the County to take a more comprehensive and strategic next step.

This Board item represents the first step toward launching the San Diego County Film Initiative. Today's action directs the design and development of a centralized Film Office within EDGA to deliver dedicated operational support, a Film Commission within EDGA to serve as an advisory body advancing regional vision and strategy, and a performance-based Rebate Program designed to attract and retain production activity. Together, these components build upon existing coordination efforts and establish a structured, coordinated framework for long-term economic growth and job creation.

The San Diego County Film Initiative will revitalize San Diego's position as a competitive production destination and translate that competitiveness into measurable job creation and economic growth. Film production is a high-multiplier industry capable of generating millions of dollars in local spending within weeks while supporting union and non-union labor, local vendors, hospitality providers, transportation services, and regional workforce pipelines. By linking incentives to verified local expenditures, local hiring, and measurable return on investment, the County ensures that public action is directly tied to job growth and economic benefit for San Diego residents. This item revitalizes and strengthens the County's film strategy, elevating prior efforts into a comprehensive, accountable, and competitive framework designed to deliver sustained economic impact.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **CHAIR PRO TEM PALOMA AGUIRRE**

1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to develop a comprehensive San Diego County Film Initiative centered on the proposed creation of a San Diego County Film Office (Film Office), San Diego County Film Commission (Film Commission), and San Diego County Film and Media Production Rebate Program (Rebate Program), and to return to the Board of Supervisors (Board) on September 15, 2026, with a detailed San Diego County Film Initiative Implementation Plan for Economic Growth and Job Creation (Implementation Plan) establishing a coordinated operational framework necessary to develop and align these components.
  - a. The Implementation Plan shall include:
    - i. An organizational and staffing framework, including Film Commission formation, bylaws, staffing structure within EDGA, and interdepartmental coordination mechanisms;
    - ii. A fiscal framework detailing start-up and ongoing operational costs, proposed funding sources, recommended Rebate Program caps, and required future appropriations and revenue;
    - iii. An implementation timeline identifying key milestones, including the development and adoption of a countywide film ordinance to establish the regulatory and programmatic framework, followed by the launch of the Film Office to administer permitting, coordination, and program functions, and the subsequent convening of the Film Commission in an advisory capacity, as well as the phased rollout of the Rebate Program; and
    - iv. Performance measurement benchmarks and evaluation intervals to assess economic impact, job creation, and program effectiveness.
  - b. The development of the Implementation Plan shall include stakeholder engagement conducted prior to submission to the Board, including the creation of an advisory work group established by the Implementation Plan consultant in collaboration with EDGA. This work group will be composed of representatives from local jurisdictions, industry stakeholders, labor partners, educational institutions, workforce entities, arts and cultural organizations, and community groups, and will provide input and technical guidance to the CAO during the design and development of the Implementation Plan, ensuring it reflects regional needs, workforce capacity, and industry best practices.
2. As part of the Implementation Plan described in Recommendation 1, the CAO shall include the development of a San Diego County Film Office (Film Office) housed within EDGA, including a formal reporting structure to ensure transparency, accountability, and alignment with Board priorities.
  - a. The purpose of the Film Office shall be to serve as the centralized operational entity responsible for supporting film production, media initiatives, and coordinated industry growth within San Diego County.
  - b. The Film Office shall:
    - i. Establish long-term industry development priorities;
    - ii. Align film-related initiatives with County economic development objectives;
    - iii. Manage countywide permitting for productions in unincorporated areas and coordinate with participating jurisdictions;

- iv. Administer programs that support film and media productions, including the Rebate Program;
  - v. Facilitate connections between productions and local workforce pipelines, including apprenticeship programs, labor organizations, veterans programs, and small businesses; and
  - vi. Provide location promotion and coordinated marketing and branding initiatives, including the development and promotion of a countywide “Filmed in San Diego” identity to highlight qualifying productions, enhance regional visibility, and support industry attraction.
- c. The Film Office shall provide updates to the Film Commission and the Board on program performance, including:
- i. Production activity and permitting volume;
  - ii. Incentive awards and program utilization;
  - iii. Job creation and workforce participation metrics; and
  - iv. Program expenditures and projected economic return.
3. As part of the Implementation Plan described in Recommendation 1, the CAO shall include the development of a San Diego County Film Commission (Film Commission) housed within EDGA.
- a. The Film Commission shall serve as the County’s advisory body for setting regional vision, standards, and strategic direction for film, television, commercial, and digital media production within San Diego County. The Film Commission shall:
- i. Advise on long-term industry development priorities;
  - ii. Advise on aligning film-related initiatives with County economic development objectives;
  - iii. Advise on program standards and performance goals;
  - iv. Strengthen the County’s creative economy and regional competitiveness;
  - v. Promote economic growth, job creation, and workforce development; and
  - vi. Advise on expanding opportunities for local business participation in film and media production.
- b. The Film Commission shall also support the Film Office’s regional coordination by engaging local jurisdictions, industry stakeholders, labor partners, educational institutions, workforce entities, and community groups to promote alignment and collaboration.
- c. The Film Commission shall advise on ways to advance the cultural and artistic significance of filmmaking within San Diego County, including to:
- i. Explore and promote long-term goals for filmmaking as a major emphasis of the region’s economic and cultural base;
  - ii. Support collaboration with regional arts and cultural organizations, film festivals, community groups, and educational institutions to strengthen the County’s creative identity; and
  - iii. Promote cross-border artistic and cultural collaboration within the broader San Diego-Baja California region, recognizing the transnational creative economy as a unique asset.

- d. In its role as an advisory body to the Board, the Film Commission shall:
    - i. Advise on the Film Office’s annual written report to the Board including but not limited to local film and media production activity, incentive utilization, economic impact, and workforce participation; and
    - ii. Identify policy or fiscal matters for potential future Board consideration.
  - e. In its role as an advisory body to the Film Office, the Film Commission shall:
    - i. Provide input on program design and implementation to support alignment with County economic development objectives and industry best practices; and
    - ii. Identify programmatic considerations to support effective administration and continuous improvement of film-related initiatives.
4. As part of the Implementation Plan described in Recommendation 1, the CAO shall include the development of a Film and Media Production Rebate Program (Rebate Program), administered by the Film Office, and shall include a proposed ordinance, administrative framework, and fiscal analysis.
- a. The proposed Rebate Program shall incentivize qualified productions that generate measurable economic benefit within San Diego County and shall include:
    - i. Clear definitions of qualified productions and qualified production costs;
    - ii. Minimum local expenditure and principal photography requirements;
    - iii. Eligibility and ineligibility criteria; and
    - iv. Timeframes for project certification and commencement of principal photography.
  - b. The Rebate Program shall include fiscal and structural safeguards, including:
    - i. Percentage-based reimbursement of verified local qualified expenditures;
    - ii. Tiered rebate levels based on budget size, local hire utilization, and duration of production;
    - iii. Per-project caps and annual aggregate program limits;
    - iv. Proof-of-funding and expenditure verification requirements; and
    - v. Audit, compliance, and clawback provisions.
  - c. The Rebate Program shall incorporate workforce and equity considerations, including:
    - i. Local hiring commitments or good-faith hiring efforts;
    - ii. Reporting on wages, residency, and workforce participation; and
    - iii. Incentive enhancements for expenditures benefiting local small businesses, veteran-owned, women-owned, and BIPOC-owned businesses.
  - d. The Rebate Program shall include annual reporting and a recommended sunset or evaluation provision for Board consideration.
5. Transfer \$100,000 from the Community Enhancement Grant budget (Org 12900), Other Charges, to the Chief Administrative Office, Office of Economic Development and Government Affairs (Org 11810), Services and Supplies, for a consultant contract to complete the work outlined in Recommendations 1-4 above, including assembling a work group comprised of regional representatives, conducting stakeholder engagement, and preparing an Implementation Plan for the Board’s consideration, which would include a Film Office, Film Commission, and Rebate Program.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Data on workforce participation and small business access within the film and media industry demonstrate that entry into production-related careers and contracting opportunities has not been evenly distributed across communities. Barriers to industry access, including limited professional networks, capital requirements, and uneven access to training pipelines, have historically limited participation for underrepresented workers and locally owned small businesses. Without intentional design, public incentive programs may inadvertently reinforce these disparities by disproportionately benefiting established production entities and vendors.

This item advances equity by embedding workforce participation, local hiring considerations, and small business engagement into the design of the County's film initiatives. By requiring structured reporting on job creation, local workforce utilization, and economic impact through the Film Office, and by establishing advisory guidance and strategic input from the Film Commission alongside Board reporting requirements, the County strengthens its ability to monitor outcomes and identify where gaps in access may persist.

Importantly, this item establishes the conditions necessary for equitable economic development by ensuring that public investments in the film and media sector are accompanied by transparency, accountability, and measurable performance standards. In doing so, the County reinforces its commitment to inclusive economic opportunity, fair access to high-quality careers, and regionally distributed economic benefit.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

This item supports long-term economic, environmental, social, and governance sustainability by developing a coordinated framework for film and media production within San Diego County. The development of a Film Commission, Film Office, and performance-based Rebate Program aligns with the County of San Diego Sustainability Goals to engage the community, provide just and equitable access to opportunity, transition toward a resilient and inclusive economy, and reduce pollution and resource consumption.

By embedding structured oversight, fiscal safeguards, and performance standards, the County strengthens its ability to promote industry growth in a manner that advances economic vitality while supporting responsible environmental stewardship. Absent coordinated policy, production activity may occur without consistent workforce engagement, environmental standards, or long-term planning; this action addresses those gaps through formal governance, measurable reporting, and incentives that encourage sustainable production practices and compliance with local environmental regulations.

Importantly, this item advances the conditions necessary for durable and inclusive economic development by aligning industry expansion with workforce pipelines, local business participation, and measurable return on investment, while encouraging environmentally responsible production operations. Through structured implementation planning and ongoing evaluation, the County positions itself to support sustained job creation, economic diversification, reduced resource strain, and long-term regional resilience, reinforcing its broader commitment to sustainable, community-centered growth across San Diego County.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for this request are not included in the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Operational Plan in the Office of Economic Development and Government Affairs. If approved, this request will result in estimated one-time costs and revenues of approximately \$100,000 funded through a Community Enhancement Grant based on existing General Purpose Revenue, for a consultant contract to assemble the work group comprised of regional representatives, conduct stakeholder engagement, and develop an Implementation Plan, which includes a Film Office, Film Commission, and Rebate Program. There is no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years. There will be fiscal impacts associated with future related recommendations that will be outlined in an Implementation Plan, which staff would return to the Board for consideration and approval.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

The development and eventually implementation of the San Diego County Film Initiative is expected to generate positive business impacts by increasing production-related spending across hospitality, construction, transportation, catering, equipment rental, and other local service sectors. A performance-based Rebate Program tied to verified local expenditures will incentivize productions to hire locally and contract with San Diego County businesses, expanding economic opportunity for both small and established enterprises. By strengthening one-stop-shop permitting coordination and industry support, this initiative positions the region to attract sustained production activity that supports job growth and long-term business development.

## **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Aguirre, seconded by Supervisor Anderson, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**21. SUBJECT: RECEIVE THE CITIZENS' LAW ENFORCEMENT REVIEW BOARD (CLERB) ANNUAL REPORT (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

## **OVERVIEW**

San Diego County voters established the Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board ("CLERB") in 1990 to provide independent investigation and oversight of the Sheriff's Office and Probation Department. CLERB is composed of 11 volunteer board members nominated by the County of San Diego's ("County") Chief Administrative Officer and appointed by the Board of Supervisors. In addition to the volunteer board members, twelve County employees support CLERB: an Executive Officer, a Chief Deputy, a Supervising Investigator, six Investigators, a Data and Research Analyst, a Public Outreach Specialist, and an Administrative Professional. CLERB has the power to subpoena witnesses and evidence for use in its investigations and employs its own independent investigators.

The San Diego County Code of Administrative Ordinances (Section 340.9(d)) requires that CLERB prepare and present an annual report to the Board of Supervisors (“Board”) that summarizes the activities and recommendations of CLERB during the reporting period including the cases investigated, the findings made and tracking of the types of complaints received. Today’s recommendation is for the Board to receive the Citizens’ Law Enforcement Review Board Annual Report for 2025.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Receive the Citizens’ Law Enforcement Review Board Annual Report.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The requested action supports the County of San Diego’s Strategic Initiatives of Community and Justice, by protecting San Diegans, especially those disproportionately at risk of law enforcement interaction, which increase transparency and accessibility in civilian law enforcement oversight and fostering better relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The proposed action supports the County of San Diego’s (County) Sustainability Goal #2 of providing just and equitable access to County services, by using data-driven and analytical analysis of civilian oversight to not only protect the health and well-being of our incarcerated community, but to protect the economic sustainability of the County.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

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

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

Noting for the record this item was heard on April 22, 2026; ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors received the Citizens’ Law Enforcement Review Board Annual Report.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

22. **SUBJECT: PROMOTING INCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT IN BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS: STRATEGIES ALIGNED WITH SENATE BILL (SB) 707 (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

On October 3, 2025, Governor Newsom signed Senate Bill (SB) 707 (Durazo), which enacted significant amendments to the Ralph M. Brown Act. The changes aimed to modernize public meeting laws, expand access and participation, and address the evolving use of technology in local governance.

This agenda item provides a summary of the feedback received during the outreach to underrepresented communities, including non-English-speaking populations and civic organizations, to identify opportunities to increase their engagement at Board of Supervisors meetings and recommendations for the Board to consider to improve public engagement.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to implement the options selected by the Board of Supervisors to make reasonable efforts to invite groups that do not traditionally participate in Board of Supervisors meetings to attend those meetings. The proposed options for the Board's consideration are:

1. Combine the Board Meeting agenda into a single document that includes only the item title and recommendation(s). Add hyperlinks directly within the agenda to the Board Letters and supporting documents for easy access to supplemental materials.
2. Develop plain-language guidelines for County staff for agenda item titles; include simplified version unless legally required.
3. Publish step-by-step public participation guides in all threshold languages, including simple instructions for eComment, speaking in person/virtually, and preparing public comment. Include a short printable one-page "How to Participate" sheet in the threshold languages.
4. Produce the Public Service Announcement on Speaking at Board Meetings in multiple languages.
5. Partner with Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to host orientation workshops in multiple languages, allowing residents to practice commenting, learn rules of procedure, and gain confidence before attending a Board meeting.
6. Utilizing technology tools, expand live interpretation services during meetings to include the additional threshold languages, subject to funding availability.

#### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego (County) prioritizes transparency and accessibility to improve public understanding of how the County operates and participation in shaping future priorities. These efforts towards accessibility are particularly important to reach those communities that have been previously disconnected from the County civic process. The County continues to ensure that the diverse voices of the community can be heard in an equitable and civilized manner, and as such, can provide input that is vital to a healthy democratic institution.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The analysis provides options for the Board of Supervisors to enhance stakeholder participation to plan for community engagement and identify meaningful ways to continually seek input to foster inclusive and sustainable communities.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Operational Plan in the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. If approved, Recommendations 1-5 would be accomplished with existing staff resources in the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors funded by General Purpose Revenue. If approved, Recommendation 6 would result in ongoing costs and revenue of approximately \$30,000. The funding source for Recommendation 6 would be existing General Purpose Revenue in the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

Noting for the record this item was heard on April 22, 2026; ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Administrative Officer to implement all proposed options to make reasonable efforts to invite groups that do not traditionally participate in Board of Supervisors meetings to attend those meetings. The options selected by the Board were:

1. Combine the Board Meeting agenda into a single document that includes only the item title and recommendation(s). Add hyperlinks directly within the agenda to the Board Letters and supporting documents for easy access to supplemental materials.
2. Develop plain-language guidelines for County staff for agenda item titles; include simplified version unless legally required.
3. Publish step-by-step public participation guides in all threshold languages, including simple instructions for eComment, speaking in person/virtually, and preparing public comment. Include a short printable one-page “How to Participate” sheet in the threshold languages.
4. Produce the Public Service Announcement on Speaking at Board Meetings in multiple languages.
5. Partner with Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to host orientation workshops in multiple languages, allowing residents to practice commenting, learn rules of procedure, and gain confidence before attending a Board meeting.
6. Utilizing technology tools, expand live interpretation services during meetings to include the additional threshold languages, subject to funding availability.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**23. SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RULES OF PROCEDURE TO COMPLY WITH SB 707 AND UPDATE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROVISIONS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

On October 3, 2025, Governor Newsom signed Senate Bill 707 (Durazo), which enacted significant amendments to the Ralph M. Brown Act. These changes aim to modernize public meeting laws, expand access and participation, and address the evolving use of technology in local governance.

This item proposes making certain amendments to the Board’s Rules of Procedure to comply with SB 707 that addresses remote participation connectivity compliance, as well as other changes required by state law.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Adopt a resolution entitled RESOLUTION AMENDING THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS that amends certain rules to comply with state laws (Attachment 1).

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego (County) prioritizes transparency and accessibility to improve public understanding of how the County operates and participation in shaping future priorities. These efforts towards accessibility are particularly important to reach those communities that have been previously disconnected from the County civic process. The County continues to ensure that the diverse voices of the community can be heard in an equitable and civilized manner, and as such, can provide input that is vital to a healthy democratic institution.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The analysis provides options for the Board to enhance stakeholder participation to plan for community engagement and identify meaningful ways to continually seek input to foster inclusive and sustainable communities.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with these recommendations. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

Noting for the record this item was heard on April 22, 2026; ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, adopting Resolution No. 26-025, entitled: RESOLUTION AMENDING THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

24. **SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS TO CONDUCT TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

On October 3, 2025, Governor Newsom signed Senate Bill (SB) 707 (Durazo), which created new requirements for local legislative bodies conducting meetings under the Brown Act. This item asks the Board of Supervisors (Board) to consider requests from County of San Diego

boards and commissions seeking authorization to conduct teleconference (hybrid) meetings in compliance with SB 707's updated meeting and accessibility standards.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Consider the requests from the Committee for Persons with Disabilities, Flood Control District Advisory Commission, Health Services Advisory Board, Jess Martin Park Advisory Committee, County Service Area 81 - Fallbrook Local Parks Advisory Committee, County Service Area 128 - San Miguel Local Park District Citizen Advisory Board, and the County Service Area 138 - Valley Center Park and Recreation Advisory Committee to conduct meetings via teleconference for the next six months and, if the Board agrees, approve those requests by making the following findings:

1. The Board of Supervisors has considered the circumstances of these Board, Commissions, and Committees and finds teleconference meetings appropriate.
2. Teleconference meetings will enhance public access. The public has been informed of the remote participation options, including audio-visual or telephonic access, and was provided an opportunity to comment at an in-person meeting authorizing remote participation.
3. Teleconference meetings will support recruitment, retention, and diversity of eligible members.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County prioritizes transparency and an accessible government to increase public understanding and participation. Teleconference options help reach community members who have previously experienced barriers to civic engagement, ensuring diverse voices are included in the County's decision-making process.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The analysis provides options for the Board to enhance stakeholder participation to plan for community engagement and identify meaningful ways to continually seek input to foster inclusive and sustainable communities.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with these recommendations. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

### **ACTION:**

Noting for the record this item was heard on April 22, 2026; ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions:

1. Approved the following groups to use teleconferencing as an eligible subsidiary body consistent with all Brown Act requirements:
  - i. Committee for Persons with Disabilities
  - ii. Flood Control District Advisory Commission
  - ii. Health Services Advisory Board

- iv. Jess Martin Park Advisory Committee
  - v. County Service Area 81 – Fallbrook Local Parks Advisory Committee
  - vi. County Service Area 128 – San Miguel Local Park District Citizen Advisory Board
  - vii. County Service Area 138 – Valley Center Park and Recreation Advisory Committee
2. Approved the findings for those groups as submitted.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

**25. SUBJECT: CLOSED SESSION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION  
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)  
People of the State of California v. Meta Platforms, Inc., et al.,  
Superior Court of County of Los Angeles No.: JCCP5255
- B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - INTITIATION OF LITIGATION  
Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph 4 of subdivision (d) of Government  
Code section 54956.9: (Number of Cases - 1)
- C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION  
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)  
Kenny v. San Dieguito Water District, et al.,  
San Diego Superior Court Case No.: 25CU018338N
- D. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION  
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)  
Kimberly S. Sheppard and Gary Sheppard v. County of San Diego, et al.;;  
San Diego Superior Court Case No.: 37-2024-00001631-CU-PA-NC
- E. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION  
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)  
Estate of Ian Mayes v. County of San Diego, et al.,  
San Diego Superior Court Case No.: 37-2022-00035289-CU-PA-CTL
- F. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION  
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)  
Cecilia Bach v. County of San Diego, et al., U.S. District Court for the Southern  
District of California Case No.: 3-24-CV-01687-W-BJW
- G. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION  
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)  
Donte Parker v. County of San Diego, et al.;;  
San Diego Superior Court Case No.: 24CU015087C

H. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION  
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)  
The Estate of Omar Moreno Arroyo v. County of San Diego, et al.; U.S. District  
Court for the Southern District of California Case No.: 21-CV-1956-RBM-SBC

**ACTION:**

The Board of Supervisors met in closed session on April 22, 2026, from 2:18 p.m. to 3:40 p.m. All five Board members were present for all items, except Chair Pro Tem Aguirre was only present for items B and C, and Supervisor Desmond was not present for items A, G, and H.

The Board took the following reportable actions:

On Item 25B, by a vote of 4-1, with Supervisor Desmond voting “No,” the Board authorized County Counsel to initiate litigation. Particulars about the litigation will be disclosed to any person upon inquiry, after litigation has formally commenced.

On Item 25H, Estate of Omar Moreno Arroyo v. County of San Diego, et al., the Board, by a vote of 3-0, authorized County Counsel to appeal the district court’s ruling on summary judgment denying qualified immunity to several County employees.

**26. SUBJECT: NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMUNICATION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

Michael Brando criticized the Board’s actions surrounding COVID 19 vaccines, past public health leadership, and proclaimed opposition to vaccination of children.

Carlos Donato, Policy Research Center for Tobacco and the Environment, spoke regarding tobacco product waste, including cigarette butts and filters as sources of toxic chemicals and microplastics in local waterways, and offered research support and materials to the County.

Mark discussed online videos alleging takeover of government by technology and corporate interests, expressed concern about AI data centers, energy costs, and global governance agendas, and urged residents to educate themselves and oppose perceived corporate control.

Cesar Javier raised concerns about air pollution, Tijuana River impacts, and perceived lack of action by County and Air Pollution Control District leadership, urging assistance or resignations from elected officials, and comparing local environmental harms to a humanitarian crisis.

Allegedly Audra criticized the County’s role in child welfare and juvenile dependency proceedings, alleged “child trafficking,” and objected to the Board issuing proclamations related to child abuse prevention while disputing County child protection practices.

Consuelo alleged an “abusive relationship” between government and residents, criticized proclamations and volunteer recognitions as performative, and asserted that government serves global agendas rather than constituents’ interests.

Paul the Bold referenced litigation by Voice of San Diego regarding whistleblower complaints, cited California constitutional and Public Records Act provisions, and urged the County to increase transparency and release records related to a former County contractor.

Kathleen Lippitt thanked Supervisors Anderson and Desmond and the District Attorney for comments on the Armenian genocide, discussed the dangers of tribalism, and expressed concern that identity based politics and tribal perspectives are affecting Board deliberations and public policy.

Barbara Gordon, referencing Addiction Policy Forum’s Cannabis Use Disorder Prevention and Awareness Week, discussed cannabis use disorder prevalence, health and social impacts, and urged the Board not to prioritize expansion of marijuana businesses over public health and safety.

Truth alleged misuse of a special events trust fund, raised concerns over gifts to supervisors’ offices, campaign related expenditures, and union funding, and asserted that various current and former County officials had engaged in unethical or corrupt conduct.

Henry O. discussed concerns of District Attorney Summer Stephan addressing the topic of genocide in Armenia.

**ACTION:**

Heard, Referred to the Chief Administrative Officer

The Board recessed at 6:10 p.m., in memory of Highway Workers Killed on Duty and Tom Curtis, until Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. for the remainder of the General Legislative Session and Land Use Legislative Session.

ANDREW POTTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of San Diego, State of California

Consent: Vizcarra  
Discussion: Zurita

NOTE: This Statement of Proceedings sets forth all actions taken by the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors on the matters stated, but not necessarily the chronological sequence in which the matters were taken up. Generative artificial intelligence (AI) was utilized to assist in drafting portions of the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes using the meeting’s audio recording. All content produced through AI assistance underwent human review to ensure accuracy.

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