

Santa Barbara LAFCO

Recommended Final 2025-2026 Santa Barbara LAFCO Budget

May 8, 2025

Background

- LAFCO is an independent commission established by the legislature to carry out specific duties and objectives. It is responsible for adopting its budget to fulfill the purposes described in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act.
- Government Code Section 56381 requires LAFCO, after conducting public hearings, to:
- Adopt a proposed budget for the next fiscal year not later than May 1. This is transmitted to the County, each city and each independent special district for their review and comment. The proposed budget was approved by the Commission on April 3, 2025
- Adopt the final budget for the next fiscal year by June 15.

Summary of Recommended Final Budget

- The recommended Final Budget is \$635,804 an increase of \$43,804 above the current year budget. This represents a 7.4 percent increase; Primary reasons are:
 - 1) CPI for staff,
 - 2) SBCERS Pension Rate increase and Professional and Special Services covering extra help compared to the current year's budget, and
 - 4) Recommended \$10,000 from contingency reserve be used to off-set member agency contributions as the Commission's reserve policy to fund unanticipated expenses such as litigation and other legal services, professional services, and other unexpected and other unbudgeted expenses will continue to be met.

Recommended Final 2025-26 LAFCO Budget

Proposed Budget Summary	Adjusted Budget 2023-2024	Proposed 2025-2026	Change
Salaries and Benefits	\$417,279	\$440,356	\$23,077
Services & Supplies	\$191,601	\$202,062	\$10,461
Other Charges	\$3,120	\$3,386	\$266
Total	\$612,000	\$645,804	\$33,804
Contingencies	-\$20,000	-\$10,000	-\$10,000
Total Appropriations	\$592,000	\$635,804	\$43,804
Revenues	\$592,000	\$635,804	\$43,804

SANTA BARBARA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
Operating Fund #5320, Santa Barbara LAFCO, Department # 815

RECOMMENDED FINAL 2025-2026 BUDGET - MAY 8, 2025

Final 5/8/2025

Account Name and Number	2024-25 Final Budget	As of 3/31/25	Projected Year-End	2025-26 Recommended Budget	Inc/Dec	% Inc/Dec
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REVENUES

Interest Income - 3380	3,000	6,219	10,431	6,000	3,000	100%
Unrealized Gain/Loss - 3381	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Other Gov't Agencies - 4840	560,000	559,921	559,921	603,704	43,704	7.8%
Planning Studies Service - 5738	20,000	31,880	34,630	20,000	0	0.0%
Misc. Revenue - 5909	9,000	1,920	6,441	6,100	-2,900	-32%
Total Revenues	592,000	599,940	611,423	635,804	43,804	7.4%

EXPENDITURES

Salaries and Benefits						
Commissioner Stipends - 6210	22,000	10,707	17,122	22,000	0	0%
Regular Salary - 6100	293,078	195,289	283,908	303,652	10,574	4%
FICA Contribution - 6500	15,826	12,107	18,872	19,130	3,304	21%
FICA/Medicare - 6550	6,448	3,088	4,660	6,680	232	4%
Retirement-Employer Contribution - 6400	25,581	16,800	25,581	29,104	3,523	14%
Retirement - Employee Contribution - 5771	25,581	16,800	25,581	29,104	3,523	14%
Unemployment Insurance - 6700	3,466	3,947	4,537	7,490	4,024	116%
Fed Unemploy Tax-Employer Cont - 6700	550	290	350	550	0	0%
Fixed Costs (\$):						
Health Plan/Contribution - 6600	33,680	25,336	36,427	35,100	1,420	4%
Life/Disability Insurance - 6610	3,000	1,976	2,965	3,000	0	0%
Def Comp - EO Employer - 6100	4,200	3,150	4,200	4,200	0	0%
Phone/Cash Allowance - 7811	2,450	1,624	2,436	2,450	0	0%
Auto Allowance - 7326	7,000	4,666	7,000	7,000	0	0%
Total Salaries and Benefits	417,279	278,980	408,058	440,356	23,077	6%

Account Name and Number	2024-25 Final Budget	As of 3/31/25	Projected Year-End	2025-26 Recommended Budget	Inc/Dec	% Inc/Dec
Services and Supplies						
Audit Fees - 7324	12,900	12,800	15,800	13,090	190	1%
Memberships - 7430	9,750	10,287	10,287	10,567	817	8%
Office Expense - 7450	1,500	445	625	1,500	0	0%
Equipment Maintenance - 7120	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Copier Expense - 7453	1,000	127	700	1,000	0	0%
Prof & Special Services - 7460	50,000	1,840	33,222	70,000	20,000	40%
ADP Payroll Fees - 7507	2,400	1,697	2,116	2,400	0	0%
Legal Services -7508	65,000	13,601	60,000	65,000	0	0%
Pubs & Legal Notices - 7530	3,000	1,836	2,232	3,000	0	0%
Postage - 7451	1,000	186	269	1,000	0	0%
Gen Fund Cost Allocation - 7669	19,051	10,225	19,051	8,505	-10,546	-55%
Training and Travel - 7732	26,000	14,839	22,512	26,000	0	0%
Total Services and Supplies	191,601	67,883	166,814	202,062	10,461	5%

Other Charges

Electricity – 7801	500	516	649	650	150	30%
Natural Gas – 7802	175	124	175	175	0	0%
Water – 7803	150	95	150	150	0	0%
Refuse – 7804	200	89	200	200	0	0%
Utility Services – 7806	100	25	100	100	0	0%
Liability Insurance – 6900	1,545	38	1,661	1,661	116	0%
Telephone Services - 7897	450	344	450	450	0	0%
Total Other Charges	3,120	1,231	3,385	3,386	266	9%

Contingency Reserve - 9600	-20,000		0	-10,000	0	0
Total Contingency Reserve	293,441		326,607	0	316,607	7.9%
Total Exp/Appropriations	592,000	348,094	578,257	635,804	43,804	7.4%
Net Financial Impact	0	251,846	33,166	0	0	0.0%

\$33,000 contingency is estimated to be added into reserves in FY 25/26. While \$10,000 of contingency will also be deducted from reserves off-setting a balance. The estimated contingency reserve balance will be \$316,000

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission:

- a) Review the Final Budget for FY 2025-2026, accept all public testimony and approve the Final Budget;
- b) Direct staff to distribute the approved Final Budget to Cities, Special Districts and the County as required by Government Code Section 56381; and
- c) Notify the County Auditor to proceed pursuant to Government Code Section 56381 (b) with apportionment of LAFCO costs among the County, Cities, and Special Districts.