

San Diego Newsline

Downtown San Diego news — the budget, public safety, business, and the civic life of America's Finest City

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COUNTY

County Supervisors Hear Financial Outlook for Upcoming Budget

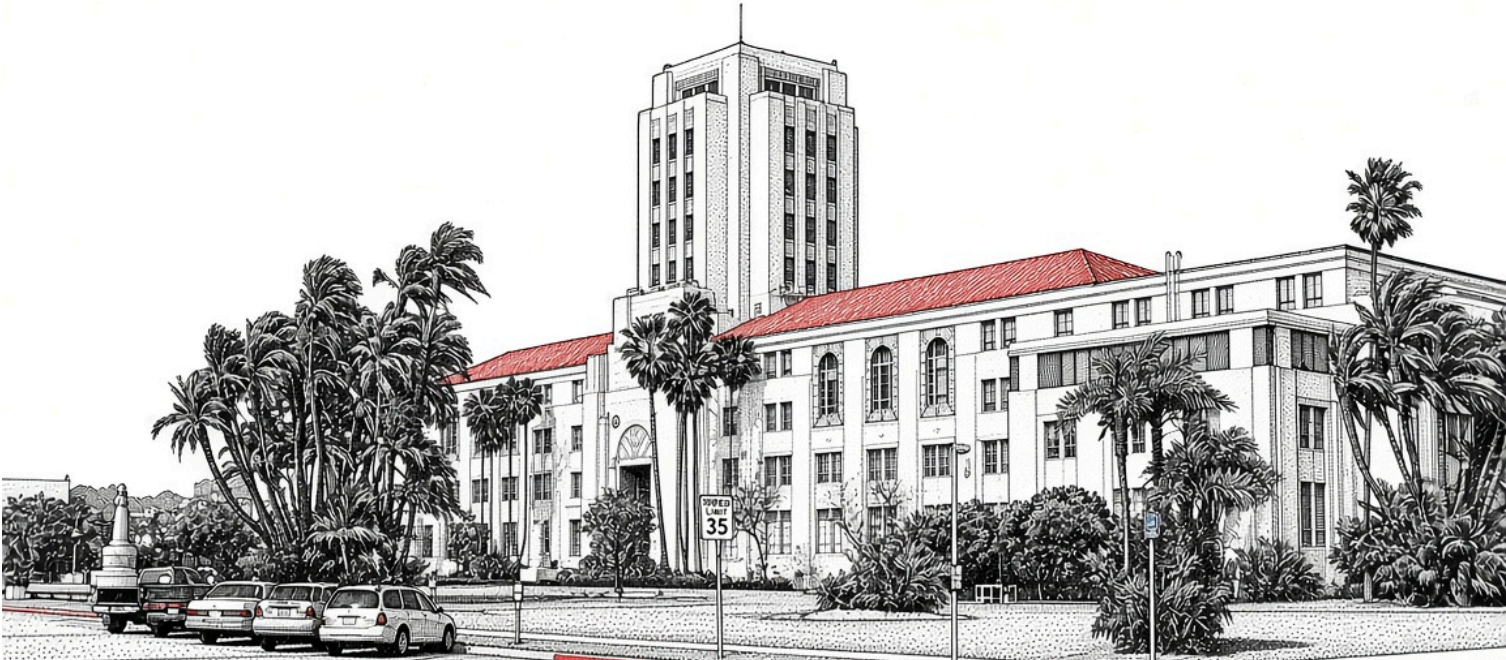


Illustration from a photo by Edward O'Connor (hober) · Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 2.0

Editor’s note: This story was updated May 22, 2025. The June 9 date for the budget public hearing meeting has been changed to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 3. The earlier budget hearing will take place that same day beginning at 9 a.m.

County financial experts provided an update on the County’s financial outlook at Tuesday’s Board of Supervisors meeting and set the stage for the upcoming budget that goes into effect on July 1.

The presentation gave insight into the challenges to balancing the coming fiscal year’s budget and strategies to manage them to ensure the community is supported. The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)’s recommended budget is released to the public on May 1.

“To release a balanced budget, we’ll have to make tough decisions now – choices that will result in changes to our level of services and cuts to existing contracts,” said CAO Ebony Shelton. “But we do not see this as just about balancing numbers – it’s about making tough choices today to ensure that the County can continue to invest in the future for our communities.”

A December snapshot of the budget projected a \$138.5 million ongoing funding gap for the 2025-26 fiscal year due in part to slowing sales tax revenue. The gap reflects escalating costs for existing programs as well as new funding requests.

To address the gap, County staff members are acting now to reduce costs, find efficiencies and streamline programs and services.

Funding for services that are mandated will be prioritized, while also continuing to respond to the region’s needs. The County is beginning to prepare for these impacts this fiscal year.

Staff is also working with the Board of Supervisors and the public to gather their input during the budget process.

The County funds many programs and services in the region, which has a large unincorporated area in addition to 18 incorporated cities and 18 federally recognized tribes.

In the unincorporated area, County government is responsible for the day-to-day things a city government would do—like law enforcement, roads, building permits, animal shelters and protection, along with parks and libraries. Some cities also contract with the County to provide these types of services.

County government also works to deliver many services that support the entire region. These include emergency preparedness; criminal prosecution and detention facilities; delivery of federal and state social service assistance within the region like access to food and financial support for vulnerable people; health programs including behavioral health services; food and restaurant inspections; elections and beach water monitoring.

Funds from other government agencies make up about half the County’s budget and must be used as directed. The other half comes

mostly from property taxes, fees for services and other sources. Some of these funds must be used in specific ways. The funds that remain are known as general purpose revenue, and that’s the portion the County can decide how to invest.

While general purpose revenue is increasing, so is the cost of doing business, and there are new requests for funding to support programs and other departmental operations.

The CAO wrapped up the presentation by commending staff for addressing community needs while implementing innovative solutions for the future.

County residents are encouraged to take part in the budget planning process. Visit Engage San Diego County to take a survey and to use a new tool to rank County budget priorities in order of importance to you.

The survey also asks how you’d like to stay informed about the budget process, by email, text or some other form of communication. The survey will be open through March 28.

The information from the survey will be considered along with community feedback gathered throughout the year as the County’s recommended budget is developed.

After the release of the recommended budget on May 1, people can share their thoughts online by submitting comments through June 12 on Engage San Diego

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DOWNTOWN, CITY & COUNTY

Courts · Transit · Public safety

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County Supervisors Hear Financial Outlook for Upcoming Budget County .

You can also share in-person at upcoming open houses, a virtual meeting, or by attending or calling into the Board of Supervisors public budget hearings on June 3. *(See Editor’s note at top of story about date change)

The Board’s budget deliberations and adoption take place on June 24.

Visit the Clerk of the Board’s website or call 619-531-5434 for information on Board of Supervisors meetings and to request translation services.

Visit the County’s budget website for additional details.

County of San Diego news release · Mar 12, 2025

COUNTY 29 Official Ballot Drop Boxes Open for District One Special Primary Election

Starting Tuesday, March 11, registered voters in the County of San Diego’s First Supervisorial District have the additional option of returning their mail ballot for the April 8 special primary election to any one of 29 official ballot drop boxes located around the district.

Mail ballots for the district’s 370,000 registered voters are expected to arrive this week. Some voters may have received theirs over the weekend.

The person elected will fill the district’s vacant seat for the remainder of the current term that ends in January 2029. If no candidate receives a majority vote at the April 8 election, the top two vote-getters will move on to the special general election on July 1. Only those who live in the district can vote in the election.

District 1 runs from the Pacific Ocean to the Otay and San Miguel mountains in the east, and from Barrio Logan in the north to the U.S./Mexico international border on the south. The district includes the cities of Chula Vista, Imperial Beach, National City, and some communities within the City of San Diego, including Barrio Logan, East Village, Golden Hill and more. It also includes the unincorporated areas of Bonita, East Otay Mesa, Lincoln Acres, Sunnyside and La Presa.

If you’re not sure if you reside in the County’s Supervisorial District 1, you can look it up at sdvote.com .

What do the Registrar’s official ballot drop boxes look like?

The Registrar’s official ballot drop boxes are red, white and blue and feature the Registrar’s logo along with the County seal. All boxes are labeled “Official Ballot Drop Box” and made from high grade, heavy gauge stainless steel.

Each official ballot drop box is designed to prevent physical damage and unauthorized access to mail ballots. The boxes feature double-locking access doors, anti-pry door jambs and other anti-theft construction measures. The Registrar’s ballot retrieval team is responsible for collecting ballots inside the box.

How do I return my ballot to an official ballot drop box?

Mark your ballot, seal your completed ballot inside your return envelope, date and sign your name on the return envelope, and return it in the mail or to one of the Registrar’s official ballot drop boxes around the district. Remember, your signature is required for your vote to count.

The Registrar’s 29 official ballot drop boxes are open 24 hours a day up until 8 p.m. on the final day of voting, April 8. Visit sdvote.com to check the location list or the locator map to find a location near you.

Early voting began Monday at the Registrar of Voters office located on the County Operations Center campus in Kearny Mesa. Hours run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Starting Saturday, March 29, District 1 voters can vote in person at any one of seven vote centers . They’ll be open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. until the final day of voting, Tuesday, April 8, when 13 vote centers will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

You can find a vote center or an official ballot drop box near you inside your voter information pamphlet, or you can look up your pamphlet online with the View Voter Information Pamphlet (Sample Ballot) tool at sdvote.com.

Learn more about voting in the District 1 special primary election at sdvote.com, or call (858) 565-5800 or toll free at (800) 696-0136.

County of San Diego news release · Mar 11, 2025

COUNTY

The Rain is Coming; Here are Driving Tips and Sandbag Locations

The rainy season is finally here in San Diego County, and National Weather Service officials say there could be heavy rains all around the region this week.

As always, the County and CAL FIRE are offering driving tips to everyone and free sandbags to residents and businesses in the unincorporated areas.

County emergency services and public works road crews say people should stay alert and take precautions and drive carefully on the roads and offered the following tips:

Avoid driving in heavy rain conditions but if the trip is necessary:

Slow down to avoid getting into an accident. It takes longer to stop when roads are wet. Allow yourself at least an extra 15 minutes or so to arrive at your destination to adjust for slower traffic.

Turn on your headlights to see better and make it easier for other drivers to see you. It’s the law.

Try to drive toward the middle lanes as water tends to gather in outside lanes.

Defog your windows for better visibility. Rain can cause windows to fog up. Along the same lines, check your windshield wipers preferably before it rains again and replace them as needed.

Avoid driving through deep water because it can affect your brakes. If you cannot avoid it, test your brakes afterward to make sure they’ve dried out and are working properly.

Turn around, don’t drown. In heavy rains, never drive through a flooded roadway if you cannot see the pavement. Even a few inches of water running at the right velocity can sweep a car, and even a truck, and its occupants off the roadway and downstream. You should not walk or swim across a flooded roadway either.

Give the cars in front of you extra distance. The spray from their vehicles — particularly from larger trucks and buses — can hamper your vision. And giving extra space to the guy in front of you also gives you more time to brake or adjust if you need to do so.

Keep calm, don’t oversteer or stomp on the brakes if you start to hydroplane or skid when your tires lose traction with the wet road. The Department of Motor Vehicles says keep the steering wheel straight and take your foot off the accelerator

so your vehicle can slow down slowly.

Stay focused. Remember, it’s illegal, and dangerous, to try to text or use a hand-held cell phone when you’re driving.

Slow down for the cone zone if you see highway or road workers ahead or to your side. Watch out for public works crews and equipment.

As they have in the past, the County and CAL FIRE are providing free bags and/or sand at numerous fire stations for people who live in the unincorporated areas.

Rain can cause flooding and erosion, particularly in areas that are not covered by plants, landscaping, grass and trees. Rain runoff can sweep topsoil, mud, plant material and debris off land and downstream where it can damage homes, clog culverts and storm drains, and flood and damage roadways.

Sand and bags, or bags alone, will be available for unincorporated residents at the fire stations located below.

People should call ahead to double-check availability and remember to bring a shovel to fill the bags. Some stations may have a limited supply.

Bonita: Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Station #38: 4900 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA 91902, P: 619-479-2346

Boulevard: Boulevard Fire Station #47: 40080 Ribbonwood Road, Boulevard, CA 91905, P: 619-390-2020

De Luz: De Luz Fire Station #16: 39431 De Luz Road, Fallbrook, CA 92028 P: 760-728-2422

Dulzura: Dulzura Fire Station #30: 17304 Highway 94, Dulzura, CA 91917, P: 619-468-3391

Fallbrook: Pala Mesa Fire Station #4, 4375 Pala Mesa Drive, Fallbrook, CA 92028, P: 760-723-2005

Julian: Julian-Cuyamaca: Fire Station #56, 3407 Hwy 79, Julian, CA 92036, P: 760-765-2885

Palomar Mountain: Palomar Mountain Fire Station #79, 21610 Crestline Road, Palomar Mtn., CA 92060, P: 760-742-3701

Potrero: Potrero Fire Station #31 25130 Highway 94, Potrero, CA 91963 P: 619-478-5544

Ramona: Ramona Fire Station #81, 24462 San Vicente Road, Ramona, CA 92065 P: 760-789-9465

Ramona: Ramona Fire Station #82, 3410 Dye Road, Ramona, CA 92065, P: 760-789-0107

Rincon: Rincon Fire Station #70: 16971 Highway 76,

Pauma Valley, CA 92061, P: 760-742-3243

Spring Valley: Spring Valley County Library Branch: 836 Kempton Street, Spring Valley, CA 91977

Valley Center: Valley Center Fire Station #2, 28205 N. Lake Wohlford Road, Valley Center, CA 92082, P: 760-751-7605

Warner Springs: Sunshine Summit Fire Station #59, 35227 Highway 79, Warner Springs, CA 92086, P: 760-782-9113

Alpine: Alpine Fire Station #17 1364 Tavern Road Alpine, CA 91901 P: 619-445-2635

Borrego Springs: Ocotillo Wells Fire Station #61 5841 Highway 78, Borrego Springs, CA 92004 P: 760-767-7430

Borrego Springs: Borrego Springs Station #60, 2324 Stirrup Road, Borrego Springs, CA 92004, P: 760-767-5436

Campo: Campo Fire Station #40 31577 Highway 94, Campo, CA 91906 P: 619-478-5516

Campo: Lake Morena Fire Station #42 29690 Oak Drive, Campo, CA 91906 P: 619-478-5960

Descanso: Descanso Fire Station #45 24592 Viejas Grade Road, Descanso, CA 91916 P: 619-445-7508

El Cajon: Harbison Canyon Fire Station #24 551 Harbison Canyon Road, El Cajon, CA 92019 P: 619-445-5001

Escondido: Miller Fire Station #15 9127 W. Lilac Road, Escondido, CA 92025 P: 760-728-8532

Flinn Springs: Flinn Springs Fire Station#21 9711 Flynn Springs Road, El Cajon, CA 92021 P: 619-443-7121

Jacumba: Jacumba Fire Station #43 1255 Jacumba St., Jacumba, CA 91934 P: 619-766-4535

Jamul: Deerhorn Fire Station #37 2383 Honeysprings Road, Jamul, CA 91935 P: 619-468-3030

Julian: Shelter Valley Fire Station #62, 7260 Great Southern Overland, Julian, CA 92036 P: 760-765-0155

Laguna: Mt. Laguna Fire Station #49 33947 Mt. Laguna Drive, Mt Laguna, CA 91948 P: 619-473-8281

Pine Valley: Pine Valley Fire Station #44 28850 Old Highway 80, Pine Valley, CA 91962 P: 619-578-6621

Ranchita: Ranchita Fire Station #58 37370 Montezuma Valley Road, Ranchita, CA 92066 P: 760-782-3467

Ramona: Intermountain Fire Station #85, 25858 Highway 78, Ramona, CA 92065 P: 760-789-3710

San Pasqual: San Pasqual Fire Station #84 17701 San

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DOWNTOWN, CITY & COUNTY (CONTINUED)

Courts · Transit · Public safety

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The Rain is Coming; Here are Driving Tips and Sandbag Locations

Pasqual Valley Road, Escondido, CA 92025 P: 760-480-9924

Warner Springs: Warner Springs Fire Station #52 31049 Highway 79, Warner Springs, CA 92086 P: 760-782-3560

Residents are encouraged to visit AlertSanDiego.org for information on what to do during an emergency.

County of San Diego news release · Mar 10, 2025

BUSINESS

San Diego commerce & the regional economy



Illustration from a photo by Adbar · Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 3.0

BUSINESS

From the Desk of Veronica Perondi – March 2025

2025 is flying by and we’re already rounding out the first quarter of the year.

As I reflect on the recent Influence program, it provided me unique opportunity to witness the power of different perspectives coming together, breaking silos, and fostering connection. Being part of the conversations, hearing from the leaders who are navigating both the challenges and opportunities and connecting with others who can help be part of the solution is what LEAD is about. Our collective potential is limitless when we connect and learn from one another.

I’ve been reading Good Power by Ginny Rometty, and many of her insights have deeply resonated with me. She writes about how leaders can use their power for good, driving meaningful change not just for themselves or their organizations, but for the many. A key takeaway for

me is the emphasis on learning, how a willingness to develop new skills at every stage of life is invaluable. This growth mindset is essential for leaders who aim to make a lasting impact.

Another idea Ginny shares, that I believe, is the understanding that positive change is rarely achieved alone. Trying to effect meaningful progress requires collaboration. We need others, diverse voices, experiences, and talents, to bring about the positive outcomes we seek. This belief is at the heart of what LEAD San Diego offers. Our programs provide opportunities to connect, learn, and gain a competitive advantage by stepping outside of the silos we can so easily find ourselves in.

Community leadership programs like LEAD help individuals harness their own “good power” by connecting with others who share a drive for continuous learning and positive change. Together, we create networks that not only advance careers but also strengthen our region through shared knowledge, collaboration, and understanding.

With that in mind, I’m excited to share that nominations for the 2025 Visionary Awards are now open ! The Visionary Awards recognize individuals whose leadership helps others see the world in

broader and more creative ways. To me, being a visionary leader means supporting others to envision possibilities they may not have seen on their own. It’s about encouraging innovative thinking, embracing diverse ideas, and connecting people and resources to create real, positive change.

I encourage you to think about the visionary leaders in your own networks. Who inspires you to see the world differently? Who is driving change that benefits many? Let’s celebrate those who are using their leadership and power for good, those who remind us that leadership is ultimately about lifting others and creating a community where everyone can thrive.

San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce news release · Mar 10, 2025

BUSINESS

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San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce news release · Mar 5, 2025

COMMENTARY

Opinion — the views of the writers named, not news reporting

COMMENTARY

Desalination at Scale Can Compete on Cost With Other Major Water Projects, Argues California Policy Center

Edward Ring contends that regulatory ideology, not economics or environmental concerns, killed California's Huntington Beach desalination proposal and is blocking water security.

The California Coastal Commission’s unanimous rejection in May 2022 of a privately financed desalination plant proposed for Huntington Beach has likely ended serious efforts to build large seawater desalination facilities along the state’s coast, according to the California Policy Center.

The project would have produced 56,000 acre-feet of fresh water annually. Its developer endured roughly two

decades and about \$100 million in regulatory reviews, litigation and agency hurdles before the final denial, the Center writes. Edward Ring, the Center’s director of water and energy policy, argues that the reasons for opposition have little to do with actual cost, energy use or environmental impact.

Instead, Ring writes, “regulations, driven by ideology instead of facts, killed desalination.” He notes that critics often highlight the expense of desalination, particularly for agriculture, but says the comparison matters.

Because most long-term water-project expenses involve repaying construction bonds, Ring proposes measuring cost-effectiveness by dividing total capital cost by projected annual water yield. Using that metric, he says, desalination looks competitive.

The Delta Tunnel, with an

estimated \$30 billion price tag and a projected annual yield of 500,000 acre-feet, works out to \$60,000 per acre-foot of yearly supply, according to the Center. Even if the tunnel delivered twice that volume without reducing existing Delta pumping, the figure would still be \$30,000 per acre-foot.

Similarly, the long-proposed Temperance Flat Reservoir, approved by voters but unlikely to be built, carries a \$3 billion estimated cost. With a storage capacity of 1.3 million acre-feet but an annual yield estimated at no more than 100,000 acre-feet, it also equates to about \$30,000 per acre-foot, Ring calculates.

By contrast, the Huntington Beach plant was projected to cost \$1.5 billion while producing 56,000 acre-feet per year, resulting in roughly \$26,786 per acre-foot of annual yield, the Center

reports. “We need the tunnel. We also need Temperance Flat, we need desalination plants, and multiple additional projects,” Ring writes, “because to have water security, we need multiple sources of water.”

Ring acknowledges that California’s regulatory and legal climate has driven up costs across all these options. On the energy side, he points out that consumption for reverse-osmosis desalination continues to decline. The operating Carlsbad plant uses about 3,500 kilowatt-hours per acre-foot. New approaches, such as Ocean Well’s deep-sea hydrostatic-pressure method, claim they can reach 2,500 kilowatt-hours, while the theoretical minimum sits near 1,200.

If modular desalination plants were built along the coast and produced 1 million acre-feet per year at Carlsbad’s efficiency, the

added electricity demand would total 3,500 gigawatt-hours annually, according to the Center. That represents barely more than 1 percent of California’s current nearly 300,000 gigawatt-hours of yearly electricity consumption.

Ring argues that future construction expenses can fall through automation and improved technology, and that litigation and excessive regulation—not labor—are the main cost drivers. He also calls for lower electricity prices, which he says could be achieved by keeping natural-gas plants operating at full capacity alongside renewables, fulfilling promises to power more electric vehicles and attract artificial-intelligence data centers.

Desalination is already transforming economies worldwide, the Center observes. California’s

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COMMENTARY (CONTINUED)

Opinion — the views of the writers named, not news reporting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Desalination at Scale Can Compete on Cost With Other Major Water Projects, Argues California Policy Center

ideological reluctance to embrace it at scale, Ring concludes, represents “a huge missed opportunity.”

San Diego Newsline · Based on commentary published by the California Policy Center · Mar 12, 2025

ABOUT THIS PAPER

San Diego Newsline covers downtown San Diego first — City Hall, the Gaslamp Quarter, East Village, Little Italy, Barrio Logan and the waterfront — and the county

around it. Every item names its source; read the originals and our standards at sandiegonewsline.com.

MORE NEWS

Downtown, City & County

COUNTY

Ballots Go Out to Registered Voters for District One Special Primary Election

Over 370,000 ballots are on their way to registered voters in the County of San Diego’s First Supervisorial District for the April 8 special primary election .

Registered voters should receive their ballot the week of Monday, March 10. Some voters may receive theirs this weekend. The official ballot packet will also include an “I Voted” sticker.

The person elected will fill the district’s vacant seat for the remainder of the current term that ends in January 2029. If no candidate receives a majority vote at the April 8 election, the top two vote-getters will move on to the special general election on July 1. Only those who live in the district can vote in the election.

District 1 runs from the Pacific Ocean to the Otay and San Miguel mountains in the east, and from Barrio Logan in the north to the U.S./Mexico international border on the south. The district includes the cities of Chula Vista, Imperial Beach, National City, and some communities within the City of San Diego, including Barrio Logan, East Village, Golden Hill and more. It also includes the unincorporated areas of Bonita, East Otay Mesa, Lincoln Acres, Sunnyside and La Presa.

If you’re not sure if you reside in District 1, you can look it up at sdvote.com .

Early voting begins Monday, March 10 at the Registrar of Voters office in Kearny Mesa . Hours run 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. However, the Registrar encourages voters to take advantage of the convenience of voting by mail.

You can vote from home and return your ballot through the mail – no postage needed – or to any of the

Registrar’s official ballot drop boxes around the district starting Tuesday, March 11 through the final day of voting Tuesday, April 8.

Remember to sign and date your return ballot envelope. You must sign your return envelope for your vote to be counted.

Voters who return their ballot through the U.S. Postal Service can track it by signing up for “ Where’s My Ballot? ”.

Additional options to vote in person will begin Saturday, March 29, with the opening of seven vote centers . They will be open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. until the final day of voting, Tuesday, April 8, when 13 vote centers will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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County of San Diego news release · Mar 7, 2025

COUNTY

Help Shape the County’s Budget

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The County wants your input on the budget for the upcoming fiscal year, which starts on July 1.

There are many ways to participate in the budget process. Start now by visiting Engage San Diego County to take a survey and to use a new tool to rank County budget priorities in order of

importance to you.

The survey also asks how you’d like to stay informed about the budget process, by email, text or some other form of communication. The survey will be open through March 28.

The information from the survey will be considered along with community feedback gathered throughout the year as the County’s recommended budget is developed. Other considerations include things like program and service delivery data, available resources, the local economy and availability of state and federal funding.

The recommended budget for fiscal year 2025-26 will be released to the public on May 1. The County budget in the current fiscal year totals \$8.53 billion.

The County funds many programs and services in the region, which has a large unincorporated area in addition to 18 incorporated cities and 18 federally recognized tribes.

In the unincorporated area, County government is responsible for the day-to-day things a city government would do, like law enforcement, roads, building permits, animal shelters and protection, along with parks and libraries. Some cities also contract with the County to provide these types of services.

County government provides many services that support the entire region to keep people safe and healthy. These include emergency preparedness; criminal prosecution and detention facilities; delivery of federal and state social service assistance within the region, access to food and housing for vulnerable people; health programs including behavioral health services; food and restaurant inspections; elections and beach water monitoring.

Funds from other government agencies make up about half the County’s budget and

must be used as directed. The other half comes mostly from property taxes, fees for services and other sources. Some of these funds must still be used in specific ways, and the County can decide how to invest the remaining portion to support the community. Those decisions are more challenging this year due to rising costs, uncertainty at the state and federal levels and other factors.

After the release of the recommended budget on May 1, people can share their thoughts online by submitting comments through June 12 on Engage San Diego County .

You can also share in-person at upcoming community meetings, or by attending or calling into the Board of Supervisors public budget hearings on June 3. *(See Editor’s note at top of story about date change)

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Visit the Clerk of the Board’s website or call 619-531-5434 for information on Board of Supervisors meetings and to request translation services.

Visit the County’s budget website for additional details.

County of San Diego news release · Mar 7, 2025

COUNTY

Asst. DA Honored with Prestigious ABA Award

The American Bar Association (ABA) awarded its prestigious Curtin-Maleng Award to Assistant District Attorney Dwain Woodley for his work as a prosecutor in seeking justice for his clients.

Woodley recently accepted the award at ceremony during an ABA spring meeting in Miami, Fla. The Curtin-Maleng Award is given to prosecutors who embody the principles in the ABA Standards for Criminal Justice, Prosecution Function, particularly “to seek justice, not merely to convict.”

“Assistant District Attorney Dwain Woodley epitomizes the principles of integrity that every prosecutor should aspire to,” District Attorney Summer Stephan said. “He treats everyone with dignity and respect, leads with the clarity of purpose that justice demands and gives voice to the people of San Diego County. He has worked tirelessly to deliver fair and equal justice for all, protect victims of crime, build trust with the public and develop direct access to our office for all the communities we serve.”

“I am proud to work alongside ADA Woodley to lead the fifth largest District Attorney’s Office in the nation and continue to build a model prosecutor’s office that balances the rights of victims, the rights of the accused and the right of the community to be safe,” Stephan said.

The assistant district attorney’s work exemplifies the three important prosecutor obligations: to protect the innocent as well as to convict the guilty; to guard the rights of the accused as well as enforce the rights of the public; and to commit to unwavering legal and ethical standards.

Woodley served honorably as a public defender and prosecutor in the U.S. Navy’s Judge Advocate General’s Corps from 1989 to 1995. He joined the County’s Public Defender’s Office first, then the DA’s Office as a deputy district attorney in 2001. In 2021, he was selected as the Assistant District Attorney. Woodley helped develop and lead the DA’s Community Partnership Prosecutors program that has very successfully connected the public with much needed services around domestic violence, child abuse, and hate crime. He also works the advocacy organization, For the People , on reviewing cases that might qualify for prosecutor-initiated resentencings.

County of San Diego news release · Mar 12, 2025

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