

Santa Barbara LAFCO

Proposed 2026-2027 Santa Barbara LAFCO Budget

April 2, 2026

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.
- •Adopt the final budget for the next fiscal year by June 15.

Summary of Proposed Budget

- The recommended Proposed Budget is \$680,280 an increase of \$44,476 above the current year budget. The main reasons for this increase are:
- 1) 3.6% CPI for EO; Mid-year Senior/Analyst & Clerk/Analyst positions filled increase by \$13%
- 2) The General Fund Cost Allocation (CAP) increased by \$101% compared to the current year's budget, and
- 3) Pension contribution rate increase to 11.75% (up from 10.64)
- 3) It is recommended \$25,000 from contingency reserve be used to off-set member agency contributions as the Commission's reserve policy to fund unanticipated expenses. It is also recommended to increase reserve policy up to 70%. Any year-end fund balance will also be added to reserves.

Proposed 2026-27 LAFCO Budget

Proposed Budget Summary	Adjusted Budget 2025-2026	Proposed 2026-2027	Change
Salaries and Benefits	\$440,356	\$503,161	\$62,805
Services & Supplies	\$202,062	\$198,733	-\$3,329
Other Charges	\$3,386	\$3,386	\$0
Total	\$645,804	\$705,280	\$53,823
Contingencies	-\$10,000	-\$25,000	\$15,000
Total Appropriations	\$635,804	\$680,280	\$44,476
Revenues	\$635,804	\$680,280	\$44,476

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission:

- a) Review the Proposed Budget for FY 2026-2027, accept all public testimony and approve the Proposed Budget as presented;
- b) Direct staff to distribute the approved Proposed Budget to Cities, Special Districts and the County as required by Government Code Section 56381; and
- c) Schedule a public hearing for May 7, 2026 to consider and adopt the Final Budget.