

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

May 5, 2026

FROM

LUTHER SNOKE, Chief Executive Officer, County Administrative Office

SUBJECT

2026-27 Budget Financial Update

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. Receive presentation detailing the County's current financial status in advance of the 2026-27 Recommended Budget Hearing and Adoption.
2. Direct staff to include the following use of \$25,000,000 from the County General Fund Liability Reserve in the 2026–27 Recommended Budget to address law enforcement liability fund pressures and contract city cost increases:
 - a. Allocate \$20,000,000 to begin addressing the funding gap between current liability fund levels and the County's 80% actuarial confidence level target.
 - b. Allocate \$5,000,000 to provide a one-time subsidy covering 50% of the contract cities' premium increase for law enforcement services.

(Presenter: Matthew Erickson, County Chief Financial Officer, 387-4811)

COUNTY AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Promote and Fulfill the Countywide Vision.

Improve County Government Operations.

Operate in a Fiscally-Responsible and Business-Like Manner.

Provide for the Safety, Health and Social Service Needs of County Residents.

Enhance Readiness for Major Emergency Responses.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Approval of this item will direct staff to utilize \$25,000,000 from the County General Fund Liability Reserve in the 2026–27 budget. Of this amount, \$20,000,000 will be applied toward increasing the funding level of the County's law enforcement liability program to better align with the 80% actuarial confidence level target, and \$5,000,000 will be used to provide a one-time subsidy to contract cities to offset 50% of their premium increases.

This is a one-time use of reserves and does not establish an ongoing funding commitment. Adequate appropriation will be included in the 2026–27 Recommended Budget.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The County Administrative Office will present and discuss the County's current financial status, 2026-27 funding priorities, and the next steps in the 2026-27 Budget process, in advance of the 2026-27 Recommended Budget Hearing and Adoption, scheduled for June 9, 2026. As part of this discussion, approval of this item will provide a one-time allocation of \$25,000,000 from the

**2026-27 Budget Financial Update
May 5, 2026**

County General Fund Liability Reserve resources to address increasing financial pressures associated with the County's law enforcement liability program and rising contract city costs.

PROCUREMENT

Not applicable.

REVIEW BY OTHERS

This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Julie Surber, Principal Assistant County Counsel, 387-5455) on April 9, 2026; and County Finance and Administration (Paloma Hernandez-Barker, Deputy Executive Officer, 387-4883) on April 8, 2026.

**2026-27 Budget Financial Update
May 5, 2026**

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors
San Bernardino County

Public Comment: None

APPROVED

Moved: Joe Baca, Jr. Seconded: Curt Hagman

Ayes: Col. Paul Cook (Ret.), Jesse Armendarez, Dawn Rowe, Curt Hagman, Joe Baca, Jr.

Lynna Monell, CLERK OF THE BOARD

BY 
DATED: May 5, 2026



cc: File - Administrative Office w/ attachment

JLL 05/7/2026