CITIZENS’ GUIDE TO FY 2024-25 BUDGET

OUR COMMUNITY. OUR COMMITMENT.

“Making Orange County a safe, healthy, and fulfilling place to live, work, and play, today and for generations to come...”
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BUDGET CALENDAR 32
The County’s budget development begins with the Strategic Financial Plan (SFP), an annual strategic financial planning process that includes a five-year revenue and expense forecast as well as identification of strategic priorities and emerging initiatives. The SFP provides a framework for testing budget assumptions and aligning available resources with operating requirements, implementing new programs and facilities; and serves as the foundation for the development of the upcoming fiscal year budget. Additionally, the SFP includes capital and information technology project proposals facilitating early evaluation of project viability and economic feasibility. This framework enables the Board of Supervisors (Board) to make annual funding decisions within the context of a comprehensive, long-term perspective. The SFP emphasizes that the County must ensure its resources and programs are aligned with Countywide strategic priorities and values.

BOARD-APPROVED PRIORITIES
The Board adopted long-term strategic priorities in 2012 and reaffirmed them in 2015. The priorities provide a framework and serve as the basis for budget recommendations, and include:

- **Stabilize the Budget**: The County shall adopt a balanced budget, wherein planned expenses do not exceed the amount of revenue or funding available, in accordance with State law. The budget will realistically reflect the funds available to County departments and programs and how those funds will be spent.

- **Prepare for Contingencies**: The County shall prepare a budget with adequate reserves to cover unanticipated and severe economic downturns, major emergencies or catastrophes that cannot be covered with existing appropriations.

- **Address and Fund Agency Infrastructure**: The County shall prepare a budget providing suitable funding for agency infrastructure and ensuring that high quality services are delivered to the community. The budget will assess the best use of County general and special funds (e.g. OC Road, OC Flood, OC Parks) in developing capital assets while maintaining long-term financial stability.
BUDGET PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
Citizens’ Guide to the County’s Seven Program Areas

PROGRAM I - Public Protection
- District Attorney - Public Administrator*
- Office of Independent Review
- Probation
- Public Defender
- OC Sheriff’s Department*

PROGRAM II - Community Services
- OC Community Resources
- Child Support Services
- Health Care Agency
- Social Services Agency

PROGRAM III - Infrastructure & Environmental
- OC Public Works
- John Wayne Airport
- OC Waste & Recycling

PROGRAM IV - General Government Services
- Assessor*
- Auditor-Controller*
- Board of Supervisors*
- Clerk of the Board
- County Executive Office
- County Counsel
- Registrar of Voters
- OC Campaign Finance and Ethics
- Clerk-Recorder*
- Treasurer-Tax Collector*
- Internal Audit

PROGRAM V - Capital Improvements
Provides funding for County facilities, capital and major maintenance projects and information technology projects.

PROGRAM VI - Debt Service
Provides funding for scheduled interest and principal payments on most of the County’s bonds and notes, except John Wayne Airport bonds, which are budgeted in Program III.

PROGRAM VII - Insurance, Reserves & Miscellaneous
Includes Employee Benefits, Workers’ Compensation, Property & Casualty Risk, OC Information Technology and OC Fleet Internal Service Funds and appropriations for countywide contingencies.
BUDGET PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

The County's budget process begins in the summer of each year with the SFP which is typically presented to the Board in December. In January, the County Budget and Finance Office (CBFO) begins the budget development process, with the compiled and balanced budget presented to the Board in mid-June during the Public Budget Hearings. Subsequently, in late June, the Board adopts the budget on a simple majority vote. CBFO and department budget staff monitor actual revenues and expenses during the year and report to the Board periodically. Changes increasing budget appropriations may be submitted in the County's mid-year budget reports. Changes may include increases or decreases to appropriations or positions or both, to reflect new assumptions or address unforeseen events and technical adjustments to reconcile to final state or federal budgets. A detailed budget calendar can be found on pages 32-33 of this document.
The County’s budget development process begins in January when the CBFO issues budget policies and detailed instructions for County departments including a calendar establishing completion dates for key budget development events.

The CBFO, in coordination with the County Auditor-Controller’s Office, establishes the level of non-departmental, Countywide revenues projected to be available to the County. County departments prepare budget requests and submit them in early March to the CBFO. The County Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and CBFO staff meet with departments to discuss the requests. After extensive review and collaboration, including recommendations provided by the CFO and CEO, the budget is then compiled, balanced and undergoes a final review by the CBFO, CFO and CEO before the Recommended Budget is published.

In May, the CBFO plans and conducts briefing sessions for the Board staff members and the CEO and CFO conduct individual briefings with Board members. During the Public Hearings in early June, the CEO presents the budget, and the Board casts straw votes and provides direction. Subsequently, prior to the end of June, the Board adopts the budget on a simple majority vote. The adopted budget becomes the spending plan and spending limit for County departments.

The Recommended Budget serves as the County’s baseline budget and excludes requests from departments for additional resources, known as augmentations, to either maintain or expand current levels of service; these requests are included under separate cover in the budget augmentation requests document. The annual budget reflects Board-approved augmentations. For additional information related to augmentations, please refer to page 22-23 of this document.

The budget calendar can be found on pages 32-33 of this document. Additional budget information and glossary can be found in the budget books on the County’s website: https://cfo.ocgov.com/budget
General Purpose Revenue (GPR) provides what is referred to as discretionary funding or Net County Cost (NCC). Departments receive NCC allocations, approved by the Board, for programs and activities which are not funded by specific, dedicated revenue streams.

While GPR does not have the specific limitations associated with the dedicated and non-discretionary revenue sources, the County uses GPR to meet its mandated services requirements that are not fulfilled by the state and federal governments such as match requirements for Community Services programs and operational expenses of the Public Protection and General Government Services departments. Mandated services account for 89% of NCC, with the remaining 11% allocated to non-mandated services.

Property taxes are the largest and most important source of GPR. As of April 2024, property taxes were forecasted to account for almost 93% of all GPR. Of particular note, Orange County receives the lowest property tax revenue allocation (5%) of all 58 counties in California.

**Orange County**

- **62%** Schools
- **11%** Cities
- **5%** County
- **12%** Special Districts
- **10%** Redevelopment Funds

**State Average**

- **55%** Schools
- **12%** Cities
- **14%** County
- **8%** Special Districts
- **11%** Redevelopment Funds

**ORANGE COUNTY RECEIVES THE LOWEST PROPERTY TAX REVENUE ALLOCATION OF ALL 58 COUNTIES**

Assembly Bill 8 (1979) set the property tax allocation formula for each California County. Since that time the County’s population has nearly doubled from 1.8 million to 3.2 million with no change to the County’s property tax allocation proportion.
TOTAL ORANGE COUNTY BUDGET
$9.5 BILLION

*FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget

- DEDICATED REVENUE $4.7B
- GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE $1.1B
- OTHER GENERAL FUND $3.7B

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This revenue source is dedicated to the County’s various enterprise, internal service, and special districts budgets and may only be used for these purposes. Examples include:

- John Wayne Airport
- OC Waste & Recycling
- OC Road
- OC Flood
- OC Library
- OC Parks
- Internal Service Funds
- Community Facilities Districts

*FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget
Dedicated Revenue Uses

DEDICATED REVENUE $4.7B

- Community Services: 24%
- Infrastructure & Environmental Resources: 34%
- Public Protection: 4%
- General Government Services: 6%
- Insurance, Reserves & Miscellaneous: 13%
- Debt Service: 4%
- Capital Improvements: 15%

*FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget

© COUNTY OF ORANGE 2024-2025
Other General Fund – Non-Discretionary Revenue

The County receives this category of non-discretionary revenue, primarily in Community Services departments, for administration of state and federal government programs and services that may only be used for these purposes. Examples include:

- State & Federal Programs:
  - Social Services Agency
  - Health Care Agency
  - Child Support Services

- City Contracts
- Grants

*FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget
Other General Fund Uses

Community Services: 64%

Infrastructure & Environmental Resources: 3%

General Government Services: 3%

Insurance, Reserves & Miscellaneous: 2%

Debt Service: 0.1%

Public Protection: 28%

OTHER GENERAL FUNDS

*$FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget

© COUNTY OF ORANGE 2024-2025
The County uses this discretionary funding source to meet its mandated service requirements that are not fulfilled by the state and federal governments such as match requirements for Community Services programs and operational expenses of the Public Protection and General Government Services departments. GPR includes:

- Property Taxes (93% of total GPR)
- Sales & Other Taxes
- Motor Vehicle License Fees
- Property Tax Administration Fees
- Franchises and Rents
- Interest Earnings
- Miscellaneous Revenue

Note: These revenues exclude transfers in, fund balance unassigned, and use of reserves. For additional budget information and glossary please refer to the budget books found on the County’s website: https://cfo.ocgov.com/budget

*FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget
General Purpose Revenue Uses

- **Public Protection**: 51%
- **Community Services**: 17%
- **General Government Services**: 15%
- **Infrastructure & Environmental Resources**: 3%
- **Insurance, Reserves & Miscellaneous**: 13%
- **Capital Improvements**: 1%
- **Debt Service**: 0.01%

*FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget*
How much of the GPR allocation does Public Protection use for Mandated & Non-Mandated Services?

PUBLIC PROTECTION NET COUNTY COST
$570.7M

MANDATED 99%
NON-MANDATED 1%

*FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>MANDATED</th>
<th>NON-MANDATED</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District Attorney</td>
<td>$ 75.3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$75.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Independent Review</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probation</td>
<td>105.1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>105.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Defender</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>94.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OC Sheriff's Department</td>
<td>238.2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>238.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| County Executive Office Administered Budgets | 55.4 | 1.2 | 56.6
| **TOTAL**                        | **$568.0** | **$2.7**     | **$570.7** |
How much of the GPR allocation does Community Services use for Mandated & Non-Mandated Services?

**COMMUNITY SERVICES NET COUNTY COST $190.2M**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>MANDATED</th>
<th>NON-MANDATED</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OC Community Resources</td>
<td>$ 4.0</td>
<td>$ 3.3</td>
<td>$ 7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Support Services</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care Agency</td>
<td>99.1</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>103.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Services Agency</td>
<td>79.0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>79.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Executive Office Administered Budgets</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$182.1</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8.1</strong></td>
<td><strong>$190.2</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget*
How much of the GPR allocation does **Infrastructure & Environmental Resources** use for Mandated & Non-Mandated Services?

**INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES**

**NET COUNTY COST**

$36.9M

*FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>MANDATED (IN MILLIONS)</th>
<th>NON-MANDATED (IN MILLIONS)</th>
<th>TOTAL (IN MILLIONS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OC Public Works</td>
<td>$2.2</td>
<td>$34.7</td>
<td>$36.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Wayne Airport</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OC Waste &amp; Recycling</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Executive Office Administered Budgets</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>$2.2</td>
<td>$34.7</td>
<td>$36.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How much of the GPR allocation does General Government Services use for Mandated & Non-Mandated Services?

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES NET COUNTY COST**

$167.9M

**MANDATED** 77%

**NON-MANDATED** 23%

*FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>MANDATED</th>
<th>NON-MANDATED</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(IN MILLIONS)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessor</td>
<td>$45.4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$45.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auditor-Controller</td>
<td>26.2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>27.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board of Supervisors</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clerk of the Board</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Executive Office</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>29.8</td>
<td>43.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Counsel</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registrar of Voters</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OC Campaign Finance &amp; Ethics Commission</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerk-Recorder</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer-Tax Collector</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Audit</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>$129.1</td>
<td>$38.8</td>
<td>$167.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AVAILABLE FUNDING VS. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS

NCC Limits, established at the beginning of the SFP and budget process, are set for ongoing baseline operations (current levels of service).

Departments submit Restore Level of Service requests when the assigned NCC Limit is insufficient to maintain current service levels. The NCC Limits plus restore level of service requests is the projected funding required to keep current operations and staffing.

Departments submit Expand Level of Service requests for resources above and beyond current funding and staffing levels which may involve new mandates related to existing services, increasing workloads in existing programs or proposals for new services.

The County’s GPR comprise the available funding, also known as discretionary funds, which is the main funding source for the departments’ NCC.

The variance between the County’s GPR and department requests, demonstrates either overages or shortfalls in funding availability for departmental operations.

Ongoing Operating Costs are increasing beyond GPR growth. In the event there is no or insufficient GPR growth, restore and expand requests are either not funded or met by shifting discretionary funds between program areas, which could negatively impact some programs or services.

FY 2024-25 AVAILABLE FUNDING
TOTAL: $1.1B
ONGOING GPR: $1,120M
ONE-TIME: $38M

FY 2024-25
DEPARTMENT REQUESTS
TOTAL: $1.1B
NCC LIMITS: $993M
RESTORE AUGMENTATION: $132M
EXPAND AUGMENTATION: $19M
Unexpected shifts in economic conditions could cause the gaps between available sources and net baseline uses to narrow or invert. The $14M variance between $1,144M in uses and $1,158M in sources are one-time funds for contingency in the event revenues are lower than projected to cover unanticipated requests or costs mid-year. Actual proposed reductions in the FY 2024-25 budget to meet NCC limits total $132M compared to $95M identified in the 2023 SFP. In addition, through the FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget the County continues its commitment to maintaining essential mandated services to the community and aligning discretionary projects and service delivery levels within available funding. For additional information, please refer to the FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget, which can be found on the County’s website: https://cfo.ocgov.com/budget

**MAINTAIN CURRENT SERVICES**

USES are department requests for resources to sustain current operations and staffing. The $1,125M includes $993M NCC limits plus $132M in restore augmentations. SOURCES include $1,120M ongoing GPR and $38M one-time funding.

**EXPAND SERVICES**

USES are the $1,125M to maintain current service levels and $19M of department requests for resources above and beyond current funding and staffing levels which may involve new mandates related to existing services, increasing workloads in existing programs or proposals for new services.

**CEO RECOMMENDATIONS**

- $1,158M USES
- $1,158M SOURCES
This section provides highlights of augmentations and requests for NCC for County departments. Due to costs that exceed the NCC limits, some departments were required to propose reductions in the budget to meet NCC limits. Departments requested full restoration and work diligently to manage their budgets to consistently maintain programs and minimize impacts on services. Additional budget augmentation information can be found on the County’s website: [https://cfo.ocgov.com/budget](https://cfo.ocgov.com/budget)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department/Budget Control</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Augmentation Title</th>
<th>Position Recommendation</th>
<th>NCC Request</th>
<th>NCC CEO Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DA - Public Administrator</td>
<td>Restore</td>
<td>Restore Funding Request &amp; Positions</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>$22,682,128</td>
<td>$22,682,128</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Administrator</td>
<td>Restore</td>
<td>Restore Funding Request &amp; Positions</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>241,783</td>
<td>241,783</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office of Independent Review</td>
<td>Restore</td>
<td>Restore Funding Request</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>119,126</td>
<td>119,126</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Defender</td>
<td>Restore</td>
<td>Restore Funding Request &amp; Positions</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>12,086,852</td>
<td>12,086,852</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Defender</td>
<td>Expand</td>
<td>CARE Act Program</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Defender</td>
<td>Expand</td>
<td>Immigration Support Services</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>234,046</td>
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<tr>
<td>OC Sheriff's Department</td>
<td>Restore</td>
<td>Restore Funding Request</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>47,996,363</td>
<td>47,996,363</td>
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<tr>
<td>OC Sheriff's Department</td>
<td>Expand</td>
<td>Helicopter and Related Equipment</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15,890,000</td>
<td>15,890,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>OC Sheriff's Department</td>
<td>Expand</td>
<td>17 Replacement Vehicles</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>621,000</td>
<td>621,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trial Courts</td>
<td>Restore</td>
<td>Restore Funding Request</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Program I Subtotal</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>198</strong></td>
<td><strong>$102,504,766</strong></td>
<td><strong>$102,504,766</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Program I Subtotal**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program II - Community Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OC Community Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OC Community Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OC Community Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>OC Community Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OC Community Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OC Community Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OC Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Care Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Services Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Program II Subtotal</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### AUGMENTATION SUMMARY

#### Program III - Infrastructure & Environmental Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department/Budget Control</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Augmentation Title</th>
<th>Position Recommendation</th>
<th>NCC Request</th>
<th>NCC CEO Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OC Public Works</td>
<td>Expand</td>
<td>Five Replacement Vehicles</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$331,827</td>
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<td>Utilities</td>
<td>Restore</td>
<td>Restore Funding Request</td>
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<td>1,576,787</td>
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<tr>
<td>Airport - Operating</td>
<td>Expand</td>
<td>Safety Management System</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Airport - Operating</td>
<td>Expand</td>
<td>Maintenance Division</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Program III Subtotal**: 6

**$1,908,614**

**$1,908,614**

#### Program IV - General Government Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department/Budget Control</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Augmentation Title</th>
<th>Position Recommendation</th>
<th>NCC Request</th>
<th>NCC CEO Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessor</td>
<td>Restore</td>
<td>Restore Funding Request &amp; Positions</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$1,309,923</td>
<td>$1,309,923</td>
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<td>Auditor-Controller</td>
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<td>County Executive Office Accounting Services</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auditor-Controller</td>
<td>Expand</td>
<td>Health Care Agency Accounting Services</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Auditor-Controller</td>
<td>Expand</td>
<td>Enterprise Resources Planning System</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>CAPS Program</td>
<td>Restore</td>
<td>Restore Funding Request</td>
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<td>CAPS Program</td>
<td>Expand</td>
<td>Enterprise Resource Planning System</td>
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<td>1,388,565</td>
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<td>Clerk of the Board</td>
<td>Restore</td>
<td>Restore Funding Request</td>
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<td>1,175,347</td>
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<td>County Executive Office</td>
<td>Restore</td>
<td>Restore Funding Request</td>
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<td>2,473,474</td>
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**Program IV Subtotal**: 49

**$16,159,028**

**$14,770,463**

#### Program VII - Insurance, Reserves & Miscellaneous

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**Program VII Subtotal**: 1

**$151,480,226**

**$143,633,936**
Key initiatives adopted by the County are consistent with this mission and are implemented through strategic planning, collaboration across departments and community-based partners, and working in and with the community. The following pages highlight the County’s current major initiatives.

The County of Orange Systems of Care, also known as OC CARES, links the various systems of care: Behavioral Health, Healthcare, Community Corrections, Housing and Benefits & Support Services to provide full care coordination of programs and services focused on the needs of the adults and youth populations across departments and community providers.

The following section highlights Key Initiatives in the County Systems of Care. For additional information, please refer to the 2023 SFP and FY 2024-25 Budget, which can be found on the County’s website.
The 2025 Vision implementation plan for OC CARES, was adopted by the Board on October 22, 2019, and links the County criminal justice system and various systems of care to provide inmates and at-risk-individuals with services designed to promote self-determination and facilitate successful reentry. The 2025 Vision was built on five pillars each having overarching goals assigned to specific departments and implemented and tracked via action items. The pillars include:

1. **Prevention**: Developing public informational campaigns and interventions – particularly related to substance use and mental health – that divert people from involvement in the criminal justice system.
2. **Courts**: Enhancing or developing diversion programs, including the expanded use of Specialty Courts, for individuals in the criminal justice system from the point of arrest to sentencing.
3. **In-Custody**: Enhancing in custody programming and mental health and substance use programs, linkages to post custody services, and training and education to prepare people for successful reentry.
4. **Reentry**: Providing accessible and supportive services to justice-involved individuals to facilitate a positive transition into the community.
5. **Juvenile & Transitional Aged Youth (TAY)**: Providing a continuum of information, programs, and enhanced services for youth, juveniles, and the TAY population to prevent them from entering the juvenile justice system, providing options away from being detained, and to support and encourage positive outcomes outside of the juvenile justice system.

The 2025 Vision is a permanent component of Orange County’s annual Strategic Financial Plan. Its oversight is provided by the Orange County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (OCCJCC), co-chaired by Vice Chairman Doug Chaffee and Supervisor Andrew Do with membership consisting of County departments, Courts, and local law enforcement.

Significant projects related to this initiative and included in the 2024-25 Budget are highlighted below.

- **Be Well Campus Expansion** – The County has continued its public-private partnership to establish a second Be Well campus in Irvine anticipated to complete phase one of the project in 2025. Be Well Irvine will house crisis stabilization units for adults and adolescents, a sobering center, adult residential treatment services, and a children, youth and families outpatient clinic. Additional phases will include residential services for pregnant and parenting women, an adolescent substance use residential program, expanded outpatient and intensive outpatient services for children, youth and perinatal women, and education, training and community-use space.

- **Coordinated Reentry System** – Significant investments are being made to establish a coordinated reentry system for justice involved individuals that provide continued programs, services, or treatments through a Central Reentry Facility which would provide temporary housing and support services to keep individuals engaged in programming and work toward self-sufficiency. Regional Reentry Centers are also being established with the first one implemented in south county in March 2024. These are smaller offices that allow for assessments and linkages with additional support services planned. The next big project planned is for a Workforce Reentry Center to include on-site job training, job placement, and a retail-based business to allow for hands-on experience and also generate program revenue. Projects are anticipated to be substantially completed in late 2025.

- **Juvenile Campus Modernization** – The County’s existing juvenile campus contains buildings from the 1950’s and 1960’s that do not conform with today’s best practices and are in constant need for repair. The population has also changed, both in numbers and length of stay, requiring the facility to undergo a phased renovation to modernize several areas. The first phase, in progress now, includes establishing a new Youth Transition Center that will house up to 60 youth, provide education, vocational training, and a focus on substance use treatments; specialized housing for the recently state-realigned youth that will include enhanced programming to address their specific needs; and a new area outside of the secured perimeter to establish TAY Transitional Housing to support and assist with self-sufficiency. This phase is anticipated to be substantially completed in late 2025. The second phase will replace the remaining older buildings to modernize the medical and intake area, and create a modern, energy efficient facility surpassing the minimum requirements set for a juvenile detention facility.
As part of the Reentry Pillar within the 2025 Vision for OC CARES, the County’s commitment to establishing a coordinated reentry system for justice-involved individuals reached a milestone with the opening of the first regional reentry community center located in Laguna Hills on Verdugo Drive in March of 2024. The County seeks to enhance its service delivery model to make the services more accessible to those who need them. The opening of the Verdugo Reentry Community Center is a steppingstone in that direction by having reentry centers in the County in their local community that will provide resources for anyone involved in the justice system such as programs, services, housing and peer support. Another regional reentry community center is already in the planning stages for the central county communities.

The regional reentry community centers will serve a crucial bridge between justice-involved individuals and community integration as it hopes to address the multifaceted challenges that justice-involved individuals often face upon reentering society. By offering personalized guidance, on-site care coordinators will help link every client to the services they need such as Housing Support, Medi-Cal, CalFresh, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Programs.

In addition, the community resource centers will offer the vital support and access to services justice-involved individuals need to assist in successful reentry into the community.

SERVICES PROVIDED

Direct Services: On-site Representatives will determine eligibility and facilitate access to services.

- Basic Needs
- Legal Services
- Public Assistance Programs
- Job Training & Assistance
- Family Support Services
- Medical Treatment
- Mental Health Treatment
- Substance Use Treatment
- Identity Documents
- Tattoo Removal

Linkage to Off-site Services: On-site Care Coordinators will link individuals with community partners for additional services as needed.
HOPE & REENTRY CENTERS IN BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURE

The County is fostering a sense of opportunity for justice-involved individuals in its partnership with Project Kinship. The Verdugo Community Resource Center will serve as a beacon of hope by offering tailored support and guidance in navigating the challenging journey of reintegration into society. This sentiment of hope and opportunity is a constant theme when community-based partners and County employees involved with the OC CARES initiative speak about reentry opportunities and the Verdugo Community Reentry Center. Jennifer Nicolalde, representing the Public Defender’s Office, had the following to say when describing Verdugo, “One word that I use was opportunity. So many people who find themselves incarcerated or justice involved feel that once they’re released, they don’t have the same opportunities and my hope is that this Center can really let them know that they do”.

The Verdugo Community Resource Center is just the beginning as the OC CARES Vision has additional reentry projects on the way that will expand this ecosystem of fostering hope and opportunity such as:

**Coordination Reentry Center** – Centrally located in Orange, Probation’s Youth Guidance Center is being transformed into the County’s first Coordinated Reentry Center. This facility is being completed in phases with phase one providing a dedicated 24-7 facility where anyone released will have a place to go.

**Mobile Reentry Services** – Dedicated multi-resource vehicles and vans that will go in the communities to meet with probationers and justice impacted individuals to offer services, support and information to them, their families and their support systems.

**Regional Reentry Centers** – An additional regional reentry center is currently planned for the first floor of the Manchester Office Building located in Orange. The regional reentry center will also provide linkage services to justice-involved adults who are seeking support services. These facilities will be managed by contracted providers experienced with the reentry population and partner with County services.

**Workforce Reentry Center** – New facility dedicated to providing workforce reentry training and assistance to help justice involved individuals become self-sufficient. Plans include on-the-job training, retail-based operations, training labs, and on-site supportive housing for program participants.
OC Community Resources Department’s OC Housing & Community Development Division administers the County’s affordable housing development and the community development and housing successor agency program and activities. Included in the Division is the OC Housing Authority (OCHA) which administers federally funded programs providing housing assistance to County residents (except for the cities of Anaheim, Garden Grove and Santa Ana) through the following programs:

- **Housing Choice Vouchers**: Federal government’s largest program for assisting low-income families and the elderly and disabled to afford safe and healthy housing in the private market. This includes tenant-based and project-based housing vouchers.
- **Special Housing Programs**: Housing programs designed to address the needs of targeted populations may include the following:
  - **Homeownership Program** allows families and individuals receiving assistance under the Housing Choice Voucher Program to use the housing subsidies towards mortgage payments rather than monthly rent, upon meeting eligibility requirements.
  - **Family Self-Sufficiency Program** links housing agencies with welfare agencies, schools, businesses and other local partners to provide skills and experience to encourage self-sufficiency.
  - **Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program** is a federal collaborative program in partnership with the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Long Beach providing permanent housing subsidies and case management services to Veterans experiencing homelessness.
  - **Portability Program** allows freedom of choice for assisted families or individuals who have been issued tenant-based housing vouchers; they may lease a unit anywhere in the United States provided the unit is located within the jurisdiction of an administered tenant-based housing voucher program.
  - **Non-Elderly Disabled Program** enables eligible individuals residing in nursing homes or other healthcare institutions the means to transition into the community with appropriate services.
  - **Mainstream Voucher Program** assists individuals who meet eligibility requirements to exit from recuperative care or to transition out of the State’s Project Roomkey and Homekey programs.

On June 12, 2018, the Board accepted the Housing Funding Strategy, which identified the need for 2,700 affordable supportive housing units before the 2022 update in Orange County for individuals and families experiencing homelessness and chronic homelessness. In December 2022, the Board received and filed the 2022 Update based on the 2022 Point-in-Time count and included an updated goal of developing an additional 2,396 permanent supportive housing units from 2022 to 2029. The updated goal reflects the progress under the 2018 Housing Funding Strategy as well as the additional permanent supportive housing units needed over the next seven-year period based on the 2022 PIT count. The Strategy summarizes currently available or anticipated resources and provides recommendations for Orange County to maximize competitiveness in successfully funding projects.

As of April 30, 2024, 1,364 units have been built, 747 units are under construction, and 926 units are in the progress of funding with a combined total of 3,037 supportive and affordable housing units in the current pipeline.

To foster collaboration throughout the County, the Orange County Housing Finance Trust was formed in 2019 as a joint powers authority between the cities and the County of Orange to fund housing specifically assisting the homeless population and families and individuals of low income residing in Orange County.

Housing funding strategy and regular updates are posted on the County’s website: [https://ochousing.org/](https://ochousing.org/)
The Office of Care Coordination works with County stakeholders and other partners including cities, nonprofits and faith-based organizations to address the need for case management services for individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless or involved in multi systems of care in the County. These systems of care include housing, healthcare, benefit & support services, behavioral health, and community corrections. The County is committed to conducting outreach and engagement to connect to resources which could then lead to permanent, sustainable solutions.

The Board has approved an array of initiatives providing support services such as the OC CARES initiative, opening shelters at Bridges at Kraemer Place and the Yale Transition Center, funding Crisis Stabilization Units, providing funding for development of affordable and special needs housing programs, and leading the Orange County Continuum of Care programs for homeless services. Annually the County expends over $1 billion in services and programs to support individuals involved in the systems of care.

To better address the demands on the County’s systems of care, a significant investment was made to establish a CARE Plus Program including a System of Care Data Integration System that provides a data sharing platform for coordinated care management. This model allows data sharing, for care coordination purposes, across departments and incorporates the use of a multi-disciplinary team approach to identify individuals involved in multiple systems of care, better address the underlying issues and increase self-sufficiency.

For available resources on Orange County’s System of Care, please refer to the following website:

https://ceo.ocgov.com/office-care-coordination
CARE ACT
The County of Orange was one of the first counties to launch the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act program, a State Initiative, which creates a new pathway to deliver mental health and substance use services to individuals who are diagnosed with schizophrenia or other psychotic disorders and are not engaged in treatment. Implemented on October 2, 2023, the CARE Act, a groundbreaking civil process, began to accept petitions to provide support and intervention for those in need.

CalAIM
California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) is a five-year initiative by California’s Department of Health Care Services to improve the life and health outcomes of the Medi-Cal population. Through this initiative, the County is working to improve the quality of life and health outcomes of California’s most vulnerable persons by offering eligible CalOptima members enhanced services, such as care coordination, case management, recuperative care, housing supportive services, and services that address their physical, behavioral, developmental, dental and long-term care needs.

MASTER PLAN FOR AGING
Statewide initiative to address the needs of the growing 60+ population that includes housing, healthcare, inclusion & equity, caregiving, and economic security. The County is working to develop a comprehensive plan to address all the gaps identified by residents, community, and other stakeholders. Increased information support and resources are already being implemented via a Call Center, home visitation services, care coordination, and case management services. For more information, please visit the dedicated website at: https://www.officeonaging.ocgov.com/master-plan-aging

"Aging is changing and it’s changing California. California’s over-60 population is projected to diversify and grow faster than any other age group. By 2030, 10.8 million Californians will be an older adult, making up one-quarter of the state's population."

-California Master Plan for Aging
OC BUILDS

OC Builds is a County Initiative that addresses the infrastructure needs for transportation, travel, and cybersecurity that prioritizes the safety of its residents, staff and resources; renewable energy and sustainability; and provides an enjoyable customer experience. The County is focused on reducing its carbon footprint by replacing older vehicles with low to zero-emission vehicles and building electric vehicle charging infrastructure and stations to comply with California’s Air Resource Board’s Initiative. The following highlights the significant projects currently planned or in progress.

- **JWA Capital Projects** – The County continues to prioritize several capital improvement projects at John Wayne Airport to maintain and improve the facility to provide an excellent traveler experience and ensure the safety of all passengers coming to or through the airport. Significant investments are currently planned for reconstructing the taxiways, making the areas more accessible for all passengers, and modernizing the passenger processing system.

- **Facilities Master Plan** – The County maintains and annually updates the 10-year County Facilities Master Plan that outlines all real estate projects currently in progress and reports on projects that have been completed. The County strategizes the development and modernization of various County-owned facilities and tracks the aging infrastructure that may require significant investments in the future to ensure County-provided services to the community are easily accessible and provide a positive client experience.

- **Emergency Medical Services Operating Facility** – A new County of Orange Emergency Medical Services Operating Facility is being established on County-owned land in the City of Irvine that would co-locate the programs responsible for emergency medical services and disaster management and also relocate and increase the capacity of the public health laboratory. The modern facility will employ the most current technology to provide a building that is environmentally sustainable and allow for immediate coordination during an incident response.
BUDGET CALENDAR

AUGUST

- Strategic Financial Plan

MARCH

- Recommended Budget: Collaboration and CEO Recommendations

APRIL

- April Budget Update
- April Budget Update
- Recommended Budget: Collaboration and CEO Recommendations

SEPTEMBER

- Year-End Budget Report
- Year-End Budget Report
- September Budget Update
- September Budget Update
- Strategic Financial Plan

FEBRUARY

- Recommended Budget

MAY

- Recommended Budget/ Final Budget

LEGEND: Community, Board of Supervisors, County Administration & Departments
OCTOBER
- Strategic Financial Plan

JANUARY
- Mid-Year Budget Report
- Mid-Year Budget Report
- Recommended Budget

JUNE
- Budget Hearing / Budget Adoption
- Recommended Budget / Final Budget

DECEMBER
- Strategic Financial Plan
- Strategic Financial Plan

JULY
- Fiscal Year-End Close

Public Input Available During Board of Supervisors Meetings