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COUNTY CROSSROADS

Official Newsletter of
the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors



Juneteenth: National Freedom Day in San Joaquin County

CHAIR SONNY DHALIWAL, DISTRICT THREE

There are many ways to demonstrate our patriotism and love for this great country. This month, the Board proclaimed June 19 as Juneteenth National Freedom Day in San Joaquin County. We were proud to fly the Juneteenth flag alongside the California State Flag in recognition of the day in 1865 when the last enslaved people in Texas learned they were free, nearly two years after President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.

As our nation approaches its 250th anniversary, I reflect on how far America has come and the work that still lies ahead. One of the darkest chapters in our history was the enslavement of Black Americans. Yet our story is also marked by perseverance and progress. The Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s demonstrated the courage and unity of Americans striving to secure equality for all.

Recognizing Juneteenth is another step in acknowledging our past while reaffirming our commitment to a better future. The Constitution includes the aspiration “to form a more perfect Union”. Juneteenth reminds us that while our nation will face challenges and divisions, we are strongest when we confront them together. Through times of uncertainty, the principles upon which America was founded continue to guide us forward.

I am grateful for the Board’s partnership with the San Joaquin Juneteenth Foundation, which provided the flag that helped commemorate this day. Celebrating Juneteenth encourages reflection, fosters dialogue, and reinforces our responsibility to learn from history. While we can never undo the injustice and suffering caused by slavery, acts of recognition such as this proclamation give me hope. They remind us that our community can continue moving forward with greater understanding, unity, and purpose.

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News of Note

- [San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors Proclaims Local Emergency Over Invasive Golden Mussel Threat](#)
- [New County Service Center Brings Government Closer to Community](#)
- [San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors Recognize Local Veterans](#)
- [San Joaquin County Releases Fiscal Impacts Related to H.R.1](#)

SJ BeWell Campus Update



In April, we celebrated a milestone in the development of the SJ BeWell Campus. The Board was pleased to participate in the beam signing and topping out ceremony for Building B, scheduled to open July of 2027.

Building B will include a 16-slot Crisis Stabilization Unit, a 10-slot Sobering Center, a Behavioral Health Urgent Care serving up to 100 individuals, and a 16-bed Psychiatric Health Facility. This ceremony gave partners, workers, and community members the opportunity to sign one of the final steel beams, leaving their mark on the project. The topping out ceremony marks a major construction milestone, when that final beam is lifted into place at the top of the building.

This is a legacy project for San Joaquin County. Our vision: a transformational behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment facility that will serve as the cornerstone of a more compassionate, coordinated, and effective behavioral health system in the County. This project also supports our Three-Year Strategic Priorities which include supporting a healthy community by making investments in health care infrastructure and services that enhance access to physical and behavioral health care, and improve health outcomes. This campus will provide much-needed access to care for residents who need it most. The entire campus is on track to be fully operational in two years.



Juneteenth National Freedom Day Proclamation



Inaugural Women Veterans & Military Service Members Summit



California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Legislative Conference

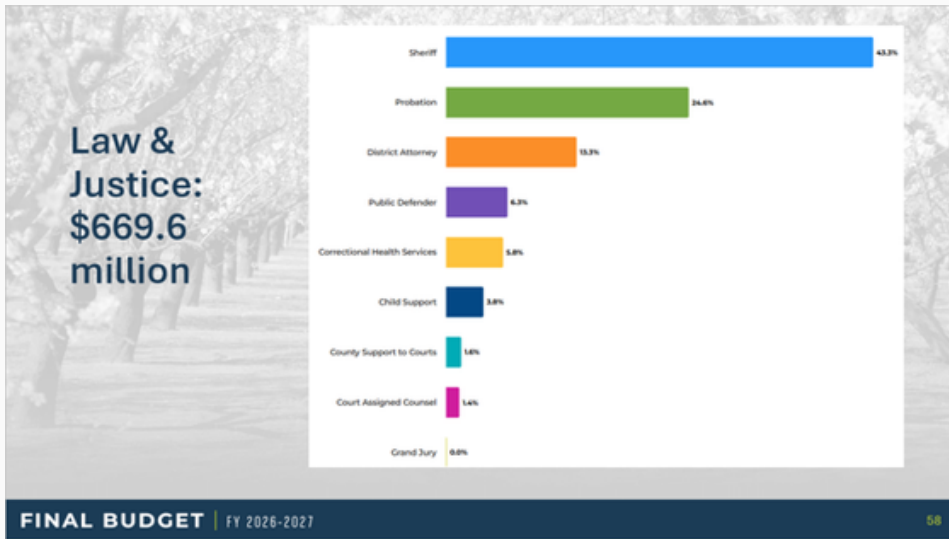
Board of Supervisors Approve 2026-2027 Balanced Budget That Supports Strategic Priorities, Public Safety, Health Services, Infrastructure Updates, Quality of Life

The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors approved the fiscal year 2026-2027 budget on Tuesday, June 16. The \$3.3 billion balanced budget continues to prioritize funding for public safety, infrastructure, and behavioral health services, among other County services.

The budget increased by about \$260 million compared to last year, mainly because of higher labor costs, and continued investment in County services and infrastructure. The County has now approved a balanced budget for 13 consecutive years without relying on previous years' savings to pay current obligations.

2026-2027 Budget Breakdown

\$2.8 billion, or 84.7% of the budget is supported by departmental revenue including State and Federal funding, charges for services, and use of non-General Fund balances. The remaining \$502.0 million is funded by General Purpose Revenues, which is the portion of the budget that comes from local taxes, where the Board has the most discretion.



FY 2026-2027 Key Investments

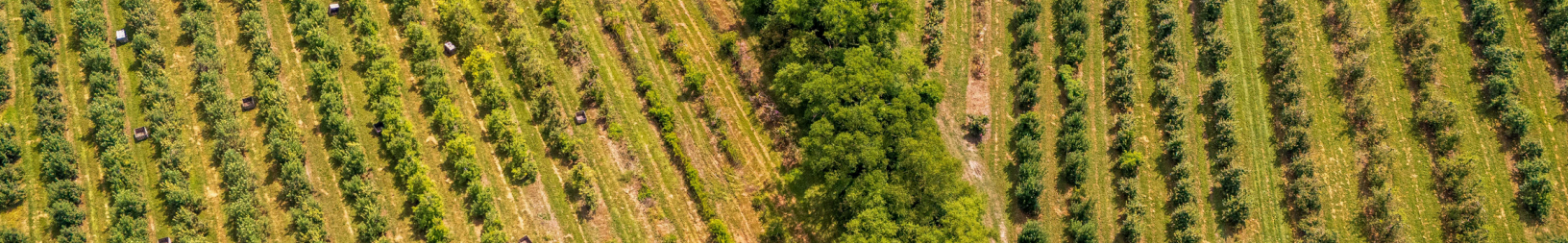
Public Safety: More than half of the County's General Purpose Revenue supports law and justice departments. Investments in public safety include continued Sheriff's Office operations, expansion of the Public Defender's Felony Diversion Program, increased Correctional Health costs, improvements to the Juvenile Justice Center, and construction of the Sheriff's Training Facility.

Health and Human Services: The largest part of the County budget will fund SJ BeWell Campus behavioral health project, mental health and substance use treatment programs, San Joaquin General Hospital, In Home Supportive Services for seniors and vulnerable residents, and aging and veterans' services programs. In a unanimous vote, the Board also pledged \$250,000 to the Children's Home of Stockton out of the contingency reserve fund.

Parks and Recreation: The budget includes Micke Grove improvements, continued development of the 10-year County Parks Master Plan, landscaping, veterinary services at Micke Grove Zoo, and the Youth Recreation Complex. At the top of Supervisor Gardea's list of priorities is giving new life to parks that have been neglected in District 1.

Public Works and Water Resources: Public Works continues to improve solid waste operations to reduce costs, enhance efficiency, and maintain reliable service. The budget advances the County's ongoing commitment to flood control, stormwater management, groundwater sustainability, and regional water resource coordination.

The presented budget documents are available for review and download on the [County website](#).



PRIDE Month

Pride Month is a time to celebrate identity, build community, and ensure LGBTQ+ residents have access to safe, inclusive spaces and support year-round. The San Joaquin Pride Center provides free and low-cost resources including peer support groups, youth and family programs, HIV prevention services, mental health referrals, community events, and connections to affirming healthcare and social services. <https://sjpride.center/>



Thank You to Those Who Have Served and Sacrificed



The Board recognized local veterans in a ceremony during the May 12 Board meeting. Each member selected a veteran from their district to honor and share their stories.

June 12, 2026 marked Women’s Veteran’s Day in San Joaquin County, recognizing the contributions and service of women in the Armed Forces. This was followed by the inaugural Women Veteran & Military Service Members Summit in June. This inspiring event provided a space for women veterans to connect, receive support, and resources to help them thrive after their service has ended.

We were also humbled to visit the Moving Wall when it made its way to San Joaquin County. For five days, residents visited the half-size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Weber Point Events Center to honor those who lost their lives and also pay tribute to those who returned home and were not recognized for their service.

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