



**THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
M E M O R A N D U M**

DATE: May 11, 2026

TO: Honorable Councilmember Henry Foster III, Budget Review Committee Chair,
and Honorable Budget Review Committee Members

FROM: Benjamin Battaglia, Director of Finance and City Comptroller, Department of
Finance

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Review Committee Referral Responses for May 5, 2026

This memorandum provides responses and/or follow up information to unanswered questions asked at the Budget Review Committee meeting held on May 5, 2026. The responses are listed by department in order of Council District number.

City Engineer Overview

COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

QUESTION: (E&CP) Regarding the Assistant Deputy Director reduction, why does the department not need a City Land Surveyor?

RESPONSE: The Assistant Deputy Director position was originally established to appoint an unclassified employee as the City Land Surveyor. However, it has since been determined that the City is not legally required to designate a City Land Surveyor in this manner. Instead, the City may assign this responsibility to one or more classified employees, provided that each individual is authorized to practice land surveying, is in responsible charge of professional surveying work, and is not a managerial employee having significant responsibilities for formulating or administering departmental policies and programs.

Additionally, the Professional Land Surveyors Act does not require the manager of a survey section to be a licensed surveyor, so long as the unlicensed manager does not direct or control the professional judgment of a licensed surveyor in responsible charge. Responsible charge means the independent control and direction, by the use of initiative, skill and independent judgment, of the observations, measurements, and descriptions involved in land surveying work. To be in responsible charge, the land surveyor must make or review and approve (a) land surveying decisions including methods, procedures, and tolerances of field work; (b) calculation and adjustment methods; (c) information to be shown on survey documents; and (d) work product.

Given that the department has several Principal Land Surveyors qualified to fulfill these responsibilities, maintaining an Assistant Deputy Director position for this purpose is no longer necessary. Accordingly, E&CP proposes eliminating this position in FY 2027.

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COUNCIL DISTRICT 9

QUESTION: (CIP) The Dennis V. Allen Park comfort station was estimated to be \$2 million to restore. Please provide the plan for restroom replacement.

RESPONSE: The restroom (comfort station) at Dennis V. Allen Park was damaged significantly by fire and has been rendered unusable. The Mt. Hope Community Recreation Group has worked together to develop a new general development plan for the park. However, to ensure the comfort station can be replaced, the Parks and Recreation Department will collaborate with the Engineering and Capital Projects Department and Department of Finance to work on initiating a new project for the replacement of the comfort station. The anticipated cost of the project is approximately \$2.0 million. After discussions with the City Planning Department, it has been determined that the project can be funded with Citywide Parks Development Impact Fees (DIF) and is eligible for Citywide Parks DIF – Communities of Concern funding. The project will be considered for inclusion in the FY2027 May Revision.

Community Services Branch

COUNCIL DISTRICT 5

QUESTION: (Parks & Rec) How much Balboa Park parking revenue has been received so far and why are we not reinvesting that back into the park?

RESPONSE: The revenue received so far includes:

Meter revenue as of 10:00 am 5/6/2026	\$2,220,301
Permit revenue as of 5/3/2026	340,520
Total Revenue	\$2,560,821
Citations issued (3/23/26 – 5/4/2026)	1,466

The funds are currently being used to maintain current service levels and support Balboa Park. The General Fund, Transient Occupancy Taxes, and Environmental Growth Funds are subsidizing the balance of Balboa Park's budget, of which expenses total approximately \$15.5 million for FY 2026.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Battaglia

Benjamin Battaglia
Director of Finance and City Comptroller

BB/ff

cc: Honorable Mayor Todd Gloria
Honorable City Attorney Heather Ferbert
Paola Avila, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor

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Honorable Councilmember Henry Foster III, Budget Review Committee Chair, and Honorable
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cc continued:

Nick Serrano, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
Charles Modica, Independent Budget Analyst
Rolando Charvel, Chief Financial Officer, Office of the Mayor
Scott Wahl, Chief of Police, Police Department
Robert Logan, Chief, Fire-Rescue Department
Bethany Bezak, Chief Performance & Logistics Officer, Office of the Mayor
Kris McFadden, Chief Infrastructure Officer, Office of the Mayor
Rania Amen, City Engineer and Chief Community Services Officer, Office of the Mayor
Casey Smith, Chief Housing & Community Development Officer, Office of the Mayor
Matt Yagyagan, Director of Policy, Office of the Mayor
Elif Cetin, Director, Engineering and Capital Projects
Andy Field, Director, Parks and Recreation
Christopher Purcell, Financial Operations Manager, Department of Finance
Department of Finance Staff