



County of Santa Barbara

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Minute Order

October 7, 2025

Present: 5 - Supervisor Lee, Supervisor Capps, Supervisor Hartmann, Supervisor Nelson, and Supervisor Lavagnino

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

File Reference No. 25-00868

RE: HEARING - Consider recommendations regarding the Department of Social Services (DSS) Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 budget update and rebalancing plan, as follows: (EST. TIME: 1 HR. 30 MIN.)

- a) Receive and file a report on the DSS budget and fiscal outlook;
- b) Approve DSS's re-structuring plan which reduces 121 funded positions in the Department's FY 2025-2026 adopted budget; and
- c) Determine that the above actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), because pursuant to sections 15378(b)(4) and 15378(b)(5) the recommended actions consist of organizational, administrative, or fiscal activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION: POLICY



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Received and filed staff presentation and conducted a public hearing.

Mahdi Ashrafian, Thomas Becker, Anastasia Senavsky, Joshua Stehlik, Eder Gaona, AJ Joven, Gloria Soto, Primitiva Hernandez, Ana Garcia, Chelsea Landcaster, Ana Arce, Jacqueline Karlsen, Dr. Anthony Catalano, Andrew Hawkins, Kristy Glisson, Teresa Alvarez, Mary Ellen Rehse, Allan Cronin, Sandra Polichetti, Alicia Mera, Vanessa Teran, Kelly Beecham, Yolanda Romo Rodriguez, Larry Behrendt, Megan Overland, Laura Robinson, Meg Beard, Cheyenne Rosson, Fabiola Pascual, Bridget Day, Angelica Falcon, Kiss the Comedian, Karin Hauenstein, Elvia Salazar, Michelle Ambriz, Reynaldo Rodriguez, Yanery Martinez, Gabriel Mendoza, Ana Huynh, Fernando Martinez, Fabian Garcia, Diana Robles, Pierre Calvo, Sandra Sanchez-Lopez, Lurdes Navarro, Sergio Catillo, Francesa Salvador, Leo Decasaus, Britannia Irwin, Rob Adam Perry, Jonathon Castillo, Eva Barajas, Leticia Alvarez-Salas, Winona Mounts, Ruby Ramirez, Daniel Ibarra, Brandi Anderson, and Steve Hernandez addressed the Board.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lavagnino, seconded by Supervisor Hartmann, that this matter be continued to the November 18, 2025 Board of Supervisors Meeting in Santa Maria with the following direction:

(1) Directed the County Executive Office to return with a Budget Revision eliminating 56 Department of Social Services funded vacancies, and appropriation to fund 65 filled positions identified for layoff for current fiscal year with funding source options, including engagement with union on potential concessions; and

(2) Directed the County Executive Office to return during the April 2026 County Budget Workshops with: (i) Report listing County non mandated services and programs; (ii) Presentation by the Santa Barbara County Employee Retirement on Retirement Fund Financial Outlook including analysis from outside actuarial; and (iii) Report of countywide funded vacant positions.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Supervisor Lee, Supervisor Capps, Supervisor Hartmann, Supervisor Nelson, and Supervisor Lavagnino