



Agricultural Commissioner 2025-26 Proposed Budget

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Presentation Overview



Our Mission



How We are Organized



Budget Overview



Fiscal & Staffing Details



Federal/State risks & Emerging Issues



Request & Questions



Our Mission

The mission of the Agricultural Commissioner is to serve the public's interest by ensuring equity in the marketplace, promoting and protecting agriculture, assuring environmental quality, and protecting the health, safety and welfare of Santa Cruz County's citizens.

State & Federal Funding Risks



- State Funding – Contract reductions on work agreements with CDFA (CA Department of Food and Agriculture) due to state budget shortfalls. So far, reductions are minimal.
- Federal Funding – Potential for reductions to some state contracts which include federal pass-through funding due to cuts at the federal level (USDA cuts in the Farm Bill).
- Potential impacts from state/federal funding losses in other County Departments.

Divisions & Services

Our Services



Agricultural Code Enforcement

- Pest Detection
- High Risk Pest Exclusion
- Pesticide Use Enforcement
- Nursery Inspection
- Farmers Marke/Direct Marketing Regulation
- Crop Statistics
- Organic Registration



Weights & Measures

- Consumer protection
- Maintain economic equity
- Regulates the accuracy of:
 - Retail pricing
 - Gas pumps
 - Scales
 - Utility submeters
 - Taxi meters
 - Product packaging



Mosquito & Vector Control

(Funded by CSA53s)

- Mosquito Control
- Vector-borne disease surveillance
- Tick ID
- Rodent Exclusion Insp.
- Outreach



Agricultural Commissioner Summary of Proposed Budget

	2024-25 Adopted	2025-26 Proposed	Amount of Change	Percent Change
Revenues	\$5,696,300	\$5,206,532	\$489,768	(9%)
Expenses	\$7,713,869	\$6,758,398	\$955,471	(12%)
General Fund Contribution	\$1,323,304	\$1,429,972*	\$106,668	8%
Other Fund Contribution	\$694,265	\$121,894	\$572,371	(82%)
Funded Staffing	26.81	26.81	0.00	0%

Amounts shown (other than GF contribution) reflect a factor as calculated in the OpenGov program of CSA funds for the MVC Division which accounts for the funds twice - when they are received and again when transferred - thereby inflating the actual amounts received/expensed.

*This amount is \$2,500 less than proposed GF contribution amount.

Major Budget Changes from Adopted Revenues

	Amount	Title of change in revenue
	\$ 300,000	Benefit assessment study & contract (MVC).

Major Budget Changes from Adopted Expenses

	Amount	Title of change in expenditure/expense
	\$ 94,300	Lease cost from previous South County office location.
	\$ 326,990	GSD services and charges.

Emerging Issues

- Invasive mosquito species & new benefit assessment goal.
- Changes/reallocation of resource priorities by CDFA on certain programs (e.g., GWSS, ACP).
- ISHB - Felton area infestation; collaboration with UCCE; potential CISAC funds.
- Canada phytosanitary import requirement changes (berries, LBAM).
- EVSE - device testing and registration.



Agricultural Commissioner

Approve the Proposed Budget for the Agricultural Commissioner Department, which includes:

- Revenues of \$5,206,532
- Expenses of \$6,758,398
- General Fund Contribution of \$1,429,972
- Other Funds Contribution of \$121,89
- Staffing of 26.81 funded FTEs

