

21. Approve the Proposed 2025-26 Budget for the Contribution to Superior Court, including any supplemental materials, and take related actions, as outlined in the referenced budget documents, and as recommended by the County Executive Officer ( )



## County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

### Agenda Item Submittal

**From:** County Executive Office

**Subject:** Proposed 2025-26 Budget for Contribution to Superior Court

**Meeting Date:** June 4, 2025

**Formal Title:** Approve the Proposed 2025-26 Budget for the Contribution to Superior Court, including any supplemental materials, and take related actions, as outlined in the referenced budget documents, and as recommended by the County Executive Officer

### Recommended Action

Approve the Proposed 2025-26 Budget for the Contribution to Superior Court, including any supplemental materials, as provided in the referenced budget documents:

- [Proposed Budget](#)

### Executive Summary

The Proposed 2025-26 Budget for the Contribution to Superior Court provides for the County's Maintenance of Effort (MOE) payments to the State for financing the local trial courts pursuant to the Trial Court Funding Act of 1997 and subsequent legislation, and it includes revenues from other court related fines and assessments outside of the maintenance of effort (MOE).

### Discussion

The purpose of the Contribution to Superior Court is to provide for the County's Maintenance of Effort (MOE) payments to the State for financing the local trial courts pursuant to the Trial Court Funding Act of 1997 and subsequent legislation, and it includes revenues from other court related fines and assessments outside of the MOE.

The budget also includes the County's share of court facility costs, in the form of a fixed annual payment to the State, and reimbursements from the State for shared facility use costs, including maintenance, utilities and insurance, and a reimbursement from our local Court to partially offset the County's debt service costs for tenant improvements at the Watsonville Courthouse.

Finally, the budget includes expenditures for juror parking, necessary repairs to shared facilities, and other incidental court-related expenses that are County responsibilities.

The Contribution to Superior Court Proposed Budget has no proposed changes and remains status quo. The department Proposed 2025-26 Budget is available online at: [www.SCCVision.us](http://www.SCCVision.us)

### Financial Impact

The Contribution to Superior Court Proposed Budget includes \$2,008,163 in expenditures offset by \$2,234,207 in revenues and a reversion of \$226,044 to the General Fund contribution, reflecting no change from the 2024-25 Adopted Budget.

Should the County's contribution change following approval of the Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget by the Board of Supervisors, the change will be included in the June 10, 2025, last day or concluding budget actions, with a coinciding reduction of General Fund Contingencies.

**Strategic Initiatives**

Equity Framework - Plans, Policies & Budgets

Operational Plan - Operational Excellence

Climate Action - Government Operations

**Submitted By:**

Carlos J. Palacios, County Executive Officer

**Recommended By:**

Carlos J. Palacios, County Executive Officer

**Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) did not significantly contribute to the development of this agenda item.