

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



**AGENDA NO.**  
**24.1**  
(MT 22158)

**MEETING DATE:**  
Tuesday, June 13, 2023

1:00 p.m. being the time set for continuation of the public hearing on the recommendation from the Executive Office regarding FY 2023/2024 Recommended Budget, the Chair called the matter for hearing.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Jeff Van Wagenen, County Executive Officer, submitted the following revisions to the budget based upon department presentations and the Board's discussion:

- Partially fund the Sheriff's request with an additional \$7,143,699
- Partially fund Fire's request with an additional \$5,828,306
- Fully fund Animal Services' request with an additional \$3,400,000
- Partially fund Integrated Service Delivery's request with an additional \$2,800,000
- Partially fund the District Attorney's request with an additional \$2,110,813
- Partially fund Probation's request with an additional \$1,139,288
- Fully fund Behavioral Health's request with an additional \$1,000,000
- Partially fund Code Enforcement's request with an additional \$825,000
- Partially fund DPSS's request with an additional \$360,750
- Fund purchase of a Fire Squad Patrol vehicle in Mead Valley with \$350,000 in Mead Valley Environmental Justice Fund revenue
- Fund enhanced Sheriff, Behavioral Health, and Code Enforcement services in Highgrove with \$250,000 in Cannabis revenue
- Fund enhanced Behavioral Health and Code Enforcement services in Mead Valley with \$100,000 in Mead Valley Revitalization revenue

In total, the Executive Office recommends a \$25,307,856 revision to the recommended budget from the following revenue sources: \$19,966,096 from the Augmentation Fund, \$4,641,760 from Prop 172 Reserves, \$350,000 from the Mead Valley Environmental Justice Fund, \$250,000 from the District 1 Cannabis Public Benefit Funds, and \$100,000 from the Mead Valley Revitalization Fund.

Additionally, the Executive Office will bring the following projects forward at a future Budget meeting in the new fiscal year for funding with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) revenue: Kabian Memorial Park Improvements, Mead Valley Community Center improvements, and Lakeland Village Community Center sewer connection.

Continued on page 2



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



**AGENDA NO.**  
**24.1**  
(MT 22156)

**MEETING DATE:**  
Tuesday, June 13, 2023

On motion of Supervisor Jeffries, seconded by Supervisor Gutierrez and duly carried, IT WAS ORDERED to close the public hearing and schedule the final adoption of Fiscal Year 2023/24 budget to Tuesday, June 27, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. or as soon as possible thereafter.

Roll Call:  
Ayes: Jeffries, Washington, and Gutierrez  
Nays: None  
Absent: Spiegel and Perez

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full true, and correct copy of an order made and entered on June 13, 2023, of Supervisors Minutes.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the Board of Supervisors  
Dated: June 13, 2023  
Kimberly A. Rector, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, in  
and for the County of Riverside, State of California.

(seal)

By:  Deputy

AGENDA NO.  
**24.1**

xc: EO, COB



**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



ITEM: 24.1  
(ID # 22156)

**MEETING DATE:**  
Tuesday, June 13, 2023

**FROM :** EXECUTIVE OFFICE:

**SUBJECT:** EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Presentation of Fiscal Year 2023/24 Recommended Budget and Opening of Budget Hearings Cont.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Receive the Fiscal Year 2023/24 Recommended Budget for purpose of conducting a public hearing;
2. Resume the public hearing, taking additional testimony from county departments and receiving additional public comment as necessary, submit written revisions to the Fiscal Year 2023/24 Recommended Budget and file those revisions with the Clerk of the Board before closing the public hearing;
3. Close the public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2023/24 Recommended Budget;
4. Schedule final adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023/24 budget for Tuesday, June 27, 2023.

**ACTION:Policy**

Jeff Van Wageningen, County Executive Officer

6/7/2023

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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**



**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** Approve

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary**

The Executive Office is recommending a Fiscal Year 2023/24 budget with total spending of \$8.6 billion, an increase of 15.1% over the previous fiscal year. This budget allows county departments to continue to provide vital health, public safety, social, public works, and community services and programs for our constituents across Riverside County. It also allows for the continuity of internal governmental operations.

This spending plan includes:

- \$2.5 billion for the RUHS Health and Hospital Services portfolio, representing 28.7% of the total budget.
- \$2 billion for the Public Safety portfolio, 22.9% of the total budget.
- \$1.9 billion for the Human Services portfolio, 21.9% of the total budget.
- \$977 million for the Public Works and Community Services portfolio, 11.4% of the total budget.
- The Internal Services and Finance & Government portfolios represent 7.8% and 7.3% of the total budget, respectively.

The General Fund discretionary revenue is budgeted at \$1.143 billion, an increase of \$129.9 million from the prior fiscal year's adopted budget, and this recommended budget includes \$1.125 in discretionary spending. As a result, and for the second straight year, the Executive Office is recommending a budget in which the discretionary county general fund is structurally balanced. And, for the first time in more than fifteen years, the recommended budget projects to end the fiscal year with a general fund reserve balance higher than when we started. This would be accomplished by initiating a new practice to commit up to 1% of discretionary revenue to reserves as we seek to align ourselves with the Government Finance Officers Association best practice target of a minimum reserve balance equal to two months of general fund operating expenses. Additionally, we are recommending a new approach to set aside 0.5% of discretionary revenue and any unspent contingency funds from the prior fiscal year into reserves for deferred maintenance and capital improvement projects.

This budget also includes \$20 million in funding to augment departmental budgets and to pay for unique priorities or projects vital to our constituents. It also includes \$10 million specifically for investment in the unincorporated areas of our county, which is in addition to the \$10 million and \$5 million that was set aside for this purpose in the two previous budgets.

Notably, this budget also includes American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) investments in infrastructure projects (water, sewer, broadband), neighborhood revitalization (sidewalks,



**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

streetlights, parks, libraries), childcare workers and facilities, workforce development, non-profit assistance, affordable housing, and emergency shelters.

**Impact on Residents and Businesses:**

This budget makes good on our promise to improve the quality of life for those who live, work, and enjoy life in Riverside County. We are investing in the well-being of our residents. We are transforming the way we deliver services, making them more efficient, accessible, and responsive to the diverse needs of our community. We are seeking systemic equity, recognizing that where you live should not determine how well or how long you live and believing that everyone deserves equal opportunities to thrive. We are working to be ready for, respond to, and recover from the unexpected. And, we are striving to achieve fiscal stability.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Rogers, Chief Administrative Officer      6/6/2023





## MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 13, 2023

TO: Kimberly Rector, Clerk of the Board

CC: Supervisor Kevin Jeffries, Chair  
Supervisor Chuck Washington, Vice Chair  
Supervisor Karen Spiegel, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez, 5<sup>th</sup> District

FROM: Jeff Van Wagenen, County Executive Officer *JW*

SUBJECT: Written Revisions to the Fiscal Year 2023/24 Recommended Budget

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On May 30, 2023, the Executive Office published the Fiscal Year 2023/24 Recommended Budget. On June 12<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Supervisors opened the budget hearing and heard presentations from county departments and public comment. The Board members then discussed the presentations and shared their thoughts about potential revisions to the Recommended Budget.

Based upon department presentations and Board discussion, and with the budget hearing still open, the Executive Office submits the following revisions to the Recommended Budget:

- Partially fund the Sheriff's request with an additional \$7,143,699
- Partially fund Fire's request with an additional \$5,828,306
- Fully fund Animal Services' request with an additional \$3,400,000
- Partially fund Integrated Service Delivery's request with an additional \$2,800,000
- Partially fund the District Attorney's request with an additional \$2,110,813
- Partially fund Probation's request with an additional \$1,139,288
- Fully fund Behavioral Health's request with an additional \$1,000,000
- Partially fund Code Enforcement's request with an additional \$825,000
- Partially fund DPSS's request with an additional \$360,750
  
- Fund purchase of a Fire Patrol vehicle for Mead Valley with \$350,000 in Mead Valley Environmental Justice Fund revenue
- Fund enhanced Sheriff, Behavioral Health, and Code Enforcement services in Highgrove with \$250,000 in Cannabis revenue
- Fund enhanced Behavioral Health and Code Enforcement services in Mead Valley with \$100,000 in Mead Valley Revitalization revenue

In total, the Executive Office recommends a \$25,307,856 revision to the recommended budget from the following sources: \$19,966,096 from the Augmentation Fund, \$4,641,760 from Prop 172 Reserves, \$350,000 from the Mead Valley Environmental Justice Fund, \$250,000 from the District 1 Cannabis Public Benefit Funds, and \$100,000 from the Mead Valley Revitalization Fund.

Additionally, the Executive Office will bring the following projects forward at a future meeting for funding with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) revenue: Kabian Memorial Park Improvements, Mead Valley Community Center improvements, and Lakeland Village Community Center sewer connection.

Attached, please find the detailed revision to the Recommended Budget.



Detailed Revision to the Recommended Budget

<u>Written Revision for Departments</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Increase to Sheriff for TSB technology	Prop 172 Reserves	1,600,000
Increase to Sheriff for Coroner positions	Augmentation Fund	1,508,394
Increase to Sheriff for Patrol lieutenant positions	Augmentation Fund	1,457,126
Increase to Sheriff for BCTC technology	Prop 172 Reserves	890,000
Increase to Sheriff for Court Security	Prop 172 Reserves	800,000
Increase to Sheriff for STR enforcement positions	Augmentation Fund	662,000
Increase to Sheriff for Public Authority positions	Augmentation Fund	126,179
Increase to Sheriff for Illegal Food Vendor enforcement	Augmentation Fund	100,000
Increase to Fire for Enhanced Wildfire positions	Augmentation Fund	2,040,000
Increase to Fire for Surge Patrol positions	Augmentation Fund	1,550,000
Increase to Fire for HazMat Team positions	Augmentation Fund	1,342,240
Increase to Fire for Strategic Planning positions	Augmentation Fund	256,502
Increase to Fire for Admin positions	Augmentation Fund	239,592
Increase to Fire for Fuels Reduction Crew equipment	Prop 172 Reserves	212,472
Increase to Fire for Emergency Command Center positions	Augmentation Fund	187,500
Increase to Animal Services to open San Jacinto Shelter	Augmentation Fund	3,400,000
Increase to DPSS for Integrated Services	Augmentation Fund	2,800,000
Increase to District Attorney for Clerical Initiatives positions	Augmentation Fund	2,110,813
Increase to Probation for Juvenile Facilities positions	Prop 172 Reserves	1,139,288
Increase to Behavioral Health for Wellness Village	Augmentation Fund	1,000,000
Increase to Code for STR enforcement positions	Augmentation Fund	825,000
Increase to DPSS for Quality Improvement positions	Augmentation Fund	360,750
Increase to Fire for Fire Patrol vehicle in Mead Valley	Mead Valley Enviro. Justice Fund	350,000
Increase to Executive Office for services in Highgrove	D1 Cannabis Public Benefit Fund	250,000
Increase to Executive Office for <sup>services</sup> sewer in Lakeland Village <i>Mead Valley</i>	Mead Valley Revitalization Fund	100,000
<i>JW</i>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 25,307,856</b>





**FISCAL YEAR 2023/24 BUDGET HEARING SCHEDULE**

**Day One, Monday, June 12, 2023**

**Open the Hearing** ..... 9:30am

**Overview**

Executive Office ..... 9:35am

**Department Presentations**

Sheriff ..... 10:00am

District Attorney ..... 10:30am

**Break** ..... 11:00am

**Department Presentations (continued)**

Fire ..... 11:15am

Probation ..... 11:45am

**Break** ..... 12:00pm

**Department Presentations (continued)**

Integrated Service Delivery ..... 1:00pm

Department of Public Social Services ..... 1:30pm

Behavioral Health ..... 1:45pm

Office on Aging ..... 2:00pm

Animal Services ..... 2:15pm

Code Enforcement ..... 2:30pm

**Break** ..... 2:45pm

**Public Comment** ..... 3:00pm

*\*Time listed is tentative. Public comment may be taken earlier or later than listed time.*

**Board Discussion** ..... TBD

**Adjourn to Day Two** ..... TBD

**Day Two, Tuesday, June 13, 2023**

**Continuation of the Hearing** ..... 1:00pm

**Close the Hearing** ..... TBD

**Board Deliberation, Schedule Final Adoption of the Recommended Budget, and Adjourn**



**Supplemental Budget Requests**

					Source of Funds			
					Augmentation Fund	UCI	Prop 172 Reserves	Reserves
					\$ 20,000,000	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 59,000,000	\$ 555,000,000
Department	Request	Amount	EO Rec.	Board Decision	Augmentation Fund	UCI	Prop 172 Reserves	Reserves
Sheriff (100%)	TSB: New Technology	1,600,000	1,600,000				1,600,000	
Sheriff (0%)	PMO: Professional Services, Building Lease	1,600,000						
Sheriff (A/V Only)	BCTC: Overtime, A/V, Pre-Employment	1,800,000	890,000				890,000	
Sheriff (100%)	Court Services & CAC: Contract Security	800,000	800,000				800,000	
Sheriff (100%)	New Positions: Patrol Lieutenants	1,457,126	1,457,126		1,457,126			
Sheriff (75%)	New Positions: Coroner	2,011,193	1,508,394		1,508,394			
Sheriff (75%)	New Positions: Public Authority	168,239	126,179		126,179			
Sheriff (0%)	Other Costs: Coroner & Public Authority	825,974						
Sheriff (100%)	New Positions: STR Ordinance Enforcement	662,000	662,000		662,000			
Sheriff (100%)	New Positions: Food Vendor Enforcement	100,000	100,000		100,000			
DA (83%)	New Positions: Paralegals, Sr. LSAs, LSAs, OAs	2,543,148	2,110,813		2,110,813			
Fire (75%)	New Positions: Expansion of HazMat Team	1,789,653	1,342,240		1,342,240			
Fire (50%)	New Positions: Surge Patrol	3,136,080	1,550,000		1,550,000			
Fire (75%)	New Positions: Strategic Planning (Facilities)	342,003	256,502		256,502			
Fire (75%)	New Positions: Admin	319,456	239,592		239,592			
Fire (Equip. Only)	Equipment: Fuel Reduction Crew	300,000	212,472				212,472	
Fire (75%)	New Positions: ECC	250,900	187,500		187,500			
Fire (75%)	New Positions: Enhanced Staffing re: Wildfire	2,720,000	2,040,000		2,040,000			
Probation (75%)	New Positions: Juvenile Facilities	1,519,050	1,139,288				1,139,288	
DPSS (75%)	New Positions: Continuous Quality Improvement	481,000	360,750		360,750			
Integ.Services (96%)	New Positions, Consultant, Experts	2,913,842	2,800,000		2,800,000			
Beh.Health (100%)	Facilities: Wellness Village	1,000,000	1,000,000		1,000,000			
Office on Aging (CIP)	Facilities: Co-Location for Integrated Services	450,000						
Animal Services (100%)	New Positions & Facilities: San Jacinto Shelter	3,400,000	3,400,000		3,400,000			
Code (75%)	New Positions: STR Ordinance Enforcement	1,100,000	825,000		825,000			
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$ 33,289,664</b>	<b>\$ 24,607,856</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 19,966,096</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,641,760</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Balance:					\$ 33,904	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 54,358,240	\$ 555,000,000



# Department Requests for Supplemental Funding

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<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$ 33,289,664</b>	<b>\$ 24,607,856</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 19,966,096</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,641,760</b>	<b>\$ -</b>





# Proposed Written Revision



## MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 13, 2023  
 TO: Kimberly Rector, Clerk of the Board  
 CC: Supervisor Kevin Jeffries, Chair  
 Supervisor Chuck Washington, Vice Chair  
 Supervisor Karen Spiegel, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
 Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
 FROM: Jeff Van Wagenen, County Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Written Revisions to the Fiscal Year 2023/24 Recommended Budget

On May 30, 2023, the Executive Office published the Fiscal Year 2023/24 Recommended Budget. On June 12<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Supervisors opened the budget hearing and heard presentations from county departments and public comment. The Board members then discussed the presentations and shared their thoughts about potential revisions to the Recommended Budget.

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Additionally, the Executive Office will bring the following projects forward at a future meeting for funding with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) revenue: Kabian Memorial Park Improvements, Mead Valley Community Center improvements, and Lakeland Village Community Center sewer connection.

Attached, please find the detailed revision to the Recommended Budget.

### Detailed Revision to the Recommended Budget

Written Revision for Departments	Source of Funds	Amount
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Increase to Executive Office for services in Highgrove	D1 Cannabis Public Benefit Fund	250,000
Increase to Executive Office for sewer in Lakeland Village	Mead Valley Revitalization Fund	100,000
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$ 25,307,856</b>





**From:** Luis Nolasco <LNolasco@aclusocal.org>

**Sent:** Monday, June 12, 2023 4:47 PM

**To:** Office of 2nd District Supervisor <District2@rivco.org>; District3 <District3@Rivco.org>; District 4 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez <District4@RIVCO.ORG>; District 5 <District5@rivco.org>; Supervisor Jeffries - 1st District <district1@RIVCO.ORG>; COB <COB@RIVCO.ORG>

**Cc:** Kath Rogers <KRogers@aclusocal.org>; Desiree Sanchez <DSanchez@aclusocal.org>; Christine Tran <AdvocacyIntern17@aclusocal.org>

**Subject:** Joint Letter - 2023-2024 Recommended Budget

Dear Chair Jeffries and Members of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors,

Please find the attached public comment letter regarding the County's 2023-2024 Recommended Budget from the following organizations:

- ACLU of Southern California
- IE United
- Starting Over Inc.
- Inland Equity Partnership

We would appreciate confirmation that you have received this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions and/or to discuss the issues raised in this letter.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Luis Nolasco (he/him)**

*Senior Policy Advocate & Organizer*

ACLU of Southern California, Inland Empire Office

909-380-7502

6/13/23 24.1





June 12, 2023

Chair, Board of Supervisors, County of Riverside

*Via email*

**Re: County of Riverside Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024**

Dear Chair and the Board of Supervisors,

The ACLU of Southern California, Inland Equity Partnership, Starting Over Inc. and IE United respectfully urge the Board to make the following recommended changes to its budget to better support the needs of all residents.

**I. Use Discretionary Funding for Critical Services not Law Enforcement**

While this year, as of every year since 2017, reflects an alarming increase in the number of children and adults experiencing homelessness in the County of Riverside,<sup>1</sup> the County's recommended budget for the upcoming fiscal year **does not rise up** to address the critical needs of its 3,725 identified homeless population. Of the \$1.1 billion Discretionary General Funding available for Fiscal Year 2023-24, only 0.2% (\$2 million) is allocated to Homeless Housing Relief. When looking at the broader budget expenses not solely focused on discretionary funds, the Department of Housing and Workforce Solutions is only \$236,333,623 or about 2.7% of the total budget for a critical service at this time of increasing housing insecurity. Unfortunately, housing is not the only critical service; severely underfunded programs like In Home Healthcare Support Services (IHSS), Medical Idengent Service Providers (MISP) and the Community Action Partnerships receive minimal funding as well.

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<sup>1</sup>"2023 Riverside County Homeless Point In Time Count shows 12% increase since last year," May 5, 2023. News Channel 3.  
<https://kesq.com/news/homeless/2023/05/04/2023-riverside-county-homeless-point-in-time-count-shows-12-increase-since-last-year>



In stark contrast, nearly 64% of discretionary funding (\$729 million) is allocated to the Public Safety Group. This represents a 9.2 % increase (+\$67 million) in spending from the 2022-23 Modified Budget, even though the Sheriff already receives over \$1.1 billion from the total budget. No matter how the calculations are drawn, funding dedicated to punitive policing and the prosecution, incarceration, and surveillance of the County's community members disproportionately outweighs funding to address housing and homelessness. Research<sup>2</sup> has shown the devastating link between homelessness and incarceration. The Board's Recommended Budget has the opportunity to either break or reinforce this link.

Studies<sup>3</sup> demonstrate that the key to ending homelessness is providing long-term affordable housing with supportive services as needed. We urge the Board to revise its funding priorities and reallocate discretionary funding, which the Board has the greatest control and judgment over, to strengthen the investment in new housing and homelessness initiatives for the upcoming year. This includes commitment to providing wraparound services, case management, and permanent housing to the County's most vulnerable residents.

## **II. Irresponsible Use of Public Funds by the Sheriff Department**

As the body responsible for approving the Sheriff's Department budget, the Board of Supervisors has a responsibility to exercise increased oversight and scrutiny of the Riverside Sheriff's Department (RSD) in the face of the Department's documented and sustained abuses of public funds. Between expensive lawsuits, a Department of Justice investigation, and irresponsible allocation of staff salaries, the Department's abuses of County residents present a massive cost to taxpayers. However, this Board is voting on yet another potential increase in the Department's funding.

According to a recent Washington Post investigation, RSD has cost the County upwards of \$77 million for police misconduct (\$63 million for excessive force and \$12 million for false arrests) between 2010 and 2020.<sup>4</sup> With 2.5 million residents, Riverside County spent significantly more (\$77M) than nearby Orange County, which has 3.2 million residents but only paid out \$14 million. Some RSD deputies were repeatedly responsible for settlements. Deputy Frederick Martinez had three cases of excessive force that totaled \$2.3 million. The County is now facing three additional lawsuits by families who tragically lost loved ones in Riverside County custody in 2022, the deadliest year for people incarcerated in our County jails in 15 years.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> "Nowhere to Go: Homelessness among formerly incarcerated people" Lucius Couloute, 2018. <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/housing.html>

<sup>3</sup> "The Case for Housing First" National Alliance to End Homelessness <https://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/Housing-First-Research.pdf>  
<sup>4</sup> "Riverside County paid \$77M in settlements for police misconduct: report," March 12, 2022. News Channel 3. <https://kesq.com/news/2022/03/11/riverside-county-paid-77m-in-settlements-for-police-misconduct-report/#~:text=From%202010%20to%202020%2C%20Riverside,%2C%20Phoenix%2C%20Dallas%20and%20Miami>

<sup>5</sup> "Federal lawsuits mount against Riverside County sheriff over surge in jail deaths," June 1, 2023. Desert Sun. [https://www.desertsun.com/story/news/crime\\_courts/2023/06/01/federal-lawsuits-mount-against-riverside-county-sheriff-over-jail-deaths/70273695007/](https://www.desertsun.com/story/news/crime_courts/2023/06/01/federal-lawsuits-mount-against-riverside-county-sheriff-over-jail-deaths/70273695007/)



RSD staff time is also spent irresponsibly, leaving the community less safe and with fewer taxpayer dollars spent on much needed services. Sheriff's deputies spend the vast majority of their time (87%) targeting community members for stops that deputies themselves initiate, rather than responding to calls for service from the public.<sup>6</sup> Less than one percent of these stops were based on suspicion of a crime that would qualify as a felony. These unproductive practices cost the county more than \$392 million in patrol salaries. This money would be far better spent on solutions that keep people housed, fed, and secure—like the Homeless Housing Relief fund.

Local press such as the Desert Sun<sup>7</sup> and the Press Enterprise<sup>8</sup>, in addition to advocacy groups and impacted community members, have called for increased oversight of a Department that has consistently made headlines for its abuses of power. The decision to increase our public investment in this Department, especially on items like the requested 18 million for new aircraft<sup>9</sup>, when other public services continue to go underfunded is a statement of the Board's priorities.

### **III. Increase Greater Transparency to Ensure Meaningful Public Engagement in the Budget Process.**

We are concerned that the public hearing and adoption of the Recommended Budget will both take place across two days: June 12 and June 13, 2023. There should be ample time between the release of the Recommended Budget, any budget hearings held, and adoption of the budget.

The county should strive for meaningful public engagement by ensuring that the public has enough time to digest and analyze the budget before any budget hearings are held. This will allow for the public to thoughtfully think through questions, concerns, and suggestions they may have for the Board. Additionally, and equally as necessary, the adoption of the budget should occur only when public feedback has been appropriately considered and there is room for revision.

Currently, the County of Riverside does not practice this. After internal correspondence with the county's Administrative Office to learn more about the budget process, we learned of the following information:

1. The 2023-34 Recommended Budget was posted on the County's website on May 30, 2023.

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<sup>6</sup> "Reimagining Community Safety in California," October 2022. ACLU SoCal.  
[https://www.aclusocal.org/sites/default/files/catalyst\\_ca\\_aclu\\_-\\_reimagining\\_community\\_safety\\_2022.pdf](https://www.aclusocal.org/sites/default/files/catalyst_ca_aclu_-_reimagining_community_safety_2022.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> "After 19 in-custody deaths, a Sheriff's oversight commission must be established," January 29, 2023. Desert Sun.  
<https://www.desertsun.com/story/opinion/editorials/2023/01/29/riverside-county-needs-a-sheriffs-department-oversight-commission/69848747007/>

<sup>8</sup> "Riverside County needs a sheriff's oversight commission, now." June 4, 2023. Press Enterprise.  
<https://www.pressenterprise.com/2023/06/04/riverside-county-needs-a-sheriffs-oversight-commission-now/>

<sup>9</sup> "Riverside County to consider \$8.6 billion budget for 2023-24," June 9, 2023. Desert Sun.  
<https://www.desertsun.com/story/news/local/2023/06/09/riverside-county-to-consider-8-6-billion-budget-for-2023-24/70308328007/>



2. The public hearing and adoption of the Recommended Budget will both take place on June 12 and 13, 2023.

Effectively, this process closes off meaningful public engagement. First, the county only gives approximately 2 weeks for the public to read and analyze the budget. Second, the Board's ability to adopt the budget the same day of the public hearing, without being required to make further revisions, signals the Board's lack of commitment to incorporating public feedback.

Additionally, further correspondence with the County shows insufficient publicization of the public hearing. Unless an individual can navigate through the complex process to find the Board of Supervisors next meeting online and understand that it is for the budget, the only other way to find information is through reading the newspaper.

The Board can look to the County of San Diego's Open Budget website<sup>10</sup> for ways to increase greater transparency. On its homepage, the County lists the following resources:

- Budget's executive summary in multiple languages
- Budget document
- 2023 important dates pertaining to the budget, such as public meetings. Each date also includes a description of what the day signifies and how to give public comment.
- Information on how to get involved
- A video explaining the County of San Diego's Budget

Moreover, the County of San Diego's budget timeline is as follows:

1. The Recommended Budget is released on May 4, along with the commencement of online public comment
2. Hybrid community budget meeting on May 16
3. Virtual community budget meeting on May 18
4. Public hearing on June 12
5. Public hearing on June 15
6. Public hearings and public comments end June 21
7. Revised Recommended Budget available to the public on June 23
8. Adoption of budget on June 27

Unlike Riverside, the County of San Diego provides multiple different touchpoints for public engagement, with a mix of online and in-person opportunities. Additionally, there are approximately 6 weeks allocated to public engagement before a revision of the budget is drafted and released to the public. The final adoption of the budget does not occur until 7 weeks after the release of the recommended budget. Accordingly, the County of Riverside should adopt similar practices to increase transparency and public engagement in its public budgeting process.

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<sup>10</sup> San Diego County Open Budget website <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/openbudget/en/home.html>



To conclude, the ACLU of Southern California and Starting Over Inc. strongly urge the County Supervisors to increase the investment of our discretionary funding into Housing, IHSS, MISP and other critical services instead of directing these funds to the Sheriff's Department and other law enforcement entities. Further, we ask the board to create a more transparent budgeting process that fosters meaningful engagement from county residents.

Sincerely,

Luis Nolasco & Eva Bitran  
ACLU SoCal

Avalon Edwards & Vonya Quarles  
Starting Over Inc.

Maribel Nunez  
Inland Equity Partnership

Sky Allen  
IE United



**From:** Aquia Mail <acquia-mail@rivco.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 13, 2023 6:43 AM  
**To:** COB <COB@RIVCO.ORG>  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Contact

A Contact Form was submitted.

Submitted on June 13, 2023

**Your Email**

[lsnurick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lsnurick@sbcglobal.net)

**Your Name**

Linda Sherman-Nurick

**Subject**

Budget

**Message**

To: The County Board of Supervisors

From: Linda Sherman-Nurick, Resident and Small Business Owner in Riverside

A budget speaks to what we value, what we will put effort and support into. If my small business budget is heavier in staff wages and benefits than it is in owner compensation, that tells you something. Our County budget is heavily weighted in policing while the money for mental health, fair housing, and medical treatment programs receives minimal portions. This helps no one, not the sheriffs who are unequipped to deal with the problems of those in need with whom they deal every day, not the people who have fallen through the huge holes in our social safety net, and not citizens of Riverside who see and feel the results of such widespread suffering. These budgets have increased money to policing for years and clearly this is not working, so let's invest in health care, mental health services, fair housing. Pouring more money into a system that isn't working isn't going to change things. You have the opportunity to make a difference. Please do so for a better future for us all.

Thank you for your attention,  
Linda Sherman-Nurick



**From:** Aquia Mail <acquia-mail@rivco.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 12, 2023 12:01 PM  
**To:** COB <COB@RIVCO.ORG>  
**Subject:** Board comments web submission

The Clerk of the Board has received your public comments and will forward them to the Board of Supervisors. If you wish to call in and speak at the Board of Supervisors meeting, please select <https://rivcocob.org/request-to-speak> and fill out the request to speak form.

Thank you,  
Riverside County Clerk of the Board

Submitted on June 12, 2023

**First Name**

Najayra

**Last Name**

Valdovinos

**Address (Street, City and Zip)**

4716 Maxwell Ct

**Phone**

9519419663

**Email**

najayravaldovinos@gmail.com

**Agenda Date**

06/13/2023

**Agenda Item # or Public Comment**

Riverside county budget

**State your position below**

Oppose

**Comments**

Good morning. My name is Najayra Valdovinos and I am a riverside resident living in the east side of riverside. Bring that I've lived in this area since 2002 I know that there have been a lot of challenges in the past with the police officers presence. With that said, I am concerned that the County is spending our hard-earned dollars on funding harmful and wasteful practices by the Sheriff's Department, instead of investing in institutions (like Homeless Housing Relief) that keep our communities safe. Sheriff's deputies spend the vast majority of their time (87%) targeting community members for stops that deputies themselves initiate, rather than responding to calls for service from the public. These stops do not keep us safe: deputies seized property in less than 1% of encounters and seized firearms in only nine stops all year – out of nearly 60,000. Less than one percent of these stops were based on suspicion of a crime that would qualify as a felony. These unproductive practices cost the county more than \$392 million in patrol salaries—or more than \$40 million per gun recovered. This money would be far better spent on solutions that keep people housed, fed, and secure—like the Homeless Housing Relief fund.

6/13/23 24.1



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Thank you for your attention,  
Linda Sherman-Nurick





**FISCAL YEAR 2023/24 BUDGET HEARING SCHEDULE**

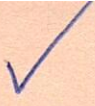
**Day One, Monday, June 12, 2023**

<b>Open the Hearing</b> .....	9:30am
<b>Overview</b>	
Executive Office .....	9:35am
<b>Department Presentations</b>	
Sheriff .....	10:00am
District Attorney .....	10:30am
<b>Break</b> .....	11:00am
<b>Department Presentations (continued)</b>	
Fire .....	11:15am
Probation .....	11:45am
<b>Break</b> .....	12:00pm
<b>Department Presentations (continued)</b>	
Integrated Service Delivery .....	1:00pm
Department of Public Social Services .....	1:30pm
Behavioral Health .....	1:45pm
Office on Aging .....	2:00pm
Animal Services .....	2:15pm
Code Enforcement .....	2:30pm
<b>Break</b> .....	2:45pm
<b>Public Comment</b> .....	3:00pm
<i>*Time listed is tentative. Public comment may be taken earlier or later than listed time.</i>	
<b>Board Discussion</b> .....	TBD
<b>Adjourn to Day Two</b> .....	TBD

**Day Two, Tuesday, June 13, 2022**

<b>Continuation of the Hearing</b> .....	1:00pm
<b>Close the Hearing</b> .....	TBD
<b>Board Deliberation, Schedule Final Adoption of the Recommended Budget, and Adjourn</b>	





# Riverside County Board of Supervisors Request to Speak

Submit request to Clerk of Board (right of podium), Speakers are entitled to three (3) minutes, subject to Board Rules listed on the reverse side of this form.

SPEAKER'S NAME: Maribel Nunez

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 6/13/23 Agenda # Policy #3

County Budget

### PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

\_\_\_\_\_ Support      \_\_\_\_\_ Oppose       Neutral

**Note:** If you are here for an agenda item that is filed for "Appeal", please state separately your position on the appeal below:

\_\_\_\_\_ Support      \_\_\_\_\_ Oppose      \_\_\_\_\_ Neutral

I give my 3 minutes to: \_\_\_\_\_



# BOARD RULES

## **Requests to Address Board on "Agenda" Items:**

You may request to be heard on a published agenda item. Requests to be heard must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board before the scheduled meeting time.

## **Requests to Address Board on items that are "NOT" on the Agenda/Public Comment:**

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these rules, a member of the public shall have the right to address the Board during the mid-morning "Oral Communications" segment of the published agenda. Said purpose for address must pertain to issues which are under the direct jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors. YOUR TIME WILL BE LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES. Donated time is not permitted during Public Comment.

## **Power Point Presentations/Printed Material:**

Speakers who intend to conduct a formalized Power Point presentation or provide printed material must notify the Clerk of the Board's Office by 12 noon on the Monday preceding the Tuesday Board meeting, insuring that the Clerk's Office has sufficient copies of all printed materials and at least one (1) copy of the Power Point CD. Copies of printed material given to the Clerk (by Monday noon deadline) will be provided to each Supervisor. If you have the need to use the overhead "Elmo" projector at the Board meeting, please ensure your material is clear and with proper contrast, notifying the Clerk well ahead of the meeting, of your intent to use the Elmo.

## **Individual Speaker Limits:**

**Individual speakers are limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes.** Please step up to the podium when the Chairman calls your name and begin speaking immediately. Pull the microphone to your mouth so that the Board, audience, and audio recording system hear you clearly. Once you start speaking, the "green" podium light will light. The "yellow" light will come on when you have one (1) minute remaining. When you have 30 seconds remaining, the "yellow" light will begin to flash, indicating you must quickly wrap up your comments. Your time is up when the "red" light flashes. The Chairman adheres to a strict three (3) minutes per speaker. ***Note: If you intend to give your time to a "Group/Organized Presentation", please state so clearly at the very bottom of the reverse side of this form.***

## **Group/Organized Presentations:**

Group/organized presentations with more than one (1) speaker will be limited to nine (9) minutes at the Chairman's discretion. The organizer of the presentation will automatically receive the first three (3) minutes, with the remaining six (6) minutes relinquished by other speakers, as requested by them on a completed "Request to Speak" form, and clearly indicated at the bottom of the form.

## **Addressing the Board & Acknowledgement by Chairman:**

The Chairman will determine what order the speakers will address the Board, and will call on all speakers in pairs. The first speaker should immediately step to the podium and begin addressing the Board. The second speaker should take up a position in one of the chamber aisles in order to quickly step up to the podium after the preceding speaker. This is to afford an efficient and timely Board meeting, giving all attendees the opportunity to make their case. Speakers are prohibited from making personal attacks, and/or using coarse, crude, profane or vulgar language while speaking to the Board members, staff, the general public and/or meeting participants. Such behavior, at the discretion of the Board Chairman, may result in removal from the Board Chambers by Sheriff Deputies.