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## Press Release

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### For Immediate Release:

May 24, 2024

## Stanislaus County 2025 Proposed Budget Released for the Budget Year Ending June 30, 2025

**Stanislaus County, CA, May 24, 2024** - The Stanislaus County Chief Executive Office has released the 2025 Proposed Budget, pending approval from the Board of Supervisors. The Proposed Budget serves as the initial budget and interim operational plan for Stanislaus County programs and services until the Adopted Budget is considered and approved in September. This also marks Stanislaus County's transition from a biennial to an annual budget cycle, streamlining the budget process and enabling a more agile response to the evolving economic environment.

"This transition positions the organization to preserve strong historical practices while embracing new ones, strategically focusing on our goals and the operational activities that support them, all while carefully managing our limited resources," states Stanislaus County Chief Executive Officer Jody L. Hayes. Navigating forward with agility and a willingness to adjust while maintaining fiscal strength is especially important this year as the County anticipates challenges from the State Budget.

The Proposed Budget process starts with creating base budgets that support existing programs and services. For General Fund departments, this is done through a Zero-Based Budget process, which includes funding for salaries and benefits for all allocated positions and the necessary cost-of-doing-business increases required to maintain operations. For departments funded outside the General Fund, base budgets are established to support existing service levels in line with known funding streams.

In the 2025 Proposed Budget, the 5% vacancy rate deduction for General Fund departments was eliminated to ensure budgeted appropriations align more closely with allocated staffing levels and accurately reflect the County's resource commitments. "Should the Long-Range Model, the organization's multi-year financial planning tool, identify imminent concerns, we have

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a clearer picture of the impacts and can readily implement strategic action to course-correct and preserve critical fiscal resources,” stated CEO Hayes.

The budget is organized by the Board of Supervisors’ priority areas in support of the organization’s mission, vision, and values. The overall County budget devoted to each Board priority area follows. Departments Supporting a Healthy Community account for the largest portion of the County budget, representing 40.8% of the Proposed Budget. Those departments Delivering Efficient Public Services make up 22.5% of the budget, of which 71% represent various administrative budgets that support the entire organization, closely followed by departments Supporting a Strong and Safe Community at 20.7% and Enhancing Community Infrastructure at 12.8%. Developing a High-Performing Economy and Promoting Lifelong Learning comprise the remainder of the County budget, at 2% and 1.2%, respectively.

If approved as recommended, the 2025 Proposed Budget totals \$1.81 billion and will support 4,918 allocated positions, a net increase of 19 over the current allocation. The 2025 Proposed Budget represents an increase of \$88.1 million, or 5.1%, over the 2024 Adopted Budget approved last September.

The recommended 2025 Proposed Budget is funded by \$1.32 billion in department revenue, \$41.8 million in County Match/Contribution revenue to non-General Fund departments, and the use of \$84.8 million in department fund balance and retained earnings, resulting in a General Fund Contribution, or Net County Cost, of \$367.7 million. Net County Cost is funded by \$307.6 million in Discretionary Revenue, approximately \$53.7 million in General Fund assignments, and \$6.4 million in unassigned fund balance, consistent with multi-year planning in the Long-Range Model.

The 2025 Proposed Budget will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for consideration and approval in a public hearing at the regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors’ meeting beginning at 9:00 am on Tuesday, June 4, 2024. It is also available for public review on the County’s website at [www.stancounty.com/budget](http://www.stancounty.com/budget) and a hard copy will be available for viewing in the Clerk of the Board’s Office on the sixth floor of Tenth Street Place in Modesto.

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To request more information or an interview, please contact Catherine Larsen, Communications and Marketing Strategist, at 209-480-8304 or [larsenc@stancounty.com](mailto:larsenc@stancounty.com).