

# Alameda County Fiscal Year 2025-26 Early Budget Work Session

Susan S. Muranishi, County Administrator

April 15, 2025

**REVISED** 

### **Early Budget Work Session**

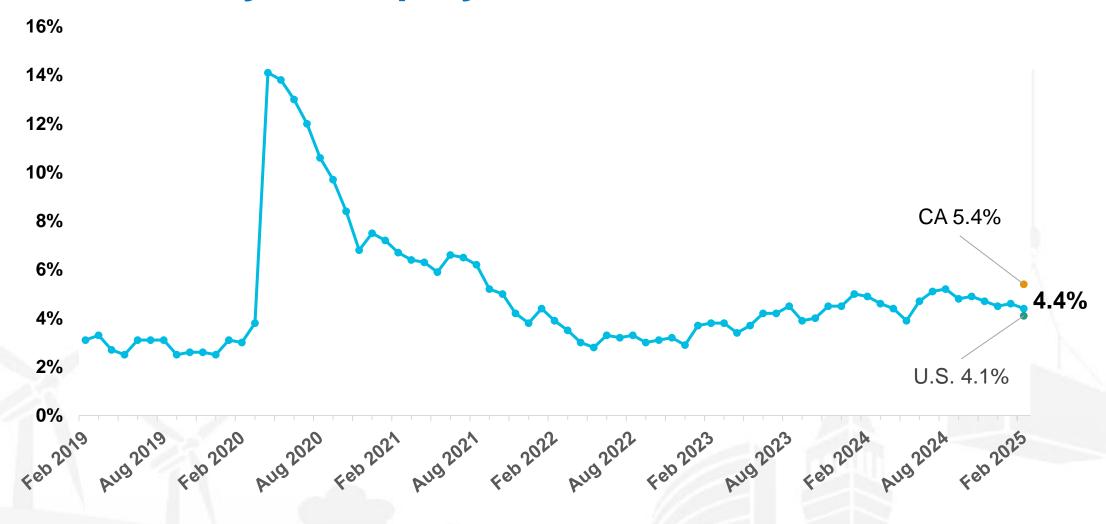
- Economic Context, Federal, and State Update
- County Budget Updates
  - Board-Approved FY 2025-26 Budget Policy
  - FY 2025-26 Budget Next Steps
- Pending Factors
- FY 2025-26 Preliminary MOE Department Presentations



## **Economic Context**



### **Alameda County Unemployment**





### **State and Regional Layoffs**

Ongoing cutbacks concentrated in the technology sector



- Notable layoffs in 2025:
  - Health Kaiser
  - Life Science and Biotech Bio-Rad
  - Automotive Cruise
  - Retail Macy's, Bloomingdales, Kohl's





















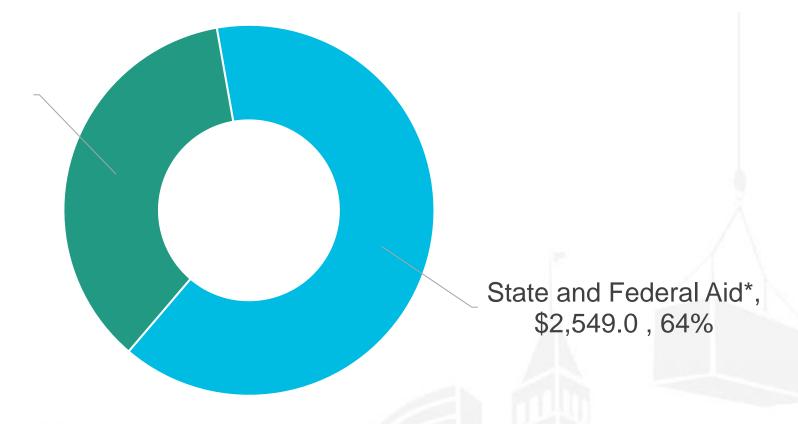


# **State and Federal Updates**



# State and Federal Aid as a Percentage of Total Financing (\$ in millions)

All Other Revenue, \$1,433.1,36%



Total Financing: \$3,982.1



### **State Budget Update**

- Department of Finance reported personal income tax receipts above forecast in March, while corporate tax and sales and use tax receipts are below forecast
- Legislative Analyst's Office estimates 2025-26 State budget remains "roughly balanced"
  - State would face a deficit today if not for legislative action last June to identify \$28 billion in budget solutions, which has generated about \$23 billion in savings
  - Revenue collections have improved since last June
  - Spending is higher compared to administration and LAO forecasts
    - Borrowing \$3.44 billion from the general fund to cover unexpected cost increases in Medi-Cal



### **Federal Update**

- Congress approved a six-month Continuing Resolution to fund the government through September 30
- Congress passed a revised budget allowing for the extension of \$5.3 trillion in tax cuts
  - Senate plan directs committees to find \$4 billion in Medicare and Medicaid savings
- Layoffs across multiple federal agencies
- Notices of federal grant terminations
- Impact of tariffs on global trade and economy



#### **Reduction Targets**

Congress is planning cuts to key programs affecting the County's core services, including TANF, Social Services, SSI, Medicaid, SNAP, and climate initiatives.



### **Tariff Uncertainty**

- Stock market volatility resulting from tariffs impacting retirement systems
  - CalPERS lost \$20 billion from its investment portfolio
  - If annual targets are not met, public agencies may need to increase contributions
- Tariffs pushing up cost of building materials which could drive up US home insurance rates even higher
- Mixed signals regarding new tariffs on tech
- Auto industry tariff exemption



### **Additional Federal Impacts**

- Health and Human Services layoffs have slashed staffs of major federal aging, disability and anti-poverty programs
  - \$11 billion revoked in federal funding for grants related to addiction and mental health
  - The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration is being merged into the Administration for a Healthy America – a restructuring of HHS that is expected to eliminate 20,000 employees
- Staff laid off from the Division of Energy Assistance, which runs the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Deep cuts in Medicaid funding feared which provides the largest single source of insurance coverage for drug and alcohol treatment



# 2025-26 MOE Budget



### **MOE Budget Guidelines**

Maintenance of Effort: The funding level needed by agencies/departments to continue existing programs, staffing and service levels.

- Known salary/benefits, operational and internal service fund adjustments
- Current revenue projections should first offset eligible increased operating costs
- 5.0% cost-of-living adjustment for eligible contracts with community-based organizations
- Mid-year Board approved adjustments
- Alignment with Vision 2036



### FY 2025-26 Budget Development Next Steps

- Continue analysis of program expenditure & revenue projections
- Analyze & update non-program revenue and expenditure projections
- Position review and assessment of vacancy factors
- Identify any remaining funding gap & balancing strategies
- Analyze Governor's May Revision
- Submit balanced Proposed Budget to Board of Supervisors
- Budget Hearings
- Adopt balanced Final Budget by June 30th



### **Budget Process Overview**

#### **January**

Budget Kickoff
ISF budget requests submitted



Budget Workgroup mtgs
Budget gap identified
Other special budgets
submitted

#### **Early June**

Proposed Budget presented to the Board

















#### **February**

Department budget requests and narratives submitted

CBO contracts data submitted

#### **Early April**

Early Budget Work Sessions

#### **Late May**

Departments submit reduction plans

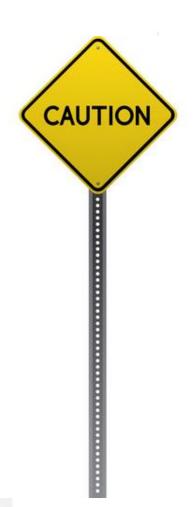
#### **Late June**

Budget hearings and Final Budget adoption



### **Pending Factors**

- State budget and federal budget
- Labor negotiations & workforce challenges
- Pending litigation and settlements
- Rising liability and insurance costs
- Pension and other employee benefit cost increases
- Potential federal and State audit disallowances
- Unfunded capital projects and deferred maintenance
- Ongoing homelessness crisis; Home Together Plan
- CARE Court and Proposition 1 implementation
- Reimagining Adult Justice initiatives
- Assessment appeals
- Global finances and climate change
- Economic downturn





### FY 2025-26 Early Budget Work Session Schedule

#### **County Administrator's Overview**

#### **Health Care Services**

**AC** Health

#### **Public Assistance**

Social Services Agency Child Support Services

#### **General Government**

General Services Agency
Public Works Agency
Community Development Agency
Assessor

#### **Public Protection**

Sheriff

District Attorney

**Probation Department** 

Public Defender

Fire Department

#### **General Government (continued)**

Registrar of Voters
Information Technology Department
Auditor-Controller
Treasurer-Tax Collector
Human Resource Services
Library



