

SANTA YNEZ COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors
From: Loch Dreizler, General Manager
Alicia Marin, Office Manager
Date: May 20, 2026
Subject: Initiate Process to Adopt Final FY 2026-2027 Budget

Proposed Motion/Recommendation: I move that staff initiate the formal process of adopting the district's budget for FY 2026-2027 and publish the public hearing notice, presenting the budget for formal adoption at the regular Board Meeting in June.

The attached resolution 26-06 will be presented for approval at the regular meeting in June.

Policy Implications: With the Board's approval at this meeting, the staff will publish the public hearing notice for the formal adoption of the Budget.

California Government Code § 61110 requires the Board to adopt an annual budget by September 1. The California Government Code also mandates that the Board hold a public hearing and publish a notice at least two weeks before the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation.

The Board adopted Resolution 11-05 on June 15, 2011, stating that the preliminary Budget will be prepared in May of each year and reviewed by the Finance Committee. The final Budget will be presented at the June meeting.

Alternatives Considered: None

Discussion: The FY 2026-27 final budget is attached. The district budget year runs from July 1 to June 30. The district's primary revenue source is the sewer fees collected from constituents.

The District has conducted a rate study with Willdan Financial Services, which covers FY 2026-27 through FY 2030-31. The new rates are anticipated to be adopted at the June 17, 2026 board meeting. The anticipated sewer rate for FY 2026-27 is \$92.42 per single-family dwelling, reflecting the rates for most constituents within the CSD.

The Finance Committee reviewed the attached budget on May 5, 2026. Staff made minor changes to the budget after the committee meeting.

Specific Budget Considerations

- Chumash WWTP Recycled Water revenue – The Chumash is exercising its option to discharge treated effluent into the District’s collection system. This additional flow is billed monthly to the Chumash at the rate the District pays the City of Solvang.
- Operations Collections System – The trunk line from approximately the high school to the terminus at Fjord Drive is anticipated to be cleaned and videoed by a professional service. The cost, estimated at \$95,000, was included in our capital improvement plan.
- City of Solvang Flow Charges – The agreement with the City of Solvang provides that the “District shall pay...one twelfth of its estimated prorated annual budgeted costs of maintenance and operation of the System”. The City of Solvang’s budgeted costs are \$300,000; therefore, the updated monthly charge to the District will be \$25,000. An additional \$75,000 is budgeted to cover the reconciliation of actual receipts, including a management fee, from the City of Solvang, which occurs around February each year.
- Solvang's WWTP - Santa Ynez CSD has limited control over Solvang's annual Wastewater Treatment Plant capital expenditures. The District contributes approximately 20% toward Solvang's WWTP capital improvements. The City of Solvang’s budget shows that it will receive \$594,500 from the District. Staff is collaborating with the City of Solvang and receives quarterly updates on the City's capital improvement expenses. The City of Solvang's estimated capital expenses were used in the rate study to determine the rate increases.

- Horizon Mainline Extension Project Debt Service is \$86,815.89 annually, with the final payment due July 23, 2041.
- The budget includes a 3.0% COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) and a corresponding increase in the health benefit allowance, as defined in the Employee Handbook and based on the 2025 CPI-U (Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers – Los Angeles, Long Beach, Anaheim).

Proposed Capital Projects

The Board was presented with the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) in September 2025, and the CIP was incorporated into the recent rate study. Additionally, the Board approves capital projects exceeding \$25,000.

A summary of our estimated capital projects (prices will vary depending on the outcomes during the bidding process):

1. Hwy 246 Trunkline cleaning and video	\$ 95,000
2. Reline 12 manholes along Hwy 246	\$ 160,000
3. Ductile Iron Pipe Lining at Alamo Pintado Bridge	\$ 20,000
4. Force Main Inspection	\$ 220,000
5. 246 Lift Station – Wet Well Liner	\$ 36,800
6. Install 3 Trunk Line Meters	\$ 92,000
7. <u>Replace 2007 Chevy Work Truck</u>	<u>\$ 66,000</u>
ESTIMATED TOTAL	\$ 689,800

Attachment(s):

1. 2026/27 Proposed Budget
2. DRAFT Resolution 26-06

DRAFT RESOLUTION NO. 26-06

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SANTA YNEZ COMMUNITY SERVICES
DISTRICT FIXING AND ADOPTING A FINAL
BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027**

WHEREAS, under Government Code Section 61110, a public hearing will be held at which any person is permitted to appear and be heard regarding any item in the proposed final budget for the Santa Ynez Community Services District for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (the “FY 2026-2027 Budget”), or regarding the addition of other items thereto.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Santa Ynez Community Services District as follows:

1. The FY 2026-2027 Budget on file with the Secretary of the District, previously reviewed and considered by this Board, is finalized and adopted.
2. The General Manager or Board Secretary is directed to forward a copy of the FY 2026-2027 Budget to the Santa Barbara County Auditor.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of June 2026 by the following vote of the Board of Directors of the Santa Ynez Community Services District:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

Frank Redfern, President of the
Board of Directors

Alicia Marin,
Board Secretary

DRAFT Santa Ynez Community Services District

Operating Budget 2026/2027

	FY 26 Projected Actuals	FY 26 Adopted Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Variance	% Variance
	A	B	C	D=C-B	E=D/B
Revenue					
Operating Revenue					
Sewer Service Fees	\$ 1,532,000	\$ 1,532,000	\$ 1,583,400	\$ 51,400	3%
Sewer Benefit Fees	39,200	39,200	39,000	(200)	-1%
Other Charges for Services	4,900	4,900	4,900	-	0%
Total Operating Revenue	1,576,100	1,576,100	1,627,300	51,200	3%
Non-Operating Revenue					
Property Taxes	220,000	224,400	228,900	4,500	2%
Annexation Fees	8,000	3,300	3,300	-	0%
Chumash Reservation Contract	445,600	466,400	507,300	40,900	9%
Chumash WWTP Recycled Water	94,300	-	78,000	78,000	0%
Investment Earnings	271,500	183,000	232,000	49,000	27%
Other Revenue	10,800	16,200	17,500	1,300	8%
Total Non-Operating Revenue	1,050,200	893,300	1,067,000	173,700	19%
Capital Contributions					
Capacity Fees	116,300	103,800	117,600	13,800	13%
Total Capital Contributions	116,300	103,800	117,600	13,800	13%
Total Revenue	\$ 2,742,600	\$ 2,573,200	\$ 2,811,900	\$ 238,700	9%

Expenses (Operations, General & Administrative, Building, Chumash WWTP, Reservation Collection System)

	FY 26 Projected Actuals	FY 26 Adopted Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Variance	% Variance
	A	B	C	D=C-B	E=D/B
Operations Expenses					
Salaries	\$ 374,400	\$ 408,700	\$ 399,400	\$ (9,300)	-2%
Employee Benefits	119,800	131,700	155,500	23,800	18%
Insurance	22,500	27,600	27,900	300	1%
Legal Services	300	35,000	35,000	-	0%
Consultant Fees	139,300	65,000	85,000	20,000	31%
Memberships and Subscriptions	4,000	4,000	4,000	-	0%
Office and Miscellaneous Expenses	8,600	7,750	9,100	1,350	17%
Employee Meetings, Seminars, and Travel	900	6,000	6,000	-	0%
Repair and Maintenance	34,000	22,600	27,200	4,600	20%
Computer Operations	11,400	9,900	12,500	2,600	26%
Permit Fees	7,300	6,500	6,500	-	0%
Collection System	25,900	10,000	18,100	8,100	81%
Pump Station	37,500	15,800	16,600	800	5%
Vehicle Repair and Maintenance	3,700	5,600	5,600	-	0%
Lab Testing	700	2,500	1,000	(1,500)	-60%
Utilities	32,500	30,600	38,800	8,200	27%
Project/GIS	15,300	15,300	15,300	-	0%
Solvang Flow Charges	477,597	280,000	375,000	95,000	34%
Solvang Capital Improvements	122,535	182,000	594,500	412,500	227%
Total Operations Expenses	\$ 1,438,232	\$ 1,266,550	\$ 1,833,000	\$ 566,450	45%

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Operating Budget 2026/2027

	FY 26 Projected Actuals	FY 26 Adopted Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Variance	% Variance
	A	B	C	D=C-B	E=D/B
40 General and Administrative Expenses					
41 Salaries	\$ 150,900	\$ 136,900	\$ 132,100	\$ (4,800)	-4%
42 Employee Benefits	48,500	34,000	42,800	8,800	26%
43 Insurance	5,500	11,400	11,400	-	0%
44 Memberships and Subscriptions	7,700	7,700	7,700	-	0%
45 Computer Operations	9,100	7,400	9,500	2,100	28%
46 LAFCO Fees	1,700	1,700	1,700	-	0%
47 Property Tax Fees	-	2,400	2,400	-	0%
48 Legal Services	13,600	46,300	48,600	2,300	5%
49 Audit and Accounting Services	46,000	40,000	46,000	6,000	15%
50 Consultant Fees	30,000	5,000	5,000	-	0%
51 Office and Miscellaneous Expenses	15,100	16,500	20,900	4,400	27%
52 Employee Meetings, Seminars, and Travel	4,000	7,000	8,000	1,000	14%
53 Utilities	1,700	1,700	1,700	-	0%
54 Total General and Administrative Expenses	\$ 333,800	\$ 318,000	\$ 337,800	\$ 19,800	6%

	FY 26 Projected Actuals	FY 26 Adopted Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Variance	% Variance
	A	B	C	D=C-B	E=D/B
55 Building Expenses					
56 Utilities	\$ 10,100	\$ 10,200	\$ 10,600	\$ 400	4%
57 Repair and Maintenance	9,700	8,500	9,300	800	9%
58 Insurance	4,000	5,300	5,100	(200)	-4%
59 Total Building Expenses	\$ 23,800	\$ 24,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 1,000	4%

	FY 26 Projected Actuals	FY 26 Adopted Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Variance	% Variance
	A	B	C	D=C-B	E=D/B
60 Chumash WWTP Expenses					
61 Salaries	\$ 205,900	\$ 175,100	\$ 202,300	\$ 27,200	16%
62 Employee Benefits	61,100	59,900	69,300	9,400	16%
63 Utilities	200	300	200	(100)	-33%
64 Repair and Maintenance	57,200	93,700	94,800	1,100	1%
65 Memberships and Subscriptions	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	0%
66 Employee Meetings, Seminars, and Travel	1,000	2,000	2,000	-	0%
67 Lab Testing	7,800	17,800	8,200	(9,600)	-54%
68 Insurance	5,200	7,000	8,100	1,100	16%
69 Miscellaneous Expenses	1,200	3,300	2,600	(700)	-21%
70 Total Chumash WWTP Expenses	\$ 340,600	\$ 360,100	\$ 388,500	\$ 28,400	8%

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Operating Budget 2026/2027

	FY 26 Projected Actuals	FY 26 Adopted Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Variance	% Variance
71 Reservation Collection System Expenses	A	B	C	D=C-B	E=D/B
72 Salaries	\$ 41,900	\$ 42,800	\$ 47,200	\$ 4,400	10%
73 Employee Benefits	13,300	14,100	18,400	4,300	30%
74 Utilities	8,100	8,500	8,600	100	1%
75 Repair and Maintenance	10,900	13,500	14,500	1,000	7%
76 Insurance	1,600	1,400	1,700	300	21%
77 Total Reservation Collection System Expenses	\$ 75,800	\$ 80,300	\$ 90,400	\$ 10,100	13%

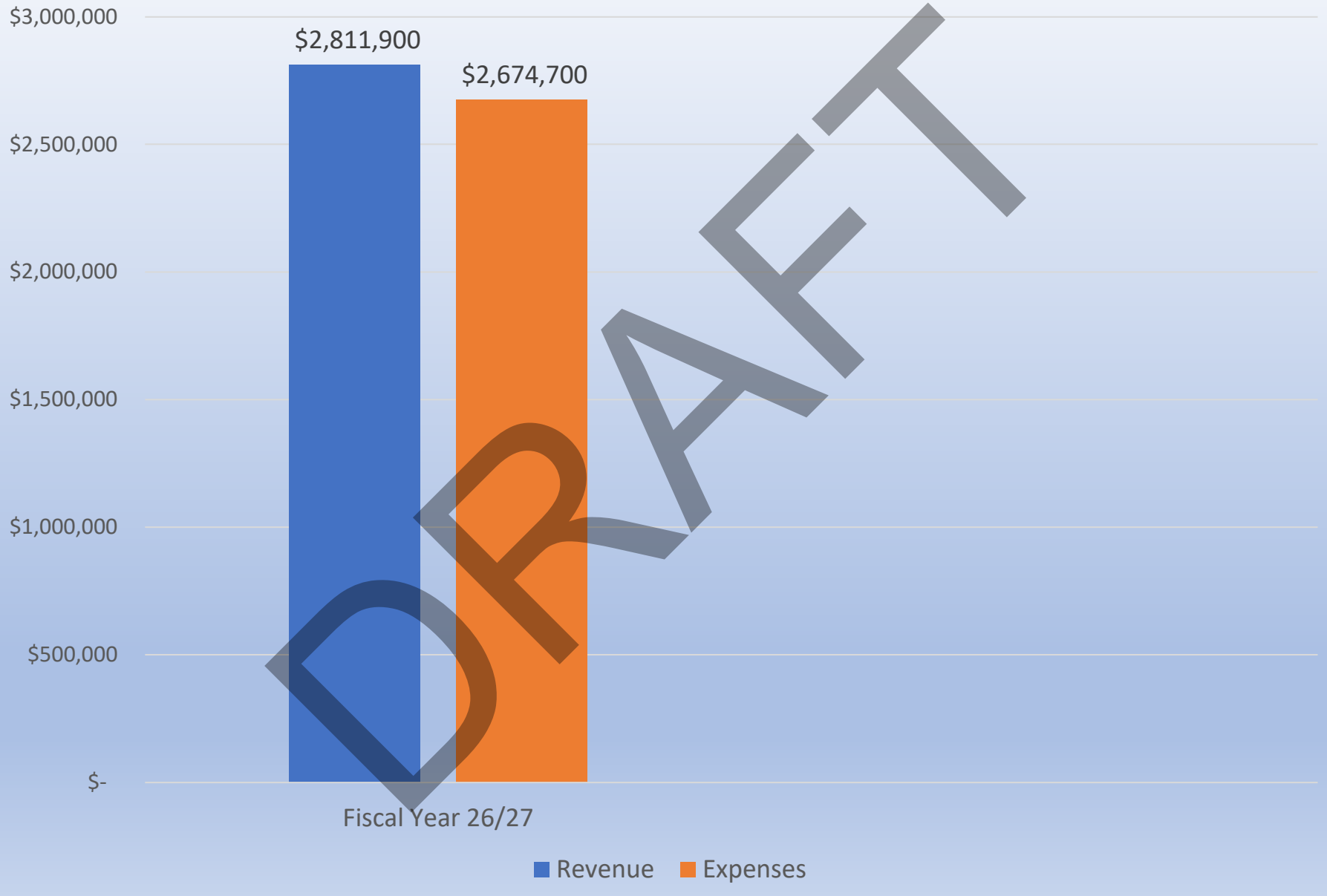
78 Total Expenses	\$ 2,212,232	\$ 2,048,950	\$ 2,674,700	\$ 625,750	31%
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79 NET OPERATING INCOME = Revenue - Expenses	\$ 530,368	\$ 524,250	\$ 137,200	\$ (387,050)	-74%
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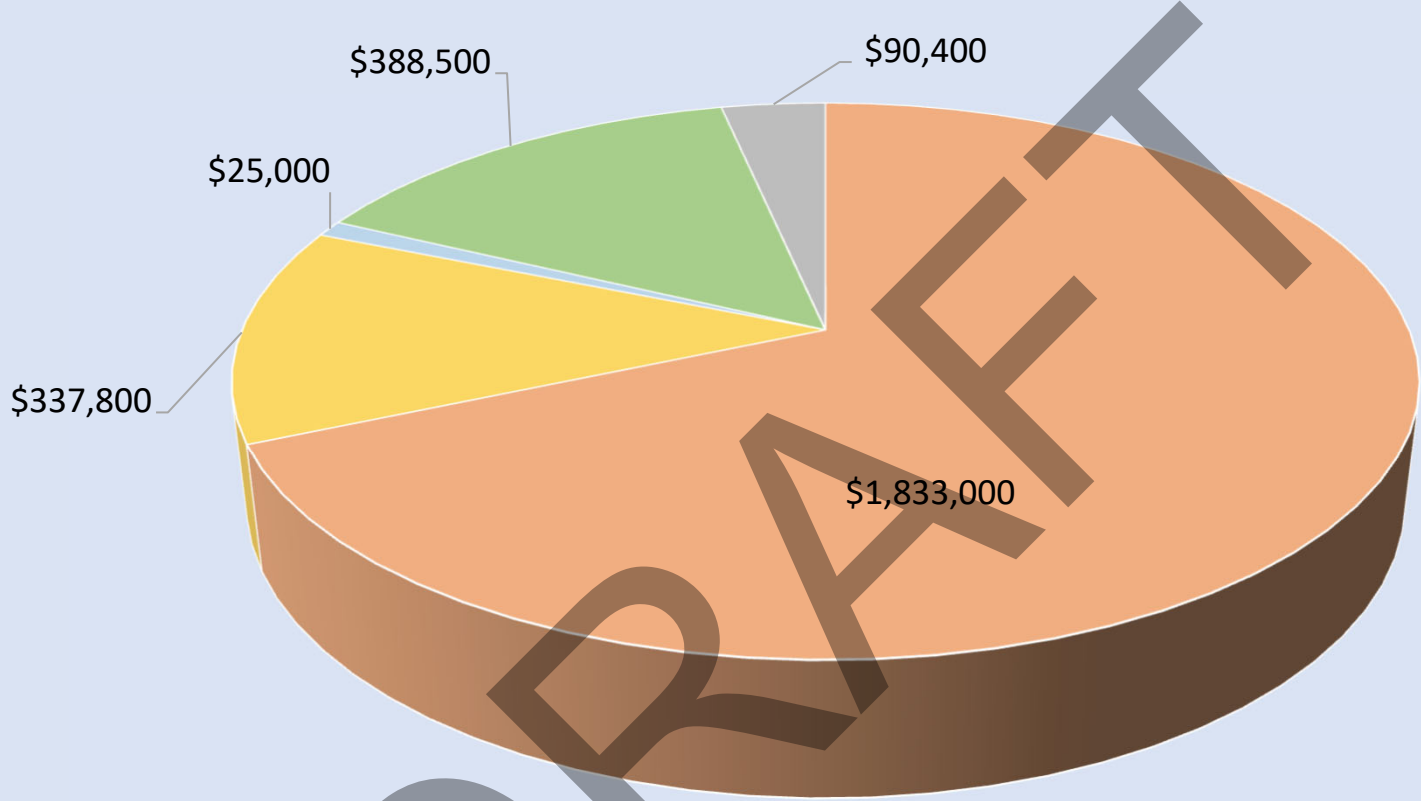
Capital Projects and Debt Service & Net Increase (Decrease) to Reserves

	FY 26 Projected Actuals	FY 26 Adopted Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Variance	% Variance
80 Net Operating Income = Revenue - Expenses	\$ 530,368	\$ 524,250	\$ 137,200	\$ (387,050)	-74%
81 Capital Expenditures					
82 District Capital Improvement Projects	-	(315,000)	(689,800)	(374,800)	119%
83 Total Capital Expenditures	\$ -	\$ (315,000)	\$ (689,800)	\$ (374,800)	119%
84 Debt Service					
85 Horizon Loan Principal	(53,100)	(53,100)	(53,100)	-	0%
86 Horizon Loan Interest	(33,700)	(33,700)	(33,700)	-	0%
87 Total Debt Service	(86,800)	(86,800)	(86,800)	-	
88 Net Increase (Decrease) to Reserves	\$ 443,568	\$ 122,450	\$ (639,400)	\$ (761,850)	

Revenue & Expenses

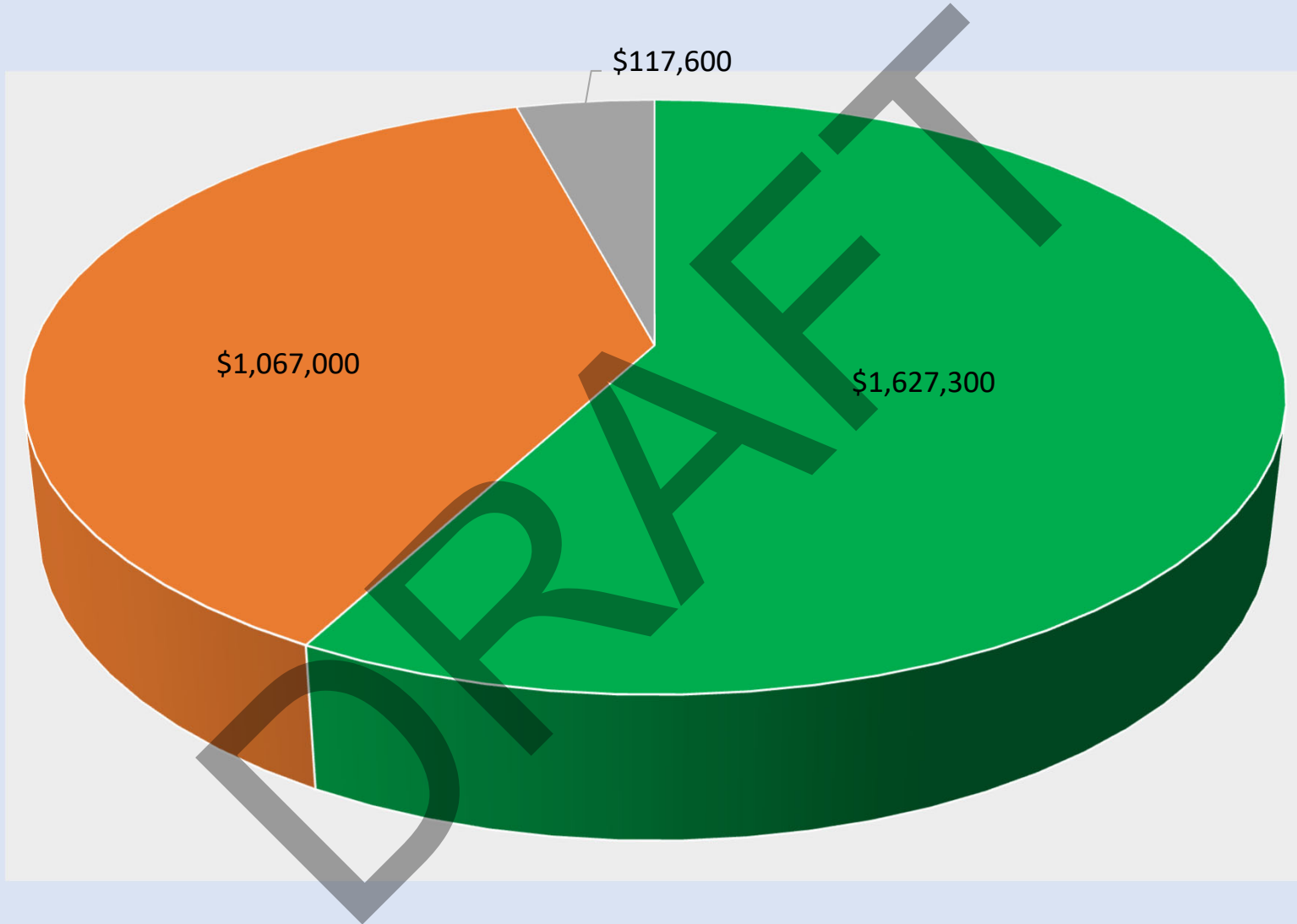


FY 27 Budgeted Expenses by Department



- Operations
- General and Administrative
- Building
- Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Reservation Collection System

FY 27 Budgeted Revenue by Source



■ Operating Revenue ■ Non-Operating Revenue ■ Capacity Fees

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FY 2026/27 Operating Budget

District Budget

Revenue

Operating Revenue

Line 3 – Sewer Service Fees include sewer service fees for connected parcels. Increase per rate schedule defined by the rate study at 2.5%.

Line 4 – Sewer Benefit Fees include fixed sewer fees for every parcel where sewer service is available. The fee does not increase, but the number of parcels assessed may increase yearly. Decrease for FY 2027 due to adjusting revenue for monthly billing.

Line 5 – Other Charges for Services include plan check, inspection, administrative fees, and board room rental fees.

Non-Operating Revenue

Line 8 – Property Taxes include Ad Valorem tax revenue assessed by Santa Barbara County for all properties annexed to the District.

Line 9 – Annexation Fees include fees for annexing properties to the District that are currently outside the District boundaries. Conservative budget for new properties lowered to reflect actual.

Line 10 – Chumash Reservation Contract includes reimbursement of expenses from operations of the Chumash Wastewater Treatment Plant, reservation lift station, and collection. Includes an administration charge for District costs, including utilities, computers, and supplies. Increase for higher costs of reimbursed expenses.

Line 11 – Chumash WWTP Recycled Water – New line item for FY 2026/27. Reimbursement of recycled water sent from the WWTP through the District's collection system. Estimated at \$6,500 per month.

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Line 12 – Investment Earnings include earnings from cash and investments held with Five Star Bank, Mechanics Bank, King Capital Advisors (CDs), and the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF). Conservative increase for additional funds invested and for variable interest rates.

Line 13 – Other Revenue includes payment plan interest, miscellaneous reimbursements, and other income not accounted for in the above accounts.

Line 16 – Capacity Fees include fees to connect to the District's sewer line for purchasing future capacity in the City of Solvang Wastewater Treatment Plant. Conservative increase for additional service connections – 2 SFDs and 2 ADUs.

Expenses

Operations

Line 20 – Salaries include 55% of General Manager, 45% Officer Manager/Board Secretary, 85% Operations Supervisor, 85% Collection Operators, and 2% of the Chief Plant Operator salaries. Includes a 5% step increase if warranted, 3% cost of living increase per Board approved COLA reference to the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, CPI-U 12-month percent change January and December 2025. Decrease due to staff changes.

Line 21 – Employee Benefits include health insurance, retirement, and additional retirement contributions paid by the District. Increase for salary allocation adjustments among departments and estimated increase in health insurance expenses.

Line 22 – Insurance includes property, general liability, and worker's compensation insurance. Includes addition of yearend adjustments by insurance company.

Line 23 – Legal Services include general legal fees paid by the District.

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Line 24 – Consultant Fees include professional services for demographers and engineering. Increase for anticipated deferred maintenance work to be done in FY 2027.

Line 25 – Memberships and Subscriptions include staff memberships and subscriptions such as the CA Water Environment Association (CWEA).

Line 26 – Office and Miscellaneous Expenses include printing and publications, postage, office equipment, supplies, and uniforms for operations staff. Increase to reflect actuals from FY 2026.

Line 27 – Employee Meetings, Seminars, and Travel includes training for operations staff and certifications and travel.

Line 28 – Repair and Maintenance includes equipment repairs and maintenance, Dig Alerts, operating supplies, and small tools. Increase to reflect actuals from FY 2026.

Line 29 – Computer Operations include regular computer operations support. Increase for anticipated additional support and maintenance work order system annual cost.

Line 30 – Permit Fees includes air pollution control fees.

Line 31 – Collection System includes repairs and maintenance of the collection system. Increased due to budgeting based on FY 2026 actuals.

Line 32 – Pump Station includes repairs and maintenance on 246 and Golden Inn pump stations.

Line 33 – Vehicle Repair and Maintenance includes routine repair and maintenance costs of District-owned vehicles.

Line 34 – Lab Testing includes testing of manholes to verify the composition and strength of wastewater. Decrease due to adjusting to reflect actuals for FY 2026.

Line 35 – Utilities include electricity for pump stations. Increased due to budgeting based on FY 2026 actuals.

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FY 2026/27 Operating Budget

Line 36 – Project/GIS includes monthly Geographic Information System support charges.

Line 37 - Solvang Flow Charges - charges for the treatment of wastewater and project costs at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Increase due to increasing monthly payment to the City of Solvang to \$25,000 based on their budget. Estimated an additional \$75,000 for the end of year reconciliation management fee expense based on actual flows determined by the City of Solvang. Note that the City of Solvang bills in arrears.

Line 38 - Solvang Capital Improvements Santa Ynez CSD has little control over Solvang's annual Wastewater Treatment Plant capital expenditures. SYCSD pays approximately 20% of their capital improvements. \$594,490 is from the City of Solvang 10-year Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2025-26. The City of Solvang bills in arrears.

General and Administrative

Line 41 – Salaries include 35% of the General Manager and 45% of the Office Manager/Board Secretary salaries. Increase includes a 3% cost of living increase per Board approved COLA reference to the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, CPI-U 12-month percent change January and December 2025. Decrease due to staff changes.

Line 42 – Employee Benefits include health insurance, retirement, and supplemental retirement contributions paid by the District. Increase for salary allocation adjustments among departments, estimated increase in health insurance expenses, and budgeting the new General Manager at the maximum benefits allowance.

Line 43 – Insurance includes property, general liability, and worker's compensation insurance. Increase due to higher estimated insurance and addition of end of year adjustments by insurance company.

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FY 2026/27 Operating Budget

Line 44 – Memberships and Subscriptions include staff memberships and subscriptions such as the California Special Districts Association and the Chamber of Commerce.

Line 45 – Computer Operations includes regular computer operations support. Increase for anticipated additional support.

Line 46 – LAFCO Fees include an estimated local Agency Commission Formation (LAFCO) budget cost.

Line 47 – Property Tax Fees include County charges for collecting property taxes.

Line 48 – Legal Services include general legal fees paid by the District. Increase for anticipated higher costs.

Line 49 – Audit and Accounting Services include costs for an annual external audit of the financial statements and services to assist with accounting and audit preparation. Increase due to anticipated accounting firm annual rate increases.

Line 50 – Consultant Fees includes fees for consultants on an as-needed basis.

Line 51 – Office and Miscellaneous Expenses include printing and publications, postage, office equipment, supplies, pre-screening exams, bank charges, payroll processing fees, and retirement service fees.

Line 52 – Employee Meetings, Seminars, and Travel include educational and training opportunities for staff and Board members. Increased to reflect anticipated board member conference attendance.

Line 53 – Utilities include telephone and internet charges for the District office.

Building

Line 56 – Utilities include the District building's water, electric, and gas charges.

Line 57 – Repair and Maintenance includes miscellaneous building repairs and maintenance, supplies, monthly cleaning, carpet cleaning, window cleaning, and other items.

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Line 58 – Insurance includes property and general liability insurance.

Chumash Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)

Line 61 – Salaries include 96% of the Chief Plant Operator, 5% General Manager, 5% Office Manager/Board Secretary, 5% Operations Supervisor, and 5% Collection Operators' salaries. Includes a 5% step increase as warranted and a 3% cost of living increase per Board approved COLA reference to the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, CPI-U 12-month percent change January and December 2025. Increase due to salary allocation adjustments among departments.

Line 62 – Employee Benefits include health insurance, retirement, and supplemental retirement contributions paid by the District. Increase for salary allocation adjustments among departments and estimated increase in health insurance expenses.

Line 63 – Utilities include fuel and telephone charges for the WWTP. Decrease due basing on FY 2026 actuals.

Line 64 – Repair and Maintenance includes repairs, maintenance and supplies at the WWTP. Decrease due to reflecting FY 26 actuals.

Line 65 – Memberships and Subscriptions include staff memberships and subscriptions such as the California Water Environment Association and Grade IV operator certificates.

Line 66 – Employee Meetings, Seminars, and Travel includes educational and training opportunities for staff.

Line 67 – Lab Testing includes testing of wastewater for permit compliance. Decrease due to reflecting FY 26 actuals.

Line 68 – Insurance includes worker's compensation insurance for District staff based on hours worked. Increase due to higher estimated insurance and addition of end of year adjustments by insurance company.

Line 69 – Miscellaneous Expenses include staff uniforms and other expenses.

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FY 2026/27 Operating Budget

Reservation Collection System

Line 72 – Salaries include 5% of General Manager, 5% Officer Manager/Board Secretary, 10% Operations Supervisor, and 10% Collection Operators, and 2% of the Chief Plant Operator salaries. Includes a 5% step increase as warranted and a 3% cost of living increase per Board approved COLA reference to the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, CPI-U 12-month percent change January and December 2025. Increase due to salary allocation adjustments among departments.

Line 73 – Employee Benefits include health insurance, retirement, and supplemental retirement contributions paid by the District. Increase due to salary allocation adjustments among departments.

Line 74 – Utilities include electric and telephone charges for the lift station.

Line 75 – Repair and Maintenance includes repairs and maintenance for the Reservation lift station and collection lines.

Line 76 – Insurance includes worker's compensation insurance for District staff based on hours worked. Increase due to higher estimated insurance and addition of end of year adjustments by insurance company.

Capital Projects & Debt Service

Capital

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FY 2026/27 Operating Budget

Line 82 - District Capital Improvement Projects budgeted for FY 27 are outlined in the Board Memo. They include relining 12 manholes, ductile iron pipe lining at the Alamo Pintado Bridge, force main assessment and gasket inspections, replacing the Hwy 246 wet well liner, installing three flow meters along the trunk line, cleaning and videoing the Hwy 246 trunk line, and replacing the 2007 work truck.

Debt Service

Line 85 - Horizon Loan Principal includes the annual principal installment for the agreement with Municipal Finance Corporation for the cost of constructing improvements at the wastewater facilities.

Line 86 - Horizon Loan Interest includes the annual interest installment for the agreement with Municipal Finance Corporation for the cost of constructing improvements at the wastewater facilities.

Line 88 - Net Increase (Decrease) to Reserves is budgeted to decrease the Reserves by \$639,400 due to anticipated capital improvement projects.