

Drought Conditions

California is in the midst of a severe drought, with the current year being one of the driest in recorded State history. The lack of rain has caused record low reservoirs, and a snowpack measuring 20% of normal levels. On January 15, 2014, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) declared 27 counties in California, including San Luis Obispo, to be designated as primary natural disaster areas due to drought conditions. Subsequently, on January 17, 2014, Governor Edmond G. Brown Jr. proclaimed a State of Emergency calling for voluntary statewide 20% reduction in water consumption. On March 11, 2014, the Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution proclaiming a local emergency due to drought conditions in San Luis Obispo County.

Dry conditions and lack of precipitation present urgent problems, including: drinking water supplies are at risk in many communities; fewer crops can be cultivated and farmers' long-term investments are put at risk; animals and plants are being threatened; and the risk of wildfires is greatly increased. Due to the uncertainty about how the drought will affect economic conditions within the county, the County's FY 2014-15 Proposed Budget does not adjust for any potential impacts.

Joint efforts between the County and its residents will be critical as we continue to take steps to manage the impacts of the drought. The County is taking several actions to reduce water usage in County-owned facilities, at County Parks and Golf Courses, at the Airport, in new construction and lease agreements, and with the County's Fleet. Residents can conserve a significant amount of water everyday as well. Below are some water saving tips:

- Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street. This will save 15-12 gallons/each time you water.
- Plant drought-resistant trees and plants. This will save 30-60 gallons each time you water 1,000 sq. ft. of landscaping.
- Wash only full loads of clothes. This will save 15-45 gallons per person, per day.
- Turn water off when brushing teeth or shaving. This will save approximately 10 gallons per day
- Install a high-efficiency toilet. This will save 19 gallons per person, per day.
- Take a short shower instead of a bath. A bathtub can use up to 70 gallons of water.

For more water conservation tips, visit: www.saveourh2o.org



Budget Process

Pursuant to the State Budget Act (Government Code §29000), San Luis Obispo County develops a balanced budget every fiscal year. The budget process is a collaborative effort that involves all County departments, the Board of Supervisors and the public. While County staff is responsible for preparing a proposed budget and the Board of Supervisors ultimately has the authority to adopt funding levels, public input is an integral part of the County's budget process.

Public participation in the budget process is welcome and available through the many public budget-related meetings that are held by the Board of Supervisors throughout the year. All Board meetings are recorded and broadcast via cable television and the County's website.

Budget Calendar

August	Departments submit Capital Improvement Project Requests.
October	Financial Forecast is presented to the Board. Board establishes priorities.
November	Board adopts Budget Goals and Policies. Board adopts the County's fee schedule for the coming year.
December	Departments develop departmental goals and performance measures.
February	Departments submit budget requests. Administrative Office presents a budget update to the Board based on budget submittals from departments.
March	Administrative Office reviews and analyzes budgets submitted by departments.
April	Administrative Office finalizes budget recommendations.
May	Proposed Budget is published and introduced to the Board. Supplemental Budget is prepared to note changes to the Proposed Budget.
June	Public budget hearings to review and adopt Proposed Budget. Fiscal year ends June 30.
July	New fiscal year begins July 1.
August	Fund Balance Available from fiscal year just ended is available.
September	Final Budget is adopted by the Board, including Fund Balance Available from prior fiscal year.
October	Final Budget is published.



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

FISCAL YEAR 2014-15 PROPOSED BUDGET

Prepared by the County Administrative Office



Board of Supervisors



District 1
Frank R. Mecham



District 2
Bruce S. Gibson (Chairperson)



District 3
Adam Hill



District 4
Caren Ray



District 5
Debbie Arnold

Vision Statement and Communitywide Results

A Safe Community– The County will strive to create a community where all people— adults and children alike— have a sense of security and well being, crime is controlled, fire and rescue response is timely and roads are safe.

A Healthy Community– The County will strive to ensure all people in our community enjoy healthy, successful and productive lives, and have access to basic necessities.

A Livable Community– The County will strive to keep our community a good place to live by carefully managing growth, protecting our natural resources, promoting life long learning, and creating an environment that encourages respect for all people.

A Prosperous Community– The County will strive to keep our economy strong and viable and assure that all share in this economic prosperity.

A Well-Governed Community– The County will provide high quality “results oriented” services that are responsive to community desires.

Mission Statement

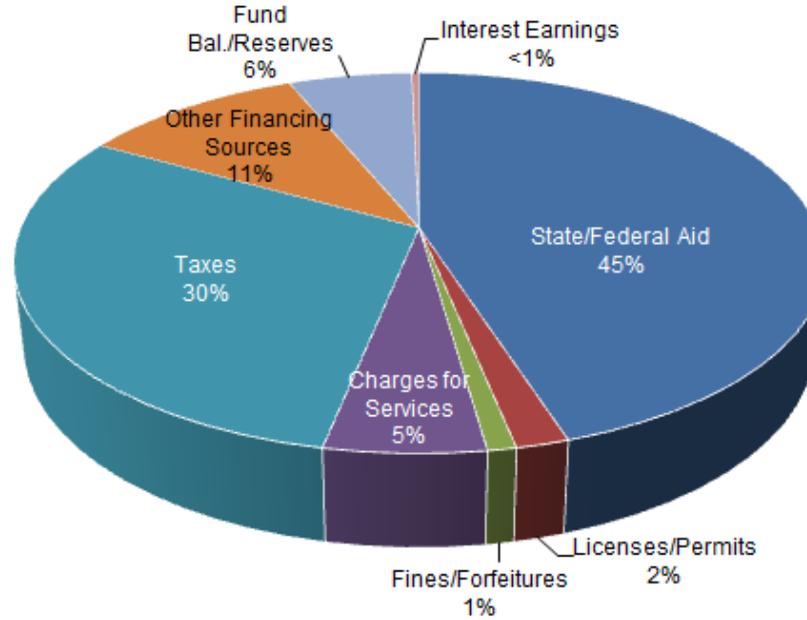
The County’s elected representatives and employees are committed to serve the community with pride to enhance the economic, environmental and social quality of life in San Luis Obispo County.

Organizational Values

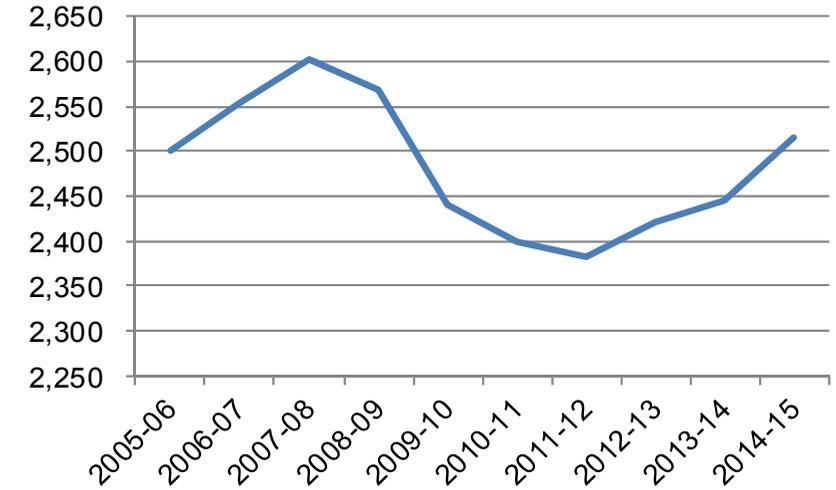
- Integrity
- Collaboration
- Professionalism
- Accountability
- Responsiveness

Source of Revenues

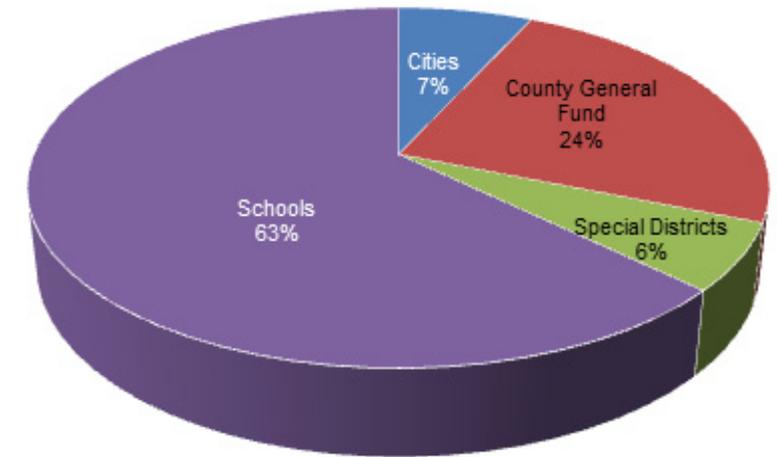
Total Budget: \$524.9 million



10 Year Staffing History

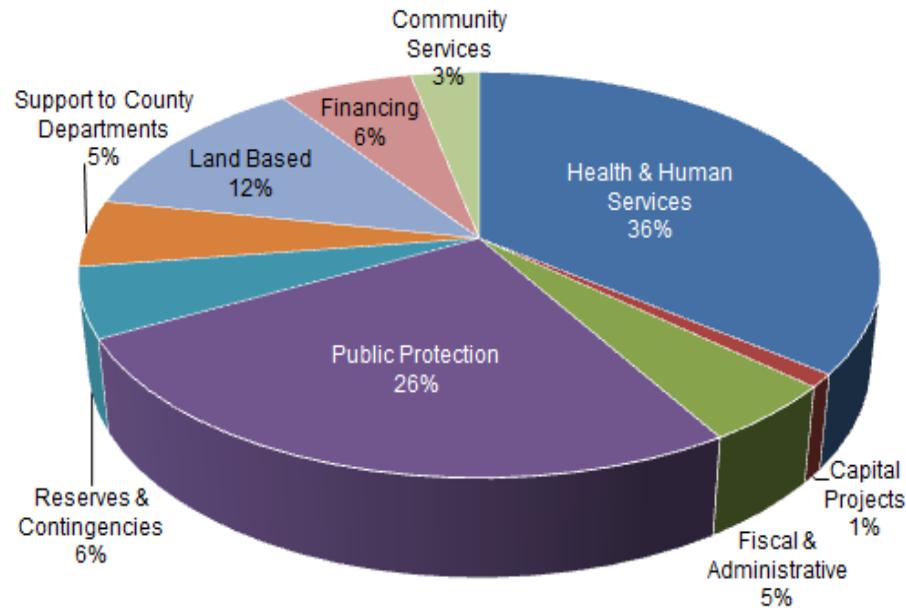


Property Tax Distribution by Government Agency



Expenditures by Functional Area

Total Budget: \$524.9 million



GOOD NEWS!

For the third year in a row, the County received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the FY 2013-14 Budget. This award is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our FY 2014-15 budget continues to conform to program requirements, and we have submitted it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another award.

