About the Budget Justice Coalition

Our Mission

*The Contra Costa Budget Justice Coalition advocates for community engagement in the Contra Costa County budgeting process and for a set of values-based budgeting principles that support safe and affordable housing, stable employment with fair wages, sufficient healthy food, essential health care, access to critical social services, quality early care and education.*

WE BELIEVE that the primary purpose of a county budget is to be a social safety net. It should strive to reduce economic, racial and gender inequities, reduce barriers to success, promote healthy families, prioritize crime prevention over incarceration, and meet the needs of all residents, regardless of immigration status.

To get involved: contact Dan Geiger, dan@budgetjusticecc.org
What We Will Cover Today

- Role of Counties
- Budget Highlights
- County Budget Process
- Panel Discussion on Services for the Homeless and Affordable Housing
- YOUR Input on Priorities
- Some Fun
It’s Not Easy Being A County!

• Less Revenue Generating Authority Than Other Entities

• More Mandates – Not Always Funded
Budget & County Responsibilities

- **Absolute Mandate**: Jail/Corrections, CalWORKs, Public Defender, Elections, Property Assessment, Child Welfare Services, Public Health, Communicable Disease Control
- **Mandate with Discretion**: Surveyor, Weights & Measures, Adult Protection, Sheriff Patrol, County General Plan, Medically Indigent Adults, Probation, Behavioral Health Services, General Assistance
- **Discretionary Necessity**: Senior Nutrition, Child Abuse, Homeless, Veterans, Disaster Planning, Libraries, Head Start
- **Discretionary**: Contingency, Economic Development, Capital Projects, Administration
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): Education grant was awarded with the goal of improving the health of those eligible persons who make healthy choices within a limited budget and choose active lifestyles consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans and MyPlate.

### Area Agency on Aging Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Discretionary/Mandatory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Expenditure</td>
<td>$4,615,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing</td>
<td>4,352,731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net County Cost</td>
<td>222,933</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Funding Sources:**
- Local: 7.7% $336,591
- Federal: 40.2% 2,272,880
- State: 37.9% 1,723,264
- General Fund: 5.2% 222,489

**FTE:** 9.0

### General Assistance Cash Assistance

**Description:** General Assistance (GA) payments provide payments to customers and to vendors for housing rentals.

Included are other services required to maintain eligibility (or full cash assistance) such as mental health and substance abuse treatment, and shelter beds.

### General Assistance Cash Assistance Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Mandatory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Expenditure</td>
<td>$1,044,451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net County Cost</td>
<td>1,044,451</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Funding Sources:**
- General Fund: 100% $1,044,451

**FTE:** 0.0

### General Assistance Eligibility

**Description:** This program determines eligibility for General Assistance (GA) payments and provides assistance to adults who are not eligible for State or Federal assistance payments. Ongoing case management is also included. The Department has eliminated one vacant position due to an anticipated General Assistance caseload reduction. General Assistance caseload is subject to fluctuation based on the local economy.

### General Assistance Eligibility Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Mandatory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Expenditure</td>
<td>3,027,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net County Cost</td>
<td>3,027,097</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Funding Sources:**
- General Fund: 100% $3,027,097

**FTE:** 24.9

### Indigent Intermment Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Mandatory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Expenditure</td>
<td>$77,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing</td>
<td>17,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net County Cost</td>
<td>79,958</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Funding Sources:**
- Local: 17.6% $17,456
- General Fund: 82.4% 79,958

**FTE:** 0.0
THE BOOK

http://www.co.contra-costac.ca.us/770/Budget-Documents
Contra Costa Mission, Vision, Values

**Mission:** Contra Costa County is dedicated to providing public services which improve the *quality of life* of our residents and the *economic viability of our businesses*.

**Vision:** Contra Costa County is recognized as a world-class service organization where *innovation and partnerships* merge to enable our *residents to enjoy a safe, healthy, and prosperous life*.

**Values:** Contra Costa County serves people, businesses and communities. Our organization and each of our employees value clients and communities, partnerships, quality services, accountability, fiscal prudence, and organizational excellence.
Typical County Budget

Source: Ca State Controller's Office from Ca Budget & Policy Center

- State Funds: 32.5%
- Federal Funds: 15.6%
- Property Taxes: 19.3%
- Enterprise Revenues: 15.0%
- Charges for Current Services: 8.7%
- Other*: 9.0%
The Levels We’ll Look At

- Total Budget
- General Fund
- General Purpose
Contra Costa County Revenue 2017-18

County Budget = $3.5 billion

Intergovernmental Transfers, Pension Obligation Bonds, Charges for Services, Licenses & Permits, Fines, Investments
- Federal/State = CalWORKs, HUD, Title IV Child Support, State Public Safety, State MH, State
- Intergovernmental Transfers, Pension Obligation Bonds, Charges for Services, Licenses & Permits, Fines, Investments
- Property Taxes, VLF, Sales Tax
- Property Taxes, VLF, Sales Tax
- Property Taxes, VLF, Sales Tax

Contra Costa Regional Medical Center = Medi-Cal, Medicare, CC Health Plan

GF for remaining subsidy
Total General Fund Revenue $1.613 Billion

- General Purpose, 447,622,000 , 28%
- State Assistance, 371,263,919 , 23%
- Federal Assistance, 286,145,484 , 18%
- Other Local Revenue, 508,714,759 , 31%
Total General Fund Expenditures $1.611 Billion

- Services and Supplies, 555,200,223, 30%
- Salaries and Benefits, 899,682,721, 48%
- Expenditure Transfers, -122,608,639, -7%
- Fixed Assets, 22,306,845, 1%
- Provisions for Contingencies, 10,000,000, <1%
- Other Charges, 246,665,012, 13%
Distribution of General Fund Expenditures

- Law & Justice, 431,146,766, 27%
- Health & Human Services, 885,606,368, 55%
- General Government, 294,493,029, 18%
Contra Costa County will spend almost **$2.4 Billion on Health and Employment & Human Services in FY 2018/19**. That number includes almost $127 million from the General Fund. It also includes over $325 million for services related to homeless; mental health; and housing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What we Spend</th>
<th>Federal/State</th>
<th>General Fund</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homeless</td>
<td>$49,329,836</td>
<td>$38,702,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>$247,559,743</td>
<td>$218,610,338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless/Mental Health</td>
<td>$4,980,398</td>
<td>$3,745,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>$23,804,484</td>
<td>$22,860,696</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
$455 Million
Portion of $1.6 Billion General Fund

**2018 DEPARTMENT SHARE OF GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE**

- **Health Services**, $96,505,000, 21%
- **Sheriff-Coroner**, $90,350,000, 20%
- **Probation**, $46,300,000, 10%
- **Other**, $83,602,000, 19%
- **Employment and Human Services**, $26,910,000, 6%
- **Public Works**, $26,973,000, 6%
- **District Attorney**, $20,550,000, 5%
- **Public Defender**, $23,932,000, 5%
- **Capital Improvements**, $16,500,000, 4%
- **Assessor**, $16,000,000, 4%

Other: Superior Court Related Functions, Contingency Reserve, Board Of Supervisors, County Administrator, Central Support Services; Employee/Retiree Benefits, Conflict Defense Services, Clerk-Recorder Elections, Animal Services, Auditor-Controller, Human Resources, County Counsel, Agriculture-Weights/Measures, Treasurer-Tax Collector, Justice System Development/Planning, Veterans Service, Conservation & Development, Crockett-Rodeo Revenues, Dept Of Information Technology
County Local Revenue Sources

- **Taxes**: An involuntary levy paid regardless of whether the payer uses services.
- **Assessment**: Fee placed on property or business tied to benefits gained from County improvements.
- **Fee for Service**: Charge for use of County service or resource.
- **Fines & Penalties**
- **Bonds**: Debt incurred to pay for more costly projects than an annual budget can assume.
- **County Service Area (CSA)**: Tax within an unincorporated area with defined boundaries.
The Budget Process
Public
Elects BoS/officials, pays taxes, approves funding measures

ROLES

BOS: Sets vision/priorities, establishes financial policies, ensures resource alignment, and adopts the budget

County Administrator: Prepares annual budget for BOS approval

Departments Present annual budget request to CAO
BUDGET PROCESS
The County budget process is a continuous cycle of developing, monitoring and planning, with specific steps each year to achieve adoption of the Final Budget.

JANUARY
- Budget Year Key Issues & Projections at Board of Supervisors’ Retreat

FEBRUARY
- Baseline Budgets due from Departments
- Current Budget Mid-Year Financial Status
- Budget Year Baseline Budget Report
- Budget Narratives & Administrative/Program Goals due from Departments

SEPTEMBER
- Budget Adjustments & Adoption of Final Budget

JULY
- Fiscal Year Begins

MID APRIL
- Budget Hearings

EARLY APRIL
- Recommended Budget to Board and Public

Opportunity for public comment/input
A budget is a moral document that reflects community values.

Funding inequity is a social justice issue.

It all costs money. Lack of resources is greatest resistance to change.

Courtesy: Funding the Next Generation
WHAT IS BUDGET ADVOCACY?

Process of working to change public budget priorities:

- Reallocation
- Expanding line items
- New programs
- Dedicated funding
- Taxes and fees

Courtesy: Funding the Next Generation
Creating a public budget is a year-round process.

Showing up is half the battle

Start small – oppose budget cuts

End big – create dedicated funding for your priorities

Courtesy: Funding the Next Generation
QUESTIONS?