

County of Alameda

FINAL BUDGET 2016-2017

Citizen's Guide



In April 2016, the Highland Acute Care Tower opened to the public. The Tower is a 9-story centerpiece of the \$668 million, multi-year project to modernize the historic Highland campus. It houses inpatient services, a family birthing center, a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, a state-of-the art Diagnostic Imaging Service Center, physical/occupational/speech therapy suites, a technologically advanced laboratory, as well as predominantly private rooms with views of Oakland.

Adopted by the Board of Supervisors

BUDGET SUMMARY

The Budget Summary provides an overview of the appropriations and revenues contained in the County of Alameda Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 Final Budget.

At the direction of the Board of Supervisors, County agencies and departments submitted a maintenance of effort budget request reflecting the cost of providing services at their current level. After a thorough analysis of proposed appropriations and revenues by the County Administrator's Office, a funding gap (the amount proposed appropriations exceed expected revenues) was identified. Through a Board-approved Values Based Budgeting (VBB) process, which places the highest priorities on protecting vulnerable populations and ensuring public safety for all residents, appropriations and revenues were adjusted to bring the budget into balance. The funding gap for FY 2016-17 was \$72.2 million. This gap was closed by a combination of one-time revenues, ongoing revenues, and appropriation reductions.

BUDGET APPROPRIATION

The FY 2016-17 Final Budget includes appropriations of \$2.97 billion. The Budget is divided into four program areas for reporting purposes: Public Assistance, Health Care, Public Protection, and General Government. Other uses of funds include Capital Projects; Public Ways and Facilities; Non-Program Expenditures; Contingency and Reserves; and Cultural, Recreation, and Education.

Program Area	Appropriation (in millions)	Percent of Total
Public Assistance	\$820.7	27.6%
Health Care	\$696.9	23.5%
Public Protection	\$676.7	22.8%
Capital Projects	\$293.6	9.9%
General Government	\$229.9	7.7%
Non-Program Expenditures	\$90.2	3.0%
Public Ways & Facilities	\$81.3	2.8%
Contingency & Reserves	\$48.2	1.6%
Cultural, Recreation & Education	\$33.5	1.1%
Total	\$2,971.1	100.0%

BUDGET REVENUE

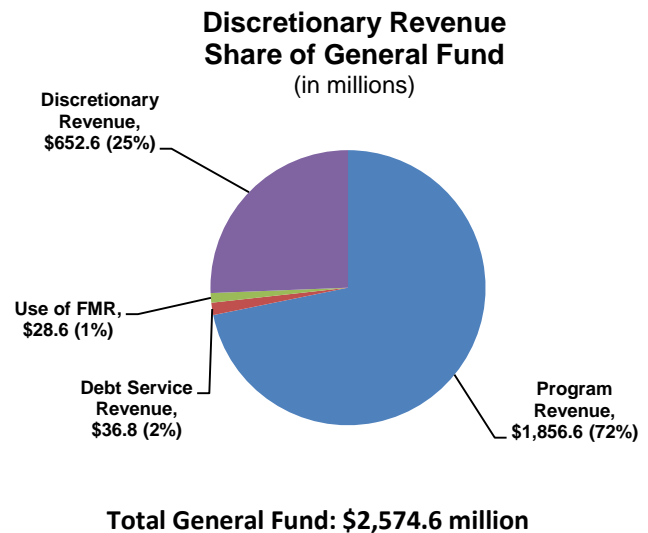
The County Budget is financed by revenues from State, federal, and local governments; revenues from property and other taxes; charges for services; fines, forfeitures, and penalties; interest from investments; and other revenues. For all funds, the FY 2016-17 revenue totals \$2.97 billion. The General Fund totals over \$2.57 billion and supports most County programs. Revenues from other government agencies represent 54% of the total financing for all funds and 61% of the General Fund. Thus,

the County is subject to severe cutbacks when State and/or federal governments reduce funding for programs.

The following table shows financing by source for the FY 2016-17 Final Budget:

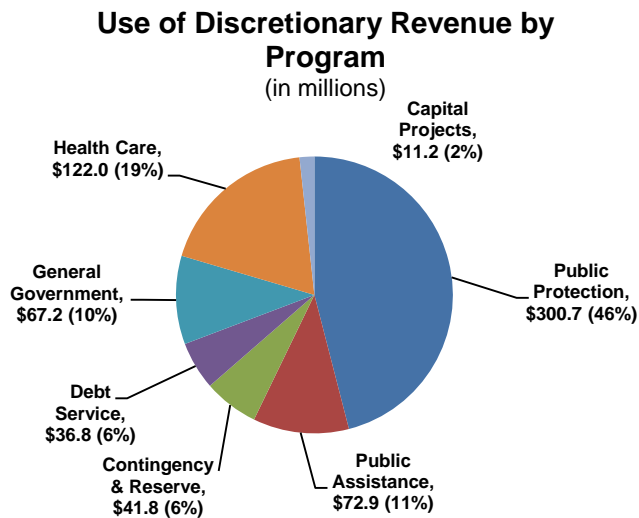
Financing Source	Revenue (in millions)	Percent of Total
State, Federal & Local Government Aid	\$1,610.4	54.2%
Property Taxes	\$406.4	13.7%
Charges for Services	\$327.4	11.0%
Other Financing Sources	\$252.1	8.5%
Other Taxes	\$110.3	3.7%
Other Revenues	\$110.0	3.7%
Available Fund Balance	\$87.5	2.9%
Fines, Forfeitures & Penalties	\$46.2	1.6%
Use of Money & Property	\$10.7	0.4%
Licenses, Permits & Franchises	\$10.1	0.3%
Total	\$2,971.1	100.0%

Only 25% of General Fund revenue, or \$652.6 million, is discretionary revenue that the Board of Supervisors has the authority to allocate to meet County needs. Most of this discretionary revenue is used to fund the County's mandated share of costs for the programs that receive federal and State funding.



The major sources of discretionary revenues are the County's share of property taxes and Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) revenue. ERAF revenue is State funding that partially offsets the shift in Vehicle License Fee and sales tax revenue transfer from local jurisdictions to the State. Other discretionary revenue includes interest on investments and sales and use taxes.

The allocation of discretionary revenue to programs is shown on the following chart:



Total Discretionary Revenue: \$652.6 million

BUDGET BALANCING

The Final Budget is balanced and closes a \$72.2 million funding gap (the difference between projected expenses and revenue) through a combination of program reductions, revenue increases, and one-time strategies.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Appropriations within the four major County program areas and a description of the services provided by each program area are shown below. Net County Costs are funded through the allocation of discretionary revenue.

Health Care Services Agency	
Appropriations	\$728,379,602
Revenue	\$594,178,994
Net County Cost	\$134,200,608
Funded FTEs	1,511.33

The total Health Care appropriation above includes Emergency Medical Services, Vector Control, and Measure A programs.

Health Care Services Agency Programs

Agency Administration manages the County Medically Indigent Services Plan, school health services, Measure A Health Care Services Tax programs, the Interagency Children’s Policy Council, the contract with Alameda Health System, and Emergency Medical Services.

Behavioral Health Care Services provides alcohol, drug and mental health services, including psychiatric emergency treatment, inpatient care, outpatient/day treatment, case management, and conservatorship services. Behavioral Health also provides mental health

services to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries and administers Proposition 63 Mental Health Services Act programs.

Environmental Health inspects health care and food-related businesses for compliance with State laws, monitors disposal of medical and hazardous waste, and manages the Vector Control Program.

The **Public Health Department** provides a range of community health, disease detection and prevention, and health education programs.

Public Assistance	
Appropriations	\$820,743,815
Revenue	\$747,838,700
Net County Cost	\$72,905,115
Funded FTEs	2,615.15

Public Assistance Programs

The **Social Services Agency** manages Adult and Aging Services, Children and Family Services, and Workforce and Benefits Administration programs.

Adult and Aging Services provides Adult Protective Services, Public Guardian-Conservator services, In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), manages the Area Agency on Aging and Veterans Services, and serves as Public Administrator.

Children and Family Services provides emergency response, shelter, and care to children who are suspected of being abused or neglected. The department also provides family reunification, permanent placement, and foster care program services.

Workforce and Benefits Administration determines eligibility for assistance programs and provides economic aid, employment assistance, and support services to individuals and families.

The **Department of Child Support Services** establishes paternity and child support orders, and collects child and spousal support payments.

Public Protection	
Appropriations	\$676,726,488
Revenue	\$375,435,234
Net County Cost	\$301,291,254
Funded FTEs	2,704.49

Public Protection Programs

The **District Attorney** prosecutes criminal violations within the County, provides various services for crime victims and witnesses, and supports the Grand Jury.

The **Probation Department** provides supervision and rehabilitative services to juvenile and adult criminal

offenders, and operates the County’s Juvenile Justice Center and juvenile camp.

The **Public Defender** provides legal defense services for indigent persons accused of crimes.

The **Sheriff** operates the County jails, crime labs and animal shelter, and provides law enforcement services in the unincorporated areas, the City of Dublin, and other agencies including AC Transit. The Sheriff also serves as the Coroner, Director of Emergency Services, and an officer of the courts.

Trial Court Funding provides financial support and security for state-run court facilities.

The **Fire Department** provides fire protection and paramedic services to the unincorporated areas, the cities of Dublin, Emeryville, Newark, San Leandro and Union City, and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

General Government	
Appropriations	\$229,846,030
Revenue	\$140,021,461
Net County Cost	\$89,824,569
Funded FTEs	926.65

General Government Programs

The **Board of Supervisors** governs Alameda County and is elected by the voters in each of their five respective districts.

The **County Administrator’s Office** implements the policies of the Board of Supervisors, prepares the annual County Budget, provides fiscal oversight for all County programs, manages economic development and risk management programs, serves as Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, and provides support to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo).

The **Assessor** locates, identifies ownership, and appraises all property subject to taxation.

The **Auditor–Controller** maintains the County’s accounting, payroll, and audit systems; provides document recording services; and collects fines, restitutions, and other payments.

The **Community Development Agency** provides land use planning, construction rehabilitation, lead poisoning prevention, community development and redevelopment services, enforces State agricultural weights and measures laws, and coordinates affordable housing programs.

County Counsel provides a broad range of civil legal services to the Board of Supervisors, the County, and its agencies and departments.

The **General Services Agency** administers purchasing, building maintenance, communications, motor vehicle, real property, and capital project management services.

Human Resource Services manages recruitment, examination, position control, labor relations, and employee benefits administration services.

The **Information Technology Department** provides information and communication systems support to all County agencies and departments.

The **County Library** offers library and literacy services to the unincorporated areas, County institutions, and the cities of Albany, Dublin, Fremont, Newark, and Union City.

The **Public Works Agency** provides building inspection, land development and survey, storm water pollution prevention, flood control, road, street lighting, transportation planning, and crossing guard services.

The **Registrar of Voters** conducts voter outreach and registration, candidate services, and federal, State, County, local and special elections.

The **Treasurer–Tax Collector** collects and disburses State, County and local taxes, issues business licenses for unincorporated areas, and invests County funds.

Zone 7 Flood Control provides water and flood control services to the Livermore-Amador Valley area.

Other Uses of County Funds

The budget includes \$500.8 million to fund contracts with **community-based organizations** that provide a range of housing, public safety, health, and human services to County residents.

Funding for **Capital Projects** and the **Property Development Program** totals \$148.44 million.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Alameda County’s budget website is at budget.acgov.org.

Cover Images: The County of Alameda’s Acute Tower Replacement Project’s Public Art Program includes multiple public art projects throughout Highland Hospital’s new facilities. The primary goal of the Public Art Program is to commission high-quality, original artwork that helps create a positive, supportive, and healing environment for the patients, their families, visitors, and staff. Front Cover, Artists’ Names and Artwork Titles (top to bottom): Jessica Sabogal, *We Are All Sacred*; Carmen Lomas Garza, *Mrs. Romero’s Retirement Party In Her Parents’ Backyard* (detail). Artwork is part of the Alameda County Public Art Collection. Artwork copyright the artists. Artwork photos copyright Sibila Savage. All rights reserved.