



Judicial Council of California

**JUDICIAL BRANCH BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING**

May 20, 2026

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Videoconference

Members Present: Hon. Ann C. Moorman, Chair, Hon. Maria D. Hernandez, Vice Chair, Hon. Brad R. Hill, Hon. Maria Lucy Armendariz, Hon. Michael Rhoads, and Mr. Charles Johnson

Members Absent: Ms. Rachel Hill and Ms. Kate Bieker

Others Present: Hon. Jonathan B. Conklin, Ms. Angela Cowan, Ms. Aman Singh, Ms. Oksana Tuk, Ms. Megan Ellis, Mr. John Yee, Ms. Francine Byrne, Mr. Erick Schnurpfeil, Ms. Kristin Greenway, Mr. John Larson, Ms. Sarah Davis, Ms. Amber Barnett, Ms. Deborah Collier-Tucker, Ms. Marcela Eggleton, and Mr. Jagan Singh

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

The chair called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. and took roll call.

Approval of Minutes

The advisory body reviewed and approved the minutes of the April 23, 2026, Judicial Branch Budget Committee (Budget Committee) meeting.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1-3)

Item 1

Allocation from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund for Fiscal Year 2026-27 (Action Required)

Consideration of allocations from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund in support of the trial courts for fiscal year 2026-27.

Action: *The Budget Committee unanimously voted to approve the proposed fiscal year 2026-27 State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund allocations, totaling \$47.8 million, detailed in Attachment 1A. This recommendation will be considered by the Judicial Council at its business meeting on July 17, 2026.*

Item 2

Allocations for Trial Court Operations for Fiscal Year 2026–27 (Action Required)

Consideration of fiscal year 2026–27 allocations from the Trial Court Trust Fund and General Fund in support trial court operations.

Action: *The Budget Committee unanimously voted to approve the following Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommendations for consideration by the Judicial Council at its business meeting on July 17, 2026.*

1. *Approve base, discretionary, and nondiscretionary program allocations from the Trial Court Trust Fund and General Fund in the amount of \$3.2 billion (Attachment 2B, column W), including any needed technical adjustments and contingent on funding included in the enacted budget for fiscal 2026–27:*
 - *This includes a General Fund allocation of \$68.8 million for employee benefits (Attachment 2B, column P).*
 - *Approve Workload Formula policy calculation of \$2.7 billion for fiscal year 2026–27 based on methodologies approved by the Judicial Council (Attachment 2C, column V).*

Item 3

Judicial Branch Budget Change Concepts for Fiscal Year 2027–28 (Action Required)

Review of fiscal year 2026–27 budget change concepts for the judicial branch.

Action: *The Budget Committee unanimously voted to recommend to the Judicial Council at its business meeting on July 17, 2026, the following budget change proposal concepts to be developed into budget change proposals for submission to the State Department of Finance for consideration in the fiscal year 2027–28 Governor’s budget:*

1. *27-01 – Inflationary Adjustment for Trial Courts (Consumer Price Index)*
2. *27-02 – Trial Courts Technology Ongoing Support*
3. *27-03 – Language Access in the California Courts – **approved and submit in spring 2027***
4. *27-04 – Improving Branchwide Cybersecurity*
5. *27-05 – Appellate Court Technology Modernization and Ongoing Cost Adjustment*
6. *27-06 – Addressing the Impact of the Disproportionate Increase in Competency Evaluations*
7. *27-07 – Litigation Management Program*
8. *27-08 – Branch Data Analytics Modernization*
9. *27-29 – Funding for 26 New Judgeships*
10. *27-09 – HCRC Case Team Staffing*
11. *27-28 – Workload Assessment for Court-Appointed Dependency Counsel*
12. *27-10 – Appellate Court Unarmed Security Guard – Expanded Coverage*
13. *27-11 – Proposition 66 in Courts of Appeal*
14. *27-12 – Racial Justice Act Retroactivity (AB 256) for the Appellate Courts and Trial Courts*
15. *27-13 – Appellate Court Facilities Staff*
16. *27-14 – Increase Appellate Court Staffing*

17. 27-15 – Courts of Appeal Court Appointed Counsel Program - adjust overall amount acknowledge \$25 per hour increase and combine with 27-16
18. 27-16 – Supreme Court Capital Court-Appointed Counsel Program - adjust overall amount acknowledge \$25 per hour increase and combine with 27-15
19. 27-17 – Seven California Highway Patrol – Judicial Protection Section (CHP-JPS) Officers
20. 27-18 – Trial Court Facility Modifications
21. 27-19 – Trial Courts Facilities Maintenance and Utilities – approved to be combined with concept 27-24 into one budget change proposal
22. 27-20 – Trial Court Physical Security Assessment and Evaluation
23. 27-21 – Orange Central Justice Center - Facility Modification
24. 27-22 – Trial Court Deferred Maintenance - approved to be combined with 27-25 into one budget change proposal
25. 27-23 – Courts of Appeal Facility Modification
26. 27-24 – Courts of Appeal Facilities Maintenance and Utilities - approved to be combined with 27-19 into one budget change proposal
27. 27-25 – Courts of Appeal Deferred Maintenance - approved to be combined with 27-22 into one budget change proposal
28. 27-26 – Superior Court Public Lactation Rooms (AB 1576)
29. 27-27 – Los Angeles Spring Street Courthouse - Courtrooms Relocation
30. 27-51 – Capital Outlay Project Reassessment and Program Support
31. 27-52 – Capital Outlay Funding: Fiscal Year 2027–28 through 2031–32
32. 27-53 – Los Angeles Spring Street Courthouse - Chatsworth Buildout – approved only 2nd year of funding
33. 27-54 – Statewide: Budget Packages and Advanced Planning

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (NO ACTION REQUIRED)

Info 1

Governor's Budget Update for Fiscal year 2026–27

Update on the fiscal year 2026–27 May Revision to the Governor's Budget.

Action: None taken.

Info 2

Funds Held on Behalf of the Trial Courts Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2024–25

Annual report for the Funds Held on Behalf of the Trial Courts program regarding open projects and projects completed in fiscal year 2024–25.

Action: None taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on September 22, 2026.