

**Item E - LPVW FY 2026-27 Draft Budget Materials  
Fiscal Committee Meeting, March 24, 2026**

**Las Posas Valley Watermaster  
FY 2026-27 Budget - Draft (as of March 20, 2026)  
OPERATING ACCOUNT**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	Description	Actuals FY 2023-24	Actuals FY 2024-25	Adopted Budget FY 2025-26 (without 4th BA WY 2024-4) <sup>1</sup>	Actuals FY 2025-26 Through February 2026	Projected Year End FY 2025-26	Draft Budget FY 2026-27	Increase / Decrease Over Previous Year	% Change Over PY
2	<b>REVENUE</b>								
3	<b>Operating:</b>								
4	Basin Assessment Fee	\$ 1,259,607	\$ 1,898,016	\$ 1,851,281	\$ 1,012,379	\$ 1,851,281	\$ 2,022,631	\$ 171,350	9%
5	Basin Assessment Interest	\$ 20,026	\$ 24,469	\$ 27,769	\$ 9,552	\$ 22,769	\$ 22,769	\$ (5,000)	-18%
6	Attorney Fees Collected - Enforcement Action	-	-	-	-	\$ 1,744	\$ -		
7	Costs of Collection - Enforcement Action	-	-	-	-	\$ 1,139	\$ -		
8	<b>Non-Operating:</b>								
9	Investment Income (from County Pooled Investment fund) <sup>2</sup>	\$ 9,846	\$ 62,157	\$ 25,000	5,910	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 15,000	60%
10	<b>TOTAL REVENUE:</b>	<b>\$ 1,289,479</b>	<b>\$ 1,984,642</b>	<b>\$ 1,904,051</b>	<b>\$ 1,027,841</b>	<b>\$ 1,916,934</b>	<b>\$ 2,085,400</b>	<b>\$ 181,350</b>	
11	<b>EXPENSES</b>								
12	<b>PWA Labor Cost</b>								
13	Watermaster Administration	\$ 66,034.35	\$ 127,392	\$ 89,653	\$ 65,593.08	\$ 93,475	\$ 99,579	\$ 9,926	11%
14	Allocations & Record Keeping	\$ 3,071.70	\$ 57,360	\$ 121,144	\$ 95,195.09	\$ 144,137	\$ 168,503	\$ 47,360	39%
15	Basin Management	\$ 3,936.87	\$ 50,579	\$ 26,257	\$ 63,949.10	\$ 95,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 73,743	281%
16	Committee Coordination and Consultations	\$ 3,622.07	\$ 30,456	\$ 40,813	\$ 15,544.90	\$ 24,308	\$ 27,669	\$ (13,145)	-32%
17	Budget and Assessments	\$ 4,768.26	\$ 30,565	\$ 58,429	\$ 21,791.87	\$ 27,943	\$ 29,340	\$ (29,088)	-50%
18	IT Services and Support	\$ 3,338.46	\$ 18,204	\$ 23,794	\$ 8,816.04	\$ 18,455	\$ 22,237	\$ (1,556)	-7%
19	Calleguas Aquifer Storage & Recovery Project	-	\$ 792	\$ 10,087	\$ 3,020.04	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,500	\$ 413	4%
20	Staff time (ongoing or anticipated litigation)	-	\$ 2,360	\$ 8,507	\$ 3,589.54	\$ 7,073	\$ 7,427	\$ (1,080)	-13%
21	<b>Total PWA Labor Cost<sup>3</sup>:</b>	<b>\$ 84,772</b>	<b>\$ 317,708</b>	<b>\$ 378,682</b>	<b>\$ 277,500</b>	<b>\$ 420,391</b>	<b>\$ 465,255</b>	<b>\$ 86,573</b>	<b>23%</b>
22	<b>Contract Costs</b>								
23	<b>Allocations &amp; Record Keeping</b>								
24	Extraction Monitoring and Reporting <sup>4</sup> (Ex A <sup>5</sup> , Article V)	\$ 17,244	\$ 44,442	\$ 53,000	\$ 57,721	\$ 63,000	\$ -	\$ (53,000)	-100%
25	<b>Subtotal - Allocations &amp; Record Keeping</b>	<b>\$ 17,244</b>	<b>\$ 44,442</b>	<b>\$ 53,000</b>	<b>\$ 57,721</b>	<b>\$ 63,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (53,000)</b>	<b>-100%</b>
26	<b>Basin Management</b>								
27	Initial Basin Optimization Plan <sup>6</sup> (5.3)	-	\$ 78,840	-	\$ 443	\$ 443	\$ -	\$ -	
28	2025 Basin Optimization Yield Study <sup>7</sup> (4.10)	-	\$ 31,698	\$ 271,302	\$ 208,429	\$ 271,302	\$ -	\$ (271,302)	-100%
29	GSP Update (Periodic Evaluation) <sup>8</sup>	-	\$ 6,579	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	Annual Report <sup>9</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	Watermaster Technical Support <sup>10</sup>	-	-	\$ 50,000	-	\$ 25,000	\$ 50,000	\$ -	0%
32	<b>Subtotal - Basin Management</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 117,117</b>	<b>\$ 321,302</b>	<b>\$ 208,871</b>	<b>\$ 296,745</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>	<b>\$ (271,302)</b>	<b>-84%</b>
33	<b>Committee Coordination and Consultations</b>								
34	PAC Administrator <sup>11</sup>	-	\$ 22,349	\$ 175,100	\$ 2,615	\$ 35,100	\$ 50,000	\$ (125,100)	-71%
35	Technical Advisory Committee <sup>12</sup> (6.11, Ex A Article IV)	-	\$ 66,694	\$ 100,363	\$ 13,380	\$ 85,363	\$ 60,000	\$ (40,363)	-40%
36	TAC Member Cost <sup>13</sup>	-	\$ 148,399	\$ 276,480	\$ 46,962	\$ 150,000	\$ 206,500	\$ (69,980)	-25%
37	Insurance <sup>14</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
38	<b>Subtotal - Committee Coordination and Consultations</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 237,441</b>	<b>\$ 551,943</b>	<b>\$ 62,957</b>	<b>\$ 270,463</b>	<b>\$ 316,500</b>	<b>\$ (235,443)</b>	<b>-43%</b>
39	<b>Budget and Assessments</b>								
40	Basin Assessments (7.1-7.3,7.6, Ex A 2.8)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
41	Processing Fees (7.4)	-	-	\$ 25,000	-	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ (25,000)	-100%
42	Audits (7.7)	-	\$ 17,650	\$ 14,150	\$ 14,150	\$ 21,150	\$ 20,800	\$ 6,650	47%
43	CSD Fiscal Services Staff <sup>15</sup>	-	\$ 33,900	\$ 24,900	\$ 12,450	\$ 24,900	\$ 36,700	\$ 11,800	47%
44	<b>Subtotal - Budget and Assessments</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 51,550</b>	<b>\$ 64,050</b>	<b>\$ 26,600</b>	<b>\$ 71,050</b>	<b>\$ 57,500</b>	<b>\$ (6,550)</b>	<b>-10%</b>
45	<b>IT Services and Support</b>								
46	Data Management and Support <sup>16</sup>	-	\$ 90,200	\$ 200,000	\$ 87,400	\$ 185,000	\$ 257,000	\$ 57,000	29%
47	<b>Subtotal - IT Services and Support</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 90,200</b>	<b>\$ 200,000</b>	<b>\$ 87,400</b>	<b>\$ 185,000</b>	<b>\$ 257,000</b>	<b>\$ 57,000</b>	<b>29%</b>
48	<b>Calleguas Aquifer Storage &amp; Recovery Project</b>								
49	Calleguas ASR Project Operations Study <sup>17</sup> (8.4)	-	-	\$ 100,000	-	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	0%
50	ASR Study Group Landowner Representative <sup>18</sup>	-	-	\$ 25,000	\$ 3,600	\$ 15,000	\$ 42,500	\$ 17,500	70%
51	<b>Subtotal - Calleguas Aquifer Storage &amp; Recovery Project</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 125,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,600</b>	<b>\$ 115,000</b>	<b>\$ 142,500</b>	<b>\$ 17,500</b>	<b>14%</b>
52	<b>Legal Services*</b>								
53	Agency Counsel (Ventura County Counsel's Office)**	\$ 59,959	\$ 185,434	\$ 175,000	\$ 71,048	\$ 175,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 25,000	14%
54	LPV WM Special Counsel (Stoel Rives)***	-	\$ 602,941	\$ 375,000	\$ 159,314	\$ 325,000	\$ 350,000	\$ (25,000)	-7%
55	LPV Water Rules Appeal <sup>19</sup> (9.2)	-	\$ 200,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
56	<b>Subtotal - Legal Service</b>	<b>\$ 59,959</b>	<b>\$ 988,375</b>	<b>\$ 550,000</b>	<b>\$ 230,363</b>	<b>\$ 500,000</b>	<b>\$ 550,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>0%</b>
57	<b>Total Contract Costs:</b>	<b>\$ 77,203</b>	<b>\$ 1,529,125</b>	<b>\$ 1,865,295</b>	<b>\$ 677,512</b>	<b>\$ 1,501,258</b>	<b>\$ 1,373,500</b>	<b>\$ (983,590)</b>	<b>-53%</b>
58	<b>TOTAL PWA Labor and Contract Costs:</b>		<b>\$ 1,846,832</b>	<b>\$ 2,243,977</b>	<b>\$ 955,012</b>	<b>\$ 1,921,648</b>	<b>\$ 1,838,755</b>	<b>\$ (897,017)</b>	<b>-40%</b>
59	<b>Contribution to Reserves:</b>	-	\$ 184,683	\$ 224,398	\$ 95,501	\$ 192,165	\$ 183,876	\$ (40,522)	-18%
60	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$ 161,974</b>	<b>\$ 2,031,516</b>	<b>\$ 2,468,375</b>	<b>\$ 1,050,513</b>	<b>\$ 2,113,813</b>	<b>\$ 2,022,631</b>	<b>\$ (937,539)</b>	<b>-38%</b>
61	<b>Net Operating Results</b>	<b>\$ 1,127,505</b>	<b>\$ (46,874)</b>	<b>\$ (564,325)</b>	<b>\$ (22,671)</b>	<b>\$ (196,879)</b>	<b>\$ 62,769</b>	<b>\$ 1,118,889</b>	<b>-198%</b>

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Fiscal Committee Meeting, March 24, 2026**

**Las Posas Valley Watermaster  
FY 2026-27 Budget - Draft (as of March 20, 2026)  
OPERATING ACCOUNT**

	A Description	B Actuals FY 2023-24	C Actuals FY 2024-25	D Adopted Budget FY 2025-26 (without 4th BA WY 2024-4) <sup>1</sup>	E Actuals FY 2025-26 Through February 2026	F Projected Year End FY 2025-26	G Draft Budget FY 2026-27	H Increase / Decrease Over Previous Year	I % Change Over PY
1									

*Footnotes*

- 1 LPV-2024-4 Basin Assessment (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, July - September 2025) falls into FY 2025-26.
- 2 \*Earnings from County Pooled Investment fund; In FY27, county's interest rate will be lower, 3%. ; Increased the year end projection based on historical data; ACO is delayed on posting earnings. 3.4% in FY26. Earnings are estimated until approved.
- 3 Labor cost estimate based on Ventura County Public Works Agency providing LPV Watermaster staff at actual rates for FY 2025-26. For FY 2026-27, Labor cost estimates are based on Ventura County Public Works Agency providing LPV Watermaster staff at actual rates, assuming a 20% increase from FY 2025-26 actual rates.
- 4 Contract costs for Regional Government Services assisting Extraction Monitoring and Reporting (approved 09/25/2024). The FY 2025-26 projection of \$53K is based on past actual contract spend plus estimates for the first and second Extraction and Use reporting periods.
- 5 Reference to LPV Adjudication Judgment section; "Ex A" is Exhibit A of the Judgment.
- 6 Contract costs for Dudek for assisting with preparation of BOP \$76,025 (approved 01/12/2024); projection based on actual contract spend.
- 7 Contract costs for Dudek for assisting with BOYS \$303,000 (modification approved 06/01/2025); projection based on actual contract spend.
- 8 Contract estimates for Dudek assisting with GSP Periodic Evaluation (Task 10.2.1, Committee Evaluation Review and Response).
- 9 Annual Report costs are covered by FCGMA per the Fiscal Committee's recommendation.
- 10 Consultant to provide technical support to Watermaster as needed on Basin Management, proposed for FY 2026-27.
- 11 PAC Administrator contract \$170,000 (approved 09/25/2024). 2026 PAC Administrator contract amount adjusted down; subject to Board approval 3/25/2026.
- 12 Contract cost estimate for Dudek for assisting as Watermaster TAC member \$97,440 (approved 05/22/2024). Assumes two meetings per month.
- 13 Contract cost estimate for three TAC members including Administrator, and preparation of Recommendation Reports. Assumes two meetings per month. 2026 costs subject to approval 3/25/2026.
- 14 PAC request for PAC and TAC members insurance; covered under FCGMA Budget.
- 15 CSD Fiscal services is an annual allocation. Costs are allocated quarterly between CSD and Watermaster.
- 16 IT Services and Support costs are split evenly between FCGMA and Watermaster. Budget amount includes \$37,500 CSD IT annual cost allocated quarterly, \$112,500 for Erik Esola's services billed through Signature Staffing, and \$107,000 for ITSD services.
- 17 Estimate provided by Calleguas Municipal Water District for \$100,000 for Watermaster's responsibility of 20% of ASR Study expenses with regard to total study cost.
- 18 Estimated expenses for ASR Study Group Landowner Representative.
- \* Agency Counsel and Special Counsel FY26-27 budget estimates are best estimates based on LPV WM legal work/services to date, current status of LPV ADJ, and experience in other similar matters. Estimates do include costs for work/services related to uncertainties/variables such as whether LPV ADJ overturned, and remand for further trial court proceedings.
- \*\* Agency Counsel services include advising on LPV ADJ implementation, administration, compliance, and enforcement; LPV WM Board, PAC, TAC meetings, staff reports, presentations; coordination with LPV WM Special Counsel.
- \*\*\* Special Counsel services include interpretation of LPV Judgment, Watermaster administration and Judgment implementation; initiation of compliance, enforcement actions; coordination with Agency Counsel.
- 19 Share of legal expenses for LPV Watermaster Rules Appeal (approved 9/13/2024).

**Las Posas Valley Watermaster**  
**FY 2026-27 Budget - Draft (as of March 20, 2026)**  
**BOP-PROJECTS**

A	B	C	D	E	F
Project No.	Project Name	Budget FY 2025-26	Actuals FY 2025-26 Through February 2026	Projected Year End FY 2025-26	Draft Budget FY 2026-27
	<b>REVENUES</b>				
	LPV BOP Assessment		\$ 111,708	\$ 164,120	\$ 5,798,960
	LPV BOP Assessment Interest		\$ 570	\$ 961	\$ 1,000
	<b>Total REVENUES</b>		<b>\$ 112,278</b>	<b>\$ 165,081</b>	<b>\$ 5,799,960</b>
	<b>EXPENSES</b>				
2	Initial Project Implementation Planning	\$ 25,000	\$29,965	\$40,000	\$0
	<b>Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD</b>				
	Progrm Development	\$ 45,000			
	Administration	\$ 5,000			
	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>		\$ 20,000	\$ 5,704,438
5	<b>Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition</b>				
	Agreement Negotiation with the City of Simi Valley	\$ 45,000			
	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$ 45,000</b>		\$ 10,000	\$ 147,500
8	<b>Allocation Buyback and Reduction Program</b>				
	Program Development	\$ 55,000			
	Consultant Development of Transaction Mechanics	\$ 40,000			
	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$ 95,000</b>		\$ 30,000	\$ 230,000
7	<b>In Lieu Deliveries to northern ELPMA Feasibility Study</b>				
	Develop Scope of Work and Request for Proposal	\$ 35,000			
	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$ 35,000</b>		\$ 10,000	\$ 106,000
9	<b>Regional Desalter Feasibility Study</b>				
	Purveyor rngagement, Development of Scope of Work and Request for proposal	\$ 40,000			
	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>		\$ 40,000	\$ 169,000
	<b>Total EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 290,000</b>	<b>\$ 29,965</b>	<b>\$ 150,000</b>	<b>\$ 6,356,938</b>
	<b>Net Operating Results</b>		<b>\$ 82,313</b>	<b>\$ 15,081</b>	<b>\$ (556,978)</b>

**Las Posas Valley Watermaster  
 Draft FY 2026-27 Budget (as of March 20, 2026)  
 BOP PROJECT ASSESSMENT SCENARIOS**

	A	B	C	D
1	<b>Project</b>	<b>Scenario 1</b>	<b>Scenario 2</b>	<b>Scenario 3</b>
2	Purchase of CMWD Imported Water	\$ 5,146,460	\$ 2,573,230	\$ 1,639,000
3	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition	\$ 147,500	\$ 147,500	\$ 147,500
4	Allocation Buyback and Reduction Program	\$ 230,000	\$ 230,000	\$ 230,000
5	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern ELPMA Feasibility Study	\$ 106,000	\$ 106,000	\$ 106,000
6	Regional Desalter Feasibility Study	\$ 169,000	\$ 169,000	\$ 169,000
7	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 5,798,960</b>	<b>\$ 3,225,730</b>	<b>\$ 2,291,500</b>

8	<b>Scenario Costs</b>			
9	Cost per AF, if spread evenly over 40,000 AF	\$ 144.97	\$ 80.64	\$ 57.29
10	Cost per AF, excluding WWLP	\$ 181.22	\$ 100.80	\$ 71.61
11	Cost per AF, assuming WWLP fee is reduced 50%	\$ 161.08	\$ 89.60	\$ 63.65
12	Cost per AF for WWLP, assuming fee is reduced 50%	\$ 80.54	\$ 44.80	\$ 31.83

13	CMWD Rate per AF, Effective January 2026	\$ 2,058.00
14	RTS charge	\$ 131.00
15	Capacity Rate <small>(May-September)</small>	\$ 194.00
16	CMWD Total Cost per AF <small>(October - April)</small>	<b>\$ 2,189.00</b>
17	Watermaster Incentive per AF	<b>\$ 1,639.00</b>

18	<b><u>Scenario Notes</u></b>
19	Scenario 1 assumes 3,140 AF purchase from CMWD
20	Scenario 2 assumes 1,570 AF purchase from CMWD
21	Scenario 3 assumes 1,000 AF purchase from CMWD

**Las Posas Valley Watermaster**  
**FY 2026-27 Budget - Draft (As of March 20, 2026)**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Account	Actuals FY 2023-24	Actuals FY 2024-25	Adopted Budget FY 2025-26 (without 4th BA WY 2024-4) <sup>1</sup>	Actuals FY 2025-26 Through February 2026	Projected Year End FY 2025-26	Draft Budget FY 2026-27
2	Operating Account	\$ 1,127,505	\$ 1,080,631	\$ 516,307	\$ 1,057,960	\$ 883,752	\$ 1,143,400
3	BOP Projects	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 82,313	\$ 164,120	\$ (556,978)
4	Reserves <sup>2</sup>	\$ -	\$ 184,683	\$ 409,081	\$ 280,184	\$ 376,848	\$ 368,559
5	Year End Total Fund Balance	\$ 1,127,505	\$ 1,265,314	\$ 925,388	\$ 1,420,457	\$ 1,424,720	\$ 954,981

6	AF	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27
7	Total Annual Allocation (AF):	40,000	40,000	40,000
8	Basin Assessment per AF <sup>3</sup> :	\$ 64.58	\$ 60.00	\$ 50.57
9	Quarterly Assessment	\$ 16.14	\$ 15.00	\$ 12.64

Footnotes:

- 1 LPV-2024-4 Basin Assessment (4th Quarter, July - September 2025) falls into FY 2025-26.
- 2 Operating reserves are calculated at 10% of annual budget and are cumulative.
- 3 Basin Assessment calculation based on the FY 2026-27 budget.