



VENTURA PORT DISTRICT BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS

Michael Blumenberg, Chair
Elizabeth Howell, Vice-Chair
Anthony Rainey, Secretary
Chris Stephens, Commissioner
William Anderson, Commissioner

Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager
Todd Mitchell, Deputy General Manager
Reid Miller, Legal Counsel
Jessica Rauch, Clerk of the Board

REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2026

VENTURA PORT DISTRICT OFFICE
1603 ANCHORS WAY DRIVE
VENTURA, CA 93001

CLOSED SESSION – 5:00PM
OPEN SESSION – 6:00PM

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPTIONS

**MEETINGS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN A HYBRID MODEL WITH BOTH IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE
AND VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION.**

WATCH THE MEETING LIVE

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83276329300>

Webinar ID: 832 7632 9300

1-669-900-6833

1-253-215-8782

PUBLIC COMMENT VIA ZOOM

To request to speak on an item, use the “raise hand” button to notify the Clerk. The Clerk will announce public speakers and unmute participants to speak. Please be mindful that the meeting will be recorded, and all rules of procedure and decorum apply for in-person attendees and those participating virtually.

SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENT VIA EMAIL

To submit written comments on a specific agenda item, please do so via email by 4:00PM on the day of the meeting. When sending an email, please indicate in the subject line, the agenda item number (i.e. General Public Comment or Consent Item A). Written comments should be no more than 1,000 characters in length. Written comments will be distributed to the Commission and will be posted as a supplemental packet on the District’s website at <https://venturaharbor.com/board-meeting-documents/>. Please submit your comment to the Clerk of the Board at jrauch@venturaharbor.com.

CLOSED SESSION 5:00PM
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CALL TO ORDER: *By Chair Blumenberg.*

ROLL CALL: *By the Clerk of the Board.*

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS (3 minutes)

*The Public Communications period is set aside to allow public testimony on items only on the Closed Session Agenda. Each person may address the Commission for up to three minutes or at the discretion of the Chair. Attendees can dial *9 or use the 'raise hand' function in Zoom if they would like to speak during public comment periods.*

CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION

CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

- 1. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION PER GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957(B)(1):** Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager - Annual Review.
- 2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS PER GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.6:**
Agency Representatives: Michael Blumenberg, Elizabeth Howell, Reid Miller, Oliver Yee, negotiators
Unrepresented employee: General Manager
- 3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - PER GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(4):**
Anticipated Litigation – Initiation of litigation (one potential case).

ADJOURNMENT

OPEN SESSION 6:00PM

CALL TO ORDER: *By Chair Blumenberg.*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: *By Chair Blumenberg.*

ROLL CALL: *By the Clerk of the Board.*

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Consider and approve, by majority vote, minor revisions to agenda items and/or attachments and the removal or continuance of items from the Port Commission's agenda. No item may be added for action unless the Commission first makes the findings required by Government Code section 54954.2(b). Administrative Reports relating to this agenda and materials related to an item on this agenda submitted after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public review at the Port District's office located at 1603 Anchors Way Drive, Ventura, CA during business hours as well as on the District's website - www.venturaharbor.com.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of October 7, 2026 Port Commission Regular Meeting will be considered for approval.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

The Public Communications period is set aside to allow public testimony on items not on today's agenda. Each person may address the Commission for up to three minutes or at the discretion of the Chair.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

Closed Sessions are not open to the public pursuant to the Brown Act. Any reportable actions taken by the Commission during Closed Session will be announced at this time.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Port Commissioner's may present brief reports on port issues, such as seminars, meetings and literature that would be of interest to the public and/or Commission, as a whole. Port Commissioner's must provide a brief summary and disclose any discussions he or she may have had with any Port District Tenants related to Port District business.

STAFF AND GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

Ventura Port District Staff, Legal Counsel and General Manager will give the Commission updates on important topics or items of general interest if needed.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Matters appearing on the Consent Calendar are expected to be non-controversial and will be acted upon by the Board at one time, without discussion, unless a member of the Board or the public requests an opportunity to address any given item. Approval by the Board of Consent Items means that the recommendation is approved along with the terms set forth in the applicable staff reports.

A) Approval of Out-of-Town Travel Requests

Recommended Action: Voice Vote.

That the Board of Port Commissioners approve the out-of-town travel requests for Chair Michael Blumenberg to attend the California Ocean Summit 2026 in Santa Barbara, CA, from December 9 - 11, 2026.

B) Approval of New Office Lease Agreement for 1591 Spinnaker Drive #207 with VPSS1 INC., a Nevada corporation

Recommended Action: Voice Vote.

That the Board of Port Commissioners approves a new Office Lease Agreement between the Ventura Port District dba Ventura Harbor Village and VPSS1 INC., a Nevada corporation, for the premises located at 1591 Spinnaker Drive #207, consisting of approximately 1,420 square feet.

C) Approval of Payments for September 2026

Recommended Action: Voice Vote.

That the Board of Port Commissioners review and approve payments made by check, ACH, and EFT for the month of September 2026.

D) Award of Bids for Harbor Patrol Fire Boat-1 Fire Pump Engine Repower Project Part 1 and Part 2

Recommended Action: Voice Vote.

That the Board of Port Commissioners:

- a) Award the Harbor Patrol Fireboat 1 Fire Pump Engine Repower Project Part 1 Contract to Anderson Custom Boats in the amount not to exceed \$110,000.
- b) Award the Harbor Patrol Fireboat 1 Fire Pump Engine Repower Project Part 2 Contract to Anderson Custom Boats in the amount not to exceed \$21,800.

STANDARD AGENDA:

1) Receive and File the September 26, 2026 Public Workshop Report

Recommended Action: Voice Vote.

That the Board of Port Commissioners receive and file a report on the public workshop held on September 26, 2026.

2) Request for Supplemental Funds for the 50th Annual Ventura Harbor Parade of Lights and Fireworks – “The Golden Era” – December 18–19, 2026

Recommended Action: Voice Vote.

That the Board of Port Commissioners approve an additional \$35,000 allocation to the FY 2026/2027 Events Production budget towards enhanced programming and services for the 50th Annual Ventura Harbor Parade of Lights and Fireworks – The Golden Era- on December 18 and 19, 2026, increasing the annual Events Production budget from \$80,000 to \$115,000.

3) Election of a Ventura Local Agency Formation Regular Member and Alternate Member Representing Special Districts

Recommended Action: Voice Vote.

That the Board of Port Commissioners elect a candidate to fill the four-year term of the Special District regular member and Special District alternate member for the Ventura LAFCo Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

*This agenda was posted on Friday, October 16, 2026 by 5:30 p.m. at the Port District Office and online at
<https://venturaharbor.com/board-meeting-documents/>*

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Ventura Port District at (805) 642-8538 or the California Relay Service at 711 or (800) 855-7100. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. (28 CFR 35.102.35.104 ADA Title II)



VENTURA
PORT DISTRICT
Established 1952

BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 21, 2026

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OCTOBER 7, 2026 REGULAR MEETING

VENTURA PORT DISTRICT

BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 7, 2026



CLOSED SESSION

CALL TO ORDER:

The Ventura Port District Board of Port Commissioners Regular Closed Session Meeting was called to order by Chair Blumenberg at 5:30PM at the Ventura Port District Administration Office, 1603 Anchors Way Drive, Ventura, CA 93001 and via Zoom meeting.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present:

Michael Blumenberg, Chair
Anthony Rainey, Secretary
Elizabeth Howell, Vice-Chair
William Anderson

Commissioners Absent:

Chris Stephens

Port District Staff:

Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager
Todd Mitchell, Deputy General Manager
Jessica Rauch, Clerk of the Board
Jessica Snipas, Business Operations Manager

Legal Counsel:

Gene Wu, Lagerlof, LLP

Number of Interested Persons:

0 via zoom; 0 in-person

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS: None. Closed at 5:31PM.

CONVENED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 5:31PM.

ADJOURNED CLOSED SESSION AT 5:39PM.

OPEN SESSION

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA:

CALL TO ORDER:

The Ventura Port District Board of Port Commissioners' Regular Open Session Meeting was called to order by Chair Blumenberg at 6:00PM at the Ventura Port District Administration Office, 1603 Anchors Way Drive, Ventura, CA 93001 and via Zoom meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: by Christian Garcia, Business Operations Analyst II.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present:

Michael Blumenberg, Chair
Elizabeth Howell, Vice-Chair
Anthony Rainey, Secretary
William Anderson

Commissioners Absent:

Chris Stephens

Port District Staff:

Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager
Todd Mitchell, Deputy General Manager
Jessica Rauch, Clerk of the Board
Brendan Donohue, Senior Harbor Patrol Officer
Christian Garcia, Business Operations Analyst II
Jessica Snipas, Business Operations Manager via Zoom
Matt Tevere, Maintenance Supervisor

Legal Counsel:

Gene Wu, Lagerlof, LLP

City of Ventura Liaisons:

Councilmember Duran, City Council Liaison – absent

Number of interested persons:

3 via zoom; 0 in person

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

ACTION: Commissioner Anderson moved to adopt the October 7, 2026 agenda.

Vice-Chair Howell seconded. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Vice-Chair Howell moved to approve the September 16, 2026 regular meeting and September 26, 2026 public workshop special meeting minutes.

Commissioner Anderson seconded. The vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS: None. Closed at 6:03PM.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT: Mr. Wu stated that the Board met in closed session and discussed and reviewed all items on the closed session agenda. Legal Counsel was given instructions on how to proceed, as appropriate, and no action was taken that is reportable under The Brown Act.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS: Chair Blumenberg reported on the Ventura County Reporter's Best of Ventura County and gave a shout out to other local press for Village business ad coverage and Harbor articles. He also was able to walk around the Harbor with the General Manager and loves the new art and improved landscaping. Vice-Chair Howell sat down with the General Manager and Ocean Rainforest for an interview with the Ventura County Reporter. Closed at 6:06PM.

STAFF AND GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS: Mr. Pendleton reported on upcoming events and promotions at Harbor Village. He also announced the annual tenant survey has been sent to all Village and Master tenants, and the September 26th Public Workshop follow-up will be presented to the Board at the October 21st meeting. Mr. Wu reported that the District received the first of six settlement payments due under the settlement agreement reached in the matter of *Ventura Harbor Restaurant Associates, Inc. v. Ventura Port District*, Court of Appeal Case No. B344145; Superior Court Case No. 56-2022-00572144-CU-MC-VTA, which the Board approved at the September 2, 2026 meeting. Closed at 6:16PM.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A) Approval of Out-of-Town Travel Requests

Recommended Action: Voice Vote.

That the Board of Port Commissioners approve the out-of-town travel requests for:

- a) Administrative Services Manager, Sarah Clancy to attend the CJPIA Investigations Essentials Workshop, in La Palma, CA, from October 26-27, 2026.
- b) Deputy General Manager, Todd Mitchell to attend the CJPIA Investigations Essentials Workshop, in La Palma, CA, from October 26-27, 2026.

Public Comment: None.

ACTION: Commissioner Rainey moved to approve the out-of-town travel requests.

Commissioner Anderson seconded. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Blumenberg, Howell, Rainey, Anderson

ABSENT: Commissioner Stephens

Vote carried 4-0.

B) Approval of Supplemental Ground Lease Estoppel Certificate and Confirmation for the Benefit of Bank of America, N.A. (Portside Harbor, LLC Ground Lease)

Recommended Action: Voice Vote.

That the Board of Port Commissioners authorize the General Manager to execute and have notarized, a Supplemental Ground Lease Estoppel Certificate and Confirmation for the benefit of Bank of America, N.A., currently held by Banc of California (Lender), in connection with its larger acquisition by assignment of several loans, including the existing leasehold mortgage loan encumbering Portside Harbor, LLC, leasehold under the Ground Lease dated October 18, 2016.

Public Comment: None.

ACTION: Commissioner Rainey moved to authorize the General Manager to execute and have notarized, a Supplemental Ground Lease Estoppel Certificate and Confirmation for the benefit of Bank of America, N.A., currently held by Banc of California (Lender), in connection with its larger acquisition by assignment of several loans, including the existing leasehold mortgage loan encumbering Portside Harbor, LLC, leasehold under the Ground Lease dated October 18, 2016.

Commissioner Anderson seconded. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Blumenberg, Howell, Rainey, Anderson

ABSENT: Commissioner Stephens

Vote carried 4-0.

C) Adoption of Resolution No. 3563 Approving the Update to the Ventura Port District Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Code Policy and Rescinding Resolution No. 3541

Recommended Action: Roll Call Vote.

That the Board of Port Commissioners adopt Resolution No. 3563 approving the update to the Ventura Port District Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Policy and rescind Resolution No. 3541.

Public Comment: None.

ACTION: Commissioner Rainey moved to adopt Resolution No. 3563 approving the update to the Ventura Port District Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Policy and rescind Resolution No. 3541.

Commissioner Anderson seconded. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Blumenberg, Howell, Rainey, Anderson

ABSENT: Commissioner Stephens

Vote carried 4-0.

STANDARD AGENDA:

1) Bait Pen Feasibility Study

Recommended Action: Informational.

That the Board of Port Commissioners receive a presentation on the outcome of a Bait Pen Feasibility Study prepared for Ventura Harbor.

Report by Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager; Jerry Holcomb, PE, Project Manager, Kimley-Horn.

Public Comment: None. Closed at 6:48PM.

ACTION: **The Board of Port Commissioners received a presentation on the outcome of a Bait Pen Feasibility Study prepared for Ventura Harbor.**

The Board directed staff to further explore lower capital-cost options for anchoring future bait pens and the availability of public grants. The Board requested that this issue be re-visited in early 2027 to assess private sector interest in developing and operating a bait operation at one of the preferred locations.

2) Legal Services Request for Proposals

Recommended Action: Informational.

That the Board of Port Commissioners receive a report regarding a Request for Proposals (RFP) for outside legal services to serve as the District's general counsel.

Report by Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager.

Public Comment: None. Closed at 6:57PM.

ACTION: **The Board of Port Commissioners received a report regarding a Request for Proposals for outside legal services to serve as the District's general counsel. The Board suggested adding AI capabilities as an item for response in the RFP.**

The Board established an ad hoc committee of the Chair and Vice-Chair to support staff during the evaluation process. The Board also endorses the RFP.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:10PM.

The next regular meeting is Wednesday, October 21, 2026.

Anthony Rainey, Secretary



BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 21, 2026

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF REPORTS SEPTEMBER 2026 & GUIDING PRINCIPLES FIVE-YEAR OBJECTIVES INDEX

GUIDING PRINCIPLES	
1)	Maintain a safe, navigable, and resilient harbor.
2)	Advance the harbor's vibrant, working waterfront in support of commercial and recreational fishing and boating.
3)	Grow financial sustainability through a reliable, recurring revenue stream supplemented with grants and public-private partnership investment while maintaining responsible budgeting practices.
4)	Establish and implement harbor-wide environmental sustainability policies and practices through collaboration with our business partners.
5)	Build respectful, productive relationships with employees, tenants, residents, visitors, stakeholders, public officials, and elected representatives while promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion.
6)	Provide exceptional public service and organizational transparency.
7)	Provide high-quality Harbor and coastal visitor-serving amenities, services, facilities and infrastructure.
8)	Support the Channel Islands National Park in its efforts to provide a first-class visitor center, educational resources, and ferry boat services to the islands.

5-YEAR OBJECTIVES		STRATEGY	
D)	Ensure dredging occurs annually at the federal Harbor entrance and as needed in the inner Harbor.	1)	Support and advocate for congressional funding to the Army Corps of Engineers in support of the Harbor's annual dredging program
		2)	On-going leadership and participation with California Marine Affairs and Navigation Conference (CMANC) and other relevant organizations in support of federal and state assistance
		3)	Ventura Port District Dredging
E)	Encourage public and civic engagement; maintain high levels of organizational transparency; and promote Harbor-wide diversity, equity and inclusion through District policies, procedures and programs.	1)	Collaborate with business partners and stakeholders through increased engagement, communication, and participation.
		2)	Collaborate with City, regional, state, and federal agency officials in pursuit of mutually beneficial projects, programs
		3)	Public and Civic Engagement Planning
		4)	Updates to District policies to reflect improved transparency and DEI
F)	Support current and future commercial fishing and sustainable aquaculture industries. Maintain and improve working waterfront facilities and infrastructure.	1)	Engage with commercial fishing and sustainable aquaculture interests in Ventura Harbor
		2)	Continue improvements of District's Working Waterfront infrastructure
		3)	Continue to pursue opportunities for diversifying commercial fishing and sustainable aquaculture
M)	Collaborate with Master Tenants and National Park Service to plan, improve, and develop the Harbor in a financially and environmentally sustainable way.	1)	Engagement and support of Master Tenants for successful business operations at the Harbor
		2)	Evaluate opportunities for Parcel Development
		3)	Implement sustainability technologies at the Harbor
		4)	VenturaWaterPure
N)	Maintain and grow Channel Islands National Park Service (NPS) presence and customer visitation to the Harbor.	1)	Work with NPS and harbor visitors regarding enhancement of visitor experience.
		2)	Coordinate with NPS Superintendent to evaluate long-term goals and improvement needs for the Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center
		3)	Coordinate with National & California State Parks, and City to develop destination-based ecotourism offerings
P)	Implement parking management, traffic circulation, and multi-modal transportation strategies.	1)	Work with City to improve access between the City and Harbor
		2)	Evaluate alternative and active methods for people to travel to and within the Harbor and pursue needed improvements and strategies in partnership with the City
		3)	Pursue and implement parking management solutions to increase vehicle circulation
R)	Seek opportunities to grow revenues and secure grants; continue to improve the quality, efficiency, and transparency of financial reporting, monitoring, and property management.	1)	Utilize grant funding opportunities for sustainable Harbor infrastructure
		2)	Seek additional grant funding for improving/replacing District capital assets.
		3)	Leasing/Property Management
		4)	Update of Financial Management System
		5)	Financial Reporting
V)	Maintain and improve Harbor Village facilities, infrastructure, and amenities.	1)	Ongoing investment in Harbor Village Infrastructure
		2)	Develop and implement an Annual Visitation Plan for Ventura Harbor Village.

VENTURA PORT DISTRICT DEPARTMENTAL STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

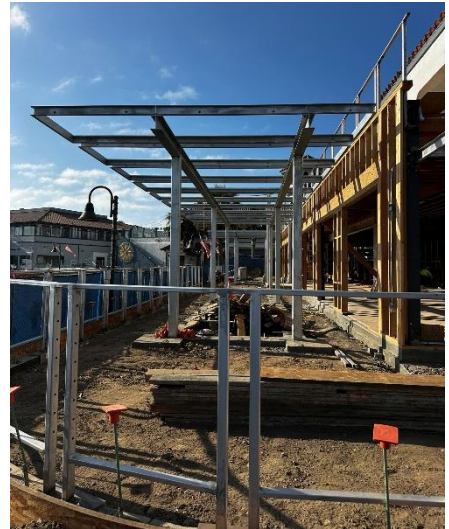
TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Todd Mitchell, Deputy General Manager
Justin Fleming, Capital Projects Manager
SUBJECT: September 2026 Capital Projects Report

1575 SPINNAKER DR. FACADE RENOVATION

Status: Rough Framing ongoing, Rough Electrical ongoing, Rough Mechanical is ongoing
Budget: On Budget



The 1575 Building Exterior Façade Improvements Project continues to make substantial progress. Earlier soil erosion near the existing revetment, caused by micropile installation, has been fully addressed, with an inspection confirming that the revetment itself was not damaged. Structural steel has been erected and signed off by the project structural engineer, and all concrete and rebar work for the current structural phase has been completed and

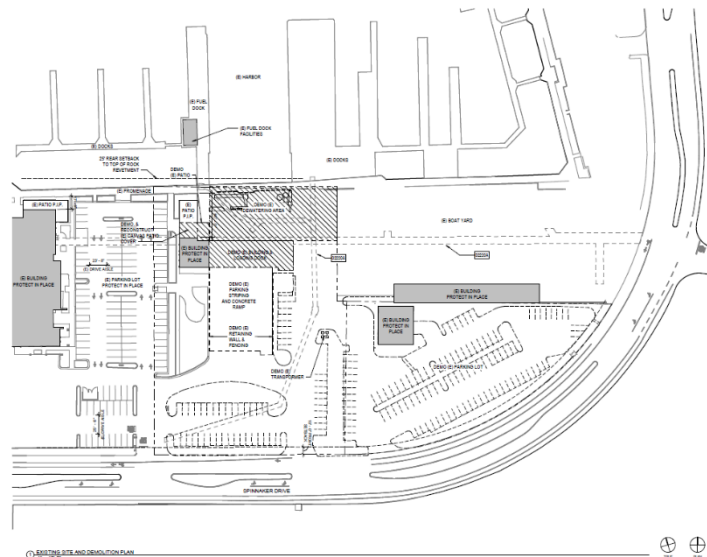


signed off by the City inspector. Framing is underway for the upper balcony decking, with exterior façade construction progressing concurrently.

Handrails have now been installed on the west-facing side of the upper deck. Electrical panels have also been installed, and rough electrical work continues throughout the building. Mechanical systems have been placed on the roof, and preparation has been made for the installation of the grease interceptor.

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES MODERNIZATION PROJECT

Status: Planning Phase



The Capital Projects Manager is heavily engaged in supporting the Commercial Fisheries Modernization Project, including coordination with Port staff and the architect/engineering design team, working under contract to the Port of Hueneme. The project currently advances toward City plan submittal and review. The Capital Projects Manager will also direct a consulting team responsible for developing a detailed construction schedule and Interim Operations Plan for Andria's Seafood. The focus of the interim team for the past month, and into the immediate future is the design and coordination of utilities to ensure that services necessary for the

operation of both Andria's and the Fisheries can remain active, with minimal downtime, throughout the course of construction.

1559 SPINNAKER ELEVATOR MODERNIZATION

Status: In contract negotiations with vendor

Budget: On Budget



The elevator doors at 1559 have been damaged as a result of high usage and are not currently working properly. The damage has affected the reliability of the elevator and the doors require repair to restore safe and dependable operation. This repair was included in the Ventura Port District's FY 26-27 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), approved by the Board of Port Commissioners.

TK Elevator (TKE) has been engaged to perform the repair, as the company already holds a service contract for other elevators at Ventura Harbor Village. TKE's familiarity with the Village's elevator equipment, its existing service relationship with the District, and a quote that falls within the District's approved procurement guidelines lead Staff to believe TKE is the best choice to perform this work. A scope of work and cost have been agreed upon, and the final contract

language is currently under review by the District's legal counsel, Lagerlof. Once the review is complete and the contract is executed, the repairs can move forward.

1583 SPINNAKER RE-ROOFING

Status: Bid Walk completed, Awaiting Bids

Budget: On Budget

The replacement of the Harbor Village roofs remains part of the District's 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Staff identified the roof at 1583 Spinnaker as having reached the end of its life expectancy, and it has been selected for replacement in accordance with the CIP. Staff has engaged Garland to assist with procurement of the new roof, as Garland materials and repair warranties are already in place on other roofs throughout Ventura Harbor Village. Staff and Garland representatives hosted a walkthrough for approved roofing subcontractors, and Staff is now waiting to receive bids so that a roofer can be selected.



VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
DEPARTMENTAL STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager
Todd Mitchell, Deputy General Manager
SUBJECT: September 2026 Dredging Report

OUTER HARBOR DREDGING (FEDERAL NAVIGATION CHANNEL)

South Jetty Shoaling Notice

On August 26th, the Harbor Patrol issued a safety notice to local boaters regarding the growing shoal off the south jetty and the placement of a hazard buoy. Staff notified the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Los Angeles District of the issue. Due to El Niño conditions that are likely to be severe this winter, it is a concern that shoaling conditions could worsen over the winter.

On August 31st, USACE advised that they would send out a hydrographic survey team in October to investigate the issue after the completion of dredging Oceanside (thus second half of October). Harbor Patrol continues to take soundings in the interim and monitor for further degradation of conditions. Staff and USACE will continue to communicate on the issue and determine if emergency conditions begin to emerge.

Political Advocacy for Federal Funding

On April 3rd, the President's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released the President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2027 and dredging of the Ventura Harbor Entrance Channel (and all navigation projects under the Los Angeles District of the Corps of Engineers) was unfunded.

While this does not mean the Corps cannot receive funding from Congress for dredging, it does mean that until a budget is passed, the Corps cannot act to dredge Ventura Harbor.

Senators Padilla and Schiff both issued congressionally directed spending (CDS) requests in the FY27 budget. However, the lack of appropriations activity by the Senate this summer and fall has failed to advance all CDS requests by all Senators. There is no certainty that *any* CDS's will move forward due to the stalemate in the Senate and the uncertain outcome of the election.

While 2028 may seem very far away, federal agencies like the Corps have already submitted their budget requests to the OMB as of this past summer. Advocacy to support the Corps' requests are essential now to work to get Ventura Harbor back into the President's Budget.

Next Steps

Staff continue to work to ensure that Ventura Harbor will be included as part of the Corps Work Plan in FY27. While this is generally the most secure method of funding, the timing is poor as it will almost certainly be made available after the end of the dredging environmental window in 2027. Staff are working with Carpi & Clay to set up one-on-one meetings with OMB and our elected representatives to secure inclusion in the FY27 Work Plan and also pursue inclusion in the FY28 President's Budget. The timing of these meetings should take place in late October, which is consistent for the timing of what is known as the "pass back" (around late November (frequently called "Pass back Day"), the OMB "passes back" its decisions to federal agencies regarding their proposed funding levels, including projects such as dredging Ventura Harbor. Therefore, official requests of OMB need to be delivered by the end of October.

As such, a letter will be drafted on behalf of the District from Congressman Carbajal to the OMB to restate the importance of Ventura Harbor to the nation and therefore the need for federal funding for the project both in the FY27 Work Plan and the FY28 President's Budget. Staff will also request that Senators Padilla and Schiff also make this request from the OMB.

Staff have also been working with Carpi & Clay to alert the OMB and our congressional representatives to keep them advised of the shoaling issue and concerns over changes that could result from El Nino.

DETACHED BREAKWATER REPAIR

USACE has completed their assessment of the condition and have determined the need for repairs of the breakwater. USACE staff have advised that it is their intent to try to secure FY27 Work Plan funding to repair the breakwater in the coming 12~18 months. The amount required for the repair is similar to the cost of annual dredging (~\$8 million).

During discussions with Corps staff at CMANC, Corps staff suggested that should duplicative funding be secured for dredging Ventura Harbor, that funding could be repurposed to perform the breakwater repairs or vice versa, as they are considered part of the same navigation project.

INNER HARBOR DREDGING

A hydrographic survey of the inner harbor was conducted in February 2026, to verify that the inner harbor navigation conditions remain excellent. At this time, no inner harbor dredging appears to be needed in 2026 or 2027 unless there is a very significant event that deposits extreme amounts of material within the harbor. The inner harbor will be re-surveyed in 2027.

VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
DEPARTMENTAL STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Todd Mitchell, Deputy General Manager
Sergio Gonzalez, Facilities Manager
Matt Tevere Maintenance Supervisor
SUBJECT: September 2026 Facilities Report

MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

VENTURA HARBOR VILLAGE SUPER EL NINO PREPERATION

Status: On Going

Budget: Budgeted (Contingency)



In preparation for the El Niño storms, staff will conduct inspections of roofs, gutters, and area drains throughout the Village to ensure proper drainage and minimize the potential for flooding. Sandbags will be strategically placed in areas that have historically required protection, with additional supplies maintained on-site to accommodate tenant requests as needed. Staff will also secure loose items that may pose a hazard during periods of strong

winds and inspect trees, slopes, and revetments for potential hazards that could arise during storm conditions.



VHV Promenade Telescopes

Status: Completed

Budget: Budgeted (Grounds Maintenance)

On the Harbor Village Promenade, the District has two telescopes for visitors to view our beautiful harbor. They needed re-finishing, particularly with the upcoming Parade of Lights. Staff sanded, primed and painted with a marine coating to give them a fresh new look.



VHV Lawn Area Stage

Status: Completed

Budget: Budgeted (Grounds Maintenance)

To enhance the appearance of the lawn area, Facilities staff removed the broken old wooden fence on the back of the lawn area stage and built a new white vinyl fence to give the area a long lasting fresh new look.



BEFORE



AFTER

VHV 1591 INNER COURTYARD PLANTER

Status: Completed

Budget: Budgeted (Grounds Maintenance)

The planter in the courtyard across from 1591 Deep Sea Winery was outdated and needed to be renovated. Our in-house team removed the old plants, re-worked the irrigation and re-planted with drought tolerant plants based on our landscaping palette and filled in with crushed granite to match the other completed planters to give the area a fresh look.



BEFORE



AFTER

VHV PALMS AND COURTYARD TREES TRIMMING AND THINNING

STATUS: Completed

Budget: Budgeted (Grounds Maintenance)

The VHV palms and courtyard trees were due for annual trimming. Vendor Forrest Tree Service came out and trimmed all our palms and courtyard trees throughout the village. They also skinned a few palms inside the village to prepare for the upcoming Christmas light installations.



BEFORE



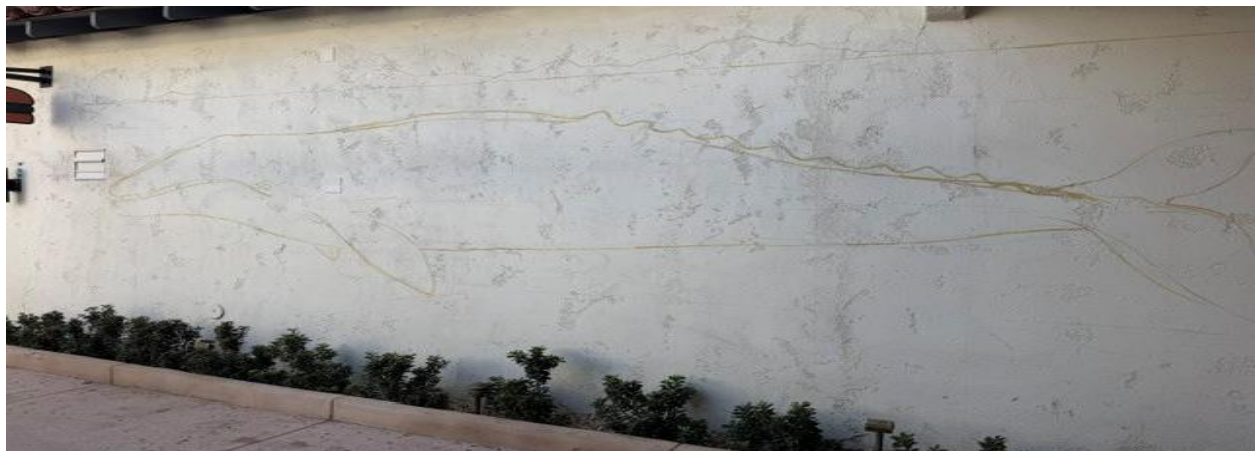
AFTER

VHV 1583 SISTER CITY MURAL

Status: In Progress

Budget: (Administration)

Muralist MB Hanrahan from MB Universe is in the process of painting a mural as part of the Sister City program on the interior courtyard wall of 1583 (same side as The Parlor/Coastal Cone opposite from The Boatyard Pub). MB will be working on the mural for the next couple of weeks. After completion, Facilities will enhance the painting by adding direct lighting.



VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
DEPARTMENTAL STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager
John Higgins, Harbormaster
SUBJECT: September 2026 Harbor Patrol Report

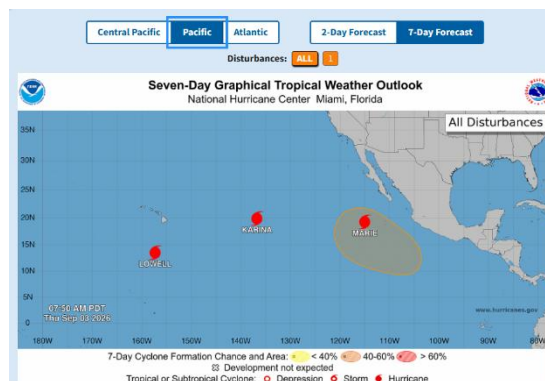
PUBLIC SAFETY

Overview:

Warm weather and favorable water conditions continue to attract visitors to the Harbor and South Beach. The decision to continue weekend lifeguard staffing through October was based on strong midweek attendance throughout September. As a precaution, the message sign on Spinnaker remains in place to advise visitors of hazardous conditions, as lifeguards are not on duty daily.



The month began with three active hurricanes in the Eastern Pacific. Fortunately, none have created significant impacts locally. Staff monitored daily updates from the National Hurricane Center and the National Weather Service in Oxnard to stay informed of changing conditions. Warmer ocean temperatures associated with El Niño appear to be helping these storms maintain their strength longer than usual. In past years, cooler waters often caused similar systems to weaken into tropical storms more quickly.



El Niño:

The NOAA Climate Prediction Center reports that the strong El Niño continues to intensify, with a greater than 83% probability that conditions will remain strong to very strong through January–March 2027.

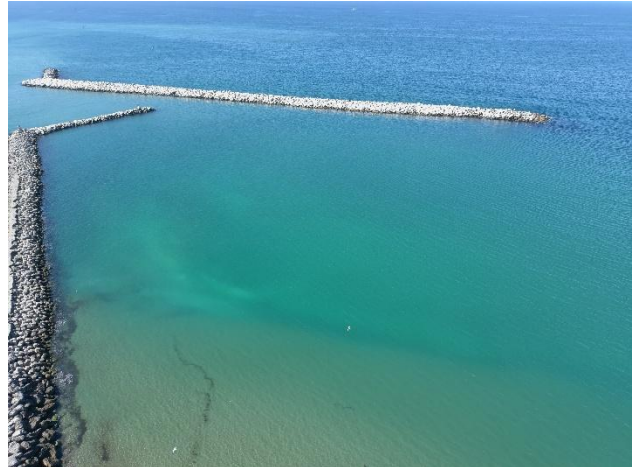
Harbor Patrol and Port District staff have been actively preparing for the potential impacts of a strong El Niño event. Under the direction of the General Manager, staff have begun more formal emergency preparedness training to strengthen the District's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from major incidents. This effort includes formally designating the conference room as the District's Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Staff are also receiving Incident Command System (ICS) training and will complete FEMA ICS-100 coursework at no cost to the District.

Development of the EOC has been underway for more than a year. During that time, strategic purchases have been made to support emergency operations, including portable radios, laptops, tablets, incident command materials, first aid kits, identification vests, and portable charging equipment.

Shoaling off the South Jetty:

Harbor Patrol continues to monitor the shoaling off the South Jetty. Fortunately, the September hurricanes did not produce strong south swell events. They did, however, continue to add to the sandbar, which now encompasses approximately 20% of the entrance. District staff has communicated our concerns to the Army Corps of Engineers, and they reported that they have scheduled a vessel to perform a hydrographic survey of the conditions at the end of October.

In evaluating the severity of this shoal, Harbor Patrol also looked at the sand trap and how full it is. Overhead drone video showed the sand trap is in good shape and it would take a lot of sand movement to fill it in. With this buffer, the chances of the north side creating a sand bar that would connect the two are much lower. This did happen in 2014 and resulted in the closure of the Harbor Entrance for one month. During that time, the Harbor Patrol, working with the US Coast Guard Captain of the Port, established the area as a safety zone, and traffic was minimized to commercial traffic with escorts when the conditions were safe. This allowed certain commercial vessels to continue their business and reduced the need to have someone physically stationed at the entrance 24/7.



Kelvin Wave & High Tides:

Ventura Harbor, along with much of Southern California, has experienced tides up to 12 inches above forecasted levels. According to the National Weather Service, several factors have contributed to these higher-than-predicted water levels.

One contributing factor is a Kelvin wave, a naturally occurring movement of warm equatorial water first identified during late summer. As this warmer water travels north along the coast, sea levels can rise by as much as 12 inches, resulting in unusually high tides. Fortunately, no significant wave events have occurred to date in conjunction with these elevated water levels.

These conditions have reinforced the importance of ongoing storm preparedness efforts. Harbor Patrol continues to closely monitor tide levels, as the additional 12 inches of water elevation could increase the impacts of future wind and wave events.



Harbor Cove Beach:

Harbor Cove continues to operate at full capacity and remains one of the area's premier family-friendly beaches. Visitation continues to grow each year, and Harbor Patrol has seen a steady increase in the use of beach wheelchairs. As awareness of the program expands, we are also seeing more returning visitors.

Given the growing popularity of these accessibility services and feedback received during the public workshop, staff will continue pursuing grant funding opportunities to expand ADA-accessible amenities, including enhanced access to on-the-water recreational activities (2 of the 3 beach wheelchairs and 200' of new mat were procured as part of a National Fish and Wildlife Fund grant).

South Beach:

As fall approaches, South Beach remains healthy and significantly wider than in recent years. The expanded beach profile results from several factors, including the natural summer sand cycle that moves offshore sand closer to shore, sediment transported northward by Southern Hemisphere storm activity, and previous dredging replenishment efforts.

While the beach is broader, its elevation remains low. As seasonal wind and wave events increase, some erosion is expected. Staff are optimistic that the additional sand will provide a protective buffer for the dunes and parking areas during typical winter storm conditions.



Ventura Police Cadet Tour:

Harbor Patrol staff once again welcomed the Ventura Police Department Explorer Program during a tour of local public safety agencies. Harbor Patrol and Marine Safety Officer personnel discussed career opportunities, specialized training, operational responsibilities, and the equipment used to support harbor and marine rescue operations.

Marine Safety Officer Holden Osborne conducted a live demonstration of Rescue Watercraft operations, highlighting their role in surf rescue incidents. Staff also provided demonstrations aboard the Fireboat and discussed its importance as a regional emergency response asset.

The visit concluded with an on-the-water harbor familiarization tour. Participants were highly engaged, asked numerous questions, and gained valuable insight into marine public safety.

The partnership between Harbor Patrol and the Ventura Police Department Explorer Program continues to grow and provide meaningful opportunities for youth outreach and career development.



US Customs Schedule D Port of Entry:

A little-known fact is that the Harbor Patrol Long Dock sometimes serves as an official U.S. Customs Port of Entry. Vessels arriving from foreign waters may make their first stop at the dock, where U.S. Customs officers can inspect and clear them to continue their voyage within the United States.

With advances in technology and electronic reporting systems, use of the dock for customs clearances has become increasingly rare. In most cases, boaters can now obtain clearance through a mobile application. However, in mid-September, a vessel arriving from Mexico made Ventura Harbor its first U.S. port of entry. Harbor Patrol staff met the vessel, confirmed the electronic reporting process had been initiated, and coordinated with Port Hueneme Customs officers, who responded to complete the inspection and clearance process.



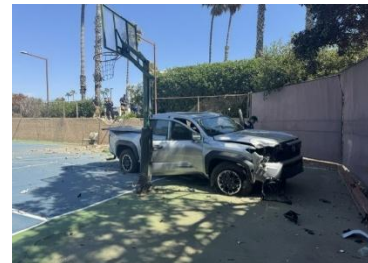
Traffic Accidents:

September was a busy month for traffic accidents. Three accidents occurred within the Harbor, and neither alcohol nor drugs were factors. In all three cases, the cause was driver error.

Accident #1 occurred on a weekday near Portside. An elderly driver attempted a U-turn immediately after entering from Schooner Drive. He mistakenly pressed the accelerator while reversing, causing the vehicle to strike a Portside apartment. In a panic, he shifted into drive, crossed the roadway, jumped the curb, and crashed into a residence on the opposite side of the street. Significant damage occurred to both buildings within a matter of seconds. The residence shown in the photo was red-tagged by the City. No serious injuries were reported.



Accident #2 also occurred on a weekday in the Four Points by Sheraton parking lot. The driver reported that his vehicle unexpectedly accelerated, causing it to jump two curbs, cross the main driveway, and travel over a retaining wall into the tennis courts. Harbor Patrol personnel were first on scene and assisted the driver, who reported only minor pain. The driver was evaluated and released by paramedics, and the Ventura Police Department conducted the collision investigation.



Accident #3 occurred during daylight hours and was more typical for the area. While recovering a vessel, the driver failed to set the parking brake, allowing the vehicle to roll backward into the water. No injuries were reported, and the vehicle was removed by a commercial towing company.



HARBOR PATROL 911 CALLS SEPTEMBER

Incident	Case Numbers	Units	Priority	Problem	Agency	Address	City	Response Date
26-0076635		B4, HARB1, ME101, MED683, MTS, SQ2, T81, U2	F4	TC	Ventura County Fire Department	1182 Anchors Way	Ventura	9/2/2026 2:53:10 PM
26-0077808		B16, B3, BOAT15, DRONE, E22, E25, EMS48, HARB1, LIFEGD1, ME1, ME2, MED473, OR1, CR25, VBOAT5	F5	OCEAN RESCUE LOW	Ventura County Fire Department	3498 W Pacific Coast Hwy	Rincon Bluffs	9/5/2026 2:23:43 PM
26-0077796		B3, HARB1, HARB2, ME5, MED473, CES345, SQ2	F4	TC	Ventura County Fire Department	3600 - 3998 E HARBOR BL	Ventura	9/6/2026 3:52:23 AM
26-0077936		HARB1, HARB2, MED473, SQ2	M5	FALL NON EMD	Ventura County Fire Department	1559 Spinnaker Dr	Ventura	9/6/2026 3:08:41 PM
26-0078300		HARB1, HARB2, ME101, MED473, SQ2	M5	STROKE (CVA)	Ventura County Fire Department	1449 Spinnaker Dr	Ventura	9/7/2026 4:56:27 PM
26-0078406		HARB1, MED473, SQ2	M7	FALL NO CODE	Ventura County Fire Department	1215 Anchors Way	Ventura	9/8/2026 1:58:19 AM
26-0078746		HARB1, MED473, SQ2	M7	SICK PERSON NO CODE	Ventura County Fire Department	1050 Schooner Dr	Ventura	9/9/2026 5:44:04 AM
26-0078813		HARB1, ME2, MED473	M7	SICK PERSON NO CODE	Ventura County Fire Department	1050 Schooner Dr	Ventura	9/9/2026 10:41:32 AM
26-0079100		HARB1, MED473, SQ2	M5	UNKNOWN PROBLEM NON EMD	Ventura County Fire Department	1080 Navigator Dr	Ventura	9/10/2026 6:54:48 AM
26-0079167		HARB1, ME5, MED471, MTS, SQ2	M7	TRAUMATIC INJURIES NO CODE	Ventura County Fire Department	1215 Anchors Way	Ventura	9/10/2026 10:21:13 AM
26-0079622		HARB1, MED473, SQ2	M5	CHEST PAIN NON TRAUMA	Ventura County Fire Department	1049 Marina Dr	Ventura	9/12/2026 1:05:16 PM
26-0080039		HARB1, MED471, SQ2	M7	SICK PERSON NO CODE	Ventura County Fire Department	1551 SPINNAKER DR	Ventura	9/12/2026 7:05:41 PM
26-0080665		HARB1, HARB2, MED683, SQ2	M7	SICK PERSON NO CODE	Ventura County Fire Department	1567 Spinnaker Dr	Ventura	9/14/2026 8:31:03 PM
26-0081427		HARB1, ME101, MED474, MED681, SQ2	M5	BEHAVIORAL EMERGENCY	Ventura County Fire Department	1215 Anchors Way	Ventura	9/17/2026 10:24:21 AM
26-0081591		HARB1, HARB2, MED664, SQ2	M3	BREATHING PROBLEMS HIGH	Ventura County Fire Department	1567 Spinnaker Dr	Ventura	9/17/2026 7:29:57 PM
26-0082276		HARB1, MED473, SQ2	M5	EYE PROBLEMS/INJURIES	Ventura County Fire Department	1080 Navigator Dr	Ventura	9/20/2026 5:23:38 AM
26-0082332		HARB1, HARB2, MED611, SQ2	M3	FAINTING/NEAR FAINTING HIGH	Ventura County Fire Department	1215 Anchors Way	Ventura	9/20/2026 11:05:13 AM
26-0082659		HARB1, HARB2, LIFEGD1, ME2, MED474, SQ2	M1	CARDIAC/RESP ARREST/DEATH HIGH	Ventura County Fire Department	1860 Spinnaker Dr	Ventura	9/21/2026 12:45:14 PM
26-0082975		HARB1, HARB3, ME2, MED474, MED683, SQ2	F4	TC	Ventura County Fire Department	1050 Schooner Dr	Ventura	9/22/2026 12:32:24 PM
26-0084034		HARB1, MED473, SQ2	M3	ALLERGIES/ENVENOMATIONS HIGH	Ventura County Fire Department	1215 Anchors Way	Ventura	9/28/2026 6:47:18 PM
26-0084967		HARB1, HARB2, ME2, MED668	F4	TC	Ventura County Fire Department	SPINNAKER DR / NAVIGATOR DR	Ventura	9/28/2026 8:28:56 PM

VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
DEPARTMENTAL STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager
Todd Mitchell, Deputy General Manager
SUBJECT: September 2026 State and Federal Legislative Report

Staff received a briefing from Townsend on September 22 to recap all state legislation that has been passed that would have impacts to the Port District (a follow up to Attachment 2 – End of Session Memo and Attachment 3 – October Bill Matrix, as issues pertain to the District specifically). No issues of great impact were identified, although some do potentially modify how meetings are held under the Brown Act. Townsend was also consulted regarding potential grant opportunities in the coming year with the suggestion that meetings be set up with state legislators after the election to have them tour the harbor to learn of eligible needs.

Staff have been coordinating with CMANC and Carpi & Clay regarding dredging issues, which are covered under that report.

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment 1 – Townsend Public Affairs, Inc. September 2026 Report
Attachment 2 – Townsend Public Affairs – End of Session Memo
Attachment 3 – Townsend Public Affairs – October Bill Matrix
Attachment 4 – Carpi & Clay September 2026 Report

MONTHLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

To: Ventura Port District
From: Townsend Public Affairs
Date: October 6, 2026
Subject: September 2026 Monthly Legislative Report

STATE UPDATES

The 2025-26 legislative session ended on September 1, and Governor Newsom had until September 30 to act on bills sent to his desk. The Legislature was drawn back into Session beyond the August 31 deadline to consider a few late-amended items, resulting in Session officially adjourning at the start of the month. During the rest of the month, Legislators returned to their districts ahead of the November election.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ACTIVITY:

Legislature Concludes this Year's Session & Adjourns for 2026

Lawmakers cleared the bulk of the more than 1,200 bills still pending at the start of the final month, alongside the last wave of budget trailer bills, before time expired. The Legislature does not formally adjourn *sine die* until midnight on November 30, when the two-year 2025-26 session closes for good and any unsigned legislation automatically goes into law. During the interim, Members return home until they reconvene in Sacramento briefly in December to swear in newly elected members after the November Election. The Governor had until September 30 to sign or veto the bills passed in the session's final days.

In the final morning of Session on September 1, two notable measures were heard and sent to the Governor:

- [AB 113 \(Budget\)](#) serves as the final Budget Bill Jr. for the year, amending the Budget Act of 2026 including various updated spending proposals, agreements between the Legislature and Administration, and allocations to local projects and priorities. This measure was signed into law on September 18.
- [SB 931 \(Grove\)](#) celebrates the life of Dolly Parton, her music career, and decades of philanthropic work supporting childhood literacy through the Imagination Library. Following her passing on August 25, the bill was amended into a bipartisan tribute establishing September 25 ("9-2-5," a nod to her hit "9 to 5") as Dolly Parton Day in California. The bill passed with support from both sides of the aisle, closing out the session on one of its more lighthearted notes. This measure was signed into law on September 20.

Wildfire Liability Proposal Withheld

The marquee storyline of the year's final hours was a bill that did not pass. Building on the negotiations that consumed the Legislature, Administration, and much of the Sacramento community at the end of the summer, Governor Newsom and legislative leadership struck a scaled-back compromise in the form of [SB 492 \(Becker/Petrie-Norris\)](#), dropping the Administration's push to cap utility payouts while retaining narrower pieces previewed in earlier proposals: a ban on utility executive bonuses in fire years, a "Fast Pay" program to speed compensation to survivors, restrictions on private-equity investment in wildfire claims, and continued subrogation rights for insurers. Investor reaction was swift and negative. PG&E, Southern California Edison, and San Diego Gas & Electric shares all fell in the days after the deal was announced, while wildfire survivor advocates argued the compromise still did not go far enough.

The measure was amended Saturday, August 29 around 7:30am, meaning the bill was not eligible for final votes until the same time the morning of Tuesday, September 1, forcing both Chambers to convene that morning beyond the August 31 deadline. However, the Assembly ultimately declined to bring the bill to a vote, killing it for the year. Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas [said](#) the proposal "does not yet deliver the relief, accountability or meaningful reform that Californians deserve." Governor Newsom, in a statement afterward, said the measure "did not meet the gravity of this moment" and called for a comprehensive fix rather than a partial one. Rivas told reporters the Assembly stands ready to act if the Governor calls a special session this fall, but the Governor's Office took no such action.

Legislative Leaders Issue End of Session Remarks

Following the close of the 2025-2026 Legislative Session, both Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas and Senate President pro Tempore Monique Limón issued statements detailing the work of their respective houses over the past two years. [Speaker Rivas](#) highlighted housing as the area of greatest effort, citing changes to how affordable housing is financed that he said will cut an estimated \$60,000 to \$70,000 from the cost of each unit, \$900 million in emergency funding to address street homelessness, a Disaster Rebuilding Fund for fire-affected families, a cap on security deposits at one month's rent, and an \$11.25 billion housing and homeownership bond that will go before voters. Rivas said the Assembly also pushed back against federal actions, describing efforts to reject Medi-Cal cuts, backfill health care subsidies and CalFresh assistance, fund reproductive health clinics, and pass more than two dozen bills related to immigration enforcement. He pointed to additional measures on paid sick days, banking fees and teen social media use, and said the Assembly created a first-in-the-nation Outcomes Review program to examine whether enacted laws are working as intended.

Senate President pro Tempore [Monique Limón](#) said she is proud of the chamber's work to continue supporting California families in the face of federal actions. According to the statement, the Senate held 406 committee hearings and more than 800 hours of debate and public comment, and highlighted priorities in several areas: opposing federal funding cuts to Medi-Cal and Medicare; passing an \$11.25 billion Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act to fund construction, preserve affordable housing and expand homeownership; funding roughly 125,000 new child care slots in the 2026-27 budget while building toward universal preschool; protecting the Middle Class Scholarship Program; strengthening protections for voters and poll workers and limiting federal involvement in state elections; and safeguarding natural resources through efforts

such as opposing offshore drilling, reducing plastic pollution, and increasing funding for safe drinking water and public lands.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH ACTIVITY:

Governor Takes Final Actions on Major Bills of Interest for the Year

Energy, Utilities, and Communications		
BILL	SUMMARY	STATUS
<u>AB 2619</u> (Papan)	Requires data center developers to provide information on water use to water suppliers and local governments prior to being issued a business license and upon renewal of a business license.	Signed into law.
<u>SB 1168</u> (McNerney)	Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to assess opportunities for rate structures to address specified rate impacts associated with data centers.	Signed into law.

Governance and Transparency		
BILL	SUMMARY	STATUS
<u>AB 1786</u> (Harabedian)	Expands a pilot program that authorizes counties to use best value contracting to include cities and the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, reduces the dollar threshold for eligible projects, and extends the existing sunset date.	Signed into law.
<u>AB 1821</u> (Pacheco)	Extends the deadlines for public agencies to provide an initial response to a public records request, by converting the current "calendar day" deadlines to a "business day" standard.	Signed into law.
<u>SB 1159</u> (Cabaldon)	Prohibits individuals from knowingly using AI to falsely represent that a natural person engaged with a government agency and clarifies that "person" does not include artificial intelligence systems, automated agents, or robots for purposes of public engagement with government.	Signed into law.
<u>SB 1164</u> (Cervantes)	Revises and expands the California Voting Rights Act of 2001 with a state voting rights act that seeks to protect voters from voter suppression and vote dilution.	Signed into law.
<u>SB 1187</u> (Durazo)	Repeals language access requirements for local government meetings.	Signed into law.

Housing and Land Use		
BILL	SUMMARY	STATUS
<u>AB 306</u> (Schultz)	Requires the California Building Standards Commission to hear and decide appeals regarding a local enforcement agency's implementation of the California Building	Vetoed.

ATTACHMENT 1

	Standards Code, and to issue code interpretations, as specified.	
<u>AB 956</u> (Quirk-Silva)	Requires local agencies to ministerially approve two detached, new construction Accessory Dwelling Units a lot with an existing or proposed single-family dwelling.	Signed into law.
<u>AB 1621</u> (Wilson)	Makes numerous changes to the post entitlement permit review process.	Signed into law.
<u>AB 1738</u> (Carrillo)	Requires certain cities, counties, or cities and counties to offer remote virtual building inspections for certain residential projects in single- or two-family dwelling units.	Signed into law.
<u>AB 1751</u> (Quirk-Silva)	Establishes the Missing Middle Townhome Ownership Act, which creates a ministerial approval process for townhome developments on residentially zoned lots.	Signed into law.
<u>AB 1997</u> (Lee)	Expedites the timeline for approval or disapproval of certain affordable housing development projects.	Vetoed.
<u>AB 2433</u> (Alvarez)	Makes various changes to Density Bonus Law.	Signed into law.
<u>AB 2576</u> (Harabedian)	Expands the historic sites exclusion in SB 79 (Wiener) prior to one year following the adoption of the seventh housing element, to include contributing sites within a historic district and parcels individually listed as a historical resource in the State Historic Resources Inventory designated before January 1, 2025.	Signed into law.
<u>SB 677</u> (Wiener)	Prohibits an interested person from appealing a parcel map for a housing development project on an urban infill site and authorizes the State Treasurer to provide specified approvals for tax-exempt private activity bonds under specified circumstances.	Signed into law.
<u>SB 1117</u> (Cervantes)	Provides that impact fees charged for certain accessory dwelling units that exceed 750 square feet in size may only be charged on the total square footage that exceeds 750 square feet of interior livable space, instead of the entirety of the ADU.	Signed into law.

Labor Relations		
BILL	SUMMARY	STATUS
<u>AB 1198</u> (Haney)	Requires updated prevailing wage rates, as determined by the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, to apply to any public works contract that is awarded or for which notice to bidders is published after July 1, 2027, if the awarded value of the prime contract is \$35 million or greater.	Signed into law.
<u>AB 1383</u> (McKinnor)	Makes changes to the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 that apply prospectively.	Vetoed.

Public Safety		
BILL	SUMMARY	STATUS
<u>AB 1569</u> (Davies)	Requires the California Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of the California Highway Patrol, to develop a standardized electric bicycle safety and training program for pupils in grades 7 to 12.	Signed into law.
<u>AB 2310</u> (Carrillo)	Increases penalties for a fourth or subsequent illegal dumping offense to a fine of up to \$5,000, and increases penalties for commercial quantities of illegal dumping with fines of up to \$50,000.	Signed into law.
<u>AB 2318</u> (Elhawary)	Prohibits a law enforcement officer from denying, delaying, obstructing, or failing to facilitate access to medical evaluation or treatment for an individual under law enforcement control when certain conditions are met, and requires law enforcement to document the basis for a denial within 72 hours of the incident, as specified.	Signed into law.
<u>AB 2346</u> (Wilson)	Sets speed limits for electric bicycles (e-bikes) and bicycle paths, requires certain disclosures when selling an e-bike, and requires some e-bikes to have a speedometer and lights.	Signed into law.
<u>SB 1167</u> (Blakespear)	Revises the definitions of electric bicycles (e-bikes), motor driven cycles, and mopeds, updates the labeling and disclosure requirements for manufacturers and sellers of these devices, and prohibits noncompliant vehicles from being advertised as e-bikes.	Signed into law.
<u>SB 1218</u> (Arreguin)	Authorizes a peace officer to immobilize a vehicle if the registered owner has unpaid illegal dumping citations or failure to appear notices for illegal dumping.	Signed into law.

Revenue and Taxation		
BILL	SUMMARY	STATUS
<u>AB 2180</u> (Ward)	Authorizes a local government to demonstrate the proportional cost of the service attributable to the parcel by any method that reasonably allocates the ascertainable cost of providing service to all parcels for any fee or charge adopted under Article XIII D of the Constitution.	Signed into law.
<u>SB 922</u> (Laird)	Allows local agencies to impose taxes, permit fees, or other charges for the privilege of using its streets or highways to recover costs for street repair and public services.	Signed into law.

Governor Introduces AskCA, a New State-Run AI-Powered Tool

On September 9, Governor Newsom [introduced AskCA](#), a new AI-powered digital assistant designed to serve as a single entry point for Californians navigating state and local government services around common "life events" such as finding a job, starting a business, accessing family services, or recovering from a disaster. Built by the Office of Data and Innovation (ODI) in partnership with Anthropic, the prototype grew out of the state's response to the January 2025 Los Angeles wildfires and delivers on a piece of the Governor's March 2026 executive order on AI.

The State opened sign-ups for a public beta the same day; California residents 18 and older can register at ask.ca.gov, with testing set to begin October 1. Feedback from beta testers and subject-matter experts across state government will be used to refine the system's responses before a full public launch. A prototype has already been tested with more than 140 fire-recovery officials and Altadena wildfire survivors, roughly a dozen job seekers at a CalHR job fair, and more than 100 general users.

CalHR was the first department to deploy the underlying engine in a live public service: starting September 30, a new AI-driven job-skills-matching feature on CalCareers.ca.gov lets job seekers upload a resume and see matching state job classifications, without storing personal information or requiring an account. Separately, state employees already have access to "[Poppy](#)," a related internal AI tool built to help with administrative tasks, legislative tracking, and productivity.

CARB Advanced Clean Fleets Compliance Flexibility Expanded

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) approved amendments to its Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) regulation that provide additional time and flexibility for public agencies transitioning to zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) fleets. While the amendments received Board approval, the text must still complete California's formal rulemaking process, including final approval and filing by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), before it becomes legally binding. CARB has indicated it expects this process to be completed and the amendments to take legal effect before January 2027. In the meantime, CARB has been administratively applying the amended framework on a compliance-assistance basis, emphasizing education and case-by-case support rather than strict enforcement during this transition period.

Under the revised ZEV Purchase Schedule pathway, the requirement that 50% of new fleet purchases be zero-emission or near-zero-emission vehicles has been extended through 2029, with the full 100% purchase requirement delayed until 2030. Agencies may continue operating compliant internal combustion vehicles indefinitely under this option and can receive credit toward future compliance through early ZEV purchases.

CARB also continues to offer the alternative ZEV Milestones pathway, which bases compliance on fleet-wide ZEV adoption targets rather than individual vehicle purchases. This option provides greater flexibility for fleet transition planning and allows agencies to account for vehicle suitability and operational needs, though agencies selecting this pathway must waive statutory useful life protections for affected vehicles. Additional compliance flexibility measures, including infrastructure delay extensions, delivery delay extensions, and mutual aid vehicle reserve allowances, remain available for qualifying agencies.

Several funding opportunities remain available to support fleet electrification efforts, including the [Hybrid and Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project](#) (HVIP), [Innovative Small E-Fleets](#) (ISEF) program, [Carl Moyer Program](#), and [California Clean Fuel Reward](#). These programs can help reduce upfront costs through vehicle purchase incentives, leasing assistance, and vehicle replacement funding as local agencies continue planning for long-term compliance with state clean transportation goals.

California Department of Finance Releases Finance Bulletin

On September 22, the Department of Finance released the month's [Finance Bulletin](#) indicating economic conditions remain mixed but stable as U.S headline consumer price index (CPI) inflation held at 3.4% year-over-year in August, with core inflation (which excludes food and energy prices) easing slightly to 2.4%. The main drivers of headline CPI inflation in August were shelter and gasoline. Gasoline price inflation was 27.4% year-over-year, resulting from elevated tensions in the Middle East.

The national unemployment rate remained stagnant at 4.1%, though the number of employed people grew by 569,000 and the number of unemployed people grew by 115,000. In California, the unemployment rate remained stagnant as well at 5.1% with the number of unemployed people falling by 14,000, and 39,400 jobs added in August. Private education and health services dominated job growth for the month with 18,600 jobs added in August, followed by an addition of 9,800 government jobs.

The statewide median sales price of existing single-family homes increased to \$901,420 in August, up 0.1% from August of 2025. Through July of this year, 113,400 housing units were permitted in California, consisting of 57,300 single-family units and 56,100 multi-family units. This represents a 16.5% increase in total housing units permitted compared to the year-to-date through July 2025.

State revenues continue to outperform forecasts, with preliminary General Fund agency cash receipts totaling \$1.5 billion, or 10.9%, above the 2026 Budget Act forecast in August. This was driven primarily by higher personal income tax withholding payments. Overall, since April, when the forecast was completed, preliminary cash receipts were \$2.4 billion above projections. Corporation tax receipts were \$56 million, or 18.5%, above forecast for the month of August.

Governor Newsom Convenes AI Oversight Experts

On September 23, Governor Newsom named four experts to develop the recommendations called for in his September 18 [executive order](#) on AI oversight:

- Jason Goldman, the first White House Chief Digital Officer
- Gillian Hadfield of Johns Hopkins University
- Alondra Nelson, former acting director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
- Rob Reich of Stanford University

The group will advise the Government Operations Agency, in consultation with Cal OES, on further changes to state law. Proposals under consideration include:

- Requiring frontier AI companies to host an independent verification organization onsite to conduct regular audits.
- Requiring that companies' safety frameworks and risk assessments be independently verified.
- Advancing a verified "kill switch" to shut down frontier models in an emergency.
- Expanding the definition of critical safety incidents to include loss-of-control events.

The executive order also directs the state to accelerate implementation of two bills the Governor signed earlier in the month. [SB 813 \(McNerney\)](#) creates a framework for certifying independent organizations to assess AI systems for safety and risk, and [AB 1405 \(Bauer-Kahan\)](#) establishes a state registry of AI auditors with standards for independence and transparency. Turning his attention to Washington, D.C., the Governor is also urging Congress to adopt California's framework as a national floor.

JUDICIAL BRANCH ACTIVITY:

California Supreme Court Orders Seized Ballots Returned in Riverside County Case

In November 2025, California voters considered Proposition 50, a special election measure on congressional redistricting that Governor Gavin Newsom backed and that favored Democrats. It passed statewide and carried Riverside County by roughly 80,000 votes. In February, Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco seized approximately 650,000 ballots from the election and began a recount using sheriff's officials. Bianco said he acted after a local citizens group complained of a gap of about 45,000 votes between the number of ballots cast and the number received. County election officials disputed that, saying the group misread the data, and that the real difference was 103 votes, within the margin of error set by the secretary of state, and that the handwritten rolls the group relied on were kept by temporary workers who may have made mistakes.

Attorney General Rob Bonta challenged the seizure, arguing that the sheriff had no authority over election materials and that the move risked sowing distrust in elections. He ordered Bianco to return the ballots, but Bianco refused. The UCLA Voting Rights Project also sued on behalf of Riverside County voters. In April, the state Supreme Court ordered Bianco to halt his review of the ballots while the cases proceeded. Bianco's attorney told the court that the sheriff had a legal duty to investigate after receiving the complaint and followed the penal code, including obtaining search warrants. Bianco, who ran for governor, did not advance past the June primary and has said he plans to seek reelection as sheriff in 2028.

On Thursday, September 24, the court [ruled](#) unanimously that the seizure violated state election law which requires ballots to remain in the custody and control of election officials, even during a criminal investigation, and that a search warrant does not override that requirement. The court ordered the ballots returned, and [held](#) that Bonta has constitutional authority to issue binding directions to county sheriffs in criminal investigations. Bianco said he will comply but "wholeheartedly" disagrees with the ruling, while Bonta said Bianco will face "legal consequences." The state has also acted legislatively: Newsom signed an emergency law in May, SB 73, penalizing the seizure of ballots from county elections offices, and on September 19 signed a 13-bill election protection package that includes a felony penalty for seizing ballots or election records before results are certified. Newsom said the ruling affirms that California will defend democracy.

CAPITOL TO CAPITOL: FROM SACRAMENTO TO WASHINGTON, DC

HR 1 SNAP/CalFresh Administrative Cost Share Changes Begin October 1

On October 1, [HR 1](#), the One Big Beautiful Bill Act's (OBBBA) [changes](#) to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/CalFresh) administrative cost sharing went into effect, reducing the federal share of administrative costs for the program from 50% to 25%. Before the change, in California the State would [cover](#) 35% and each County 15% of the administrative cost share, under the new budget, the State will [cover](#) 52.5%, Counties 22.5% and the Federal Government 25%.

Earlier this year, other provisions [requiring](#) restricting benefit increases and some recipients on the edge of qualifying for the program went into effect, and benefits cost sharing is slated to be introduced based on the State's [payment error rate](#) in October 2027. Early California Legislative Analyst Office (LAO) [estimates](#) from February of this year put immediate fiscal impacts on CalFresh at \$2 billion.

The effects of HR 1 on counties are expected to increase, alongside major changes to Medicaid and Medi-Cal availability and costs significantly impacting the state, which will have to continue to act to fill the deficits left by the federal government.

California Governor Backs Federal Film and TV Tax Credits as State Program Expands

On September 24, Governor Newsom endorsed the bipartisan [Motion Picture, Television, and Entertainment Revitalization Act](#), introduced by Senators Adam Schiff and Tim Scott and Representatives Nathaniel Moran and Linda Sánchez. The bill would create a 20% federal production tax credit that productions could combine with state incentives, which the Governor has sought since May 2025 as productions move overseas for richer foreign incentives.

The Administration pointed to results from the first year of California's expanded program, which grew from \$330 million to \$750 million a year in 2025, a \$3.75 billion commitment through 2030:

- Applications rose 82%
- The program generated \$7.2 billion in direct production spending
- Film shoot days increased 52%
- Productions created nearly 38,000 cast and crew jobs
- More than 7,600 filming days took place in California, including 1,366 outside the Los Angeles studio zone, spreading the economic benefits to other regions

The Governor also signed two related bills during September: [AB 2319 \(Schultz\)](#) creates the state's first standalone tax credit for post-production work such as editing, sound, music and visual effects, and [SB 186 \(Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review\)](#) makes existing credits more valuable through enhanced refundability. Starting in 2027, it also exempts some independent production credits from the temporary credit limitation.

FEDERAL UPDATES

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ACTIVITY:

Senate Passes College Athletics Regulations, Turns to Permitting Reform

The Senate returned to session in September, advancing a number of nominees, passing [S 4668](#), a bill to regulate college athletics, and [finalizing](#) negotiations on federal permitting reform [package](#), introduced on September 30, as the [Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act of 2026](#).

The release of the package caps months of negotiations after the House passed [HR 4776](#), the SPEED Act, last December. Both bills include significant reforms to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), which govern environmental reviews for nearly all federally funded projects. Among the most relevant reforms, both bills would create functional equivalency between California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and NEPA reviews, allowing CEQA to serve for NEPA. NEPA is oftentimes more costly and more time-consuming than CEQA, despite enforcing a lower overall standard. The bill also includes mandatory timelines for NEPA completion, including requirements for CEQ to notify applicants of deficiencies in their reviews in a timelier manner, alongside a wider set of exemptions from mitigation requirements.

The bill also includes stronger language providing public utilities actual statutory authority to charge data centers and other large load users higher rates for electricity to recover the cost of infrastructure improvements needed to support them. While the Senate left DC until after the midterm elections in November, they are expected to take action on the bill in the lame duck session. Passage in the House is unclear, as the bill contains both House Republican priorities and certain provisions allowing clean energy projects to proceed that had been a sticking point in negotiations.

On October 1, House Natural Resources Ranking Member Jared Huffman [warned](#) that most House Democrats will not support the bill in its current form, and Energy and Commerce Committee Republican Staff spoke of continued progress, noting bills they had passed to address the issue. While some conferencing is possible, the Senate has not been motivated this Congress to accept partisan changes to bipartisan Senate deals.

Fiscal Year 2026 Ends Without a Shutdown, No Action on FY27 Senate Appropriations Bills

On September 30, the Senate left Washington, DC and will return after the midterm elections and Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) officially ended. Despite not having full-year appropriations bills, Congress passed [HR 6500](#), a Continuing Resolution (CR) keeping the government open and funded at FY26 levels through December 11. The CR also pushes back the deadline to act on surface transportation reauthorization (last called the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)), certain agricultural programs, and an Office of Management and Budget (OMB) [Proposed Rule](#) that could give the Administration significantly greater control over federal funding.

The Senate is expected to return alongside the House on November 9 and immediately jump into finishing the appropriations process. The House has [completed](#) their work on all 12 bills, the Senate has yet to markup their counterparts. Senate bills are required to be bipartisan, as they need 60 votes to proceed, absences and disagreements over the split between defense and non-defense spending have delayed the process, which usually advances ahead of the August recess.

Additionally, this year's lame duck session is expected to be busy, as Congress will need to act to extend or pass legislation covering a Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act (IIJA), Farm Bill, Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), and National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) ahead of the end of the calendar year. They are also expected to work towards permitting reform, and other legacy bills for members not returning for the 120th Congress in January.

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Holds Hearing on Nuclear Waste Policy

On September 23, the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW) held a [hearing](#) on updating America's Nuclear Waste Policy. EPW Chair Shelly Moore Capito emphasized her support for expanding the use of nuclear power alongside amending the 1982 Nuclear Waste Policy [Act](#) to support responsible waste management.

Chair Capito and Democrats discussed the Administration's efforts to bolster Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campuses (NLICs), which co-locate fuel manufacturing, enriching, and disposal facilities. The Department of Energy [announced](#) agreements with six states to create NLICs, which will likely take multiple years to construct.

House Advances California Clean Air Act Waiver Disapprovals, Despite Court Order

On September 15, the House passed [H J Res 210](#) and [H J Res 213](#), a pair of Congressional Review Act (CRA) disapprovals meant to invalidate California Air Resources Board (CARB) rules that exceed the federal standards set by the Clean Air Act (CAA). California has a presumptive waiver to the federal preemption in the CAA, allowing the State to set more stringent standards on vehicle and other emissions. Other states can also choose to adopt California's higher standard.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO), a legislative branch watchdog, previously [determined](#) that California's waivers were not subject to the CRA, which was [reaffirmed](#) by the Senate Parliamentarian last year. Despite this, the Senate proceeded to pass the CRA disapprovals and the President [signed](#) them shortly thereafter in June 2025.

Since then, [litigation](#) has been ongoing and a Federal District Court Judge issued a [preliminary injunction](#) prohibiting the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from enforcing the past disapproval or others on the basis EPA improperly submitted the waivers to Congress for review under the CRA. EPA filed an appeal on September 14, which will need to be fully resolved before the Agency can move forward terminating the waivers and inhibiting CARB from enforcing its standards.

Senate Committees Work on Air and Water Quality Issues

On September 16, the Senate Committees on Environment and Public Works (EPW), and Energy and Natural Resources (ENR) held hearings on a number of bills meant to change air quality monitoring requirements, reauthorize water infrastructure programs, and create new requirements for state energy security planning.

EPW marked up and advanced [S 5045](#), the Wildfire Emissions Prevention Act, which would streamline federal permitting for prescribed burns and expand their potential uses; and [S 3135](#), the Cold Weather Diesel Reliability Act of 2025, would mitigate the impacts of vehicle emissions system controls turning off engines in cold weather and stranding drivers.

ENR heard testimony from bill authors and others on a measure to reauthorize programs supporting aquatic ecosystem restoration projects, multi-benefit watershed health projects, and WaterSMART grants, alongside [S 4166](#), the SECURE Grid Act, which would change the requirements for State Energy Security Plans to include weather, supply chain, and large load (data center) connection risks.

ENR also considered [S 5360](#), the Rural and Municipal Utility Cybersecurity Act, which would extend authorization for the Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance (RMUC) [Program](#), created by the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and is set to expire on September 30.

The bills are likely to receive further consideration before the end of the year, but are unlikely to become law before the start of the next Congress on January 3, 2027, meaning the legislation will have to again pass through each committee.

House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Advances Aviation Safety and Airport Legislation

On September 15, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure held a [markup](#) of 11 bills addressing aviation safety and drone technology issues. The majority of the bills were offered as Amendments in the Nature of a Substitute (ANS), significantly altered from their original versions, usually to ready the text for floor consideration.

[HR 10304](#), the Drone Safety Statement Modernization Act, would require commercial drone manufacturers to include a safety statement directing potential operators to flight rules, [HR 6448](#) would reduce the local cost-share for infrastructure projects at rural airports, and [HR 8597](#), the Air Traffic Situational Awareness Enhancement Act, would require the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to install Airborne Position Reference Tools at certain airports.

The bills were all advanced by voice vote. While they could be added to the House calendar for a floor vote before the end of the year, they are unlikely to receive consideration in the Senate before the start of the next Congress, meaning they would have to be reintroduced and again advanced through the Committee.

House Advances Water Resources Development Act, Senate Considers Adding NEPA or Permitting Reform Language

[HR 9497](#), the Water Resources Development Act of 2026 (WRDA) passed the House on September 16. The biennial bill sets the maximum funding levels for US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) projects, which receive funding when a project is included in USACE's annual Work Plan or the Energy and Water appropriations bills.

WRDA is likely to pass before the end of the year, during the lame duck session following the midterm elections. The Senate has introduced its version of the bill, [S 4949](#), and passed it out of the Committee on Environment and Public Works. The two versions of the bill differ and will need to be conferenced into a final agreement before a final bill can be sent to the President for signature.

Some Senators had hoped a NEPA/permitting reform package could be attached to the biennial WRDA bill following the SPEED Act, [HR 4776](#), passing the House last December, although a bipartisan [agreement](#) appears to be proceeding as its own legislative vehicle.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH ACTIVITY:

Supreme Court Temporarily Allows Counties to Use DHS and SSA Data to Verify Voter Eligibility

On September 25, the Supreme Court [ruled](#) in favor of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Social Security Administration (SSA) regarding the use of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) system to verify voter eligibility. DHS began offering SAVE access to county registrars of voters in 2025 following Executive Order (EO) [14248](#), titled Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections.

The ruling allows county officials to continue submitting voter registration data to DHS, which will confirm with SSA and their own records a voter's citizenship status, and return to the county a list of any voters without corresponding documentation in the federal database. Registrars are generally required to allow the voter to provide proof of citizenship before denying or modifying their current registration.

On September 28, the Department of State (DOS) [discussed](#) a potential Federal Register notice to allow DHS to access passport data as an additional means of verifying citizenship for voters. While counties would not control which agencies DHS uses to support SAVE verification, they could change their participation in the program depending on which agencies are consulted.

White House Publishes “Pocket Rescissions” Package, GAO Reaffirms Illegality

On September 25, the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) [published](#) a list of 11 rescissions of budgetary authority totaling \$810 million ahead of the end of Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) on September 30. The rescissions [covered](#) certain programs the Administration argues provided services to undocumented immigrants under the Departments of Health and Human Services, Education, and Homeland Security. Other rescissions covered the Department of Justice's Community Relations Service, the Minority Business Development Agency, and other programs labeled as being based on “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion” principles. OMB simultaneously submitted notice to Congress reapportioning the funds and withholding them from grantees under the programs.

Presidential rescissions of budgetary authority provided by Congress via the appropriations process are [permitted](#) under certain circumstances, but generally require that the agencies have fulfilled the purpose of the program for less money than was allocated by Congress. OMB's argument that the funding expires at the end of the Fiscal Year and is therefore rescindable without Congressional approval has been dubbed a “pocket rescission.” The Government Accountability Office (GAO) [found](#) the practice illegal again and noted that this Congress previously approved a [rescissions package](#) via the regular process.

It is likely that the forthcoming bipartisan appropriations bills for FY27 in the Senate will attempt to address this issue among others. It is also likely that program recipients will file a lawsuit asking a judge to invalidate the practice. The appropriations process has been delayed in the Senate until after the midterm elections; the federal government is currently operating under a Continuing Resolution until December 11.

HUD Reopens Continuum of Care Application After Federal Court Stay

On September 16, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) won a [stay](#) in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals allowing them to proceed with the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). The NOFO was [reopened](#) on September 18, with a September 30 deadline.

Since 2025, HUD has [sought](#) to lower the percentage of CoC funding dedicated to Annual Renewal Demand (ARD)/Tier 1, which funds Permanent Supportive Housing on a long-term basis for certain recipients. Historically, 90% of the funding has been dedicated to ARD. HUD received an allowance in the annual appropriations process last fiscal year to reduce that amount to 60%, and make other changes to the annual NOFO, including priorities in the competitive subset of funding.

Supreme Court Upholds Injunction Against USPS Mail-In Balloting Requirements, Leaving Current System in Place for Midterm Elections

On September 14, the Supreme Court [upheld](#) a lower court ruling delaying implementation of a [Final Rule](#) by the United States Postal Service (USPS), changing the requirements for mail-in ballots ahead of the midterm elections in November.

The Final Rule follows Executive Order (EO) [14399](#), titled Ensuring Citizenship Verification and Integrity in Federal Elections from April 2026, and would require states to share voter information with the USPS, allow USPS to verify voter eligibility, and use new barcode and other stationary requirements in order for the USPS to deliver a county's ballots. On September 4, a different federal judge issued a [preliminary injunction](#) against the Final Rule, which was upheld by the Supreme Court.

In the majority opinion, the Justices [acknowledged](#) the Final Rule may be within USPS's authority, but that implementation of the requirements ahead of the midterm elections would be illegal under the Administrative Procedures Act (APA), as many states and county registrars of voters have already produced election materials. The Administration and the USPS are expected to continue seeking to change the requirements for mail-in ballots in accordance with the rule, but that can no longer happen in advance of the midterm elections this fall.

EPA Initiates Secondary WOTUS Rulemaking

On September 9, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) [published](#) a Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking seeking additional comments on certain aspects of their proposed definition of Waters of the United States (WOTUS).

EPA and USACE have been working to revise WOTUS following the Supreme Court's 2023 decision in [Sackett v. EPA](#), the definition of WOTUS determines the bodies of water subject to the Clean Water Act (CWA). The Supplemental Notice [would](#) reduce the number of waters subject to the CWA, limiting the definition of streams and wetlands, consistent with the original [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) from November 2025.

Per EPA's [press release](#) on the supplemental notice, EPA will be considering the new proposal alongside their initial proposed rule. Public comments on the supplemental notice are open through October 9, 2026.

HUD Publishes Then Withdraws Reorganization Notice

On September 8, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) [posted](#) and then withdrew a Federal Register notice of intent to reorganize their Headquarters and Field Office structure. According to the [notice](#), titled Notice of Intent to Reorganize HUD and Revise Headquarters and Field Operating Model, HUD is responding to the significant reductions in staff associated with last year's Deferred Resignation [program](#) and actions by the now defunct Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE).

The notice was withdrawn before publication in the Federal Register, but would consolidate non-disaster staff in the Office of Community Planning and Development into a single office, merge public housing and voucher responsibilities under the Office of Public and Indian Housing, combine the Office of Policy Development and Research with the Chief Data Officer's staff, and consolidate the Office of Field Policy and Management's Build America, Buy America Act's implementation staff into a single team.

The Notice does not address substantive changes to staffing levels or structure at HUD field offices, which are the primary points of contact for grant administration. The notice can be viewed broadly as making permanent the reductions in HUD program staff from last year, through DOGE and other government-wide retirement incentive programs.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

To: Ventura Port District
From: Townsend Public Affairs
Date: September 4, 2026
Subject: 2026 Legislative End of Session Overview

2026 STATE LEGISLATIVE WRAP UP

The state's 2026 session entered its final days with lawmakers managing a crowded agenda over the final weekend of August, convening mid-day Sunday August 30 working late into the evening both Sunday and Monday before returning early Tuesday morning on September 1 to conclude the second year of the two-year Session. More than 1,200 measures remained active after the summer recess, creating a compressed final stretch of fiscal committee hearings, floor votes, concurrence decisions, and negotiations over late amendments. Housing policy, Brown Act legislation, voting rights, wildfire preparedness, budget volatility, climate resilience, labor costs, emerging technology infrastructure, and more all dominated headlines throughout the year, with tensions mounting in the latter half of session.

Under the shadow of the November 2026 election, the Legislature made adjustments to proposals, ballot initiatives, and revenue-generating mechanisms as Governor Newsom is terming out. On the ballot, voters will select his successor and decide the outcome of a laundry list of ballot initiatives involving taxation, housing finance, state reserves, and environmental review. That transition encouraged the Legislature and Administration to lock in various priorities under their purview, while leaving several difficult implementation and funding decisions to the next Governor and Legislature.

BUDGET & FISCAL POLICY

At the outset of the year, the Legislature and Administration grappled with a budget deficit estimated upwards of \$18.5 billion setting a dismal tone for state and local programs that rely on state funding. As the year progressed, stronger near-term revenues helped ease California's structural imbalance as well as the implementation of new revenue generating mechanisms including limits on the use of business tax credits, changes to the managed care organization tax, and application of the sales and use tax to certain prewritten software transactions. Although met with some skepticism from the business community, these provisions will produce additional state and local revenue to help balance the state's budget, and foreshadows the potential for additional tax policy tools under future Administrations.

While the main budget was passed in [AB 109](#) in June, additional trailer bills were drafted, heard, and shepherded through to the Governor's desk in the final few days of session advancing

proposals involving health, developmental services, preparation for the 2028 Olympics, energy transmission wildfire mitigation, and long-awaited allocations from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. The Governor also touted setting up future balanced budgets, without any new broad-based taxes on individual Californians.

On June 29, the Governor signed the Budget Act of 2026-27, a \$351.7 billion spending plan that includes \$251.5 billion in General Fund spending, alongside roughly \$187 billion in federal funds flowing through state accounts. The enacted budget also builds total reserves to a record \$35.2 billion, including a \$15.1 billion Budget Stabilization Account balance, \$4.5 billion in the Special Fund for Economic Uncertainties, and \$9.2 billion in the Public School System Stabilization Account. Legislative leaders credited the agreement with cutting the state's projected structural deficit for 2029-30 nearly in half, from \$23 billion under the Governor's January proposal to \$8.4 billion in the enacted plan, while also rejecting several of the Administration's proposed health and human services reductions, including cuts to In-Home Supportive Services and a proposed Medi-Cal asset test.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation policy was shaped by similar funding tension seen throughout the state's budget process. Transit, active transportation, and local mobility programs were compelled into dependence on dwindling funding sources and future appropriations, and projects with multiyear development schedules became increasingly difficult to deliver. The state's final spending plan maintained a \$1 billion GGRF commitment to the High-Speed Rail, the Authority for which also released an updated [business plan](#) in June hinting at the likelihood of future proposals to establish tax increment financing (TIF) districts. Earlier in the year, the Authority's Draft 2026 Business Plan argued it should have the capacity to establish land value capture districts that rely in TIF to support its budget. The proposal was met with significant resistance, and the Authority walked back the proposal as the year progressed, yet the project's updated June business plan still recommended the need for a strengthened financing authority.

Similarly, gas tax revenues have continued to decline, forcing the state to consider alternative transportation funding sources to support local roads and transportation modalities. An emerging proposal is the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) path, which has begun to intersect with long-term transportation financing options. California's fuel-tax model is under pressure as vehicles become more efficient and zero-emission vehicle adoption reduces taxable gasoline and diesel consumption. Policymakers have therefore continued studying road-usage-charge concepts that would assess a per-mile fee rather than relying solely on gallons purchased.

During the year, several measures emerged to provide some relief for local agencies in the transportation space. [AB 2059 \(Wilson\)](#) proposed a targeted approach to vehicle miles traveled analysis in nonmetropolitan counties. The measure caps the cost of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mitigation measures for significant transportation impacts of a transportation project located within a county under 200,000 population at 5% of the estimated total project cost, reflecting continuing concern that a statewide VMT framework can produce inequitable outcomes in rural areas with limited transit options and long travel distances. [SB 922 \(Laird\)](#) was another significant measure insulating local governments from liability over the use of fees for road maintenance, and ensuring fees can be used to repair local roads. The measure authorizes local charges associated with specified uses of streets and highways, giving agencies another tool to recover public costs.

SELECTED TRANSPORTATION BILLS		
BILL	SUMMARY	STATUS
AB 2059 (Wilson)	Addresses CEQA/VMT analysis for transportation projects in nonmetropolitan counties; the original 5%-of-cost mitigation cap was replaced with an 80%-nonmetropolitan-county presumption standard as the bill was amended.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
AB 2307 (Sanchez)	Authorizes the Western Riverside Council of Governments, in coordination with the Department of Transportation, to run a traffic signal synchronization pilot program for its member agencies.	Signed into law.
SB 922 (Laird)	Confirms local agencies' authority to recover street maintenance and repair costs through service-related fees and charges.	Signed into law.
SB 1218 (Arreguín)	Authorizes a peace officer to immobilize a vehicle if the registered owner has unpaid citations or failure to appear notices for illegal dumping.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.

NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Allocations

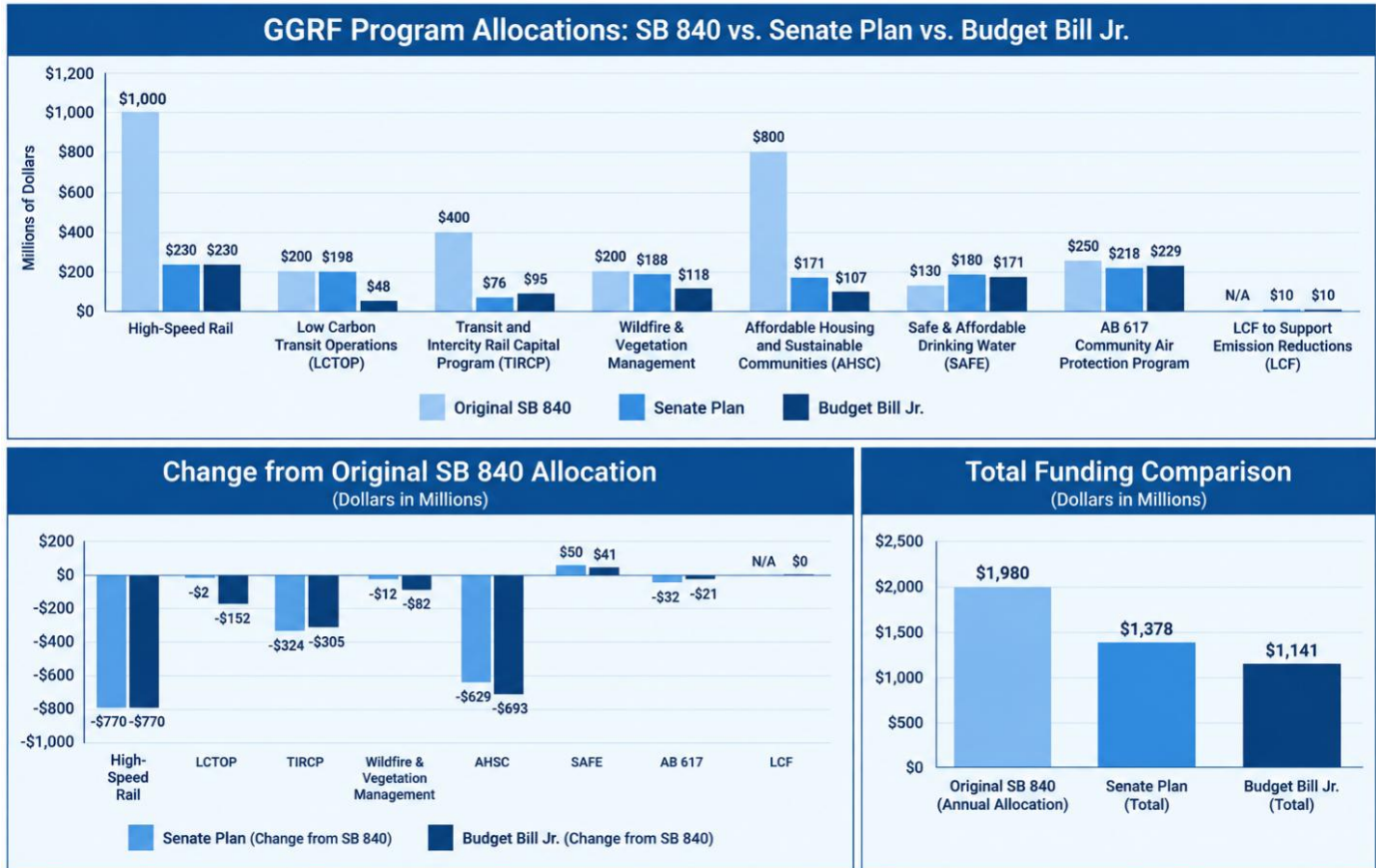
Since the reauthorization of the state's Cap-and-Invest system in 2025, recipients of funding from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) have anxiously awaited the state's spending plan that would divvy up commitments from lower-than-expected auction revenues. The enacted expenditure plan includes major commitments for the Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), the High-Speed Rail, affordable housing support programs, public transit funding, and other climate investments. Poor performance in early 2026 stymied optimism that the reauthorized program could adequately support prior commitments to GGRF-dependent projects and programs. As such, impacted stakeholders pressed the Legislature and Administration to avoid using volatile auction proceeds as a substitute for stable General Fund support. The final enacted spending plan provides important resources but also leaves investment programs competing for a limited pool of revenue. August auction proceeds reflected an uptick in quarterly auction settlement prices, reflecting growing market confidence amidst greater regulatory certainty, but members of the Legislature have already expressed a willingness to take a closer look at GGRF revenue streams.

California Air Resources Board Regulation Updates

At the outset of the year, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) advanced major updates to the Cap-and-Invest system which modified allowance budgets, cost-containment mechanisms, and industrial assistance, including a Manufacturing Decarbonization Incentive supported by a limited pool of incentive allowances. During public comment, stakeholders warned that the structure could reduce near-term auction revenue available for the GGRF, while CARB

emphasized the need to align their programming with the state's longer-term emissions targets and protect trade-exposed industries.

Ultimately, CARB adopted the regulatory package in May and transmitted the final rulemaking to the Office of Administrative Law in July. Auction proceeds, allowance prices, and final implementation guidance will determine how much funding is actually available for climate,



housing, transit, and other programs, and whether the new industrial incentives achieve their intended emissions reductions. Though, the LAO estimates that CARB's changes will result in \$2 billion less for programs that auction proceeds fund. Tables with expected outlays are below:

LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

Public Retirement Policy

Far and away, one of the most watched measures impacting local agencies in 2026 was [AB 1383 \(McKinnor\)](#), which would make one of the more significant amendments to PEPRAs since its 2013 enactment. Through a few rounds of amendments, the bill adds a fourth safety-member retirement formula (3% at age 55, alongside the existing 2%, 2.5%, and 2.7% at age 57 options), lowers the safety retirement age from 57 to 55, raises the PEPRAs pensionable-compensation cap toward the higher federal limit used for tax-qualified plans, and allows an employer and its safety employees to negotiate formula upgrades and member cost-sharing through a memorandum of understanding. The changes would apply to service performed on or after January 1, 2027.

The bill has been cited by supporters as a recruitment and retention tool following years of PEPRA-driven benefit reductions, namely in the public safety space. Throughout the year, a coalition of local government associations has opposed the proposed changes over new annual normal-cost contributions estimated in the hundreds of millions of dollars and billions in added present-value liability layered onto CalPERS' existing unfunded liability. In July, the Department of Finance announced its opposition to the measure because it “unwinds” PEPRA objectives, safeguards, and cost containment guardrails, and it would create a potential inequity between safety and non-safety members. The Department notes the bill raises the pensionable-compensation cap through a two-step change: resets the calculation base from 2013 to the 2027 federal Social Security 430(b) limit and raises the applicable percentage for members outside Social Security from 120% to 135%, while separately lowering the safety retirement age from 57 to 55 across three existing formulas and adding the fourth, noted earlier. Setting aside the fourth tier, Finance estimates the changes add \$4.8 billion in present value of future benefits and \$282 million in first-year normal cost contributions system-wide across CalPERS. If the fourth tier is adopted, Finance projects an additional \$353 million in annual normal cost and \$3.4 billion in present value of benefits, including normal-cost increases of 5.51 percent for the State Safety plan, 2.18 percent for State Peace Officers and Firefighters, and 1.14 percent for the CHP plan. For the 20 counties operating under the 1937 Act, Finance cites a SACRS estimate that a single medium-sized county could see present-value liability rise by more than \$700 million over 30 years, or roughly \$20 million more annually in safety-plan contributions, several of which have told Finance they cannot absorb increases of that scale. Finance also points out that PERF is only 79 percent funded as of June 30, 2025, that the bill would deepen that shortfall and expose plans to greater contribution volatility tied to investment performance, and that enhancing benefits only for safety classifications, combined with a compensation cap and normal cost that apply uniformly across a bargaining unit regardless of individual pay, risks having lower-compensated members effectively subsidize the richer benefits accruing to their higher-paid counterparts.

The bill continued to move through Senate committees into the final weeks of Session, clearing a policy committee unanimously in June, the suspense file in early August, and Senate floor amendments concurred in on August 30, so its scope was still in motion as adjournment approached. Post-enrollment, advocacy against the bill has shifted to the Governor’s office, supported by arguments made by his Administration’s Department of Finance.

SELECTED LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT BILLS		
BILL	SUMMARY	STATUS
AB 187 (Budget)	Extends goat-herder/sheep-herder wage parity through January 1, 2029, and funds a follow-up wage study.	Signed into law.
AB 1198 (Haney)	Revises how prevailing wage updates apply to certain public works contracts by extending new wage determinations to large contracts and creating a faster process to challenge those rates.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
AB 1383 (McKinnor)	Adds a fourth PEPRA safety retirement formula (3% at 55), lowers the safety retirement age to 55, and raises the pensionable-compensation cap; opposed by the Department of Finance.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.

SB 577 (Laird)	Raises the evidentiary standard for childhood sexual assault claims against public entities filed by plaintiffs 40 or older, sets filing deadlines for claims tied to specified closed juvenile facilities, and adjusts bad-faith litigation and bond-validation procedures.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
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PUBLIC SAFETY

Impaired Driving

Impaired driving remained a major legislative focus this session, with 16 DUI-related bills moving through the Legislature in response to a documented public safety crisis: alcohol-impaired driving killed 1,355 Californians in 2023, roughly one in three traffic deaths statewide, with alcohol-related roadway deaths up more than 50% over the past decade.

[AB 1830 \(Petrie-Norris\)](#) originally sought to require ignition interlock devices (IIDs) for all first-time DUI convictions. In the final week of session, Senate Appropriations amended the bill to strip that core mandate. The bill now retains IIDs as a component of restricted driving privileges rather than a blanket first-time requirement, with several provisions phasing in beginning in 2031.

[AB 1546 \(Schultz\)](#) targets repeat offenders. It allows a third DUI within 10 years to be charged as a felony or misdemeanor at prosecutorial discretion, makes a fifth or subsequent DUI a straight felony, extends license revocation to five years for offenders with five or more convictions, and lengthens mandatory IID terms to 36 months (three priors) or 48 months (four or more).

[SB 907 \(Archuleta\)](#) mandates enhanced sentencing for hit-and-run drivers who cause death or injury and have a prior DUI or gross vehicular manslaughter conviction within 10 years and expands "Watson advisement" warnings to apply even when a prior DUI charge was reduced or dismissed.

[AB 1685](#) and [AB 1687 \(Lackey\)](#) work through the DMV's point and license-revocation systems. AB 1685 raises the point assessment for vehicular manslaughter and vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated from two points to three. AB 1687 authorizes immediate license removal for three or more DUI convictions within 10 years and extends the reinstatement period from three to eight years unless the offender installs an IID.

These measures and their successes represent real progress toward keeping repeat and high-risk impaired drivers off California roads.

Electric Bicycles & E-Conveyances

E-bike safety and regulation was another active area this session, with several measures advancing to address youth safety, equipment standards, and consumer clarity around what legally qualifies as an electric bicycle.

[AB 1569 \(Davies\)](#) requires the State Department of Education, in consultation with the California Highway Patrol, to develop by March 1, 2028, a standardized electric bicycle safety and training program for pupils in grades 7 through 12. The Department may collaborate with local law enforcement agencies and local governments that have already implemented e-bike training programs to ensure the statewide curriculum reflects proven local practices, and local educational agencies and parent organizations are encouraged to offer hands-on training demonstrations in partnership with local law enforcement.

[AB 1614 \(Dixon\)](#) extends existing seat requirements under the California Bicycle Transportation Act, which currently requires bicycle (including e-bicycle) riders and passengers on a highway to ride upon a permanent, regular seat, to also apply specifically to operation on a Class I bikeway. This is a narrower, technical clarification, closing a gap in where the existing seat requirement applies.

[AB 2346 \(Wilson\)](#) imposes new equipment standards on electric bicycles sold in California starting January 1, 2029: all Class 2 e-bikes must be equipped with a speedometer, and all e-bikes generally must include an integrated or detachable front lamp and rear lamp. The bill also requires sellers and distributors to disclose specified information to consumers at or before the point of sale.

[SB 1167 \(Blakespear\)](#) amends the list of vehicles prohibited from being advertised, sold, or labeled as electric bicycles, adding motor-driven cycles and mopeds among other categories, to close labeling loopholes that have allowed non-compliant vehicles to be marketed as e-bikes.

This package reflects a broader legislative effort to draw clearer lines around what qualifies as a legal e-bike, tighten safety and equipment standards, and build youth safety education into the school system, while stopping short of the more restrictive registration or licensing proposals that were considered and did not advance this session.

SELECTED PUBLIC SAFETY BILLS		
BILL	SUMMARY	STATUS
AB 1830 (Petrie-Norris)	As amended, retains ignition interlock devices as a component of restricted driving privileges rather than a blanket first-offense mandate.	Failed to advance.
AB 1546 (Schultz)	Expands felony eligibility for repeat DUIs and lengthens license-revocation and IID terms for repeat offenders.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
SB 907 (Archuleta)	Mandates enhanced sentencing for hit-and-run drivers with prior DUI or gross vehicular manslaughter convictions.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
AB 1685 (Lackey)	Raises DMV point assessments for vehicular manslaughter and vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
AB 1687 (Lackey)	Authorizes immediate license removal for repeat DUI offenders and extends the reinstatement period.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.

AB 1569 (Davies)	Directs CDE/CHP to develop a statewide e-bike safety training program for grades 7–12 by March 1, 2028.	Signed into law.
AB 1614 (Dixon)	Extends the existing bicycle-seat requirement to Class I bikeways.	Signed into law.
AB 2346 (Wilson)	Sets new e-bike equipment standards (speedometers, lamps) and point-of-sale disclosure requirements.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
SB 1167 (Blakespear)	Closes labeling loopholes that allow motor-driven cycles and mopeds to be marketed as e-bikes.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & DATA CENTERS

Artificial Intelligence & Data Centers

Artificial intelligence (AI) policy ranging from consumer protection and privacy to government operations and physical infrastructure ramped up in 2026 as AI tools became more prevalent across industries, and the nationwide development of data centers shifted public sentiment about transparency and local impacts. The Administration also announced a partnership with Anthropic that makes Claude tools available to state and local government entities at a 50 percent discount, accompanied by workforce training and technical assistance. The offer may reduce acquisition costs, but agencies should still conduct procurement, cybersecurity, privacy, accessibility, records retention, labor, and human oversight reviews before deployment.

The rapid expansion of data centers produced a related set of resource and ratepayer bills. [AB 2619 \(Papan\)](#) requires specified reporting of projected and annual water use to cities, counties, and water suppliers. [SB 886 \(Padilla\)](#) seeks to protect non-data-center customers from utility infrastructure costs attributable to large data centers. [SB 887 \(Padilla\)](#) would streamline CEQA and judicial review for qualifying data center and geothermal projects that meet defined conditions. These measures illustrate the policy tradeoff between attracting high-value technology investment and protecting water, energy, and community resources. After Monterey Park's successful ballot initiative, several other cities in California have explored the possibility of a permanent ban on data center construction, marking the increasing backlash to data centers located in local communities. We expect to see additional legislation regarding data center zoning in the next legislative session.

Several other bills introduced and passed this year aim to protect employees from having certain job duties replaced by artificial intelligence. [SB 947 \(McNerney\)](#) would prevent AI from independently deciding to fire or discipline workers and ensure workers receive greater transparency when AI is used. It would also allow workers to obtain the data that AI used in certain adverse employment decisions. [SB 951 \(Reyes\)](#) requires employers to provide significant advance notice and worker protections when AI or automation causes substantial layoffs or hiring reductions. [AB 2656 \(Petrie-Norris\)](#) similarly would mandate notices for public employees when AI preforms specific services currently performed within union-represented job classifications. [AB 1883 \(Bryan\)](#) would create a new set of statewide rules governing how California employers may use workplace surveillance technologies and the employee data those technologies collect. The bill is primarily aimed at limiting the use of AI-powered monitoring systems that make inferences about workers or collect highly sensitive personal information. Specifically, the bill would prohibit facial recognition, gait recognition, or emotion recognition technologies outright and ban

employers from using surveillance tools to infer protected characteristics. An employer that violates the law could face civil penalties of up to \$500 per employee for each violation.

SELECTED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & DATA CENTER BILLS		
BILL	SUMMARY	STATUS
AB 2619 (Papan)	Requires data centers to report projected and annual water use to cities, counties, and water suppliers.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
SB 886 (Padilla)	Requires the CPUC to establish a separate electricity rate for large data centers to prevent cost-shifting onto other ratepayers.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
SB 887 (Padilla)	Eliminates categorical CEQA exemptions for data centers while creating an expedited review path for zero-carbon, grid-beneficial facilities.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
SB 947 (McNerney)	Bars employers from relying solely on automated decision systems to fire or discipline workers.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
SB 951 (Reyes)	Requires 90 days' advance notice before AI- or automation-driven layoffs affecting 25% or more of a workforce.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
AB 2656 (Petrie-Norris)	Requires 45 days' notice to recognized employee organizations before a public agency deploys AI to perform bargaining-unit work.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
AB 1883 (Bryan)	Prohibits AI-powered workplace surveillance tools from collecting neural data or inferring emotional state.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.

WILDFIRE LIABILITY & INSURANCE

Wildfire Liability Proposal

Wildfire liability reform was one of the most closely watched issues of the session, following weeks of negotiation between the Governor's Office, legislative leadership, and a broad coalition of local government associations, including CSAC and the League of Cities, who raised significant concerns earlier this summer about proposed cost shifting onto public agencies and local taxpayers.

After lengthy negotiation, the final compromise moved forward as [SB 492 \(Becker and Petrie-Norris\)](#). This is a genuinely positive outcome for local agencies as the final bill does not include any of the local agency cost-shifting provisions that had drawn opposition earlier in the process.

Specifically, the final bill does the following:

- Preserves full cost recovery for public agencies. The bill does not include a diminution in value standard, so cities, counties, and special districts can continue to recover the actual cost of rebuilding damaged infrastructure rather than its depreciated value.
- Bars utility executive bonuses in any year their company causes a significant wildfire.
- Keeps the Wildfire Fund in place. The state's \$18 billion Wildfire Fund, funded jointly by ratepayers and utility shareholders, remains intact to support claims going forward.
- Creates a Fast Pay program for survivors, without cutting off legal rights. Survivors retain the right to file suit and conduct discovery first, with only a limited stay applying afterward while the Fast Pay process is completed.
- Blocks hedge fund profiteering. The bill restricts the sale of claims and subrogation rights to hedge funds seeking to profit from wildfire recovery.

For local public agencies, the practical result would have been that the core protections cities and counties advocated for throughout this process were preserved. Public agencies retain the ability to recover the actual cost of rebuilding infrastructure damaged by utility caused wildfires, not a reduced amount based on depreciated value, which matters because fire stations, bridges, and other public facilities are often decades old and carry little accounting value on paper despite being essential and expensive to replace. The continuation of the Wildfire Fund also matters directly to local agencies, since it keeps a dedicated, utility and ratepayer funded source of recovery in place rather than leaving public agencies to rely solely on litigation or federal disaster assistance. That distinction is significant given that FEMA reimbursement has proven slow and unreliable for many California jurisdictions, with some counties still waiting years for payments tied to past disasters and taking on debt to bridge the gap. Because the vast majority of local government revenue is already committed to essential services, cities and counties have little ability to absorb these costs on their own if utility recovery were curtailed. In preserving full cost recovery, SB 492 ensures local agencies are not left to shoulder wildfire response and rebuilding costs that utilities, not taxpayers, are responsible for.

Ultimately, the Assembly did not hear the compromise proposal in the final hours of the extended Session into the morning of September 1, effectively ending consideration of any broad-based wildfire liability reform. It is yet to be determined if there will be a Special Session convened to address this issue. Nonetheless, wildfire liability allocation will be a predominant priority in 2027.

Insurance Commissioner-Sponsored Legislative Package

Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara sponsored two major pieces of disaster recovery legislation this session, both introduced in direct response to the January 2025 Los Angeles wildfires and the widespread consumer complaints about claims handling, delays, and unresolved smoke damage that followed.

[SB 876 \(Padilla\)](#), the Disaster Recovery Reform Act, is a comprehensive overhaul of California's post disaster insurance claims process. The bill requires every insurer to maintain a formal disaster recovery plan for handling claims during emergency situations and doubles penalties for violations of insurance fair claims practices and settlement law during a declared emergency. It mandates restitution to policyholders and directly targets one of the most common consumer complaints from the LA fires, the repeated reassignment of adjusters that left homeowners starting over multiple times during a single claim. On payouts, the bill expands Additional Living Expenses policy limits by 100 percent during a declared disaster and requires insurers to make prompt, upfront payment of both Actual Cash Value and full structure replacement cost following a total loss, with interest owed if payment is late. The bill also addresses underinsurance directly,

requiring residential insurers to offer a minimum of 50 percent extended replacement cost coverage to all policyholders, provide updated cost estimates at every policy renewal, and apply mandatory building code upgrade coverage at the time of rebuild rather than at the time of the original loss.

[AB 1795 \(Gipson\)](#), the Smoke Damage Recovery Act, is the nation's first enforceable public health and insurance claims standard specifically for smoke damaged homes, an area Commissioner Lara has described as a decades long gap in state and national regulation. The bill requires the California Environmental Protection Agency, in coordination with other state agencies and local public health departments, to develop science-based standards for sampling, testing, and chemical screening of residential properties damaged by wildland urban interface fire or urban conflagration smoke, with those standards due by June 30, 2027. It authorizes CalEPA, CAL FIRE, or a city or county public health or safety agency to designate a smoke exposure zone tied to a specific wildfire, which would supersede the statewide default zones and allow CalEPA to impose additional sampling, testing, or screening requirements specific to that fire. The bill also directs the development of uniform insurance claims handling practices and restoration protocols, health-based guidelines for determining when a home is safe for families to return, and clear designation of which state and local agencies are responsible for implementation and enforcement. To support this work, AB 1795 establishes the Wildfire Remediation Certification and Training Fund, funded through fees on the training and certification program the bill creates, and importantly, allows survivors to rely on local public health standards for smoke testing and restoration in the near term while the statewide standards are still being finalized, so families are not left waiting for state rulemaking to complete before beginning remediation. AB 1795 grew out of a Smoke Claims and Remediation Task Force that Commissioner Lara convened in May 2025, bringing together CAL FIRE, public health experts, restoration specialists, and survivor groups to identify the standards needed.

Both bills gained renewed urgency this summer following the Department of Insurance's enforcement action against State Farm, which found 398 violations of state law across a sample of 220 wildfire claims, including failures to investigate, accept, deny, or pay claims within legally required timeframes. Commissioner Lara has framed both measures as part of a broader effort that has already produced results, with the Department reporting 22.4 billion dollars distributed to LA fire survivors since January 2025 and 94 percent of more than 42,000 policyholder claims fully or partially resolved.

SELECTED WILDFIRE LIABILITY & INSURANCE BILLS		
BILL	SUMMARY	STATUS
SB 492 (Becker and Petrie-Norris)	Would have preserved full cost recovery for public agencies, kept the Wildfire Fund intact, and barred utility executive bonuses tied to wildfires.	Failed to advance.
SB 876 (Padilla)	The Disaster Recovery Reform Act — overhauls the post-disaster insurance claims process and expands Additional Living Expense and replacement-cost protections.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
AB 1795 (Gipson)	The Smoke Damage Recovery Act — establishes the nation's first enforceable	Pending Governor's signature or veto.

smoke-damage testing and remediation standards.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & ELECTIONS

Public Meetings & Public Records

The Legislature revisited several 2025 transparency mandates that had raised cost and implementation concerns for local agencies, namely [SB 707 \(Durazo\)](#), which instituted new translation, remote participation, and public access requirements for specified legislative bodies. Upon passage of SB 707, Senator Durazo committed to readdressing comments raised on her original legislation this year. [SB 1187 \(Durazo\)](#) took shape in 2026 as the vehicle for SB 707 clean-up. Specifically, SB 1187 removes selected requirements related to electronic agenda fulfillment and agenda translation or interpretation for eligible bodies, while still retaining remote public participation provisions.

In an age of ample local public comment and Public Records Act (PRA) requests, legislators took note of the increased activity of bots and AI-generated public comments and PRA requests, which served as the impetus for [SB 1159 \(Cabaldon\)](#), as well as the often arduous PRA request process, which breathed life into [AB 1821 \(Pacheco\)](#).

SB 1159 clarifies that AI systems, autonomous agents, and robots do not qualify as a "person," "participant," or "member of the public" under the Public Records Act, the Brown Act, the Bagley-Keene Act, the Political Reform Act, the Administrative Procedure Act, or CEQA. The bill followed a widely reported episode in which tens of thousands of AI-generated comments were submitted to a Southern California air district and were credited with influencing the agency's decision to abandon a gas-appliance phase-out proposal. It passed with broad, largely bipartisan support and will give agencies clearer footing to distinguish organic public comment from automated submissions in the record, though verifying authorship at scale remains an open operational question.

In a similar vein, AB 1821 began as a broader rewrite of Public Records Act response and fee provisions, including proposed fee-shifting for high-volume "commercial" requesters and a path for agencies to seek relief from "malicious" requests, before receiving pushback from various organizations. The version that advanced through the Senate, and ultimately sent to the Governor, is narrower, mainly converting the initial records-response deadline from calendar days to business days to give agencies a more workable turnaround on a growing volume of requests.

SELECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT & ELECTIONS BILLS

BILL	SUMMARY	STATUS
AB 643 (Wilson)	Permits local jurisdictions to count organic material used as a beneficial agricultural amendment for up to 10% of their recovered organic waste procurement target.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
AB 1786 (Harabedian)	Authorizes additional entities use best value contracting, reduce the dollar	Pending Governor's signature or veto.

	threshold for eligible projects, and extend the existing sunset date to January 1, 2032.	
AB 1821 (Pacheco)	Narrowed from a broader fee/response-time overhaul to mainly converting the initial Public Records Act response deadline from calendar days to business days.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
AB 2529 (Johnson)	Requires a signed declaration of accuracy on Government Claims Act filings to curb questionable claims against public entities.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
SB 1159 (Cabaldon)	Clarifies that AI systems, autonomous agents, and robots are not a "person" or "member of the public" under the Brown Act, the Public Records Act, and related open-government statutes.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
SB 1164 (Cervantes)	Revises and expands the 2001 California Voting Rights Act (paired with SB 1360) to address voter suppression and vote dilution, with amendments addressing local government exposure concerns.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
SB 1187 (Durazo)	Repeals the July 1, 2026 agenda-translation and electronic-fulfillment mandates created by SB 707, while retaining remote-participation requirements.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
ACA 22 (Wicks)	Would raise the vote threshold for citizen-initiated local special taxes to two-thirds, prospectively from Jan. 1, 2027.	Placed on the November 2026 ballot as Proposition 43.

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

A New Housing Landscape Following SB 79

The 2026 legislative session marked a notable shift in the state's housing debate. Following the passage of [SB 79 \(Wiener, 2025\)](#), which established significant new housing requirements near major transit stops, lawmakers focused less on broad rezoning proposals and more on implementing existing laws, accelerating housing construction after projects are approved, and expanding pathways to homeownership.

Implementation and potential cleanup of SB 79 dominated the early months of the session. When the measure passed, Senator Wiener committed to pursuing clarifying legislation and working with affected local governments and transit agencies on implementation. Several proposals were subsequently introduced or discussed to clarify the law's applicability, definitions, and enforcement provisions. However, many of those efforts were withdrawn or substantially narrowed after the Department of Housing and Community Development issued implementation guidance before the Legislature could enact corresponding statutory changes. As a result, HCD's administrative interpretation became a central factor in how SB 79 will be implemented at the local level.

Technical Planning, Permitting, and Inspection Legislation

Beyond the year's major housing production and zoning proposals, the Legislature continued to focus on the technical processes that occur after a project is approved, including plan review, permitting, and building inspections. Although these measures received less public attention than broader land-use legislation, they could require significant operational changes for local planning and building departments.

[AB 1621 \(Wilson\)](#) became one of the year's most significant housing fights for local governments. The measure sought to further restrict local review of post-entitlement permits, including building, grading, demolition, and other approvals required after a housing project has received its land-use entitlements.

As introduced, the bill raised serious concerns about whether cities and counties would retain sufficient authority to ensure that projects complied with building codes, locally adopted standards, and health and safety requirements. Local government organizations emphasized that incomplete or noncompliant applications frequently require additional review and that rigid limitations could prevent building officials from identifying and correcting legitimate problems.

Following sustained opposition and negotiations, AB 1621 was significantly amended. Most notably, the bill removed a proposed limit that would generally have prohibited agencies from conducting more than two rounds of plan review. The amendments also preserved greater authority for building officials to require changes when an approved plan could not reasonably be interpreted as complying with applicable standards or when a deviation was necessary to address a specific adverse impact on public health or safety. Although the measure continued the broader trend toward stricter permitting timelines and expanded enforcement under the Housing Accountability Act, the amendments addressed several of the most consequential local agency concerns.

[AB 1738 \(Carrillo\)](#) similarly focused on local building department operations by requiring certain cities and counties to offer remote virtual inspections for specified residential improvements involving single-family and duplex properties. Eligible inspections would include certain heat-pump systems, reroofing projects, small residential solar installations, energy-storage systems, and smoke and carbon-monoxide detectors.

Local agencies raised concerns that a statewide mandate could limit the discretion of building officials to determine when an in-person inspection is necessary to verify code compliance and protect public safety. The bill was substantially amended in response. The revised proposal exempts cities with populations below 5,000 and counties with populations below 150,000, including cities located within those counties. It also delays implementation until 2028, removes accessory dwelling units and several other categories of work from the mandate, and gives inspectors greater authority to terminate a virtual inspection and require an in-person visit when compliance cannot be adequately verified remotely.

The measure also requires homeowner consent when a contractor requests a remote inspection and preserves the ability of local agencies to adopt more permissive virtual-inspection programs. These changes provided considerably more flexibility than earlier versions of the bill, although the proposal would still establish new statewide requirements for the day-to-day administration of local building inspections.

Together, AB 1621 and AB 1738 demonstrate that the state's housing focus has expanded beyond zoning and project entitlements. Lawmakers are increasingly examining each stage between project approval and occupancy and imposing new timelines, procedures, enforcement

mechanisms, and technology requirements intended to accelerate construction. For cities and counties, these technical measures may carry significant staffing, training, technology, legal, and administrative implications even when they do not directly change allowable land uses or residential densities.

Streamlining Legislation

[AB 1751](#) established the Missing Middle Townhome Ownership Act, creating a streamlined, ministerial approval process for qualifying townhome developments. The measure reflected an increased legislative focus on homeownership opportunities for middle-income and first-time buyers, rather than exclusively emphasizing rental housing production.

To qualify, a development must consist entirely of townhomes, contain no more than 150 units, average no more than 1,750 square feet per unit, and generally achieve at least 75 percent of the applicable state density standard. Projects containing 11 or more units must reserve at least 10 percent of the units for lower-income households for 45 years.

The bill allows local agencies to apply objective general plan and development standards, require necessary infrastructure and public improvements, and enforce specified environmental, hazard, historic-resource, and anti-displacement protections. However, it limits standards that would physically preclude an otherwise eligible project and requires qualifying developments and subdivisions to be approved ministerially.

Supporters characterized townhomes as a more attainable ownership option because they require less land and generally have lower purchase, infrastructure, utility, and transportation costs than detached single-family homes. Local governments raised concerns that the measure could override state-certified housing elements, require approval of projects below locally planned densities, and create new infrastructure and service demands. The bill nevertheless demonstrated the Legislature's growing interest in "missing middle" housing as a tool for expanding homeownership and building generational wealth.

Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Funding

Securing continued funding for the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention program was once again one of the year's central budget fights. The Governor's January proposal included only \$500 million for HHAP Round 7, half of the \$1 billion provided in recent rounds and an amount widely viewed as insufficient to sustain existing local programs.

Cities, counties, continuums of care, tribes, service providers, and housing advocates spent the first half of the year emphasizing that HHAP supports ongoing shelter operations, street outreach, housing navigation, rental assistance, prevention programs, and permanent housing placements. Because many of these services rely on multiyear staffing and provider contracts, a significant reduction or interruption in state funding would have forced communities to scale back programs precisely as homelessness remained one of California's most urgent challenges.

That sustained advocacy helped build legislative consensus around restoring most of the proposed reduction. The final state budget provides \$900 million for HHAP Round 7, representing a \$400 million increase over the Governor's January proposal. Although the appropriation remains \$100 million below the funding level provided in recent years, it was one of the clearest budget gains of the session and will provide greater continuity for local homelessness programs.

The final agreement also includes new matching and accountability requirements that will influence how jurisdictions qualify for and use the funding. More broadly, HHAP remains dependent on annual budget negotiations rather than an ongoing, guaranteed appropriation. Local governments and homelessness providers will therefore need to renew the fight for continued funding when the next state budget process begins in January 2027.

Housing Finance and Production

The Legislature placed the [\\$11.25 billion Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026, SB 417 \(Limón\)](#), on the November ballot. If approved, the measure would provide \$10 billion for affordable rental housing and homeownership programs and \$1.25 billion for the CalVet Home Loan Program.

Local government advocacy helped secure \$200 million in the bond for the Local Housing Trust Fund Program. LHTF is particularly important because it is the only bond program for which local governments and qualifying regional housing trusts can apply directly. It allows communities to leverage locally generated housing revenues with state matching funds while retaining flexibility to address local priorities and close financing gaps in affordable housing projects.

While voters consider the bond, the state budget provides more immediate resources, including \$200 million for the Multifamily Housing Program and \$500 million for the state low-income housing tax credit. Together, these investments preserve critical housing finance tools, although they remain insufficient to meet the scale of California's housing affordability and production needs.

SELECTED HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS BILLS		
BILL	SUMMARY	STATUS
AB 1621 (Wilson)	Limits most building-permit reviews to two plan-check cycles and compresses postentitlement appeal timelines. (See also Local Government & Elections.)	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
AB 1738 (Carrillo)	Requires certain cities/counties to offer remote virtual inspections for specified residential improvements, with exemptions for smaller jurisdictions.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
AB 1751 (Quirk-Silva)	Establishes the Missing Middle Townhome Ownership Act, a streamlined ministerial approval process for qualifying townhome developments.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
AB 1924 (Gabriel)	Requires the California Interagency Council on Homelessness to develop a statewide homelessness preventions strategy as part of the council's publicly available Action Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
AB 2020 (Gabriel)	Allows HCD to authorize the transfer of residual receipts or excess reserves from one rental housing development to another rental housing development with the same	Pending Governor's signature or veto.

	owner to help stabilize developments facing financial challenges and protect the state's affordable housing supply.	
SB 417 (Limón)	The \$11.25 billion Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026, including \$200 million for the Local Housing Trust Fund Program.	Placed on the November 2026 ballot as Proposition 1.
SB 479 (Arreguín)	Authorizes a city that is designated as a local health jurisdiction to establish a homeless adult and family multidisciplinary personnel team.	Pending Governor's signature or veto.
SB 722 (Wahab)	Excludes mobile home parks and similar properties from the provisions of SB 79 (Wiener).	Signed into law.

LOOKING AHEAD

New Incoming Executive Administration

Democrat Xavier Becerra and Republican Steve Hilton advanced to the November runoff to succeed term-out Governor Newsom, with independent polling in August showing Becerra with a substantial lead. The two offer sharply different postures on issues that bear directly on voter sentiment: Becerra has signaled openness to revisiting the state's climate targets in the name of affordability and has floated a state of emergency to freeze utility and insurance rates, while Hilton has pledged to roll back clean-energy mandates, expand fossil fuel production, and reduce the regulatory footprint of state climate programs. Whoever prevails will inherit the state's structural budget imbalance, Cap-and-Invest implementation, a new slough of legislative proposals, and would direct agencies amidst .

November 2026 Ballot

Beyond the Governor's race, several November measures carry direct implications for local agencies. Proposition 1 ([SB 417](#)) would authorize an \$11.25 billion housing and veterans bond, including \$200 million for the Local Housing Trust Fund Program that cities, counties, and regional housing trusts can apply for directly. Proposition 2 would revise the state's Rainy Day Fund. Proposition 43 ([ACA 22](#)) would raise the vote threshold for citizen-initiated local special taxes, as discussed above. Proposition 45, a citizen initiative rather than a legislatively referred measure, would substantially rework CEQA for a defined set of housing, transportation, water, and health projects, imposing a 365-business-day limit on environmental review, tightening court timelines for legal challenges, and narrowing tribal consultation and public-comment procedures. Recent polling has shown strong public support, and the outcome would meaningfully affect how local agencies process CEQA review and defend project approvals going forward.

Tort Reform

Towards the end of this Session, a coalition of more than 65 cities, counties, and special districts pushed for public entity liability reform, pointing to a 370% increase in local agency insurance premiums since 2016 and more than \$7 billion in known liability exposure accumulated since 2019. The most direct legislative vehicle, [SB 577 \(Laird\)](#) revises numerous statutes related to civil procedures governing claims against public entities, including those for childhood sexual assault,

modifies local government training and recordkeeping statutes, and modifies the procedures for local agencies that issue public debt obligations. Meanwhile, [AB 2529 \(Johnson\)](#) would tighten the Government Claims Act process to curb what sponsoring cities describe as a rise in questionable claims, and is backed by the California Contract Cities Association and PRISM. The broader civil-justice landscape moved unevenly this session: Governor Newsom signed [SB 623 \(Umberg\)](#) in June to curb inflated medical-billing practices in auto-accident litigation. Despite the movement of these measures, more is likely to come next Session as public entities expressed concerns over the provisions of SB 577, potentially reopening conversations regarding local government liability.

Cap-and-Invest Funding Allocations

CARB's May regulatory package now sits with the Office of Administrative Law, and the practical stakes for GGRF beneficiaries will play out over the coming year rather than in any single vote. Auction results, final implementation guidance, and allowance pricing through 2027 will determine how much GGRF revenue remains for the climate, transit, and community investment programs many agencies depend on. Given the volatility already seen in 2026 auction performance, expect continued legislative interest in revisiting how GGRF revenue is allocated and whether the state should backstop priority programs with more stable General Fund support.

Community Reinvestment

An original, pre-amendment version of [AB 801 \(Bonta\)](#) would have established a California-level Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), extending CRA-style affirmative lending obligations beyond federally chartered banks to state-chartered banks, credit unions, and other non-traditional financial institutions, with new assessment and data-reporting requirements administered by the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation and civil penalties for institutions that fail to meet their obligations. The bill was reinvented through the Session, yet the original proposal may be revisited when the Legislature reconvenes. If so, it is worth tracking for those that maintain banking or depository relationships with state-chartered institutions, or that are exploring public-bank or municipal-finance options of their own.

Sidewalk Vendor Safety Reform

Two distinct threads defined this issue in 2026. [SB 635 \(Durazo\)](#), effective January 1, tightened statewide privacy protections for sidewalk vendors barring local agencies from collecting or sharing vendor immigration status, requiring destruction of previously collected sensitive data by March 1, and restricting cooperation with federal immigration enforcement in permit administration. Separately, [SB 276 \(Wiener\)](#), drafted narrowly for San Francisco, authorized that city to require permits for selling merchandise it has designated a common target of retail theft, backed by an escalating enforcement structure that can end in misdemeanor citations. Since implementation this summer, San Francisco has reported dozens of citations and hundreds of warnings in the Mission District alongside a visible reduction in unpermitted vending. Because that authority applies only to San Francisco, other jurisdictions facing similar organized resale activity on public sidewalks do not yet have an equivalent tool. Expect advocacy in 2027 either to extend a similar model statewide or to seek jurisdiction-specific authorizations following San Francisco's approach, alongside continued attention to SB 635 compliance in permit forms, data retention policies, and enforcement-contractor agreements.



Ventura Port District Legislative Report

AB 817 (González, Mark, D) Cold storage facilities.

Last Amended: 08/27/2026

Status: 09/27/2026 - Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 493, Statutes of 2026.

Location: 09/27/2026 - Assembly CHAPTERED

Summary: The Permit Streamlining Act establishes requirements for the review and approval of applications for development projects, as defined, by public agencies, including requiring that a public agency that is the lead agency for the development project approve or disapprove the project within certain time periods, as specified. This bill would prohibit a city, county, or city and county from approving a building permit for cold storage facilities, as defined, unless the owner of the cold storage facility, or the lessee or operator of the cold storage facility, as specified, establishes a contingency fund, as defined, to be used upon declared national, state, or local emergencies in certain circumstances. Until July 1, 2028, the bill would limit the definition of cold storage facilities for purposes of these provisions to facilities located within the geographic boundaries of the Boyle Heights Community Plan. The bill would require an owner of a cold storage facility to provide evidence of the contingency fund at the discretion of the city, county, or city and county, as specified, and authorize an owner to require the lessee or operator of the cold storage facility to establish and maintain the contingency fund. (Based on 09/27/2026 text)

AB 1383 (McKinnor, D) Public employees' retirement benefits.

Last Amended: 08/27/2026

Status: 09/20/2026 - Vetoed by Governor.

Calendar: 11/30/26 #26 A-GOVERNOR'S VETOES

Location: 09/20/2026 - Assembly VETOED

Summary: The Public Employees' Retirement Law (PERL) establishes the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) to provide a defined benefit to members of the system based on final compensation, credited service, and age at retirement, subject to certain variations. Existing law creates the Public Employees' Retirement Fund, which is continuously appropriated for purposes of PERS, including depositing employer and employee contributions. Under the California Constitution, assets of a public pension or retirement system are trust funds. The California Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 (PEPRA) establishes a variety of requirements and restrictions on public employers offering defined benefit pension plans. In this regard, PEPRA restricts the amount of compensation that may be applied for purposes of calculating a defined pension benefit for a new member, as defined, by restricting it to specified percentages of the contribution and benefit base under a specified federal law with respect to old age, survivors, and disability insurance benefits. Existing law, the Teachers' Retirement Law, establishes the State Teachers' Retirement System (STRS) and creates the Defined Benefit Program of the State Teachers' Retirement Plan, which provides a defined benefit to members of the program, based on final compensation, creditable service, and age at retirement, subject to certain variations. This bill, for service performed on and after January 1, 2027, would prohibit the pensionable compensation for calendar year 2027 used to calculate the defined benefit paid to a new member of a retirement system subject to PEPRA who retires from the system from exceeding specified percentages of the contribution and benefit base under the specified federal law with respect to old age, survivors, and disability insurance benefits. (Based on 09/03/2026 text)

AB 1777 (Garcia, D) Air pollution: indirect sources.

Status: 08/31/2026 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(17). (Last location was RECONSIDERATION on 9/1/2026)

Location: 08/31/2026 - Assembly DEAD

Summary: Current law designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency with the primary responsibility for the control of vehicular air pollution, and air pollution control districts and air quality management districts with the primary responsibility for the control of air pollution from all sources other than vehicular sources. Current law authorizes air districts to adopt and implement regulations to reduce or mitigate emissions from

ATTACHMENT 3

indirect sources of air pollution. Current law requires the state board to adopt rules and regulations relating to vehicular emissions standards, as specified, that will achieve the ambient air quality standards required by federal law in conjunction with other measures adopted by the state board, air districts, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. This bill would authorize the state board, if necessary to carry out that duty to achieve those ambient air quality standards, to adopt regulations to reduce or mitigate emissions from indirect sources of pollution. (Based on 02/09/2026 text)

AB 1821 (Pacheco, D) California Public Records Act: agency response time.

Last Amended: 06/25/2026

Status: 09/30/2026 - Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 899, Statutes of 2026.

Location: 09/30/2026 - Assembly CHAPTERED

Summary: The California Public Records Act requires each state or local agency, upon a request for a copy of records that reasonably describes an identifiable record or records, to make the records promptly available to any person upon payment of fees covering direct costs of duplication, or a statutory fee if applicable, except with respect to public records exempt from disclosure by express provisions of law. Existing law requires each agency, within 10 days of a request for a copy of records, to determine whether the request seeks copies of disclosable public records in possession of the agency and to promptly notify the person of the determination and the reasons therefor. Existing law authorizes that time limit to be extended by no more than 14 days under unusual circumstances, as defined. This bill would instead require each agency to determine whether the request seeks copies of disclosable public records in possession of the agency and to promptly notify the person as described above within 10 business days of a request for a copy of records. (Based on 09/30/2026 text)

AB 2560 (Schultz, D) Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure: goals.

Last Amended: 04/15/2026

Status: 08/14/2026 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(14). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/3/2026)

Location: 08/14/2026 - Senate DEAD

Summary: Existing law establishes the Transportation Agency, which has the power of general supervision over specified state entities. Existing law requires the agency to develop and report on legislative, budgetary, and administrative programs to accomplish comprehensive, long-range, coordinated planning and policy formation in the matters of public interest related to the agency. This bill would establish specified goals for the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI), consistent with state law. (Based on 04/15/2026 text)

AJR 14 (Gipson, D) California ports: tariffs.

Status: 08/31/2026 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(17). (Last location was B., P. & E.D. on 8/27/2025)

Location: 08/31/2026 - Senate DEAD

Summary: Would call upon relevant federal agencies to consider the ramifications of tariff policies on California ports and to work collaboratively toward strategies that stabilize trade and bolster the competitiveness of California port infrastructure. (Based on 06/09/2025 text)

SB 667 (Archuleta, D) Railroads: safety: report.

Last Amended: 06/03/2026

Status: 09/18/2026 - Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 316, Statutes of 2026.

Location: 09/18/2026 - Senate CHAPTERED

Summary: Existing law requires the Public Utilities Commission to annually report to the Legislature on sites on railroad lines in the state that the commission finds to be hazardous, including a list of all railroad sites in the state that it determines pose a local safety hazard. Existing law authorizes the commission to submit in the annual report the list of railroad sites submitted in the immediate prior year annual report, and to amend or revise that list from the immediate prior year as necessary. In determining which railroad sites pose a local safety hazard, existing law requires the commission to consider, among other things, whether any local safety hazards at railroad sites have been eliminated or sufficiently remediated to warrant removal of the site from the list. This bill would require the commission, on or before July 1, 2029, to review the list of railroad sites and, in the annual report, to include an evaluation of each site on the list and determine whether changes in conditions, operations, or safety data warrant the removal, modification, or addition of any site. (Based on 09/18/2026 text)

SB 1087 (Cabaldon, D) Transportation planning: sustainable communities strategies: transportation funding programs.

Last Amended: 08/21/2026

ATTACHMENT 3

Status: 09/30/2026 - Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 1005, Statutes of 2026.

Location: 09/30/2026 - Senate CHAPTERED

Summary: Existing law requires certain transportation planning agencies to prepare and adopt regional transportation plans directed at achieving a coordinated and balanced regional transportation system. Existing law requires a regional transportation plan to include a policy element, a sustainable communities strategy prepared by a metropolitan planning organization, an action element, and a financial element, as provided. Existing law requires those transportation planning agencies to adopt and submit every 4 years, except as provided, an updated regional transportation plan to the California Transportation Commission and the Department of Transportation. This bill would revise and recast the requirements for a sustainable communities strategy, including, among other things, (A) requiring a sustainable communities strategy every 8 years with a progress report after 4 years instead of requiring a sustainable communities strategy every 4 years, (B) requiring the state board to provide each region with greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for 2035 and 2045, and (C) requiring the state board to hold technical workshops before providing those targets. The bill would also revise the state board's process for reviewing sustainable communities strategies and alternative planning strategies, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 09/30/2026 text)

SB 1159 (Cabaldon, D) Artificial intelligence: transparency and governance.

Last Amended: 06/25/2026

Status: 09/30/2026 - Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 863, Statutes of 2026.

Location: 09/30/2026 - Senate CHAPTERED

Summary: The California Constitution provides that people have the right of access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business. Various provisions of existing law, including the California Public Records Act, the Legislative Open Records Act, the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, and the Ralph M. Brown Act, provide, with some exceptions, for public access to government records and meetings of government bodies. Among those acts, the California Public Records Act defines "person" to include any natural person, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, firm, or association. This bill would specify that, for purposes of the California Public Records Act, the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Legislative Open Records Act, the Administrative Procedure Act, the California Coastal Act of 1976, and CEQA, "person," "interested person," "participant," "member of the public," as applicable, and any other similar terms under each act referring to those who may engage with governmental agencies, do not include artificial intelligence, as defined, systems, autonomous agents, or robots, whether physical or digital. (Based on 09/30/2026 text)

SB 1187 (Durazo, D) Open meetings.

Last Amended: 07/06/2026

Status: 09/18/2026 - Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 324, Statutes of 2026.

Location: 09/18/2026 - Senate CHAPTERED

Summary: The Ralph M. Brown Act requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. Existing law, beginning July 1, 2026, requires eligible legislative bodies, as defined, to have in place a system for electronically accepting and fulfilling requests for meeting agendas and documents. Existing law additionally requires these legislative bodies to translate the agenda for each meeting of that body and to reasonably assist members of the public who wish to translate a public meeting or receive interpretation, as specified. This bill would instead delete the above-described requirements on eligible legislative bodies. (Based on 09/18/2026 text)

Federal Update

October 1, 2026

Fiscal Year 2027 Appropriations Update

On September 1, the House passed the Senate's continuing resolution ([H.R. 6500](#)) by a 370–48 vote. President Trump signed it into law on September 2. The continuing resolution extends federal government funding at FY26 levels through December 11. It also includes a number of program extensions, including surface transportation authorities, national flood insurance, and extending the availability of housing voucher and homelessness assistance funding, and delays the implementation of the Office of Management and Budget's proposed rule overhauling the Uniform Guidance governing federal grant administration.

The House has recessed through the November midterm elections, while the Senate is scheduled to recess on October 2 and will need to return in advance of the December 11 funding deadline to negotiate full-year FY27 appropriations.

Trump Administration Appointments

President Trump announced the following infrastructure related appointments to his administration in September:

<u>Department/Agency</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Appointee</u>
Environmental Protection Agency	Assistant Administrator	Justin Schwab
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	Chief Financial Officer	Joshua Shoemaker
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	Inspector General	Robert Steinau
Treasury	Assistant Secretary, Investment, Energy, and Infrastructure	Jeremy Wiggins

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

House Passes WRDA 2026. On September 16, the House passed the *Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2026* ([H.R. 9497](#)) by a 415–9 vote. The bill would authorize 133 new feasibility studies and 14 projects vetted by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

and ready for construction authorization. The bill also proposes policy reforms aimed at strengthening alternative project delivery programs and establishing new USACE offices focused on inland navigation, alternative delivery, water supply, and technical assistance. The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee unanimously reported its version of WRDA 2026 ([S. 4949](#)) in July. The chambers are now expected to try to reconcile the differences between their respective versions before the end of the year.

House Passes Resolutions to Overturn California Maritime Emissions Waivers. On September 15 and 16, the House passed [H. J. Res. 210](#) by a vote of 216–211 and [H. J. Res. 213](#) by a vote of 214–208, respectively, using the *Congressional Review Act* to disapprove EPA authorizations for California’s Ocean-Going Vessels At-Berth Regulation and Commercial Harbor Craft regulation. Both resolutions now head to the Senate for consideration. Congress previously used the CRA in 2025 to invalidate three separate EPA waivers for California’s vehicle emissions programs, which President Trump signed into law on June 12, 2025.

House Passes Bill to Prohibit Political Discrimination in Disaster Assistance. On September 16, the House passed the *Stopping Political Discrimination in Disaster Assistance Act* ([H.R. 1342](#)) by voice vote. The bill would amend the *Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act* to add “political affiliation” to the existing list of factors—including race, color, religion, nationality, sex, and economic status—that federal officials may not consider when distributing disaster assistance. The bill follows disputes under both the Biden and Trump administrations over allegations of political bias in disaster aid decisions. The bill now heads to the Senate for consideration.

Wahab Sworn in to Fill CA-14 Vacancy. On September 2, former State Senator Aisha Wahab (D-CA) was sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives to fill the vacancy in California’s 14th District, vacated by Eric Swalwell in April. Her swearing-in brings the House to 218 Republicans, 214 Democrats, and one independent. Wahab is seeking a full term and will face Bay Area Rapid Transit Director Melissa Hernandez, whom she defeated in the August special election, in the November 3 general election.

FEDERAL FUNDING AWARDS

FEMA Announces Preparedness Grant Allocations. On September 23, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) [announced](#) final awards totaling \$1.56 billion across eight preparedness grant programs, including \$584.25 million for the Urban Area Security Initiative, \$394.25 million for the State Homeland Security Program, \$337.25 million for the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program, \$85.5 million for Operation Stonegarden, and smaller allocations for emergency operations centers, tribal homeland security, warning systems, and intercity bus and rail security.

FEMA Announces Disaster Mitigation Grant Awards. On September 18, FEMA [announced](#) nearly \$180 million in grants across three mitigation programs: more than \$160 million for 115 projects in 39 states and one Tribal Nation through the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program, primarily targeting flood, earthquake, and wildfire risk; \$15 million for floodplain management

through the Community Assistance Program; and \$3.8 million for earthquake preparedness through the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program.

FEDERAL AGENCY ACTIONS AND PERSONNEL CHANGES

Telle Named Acting Army Secretary Following Driscoll Resignation. On September 3, President Trump named Adam Telle, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA-CW), as Acting Secretary of the Army, effective immediately, following the resignation of Secretary Dan Driscoll earlier in the week. The appointment bypasses Under Secretary of the Army Michael Obadal, who would ordinarily assume the role in an acting capacity. Telle was confirmed by the Senate in August 2025 to lead the US Army Corps of Engineers' civil works portfolio, and previously served as chief of staff to Senator Bill Hagerty (R-TN) and as a Senate Appropriations Committee staffer. Principal Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (PDASA) Lee Forsgren is now serving as Acting ASA-CW and Robyn Colosimo is Acting PDASA.

DOT Releases New National AV Strategy. On September 3, the Department of Transportation (DOT) released its [National Strategy for Automated Vehicles \(AVs\) for FY 2026–2030](#), outlining a department-wide approach to the development and deployment of automated vehicles for passenger and freight transportation. The strategy focuses on four goals: prioritizing safety, providing greater regulatory certainty, supporting U.S. innovation and commercial deployment, and promoting interoperable transportation corridors across state lines. DOT identifies actions including modernizing federal vehicle safety standards, developing minimum performance standards for automated driving systems, streamlining exemption processes, and continuing research and demonstrations involving rural AV deployment, automated transit, emergency response, and digital infrastructure.

EPA, USACE Issue Supplemental Proposal on WOTUS Definition. On September 4, EPA and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) announced a [supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) seeking public input on additional regulatory language for defining “waters of the United States” (WOTUS), to be considered alongside their 2025 proposed rule as the agencies work toward a final definition consistent with the Supreme Court’s 2023 decision in *Sackett v. EPA*. The agencies said the supplemental proposal presents a limited number of new regulatory alternatives, does not replace the 2025 proposal, and does not predetermine the approach in the final rule. Comments on the supplemental proposal are due October 9.

EPA Launches G20 Water Reuse Initiative. On September 15, EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin launched the G20 Water Reuse Initiative at the G20 Energy Abundance Ministerial in Houston, where all G20 members agreed to an EPA-led [Water Reuse Outcome Document](#). The initiative promotes voluntary, non-prescriptive “fit-for-purpose” approaches to water reuse, in which treated water meets the quality required for its intended use, and calls for members to exchange information on permitting and regulatory approaches, environmental protection practices, water quality monitoring, and reclamation and recycling across sectors including energy, manufacturing, agriculture, municipal systems, and data centers. The outcome document states the initiative does not seek to develop international standards, benchmarks,

or requirements, and it encourages technical exchanges, pilot projects, private-sector investment, and capacity building.

GAO Finds DHS Grant Terminations, Pauses Disrupted Program Activities. On September 17, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) published a report finding that the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) 2025 efforts to terminate, pause, or condition grants pursuant to presidential executive orders disrupted agency mission activities without fully achieving the administration's stated objectives. GAO found that four DHS components terminated 362 grant awards and deobligated approximately \$1 billion between January 20 and September 30, 2025, with about 89 percent of deobligations coming from FEMA's Shelter and Services Program. GAO found DHS did not fully achieve its goals of reducing federal spending, restricting funding to "sanctuary jurisdictions," or withholding funds from organizations serving removable noncitizens, and that its actions delayed programs including the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities program and the Homeland Security Grant Program, several of which courts later ordered DHS to reverse or reinstate. GAO also found FEMA continues to add new conditions to FY26 grants without incorporating lessons learned from the prior year's disruptions, and recommended DHS develop a process to do so going forward, which DHS agreed to implement by June 2027.

GAO Publishes Report on Aviation Cybersecurity. On September 21, GAO published a [report](#) titled "Aviation Cybersecurity: Enhanced Air Safety Requires FAA to Better Mitigate Threats to Aircraft Communications." The report found that while FAA has identified cybersecurity threats to aviation communications—including GPS and other spectrum-related jamming and spoofing—it has not completed key risk assessments, mitigation plans, security documentation, or comprehensive real-time monitoring needed to respond to those threats. GAO also found gaps in FAA's coordination with federal and industry partners and vulnerabilities in aircraft communication applications that could allow malicious actors to intercept or spoof messages, potentially disrupting flight operations or creating safety risks. GAO made nine recommendations to strengthen FAA's management of spectrum cybersecurity risks, improve collaboration, and enhance protections for aviation communications, all of which DOT concurred with on FAA's behalf.

IBWC Announces U.S.-Mexico Minute 334 on Colorado River Cooperative Measures Through 2028. On September 2, the International Boundary and Water Commission announced that the United States and Mexico signed [Minute 334](#), "Colorado River Basin Cooperative Measures through December 31, 2028," in El Paso, Texas. The agreement advances shared water use reductions, salinity management, and continued evaluation of new water sources and desalination between the two countries. The signing follows the Interior Secretary's August 21 signature on the Record of Decision for the Decision Framework for Colorado River Guidelines governing coordinated operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead for 2027 through 2036, along with the accompanying 2027-2028 Operating Guidelines. The Department of the Interior and Bureau of Reclamation said they remain focused on continued collaboration with the seven Colorado River basin states, 30 basin tribal nations, and Mexico.

NHTSA Publishes Uniform Procedures for State Highway Safety Grant Programs Final Rule. On September 23, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)

published a [final rule](#) amending the uniform procedures implementing the State Highway Safety Grant Program to waive, for FY 2027, the requirement that targets for the common performance measures be identical to targets in the Federal Highway Administration State Highway Safety Improvement Program. The rule is effective immediately.

Reclamation Names Deputy Commissioner for Policy. On September 25, the Bureau of Reclamation announced the appointment of Anja Raudabaugh as Deputy Commissioner for Policy. She will lead policy and strategic initiatives across the 17 Western states. Raudabaugh previously served as CEO of Western United Dairies and as Executive Director of the Madera County Farm Bureau.

##

SEPTEMBER MARKETING REPORT -

Visitor Experience

September 2026 report showcases samples & highlights of the Ventura Harbor Visitor Attraction Plan.

EVENT PROMOTION - Art & Chalk Festival

Ventura Harbor hosted the Ventura Art & Chalk Festival on September 12–13, featuring more than **chalk artists and art and artisan vendors** along the waterfront. Presented by the **Rotary Club of Ventura**, the **free, two-day event combined live chalk art, music and family activities** with opportunities to explore Village galleries, shops and restaurants. The festival highlighted the harbor's local arts community, with **largest number of funds raised to date** for the Rotary community!

1500+
Attendance

30
Chalk Artists

50
Art Vendors



ENTERTAINMENT - Yacht Rock Concerts

Expanded **Yacht Rock Concert Thursdays** throughout **September** featured 4 local bands bringing in 700–800 local customers. Held from 4–7 PM, the series paired live music and dancing with nautical attire contests and giveaways. **Free weekday parking and admission provided an accessible community gathering** while encouraging visitors to enjoy the Village's waterfront restaurants and shops.

700-800+
Attendance

150+
E-mail Signups

10+
Giveaways



EVENT PROMOTION - Shrek Movie Night

Ventura Harbor Village celebrated the 25th anniversary of Shrek with a free Seaside Movie Night on September 19, pairing an outdoor screening on the Main Lawn with **trivia, giveaways, kettle corn, coffee, face painting and STEM crafts**. Preshow entertainment **hosted by KBBY 95.1** added to the family-friendly evening, which encouraged guests to enjoy waterfront dining and explore Village businesses before the film.

500+
Attendance

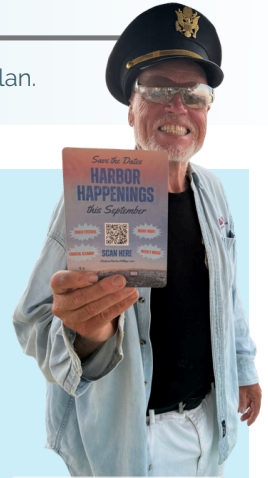
50+
E-mail Signups

10+
Giveaways



SEPTEMBER MARKETING REPORT - Content Development

September 2026 report showcases samples & highlights of the Ventura Harbor Visitor Attraction Plan.



SOCIAL MEDIA - Performance Metrics



@venturaharbor

90k



Total Audience

Audience growth up 15% compared to Sept. 2025

1.2 mil Impressions

33k

Engagements

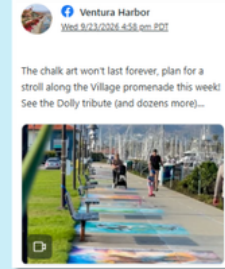
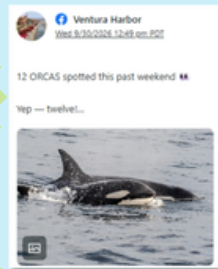
29k

Clicks

Followers engaged most with wild **Orcas** spotted aboard Island Packers vessels, The Ventura Art & **Chalk Festival**, and **Shrek** movie night.

43% increase on impressions compared to Sept. 2025.

Sample Posts:



COPYWRITE - Enewsletters / Blog Performance

4

Newsletters

20k

Subscribers

9k

Opens

759

Link Clicks

Each week highlighted the **Yacht Rock Series** and Village happenings (Hispanic Heritage, movie night, chalk art, etc.)



Strategic resends accounted for **24% of total opens** and **21% of total clicks**, maximizing the reach and impact of Sept. campaigns.

WEBSITE - Traffic

42k

Active Users

Over half were new users driven by organic social!

Most viewed September pages:

1. **Events** (34,991)
2. **Yacht Rock** (10,489)
3. **Village Dining** (2,048)

REELS - Short Video Compilations

Sr. Marketing & Event Coordinator curated 9 reels using a mix of original & professional content to promote September happenings, plus collaborated on 5 reels including a **Visit Ventura/VC Coast** feature on Fall events, **Golden Hour Goods** on seaside shopping, **Deejay Bennett** on our music series wrap up, Ventura County **Restaurant Week** feature of **The Greek**, + a community creator feature on The Loose Cannon.

14

Total Reels

290k

Views

ADVERTISING - Digital & Print

Paid Social Media Meta Ad topics promoted in July & August:

- Yacht Rock Concerts
- Ventura Art & Chalk Fest
- Shrek Seaside Movie Night
- Hispanic Heritage Month Music

9.38%

Average Click-Thru Rate (CTR) on Ventura Harbor Meta Ads in Sept.

Campaigns for Sept. 2026 outperformed the 2% national benchmark by nearly 4.7 times.

Print ad congratulating "Best of" Harbor winners in **V68 Reporter**



SEPTEMBER MARKETING REPORT - Outreach & Stewardship

September 2026 report showcases samples & highlights of the Ventura Harbor Visitor Attraction Plan.

OUTREACH & COVERAGE - PR & Editorial

September editorial coverage included an array of events: Ventura Art & Chalk Festival, Seaside Movie Night, Talk Like A Pirate Day, Hispanic Heritage Month & Coastal Clean-up Day. Appeared in **ABC Television Channel 7**, **KNBC Television Channel 4 Los Angeles**, **VC Star Newspaper**, **Yahoo**, **MSN**, **AOL**, **SheBuysTravel**, **LA Parent Magazine**, **VC Mom Collective**, **Kids Out & About**, **Mommy Poppins**, **EdHat**, **VC Local**, **PBS SoCal**. Daytime and after dark happenings appeared in local media outlets, including **Ventura Breeze**, **VC Reporter**, **The Ventura Wave**, **Conejo Valley Guide**, & **Camarillo Macaroni Kid**.



31 Fall Day Trips from Los Angeles—Plus Weekend

Updated: September 2, 2026

Check off all the fall fun in our [LA fall bucket list for kids](#) and discover more [road trips from Los Angeles for a weekend family getaway](#). Plus, get inspired for additional local adventures in our [Weekend Getaway and Day Trip Guide for Los Angeles Families](#).



You won't want to miss Ventura Harbor Village.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SEASIDE MOVIE NIGHT DEBUTS ON THE BIG SCREEN WITH A BLOCKBUSTER MOVIE AT VENTURA HARBOR VILLAGE IN VENTURA, CALIFORNIA Saturday, September 19, 2026, 7:15 – 9:15pm



Lights. Camera Coastline. Evenings on the California coast at Ventura Harbor Village

CULTURAL ACTIVATION

Hispanic Heritage Month

Celebrated this cultural month with a popular local Hispanic Band **Caliente 805** and a **cultural blog** on Village ammenties & eats.



CROSS PROMO - CA Coastal Cleanup Day

CINP hosted **CA Coastal Cleanup Day** & volunteers helped **remove litter from the Harbor's beaches** and supported statewide conservation goals.



85+
volunteers

42lbs
trash

23lbs
recyclables

TOURISM - Ventura Frontline Tour

Hosted **Visit Ventura Frontline Tour** for visitor center volunteers to SEA what's new at the Harbor Village.



PREPPED VISION BOARDS FOR VENTURA PORT DISTRICT PUBLIC WORKSHOP



REVENUE - Onsite Rentals September

Venue Revenue
September
\$5k

- Love Like Fire Beach Day
- SB Adventure Co. Kayaking Day
- Ventura Art & Chalk Festival



VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
DEPARTMENTAL STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Todd Mitchell, Deputy General Manager
Dave Werneburg, Marina Supervisor
SUBJECT: September 2026 Marina Report

MARINA DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Ventura Harbor Village Marina

Total Slip Count	102	100%
Slips Assigned	102	100%
Slips Occupied	65	64%
Slips Available	0	0%

Port District Dry Storage – 19A

Total Spaces	88	100%
Active Contracts	72	81%
Available	16	19%

COMMERCIAL FISHING

California Market Squid Harvest – Ventura Harbor
2026-27 Squid Season opened April 1, 2026

California Market Squid Statistics		
State-wide Seasonal Squid Limit:	118,000 tons	236,000,000 lbs.
Ventura Landings – No Sept Landings	0 tons	0 lbs.
Ventura Season-to-date:	191 tons	382,518 lbs.

2026-2027 Squid Landings

There were no squid landings in Ventura in the month of September. Some squid have been reported along the upper Oregon coast. Both Del Mar Seafoods and Silver Bay have strategically positioned portable pumps in Northern California (Half Moon Bay, etc.) in anticipation of better water conditions. Unusually warm water conditions, such as are being experienced now, are often a result of strong El Niño conditions which in turn affects fish landings. Similar conditions have affected the industry in 1997-1998, 2015-2016, and 2023-2024. Attachment 1 is an article from 1998 discussing that year's impacts on the squid industry.

Dry Storage 19A Project

Enterprise Security installed three (3) new poles in 19A to support solar-power cameras. Contractor received partial shipment of cameras but noted possible damage to at least one unit. Waiting for replacements to complete installation, which are needed as there have been a couple reports of theft in the past two months. New security system projected to be live-streaming with alerts by the end of October.

Vessel Sinking In Slip

To jump-start our week, on Monday, September 28th, the Marina Dept was alerted to a vessel taking on water and starting to sink in its slip on VHV Marina's C-Dock. Marina Supervisor and Dockmaster responded to find light boat MAKAHA taking on water. The vessel had over 3 feet of standing water upon arrival. Harbor Patrol also responded with two boats adding 3 additional pumps to the pump Marina had deployed. It took District's staff, using 4 pumps and nearly 2 hours, to dewater the vessel to the point where Tow-Boat could safely relocate the vessel to the Boatyard where it was hauled out for damage assessment and repairs. Fuel, oils, and solvents float to the

surface of the water, so pumping was managed and stopped to prevent any contaminants from entering the Harbor. Engine compartment was fully flooded. No immediate cause identified.



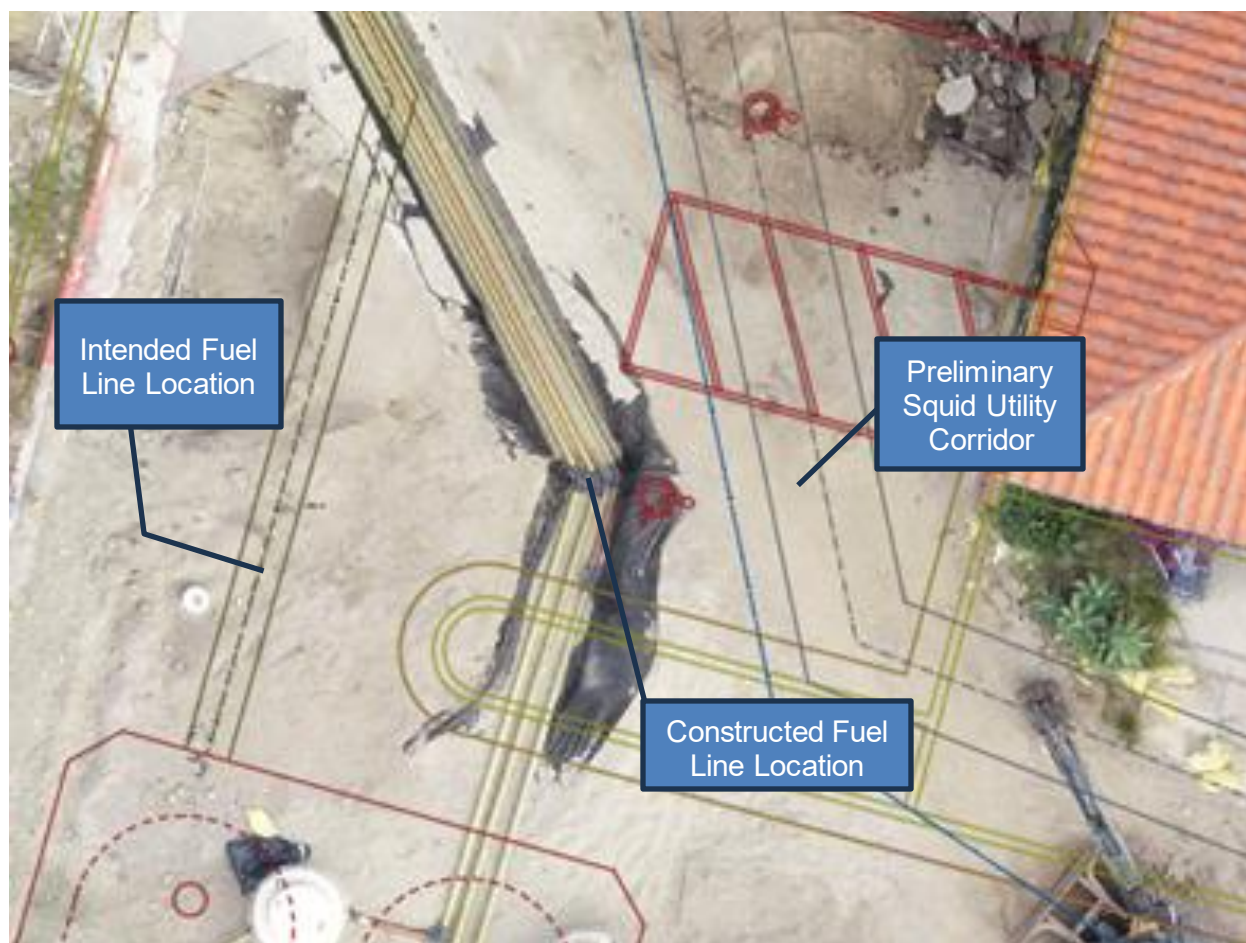
All Dressed Up and No Where To Go

Up and down the coast: Bremerton to Anacortes to Coos Bay to Moss Landing to Ventura to San Pedro much of the commercial fleet that operates out of Ventura are “On the Hard” (dry docked) in boatyards. As one skipper put it: “We’re doing our spring cleaning now because we’re counting on a spring fishing season...we can only hope.” One of the local seiner owners invested over \$300K to tear off their stern deck and replace both fuel tanks and fresh-water tank with new stainless tanks. An annual or bi-annual haul out can easily cost upwards of \$200K. El Niño promises many new surprises and challenges.



Marina Fuel Tank Replacement Project

The fuel tanks are in the ground and new pipes are largely connected. However, District staff had a survey conducted to ground truth the locations and identified that the tanks and a small portion of the fuel lines were not placed in the location identified. This caused District staff to have the contractor halt work on the project in the area where the lines may affect the commercial fish modernization project's squid utility corridor. The engineering team for that project are evaluating if there are any likely impacts and whether or not this portion of the lines needs to be relocated. This is expected to create a delay of 2-3 weeks while the issue is resolved.



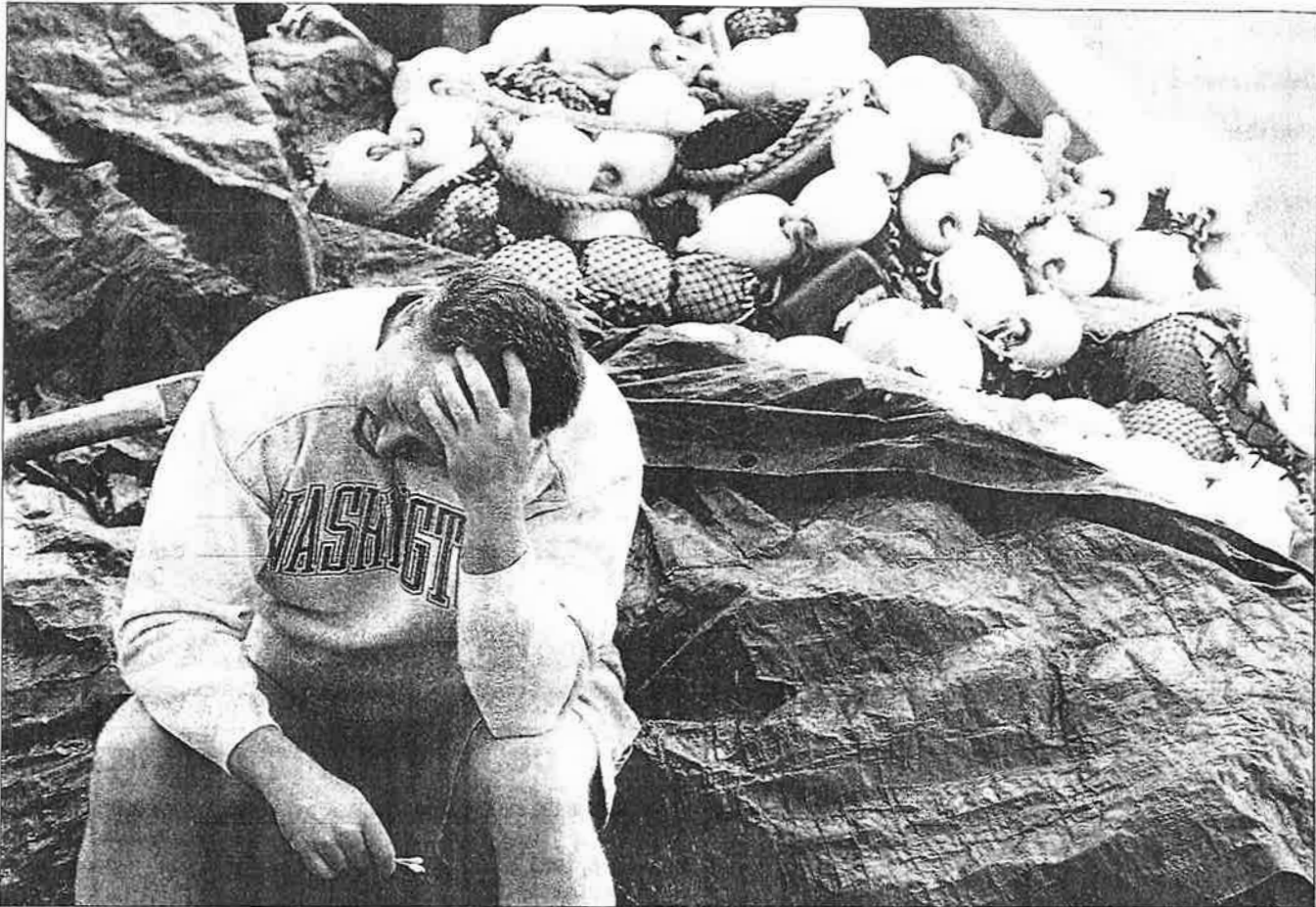
At the moment, construction still does not impact our commercial squid offloading (high ocean water temperatures continue to prevent squid growth) but does continue to affect the neighboring businesses and public access. Staff continue to work with Safe Harbor to minimize impacts to all stakeholders.

Commercial Fisheries Modernization Project

Marina staff continue to be engaged in the planning phases of the commercial fisheries modernization project. There are weekly internal coordination meetings organized by the Capital Projects Manager to align all District staff on activities and to ensure all input is available. The Department's role in the project will continue to grow as the project continues to transition from planning to construction.

Attachment 1 – VC Start Article on 1998 El Nino Impacts to Squid Industry

After 3 boom years, squid hauls since September down more than 95%



Staff photo by Damon Winter

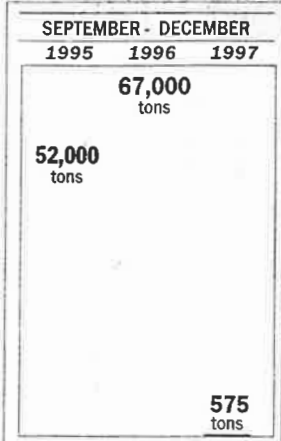
DOOM TIMES: Squid fisherman Dennis Miller sits on top of unused squid netting aboard the Connie Marie in Channel Islands Harbor on Wednesday. Miller hasn't seen a single squid in his nets since October.

El Niño preys on fisheries

California squid catch drops

The squid industry has nearly collapsed this season because warm waters have driven away temperature-fickle squid. Catches since September have been almost nil compared to past years.

Source:
State Department of
Fish & Game



Staff graphic by Wendy Noda

FISHERMEN: They want governor to declare a disaster, allowing for government assistance.

By Brett Johnson
Staff writer

It's been feast, feast, feast and now famine for the California squid fishery that is centered off Ventura County.

After three straight years of record hauls, the squid industry has almost totally collapsed this season — thanks to El Niño's warm waters that drove temperature-fickle squid away.

Catches since September have been almost nil, and statistics and anecdotal evidence indicate the haul statewide will be less than 5 percent of what it was during boom times when the season ends in March. It won't scratch calamari off menus here, but the slump is trickling down to local spin-off

businesses.

"I have not loaded a bucket of squid since last March," said John Wilkes, who's fished for the mollusk since 1991 out of Channel Islands Harbor. "It's a huge industry that's fallen flat on its face."

Now, after three years of making good money, Wilkes and other squid fishermen want help from the government. They want Gov. Pete Wilson to declare the fishery a disaster, which would open them to government assistance such as low-interest loans and unemployment compensation.

Fishermen knew this squid season would be bad — the last

Please see **SQUID** on A8



Staff photos by Damon Winter

NO SQUID: Rick Alvarez, above, isn't netting squid so he's chipping rust off the Karen Marie, a fishing boat at Ventura Harbor. He's optimistic things will get better next year, but for the moment he has applied for federally funded disaster aid.

SQUID: Fisheries are collapsing

Continued from A1

Large El Niño in 1982-83 also ruined things. They just didn't think the fishery would vanish.

"I had a worst-case scenario, but this dips way below my worst-case scenario," said Keith Omei, a Bellingham, Wash.-based fisherman who has harvested squid off Ventura for the past eight years.

Omei and others scoff at the notion that the downturn is merely a risk of doing business, and that they should tough it out in bad times if they reap the fruits in good times.

"Yes, I made some money, but there was a major amount put back into equipment," Wilkes said.

Wilkes said he invested \$150,000 in his boat and other equipment. He's selling cars for the time being. Omei plans to try his luck with the salmon fishery in Alaska this spring.

The fishermen contend they're no different than farmers who will ask for government aid because of crop damage from El Niño-related floods.

"We are sensitive to corporate welfare ... but we've put together programs to assist farmers, homeowners and business owners," said Zeke Grader, executive director of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations.

"These aren't exactly hand-outs — these are loans that have to be repaid, and unemployment money won't make people whole," he added.

The move is not unprecedented. The salmon fishery was declared a disaster as recently as 1994, and also in the early 1980s.

Both the governor's office and state Sen. Jack O'Connell's office said they will try to find some money for fishermen.

"They're obviously in dire straits," said Gavin Payne, O'Connell's chief of staff.

Fishermen aren't suffering alone.

Mike Carpenter, general man-

ager of the Oxnard division of Sea Products Co., said he's unloaded only 10 tons of squid at the Port of Hueneme this year; last year at this time, it was 15,000 tons. The drop-off has forced him down to four workers; he employed as many as 150 in good squid seasons. Those people, he noted, took their paychecks and spent them locally on groceries, rent and the like.

"There's a huge ripple effect in all the related industries — the box guys, the ice guys, the freezer people, the trucking," he said.

At Ventura Harbor, administrators revised their budget because of less squid revenues. John Johnson, owner of Ventura Packers and the harbor's boatyard, said he's reduced his packing staff from 40 to 12, and added that slip rentals are way down.

"I don't know what some of these people are doing for a living," he said. "It's been devastating."

State Department of Fish and Game records show that 78,000 tons of squid were caught in 1997. That's only slightly below the record 88,500 tons landed in 1996, the last of the three consecutive record runs.

However, fishermen netted only about 575 tons of the 1997 total from September on; in 1996, they caught 67,000 tons beginning in September. In 1995, the fall haul was 52,000 tons out of 77,500 tons total.

"We basically don't have a squid fishery in Southern California this year," said Marija Vojkovich, a Fish and Game senior biologist.

Vojkovich blames El Niño, but said overfishing is a possible contributor. The record runs — much of it caught off Ventura County — led to an outcry for protections for the unregulated squid fishery earlier this year. But Vojkovich can't prove overfishing is at fault.

"We have past history to back up the El Niño effect," she said.



FISH BAIT: Jon Klein pours salt on a pile of squid that will be used as long-line fishing bait. Sean Trainer looks on aboard Klein's boat R.J. in Channel Islands Harbor on Wednesday.

"We don't have past history with heavy exploitation in the squid fishery."

El Niño has driven squid to deeper water or north or both, and fishermen say they aren't rising to the warmer surface waters to halogen lamps they use to attract them into nets. Vojkovich also said the squid aren't concentrating in certain areas as in past years.

All this is a matter of a few degrees. Squid like water temperatures in the low- to mid-50s. The

water temperature during El Niño has hovered in the low 60s.

The 1982-83 El Niño produced a sizable squid fishery off Oregon. That hasn't occurred this season, but Vojkovich said it's possible later this year.

Ventura County residents probably won't notice any change in their entrees. Most squid that end up in calamari and other dishes here are imported. About 97 percent of the local catch is exported to China and Asia.

VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
DEPARTMENTAL STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Todd Mitchell, Deputy General Manager
Jessica Snipas, Business Operations Manager
Christian Garcia, Business Operations Analyst II
SUBJECT: September 2026 Property and Leasing Report

LEASING HIGHLIGHTS

- Tenant Engagement
 - Staff continue to coordinate with architects, the City, JPIA, and multiple tenants regarding their planning, building, and safety permits.
 - Insurance and business license audits are ongoing.
 - Staff met with eight tenants in September regarding exploring future tenancy, initial inspection, final inspection, site reviews, or space discussions.
 - For the Parking Program, staff continue to respond to all emails sent to parking@venturaharbor.com and address tenant communications.
- Leasing Advertising, Showings, and Executions
 - Staff attended the Ventura Chamber of Commerce's September Board meeting.
 - Staff met with the Port of San Diego Area Real Estate Manager to discuss restaurateurs at Seaport and facilitate an introduction to a prospective tenant for the 1575 Spinnaker Drive restaurant spaces.
 - Staff attended the ICSC (International Council of Shopping Centers) San Diego Conference and participated in the joint Ventura-Camarillo-Moorpark exhibit to network with real estate brokers and prospective tenants, and promote leasing opportunities at the Ventura Harbor Village.



- Advertising:
 - i. Ads are placed in the Ventura Chamber of Commerce's Connection Breakfast.
 - ii. Ads are placed on LoopNet and CoStar Diamond Package Listings. (The Diamond Package ensures our listing appears as one of the top results on their websites and is also promoted through banners on other sites.) Note, LoopNet listings are accessible to the general public, while CoStar's platform is limited to memberships, which generally are industry professionals, such as brokers.
- Yardi Software
 - As of 10/7/26, 99% of tenants registered on the tenant portal, 93% paid via the portal (no change), and 97% submitted their sales online (no change).

- Looking Forward: Continuing to Implement Leasing Strategy
 - Staff will need to review lease templates to accommodate the Yardi system and continue assisting tenants with registering and access to the tenant portal.

CURRENT VACANCY REPORT

- 1) 1575 Spinnaker Drive #205 (Office suite)
 - The previous tenant, SEEAG, chose not to exercise its lease option due to a need for additional space and has since moved out of the premises. Marketing efforts for the suite will commence once the most impactful phases of construction for the 1575 restaurant project are complete. In the interim, the suite is being used to temporarily relocate a tenant whose existing space is affected by construction.
- 2) 1575 Spinnaker Drive #101/102/103/105A & B (Restaurant suite)
 - MCM Construction is currently constructing the façade and patio of 1575 Spinnaker Dr. Staff continue marketing efforts and recruitment through email outreach, cold calls, and restaurant visits.
- 3) 1591 Spinnaker Drive #207 (Office suite)
 - The previous tenant, Buenaventura Art Association, relocated to 1559 Spinnaker Drive #101B. Staff presented the Board with proposed business terms for a new office lease for direction on 10/7/26 and will present the lease for approval at the Board Meeting following the tenant's signing of the lease.

CURRENT AVAILABILITY REPORT

- 1) 1575 Spinnaker Drive #204C (Office suite – Moorhouse Financial Services, Inc.)
 - The tenant is in a month-to-month status because the renovation of the downstairs restaurant spaces, will require installation of new ventilation that will pass through and modify a portion of the suite.
- 2) 1591 Spinnaker Drive #117C (Retail suite – The Ultimate Escape Rooms, Inc.)
 - The tenant's lease expired in December 2025, and the tenant remained on a month-to-month tenancy while winding down business operations. The tenant vacated the suite on 9/15/26.
- 3) 1567 Spinnaker Drive #200 (Retail suite – MK Enterprises, Inc. dba Margarita Villa Mexican Restaurant)
 - The tenant's lease expired in January 2026, and tenant is in a month-to-month status pending completion of negotiations for a new lease.

CATEGORY	TOTAL Square Footage	Harbor Vacancy Sq Ft	Harbor Vacancy %	Harbor Available Sq Ft	Harbor Available %	City * Vacancy %	City * Available %
Office	38,580	2,746	7%	275	1%	16%	20%
Retail	20,260	0	0%	1,291	6%	18%	24%
Restaurant	33,622	3,720	11%	1,880	6%	0%	No Data

> **Harbor Vacancy --- The suite is unoccupied, and it does not have a lease.**

Office: 1575 #205
1591 #207
Retail: N/A
Restaurant: 1575 #101/102/103/105 A & B

> **Harbor Available ---- (1) MTM leases with existing Tenant in process to renew lease; or
(2) MTM lease or agreement that the suite is available to be leased.**

Office: 1575 #204C
Retail: 1591 #117C
Restaurant: 1567 #200

*** City: Based on comparable square footage within Ventura 93001 area as reported by CoStar Group.**

(Note that total square footage values have been updated as of the April 2023 reporting period to reflect recategorization of some units and the addition of the GSA lease for National Park Service offices which were not previously included).

SALES REPORTS

The attached summary of sales for three Harbor Village business categories: restaurants, retail, and charters. The report compares the monthly sales for 2025 and 2026. They also include year-to-date (YTD) comparisons. The YTD overall sales for all Harbor Village Tenants through the month of August is up 4.05% and is down 1.54% over the same period last year.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 – Aug 2026 Sales Report
Attachment 2 – Sept LoopNet Activity Report

ATTACHMENT 1

Ventura Harbor Village Tenant Sales Summary

Month of August

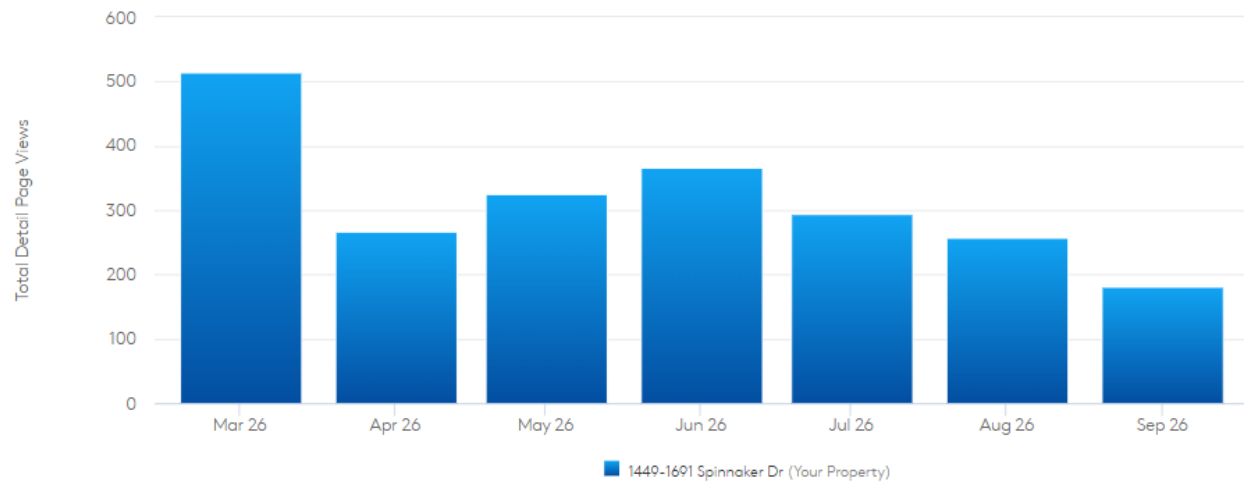
	<u>August-2026</u>	<u>August-2025</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Restaurants	\$ 2,553,199	\$ 2,638,421	-3.23%
Retail	\$ 524,726	\$ 513,643	2.16%
Charters	\$ 1,174,729	\$ 1,167,269	0.64%
Total	\$ 4,252,653	\$ 4,319,332	-1.54%

Year-to-date through August

	<u>Jan - August 2026</u>	<u>Jan - August 2025</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Restaurants	\$ 16,903,932	\$ 16,570,913	2.01%
Retail	\$ 3,637,609	\$ 3,502,396	3.86%
Charters	\$ 7,365,549	\$ 6,747,582	9.16%
Total	\$ 27,907,091	\$ 26,820,891	4.05%

ATTACHMENT 2
LoopNet Activity Report

LoopNet March 2026 – September 2026 Listing Activity Report for Total Views



LoopNet September 2026 Activity Summary

Activity Summary

Summary of everyone that has seen your property.

09/01/2026 - 09/30/2026

52,683

👁 Total Views

20,288

👤 Unique Prospects

7s

🕒 Average Time on Page

181

📄 Detail Page Views

2.0

👥 Frequency

18m 12s

🕒 Total Time on Page



VENTURA
PORT DISTRICT
Established 1952

BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 21, 2026

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM A APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-TOWN TRAVEL REQUEST

**VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
BOARD COMMUNICATION**

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM A
Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager
SUBJECT: Approval of Out-of-Town Travel Requests

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Port Commissioners approve the out-of-town travel requests for Chair Michael Blumenberg to attend the California Ocean Summit 2026 in Santa Barbara, CA, from December 9 - 11, 2026.

SUMMARY:

Employees and Commissioners are encouraged to attend conferences, meetings, seminars, and other activities that provide an opportunity to be informed concerning matters of interest to the District and their position. The General Manager is recommending commissioners and/or staff participate in the events listed herein.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- 5) Building respectful, productive relationships with employees, tenants, residents, visitors, stakeholders, public officials, and elected representatives while promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- 6) Provide exceptional public service and organizational transparency.
- 7) Provide high-quality Harbor and coastal visitor-serving amenities, services, facilities and infrastructure.

5-YEAR OBJECTIVE:

- E) Encourage public and civic engagement; maintain high levels of organizational transparency; and promote Harbor-wide diversity, equity and inclusion through District policies, procedures and programs.
 - 2) Collaborate with City, regional, state, and federal agency officials in pursuit of mutually beneficial projects and programs.

BACKGROUND:

California Ocean Summit 2026

The Summit will foster meaningful dialogue around emerging priorities, share best practices, and explore science-informed approaches to ocean stewardship. By strengthening collaboration across sectors, these conversations will help inform California's future approach to ocean policy while encouraging innovative solutions to the challenges facing our coast and ocean.

California has long been a leader in research and entrepreneurship. The Summit seeks to build on that legacy by advancing a vision for an Ocean Innovation Hub that connects scientific discovery with philanthropy, impact investing, and entrepreneurship. By fostering new partnerships and investment, we aim to accelerate solutions that strengthen coastal resilience, support a thriving blue economy, and transform promising ideas into real-world impact.

Protecting our ocean requires a shared commitment that extends beyond any one organization or sector. The Summit will provide an opportunity to advance a shared declaration that reflects a collective vision for ocean stewardship and long-term collaboration. More than a statement, it will

serve as a foundation for strengthening partnerships and moving ocean leadership forward in California and beyond.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Travel costs related to these activities are included in the FY26-27 budget.

<u>COS 2026</u>	<u>BLUMENBERG</u>
Registration	\$400.00
Lodging	N/A
Meals	\$285.00
Mileage	\$189.70
Parking	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$974.70

ATTACHMENTS:

None.



BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 21, 2026

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM B
APPROVAL OF NEW OFFICE LEASE
AGREEMENT FOR 1591 SPINNAKER
DRIVE #207 WITH VPSS1 INC., A
NEVADA CORPORATION

**VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
BOARD COMMUNICATION**

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM B
Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager
Todd Mitchell, Deputy General Manager
Jessica Snipas, Business Operations Manager
Christian Garcia, Business Operations Analyst II
SUBJECT: Approval of New Office Lease Agreement for 1591 Spinnaker Drive #207 with VPSS1 INC., a Nevada corporation

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Port Commissioners approves a new Office Lease Agreement between the Ventura Port District dba Ventura Harbor Village and VPSS1 INC., a Nevada corporation, for the premises located at 1591 Spinnaker Drive #207, consisting of approximately 1,420 square feet.

SUMMARY:

VPSS1 INC. is seeking to enter into a new lease for office space located at 1591 Spinnaker Drive, Suite #207. The proposed lease is for a three-year initial term commencing November 1, 2026, with one additional two-year option.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- 3) Grow financial sustainability through a reliable, recurring revenue stream supplemented with grants and public-private partnership investment while maintaining responsible budgeting practices.
- 5) Build respectful, productive relationships with employees, tenants, residents, visitors, stakeholders, public officials, and elected representatives while promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion.

5-YEAR OBJECTIVES:

- R) Seek opportunities to grow revenues and secure grants; continue to improve the quality, efficiency, and transparency of financial reporting, monitoring, and property management.
 - 3) Leasing/Property Management

BACKGROUND:

VPSS1 Inc. (Vincent Paul Specialty Services) is a gas pipeline construction contracting company. The company manages all facets of the process, from general inspection to pipeline maintenance and repair to complete replacement installations.

Staff is recommending a three-year lease with one two-year option.

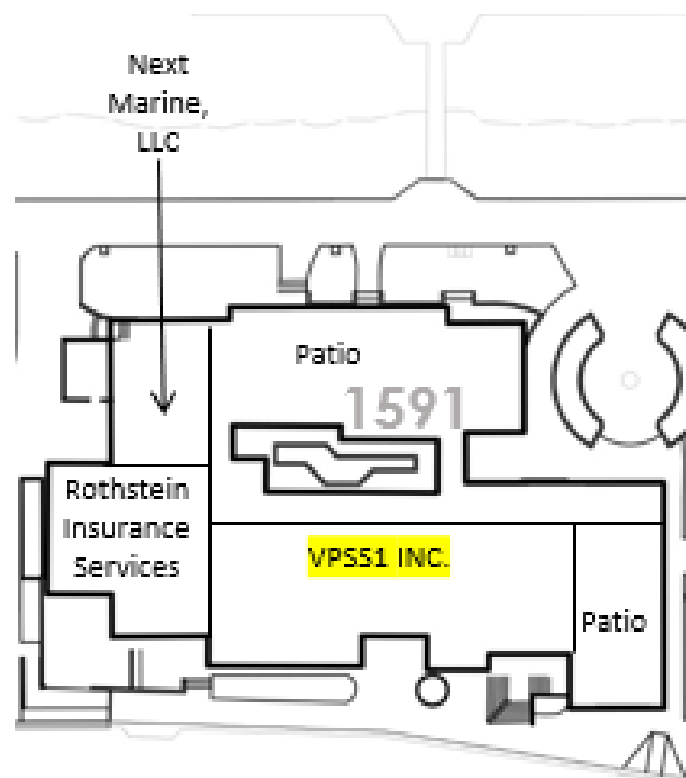
FISCAL IMPACT:

The proposed lease reflects current market rental rates for office space within Ventura Harbor Village. Base rent will be subject to annual step increases during the initial three-year term. The additional two-year extension option will include annual step increases tied to the Consumer Price Index. The suite will be delivered to the Tenant in vanilla-shell condition.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 – Location Map

Attachment 1 – Location Map – Previous Location





VENTURA
PORT DISTRICT
Established 1952

BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 21, 2026

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM C APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

**VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
BOARD COMMUNICATION**

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM C
Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager
Sarah Clancy, Administrative Services Manager
SUBJECT: Approval of Payments for September 2026

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Port Commissioners review and approve payments made by check, ACH, and EFT for the month of September 2026.

SUMMARY:

Attached for the Board's review is the payment register for September 2026.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- 3) Grow financial sustainability through a reliable, recurring revenue stream supplemented with grants and public-private partnership investment while maintaining responsible budgeting practices.
- 6) Provide exceptional public service and organizational transparency.

FIVE-YEAR OBJECTIVES:

- E) Encourage public and civic engagement; maintain high levels of organizational transparency; and promote Harbor-wide diversity, equity and inclusion through District policies, procedures, and programs.
 - 1) Collaborate with business partners and stakeholders through increased engagement, communication, and participation.

BACKGROUND:

The accounts payable payment registers for September 2026 can be found as Attachment 1. The register includes a brief description of the purpose for each check.

In attachment 2, staff have provided supplemental information for payment expenditures exceeding \$20,000 that are non-routine, to correspond with the District's check signing policy.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact outside of expenditures approved with the FY26-27 Annual Budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 – Accounts Payable Payment Registers – September 2026
Attachment 2 – Non-Routine Expenditures over \$20,000

ATTACHMENT 1

Payment Register

Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
707	SOUTHERN CALIF. EDISON	9/3/2026		
			-973.99	47851 Aug 26
			-596.40	63421 Aug 26
			-1,410.33	54067 Aug 26
			-348.46	88160 Aug 26
			-780.22	43532 Aug 26
			-62.09	26501 Aug 26
			-1,168.18	10253 Aug 26
			-98.06	10873 Aug 26
			-352.05	93625 Aug 26
			-430.80	33701 Aug 26
			-165.30	94121 Aug 26
			-736.74	75747 Aug 26
			-125.33	30433 Aug 26
			-15.80	25979 Aug 26
			-30.74	75440 Aug 26
			-18.18	96751 Aug 26
			-270.12	73704 Aug 26
			-644.63	61460 Aug 26
			-100.49	83037 Aug 26
			-21.40	04659 Aug 26
			-797.53	99957 Aug 26
			-9,377.90	94883 Aug 26
			-3,775.30	74392 Aug 26
			-4,057.70	81085 Aug 26
			-344.30	01707 Aug 26
			-1,023.07	23480 Aug 26
			-220.48	41163 Aug 26
Total 707			-27,945.59	
463	MAVCCO FUEL	9/3/2026		
			2,508.67	July Boat Fuel
			2,540.50	June Boat Fuel
Total 463			5,049.17	
464	ALSCO INC	9/9/2026		
			73.91	Laundrying of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels
			68.56	Laundrying of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels
			8.81	Laundrying of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels
			79.23	Laundrying of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels
			73.91	Laundrying of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels
			68.11	Laundrying of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels
			8.81	Laundrying of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels
			68.83	Laundrying of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels
Total 464			450.17	

ATTACHMENT 1

Payment Register

Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
465	ANDERSON CUSTOM BOATS LLC	9/9/2026		320.67 Boat Repair- Remove and replace broken hose
Total 465			320.67	
466	BRITTANY CRISS	9/9/2026		500.00 VHV - Social media Kit- Thursday Summer Promo advertising
Total 466			500.00	
467	CALIFORNIA J P I A	9/9/2026		1,809.00 FY 26-27 Pollution Liability Insurance
Total 467			1,809.00	
468	COASTAL COPY, INC	9/9/2026		97.59 Marina copier lease
Total 468			97.59	
469	CYBERCOPY INC.	9/9/2026		148.70 1559 building signage 54.95 Movie Night Advertising Posters 112.06 Yacht Rock printed advertising flyers 113.14 Yacht Rock advertising Banner 383.59 Large-Yacht Rock advertising Banner 106.67 VHV-Happy Hour advertising posters
Total 469			919.11	
470	DIAL SECURITY INC	9/9/2026		663.00 1691 NPS Alarm Monitoring Services 299.00 1431 NPS Security, Alarm and Fire Monitoring Services
Total 470			962.00	
471	E.J. HARRISON & SONS INC.	9/9/2026		1,090.66 Trash service 2,275.94 Trash service 6,875.28 Trash service 455.34 Trash service 337.73 Trash service 690.55 Trash service
Total 471			11,725.50	
472	FAST UNDERCAR	9/9/2026		190.59 Harbor Patrol - truck parts
Total 472			190.59	

ATTACHMENT 1

Payment Register

Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
473	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES LLC	9/9/2026		43.63 1691 Restroom repair 9.34 Island Packers restroom toilet repair 13.79 Service Charge-Late fee
Total 473			66.76	
474	HORN'S BACKFLOW & PLUMBING SERVICE, INC.	9/9/2026		2,735.00 Andria's Waste Line tracing for Fisheries
Total 474			2,735.00	
475	JANITEK CLEANING SOLUTIONS	9/9/2026		1,781.38 NPS 1431/1691 Janitorial services 239.87 Marketing Office janitorial services
Total 475			2,021.25	
476	LIEBERT CASSIDY WHITMORE	9/9/2026		2,725.00 HR Legal Services - Jul 26
Total 476			2,725.00	
477	MATILIJIA WATER	9/9/2026		70.52 Reverses Osmosis and Water Cooler
Total 477			70.52	
478	MCCORMIX CORP.	9/9/2026		88.40 Maintenance Vehicle Fuel 195.02 Maintenance Vehicle Fuel 234.95 Maintenance Vehicle Fuel
Total 478			518.37	
479	NOBLEGUARD SECURITY INC	9/9/2026		19,258.24 Village Security Services - Aug 26
Total 479			19,258.24	
480	PREMIER PROPERTY PRESERVATION LLC	9/9/2026		1,194.10 VHV Janitorial Services - Aug 26 1,990.17 VHV Janitorial Services - Aug 26 2,786.23 VHV Janitorial Services - Aug 26
Total 480			5,970.50	
481	SUNBELT RENTALS, INC.	9/9/2026		1,192.13 Harbor Patrol Lifeguard Vehicle Rental
Total 481			1,192.13	

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Payment Register

Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
482	SUNRISE MUSIC	9/9/2026		350.00 Live Performance Band 08/13/26
Total 482			350.00	
483	SUNRISE MUSIC	9/9/2026		1,750.00 Live Performance Band 09/03, 09/05 and 09/06
Total 483			1,750.00	
484	SUNRISE MUSIC	9/9/2026		1,050.00 Live Performance Band 09/10
Total 484			1,050.00	
485	TAYLOR M TESTA	9/9/2026		400.00 VHV photography & Video content creation - Aug 26
Total 485			400.00	
743	VENTURA WATER	9/8/2026		345.31 41641300 Aug 26 562.91 41644300 Aug 26 681.99 10003300 Aug 26 260.12 10010300 Aug 26 724.47 10011300 Aug 26 634.45 10012300 Aug 26 1,639.89 10013300 Aug 26 4,497.33 10014300 Aug 26 274.37 10015300 Aug 26 2,190.30 10016300 Aug 26 823.50 10017300 Aug 26 1,921.34 10018300 Aug 26 359.57 10019300 Aug 26 503.77 10020300 Aug 26 3,991.26 10021300 Aug 26 548.09 10022300 Aug 26 1,594.73 10024300 Aug 26 475.87 10071300 Aug 26 120.56 10081300 Aug 26 877.69 10082300 Aug 26 285.57 10083300 Aug 26 96.63 10104300 Aug 26 253.69 10108300 Aug 26 596.47 10109300 Aug 26 1,723.98 10111300 Aug 26 1,450.62 10110300 Aug 26
Total 743			27,434.48	

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Payment Register

Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
486	LAGERLOF LLP	9/14/2026		
			14,005.00	Legal Services - Jul 26
			840.00	Legal Services - Jul 26
			3,260.00	Legal Services - Jul 26
			1,035.00	Legal Services - Jul 26
			5,130.00	Legal Services - Jul 26
			777.23	Legal Services - Jul 26
Total 486			25,047.23	
487	LAZ KARP ASSOCIATES, LLC	9/14/2026		
			872.15	Parking management - monthly fixed fee- Jul 26 and additional event staffing
			19,237.92	Parking management - monthly fixed fee- Jul 26 and additional event staffing
Total 487			20,110.07	
488	LIEBERT CASSIDY WHITMORE	9/14/2026		
			4,750.00	HR Legal Services - Aug 26
Total 488			4,750.00	
489	THE SIGNAL	9/14/2026		
			500.00	VHV Destination Advertising Ads - Aug 26
Total 489			500.00	
490	TIMES MEDIA GROUP	9/14/2026		
			600.00	Eblast Digital Advertising Promo
Total 490			600.00	
648	P. E. R. S.	9/17/2026		
			-5,964.78	Employee Contributions - PR 050126
			-1,898.78	Employee Contributions - PR 050126
			-4,396.16	Employee Contributions - PR 050126
			-1,262.34	Employee Contributions - PR 050126
			-1,158.59	Employee Contributions - PR 050126
			-1,058.06	Employee Contributions - PR 050126
			-11,367.01	Employee Contributions - PR 050126
			-38.13	1959 Survivor Benefit
			-14.76	Service Credit
Total 648			-27,158.61	
374	RIVIERA CONSTRUCTION GROUP	9/17/2026		
			-142,431.44	1559 # 101B storefront -prior Coastal Marine Bio Lab location
			-22,460.29	1559 # 101 Draw 5
			-71,293.90	VPD administration office security renovations
			-47,064.90	Demolition of old maintenance shed
Total 374			-283,250.53	

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Payment Register

Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
492	ACCURATE FIRST AID SERVICES	9/21/2026		328.27 Replenish First Aid Stations
Total 492			328.27	
493	ALEJANDRA'S NURSERY	9/21/2026		1,176.12 VHV Planter Rehab plants
Total 493			1,176.12	
494	ALSCO INC	9/21/2026		73.91 Laundering of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels 68.11 Laundering of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels 8.81 Laundering of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels 68.82 Laundering of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels 73.91 Laundering of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels 68.14 Laundering of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels 8.81 Laundering of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels 69.26 Laundering of Uniforms, Rugs and Towels
Total 494			439.77	
495	CAL TERMITE & PEST CONTROL	9/21/2026		35.00 1575 Termite Inspection 350.00 VHV Pest Control Services
Total 495			385.00	
496	CARPI & CLAY	9/21/2026		5,000.00 Washington Lobbyist - Aug 26
Total 496			5,000.00	
497	COASTAL COPY, INC	9/21/2026		719.89 Administration/Marketing copier leases
Total 497			719.89	
498	E.J. HARRISON & SONS INC.	9/21/2026		93.00 Trash Service - Additional 40 Yard Roll Off
Total 498			93.00	
499	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES LLC	9/21/2026		29.88 1691 Restroom Plumbing Repair
Total 499			29.88	
500	GRAINGER INC.	9/21/2026		366.52 VPD Shop Light Bulbs
Total 500			366.52	

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Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
501	JANITEK CLEANING SOLUTIONS	9/21/2026		2,775.00 VHV Deep Clean Restrooms 51.28 1431/1691 NPS Janitorial Supplies
Total 501			2,826.28	
502	K & L GATES LLP	9/21/2026		10,517.50 Coastal Commission Permitting, Marina Lease - Jul 26 9,503.90 Coastal Commission Permitting, Marina Lease - Jul 26
Total 502			20,021.40	
503	MCCORMIX CORP.	9/21/2026		88.88 Maintenance Vehicle Fuel 250.98 Maintenance Vehicle Fuel 175.54 Maintenance Vehicle Fuel
Total 503			515.40	
504	PHOTO-SCAN OF LOS ANGELES	9/21/2026		5,369.00 Key Card and Camera Software and Licensing Upgrades 957.95 Monthly Key Card and Camera Monitoring
Total 504			6,326.95	
505	RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.	9/21/2026		299.50 Shoreline Grant Support - Jul 26
Total 505			299.50	
506	SANBELL	9/21/2026		82.50 General Engineering Services-Aug 26 240.00 Reconciliation of Civil Plans for Fisheries Project-Aug 26 663.75 Topo Survey - Fisheries Project - Aug 26
Total 506			986.25	
507	SUNRISE MUSIC	9/21/2026		950.00 Live Band Performances - 08/23, 08/27 and 08/30
Total 507			950.00	
508	SUNRISE MUSIC	9/21/2026		2,300.00 Live Band Performances 09/12, 09/13 and Chalk Art
Total 508			2,300.00	
509	SUNRISE MUSIC	9/21/2026		1,750.00 Live Band Performances 09/17, 09/19 and 09/20
Total 509			1,750.00	

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Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
510	THE SIGNAL	9/21/2026		500.00 Paid Advertising Chalk Fest and Movie Night 09/06 and 09/13
Total 510			500.00	
511	THE VISION EXPERIENCE	9/21/2026		750.00 Balance Due - Shrek Movie Night 09/19
Total 511			750.00	
512	TIME TO SHINE	9/21/2026		1,820.00 VHV Bi-Annual window Cleaning Services 3,082.50 VHV Monthly Window Cleaning Services - Aug 26 3,082.50 VHV Monthly Window Cleaning Services 1,212.00 VHV Window Screen Fabrication and Replacement
Total 512			9,197.00	
513	WHIZCOM MARKETING LLC	9/21/2026		300.00 Event Photography and Editing of Chalk Fest
Total 513			300.00	
514	YARDI SYSTEMS INC	9/21/2026		65.00 Yardi - ACH Transaction Fees - Jul 26 42.00 Yardi ACH Transaction Fees - Aug 26
Total 514			107.00	
745	SOUTHERN CALIF. EDISON	9/1/2026		973.99 47851 Aug 26 596.40 63421 Aug 26 1,410.33 54067 Aug 26 348.46 88160 Aug 26 780.22 43532 Aug 26 62.09 26501 Aug 26 1,168.18 10253 Aug 26 98.06 10873 Aug 26 352.05 93625 Aug 26 430.80 33701 Aug 26 165.30 94121 Aug 26 736.74 75747 Aug 26 125.33 30433 Aug 26 15.80 25979 Aug 26 30.74 75440 Aug 26 18.18 96751 Aug 26 270.12 73704 Aug 26 644.63 61460 Aug 26 100.49 83037 Aug 26 21.40 04659 Aug 26

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Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
			797.53	99957 Aug 26
			9,377.90	94883 Aug 26
			3,775.30	74392 Aug 26
			4,057.70	81085 Aug 26
			344.30	01707 Aug 26
			1,023.07	23480 Aug 26
			220.48	41163 Aug 26
			36.40	69707 Aug 26
Total 745			27,981.99	
751	NETCHEX	9/3/2026		
			128,493.46	PR 090426
			20,867.66	PR 090426
			4,897.19	PR 090426
			826.10	PR 090426
			8,404.85	PR 090426
Total 751			163,489.26	
752	LOOPNET	9/14/2026		
			1,200.00	VHV Leasing advertising - Sep 26
Total 752			1,200.00	
753	SEIU LOCAL 721	9/14/2026		
			309.88	Union Dues - Aug 26
Total 753			309.88	
754	CALPERS	9/15/2026		
			3,473.09	Employee 457 contribution PR 090426
Total 754			3,473.09	
755	MISSION SQUARE	9/15/2026		
			2,201.50	Employee 457 contribution PR 090426
			519.21	Employee 457 contribution PR 090426
Total 755			2,720.71	
756	SUN LIFE FINANCIAL	9/3/2026		
			1,282.29	Dental Premiums - Sep 26
Total 756			1,282.29	

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Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
757	STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY	9/3/2026		1,384.58 Life/AD&D/LTD Insurance Premiums - Sep 26 615.92 Life/AD&D/LTD Insurance Premiums - Sep 26 1,597.61 Life/AD&D/LTD Insurance Premiums - Sep 26 387.29 Life/AD&D/LTD Insurance Premiums - Sep 26 401.87 Life/AD&D/LTD Insurance Premiums - Sep 26 355.15 Life/AD&D/LTD Insurance Premiums - Sep 26
Total 757			4,742.42	
758	THE GAS COMPANY	9/9/2026		86.66 31506002 Sep 26 125.24 01506002 Sep 26 48.08 21506004 Sep 26 395.26 31506000 Sep 26 48.24 24007661 Sep 26
Total 758			703.48	
759	SWIFT CHIP, INC	9/9/2026		1,020.00 Server Backup - Sep 26 712.00 Microsoft Subscriptions Sep 26 11,309.53 IT Services - Sep 26
Total 759			13,041.53	
760	AT&T	9/8/2026		1,233.85 Administration-internet - Aug 26
Total 760			1,233.85	
761	AT&T	9/23/2026		151.20 Marketing Internet-Sep 26
Total 761			151.20	
762	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	9/14/2026		310.95 Amazon Charges -Aug 26 398.53 Amazon Charges -Aug 26 473.31 Amazon Charges -Aug 26 44.08 Amazon Charges -Aug 26 1,384.93 Amazon Charges -Aug 26 255.65 Amazon Charges -Aug 26 311.58 Amazon Charges -Aug 26 251.54 Amazon Charges -Aug 26 699.67 Amazon Charges -Aug 26 264.12 Amazon Charges -Aug 26 272.92 Amazon Charges -Aug 26 435.05 Amazon Charges -Aug 26
Total 762			5,102.33	

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Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
763	LOWE'S BUSINESS ACCTS/SYNCB	9/14/2026		134.33 Statement End Date 081726 858.42 Statement End Date 081726 260.93 Statement End Date 081726
Total 763			1,253.68	
764	WEX BANK	9/24/2026		1,173.81 VPD vehicle fuel 108.00 VPD vehicle fuel
Total 764			1,281.81	
765	WEX BANK	9/8/2026		1,115.83 VPD vehicle fuel 108.00 VPD vehicle fuel
Total 765			1,223.83	
766	CALPERS	9/23/2026		3,476.41 Employee 457 contribution PR 091826
Total 766			3,476.41	
767	MISSION SQUARE	9/23/2026		2,216.35 Employee 457 contribution PR 091826 519.21 Employee 457 contribution PR 091826
Total 767			2,735.56	
768	P. E. R. S.	9/4/2026		12,184.75 PR 080726 6,133.99 PR 080726 1,966.73 PR 080726 4,824.61 PR 080726 1,448.43 PR 080726 1,104.04 PR 080726 39.06 PR 080726 1,188.20 PR 080726
Total 768			28,889.81	
769	CALPERS HEALTH BENEFITS DIVISI	9/9/2026		38,132.28 Health premiums- Sep 26 1,458.00 Health premiums- Sep 26 37.00 Health premiums- Sep 26
Total 769			39,627.28	

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Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
770	NETCHEX	9/17/2026		
			124,540.70	PR 091826
			19,415.52	PR 091826
			4,761.23	PR 091826
			844.54	PR 091826
			7,691.79	PR 091826
Total 770			157,253.78	
771	P. E. R. S.	9/18/2026		
			12,049.81	PR 082126
			6,115.33	PR 082126
			1,966.73	PR 082126
			4,824.62	PR 082126
			1,448.43	PR 082126
			1,126.93	PR 082126
			1,063.50	PR 082126
			39.06	PR 082126
			14.76	PR 082126
Total 771			28,649.17	
772	NETCHEX	9/15/2026		
			853.84	Monthly PR processing fee-Sep 26
Total 772			853.84	
774	WELLS FARGO BUSINESS CREDIT	9/29/2026		
			110.44	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			19.99	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			96.96	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			200.85	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			480.25	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			2,730.67	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			1,494.00	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			516.07	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			583.38	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			135.02	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			121.18	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			1,375.00	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			147.40	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			178.63	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			70.00	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			32.04	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			25.00	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			177.93	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			20.00	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			6,165.93	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26

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Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
			470.20	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			2.99	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			115.00	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			25.00	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			1,058.17	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
			106.99	Wells Fargo Company Credit Card activity -Aug 26
Total 774			16,459.09	
61818	CHRISTOPHER LORD DESIGNS, INC.	9/2/2026		Balance Due-VHV Murals and Quote Lettering
			24,315.00	
Total 61818			24,315.00	
61650	C.M.A.N.C.	9/10/2026		
			-1,200.00	CMANC conference sponsorship
Total 61650			-1,200.00	
61819	3DIGIT MEDIA	9/14/2026		
			1,800.00	Destination Ad in 805 Living Magazine - Sep 26
Total 61819			1,800.00	
61820	ALEJANDRA'S NURSERY	9/14/2026		
			482.62	1591 Planter rehab
Total 61820			482.62	
61821	ALEXANDRIA DANIELSON	9/14/2026		
			1,743.75	Graphic Designs-Movie Night poster banners and Ads. Art and Chalk Ads.
Total 61821			1,743.75	
61822	ALL STAR EQUIPMENT INC.	9/14/2026		
			18,723.56	Deposit- Brophy's Drop-In Floor Cooler
Total 61822			18,723.56	
61823	ARAMSCO, INC	9/14/2026		
			1,546.95	Janitorial Supplies
			1,906.88	Janitorial Supplies
			1,703.88	Janitorial Supplies
Total 61823			5,157.71	
61824	C.M.A.N.C.	9/14/2026		
			1,200.00	CMANC conference sponsorship
			2,300.00	Annual membership dues
Total 61824			3,500.00	
61825	ENTERPRISE SECURITY INC.	9/14/2026		
			22,478.78	Progress Payment - Initial Mobilization and Engineering/Drafting 19A Security Cameras
Total 61825			22,478.78	

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Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
61826	FOSTER & FOSTER INC	9/14/2026		
			10,000.00	Annual CalPERS Valuation Preparation and Board Presentation
Total 61826			10,000.00	
61827	FOUREST TREE SERVICE, INC	9/14/2026		
			11,425.00	Launch Ramp Tree trimming
			2,700.00	Parcel 19A-Boat Storage tree trimming
Total 61827			14,125.00	
61828	GANNETT CALIFORNIA LOCALIQ	9/14/2026		
			901.28	VHV Digital Display Advertising for event promos
Total 61828			901.28	
61829	INDUSTRIAL BOLT AND SUPPLY	9/14/2026		
			256.45	1567 Wall Partition Hardware
Total 61829			256.45	
61830	JC SWEEPING	9/14/2026		
			810.00	Parking lot sweeping
Total 61830			810.00	
61831	JPL CONSTRUCTION INC	9/14/2026		
			26,932.00	30% Progress Payment Hoist #2 Boom Replacement Procurement and Fabrication
Total 61831			26,932.00	
61832	L & L ROOFING WATERPROOFING INC.	9/14/2026		
			48,700.00	Fish Pier Surface Repairs
Total 61832			48,700.00	
61833	LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT INC	9/14/2026		
			7,000.00	VHV entry planters, tree options and composite landscape drawings
Total 61833			7,000.00	
61834	LAZ KARP ASSOCIATES, LLC	9/14/2026		
			60.00	Reimbursement for citation check.Christine Chevalier_Ck 8770
Total 61834			60.00	
61835	MCM CONSTRUCTION, INC.	9/14/2026		
			144,565.35	1575 Exterior Wall Facade - Draw 5
			370,500.00	1575 Exterior Wall Facade - Draw 6
Total 61835			515,065.35	
61836	MCMMASTER-CARR	9/14/2026		
			89.14	1567 Wall Partition Hardware Brackets
			99.93	1567 Additional Wall Partition Hardware Brackets
Total 61836			189.07	

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Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
61837	MUZICRAFT INC.	9/14/2026		
			348.06	VHV Public Music
Total 61837			348.06	
61838	NOBLE CONSULTANTS INC.	9/14/2026		
			268.00	Floating Fish Pump Design - Jul 26
Total 61838			268.00	
61839	O'REILLY AUTO PARTS	9/14/2026		
			57.54	Repair to Riding Lawn Mower
Total 61839			57.54	
61840	PACIFIC MARINE REPAIR	9/14/2026		
			2,781.66	Repairs and Removal of Boat 19 Rudders, Propellers, Shafts and Starboard
Total 61840			2,781.66	
61841	RANDALL WILLIAMS ART	9/14/2026		
			350.00	VHV Chalk Artist
Total 61841			350.00	
61842	REC2TEC SCUBA INSTRUCTION	9/14/2026		
			4,000.00	Harbor Patrol- Open Water Scuba Diver Course
Total 61842			4,000.00	
61843	SAFE HARBOR VENTURA ISLE	9/14/2026		
			65.89	Diesel Fuel -Mobile Pressure Washer
Total 61843			65.89	
61844	SINCERE SOUND DESIGN LLC	9/14/2026		
			500.00	Live Band Performance - 08/29
Total 61844			500.00	
61845	SMITH PIPE & SUPPLY INC.	9/14/2026		
			95.18	1567 Planter Rehab Irrigation Supplies
Total 61845			95.18	
61846	SUNRIDGE LANDSCAPE MAINT., INC	9/14/2026		
			1,800.00	Monthly Contracted Mowing Service - Aug 26
			1,592.00	Additional Landscape Laborer - Aug 26
Total 61846			3,392.00	
61847	SUSAN BEJECKIAN PUBLIC RELATIONS	9/14/2026		
			1,800.00	Monthly Public Relations - Sep 26
Total 61847			1,800.00	

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Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
61848	THE DESIGN KOLLECTIVE	9/14/2026		
			1,575.00	Design Elements -Jul 26
Total 61848			1,575.00	
61849	VENTURA BREEZE	9/14/2026		
			585.00	Chalk Art Advertising
Total 61849			585.00	
61850	SANTA BARBARA MARINE SERIVCES INC	9/17/2026		
			65,720.27	Boat 19 -Deposit for Engine Replacement
Total 61850			65,720.27	
61834	LAZ KARP ASSOCIATES, LLC	9/17/2026		
			-60.00	Reimbursement for citation check.Christine Chevaler_Ck 8770
Total 61834			-60.00	
61851	LAZ KARP ASSOCIATES, LLC	9/17/2026		
			60.00	Reimbursement for citation check.Christine Chevaler_Ck 8770
Total 61851			60.00	
61852	ARAMSCO, INC	9/22/2026		
			111.64	Janitorial Supplies
			111.64	VPD Janitorial Supplies
			751.05	Janitorial Supplies
			1,583.45	Janitorial Supplies
Total 61852			2,557.78	
61853	CREATIVE COAST PRODUCTIONS	9/22/2026		
			100.00	Movie Night Staffing
Total 61853			100.00	
61854	DEPT. OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS	9/22/2026		
			225.00	1567 Elevator Inspection
Total 61854			225.00	
61855	GEOSYNTEC CONSULTANTS INC.	9/22/2026		
			3,864.25	Geotechnical Testing for Fisheries Project
Total 61855			3,864.25	
61856	GREEN THUMB INTERNATIONAL	9/22/2026		
			14.54	VHV landscaping supplies
Total 61856			14.54	

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Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
61857	HEALTH & HUMAN RESOURCE CENTER	9/22/2026		244.87 EAP Premiums - Jun 26 244.87 EAP Premiums - Aug 26 244.87 EAP Premiums - Sep 26 244.87 EAP Services - Jul 26
Total 61857			979.48	
61858	JAKE DAVID	9/22/2026		592.00 Filming and Editing -Yacht Rock Concerts and Movie Night
Total 61858			592.00	
61859	JC SWEEPING	9/22/2026		810.00 VHV Parking Lot Sweeping
Total 61859			810.00	
61860	LISA KELLY	9/22/2026		120.00 1559 VHV Mural Repair 1,800.00 VHV SCE Electrical Transformer Artistic Paintings 600.00 VHV 1559 SCE Electrical Transformer Artistic Paintings on Backside
Total 61860			2,520.00	
61861	MIKE'S PLUMBING	9/22/2026		924.79 Line Tracing for Fisheries
Total 61861			924.79	
61862	MOLO INC	9/22/2026		13,186.80 Annual Marina Software Subscription
Total 61862			13,186.80	
61863	RASMUSSEN & ASSOCIATES INC	9/22/2026		70.00 1559 # 101 Interior/Exterior Architectural Support-Aug 26
Total 61863			70.00	
61864	RED WING SHOE STORE	9/22/2026		259.80 Maintenance Department-Annual Safety shoes/boots
Total 61864			259.80	
61865	RING CENTRAL INC	9/22/2026		983.98 VPD Monthly Phone Service
Total 61865			983.98	
61866	SERVICE-PRO FIRE PROTECTION	9/22/2026		2,082.00 1591 Fire Sprinkler - Relocate FDC to Wall Panel
Total 61866			2,082.00	

ATTACHMENT 1

Payment Register

Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
61867	SMITH PIPE & SUPPLY INC.	9/22/2026		363.43 VHV Planter Rehab Irrigation Parts 56.09 VHV Irrigation Repair 86.63 Irrigation 168.92 VPD Landscaping Supplies and Repairs
Total 61867			675.07	
61868	THE ACORN NEWSPAPERS	9/22/2026		570.00 Movie Night Advertising - Issue Sep 12th
Total 61868			570.00	
61869	THE CITY OF VENTURA	9/22/2026		100.00 Trash Service
Total 61869			100.00	
61870	TOWNSEND PUBLIC AFFAIRS, INC.	9/22/2026		5,000.00 State Legislative Aide-Consulting and Grant Writing Services - Sep 26
Total 61870			5,000.00	
61871	VENTURA BREEZE	9/22/2026		585.00 Shrek Movie Night Advertising 09/16
Total 61871			585.00	
61872	VENTURA COUNTY REPORTER	9/22/2026		300.00 Digital Movie Night Advertising 09/15
Total 61872			300.00	
61873	VENTURA HARBOR STORAGE	9/22/2026		8,316.99 Fishermans Storage Rent-Sep 26
Total 61873			8,316.99	
61874	VENTURA WATER STORE	9/22/2026		62.50 Bottled Water Service 60.00 Bottled Water Service 50.00 Bottled Water Service
Total 61874			172.50	
61875	WILLIAM ANDERSON	9/22/2026		254.96 Reimbursement -Travel for CSDA 2026 Leadership Academy 09/13- 09/16
Total 61875			254.96	

ATTACHMENT 1

Payment Register

Period: From 09/01/2026 to 09/30/2026

Check/ACH/EFT#	Vendor	Check Date	Amount	Description
61876	RIVIERA CONSTRUCTION GROUP	9/22/2026		
			15,465.74	Final Billing - New Maintenance Shed
			3,421.46	Retention Billing- New Maintenance Shed
			16,872.06	1559 #101B- Galvanized Drip Pans for Blocking Condensation
			4,299.49	1603 Administration front office remodel - Draw 3
			10,396.34	1603 Administration front office remodel - Draw 2
Total 61876			50,455.09	
GRAND TOTAL			1,240,902.34	

ATTACHMENT 2
Non-Routine Expenditures over \$20,000.00 for September 2026

- Christopher Lord Designs, Inc was paid \$24,315.00 with Check number 61818 on 09/02/26 – VHV Murals and Lettering.
- Enterprise Security Inc was paid \$22,478.78 with Check number 61825 on 09/14/26 – Progress payment-initial mobilization and engineering/drafting for 19A Security cameras.
- JPL Construction Inc was paid \$26,932.00 with Check number 61831 on 09/14/26 – 30% progress payment for Hoist #2 boom replacement procurement and fabrication.
- MCM Construction, Inc was paid \$515,065.35 with Check number 61835 on 09/14/26 – Draws 5 & 6 for 1575 Exterior Wall Façade.
- Santa Barbara Marine Services, Inc was paid \$65,720.27 with Check number 61850 on 09/17/26 – Boat 19-Deposit for engine replacement.
- Riviera Construction Group was paid \$50,455.09 with Check number 61876 on 09/22/26 – Final and retention payment for new maintenance shed and Draw 2 & 3 for 1603 Anchors Way Drive Administration front office remodel



BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 21, 2026

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM D

AWARD OF BIDS FOR HARBOR PATROL
FIRE BOAT-1 FIRE PUMP ENGINE
REPOWER PROJECT PART 1 AND
PART 2

VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
BOARD COMMUNICATION

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM D
Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager
John Higgins, Harbor Patrol Chief/Harbormaster
SUBJECT: Award of Bid for Harbor Patrol Fire Boat-1 Fire Pump Engine Repower Project Part 1 and Part 2

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Port Commissioners:

- a) Award the Harbor Patrol Fireboat 1 Fire Pump Engine Repower Project Part 1 Contract to Anderson Custom Boats in the amount not to exceed \$110,000.
- b) Award the Harbor Patrol Fireboat 1 Fire Pump Engine Repower Project Part 2 Contract to Anderson Custom Boats in the amount not to exceed \$21,800.

SUMMARY:

The Ventura Harbor Patrol continues to provide critical rescue and public safety services with its fleet of vessels. Harbor Patrol Fire Boat-1, a custom-built 2014 Anderson vessel, is one of three boats currently in service and remains a vital asset for daily patrols and emergency response operations. Fire Boat 1 is the only Fire Boat in Ventura Harbor and one of two in Ventura County.

The District published a request for bids for Part 1 of the Harbor Patrol Fire Boat-1 repower project on September 25, 2026. Both hard and electronic copies of the bid were distributed to 4 local engine vendors. A public bid opening was held on Tuesday, October 13, 2026 and two bids were received. The lowest qualified bid was provided by Anderson Custom Boats. It was reviewed for errors and omissions. The bid was determined to be responsive and the bidder responsible leading to Staff's recommendation. Part #1 is covered under a California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways (DBAW) grant.

The District published a request for bids for Part 2 of the Harbor Patrol Fire Boat-1 repower project on October 2, 2026. Both hard and electronic copies of the bid were distributed to 4 local engine vendors. A public bid opening was held on Tuesday, October 13, 2026 and three bids were received. The lowest qualified bid was provided by Anderson Custom Boats. It was reviewed for errors and omissions. The bid was determined to be responsive and the bidder responsible leading to Staff's recommendation.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- 7) Provide high-quality Harbor and coastal visitor-serving amenities, services, facilities and infrastructure.

5-YEAR OBJECTIVES:

- V) Maintain and improve Harbor Village facilities, infrastructure, and amenities.

BACKGROUND:

Under the direction of the General Manager, the Harbor Patrol Chief/Harbormaster is tasked with keeping a response-ready Harbor Patrol and Fleet of Vessels.

Fire Boat-1 is the only vessel in the Harbor Patrol fleet powered by diesel engines.

In 2021, the Harbor Patrol Chief/Harbormaster applied for a Ventura County Air Pollution Control District Carl Moyer Program grant to replace the aging engines. Although the project was initially approved, a subsequent inspection by an Air Quality Specialist determined the engines did not qualify because they were not classified as commercial-use engines. An appeal was submitted

based on the Port District's status as a public agency and its efforts to achieve CARB compliance; however, the appeal was denied.

In 2022, the Tonga-Hunga tsunami destroyed one Harbor Patrol vessel and caused significant damage to another. With Fire Boat-1 serving as the primary operational vessel, engine replacement was deferred to maintain emergency response capabilities and meet operational priorities.

In 2025, the Harbor Patrol Chief/Harbormaster applied for a grant to replace the aging, non-compliant diesel engines. The Port District was awarded a \$110,000 California Division of Boating and Waterways Law Enforcement Equipment Grant. Grant funding is limited to law enforcement equipment and does not cover the fire pump engine. To complete the project, funding for the fire pump engine was allocated from the existing Harbor Patrol maintenance budget. Replacing all three engines will improve reliability and bring the vessel's entire propulsion and firefighting power package into Tier III CARB compliance.

Grant funding from the Division of Boating and Waterways will cover the purchase and installation of the two main propulsion engines (Part #1 of the project). As the grant will not cover the engine for the fire pump, the Port District will fund the new fire pump engine and its installation through the existing maintenance budget (Part #2 of the project). All necessary funding has been secured and carried forward into the current fiscal year budget.

If approved by the Board, the project will move forward immediately. The goal is to return Fire Boat-1 to service before the holiday season and ahead of the anticipated winter weather period.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The project bid amount for the DBAW grant funded propulsion motors (Part #1), was \$100,004.56, and Staff is recommending adding ~10% to account for additional scope and miscellaneous mounting expenses.

The project bid amount for the non-grant funded, non-propulsion fire suppression pump (Part #2) was \$19,603.00 and Staff is again recommending adding ~10% to account for additional scope and miscellaneous expenses.

The Capital Improvements Projects as part of FY26–27 fiscal year included \$220,000 for the engines for both boat B-19 (approved by the Board September 2, 2026) and the engines for FB-1, as recommended herein. The total anticipated cost for the previously approved work and both Part 1 and Part 2 of this contract fall within the \$220,000 budgeted amount.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.



BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 21, 2026

STANDARD AGENDA ITEM 1 RECEIVE AND FILE THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2026 PUBLIC WORKSHOP REPORT

VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
BOARD COMMUNICATION

STANDARD AGENDA ITEM 1
Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager
Todd Mitchell, Deputy General Manager
SUBJECT: Receive and File the September 26, 2026 Public Workshop Report

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Port Commissioners receive and file a report on the public workshop held on September 26, 2026.

SUMMARY:

The District held a Public Workshop on Saturday, September 26th that provided (1) an opportunity for residents, tenants and other harbor stakeholders to directly engage with board members and management staff, and (2) actively participate in the workshop topics including: Development Opportunities, Harbor Village Visitation, Harbor Recreation Priorities, Parcel 5 Cultural Arts Park, and Transportation.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

6) Provide exceptional public service and organizational transparency.

FIVE-YEAR OBJECTIVES:

- E) Encourage public and civic engagement; maintain high levels of organizational transparency; and promote Harbor-wide diversity, equity and inclusion through District policies, procedures and programs.
- 1) Collaborate with business partners and stakeholders through increased engagement, communication, and participation.
 - 3) Public and Civic Engagement Planning

BACKGROUND:

The District's 5-year Objectives adopted by the Board called for a Public Workshop in 2026. The format of the Public Workshop was interactive in nature. Each Commissioner served as a facilitator for one of the 5 topics and were paired with a member of management staff to serve as co-facilitator/scribe to record the feedback from their table participants for that topic. There was a series of prepared questions for each topic to prompt discussion and feedback. Commissioners were asked to give a summary of the feedback on the topic discussed at their table at the end of the Public Workshop.

Public Workshop attendees also participated in a survey where they were invited to place stickers representing their highest areas of importance on the various topic poster boards (5 votes per person). The information gained through the workshop will be considered by the District as it implements a variety of projects and programs and considers updates to its 5-year Objectives.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Ventura Marina Mobile Home Park graciously offered the use of the Community Room for free to the District. There was a nominal cost for workshop supplies and refreshments.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 – Public Workshop Summary of Stakeholder Comments/Discussion for Each Topic
Attachment 2 – Public Workshop Survey Results

VPD 2026 PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Table 1 Topic: Development Opportunities

Commissioner Anderson, Todd Mitchell, Justin Fleming

The development table was conducted in a roundtable format, with Commissioner Anderson beginning the conversation by asking several questions to stimulate the start:

- How do we help grow Harbor business and revenue generation?
- What are the highest and best uses for the harbor?
- What is the most important/promising development opportunity for the harbor?
- Is there a unique, different, new opportunity that you have seen implemented elsewhere that you want the Harbor to pursue?
- Which type of opportunities do you consider most worthwhile for the District to pursue?

...and then towards the end, additionally asking these (if not already discussed):

- Are there development opportunities that should not be pursued in our Harbor?
- Are we happy with the pace of improvements in the harbor?

Following are several common themes that developed that stakeholders expressed the District consider as regards to development in the future.

Note that several topics were more relevant to other tables and those stakeholders were encouraged to restate those interests when visiting those tables later that morning (e.g. related to marketing).

Master Tenant Development Opportunities

- **Hotels**
 - Several stakeholders brought up their interest in seeing additional hotels within the harbor.
 - Boutique, high-end, and/or unique hotels (e.g. “hip”) in particular seemed to be of interest. Extended stay hotels also suggested (week-long/month-long).
 - Could an Airstream park be developed on Parcel 8? (e.g. Waypoint Ventura – vintage trailer hotel between Vista Del Mar & Toppers/Transmission)
- **Visitor serving uses**
 - A few stakeholders expressed their desire to ensure that when master tenants perform developments that the visitor serving components (restaurants, retail, etc.) be fully developed.
- **Housing**
 - Most stakeholders expressed support for the possibility of housing at Marina West I, especially if it was not a net loss of parking and visitor serving uses were developed.
 - Inclusion of affordable housing element was seen positively.
 - Consider the traffic impacts of additional housing.

District Developments

- Trails/Transportation/Wayfinding
 - While transportation was the primary topic of another table, stakeholders engaged on this seeing it as an important part of development opportunities.
 - Stakeholders expressed the need for better connectivity across the entire harbor for walking and cycling (connecting Village to Harbor North in particular). The inclusion of wayfinding, including “you are here” maps, was considered very important.
 - The preference seemed to be for that connection via the water and there was discussion about how this could be self-sustainably done (e.g. more tour-like, fewer stops).
 - Suggestions included: electric water taxi, glass-bottom boat, gondolas
 - Connection via land-based trolley or carts discussed briefly.
 - Include cycling access into new developments (not just around the edges).
 - Elements that require coordination with the City:
 - Safe pedestrian crossing locations expressed, including better signaling and more crossing locations.
 - Trail connections on the west side of Spinnaker and/or to the wildlife settling ponds would be a benefit.
 - Safety improvements for cycling along City streets.
- Parking
 - Many stakeholders expressed the value in additional parking, in particular through the construction of one or more parking structures.
 - “Going vertical won’t affect the view.”
 - Some stakeholders requested the consideration of making paid parking at the Village seasonal (e.g. Memorial Day to end of September).
- Beachside Development
 - Are there opportunities for additional beach-side development?
- Parcel 5 Park
 - It was suggested that there be waterside access (public dock).
 - Incorporate a marine theme.
 - Ensure activities compliment the Village, rather than compete.

Commercial Fishing Developments

- Commercial fishing interests represented expressed a concern about the intensity of activity and how operations for all of the offloading activity will be successful. In particular, they expressed concerns regarding how to stage trucking to support the activity.
- Ocean Rainforest’s intended activity at the harbor was generally supported but not discussed at great length. It was suggested that they integrate into the local community & to maximize the portion of their economic activity within Ventura.
- Are there opportunities for additional aquaculture?

Other Developments

- “Boating First”
 - Some stakeholders suggested that developments consider the importance of all boating (commercial and recreational) as the driving priority since it is a fundamental element of a harbor.
 - Examples included ensuring a chandlery retailer, continued improvements to launch ramp & sailing infrastructure, addition of public ADA dock, kayak dock.
 - Develop a methodology to get more input from sailing stakeholders on development projects.
- Lean into the local fishing industry: “Pacific to Plate”
 - Stakeholders encouraged developments that would highlight fishing: “caught here, served here”, “ocean-to-table” and/or “Pacific-to-plate” opportunities. For example, expanding the Saturday fish market: making it more of an attraction and experience.
 - Could tie into more generally to farmers market, but consider a focus on the fish.
- Drive visitation
 - While no one development opportunity was tied to this, a general comment was suggested that new development opportunities consider if/how those developments can increase visitation to the harbor (e.g. squid-fest, lobster-fest, kite-fest).
- Eco-tourism
 - Some of the development opportunities discussed were thought could be combined to drive more eco-tourism opportunities (e.g. the addition of a trail and crossings to the west side of Spinnaker could add access to the wildlife ponds, a trailer park at Parcel 8 could partner with NPS to add interpretive elements, etc.)
- Leverage Johnson/101 Offramp
 - Take advantage off City’s development of the Johnson/101 offramp to capture more visitation.

Pace of Developments

- All stakeholders shared their feeling that the pace of development today seemed about right.
- Stakeholders did not seem interested in whole-sale redevelopment of the harbor. In fact, Stakeholders acknowledged and appreciated that by not “scraping and rebuilding from scratch”, it has preserved the character of the harbor and had the least impact to harbor businesses and stakeholders.
- Stakeholders expressed appreciation for the ability to maintain the pace of redevelopment that’s provided meaningful change.

Developments of Concern

- Data centers seemed to be the only development topic of concern expressed by more than one person.
- One stakeholder expressed concerns about additional housing within the harbor including concerns about additional traffic impacts.

VPD 2026 PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Table 2 Topic: Harbor Village Visitation

Commissioner Stephens, Jessica Snipas, Calli Brazeros

The visitation table was conducted in a roundtable format, with questions discussed in a blended manner. Hence, below we tried to organize and capture the responses under which question it applied to.

Note, several attendees stated that the VH Marketing Team should keep up the great work as they already do an amazing job with events.

What makes a visit memorable to VHV?

- Art events
- Face painting
- Family events/Kid activities
- Live music
- Instagram-able moments
- Beaches

What would enhance your stay at the Village and or help you to want to stay longer?

- Music
- Art campaigns
- Free parking Labor Day to end of winter
- Local incentives (good food and specials)

What types of onsite activities, programming, food offerings, services, retailers, and amenities would bring you back to the Village more regularly?

- Connectivity throughout harbor
 - Water taxi/Duck boat
 - Connect VHV to north harbor
 - Free docks to park kayak
- Festivals
 - Squid Festivals
 - Whale
 - Lobster
 - Kite Festival
 - Seafood
 - Sol
 - Use non-profits to market festival
 - Although not brought up at this event, Pirate Festivals are mentioned weekly by visitors
- Shuttle from downtown
- For boating community – guest slip availability counter on website
- Food offerings –
 - Italian, Asian, Toppers Pizza, coffee shop, deli, and high-end seafood
 - Affordable kid friendly food
 - Grab-and-go food

- Expansion of event campaigns/special events
- New aquaculture promotions/programming - How can Ocean Rainforest increase the visitation?
- Promoting
 - CINP (camping and hiking) promotions
 - free visitor center
 - Mother's Beach Promo
- Elevated fisherman's market
- Boat show
- Sport Events
- Music
- Picnic tables
- Regular kid activities
- Educational marine events/ Educational campaigns – squid and CI
- Squid promotions/programming
- Splash pad
- On-the-water experiences
- More tourism marketing south of Ventura County
- Wayfinding signage

What are some programming ideas for mid-week that could help or have helped to drive mid-week business and visitation?

- Discounts/specials
 - Boatyard has a surf & turf that is successful
 - Drink, food
 - Wet Wednesday
 - Specials for certain groups - safety officers, schools, etc.
- Market to the crowd who can come at that time (i.e. target marketing to 55+ and seasonal targeting)
- Farmers' Market
- Concerts (ie Rock the Dock)

What are two of the best ways to let you (or our customers) know about promotions, new businesses, and activities at the Village?

- Social media
- Inspirational ads
- Suggested itinerary
- Other promo suggestions
 - Advertise south or east of Ventura County
 - Movie theater ads
 - Mailings to Ventura Keys and the surrounding neighborhoods
 - Market Channel Islands Center is free more
 - Market CI unique offerings

VPD 2026 PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Table 3 Topic: Harbor Recreation Priorities

Vice-Chair Howell, John Higgins, Brendan Donohue

Spring Harbor Tenants & Lessee's Pre-Summer Coordination Meeting

Neglecting the boating safety

- Larger Boat Safety
- Turning basin

Electric Bicycles

- Ordinance 44 prohibits
- Dedicated Bike Lanes may be answer

Rental Craft Regulations

- Operational Execution
- Education/Safety
- Signage while waiting
- Rental Craft in Conflict with Commercial OPs

Look to improve safety of recreation users

Continuing to develop positive working relationships with City of Ventura

- Utilize Marina Park to Greater Degree

Volleyball Support

Develop Beach Side

- Fire pits
- Picnic tables

Improve messaging

- Blue light up sign at entrance on spinnaker is always something scary
- Increase distribution of newsletter; send to Village, Lessee's and Keys

ADA Human Paddle Craft exploration

- Investigate Whales Tail Grant

4th of July

- Fire Works show like at parade of lights
- Drone show

Recreational Opportunities for youth

- into to boating course
- Jr Guards
- Volleyball Good

Promote Athletic Events & Competition

- Triathlons, Running, Paddling, Etc.
- Attract Athletic Events/Competition - OC1, Outrigger, SUP, Surfing

Paid Parking - Negative?

- Explore suspending paid parking program Labor Day to Memorial Day

Attract Families - Focus on Children

- Beer Events
- Live Bands on Grass

Ventura Yacht Club Active

- Youth Sailing
- Weddings
- Single Paddles
- Trash Pick Up
- Boater Education Courses
- Encourage larger group paddling
- Weekend intro to Events
- Boating
- Fishing
- Paddling
- Sailing
- Diving

Design paddleboard dock near C Dock

- Remove locked gate at top of public access at Portside?

Attract Athletic Events/Competition - OC1 , Outrigger, SUP, Surfing

Package Weekend Tours/Events

Live Bait Necessary

Larger Boat Rentals - Mid Sized Rental (Low entry to boating). Not Freedom Boat Club which requires a membership.

Special Event Boats - Island Packers But Larger

Launch Ramp - Ensure Small Boats Protected

Fishing Derbies

Olympic Collaboration

Commercial Fishing & Fishing Lessons

Is this District prioritizing revenue over safety?

- Narrowing Channels
- Rental Craft - Provide additional education
- Commercial Fishing

VPD 2026 PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Table 4 Topic: Parcel 5 Cultural Arts Park

Chair Blumenberg, Jennifer Talt-Lundin, Christian Garcia

Public Workshop – Programming Discussion

Workshop participants discussed potential programming, amenities, events, and community uses for the proposed park/waterfront space. The discussion focused on creating a community-oriented destination that could accommodate a variety of recreational, educational, cultural, entertainment, and commercial activities.

Community Gathering and General Programming

Participants expressed a preference for a park that would serve as a gathering place and help bring the community together. Ideas included community markets and makers markets, expanded year-round concert programming, food/wine/spirits festivals involving local restaurants, and events scheduled during morning and mid-afternoon periods to encourage greater participation from the local community.

Participants discussed a combination of free and paid programming, including the possibility of bringing in larger-name musical acts for select paid events while continuing to provide free/accessible community programming.

Performing Arts, Music and Entertainment

Participants discussed opportunities for a variety of outdoor performances and entertainment, including:

- Concert and band series, including tribute bands and year-round or summer programming;
- Artist shows and cultural arts events;
- Open mic nights;
- Local dance performances, including community college, Irish dance, folklórico and other cultural groups;
- Amateur and community performance groups;
- Theater programming, including potential participation by Rubicon Theatre and local school districts;
- Young children's bands and performances;
- Silent disco events;
- Speaker series; and
- Potential waterfront concerts utilizing the docks and waterfront as focal points.

Participants also discussed establishing a consistent event calendar and creating infrastructure that would allow the park to accommodate different event configurations.

Family, Youth and Educational Programming

A significant portion of the discussion focused on creating child- and family-friendly programming. Suggestions included puppet shows, children's entertainment, magic shows, science demonstrations, educational and knowledge-based programs, group reading and story time, and recurring "Mommy and Me" or similar mid-week programming.

Participants discussed engaging local school districts, colleges, universities, and other educational partners. The National Park Service was also identified as a potential participant in educational or speaker programming.

Educational opportunities related to sailing, fishing, marine life, Harbor history, culture, and marine education were discussed. Participants identified seals, sea lions, squid and other marine species as potential subjects for educational programming or incorporation into a Harbor-themed playground.

Cultural and Community Programming

Participants expressed interest in expanding multicultural and community-oriented events. Potential concepts included Hispanic Heritage Month programming, folklórico dancing, Filipino cultural events, Japanese cultural events, Greek festivals, German/Okttoberfest programming, Hawaiian/Polynesian events.

Participants also discussed opportunities to recognize the area's history and First Peoples (Chumash culture) through interpretive or educational programs.

Food, Markets and Festivals

Participants discussed food-oriented events that could complement existing Ventura Harbor restaurants and businesses rather than compete with them. Ideas included food tasting events, food festivals, farmers markets, makers markets, pop-up food stands, beer, wine and spirits festivals.

A Saturday fish market was specifically discussed, including opportunities to incorporate educational programming for children.

Participants also suggested encouraging retailers to participate in events through pop-ups and other activities that complement existing Harbor Village businesses.

Waterfront and Harbor-Oriented Activities

Participants emphasized maintaining a connection between the park and the waterfront. Suggestions included a guest/visitor dock, potentially allowing visitors to paddle to events, waterfront concerts, boat shows, and programming that uses the docks as a focal point. Sailing and fishing-related educational programming and partnerships with yacht clubs, commercial fisheries, and marinas were also discussed.

Recreation and Wellness

Participants suggested wellness and recreational activities such as yoga, including sunrise yoga, and potentially wellness-focused festivals.

A Harbor-themed playground was discussed as a child-friendly amenity, including opportunities to incorporate marine animals and educational elements into the playground design.

Interpretive Features and Amenities

Participants discussed interpretive installations addressing Harbor history, local culture, and marine education. These features could provide educational opportunities independent of scheduled events and contribute to the park's identity.

Additional discussion included infrastructure and amenities needed to support programming, including accommodations for silent events, permitted alcohol-related events, and the potential ability to establish a temporary beer garden.

Event Timing and Activation

Participants discussed programming at different times of day, including early morning, mid-afternoon, sunset, and evening activities.

Potential concepts included sunrise yoga, sunset programming with happy-hour or dining tie-ins, family programming, and recurring calendar-based activities intended to activate the space throughout the week rather than primarily during large special events.

Safety and Event Operations

Safety and liability were identified as important considerations in the development of the park and its programming.

Participants discussed reviewing the overall safety of the park concept, establishing infrastructure capable of supporting different event configurations, and considering operational requirements associated with events involving alcohol, larger crowds, security for crowd control and access and waterfront activities.

Branding and Identity

Participants discussed the importance of establishing a recognizable identity for the park and determining what the space would be known for. One of the questions raised was whether VPD should consider new or alternative branding for the park that places greater emphasis on the harbor views, waterfront setting, and family-friendly experience, rather than positioning it primarily as a “Cultural Arts Park.”

The term “cultural arts” can suggest a particular level and type of ongoing, professional, and more elevated programming. The question was raised as to whether that perception aligns with the Village and harbor brand and the more casual, welcoming waterfront experience envisioned for the park.

The ideas discussed centered on creating a brand that feels more casual, accessible, and visitor-friendly, rather than one that may imply a more formal or specific programming model. The intent would be to establish a park identity that reflects the full visitor experience and does not set an expectation that the park will be focused exclusively on cultural arts programming.

Another question raised was: “Where are the cultural arts components reflected in the day-to-day experience of the park?” For example, if cultural arts are part of the park’s identity, will there be art installations, interpretive elements, signage, or other visible components incorporated throughout the park to reinforce that identity?

VPD 2026 PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Table 5 Topic: Transportation

Commissioner Rainey, Sarah Clancy, Sergio Gonzalez

1. Wayfinding/Signage
 - a. Connect North Harbor to VHV
 - b. More signage from freeways and streets\
 - i. Harbor Blvd, Los Olivas (esp after construction complete), 101 freeway on off ramps, etc
 - c. Promenade Signage all around Harbor (South to North)
 - i. People don't understand that it all connects
 - ii. People don't know there are other things to visit, like Portside or Kinship, etc
 - iii. People don't understand how far (or not) it is to walk.
 1. Actual walking path signage, like how far they've walked and/or how far more they have to go, etc.
2. Bike Transportation/Lanes
 - a. Connect Los Olivas class 1 bike lane all the way into the harbor
 - b. Connect Seaward/downtown beaches bike path to harbor
 - c. Improve bike lanes within harbor
 - i. People don't feel safe in bike lanes by hotels or on Spinnaker
 1. They will take sidewalk or boardwalk instead
 - d. Need more bike racks
3. Connecting North Harbor to VHV, esp during busy season/summer
 - a. Wayfinding/signage
 - b. Water taxi
 - c. Trolley
 - d. Golf cart shuttle
 - e. Pedi-cabs
4. Parking
 - a. Public have been taking up parking spaces at adjacent properties/parcels (think VYC, etc)
 - b. Better/more clear/dominant signage of parking lots, especially dolphin (free) lot
 - c. Public still thinking it's the 1st hour free, not stays under 1 hr
 - d. Eliminate Parking fees during school year or at the very least for winter, which is slow season, to encourage more visitation
5. Getting to the Harbor
 - a. People miss the downtown trolley
 - i. Maybe have it in the summer only
 - b. Better bike lanes as noted above
 - c. Public transportation on the weekends (esp w Los Olivas opening up)

ATTACHMENT 1

- d. More transportation from other cities, i.e Thousand Oaks, Santa Barbara, Santa Clarita, etc
- 6. Other
 - a. Commercial Fishing
 - i. Concerns around semitrucks using area as a rest stop, taking up spaces for trucks that actually need to load/unload
 - ii. Concerned about adding 3 more fisheries and the traffic/congestion it will have
 - iii. Love the traffic light getting added
 - 1. Esp bc it's been a concern for safety leaving the parking lot.
 - iv. Semis arrive before the fisheries are even open
 - v. Need a staging area
 - 1. Maybe we could suggest places since we can't add land
 - a. Harbor blvd, other?
 - b. Road conditions
 - i. Spinnaker
 - 1. We did discuss how the city is responsible
 - 2. We explained how GM has discussed with city for years
 - 3. Someone suggested picking a city budget session meeting date in Apr/May and request the public to show up and petition to city council to fix Spinnaker
 - a. Be the squeaky wheel
 - b. City Council will listen to public more than VPD
 - c. Events by other tenants (Master Tenants)
 - i. Coordinate with other MT (Like Vta Yacht, Portside, etc) and add their events in our newsletting to the public
 - ii. Coordinate more parking for their events

ATTACHMENT 2

Public Workshop Survey Results

Table Topic	Number of Votes
Table 1: Development Opportunities	25
Table 2: Harbor Village Visitation	7
Table 3: Harbor Recreation Priorities	13
Table 4: Parcel 5 Cultural Arts Park	24
Table 5: Transportation	30



BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 21, 2026

STANDARD AGENDA ITEM 2 REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE 50TH ANNUAL VENTURA HARBOR PARADE OF LIGHTS AND FIREWORKS – “THE GOLDEN ERA” – DECEMBER 18–19, 2026

**VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
BOARD COMMUNICATION**

STANDARD AGENDA ITEM 2
Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager
Jennifer Talt Lundin, Marketing Manager
Ruby Hedrick, Senior Events & Marketing Coordinator
SUBJECT: Request for Supplemental Funds for the 50th Annual Ventura Harbor Parade of
Lights and Fireworks – “The Golden Era” – December 18–19, 2026

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Port Commissioners approve an additional \$35,000 allocation to the FY 2026 - 2027 Events Production budget towards enhanced programming and services for the 50th Annual Ventura Harbor Parade of Lights and Fireworks – The Golden Era – on December 18 and 19, 2026, increasing the annual Events Production budget from \$80,000 to \$115,000.

SUMMARY:

On June 17, 2026, the Board of Port Commissioners approved the FY 2026/2027 Annual Visitation Budget which included \$80,000 for event production in Ventura Harbor and Ventura Harbor Village for event programming throughout the fiscal year.

During the June 3rd presentation of the Ventura Harbor Village Visitation Plan, staff indicated that additional resources for the 50th Annual Parade of Lights and Fireworks would be evaluated and brought back to the Board for consideration.

Staff are requesting \$35,000 in supplemental funding to support expanded regional marketing, transportation and traffic management, anniversary programming, community recognition, and enhanced fireworks. This investment is intended to accommodate anticipated attendance growth, increase community participation, support Harbor Village businesses, and elevate the visitor experience during this milestone celebration.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- 5) Build respectful, productive relationships with employees, tenants, residents, visitors, stakeholders, public officials, and elected representatives while promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- 6) Provide exceptional public service and organizational transparency.
- 7) Provide high-quality Harbor and coastal visitor-serving amenities, services, facilities and infrastructure.

OBJECTIVES:

- E) Encourage public and civic engagement, maintain high levels of organizational transparency, and promote Harbor – wide diversity, equity and inclusion through District policies, procedures, and programs.

BACKGROUND:

The Ventura Harbor Parade of Lights and Fireworks has been a cherished waterfront holiday tradition for five decades, bringing together boaters, residents, visitors, and businesses for two evenings of celebration. The District's approved \$80,000 Events Production budget supports more than 14 District-produced events annually, along with event insurance. Of this amount, \$28,500 (approximately 36%) was originally allocated to the 2026 Parade of Lights, leaving \$51,500 for other event programming and insurance throughout the year.

Historically costing approximately \$25,000 minimum to produce, the Parade of Lights includes two nights of fireworks, permitting and fire department services, entertainment, staffing, traffic control, shuttles, signage, and boater awards. Rising production costs, combined with anticipated attendance growth and the expanded scope of the 50th anniversary, have created additional funding needs beyond the original allocation.

On December 18 and 19, 2026, the Ventura Port District will celebrate the **50th Annual Ventura Harbor Parade of Lights and Fireworks**, featuring the theme *“The Golden Era.”* This historic milestone presents an exceptional opportunity to honor five decades of holiday tradition while elevating the event to new heights.

In recognition of this significant anniversary, the General Manager established the Golden Boat Crew, a collaborative committee of Harbor stakeholders, master tenants, marinas, City representatives, regional tourism organizations, State Parks representatives, and District staff. This committee envisioned to attract more than 50 participating boats across the two-night parade, increase regional attendance, encourage holiday visitation to Harbor Village businesses, and secure \$50,000 in combined cash and in-kind sponsorship support.

Historically, the Parade of Lights generates approximately \$17,000 in cash sponsorship revenue, plus in-kind contributions from internal harbor community partners, helping to offset annual event production expenses such as fireworks, permitting, entertainment, and boater awards.

For the 50th anniversary, the new 50-goal provides a fun narrative around the anniversary as the District has increased sponsorship levels, expanded benefits, and engaged Golden Boat Crew members in outreach beyond the Harbor. The \$50,000 sponsorship goal includes both cash and in-kind contributions. Cash sponsorships are recognized as revenue that helps offset the District's overall event production expenses, while in-kind contributions provide goods or services that may reduce direct costs. Sponsorship revenue does not increase the approved expenditure budget or directly fund additional programming, making the requested supplemental allocation necessary to support the proposed anniversary enhancements.

Achieving these objectives will require additional investment in marketing, transportation, event programming, entertainment, and traffic services. With the supplemental \$35,000 the District can ensure:

- 1. Amplified Regional Marketing and Advertising**

Increase the event's visibility through Highway 101 electronic signage, targeted digital campaigns, and regional advertising to attract new audiences, encourage advance planning, and promote holiday visitation to Ventura Harbor.

- 2. Expanded Transportation, Shuttle Services, and Traffic Management**

Expand internal Harbor shuttles, explore off-site parking and transportation options, and provide additional police and traffic services to improve visitor access and manage anticipated congestion during both event nights.

- 3. Community Engagement, Sponsor Recognition & Golden Touches**

Introduce special “Golden Era” experiences honoring the parade's history while recognizing the sponsors, volunteers, boaters, and community partners who have contributed to its success.

- 4. Extended 50th Anniversary Fireworks Finale**

Expand the nightly fireworks displays with a larger finale celebrating the 50th anniversary and creating a memorable experience for boaters and spectators.

5. Broadened Traffic Safety

With the anticipated attendance growth, ensure safe and efficient departures on both evenings.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Approval of the requested \$35,000 supplemental allocation would increase the FY 2026–2027 Events Production budget from \$80,000 to \$115,000, with approximately \$63,500 designated for the 50th Annual Parade of Lights and Fireworks, including the original \$28,500 allocation. Sponsorship revenue will help offset the District's overall event production expenses but will not increase authorized expenditure. The supplemental funding request is independent of sponsorship results. Without supplemental funding, the District would prioritize the core Parade of Lights and Fireworks program within existing resources, requiring reductions or elimination of certain anniversary enhancements, including expanded advertising, transportation options, enhanced fireworks, and special recognition activities.

Necessary traffic and public safety services would remain subject to operational requirements. Final expenditures will be based on vendor estimates, operational requirements, transportation arrangements, and event planning needs, subject to applicable District budgetary and procurement procedures.

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment 1 – Supplemental Funding Specifics

Attachment 2 – Parade of Lights Design & Golden Boat Crew Community Committee

PARADE OF LIGHTS - *Supplemental Funds*

50th Annual Ventura Harbor Parade of Lights and Fireworks – "The Golden Era" – December 18–19, 2026



AMPLIFIED ADVERTISING *& Regional Marketing*

Expand regional advertising through the Highway 101 Auto Center electronic sign in November and December, supported by targeted digital campaigns throughout Ventura and Los Angeles counties. These efforts will increase awareness of the 50th anniversary, reach new audiences, encourage advance visitation planning, and strengthen Ventura Harbor's visibility as a premier holiday destination.



EXPANDED TRANSPORTATION, SHUTTLE SERVICES *& Parking Management*

Anticipated attendance growth will increase demand on Harbor parking facilities and surrounding roadways. Supplemental funding would support shuttle services within the Harbor on both event nights and the exploration of off-site parking with shuttle transportation on Saturday evening. These measures would expand visitor access, maximize available parking, improve traffic circulation, and help accommodate larger crowds.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, SPONSOR RECOGNITION *& Golden Touches*

Special anniversary programming will celebrate the parade's 50-year legacy while creating new opportunities for community participation and local business engagement. Proposed Village-wide activities, including a "Find the Golden Ticket" promotion and holiday cocktail/mocktail crawl, would encourage earlier arrivals, support participating businesses, and extend visitor engagement throughout Ventura Harbor Village. Additional enhancements include increased boater prize funding and the return of two beloved award categories not featured in more than a decade. A Friday evening VIP reception will recognize premier-level sponsors and community partners whose contributions help make the event possible.



EXTENDED 50TH ANNIVERSARY FIREWORKS *Finale*

The fireworks finale remains one of the Parade of Lights' most anticipated traditions. To commemorate this milestone anniversary, supplemental funding would support a more dynamic and visually spectacular presentation, featuring greater height, visibility, and layered effects across Ventura Harbor and Ventura Harbor Village. This enhanced finale would provide a memorable tribute to 50 years of holiday tradition and create a signature experience worthy of the anniversary celebration.



BROADENED TRAFFIC *Safety*

Anticipated attendance growth will require additional traffic management to support safe and efficient departures on both evenings. Supplemental funding would provide expanded police services focused on traffic circulation and vehicle egress onto Harbor Boulevard, helping reduce congestion, improve public safety, and ensure a more orderly departure experience for visitors.

VENTURA HARBOR



Parade of Lights

& FIREWORKS

— THE GOLDEN ERA —

A FLOAT THROUGH THE DECADES



THE GOLDEN BOAT CREW - *Community Committee*

Golden Boat Crew In recognition of this significant anniversary, the General Manager recommended the development of a planning team aptly named "The Golden Boat Crew" which is comprised of Harbor **stakeholders, master tenants, marinas, city leaders, local and county-wide tourism organizations, state park representatives, and VPD team members.** The District also intends to recognize community volunteers and Harbor partners who have contributed to the event's planning through the Golden Boat Planning Crew, meeting regularly to **develop ideas, generate awareness, increase sponsorship, and encourage greater boater participation** in this landmark celebration.





BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 21, 2026

STANDARD AGENDA ITEM 3 ELECTION OF A VENTURA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION REGULAR MEMBER AND ALTERNATE MEMBER REPRESENTING SPECIAL DISTRICTS

VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
BOARD COMMUNICATION

STANDARD AGENDA ITEM 3
Meeting Date: October 21, 2026

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: Brian D. Pendleton, General Manager
Jessica Rauch, Clerk of the Board
SUBJECT: Election of a Ventura Local Agency Formation Regular Member and Alternate
Member Representing Special Districts

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Port Commissioners elect a candidate to fill the four-year term of the Special District regular member and Special District alternate member for the Ventura LAFCo Commission.

SUMMARY:

A LAFCo special district regular member and alternate member's term will be expiring December 31, 2026. As such, an appointment must be made for two new Commissioners for a subsequent four-year term. There are currently two candidates for regular special district member and four candidates for alternate special district member.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE:

5) Build respectful, productive relationships with employees, tenants, residents, visitors, stakeholders, public officials, and elected representatives while promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion.

FIVE-YEAR OBJECTIVE:

E) Encourage public and civic engagement; maintain high levels of organizational transparency; and promote Harbor-wide diversity, equity and inclusion through District policies, procedures and programs.

2) Collaborate with City, regional, state and federal agency officials in pursuit of mutually beneficial projects, programs.

BACKGROUND:

From city limits to cemetery districts, Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCos) are independent, quasi-legislative agencies created in 1963 by the California Legislature to control the boundaries of cities and most special districts. In carrying out this function LAFCos are charged with encouraging the orderly formation and expansion of cities and most special districts, preserving agricultural land resources and discouraging urban sprawl.

Each county in California has a LAFCo. LAFCos are independent agencies that are not part of county government and are not under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors. All LAFCos include at least five Commissioners from cities, the county and the public. Many LAFCos, like the Ventura LAFCo, have representatives from special districts as well, although special district membership is optional.

A LAFCo's diversity brings the views, perspectives and experience of various local agencies and the public into the decision-making process. Although members represent constituent groups, each LAFCo Commissioner is independent when weighing and reviewing information and when making determinations.

LAFcos are generally small in size with a limited number of staff. Each LAFCo has an appointed Executive Officer and Legal Counsel who perform essential duties. A Commission Clerk generally assists the Executive Officer with office management and important proposal processing and public hearing functions.

The Ventura LAFCo generally meets monthly on the third Wednesday of the month with August and December dark. Meetings start at 9:00AM at the Ventura County Government Center Board of Supervisors Hearing Room.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 – Official Ballot – 2026

Attachment 2 – Candidate Statements



OFFICIAL BALLOT - 2026

INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICTS SELECTION COMMITTEE
Regular Special District Member and
Alternate Special District Member to the Ventura LAFCo

Ventura Port District

This is the Official Ballot for the Independent Special Districts Selection Committee for the purpose of electing the following positions to the Ventura LAFCo:

1. One special district regular member for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2027, and ending December 31, 2030; and
2. One special district alternate member for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2027, and ending December 31, 2030.

The election consists of two candidates for the special district regular member and four candidates for the special district alternate member (listed below in alphabetical order). Please vote for only one candidate for each position. A minimum of 15 qualified votes must be returned by the deadline to establish a quorum of the independent special districts. The candidate for each position receiving the most votes of the quorum shall be elected. In the event of a tie vote, the outcome will be determined by lot.

Please return this signed ballot to the Ventura LAFCo, 801 S. Victoria Avenue, Suite 301, Ventura, CA 93003, or if previous consent has been given to conduct elections via e-mail, send your signed ballot to kai.luoma@venturacounty.gov. All ballots **MUST** be signed and dated by the district president/chair or presiding officer of the board and received by LAFCo by 5:00 p.m. **Friday, December 4, 2026**, to be counted.

As the District President, Chair or Presiding Officer, I duly certify that the Ventura Port District does hereby cast its ballot as follows:

Regular Special District Member (vote for one)

- ☐ Raul Avila – Calleguas Municipal Water District
- ☐ Maisha Cole Perri – Blanchard/Santa Paula Library District

Alternate Special District Member (vote for one)

- ☐ Mohammed A. Hasan – United Water Conservation District
- ☐ Cris Loughridge – Camarillo Healthcare District
- ☐ Andrew Nelson – Camrosa Water District
- ☐ Doug Nickles – Conejo Recreation and Park District

Board President/Chair/Presiding Officer (print name)

Board President/Chair/Presiding Officer (Signature)

Date: _____



RAUL AVILA

Nomination: Special District Member of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) 1/1/2027-12/31/2030 Term

Six years as a water district board member, representing Division 1, which encompasses the City of Simi Valley.

PROFILE

Director Avila is a Navy Veteran and currently works as a civilian in the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Port Hueneme Division.

His experience includes managing the inspection and testing of components necessary for Naval reconnaissance and combat systems.

CONTACT

PHONE:
818-798-8745

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ravila@calleguas.com



LAFCO

- Regular Special District Member 1/1/2023-12/31/2026 Term

CALLEGUAS BOARD OFFICER ROLES

- First elected, 2020
- Board President, 1/8/25-Current
- Secretary, 1/6/21 to 1/8/25

CALLEGUAS COMMITTEES

- Chair, Public Engagement, Communication, & Legislative Affairs
- Alternate Member, Development of Water Supply, Storage, & Partnerships
- Member, Employee Housing Ad Hoc

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- Chair, Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Local Government Committee
- Board Member, ACWA
- Vice Chair, Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce-Legislative Advocacy
- Past Chair, Calleguas-Las Virgenes Public Financing Authority

Candidate Statement – Maisha Cole Perri

I am proud to serve as President of the Blanchard Community Library for the second year in a row. I am seeking the opportunity to serve as a regular independent special district representative on the Ventura Local Agency Formation Commission.

Special districts are where government meets real life. We deliver essential services, steward public trust, and respond directly to the needs of our communities. I am seeking this position because I believe LAFCo plays an important role in ensuring that local government is thoughtfully organized, responsive to community needs, and sustainable over the long term.

In my role as Board President, I have led strategic planning efforts, supported community-driven initiatives, and prioritized transparency and accountability. I understand firsthand the challenges districts face, from funding constraints to growing service demands, and I bring a practical, solutions-oriented approach to governance.

My background in entertainment, non-profit leadership and entrepreneurship has trained me to manage complexity, align stakeholders, and deliver results under pressure. I approach leadership with clarity, organization, and a strong sense of responsibility to the communities we serve.

I am particularly passionate about responsible local governance, ensuring equitable access to essential services, and helping communities and special districts remain resilient and forward-thinking in a rapidly changing environment.

I am fully prepared to meet the commitments of LAFCo service and to actively contribute to its work on behalf of Ventura County's communities and independent special districts.

I would be honored to earn your support and to serve as a strong, thoughtful voice for independent special districts and the communities they serve.

Candidate for re-election, Ventura LAFCo commissioner, Alt.

Mohammed A. Hasan,

dual MS, P.E., Fellow ASCE, Fellow APWA, BC.WRE

Qualifications

- Owner, civil and environmental engineering/planning firm in Ventura since 1984
- Graduate degrees, Univ. of Iowa; City of Oxnard utilities head in the 80's
- Elected board member, United Water Conservation District since 2020
- President of non-profit organization, El Concilio Family Services
- Professional engineer, surveyor, adjunct professor/instructor, CA community colleges, author of water book *Drought is not a four-letter word*
- Cofounder of OceanForesters which provides help on coastal resilience
- Community leader in business, environment, and youth development for decades
- Paul Harris Fellow, Rotary International
- Served as President/Board member of various professional, charitable and community organizations throughout southern California since the 80's
- Recognitions: US congress, CA assembly and senate, Cities and Ventura County

Experience

- Collaborated with Ventura LAFCo executive officers on governmental matters, the environment, and regional planning since 1979
- Decades of experience building consensus across jurisdictions
- Participated and contributed to all Ventura LAFCo commission meetings since 2022
- Used my extensive knowledge of water and wastewater to help LAFCo on MSR's
- Familiarity with LAFCo law, policies, rules and regulations; and of CALAFCO
- Experience in working with neighboring county governments
- Experience of working as a private consultant in land use matters with cities, county, and special districts

Personal

- 52 years resident of Ventura County; Married, two adult daughters
- Offer free community classes in leadership, longevity, conversational Spanish and financial freedom; Fluent in six languages

Your vote and support will allow me to serve another four years to contribute my knowledge and experience to promote **smart, sustainable** and **equitable** growth in all of Ventura County. Thanks!

Cris Loughridge

I am excited to have been nominated for an alternate position on the Ventura County Local Agency Formation Commission. My passion for public service comes from a deep belief that strong local governance and thoughtful stewardship of resources help communities thrive.

I currently serve on the Board of Directors for the Camarillo Health Care District and on its Finance Committee, where I help oversee the responsible use of public resources and support decisions that serve our community's long-term needs. As a longtime health advocate with a background in Human Resources and Business Management, I bring practical leadership, financial perspective, and a collaborative approach to problem-solving.

In my current work as a 21|64 Certified Advisor, I help business-owning families navigate financial, governance, and legacy planning conversations, building alignment and cohesion across generations. This experience has strengthened my ability to listen carefully, balance diverse perspectives, and make thoughtful decisions that support sustainable outcomes.

Through California Special Districts Association training and executive coursework at Harvard and Wharton, I have further developed my understanding of governance, finance, and strategic leadership. I would be honored to bring my experience, curiosity, and commitment to service to LAFCo on behalf of the residents of Ventura County.

Thank you for your consideration,

Cris Loughridge

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Cris Loughridge', written in a cursive style.

Candidate Statement

Andrew Nelson

Candidate for Independent Special District Alternate Member

Ventura Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo)



I am honored to be considered for appointment as an Independent Special District Alternate Member of the Ventura Local Agency Formation Commission for the 2027–2030 term.

I have served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Camrosa Water District and Arroyo Santa Rosa Valley Basin GSA since 2022, representing Division 1. During my tenure, I have gained a strong understanding of the responsibilities of independent special districts and the important role they play in providing essential public services throughout Ventura County.

My experience includes a 40-year career in public health service, founding and leading regional and national public health and medical research associations, and served as the lead, co-lead or contributing investigator on scores of public health research / education projects and publications. Recent experience includes service as past Vice President of Camrosa Water District, current Vice President of the Ventura County Special Districts Association, past Board member of the Ventura Regional Sanitation District and multiple governance roles related strategic planning, finance and utilities for Leisure Village, a large homeowners association in Camarillo.

I believe effective LAFCo governance requires a careful balance between local control, responsible growth, efficient delivery of public services, fiscal sustainability, and the long-term interests of Ventura County communities. Independent special districts bring important expertise and a unique perspective to these decisions because they are directly responsible for planning, financing, maintaining, and delivering many of the services upon which our communities depend.

If selected, I would bring an objective, collaborative, and informed leadership approach to the Commission. I would work to understand the perspectives of affected agencies and communities, evaluate proposals based on sound information and long-term consequences, and support decisions that promote efficient and sustainable public services while respecting the appropriate role of local government. Ventura County is entering a new era requiring a more proactive partnership approach as the demands of infrastructure will require all to lean in.

I would be particularly interested in contributing my experience in deepening the collaborative convening functions of LAFCo as well as my perspective as a locally elected special district representative. I believe lifetime of leadership experience in public health would allow me to make a constructive contribution to LAFCo and to represent the interests and responsibilities of Ventura County's independent special districts.

I respectfully ask for the support of my fellow independent special district representatives and would be honored to serve as the Alternate Special District Member on Ventura LAFCo.



Doug Nickles is a Board member of the Conejo Recreation and Park District in Thousand Oaks. He has been on the Board since 2018 (served as Chair twice) along with the Board for the Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency (JPA between the Park District and the City of Thousand Oaks). In addition, he has been a Board member of the California Association of Recreation and Park Districts since 2020, an organization representing special recreation and park districts throughout California.

Doug's affiliation with the Ventura County Special Districts Association prompted him to get more involved in a broader regional and statewide level. As a Board member for the California Association of Recreation and Park Districts (previously served as President; currently Secretary), he has worked alongside the California Special Districts Association on legislative matters. He is actively monitoring statewide legislation affecting Special Districts on the Association's Legislative Committee and has testified at a state legislative committee hearing (in support of Senator Henry Stern). He also participated in the State Water Project and Colorado River Aqueduct tours offered by the Municipal Water District courtesy of the Calleguas Municipal Water

District to learn more about the region's water delivery system.

With over 30 years of experience working for local municipal government (including land use planning and development entitlements), and six years' experience as a Planning Commissioner for the City of Thousand Oaks, Doug has a good working knowledge of the challenges faced by local governmental agencies including Special Districts. He retired from the City of Glendale Fire Department, as the Assistant Fire Marshal, where he managed all activities of the Fire Prevention Bureau.

Doug is interested in LAFCo because he cares deeply about the effective delivery of public services and making Ventura County the best place to live, work and visit. With his education, professional training and experience, he is attuned to the issues facing the County, local governmental agencies and their residents and is adept at anticipating challenges in order to resolve them efficiently and successfully.

For 42 years Doug has lived in Ventura County with his wife and family; his two adult children and six grandchildren also reside in the County. He enjoys spending time with his family, which includes supporting youth sports and hiking the local trails. He has a vested interest in the successful future of Ventura County.

Related Professional Experience

- City of Glendale Fire Department, Fire Prevention Bureau
- City of Thousand Oaks, Planning Department

Education

- M.B.A. Business Administration, California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, CA
- B.S. Forestry, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA

Professional Activity

- Director/Board Member, Conejo Recreation and Park District (2018-present)
- Director/Board Member, Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency (2019-present)
- Director/Board Member, California Association of Recreation and Park Districts (2020-present)
- Director/Board Member, Community Action of Ventura County (2023-2025)
- Member, Ventura County Parks Advisory Commission (2025–present)
- Planning Commissioner, City of Thousand Oaks (2013-2018)