

LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT



RONNIE R. VILLANUEVA
INTERIM FIRE CHIEF

September 22, 2025

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FILE NO. 25-053

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM:  Ronnie R. Villanueva, Interim Fire Chief

SUBJECT: BUDGET PROCESS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-27

FINAL ACTION:	☐ Approved	☐ Approved w/Corrections	☐ Withdrawn
	☐ Denied	☐ Received & Filed	☐ Other

SUMMARY

At the meeting of September 8, 2025, the Board of Fire Commissioners requested a report back on the Fire Department's budget process. The Department's budget process begins early in the fiscal year due to the complexity of the Fire Budget, the need to gather data on budget requests to allow prioritization by the Fire Chief's office, and presentation to the Fire Commission over two meetings for concept approval and final approval of the Proposed Budget.

Attached to this report is a tentative calendar for the FY 2026-27 budget process outlining internal coordination toward the development of the Department's budget priorities which begins over the summer, presentation of preliminary and final proposed budget requests to the Commission, and the Mayor's submission of the Proposed Budget for Council consideration. Pending a release of the Mayor's Budget Policy Letter which is typically released in late September of each year, the Department is anticipating that budget submissions will be due to the Mayor on November 21, 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board receive and file this report.

Board report prepared by Sandra Ocon, Chief Management Analyst, Administrative Services Bureau.

Attachment

Los Angeles Fire Department

FY 2026-27 City Budget Process Summary

August 2025:	Ongoing communication with LAFD management and budget leads on priorities and direction for the FY 2026-27 Proposed Budget.
September 2025:	<i>Mayor's Budget Policy Letter</i> to be released. <i>Priorities Example for FY 2025-26:</i> • <i>Confront the Homelessness & Housing Crisis</i> • <i>Keep Angelenos Safe</i> • <i>Invest in City Services</i> • <i>Build a Greener Los Angeles</i> • <i>Create Opportunities</i> <i>Final Budget Submission</i> – Due November 21, 2025 (pending confirmation). Proposed Budget transmitted to Mayor's Office and CAO for review.
October 21, 2025:	Tentative Report Date to BFOC on LAFD Proposed Budget for estimated cost and <i>Preliminary</i> Proposed Budget.
November 18, 2025:	LAFD Final Proposed Budget to BFOC.
April 20, 2026:	Last day for the Mayor to submit Proposed Budget (Charter Section 312)
April 2026:	Budget, Finance & Innovation Committee Chair issues Letter to Department Heads with a schedule and instructions for Council consideration of the Proposed Budget. • Invites Department Heads to comment. • In that process, advocacy groups also submit public comment to City Clerk which becomes part of the Council File record.
April – May 2026:	• Budget & Finance Committee special meetings with Departments. • CLA preparation of B&F Committee report on proposed modifications to the Mayor's Proposed Budget.
Late May 2026:	Council hearing(s) for adoption of Budget Resolution.
July 1, 2026:	Adopted Budget Implementation.