



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	25-555	Version:	1	Name:	Potential November 2026 Revenue Measure Considerations
Type:	Staff Report	Status:		Agenda Ready:	Agenda Ready
		In control:		City Council:	City Council
On agenda:	12/1/2025	Final action:			
Enactment date:		Enactment #:			
Title:	Adopt a Motion Directing Staff to Either: A) Continue to Explore Potential Revenue Measures That Could Appear on the November 2026 Ballot including a Consulting Services Agreement With Clifford Moss for Outreach and Survey Work to Consider Feasibility; or B) to Cease All Efforts Associated With Placing a Revenue Measure on the November 2026 Ballot				

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. A - Preliminary General Fund Unaudited Year End Result, 2. B - Presentation

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
12/1/2025	1	City Council		

Adopt a Motion Directing Staff to Either: A) Continue to Explore Potential Revenue Measures That Could Appear on the November 2026 Ballot including a Consulting Services Agreement With Clifford Moss for Outreach and Survey Work to Consider Feasibility; or B) to Cease All Efforts Associated With Placing a Revenue Measure on the November 2026 Ballot

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This report provides information on a potential survey and to study community support and feasibility of potential revenue measures on the November 3, 2026 ballot. Staff recommend Council decide whether to direct staff to proceed in the effort to explore potential revenue measures that could appear on the November 2026 ballot including a consulting services agreement with Clifford Moss for outreach and survey work to consider feasibility, or to cease staff efforts and the use of additional resources.

BACKGROUND

At the February 1, 2025 Special Meeting and Annual City Council Planning Session, there was support from the Council to explore a potential City sponsored revenue measure to assist in creating a sustainable fiscal future for the City and potentially fund vital infrastructure projects.

During the FY 2026-2027 Biennial Budget process a proposal was made by staff to the City Council to appropriate approximately \$500,000 in the General Fund to support expenditures related to engaging consultants to conduct feasibility survey(s), and outreach and research work surrounding the viability of placing potential revenue measures on the November 2026 ballot. At that time, Council expressed concern about adding additional expenditures to a General Fund budget that was projecting a use of reserves to balance and asked staff to return when a clearer picture of the General

Fund balance at the close of FY 2025.

DISCUSSION

Preliminary unaudited numbers indicate that the City did not end the year with a surplus in the General Fund, but rather a use of General Fund reserves. The City estimates finishing FY 2025 with a projected use of approximately \$15 million of General Fund reserves, which includes carryovers totaling just over \$9.1 million. While this is significantly less than the budgeted use of nearly \$21 million in reserves when the FY 2025 budget was adopted, it is still expending more funds than projected revenues received, thereby tapping into General Fund reserves during a time when the City projects a multi-year budget deficit. Additional summarized information can be seen in Attachment A.

Prior to having these year-end estimates, staff sought and received a proposal for the work described above to poll the San Leandro community to gather input and gauge support for a potential revenue measure on the November 2026 ballot. This work would include a survey similar to those completed by the City when assessing feasibility of ballot measures in previous years.

Staff seeks direction from Council as to whether it should continue efforts to identify potential options for Council to consider and if Council would like to direct staff to engage Clifford Moss to complete the survey to inform the Council on feasibility relating to a potential revenue measure on the November 2026 ballot.

Fiscal Impacts

Should Council direct staff to proceed with the efforts to explore placement of potential revenue measures on the November 2026 ballot, there are sufficient funds available under an existing purchase order and contract with Clifford Moss to fund the \$92,000 request.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Preliminary General Fund Unaudited Year End Results

Attachment B - Presentation

PREPARED BY Dustin Claussen, Deputy City Manager
 Nicole Gonzales, Finance Director

City of San Leandro
Preliminary Financial Report (unaudited)
June 30, 2025
(\$ in Thousands)

	A	B	C
1	GENERAL FUND	Fiscal Year ended	
2		June 30, 2025	
3		Amended	Unaudited Financial
4		Budget	Subtotals
5	<i>Beginning Fund Balance</i>	\$ 75,454	\$ 75,454
6			
7	<i>Total Revenues</i>	143,404	147,724
8			
9	<i>Total Expenditures & Transfers</i>	164,126	153,600
10			
11	<i>Net/(Use of) Fund Balance</i>	\$ (20,722)	\$ (5,876) *
12			
13	<i>Ending Fund Balance</i>	\$ 54,733	\$ 69,578

* This amount does not include \$9,125 of P.O. encumbrance and carryovers of previously authorized budget appropriations.



Exploring Potential Revenue Measures

**City Council meeting
December 1, 2025**

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

February 1, 2025

- At the Special Meeting and Annual Council Planning Session, the Council directed staff to explore potential revenue measures on the November 2026 ballot.

June 2025 – FY 2026-27 Budget Process

- Staff proposed a General Fund allocation of \$500k to further explore viability should a measure be placed on the November 2026 ballot by Council.
- Request not included in adopted budget; however, Council directed staff to return to discuss once preliminary year-end fund balance estimates were available for FY 2025.

July 14, 2025

- Council supports plan for staff to consider revenue measure to fund City infrastructure needs



PRELIMINARY FY 2025 GENERAL FUND RESULTS

City of San Leandro
Preliminary Financial Report (unaudited)
June 30, 2025
(\$ in Thousands)

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1	GENERAL FUND	Fiscal Year ended	
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POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Community Outreach: (\$20,000)

- Provide Community Information
- Distribute Annual Report
- Community Listening Sessions

Survey: (\$92,000)

- Determine viability
- Determine feasibility levels
- Community prioritization of use of funds
- Measure type



ESTIMATED ELECTION & PROJECT COSTS

Type of Election	Cost Per Voter*	Est. Local Cost*
Countywide Consolidated General	\$5 – \$7	up to ~\$364K**

*Based on approximately 52,000 total registered San Leandro voters

**Excludes ballot translation costs

Other Anticipated Costs of a Potential Measure^

Public Affairs Consultant/Public Opinion Survey- exploration phase (Jan-Feb)	\$92,000
Community Outreach prior to survey (Dec-Jan)	\$20,000
Public Affairs/Public Outreach Consultant (Mar-Oct)	\$82,500
Informational Mailers, including postage (Mar-Oct)	\$71,500
Online Information Provision (Mar-Oct)	<u>\$55,500</u>

Estimated Costs	\$321,500
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^Costs not in bold are estimated and may vary based on market. Should Council place a measure on the November 2026 ballot staff may return to request funds detailed above.

PREVIOUS TIMELINE VS. CURRENT PLAN

<i>Updated Timeline for Revenue Measure on November 2026 Ballot</i>		
PROJECT NAMES + TASK TITLES	Estimated Timeline as of July 14, 2025	Updated Estimated Timeline as of December 2025
Project Launch	July 2025	December 2025
Public communications/engagement survey	October 2025	January 2026
Survey results presentation to Council, Council decision whether to advance measure	December 2025	March 2026
Conduct tracking poll	May 2026	May 2026
Council vote to place question on ballot	May 2026	June 2026
Prepare and mail ballots	October 2026	October 2026
Election Day	November 2026	November 2026

COUNCIL DIRECTION SOUGHT

Minute Order

Adopt a Motion Directing Staff to Either:

- A) Continue to Explore Potential Revenue Measures That Could Appear on the November 2026 Ballot including a Consulting Services Agreement With Clifford Moss for Outreach and Survey Work to Consider Feasibility:

OR

- B) To Cease All Efforts Associated With Placing a Revenue Measure on the November 2026 Ballot.



COUNCIL QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION