
AGENDA

Meeting of the San Marcos Budget Review Committee

Meeting Date: February 18, 2026 | **Meeting Time:** 6:00 PM

Location: San Marcos Room, 1 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos CA 92069

Public Comment: To submit a public comment at the Budget Review Committee meeting, please email JBrotherton@SanMarcosCA.gov and write "Public Comment – Budget Review Committee" in the subject line. In the body of the email, include the item number and/or title of the item as well as your comments. Email comments on matters not on the agenda must be submitted prior to the time the Chair calls the Oral Communications item. Email comments on any agenda item must be submitted prior to the time the Chair closes public comments on the agenda item. Please be advised that all emailed comments are subject to the same rules as would otherwise apply to speaker comments at any Budget Review Committee meeting, and that electronic comments on agenda items for this meeting may only be submitted by email. Comments via text message and/or social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.), will not be accepted.

The Budget Review Committee Secretary will read all email comments, provided that the reading will not exceed three (3) minutes, or such other time as the Commissioners may provide, consistent with its ability to set time parameters for public comment at a Budget Review Committee meeting. If persons submitting comments do not want their comment to be read out loud at the meeting (not to exceed three minutes), they should note "Do Not Read Out Loud at Meeting" at the top of the email. All emailed comments received by 10:00 a.m. will be provided to the Budget Review Committee members and included as "Supplemental Information" on the City's website prior to the meeting. Those comments received after 10:00 a.m. and prior to close of public comment on the applicable agenda item will be added to the record and will be shared with the Budget Review Committee members at the meeting.

Americans with Disabilities Act: If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk Department at (760) 744-1050, ext. 3105. Notification 48 hours in advance will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. Assisted listening devices are available for the hearing impaired. Please see the City Clerk if you wish to use this device.

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Agenda-related writings or documents provided to a majority of the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet will be available for public inspection at the time of distribution at the Information Desk counter located on the first floor of City Hall, 1 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos, CA, during normal business hours.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 P.M.**
- 2. STAFF INTRODUCTIONS**
- 3. ROLL CALL**
- 4. SELECTION OF NEW CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**
- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

May 28, 2025

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. None

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. None

8. REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. FY 2025-26 Mid-Year Budget Overview and FY 2026-27 Preview

9. BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE COMMENTARY

10. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Persons wishing to speak on a matter not on the agenda may be heard at this time; however, no action will be taken until placed on a future agenda.

11. ADJOURNMENT

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO) ss.
CITY OF SAN MARCOS)

I, Jessany Avila, Secretary, San Marcos Budget Review Committee, hereby certify that I caused the posting on February 12, 2026 of this agenda in the glass display case at the north entrance of City Hall.

DATED: February 12, 2026



Jessany Avila,
Budget Review Committee Secretary

MINUTES

Meeting of the San Marcos Budget Review Committee

Meeting Date: **WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2025** | Meeting Time: **6:00 PM**

Location: **San Marcos Room, 1 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos, CA 92069**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Salvador Roman called the Budget Review Committee Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: FREEMAN, GARCIA, BARLOW, KNOWLTON, ROMAN, HARRIS-MALONE,

SMITH

ABSENT: NEUHAUSER

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager, Michelle Bender; Finance Director, Donna Apar; Director of LEAN Government, Kristina Ray; Budget & Analysis Manager, Janet Brotherton; Management Analyst, Sang Duong.

3. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

a. None

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 29, 2025 and April 30, 2025**

James Knowlton made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Jim Garcia seconds the motion. Motion carries.

AYES: FREEMAN, GARCIA, BARLOW, KNOWLTON, ROMAN, HARRIS-MALONE, SMITH

NOES: None

ABSTAINS: None

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. None

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. None

7. REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. City Manager Recommended Budget Presentation

8. BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE COMMENTARY

- Committee Member Freeman noted the last few years have been stressful because of economic conditions, and with this budget there may be an impression that it was easier given Measure Q, however it is likely not easier given that the budget now involves different buckets and commends staff for hard work.
- Committee Member Harris-Malone also notes that the budget is always a challenge for staff to balance priorities of the community, and also commends staff for hard work.
- Committee Member Garcia notes that seeing what is going on in other cities like San Diego and Los Angeles, it is remarkable the City of San Marcos is in a rare situation with a balanced budget, and notes we are lucky to be in a place where we can allocate funds to keep our City going.
- Committee Member Barlow also recommends having tangible Measure Q benchmarks on the City's website so the community can see the impact. He also commends staff on their hard work balancing the budget and being fiscally responsible in their management of city finances. He also notes that it feels like things in the City are in a good track
- Committee Member Smith noted it's nice to be on a committee where their input is valued and committee members are listened to, and also commends staff on hard work.

- Committee Chair Roman noted that the Committee has an important responsibility to communicate what is heard in the meetings around fiscal accountability to the public.

9. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Salvador Roman adjourned the meeting at 7:28 PM.

ATTEST:

Jessany Avila, Secretary
Budget Review Committee

Chair
Budget Review Committee