

**AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS**

DATE: Thursday, May 21, 2026
4:00 P.M.

LOCATION: County Board of Supervisors Chambers
481 Fourth Street
Hollister, CA 95023

DIRECTORS: Ignacio Velazquez, Chair (County of San Benito)
Roxanne Stephens, Vice-Chair (City of Hollister)
Jackie Morris-Lopez (City of San Juan Bautista)
Rolan Resendiz (City of Hollister)
Kollin Kosmicki (County of San Benito)

ALTERNATES: San Benito County: Dom Zanger
City of San Juan Bautista: Scott Freels
City of Hollister: Rudy Picha

NOTICE OF PROCEDURES FOR SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS MEETINGS

The meeting will be available through Zoom, for those who wish to join or require accommodations.

Members of the public may participate remotely via Zoom at the following link: <https://zoom.us/join> with the following: Webinar ID: 852-9641-7765 and Webinar Passcode: 840826

*Those participating by phone who would like to make a comment can use the "raise hand" feature by dialing "*9" (star-nine) . In order to receive full Zoom experience, please make sure your application is up to date.*

Remote Zoom participation for members of the public is provided for convenience only. In the event that the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the COG Board of Directors reserves the right to conduct the meeting without remote access.

*Persons who wish to address the Board of Directors must complete a Speaker Card and give it to the Clerk prior to addressing the Board. Those who wish to address the Board on an agenda item will be heard when the Chairperson calls for comments from the audience. Following recognition, persons desiring to speak are requested to advance to the podium and state their name and address. After hearing audience comments, the Public Comment portion of the agenda item will be closed. **The opportunity to address the Board of Directors on items of interest not appearing on the agenda will be provided during Section 3. Public Comment.***

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. Verification of Certificate of Posting**
- 3. Public Comment:** *(Opportunity to address the Board on items of interest not appearing on the agenda. No action may be taken unless provided by Govt. Code Sec. 54954.2. Speakers are limited to 3 minutes.)*

CONSENT AGENDA:

(These matters shall be considered as a whole and without discussion unless a particular item is removed from the Consent Agenda. Members of the public who wish to speak on a Consent Agenda item must submit a Speaker Card to the Clerk and wait for recognition from the Chairperson. Approval of a consent item means approval as recommended on the Staff Report.)

4. APPROVE SAFE Regular Meeting Action Minutes Dated January 15, 2026 – Gomez
5. RECEIVE FY 25-26 Q3 Budget Report – Aceves

ACTION ITEMS:

4:00 P.M. Public Hearing (Or As Soon Thereafter As the Matter May Be Heard)

6. Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget for the Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways – Aceves
 - a. RECEIVE Presentation on the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget.
 - b. HOLD Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget.
 - c. ADOPT Resolution 2026-01 Adopting the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget.

Adjourn to SAFE Meeting on June 18, 2026. Agenda deadline is June 2, 2026, at 12:00 p.m.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if requested, the Agenda can be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability. If an individual wishes to request an alternative agenda format, please contact the Clerk of the Council four (4) days prior to the meeting at (831) 637-7665. The Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways Board of Directors meeting facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board's office at (831) 637-7665 at least 48 hours before the meeting to enable the Council of Governments to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.

Written Comments & Email Public Comment

Members of the public may submit comments via email by 5:00 PM. on the Wednesday prior to the Board meeting to the Secretary at monica@sanbenitocog.org, regardless of whether the matter is on the agenda. Every effort will be made to provide Board Members with your comments before the agenda item is heard.

Public Comment Guidelines

1. If participating on Zoom: once you are selected, you will hear that you have been unmuted. At this time, state your first name, last name, and county you reside in for the record.
2. The Council of Governments Board welcomes your comments.
3. Each individual speaker will be limited to a presentation total of three (3) minutes.
4. Please keep your comments brief, to the point, and do not repeat prior testimony, so that as many people as possible can be heard. Your cooperation is appreciated.

If you have questions, contact the Council of Governments, and leave a message at (831) 637-7665 x. 201, or email monica@sanbenitocog.org.

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

Pursuant to Government Code Section #54954.2(a) the Meeting Agenda for the Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways on May 21, 2026, at 4:00 P.M. was posted at the following locations freely accessible to the public:

The front entrance of the San Benito County Administration Building, 481 Fourth Street, Hollister, CA 95023, and the Council of San Benito County Governments Office, 650 San Benito St., Ste. 120, Hollister, CA 95023, at the following date and time:

On the 15th day of May 2026, on or before 5:00 P.M.

The meeting agenda was also posted on the Council of San Benito County Governments website, www.sanbenitocog.org, under Meetings, SAFE, Meeting Schedule

I, Monica Gomez, swear under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

BY: Monica Gomez
Monica Gomez, Secretary II
Council of San Benito County Governments

San Benito County
SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS
REGULAR MEETING
Board of Supervisors Chambers, 481 Fourth Street, Hollister, CA 95023 & Zoom Platform
January 15, 2026, 4:00 P.M.

ACTION MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Ignacio Velazquez, Vice Chair Roxanne Stephens, Director Jackie Morris-Lopez, Director Kollin Kosmicki, Director Rolan Resendiz.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None.

STAFF PRESENT:

Executive Director; Binu Abraham, Office Assistant; Griselda Arevalo, Secretary II; Monica Gomez, SBCOG Legal Counsel; Osman Mufti, Kirk Trost (via-Zoom).

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Velazquez called the meeting to order at 4:47 p.m.

2. CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

Motion made to acknowledge Certificate of Posting:

Motion: Director Kosmicki Second: Director Morris-Lopez

Motion carried: 5/0

Yes: Velazquez, Stephens, Kosmicki, Morris-Lopez, Resendiz

No: None

Recused: None

Abstention: None

Absent: None

3. PUBLIC COMMENT: *(Opportunity to address the Board on items of interest not appearing on the agenda. No action may be taken unless provided by Govt. Code Sec. 54954.2. Speakers are limited to 3 minutes.)*

None.

ACTION ITEMS:

4. HOLD Nomination and Election of Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways (SAFE) Chair and Vice Chairperson for the 2026 Meeting Calendar.

Motion made to Elect Ignacio Velazquez as SAFE Chairperson and Roxanne Stephens as SAFE Vice Chairperson for 2026:

Motion: Director Kosmicki Second: Director Morris-Lopez
Motion carried: 5/0
Yes: Velazquez, Stephens, Morris-Lopez, Kosmicki, Resendiz
No: None
Recused: None
Abstention: None
Absent: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

(These matters shall be considered as a whole and without discussion unless a particular item is removed from the Consent Agenda. Members of the public who wish to speak on a Consent Agenda item must submit a Speaker Card to the Clerk and wait for recognition from the Chairperson. Approval of a consent item means approval as recommended on the Staff Report.)

- 5. APPROVE SAFE Regular Meeting Action Minutes Dated June 19, 2025 – Gomez
- 6. APPROVE the Amendment to the Existing Contract with Knightscope Inc. to Provide Call Box Maintenance Services – Aceves

There was no public comment of the Consent Agenda.

Motion made to Approve the Consent Agenda Items 5 & 6:

Motion: Director Stephens Second: Director Morris-Lopez
Motion carried: 5/0
Yes: Velazquez, Stephens, Morris-Lopez, Kosmicki, Resendiz
No: None
Recused: None
Abstention: None
Absent: None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to discuss, Director Morris-Lopez motioned to adjourn at 4:48 p.m.
Motion seconded by Director Stephens.

Motion carried: 5/0
Yes: Velazquez, Stephens, Morris-Lopez, Kosmicki, Resendiz
No: None
Recused: None
Abstention: None
Absent: None

ADJOURN TO SAFE MEETING FEBRUARY 19, 2026, AT 4:00 P.M.



STAFF REPORT

Consent

Prepared By: Norma Aceves, Administrative Services Specialist

Subject: FY 25-26 Q3 Budget Report

Agenda Item No. 5

Approved By: Binu Abraham, Executive Director

Meeting Date: May 21, 2026

Recommendation:

Receive FY 25-26 Q3 Budget Report.

Summary:

The Q3 Budget Report summarizes revenues and expenditures as of March 31, 2026.

Background/ Discussion:

Staff has prepared a mid-year budget report on the fiscal performance of the Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways (SAFE), summarizing revenues and expenditures for the Board's review. The attached report outlines financial activity for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026, covering the period from July 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026.

Throughout the year, staff conduct quarterly reviews and analyses of the Trial Balances to identify and correct any errors. Following these reviews, staff prepare a budget report and evaluates whether budget adjustments or transfers are needed to align the budget with actual revenues and expenditures.

Staff have completed a review of the SAFE fund as part of the Q3 budget review. All accounts are in good standing, with anticipated revenues budgeted for the fiscal year coming in as planned. Expenditures across all accounts are tracking in line with the Board-approved budget. At this time, there are no budget adjustments are needed.

Financial Impact:

None.

Attachment:

1. FY 25-26 Q3 Budget Report

Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways (628.7380)
Third Quarter Budget Report
FY 2025/26

FISCAL SUMMARY	Budgeted	Actual as of	Balance	Projected %	Actual %
	FY 25/26	3/31/2026	FY 25/26	75%	
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>					
Salaries & Benefits	12,078	7,134	4,944	75%	59.07%
Services & Supplies	35,904	34,924	980	75%	97.27%
Contracts	200	52	148	75%	26.00%
Capital	-	-	-		
Other	-	-	-	100%	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$48,182	\$42,110	\$6,072	75%	87.40%
<u>REVENUES</u>					
Revenues	405,586	355,642	49,944	75%	87.69%
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$405,586	\$355,642	\$49,944	75%	87.69%
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	\$357,404	\$313,532			
FUND BALANCE	\$313,532				

Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways (628.7380)
Third Quarter Budget Report
FY 2025/26

REVENUE & EXPENDITURES

REVENUES		Budgeted	Revenues	Balance	Projected %	Actual %
Category		FY 25/26	3/31/2026	FY 25/26	75%	
541.001	Interest	16,000	2,938	13,062		18.36%
550.109	Registered Vehicle Revenue	70,000	31,169	38,831	75%	44.53%
541.003	FMV Adjustment			-		
	Fund Balance Carryover previous years	319,586	321,535	(1,949)	75%	100.61%
TOTAL		405,586	355,642	49,944	75%	87.69%

EXPENDITURES		Budgeted	Expenses	Balance	Projected %	Actual %
Category		FY 25/26	3/31/2026	FY 25/26	75%	
Personnel						
610.101	Salaries	12,078	7,134	4,944	75%	59.07%
Total		12,078	7,134	4,944	75%	59.07%
Services and Supplies						
619.126	Magazines and Subscriptions	-	-	-		
619.130	Clothing and Safety	-	-	-		
619.132	Communications	2,100	1,361	739	75%	64.81%
619.138	Computer Maintenance	-	-	-		
619.140	Computer Supplies	-	-	-		
619.152	Maintenance of Equipment	32,832	32,832	-	75%	100.00%
619.154	Maintenance of Equipment - Oil and Gas	-	-	-		
619.158	Maintenance of Structures and Grounds	-	-	-		
619.164	Medical/Dental/Lab Supplies & Services	-	-	-		
619.166	Membership Dues	-	-	-		
619.168	Office Furniture under \$700	-	-	-		
619.170	Office Equipment under \$300	-	-	-		
619.172	Postage and Delivery	-	-	-		
619.174	Supplies	-	-	-		
619.176	Special Project Supplies - Printing	-	-	-		
619.180	Public and Legal Notices	-	-	-		
619.182	Permits & Legal	-	-	-		
619.184	Rent Equipment	-	-	-		
619.186	Rent Structures	-	-	-		
619.188	Rent Space	-	-	-		
619.190	Small Tools	-	-	-		
619.194	Training	-	-	-		
619.196	Travel Lodging	-	-	-		
619.198	Travel Meals	50	-	50	75%	0.00%
619.200	Travel Transportation	150	-	150	75%	0.00%
619.210	Legal	241	241	-	75%	100.00%
619.222	Other Consultants	-	-	-		
619.268	Special Dept Expense - Other	-	-	-		
619.280	Marketing	-	-	-		
619.306	Utilities	-	-	-		
645.701	General Insurance	531	490	41	75%	92.28%
Total		35,904	34,924	980	75%	97.27%
Contracts						
619.250	Special Dept Expense - Contracts	200	52	148	75%	26.00%
Total		200	52	148	75%	26.00%
TOTAL		48,182	42,110	6,072	75%	87.40%

Budget Adjustment

25-26-07	610.101 Salaries	-832
	619.152 Maintenance of Equipment	832
	619.210 Legal	41
	645.701 General Insurance	-41



STAFF REPORT

Action

Prepared By: Norma Aceves, Administrative Services Specialist

Subject: Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget

Agenda Item No. 6

Approved By: Binu Abraham, Executive Director

Meeting Date: May 21, 2026

Recommendation:

- a. Receive presentation on the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget.
- b. Hold public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget.
- c. Adopt Resolution 2026-01 adopting the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget.

Summary:

The Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways (SAFE) Budget totals \$45,921. The budget is balanced.

Background/ Discussion:

The Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways receives funding from the Department of Motor Vehicles from vehicle registration fees. The funds received from vehicle registration fees can only be used for SAFE program purposes. With this funding, SAFE maintains 36 emergency call boxes within San Benito County.

The SAFE budget was prepared using the line-item format. This style is easy to use and identifies where funds are spent. The budget includes conservative revenue assumptions that are based on State forecasting trends. The most important component of the budget focuses on aligning spending with anticipated funding sources. The SAFE program is funded solely by the DMV collected registration fee.

The SAFE budget totals \$45,921 and reflects a 5% decrease with no major changes to the status quo operation of the program.

Financial Impact:

The SAFE budget is balanced.

Attachment:

1. Resolution No. 2026-01
2. Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways Budget



BEFORE THE SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS

A RESOLUTION OF THE SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR)
FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS ADOPTING THE) Resolution No. 2026-01
2026/2027 FISCAL YEAR ANNUAL BUDGET)

WHEREAS, the Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways published and held a public hearing regarding the Authority’s consideration of the budget for the Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways for Fiscal Year 2026/2027; and

WHEREAS, at the public hearing, the Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways Board of Directors heard and received all oral and written testimony and evidence that was made, presented, or filed, and all persons present at the hearing were given ample opportunity to hear and be heard with respect to any matter related to the budget for Fiscal Year 2026/2027; and

WHEREAS, said hearing has concluded, during which time all additions and deletions to the budget for Fiscal Year 2026/2027 were made or authorized; and

WHEREAS, the 2026/2027 fiscal year annual budget is a balanced budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways that the Adopted Budget of the Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways for Fiscal Year 2026/2027, is hereby adopted by reference to the attached Adopted Budget.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF SAN BENITO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS THIS 21st DAY OF MAY 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

- AYES:
- NOES:
- ABSTAINING:
- ABSENT:

Ignacio Velazquez, Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Dated: 5-14-2026

By: 
Osman I. Mufti, SBCOG Counsel

ATTEST:

Dated: _____

By: _____
Binu Abraham, Executive Director



San Benito County

**Service
Authority for
Freeways and
Expressways**

Adopted Budget Fiscal Year 2026/27

650 San Benito Street, Suite 120
Hollister, California 95023
(831) 637-7665

Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways Adopted Budget Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027

Published by Order of the:
Board of Directors

Ignacio Velazquez, Chair
San Benito County

Roxanne Stephens, Vice Chair
City of Hollister

Kollin Kosmicki
San Benito County

Jackie Morris-Lopez
City of San Juan Bautista

Rolan Resendiz
City of Hollister

Executive Director
Binu Abraham

Prepared and Compiled by
Norma Aceves
Administrative Services Specialist

Adopted: May 21, 2026

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Executive Summary

San Benito County Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways (SAFE) administers a \$1 vehicle registration fee collected by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for maintaining an Emergency Motorist Aid Program in San Benito County. The program consists of the following:

Emergency Call Box Program - Through the Emergency Call Box Program, San Benito SAFE ensures that motorists have direct access to emergency services along the state highway system and remote local roads in San Benito County. Call boxes are considered lifelines for accessing emergency services in remote areas of the County and along San Benito County Highways.

Call boxes are telephone boxes installed primarily along highways and local roads with high accident rates, high vehicular traffic, or remote locations with limited to no cellular coverage. Call boxes provide motorists direct access to the California Highway Patrol (CHP) for assistance in case of an emergency.

Goals and Objectives

The Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways will continue to ensure that existing emergency call boxes are maintained in proper order. The Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways also work with Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol to continue call box operations.

Budget Detail

The Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways total budget for FY 2026/2027 is \$45,921. The FY 2026/2027 Budget reflects a 5% decrease in expenditures. The Personnel category experienced the decrease due to reallocation of staff responsibilities. The Services & Supplies category covers call box maintenance and phone line services, with a budget that remains status quo. The Contracts line-item funds an agreement with the California Highway Patrol for responding to incoming call box calls, also maintaining a status quo budget.

The Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways budget is balanced and supports the priorities of the SBCOG Board of Directors.

**SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS (SAFE)
BUDGET - FY 2026/27
EXPENDITURES**

EXPENDITURE DESCRIPTION	Adopted Budget FY 25/26	Estimated Actual to June 30, 2026	Proposed Budget FY 26/27	Budget Estimate for FY 27/28	Variance FY 25/26 FY 26/27
Personnel					
610.905 Salaries- Direct	7,721	12,168	5,043	5,295	(2,678)
610.905 Salaries- Indirect	5,189	-	4,376	4,595	(813)
	-	-	-	-	-
Total	12,910	12,168	9,419	9,890	(3,491)
Services and Supplies					
619.126 Magazines and Subscriptions	-	-	-	-	-
619.132 Communications	2,100	2,033	2,300	2,369	200
619.138 Computer Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
619.140 Computer Supplies	-	-	-	-	-
645.701 General Insurance	572	489	470	494	(102)
619.152 Maintenance of Equipment	32,000	32,832	32,832	32,832	832
619.154 Maintenance of Equipment - Oil and Gas	-	-	-	-	-
619.158 Maintenance of Structures and Grounds	-	-	-	-	-
619.280 Marketing	-	-	-	-	-
619.166 Membership Dues	-	-	-	-	-
619.166 Office Furniture under \$3,000	-	-	-	-	-
619.168 Office Equipment under \$3,000	-	-	-	-	-
619.176 Special Project Supplies - Supplies	-	-	-	-	-
619.174 Supplies	-	-	-	-	-
619.172 Postage and Delivery	-	-	-	-	-
619.210 Legal	200	250	500	500	300
619.222 Other Consultants	-	-	-	-	-
619.180 Public and Legal Notices	-	-	-	-	-
619.184 Rent Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
619.186 Rent Structures	-	-	-	-	-
619.190 Small Tools	-	-	-	-	-
619.268 Special Dept. Expense - Other	-	-	-	-	-
619.196 Travel Lodging	-	-	-	-	-
619.198 Travel Meals	50	-	50	50	-
619.194 Training	-	-	-	-	-
619.200 Travel Transportation	150	-	150	150	-
619.306 Utilities	-	-	-	-	-
Total	35,072	35,604	36,302	36,395	1,230
Contracts					
619.250 Special Dept. Expense - Contracts	200	100	200	200	-
Total	200	100	200	200	-
Capital					
650.304 Furniture and Fixtures	-	-	-	-	-
650.302 Equipment other than Computer	-	-	-	-	-
650.303 Computer Hardware	-	-	-	-	-
650.301 Automobiles, Trucks, Vans	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-
Other					
640.320 OPEB	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET	48,182	47,872	45,921	46,484	(2,261)

**SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS
BUDGET - FY 2026/27
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES VS REVENUES**

REVEUE DESCRIPTION		Adopted Budget FY 25/26	Estimated Actual to June 30, 2026	Proposed Budget FY 26/27	Budget Estimate for FY 27/28	Variance FY 25/26 FY 26/27
550.109	Registered Vehicle Revenue	69,000	74,160	72,000	74,160	3,000
	Fund Balance(Carryover previous years)	270,293	321,535	359,710	397,789	89,417
541.001	Interest Revenue	500	11,887	12,000	13,000	11,500
	TOTAL REVENUE	339,793	407,582	443,710	484,949	103,917

EXPENDITURES VS REVENUES		Adopted Budget FY 25/26	Estimated Actual to June 30, 2026	Proposed Budget FY 26/27	Budget Estimate for FY 27/28	Variance FY 25/26 FY 26/27
EXPENDITURES						
	Personnel	12,910	12,168	9,419	9,890	(3,491)
	Services & Supplies	35,072	35,604	36,302	36,395	1,230
	Contracts	200	100	200	200	-
	Capital	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	48,182	47,872	45,921	46,484	(2,261)
REVENUES						
	Revenues	339,793	407,582	443,710	484,949	103,917
	TOTAL REVENUE	339,793	407,582	443,710	484,949	103,917
	TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET	48,182	47,872	45,921	46,484	(2,261)
	FUND BALANCE			397,789		
	DESIGNATED FUND BALANCE			-		
	UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE			397,789		

BUDGET NOTES

		Proposed Budget FY 26/27
Personnel		
Personnel includes salaries, administrative support, and professional services.		
	Total	9,419
Services and Supplies		
Maintenance and support of call boxes. Communications Verizon \$48 monthly and Att \$126 monthly phoneline service. MOE Knightscope \$2660 monthly maintenance.		
	Total	36,302
Contracts		
Contract with CHP for responding to call box calls.		
	Total	200
Capital		
No Capital expenditures are proposed in this Budget.		
	Total	-
Other		
SAFE share of OPEB costs.		
	Total	-
	TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET	45,921

Note from meeting with Binu and Matt: Satus Quo budget

APPENDIX

PURCHASING POLICES FOR SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this article, the following words and phrases shall have the meaning respectively ascribed by this section:

- 1) Agency: Service Authority For Freeways and Expressways
- 2) Board of Directors: The governing body of the agency.
- 3) Contractual services: Any telephone, gas, water, electric light and power services; the rental of equipment and machinery; insurance; the services of attorneys, physicians, electricians, engineers, consultants or other individuals or organizations possessing a high degree of technical skill; and all other types of agreements under which the contract provides services which are required by the agency, but not furnished by its own employees. Purchase of space for legal advertising shall not be subject to the provisions of this chapter.
- 4) Fixed Assets: Any piece of tangible personal property having an estimated useful life of one calendar year or more, capable of being permanently identified as an individual unit of property, and belonging to one of the general classes of property considered a fixed asset in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices (i.e., equipment, machinery, vehicles, furnishings,) with an accounting value of \$3,000 or more.
- 5) Local Business: any person or entity that regularly maintains a place of business and transacts business in, or maintains an inventory of merchandise for sale in, the County of San Benito.
- 6) Professional Services: An independent contractor's expert advice or professional services that involve extended analysis, personal expertise, the exercise of discretion and independent judgment in their performance, which are of an advisory nature, provide a recommended course of action, and have an end product transmitting information which is related to SAFE programs. Providers are selected on the basis of qualification, subject to the negotiation of a fair and reasonable compensation. Classification as professional services may also require an advanced, specialized type of knowledge, expertise, technical skill or training customarily acquired either by a prolonged course of study or equivalent experience, such as accountants, financial advisors, auditors, grant writers, program specialists, labor consultants and negotiators, investigators, law enforcement retained certified laboratories, attorneys and other litigation-related specialist, environmental consultants, appraisers, architects, landscape architects, surveyors, engineers, design professionals, and construction project management firms.
- 7) Supplies and equipment: Any personal property, such as physical articles, materials or things, which property shall furnished to, or shall be used by the agency.

B. PURPOSE OF CHAPTER

The purpose of this chapter is to adopt policies and procedures governing purchases of supplies, equipment and contractual services by the agency in accordance with section 54200 et seq. of the Government Code. This chapter is not intended to conflict with applicable provisions of state law and shall be interpreted as supplementary thereto.

C. DESIGNATION OF THE PURCHASING AGENT

The Board of Directors appoints the Executive Director or designee to serve as the Purchasing Agent for Service Authority For Freeways and Expressways.

D. PURCHASING AGENT – POWERS AND DUTIES

The Purchasing Agent shall have all the duties and powers prescribed by the laws of the state including the following duties:

1. Acquisition of Personal Property – To purchase equipment, materials, supplies and all other personal property and services for SAFE where funding has been approved and budgeted by the Board, unless specified otherwise in the Purchasing Policy.
2. Professional Service Contracts – To engage independent contractors to perform professional services through contracts for the SAFE with or without furnishing of material where the aggregate cost does not exceed \$50,000. Contracts shall not be split between fiscal years to circumvent this dollar limitation.
3. Renewal/Extension of Contracts – To renew or extend contracts for professional services that are critical to ongoing SAFE projects provided the financial obligation falls within his/her preview of authority.
4. Rental of Real Property – To negotiate and execute in the name of SAFE, contracts to lease or rent for the SAFE real property or storage space where funding has been approved by the SAFE Board, with an annual rent not to exceed \$50,000.

E. DESIGNATION OF ASSISTANT PURCHASING AGENTS

The Purchasing Agent has the authority to designate such assistants and limit or rescind authority. The Purchasing Agent may delegate the authority to purchase to a deputy or assistant.

F. ASSISTANT PURCHASING AGENT – POWERS AND DUTIES

The Assistant Purchasing Agent shall have all the duties and powers prescribed by laws of the state relating to SAFE purchasing agents, and orders of the Board of Directors to include the following duties:

1. Acquisition of Personal Property - To purchase, equipment, materials, supplies and all other personal property and services for SAFE where funding has been approved and budgeted by the Board unless specified otherwise in the SAFE Purchasing Policy.

2. Professional Service Contracts – To engage independent contractors for professional services through contracts where the cost does not exceed \$3,000, where funding has been approved and budgeted. Contracts shall not be split between fiscal years to circumvent this dollar limitation.
3. Rental of Real Property – To negotiate and execute in the name of SAFE, contracts to lease or rent for SAFE real property or storage space, with an annual rent not to exceed \$3,000, where funding has been approved and budgeted by the Board.

G. PURCHASING METHODS AND PROCEDURES

In the performance of his/her function hereunder, the Purchasing Agent or Assistant Purchasing Agent shall comply with all applicable statutes and regulations. Purchases shall be made using such methods and procedures to secure the lowest price consistent with the quality desirable for the use intended.

H. EXCEPTIONS TO THE COMPETITIVE PROCESS

Except as otherwise directed by law, or as directed by the Board of Directors, competitive process is not required for the following purchases:

1. Expert and professional services which involve extended analysis: the exercise of discretion and independent judgment in their performance; and an advanced, specialized type of knowledge, expertise, or training customarily acquired either by a prolonged course of study or equivalent experience as defined under Definitions – Professional Services.
2. Legal brief printing, stenographic services, and transcripts.
3. Books, publications, subscriptions, recordings, motion picture films, and annual book and periodical contracts.
4. Insurance.
5. Contracts for services which by law when some other office or body is specifically charged with obtaining.
6. Public utility services.
7. Ordinary travel expenses.
8. Personal property or services obtainable through master contracts or purchasing association pools identified for the use and benefit of all local agencies.
9. Where law fixes the price of property or services.
10. Training, seminars, and classes for SAFE personnel.

11. Sole source procurement, defined as an award for a commodity or service which can only be purchased from one supplier, usually because of its technological, specialized, or unique character.
12. Emergency purchases necessary when unforeseen circumstances require an immediate purchase in order to avoid a hazard to life or property or serious interruption of the operation of SAFE, or the necessary emergency repair of SAFE equipment.
13. When the product/services are needed by SAFE pending a contract award and a contractor agrees to provide such product/services at the same contract price as a previous award, until a new contract has been awarded. Such interim period contracts shall not exceed six months.

I. CONTRACTUAL PROCEDURES

All Contracts are binding legal documents that are subject to the following provisions:

1. All contracts, leases and any amendments or modifications shall be reviewed and approved as to legal form by the County Counsel's Office prior to execution of the Purchasing Agent, Assistant Purchasing Agents and/or Board of Directors.
2. Prior approval shall be obtained from County Counsel's Office before any contracts for professional services relating to outside attorney services are executed.

J. PREFERENCE FOR PRODUCTS CONTAINING RECYCLED MATERIALS

1. The Purchasing Agent shall establish and maintain procedures and specifications to ensure that SAFE gives preference, in its purchasing decisions, to products containing the maximum amount of recycled materials, where the quality and fitness of such products is equal to those of products containing no recycled materials, or a lesser amount of recycled materials, and where the total cost of such products is reasonable in comparison to the total cost of those products containing no recycled materials, or a lesser amount of recycled materials.
2. "Product containing recycled materials" means, with respect to a paper product, a "recycled paper product" as that term is defined in Section 12301© of the Public Contract Code, and means, with respect to other products, a "recycled product," as that term is defined in Section 12301(d) of the Public Contract Code.
3. To the extent that the Public Contract Code or other provisions of state law provide for purchasing preferences which are more extensive than those established herein, or for additional procedures to increase the use of recycled materials, the provisions of state law shall prevail.

K. PREFERENCE FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES

When all other factors are determined to be equal, preference shall be given to individuals or firms having a bona-fide place of business within the County of San Benito. Any responsive, responsible bid, proposal or quote for materials and supplies from a local business which is within ten percent (10%) of the lowest responsive, responsible bid, proposal or quote for materials and supplies, shall be considered equal to the amount of the lowest responsive, responsible bid, proposal or quote. If the business has additional places of business located outside of the County of San Benito, the designated point of sale for all resulting purchases shall be the bona-fide place of business located within the County of San Benito.

L. UNLAWFUL PURCHASES

Failure of the Purchasing Agent or Assistant Purchasing Agent to adhere to the provisions of this policy may incur costs not meriting the definition of county charges and therefore becoming the personal responsibility of the Purchasing Agent or Assistant Purchasing Agent. Except as otherwise provided by law, no purchase of Materials, supplies, furnishings, equipment, other personal property or contractual services shall be made in excess of the amount of the appropriations allowed by the budget.

M. EMERGENCY PURCHASES WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL

Emergency purchases may be made by the Purchasing Agent or Assistant Purchasing Agent when a generally unexpected occurrence or unforeseen circumstances require an immediate purchase of material, supplies or equipment:

1. in order to avoid a hazard to life or property;
2. in order to avoid a serious interruption or discontinuance of essential services or operation of SAFE;
3. in order to make necessary emergency repairs of SAFE equipment required to provide essential services or for the operation of SAFE; or
4. in order to avoid economic loss to SAFE.

Emergency purchases shall be submitted to the Board of Directors for ratification at its next meeting.

N. PROTEST PROCEDURES

Any aggrieved potential provider of supplies, equipment or contractual services may file a written protest against a potential purchase by the board of directors. The protest shall be filed with the Executive Director one (1) day before the day of the meeting at which the board of directors is initially scheduled to consider the subject purchase. The exact basis for the protest and proof that the protester is a viable and responsible provider of the supplies, equipment or services sought shall be specified in writing and filed with the Executive Director who shall render a written decision in response to the protest not later than five (5) days after the day of the meeting at which the board of directors is initially scheduled to consider the subject purchase. Any protester disagreeing with the decision of the Executive Director may file an appeal not later than five (5) days after the date of the Executive

Director's decision. The appeal shall state the basis of error that the Executive Director allegedly made. The board of directors shall hear the appeal at the next meeting when the appeal may be placed on the agenda.

O. ACCEPTANCE OF GRATUITIES

The acceptance of any gratuity in the form of cash, merchandise or any other thing of value by an official or employee of the agency, or by an official or employee of a public agency contracting with the agency, from a vendor or contractor, or prospective vendor or contractor, is prohibited and shall be a cause for disciplinary action in the case of an agency employee or official, or in the case of an official or employee of the contracting public entity, cause for termination of the contract between the agency and the public entity.

Policies for Amending the Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways' Budget

Periodically, it may be necessary for the Executive Director to take financial steps to support administrative functions. A transfer of funds from one item to another may sometimes be needed due to inadequate budget allocations or unforeseen circumstances. Below are the policies for amending the Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways' Budget.

1. BUDGET TRANSFER REQUEST FORM

- a. A Budget Adjustment/Transfer Form must be completed to initiate any budget transfer. (See Attachment 1)
- b. The Budget Adjustment/Transfer Form must be signed by the Executive Director and/or the Administrative Services Specialist.

2. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

- a. The following Budget Transfers may be made with prior approval of the Executive Director.
 - Interdepartmental transfers of less than \$50,000.
 - Interobject transfers of less than \$50,000.
 - Intraobject transfers of any amount.

3. BOARD APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

- a. The following Budget Transfers can only be made with prior approval of the Board of Directors.
 - Transfers of revenue increases.
 - Interdepartmental transfers of more than \$50,000.
 - Interobject transfers of more than \$50,000.

Note: Intraobject is within object titles example within Services and Supplies.
Interobject is between object titles example between Contracts and Personnn

**Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways
BUDGET ADJUSTMENT/TRANSFER**

Please Indicate Type:

Fiscal Year: _____

Appropriation/Est. Revenue Increase
(Requires Board Approval)

Department: _____

Org Key: _____

**Interdepartmental Transfer or
Interobject Transfer >\$50,000**
(Requires Board Approval)

Interobject Transfer <\$50,000
(Requires Executive Director and Admin Ser Spe)

Intraobject Transfer
(Requires Executive Director)

<u>Org Key:</u>	<u>Object No:</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Decrease/ Rev. Increase</u>	<u>Increase</u>
_____	_____	_____	\$ -	\$ -
_____	_____	_____	\$ -	\$ -
_____	_____	_____	\$ -	\$ -
_____	_____	_____	\$ -	\$ -
_____	_____	_____	\$ -	\$ -
_____	_____	_____	\$ -	\$ -
_____	_____	_____	\$ -	\$ -
_____	_____	_____	\$ -	\$ -
_____	_____	_____	\$ -	\$ -
_____	_____	_____	\$ -	\$ -
Total			\$ -	\$ -

Comments: _____

Submitted: _____ Date _____

Verification of Sufficient Funds: _____ Date _____
 Administrative Services Specialist

Approval: _____ Date _____
 Executive Director

Approval by COG Board _____ Date _____

Attested: _____
 Clerk of the Board: _____ Vote: _____ Yes _____ No