



## LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF NAPA COUNTY

### *Budget Policy*

(Adopted: August 9, 2001; Last Amended: November 18, 2019)

#### **I. Background**

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization (CKH) Act of 2000 includes provisions for establishing a budget and for the receipt of funds. [Government Code \(G.C.\) §56381](#) establishes that the Commission shall annually adopt a budget for the purpose of fulfilling its duties under CKH.

#### **II. Purpose**

It is the intent of the Commission to adopt a policy for budget purposes which establishes procedures for compiling, adopting and administering the budget. The Commission is committed to providing transparency of its operations including its fiscal activities. The Commission follows recognized accounting principles and best practices in recognition of its responsibility to the public.

#### **III. Preparation of Annual Budget**

- A) An annual budget shall be prepared, adopted and administered in accordance with [\(G.C.\) §56381](#).
- B) The Commission should annually consider the Fee Schedule, including any anticipated changes, and Work Program in conjunction with the budget process.
- C) The Commission is committed to ensuring the agency is appropriately funded each fiscal year to effectively meet its prescribed regulatory and planning responsibilities. The Commission is also committed to controlling operating expenses to reduce the financial obligations on the County of Napa, the cities and town, hereafter referred to as the “funding agencies,” whenever possible and appropriate.
- D) The budget shall include an undesignated/unreserved fund balance equal to a minimum of one-third (i.e., four months) of annually budgeted operating expenses.
- E) The Commission shall establish an ad-hoc budget committee at the last meeting of each calendar year comprising of two Commissioners which will terminate with the adoption of the final budget. Commissioners appointed to a budget committee shall receive a regular per diem payment for each meeting attended.
- F) The adopted final budget should be posted on the Commission’s website for public viewing for a minimum of five years.
- G) The Executive Officer shall provide quarterly budget reports to the Commission for informational purposes.

#### **IV. Budget Contributions and Collection of Funds**

[G.C. §56381](#) establishes that the Commission shall adopt annually a budget for the purpose of fulfilling its duties under CKH. It further establishes that the County Auditor shall apportion the operating expenses from this budget in the manner prescribed by [G.C. §56381\(b\)](#), or in a manner mutually agreed upon by the agencies responsible for the funding of the Commission's budget [G.C. §56381\(c\)](#) states that:

After apportioning the costs as required in subdivision (b), the auditor shall request payment from the Board of Supervisors and from each city no later than July 1 of each year for the amount that entity owes and the actual administrative costs incurred by the auditor in apportioning costs and requesting payment from each entity. If the County or a city does not remit its required payment within 60 days, the Commission may determine an appropriate method of collecting the required payment, including a request to the auditor to collect an equivalent amount from the property tax, or any fee or eligible revenue owed to the County or city. The auditor shall provide written notice to the County or city prior to appropriating a share of the property tax or other revenue to the Commission for the payment due the Commission pursuant to this section.

It is the intent of the Commission that all agencies provide the costs apportioned to them from the LAFCO budget. Pursuant to [G.C. §56381\(c\)](#), the policy of the Commission is:

- A) If the County or a city or a town does not remit its required payment within 45 days of the July 1 deadline, the County Auditor shall send written notice to the agency in question that pursuant to [G.C. §56381\(c\)](#) and this policy, the Auditor has the authority to collect the amount of the Commission's operating expenses apportioned to that agency after 60 days from the July 1 deadline.
- B) If the County or a city or a town does not remit its required payment within 60 days of the July 1 deadline, the County Auditor shall collect an amount equivalent to the cost apportioned to that agency from the property tax owed to that agency, or some other eligible revenue deemed appropriate or necessary by the County Auditor. The County Auditor shall send written notice of the action taken to the agency and to the Commission.

## **V. Executive Officer Purchasing and Budget Adjustment Authority**

Pursuant to [G.C. §56380](#), the Commission shall make its own provision for necessary quarters, equipment, supplies, and services. The associated operating costs are provided for through the Commission's adoption of its annual budget in the manner prescribed in [G.C. §56381](#).

It is the intent of the Commission to charge the LAFCO Executive Officer with the responsibility and authority for coordinating and managing the procurement of necessary quarters, equipment, supplies, and services, and to adjust the annual budget as necessary under certain circumstances. The policy of the Commission is:

- A) The Executive Officer is charged with the responsibility and authority for coordinating and managing the procurement of necessary quarters, equipment, supplies, and services in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and policies.
- B) The Executive Officer is authorized to act as the agent for LAFCO in procuring necessary quarters, equipment, supplies, and services.
- C) Only the Commission itself or the Executive Officer may commit LAFCO funds for the purchase of any necessary quarters, equipment, supplies, or services for LAFCO use.
- D) The Executive Officer is delegated purchasing authority on behalf of LAFCO for necessary quarters, equipment, supplies, and services not to exceed \$5,000 per transaction. The Commission must approve any purchase of necessary quarters, equipment, supplies, and services that exceed the monetary limits set forth in this policy.
- E) Following review and approval by the Chair, the Executive Officer is authorized to make adjustments and administrative corrections to the budget without Commission action provided the adjustments and corrections are within the total budget allocations adopted by the Commission.
- F) Following review and approval by the Chair, the Executive Officer is authorized to adjust the budget for purposes of carrying over to the new fiscal year any encumbered funds that have been approved by the Commission in a prior fiscal year and involve unspent balances. Said funds include committed contracts for services that were not completed in the prior fiscal year and must be re-encumbered by way of a budget adjustment in the new fiscal year.