

Resolution No. 2026-40

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN ELECTION AND ORDERING THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY A MEASURE PROPOSING AN ORDINANCE ENACTING A COUNTYWIDE TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX AND ORDERING CONSOLIDATION OF THE ELECTION ON THE TAX ORDINANCE WITH THE CONSOLIDATED PRIMARY ELECTION CALLED FOR JUNE 2, 2026

Recitals

- A. Contra Costa County relies on federal funding to provide its residents with public programs and services, including health care, food assistance, social services, child welfare, public health, housing, and public safety;
- B. On July 4, 2025, the President signed H.R. 1, which enacted the deepest cuts in our country's history to Medicaid and the federal food assistance programs;
- C. Medicaid and Medicare are the largest sources of revenue for the County's public health and hospital/clinic system, which provide lifesaving and essential care to County residents, including Medi-Cal beneficiaries, Medicare recipients, and uninsured residents;
- D. H.R. 1 immediately freezes supplemental Medicaid funding and blocks the County from drawing down expected supplemental payments, producing escalating negative impacts on the County's budget, while simultaneously making significant eligibility changes which will cause thousands of county residents to lose health coverage;
- E. Lack of health coverage often causes people to delay medical care resulting in sicker residents and will increase demand for emergency care sought by residents no longer able to access preventative healthcare after losing insurance coverage;
- F. More than 335,000 County residents rely on Medi-Cal for their health care, and the County is the primary health-care provider for this population;
- G. H.R. 1 also makes substantial reductions to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), limiting food assistance relied upon by approximately 110,000 County residents;
- H. As a result of the federal funding cuts and rising costs, the County projects cumulative revenue losses of an estimated \$239 million by 2029;
- I. Contra Costa County provides important public services to its residents, such as health care at the Contra Costa Regional Medical Center and community health centers, fire-emergency response, crucial safety-net services, early childhood programs, services to protect vulnerable populations, public safety, and the only psychiatric ward in the County to serve the severe psychiatric emergency medical care needs of county residents;

- J. The combination of decreased federal funding with the increased demands on the County's healthcare and social services threatens ALL County services, from public safety to homeless services;
- K. An additional five-eighths of one cent countywide general transaction and use tax (sales tax) would generate an estimated \$150 million annually for five years and would help mitigate the funding crisis created by H.R. 1 by partially offsetting the loss of federal funding and supporting the continuation of essential County services, such as health care and food assistance;
- L. Article XIIC, section 2 of the California Constitution, Government Code section 53723, and Part 1.6 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code authorize a county to levy, increase, or extend a general tax upon approval by a majority of the electorate;
- M. The Board of Supervisors is considering submitting a five-eighths of one cent countywide general sales tax measure to the electorate at the statewide primary election on June 2, 2026, pursuant to Article XIIC; and
- N. Voter approval of such a measure would not alter or affect existing County sales taxes, which would continue to be levied.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors resolves as follows:

- 1. Pursuant to Elections Code section 9140 and Government Code section 53724, the Board of Supervisors hereby calls and orders an election for the purpose of submitting Ordinance No. 2026-05, attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference, to the qualified electors of the County, with the election to be held on Tuesday, June 2, 2026.
- 2. The Board of Supervisors consents to the consolidation of the election on Ordinance No. 2026-05 with the statewide primary election on Tuesday, June 2, 2026.
- 3. A ballot measure in substantially the following form shall be included on the ballot, in addition to any other matters required by law to be on the ballot:

To help Contra Costa County address deep cuts in federal funding; support critical local services such as health care, supplemental food assistance, and other general county services; and reduce the risk of closures at Contra Costa's regional hospital and health clinics, shall Contra Costa County adopt a five-eighths of one cent temporary general sales tax for 5 years, providing an estimated \$150,000,000 annually, not available to the federal government and subject to annual audits and independent citizens oversight?	YES NO
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A "yes" vote is a vote to approve the measure. A "no" vote is a vote to reject the measure.

4. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, Ordinance 2026-05 shall only become effective if Ordinance No. 2026-05, which establishes a general tax, is adopted and approved by a vote of at least a majority of the voters voting on the question at the election, and if legislation that exempts the tax from the sales tax cap under Revenue and Taxation Code section 7251.1 becomes law.
5. The full text of Ordinance No. 2026-05 shall be made available to the public in accordance with subdivisions (b)(3) and (b)(4) of Elections Code section 9160.
6. The Elections Office and the County Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all actions necessary under law to prepare for and conduct the primary election and appropriate all monies necessary for the Elections Office and County Administrator to prepare and conduct the primary election in a manner consistent with state and local laws.
7. The Elections Office is directed and authorized to certify the results of the election on the measure to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on March 3, 2026, by the following vote:

AYES: 4
NOES: 1
ABSENT: /
ABSTAIN: /

ATTEST: MONICA NINO,
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
and County Administrator


Board Chair

By: 
Deputy

