RCCD | RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

MORENO VALLEY COLLEGE | NORCO COLLEGE | RIVERSIDE CITY COLLEGE

District Budget Advisory Council

Friday, January 16, 2026
Zoom
9:00 am – 11:00 am

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order – 9:00 am

Present: Aaron Brown, Misty Griffin, Elia Blount, Bob Fontaine, Virgil Lee, Michael Collins, Amanda Vazquez, Laurie McQuay-Peninger, Nader Ghopreal, Joe Scott-Coe, Majd Askar,

Absent: Asatar Bair, Araceli Covarrubias, Adam Navas, Kimberly Bell, Charles Wilhite, Esmeralda Abejar, Jennifer Bielman, Rhonda Patterson

Recorder: Gloria Aguilar

I. State Budget Update
   a. FY 2026-27 Governor's Budget Proposal Presentation
   b. The Governor's proposal reflects a moderately positive short-term outlook, supported by higher-than-expected tax revenues, particularly from capital gains and AI-driven economic activity.
   c. The state remains financially vulnerable due to reliance on volatile revenue sources and projected long-term structural deficits.
   d. State Deficit: Estimated $2.9B (2026–27), with larger multi-year deficits anticipated.
   e. Proposition 98: Record high funding level, but with ~$5.6B deferred (no timeline), creating ongoing uncertainty.
   f. COLA: Proposed at 2.4% (not guaranteed).
   g. Growth Funding: Limited (1.5% total across two years).
   h. Deferred education funding may not be realized in a timely manner.
   i. Revenue growth may be non-recurring, increasing future budget risk.
   j. Structural deficits (~$35B projected) could constrain future funding.
   k. Continued funding shifts toward K–12 may reduce community college share.
   l. Modest increases in categorical and basic needs programs; some programs continue to exclude COLA.
   m. Continued reliance on one-time funding for key initiatives.
   n. Deferred maintenance funding returns, but is limited and not guaranteed to remain at proposed levels.
   o. Capital project funding remains competitive, with some projects at risk due to statewide allocation decisions.

p. The budget is stable and workable for the current year, but carries notable risks and uncertainty beyond 2026–27.
q. Ongoing monitoring and strategic planning will be critical, particularly for: Long-term funding sustainability; internal prioritization of initiatives; capital and facility needs.

II. Future Meetings

- Feb 20, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
- May 29, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
- Jun 18, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned – 950 am