

July 18, 2025

FY 2026 Transit Agency Operating Budgets

Overview

SANDAG is responsible for approving the transit agency budgets for funding. [SANDAG Board Policy No. 001](#), vests the Transportation Committee with the responsibility for approval of such budgets. The FY 2026 transit revenue apportionments approved by the SANDAG Board of Directors on February 14, 2025, were used by the transit agencies in preparing their FY 2026 budgets.

Key Considerations

SANDAG is responsible for public transit and other transportation planning and programming, including short- and near-term operational and financial planning and program development for Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) and North County Transit District (NCTD). SANDAG provides the transit agencies with funding estimates for those revenues it distributes. The transit agencies use this information as input into their budget development process.

The Transition Plan required by SB 1703 (Peace, 2002), between SANDAG, MTS, and NCTD further calls on SANDAG to review the transit agencies' budgets and the budget process in an effort to confirm the appropriate use of the funding estimates provided. Attachments 1 and 2 contain FY 2026 operating budget summaries provided by MTS. The MTS Board of Directors approved its FY 2026 budget on May 15, 2025 ([MTS Approved FY 2026 Budget](#)) and the NCTD Board of Directors approved its FY 2026 budget on June 26, 2025 ([NCTD Approved FY 2026 Budget](#)).

Mike Thompson, MTS Director of Financial Planning and Analysis, will present the FY 2026 MTS Operating Budget.

Eun Park-Lynch, NCTD Chief Financial Officer, and Mary Dover, NCTD Chief of Staff, will present the FY 2026 NCTD Operating Budget.

Susan Huntington, Director of Financial Planning, Budgets, and Grants

- Attachments:
1. FY 2026 MTS Operating Budget Summary
 2. FY 2026 MTS Operating Budget Summary Tables

Action: **Approve**

The Transportation Committee is asked to approve the North County Transit District's and the Metropolitan Transit System's FY 2026 operating budgets for funding.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Schedule/Scope Impact:

None