

# Alameda County Fiscal Year 2024-25 Early Budget Work Session

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April 9, 2024

**COUNTY OF ALAMEDA, CALIFORNIA** 

## **Early Budget Work Session**

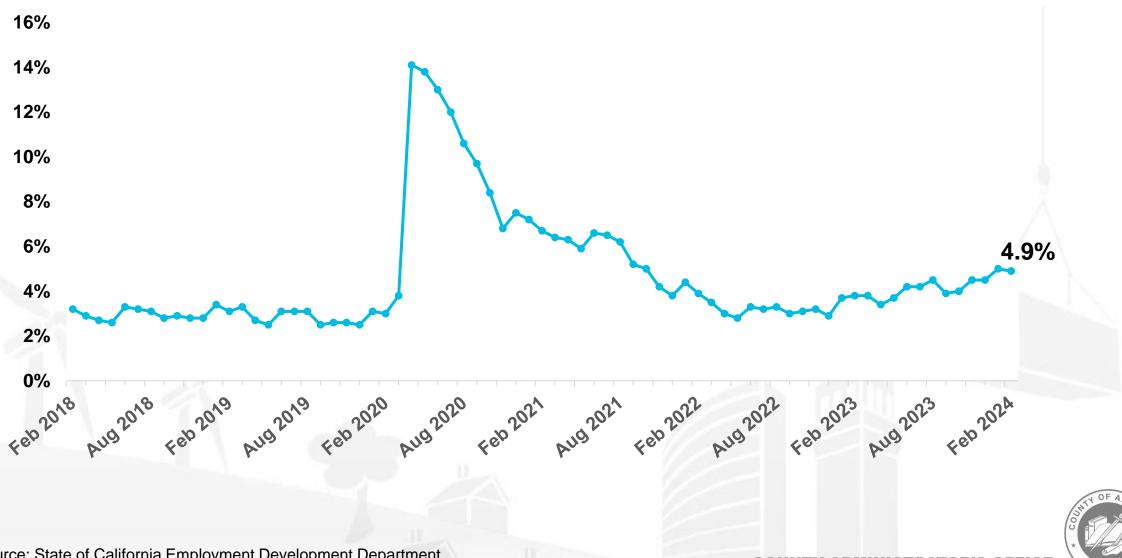
- Economic Context, Federal, and State Update
- County Budget Updates
  - Board-Approved FY 2024-25 Budget Policy
  - FY 2024-25 Budget Next Steps
- Pending Factors
- FY 2024-25 Preliminary MOE Department Presentations



## **Economic Context**



## **Alameda County Unemployment**



Source: State of California Employment Development Department

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## **Bay Area Layoffs**

- Tech companies eliminated nearly 4,000 jobs by early February according to WARN data filed with State EDD
- After just 5 weeks of 2024, tech layoffs in the Bay Area this year equate to nearly 20% of tech jobs cut in the Bay Area in all of 2023
- Other notable layoffs in 2024
  - Health Blue Shield and Kaiser
  - Biotech Personalis, Inc. and Lonza Biologics
  - Other Apple, Macys, Rivian, Marriott, Electronic Arts







Personalis

### **Economic Takeaways**

- Labor market remains tight
- Tech continues to grow despite layoffs
  - Artificial Intelligence investments
- Consumption remains strong and signals shifting priorities
- Low inventory and high mortgage rates driving the real estate market
  - Significant construction labor shortage persists; slower housing growth
- Federal Reserve has signaled additional rate cuts



## **State and Federal Updates**



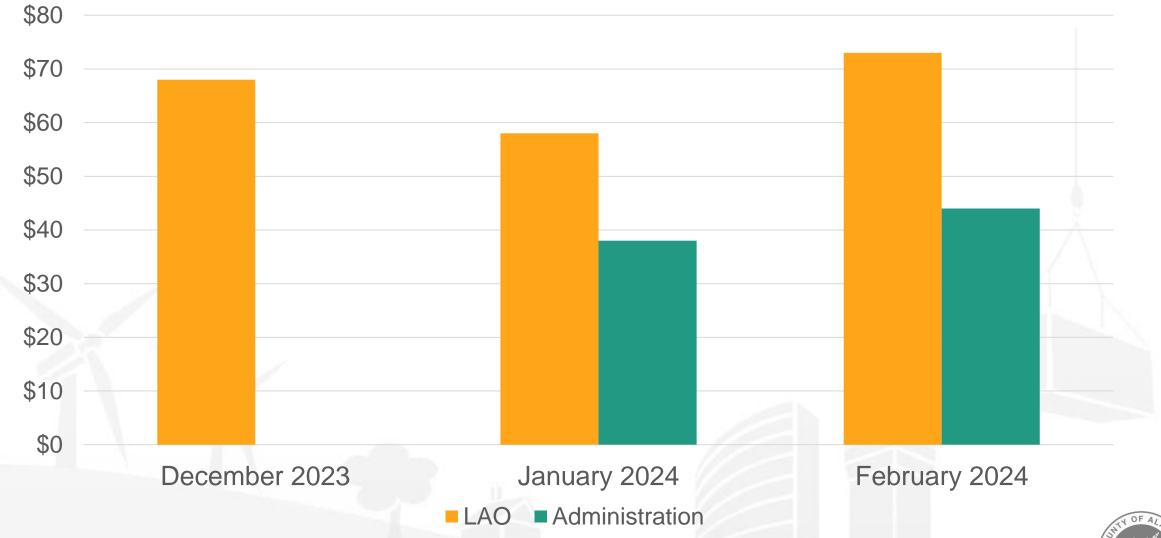
#### **State Budget Update**

#### Weak revenue collections resulting in significant budget challenges

- The Department of Finance reports cash receipts are \$5 billion below the 24-25 Budget forecast for January and nearly \$6 billion below the fiscal year-to-date forecast.
- The LAO released a report on February 20 projecting a \$73 billion budget deficit, further widening the difference between the LAO projection and the administration's estimate.
- Anticipate significant budgetary revisions in May.



### **Estimated State Revenue Shortfall (\$ in billions)**





### **State Budget Balancing – "Early Action Plan"**

On April 4, the Governor and legislative leaders announced a \$17.3 billion "early action" plan to address the State's budget gap

- Reductions: Salary savings from vacant positions, CalWORKs Single Allocation, Foreclosure Intervention Housing Preservation Program
- Delays: Public transit, Early Care Education facilities grant program, Behavioral Health Bridge Housing, CA Jobs First, Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program
- Revenue/Borrowing: MCO Tax
- Fund Shifts and Deferrals: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, retirement contribution reductions, Statewide payroll deferral



### **Federal Update**

- On March 11, President Biden released his \$7.3 trillion Fiscal Year 2025 budget with key components including:
  - Tax hikes for higher-income households and corporations
  - Expanded child care, and housing initiatives
    - \$7.7 billion in WIC funding
    - New program under which working families with incomes up to \$200,000 per year would be guaranteed affordable, high-quality child care from birth until kindergarten
    - \$1.3 billion in the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) to construct and rehabilitate affordable rental housing and provide homeownership opportunities
    - \$7.5 billion in mandatory funding for new Project-Based Rental Assistance
    - \$4.1 billion for Homeless Assistance Grants



## 2024-25 MOE Budget



### **MOE Budget Guidelines**

Maintenance of Effort: The funding level needed by agencies/departments to continue existing programs, staffing and service levels.

- Known salary/benefits, operational and internal service fund adjustments
- Current revenue projections should first offset eligible increased operating costs
- 5.0% cost-of-living adjustment for eligible contracts with community-based organizations
- Mid-year Board approved adjustments
- MOE does not generally include COVID-19 impacts
- Alignment with Vision 2026





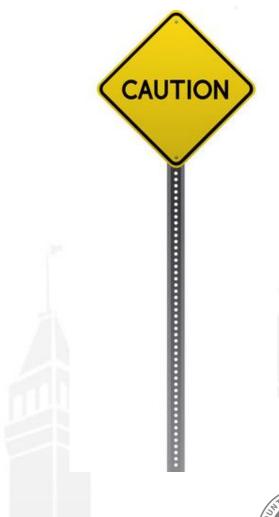
## FY 2024-25 Budget Development Next Steps

- Continue analysis of program expenditure & revenue projections
- Analyze & update non-program revenue and expenditure projections
- Identify any remaining funding gap & balancing strategies
- Analyze Governor's May Revision
- Submit balanced Proposed Budget to Board of Supervisors
- Budget Hearings
- Adopt balanced Final Budget by June 30th



## **Pending Factors**

- Ongoing homelessness crisis; Home Together Plan
- Labor negotiations & workforce challenges
- Pending litigation and settlements
- Rising insurance costs
- Rising health benefit costs
- Potential federal and State audit disallowances
- Unfunded capital needs
- CARE Court implementation / MHSA Changes
- Reimagining Justice
- Special election costs
- Assessment appeals
- Global finances and climate change
- Economic downturn





## FY 2024-25 Early Budget Work Session Schedule

#### **County Administrator's Overview**

Health Care AC Health

#### **Public Assistance**

Social Services Agency Child Support Services

#### **General Government**

General Services Agency Public Works Agency Community Development Agency Information Technology Department Registrar of Voters

#### **Public Protection**

Sheriff District Attorney Public Defender Probation Department Fire Department

#### **General Government (continued)**

Auditor Assessor Treasurer-Tax Collector Human Resource Services Library



