



GOLD COAST TRANSIT DISTRICT

ITEM 11: RECEIVE PRESENTATION ON DRAFT FY 2026 OPERATING BUDGET AND CAPITAL PLAN

Presenters:

Christine Feng, Assistant General Manager/CFO

Vanessa Rauschenberger, General Manager



OUR MISSION

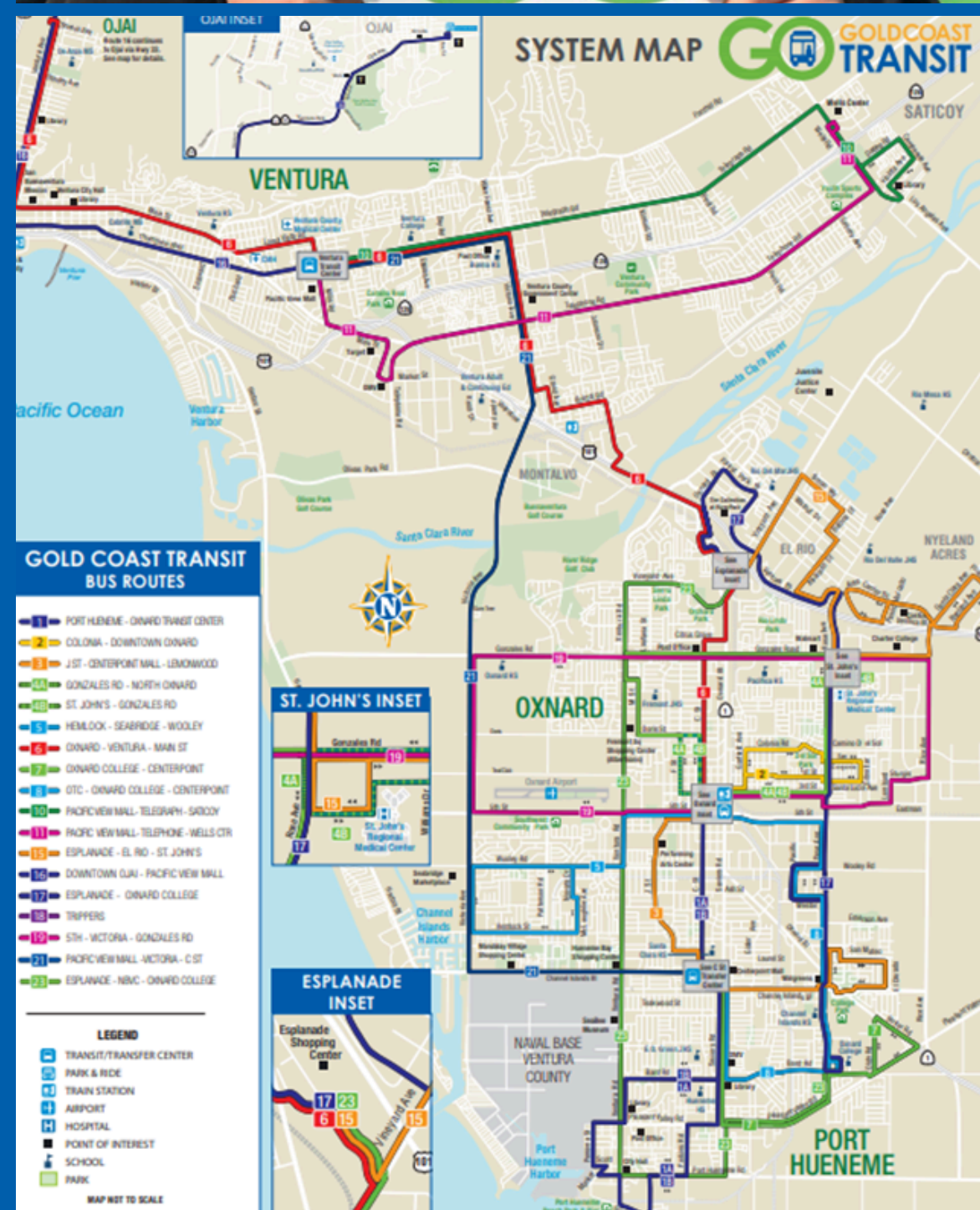
Serving, Moving, and Connecting
People to Opportunity –
One Ride at a Time.

OUR VISION

Revolutionize transportation in Ventura
County by leading initiatives that improve the
rider experience, achieve clean air, and drive
economic vitality.

QUICK FACTS

- Ridership: 3.6 million annually
- Fixed Route Fare: \$2 per ride, \$1 Reduced
- ADA Paratransit: \$4 per ride
- Operate 4:30am - 12am, 7 days a week
- Fleet Size: 61 Fixed Route + 28 Paratransit
- Employees: 240 Employees



FY 2026

BUDGET SOURCES OF FUNDING

Formula Federal Funds

FTA Formula Funds are federal dollars given to public transit agencies every year based on specific formulas including population, ridership, service area, etc.

Competitive Federal Funds

Unlike formula funds, competitive funds are not guaranteed – transit agencies must apply and compete for them. Examples include Low or No Emissions Grant, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Grant (CMAQ)



Regional Planning Agency



TDA/LTF ¼ State Sales Tax

Each county collects the ¼ cent sales tax and puts it into the Local Transportation Fund (LTF). Allocation formula based on population.

Other State Funds

Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP), TIRCP/ SB 125.

Programming Process



Passenger Fares

Fares collected account for roughly 11% of budget.



Other Sources

Fuel Credits, Advertising Revenue, other.

FY 2026

OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET OVERVIEW

Budget Development Process

MARCH

Information Gathering

APRIL

Preliminary Budget
Assumptions

MAY

Draft Budget to Board
(Public Hearing)

JUNE

Final Budget to Board for
Consideration

Proposed Operating Budget is \$36.2M

- 5.2% Increase from the FY 2025 Budget of \$34.4M
- Balanced with \$3.9M of SB 125 State Funding

Proposed Capital Budget is \$21.5M

- Bus Replacements
- First Phase of Hydrogen Station



FY 2026

MAJOR FACTORS IN FY 2026 BUDGET

Operating Factors

- Maintains Service Levels Same as Last Year
- Wages/Benefits (Increased by \$3.1M) - COLA's Primarily Based on MOU Agreements, Budget Also Reflects Additional Demand Response (ADA) Staff
- Addition of 2 FTE's - From 249 to 251 total FTEs
- Casualty & Liability (Increased by \$297K)

Savings/New Funding

- Contract Services (Decreased \$1.3M) end of ADA Contract
- Materials/Supplies/Fuel (Decreased by \$369K)
- New Revenue from Investments and Fuel Partnership
- Federal Grant - Late Night/Sunrise (Funding Increased \$596K)
- Federal Grant - Ventura Rd Route 23 (Funding increased \$890K)
- Lo No Grants Awarded - Hydrogen Fuel Project to start this year



FY 2026

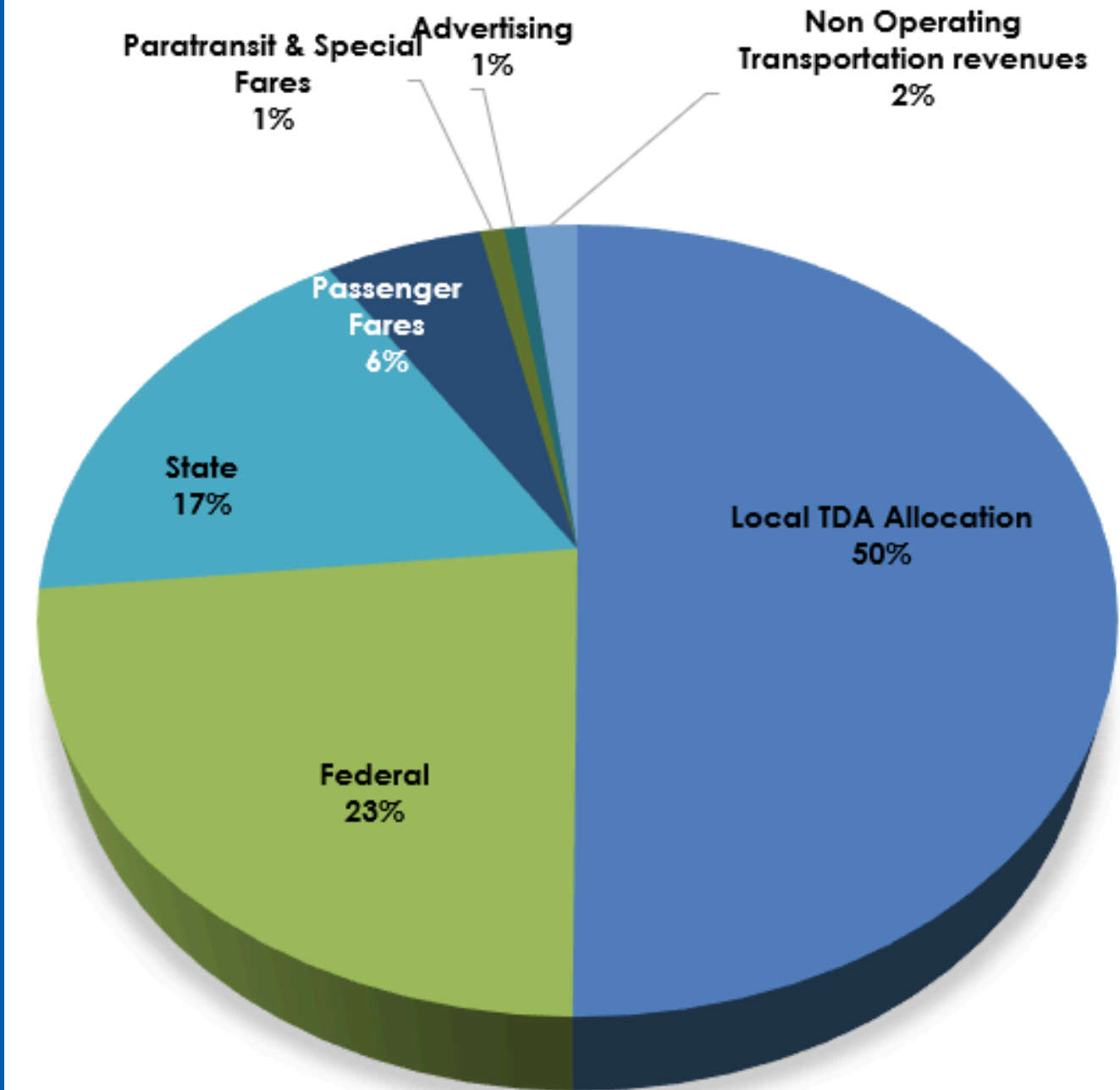
BUDGET REVENUE FUNDING SOURCES

Operating Revenues (Funding Sources)

Local TDA Allocation	\$	20,167,648
Federal	\$	9,354,523
State	\$	7,066,053
Passenger Fares	\$	2,250,000
Paratransit & Special Fares	\$	350,000
Advertising	\$	300,000
Non Operating Transportation revenues	\$	750,000
	\$	40,238,224

* Includes \$3.9M SB 125

FY 2026 Funding Sources

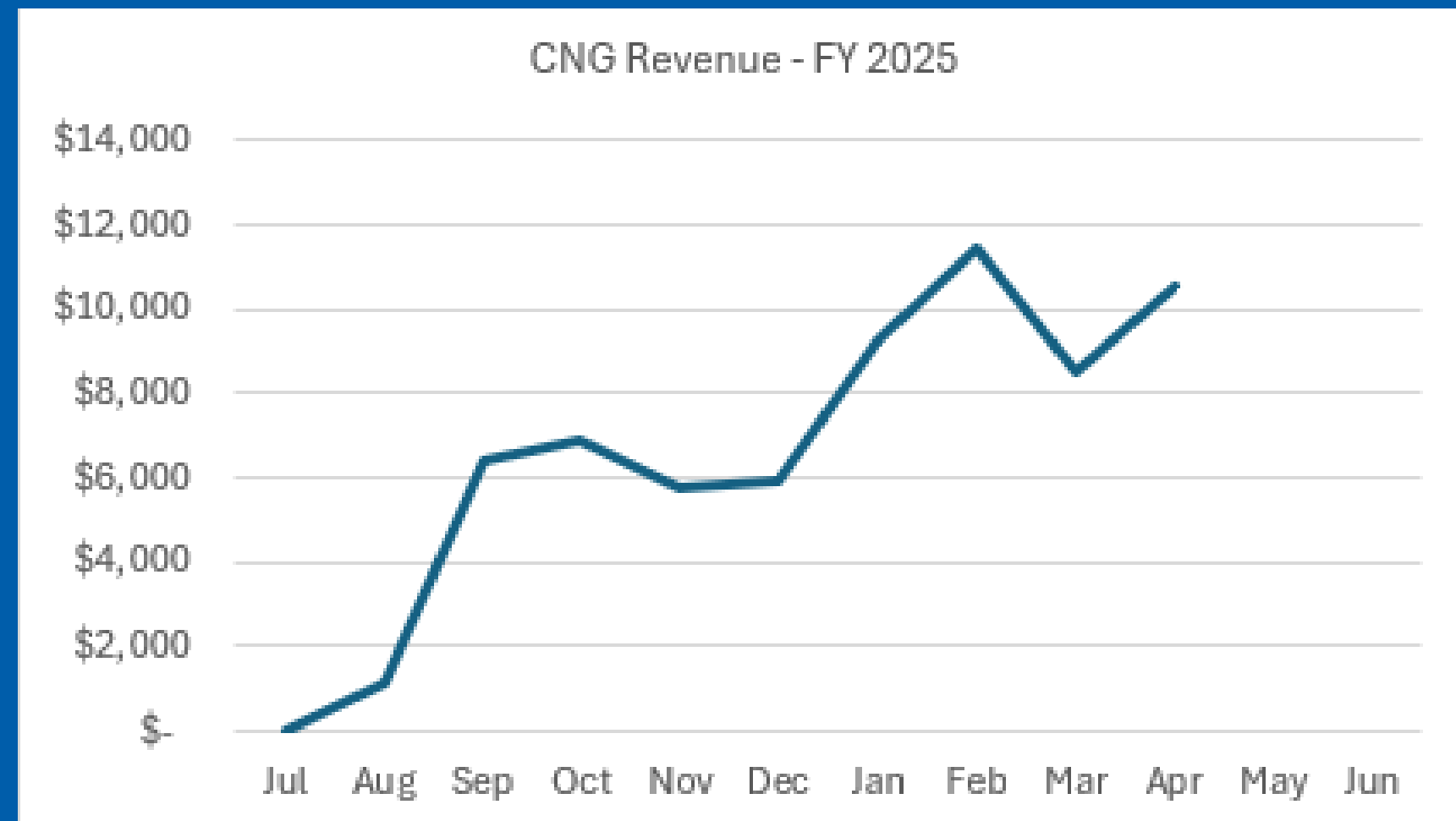


FY 2026

REVENUE HIGHLIGHT: CNG FUELING

CNG Fueling Partnership with the City of Oxnard

- GCTD's partnership with the City of Oxnard has been mutually beneficial.
- Other agencies have approached GCTD about vehicle fueling and GCTD looks to expand this program.

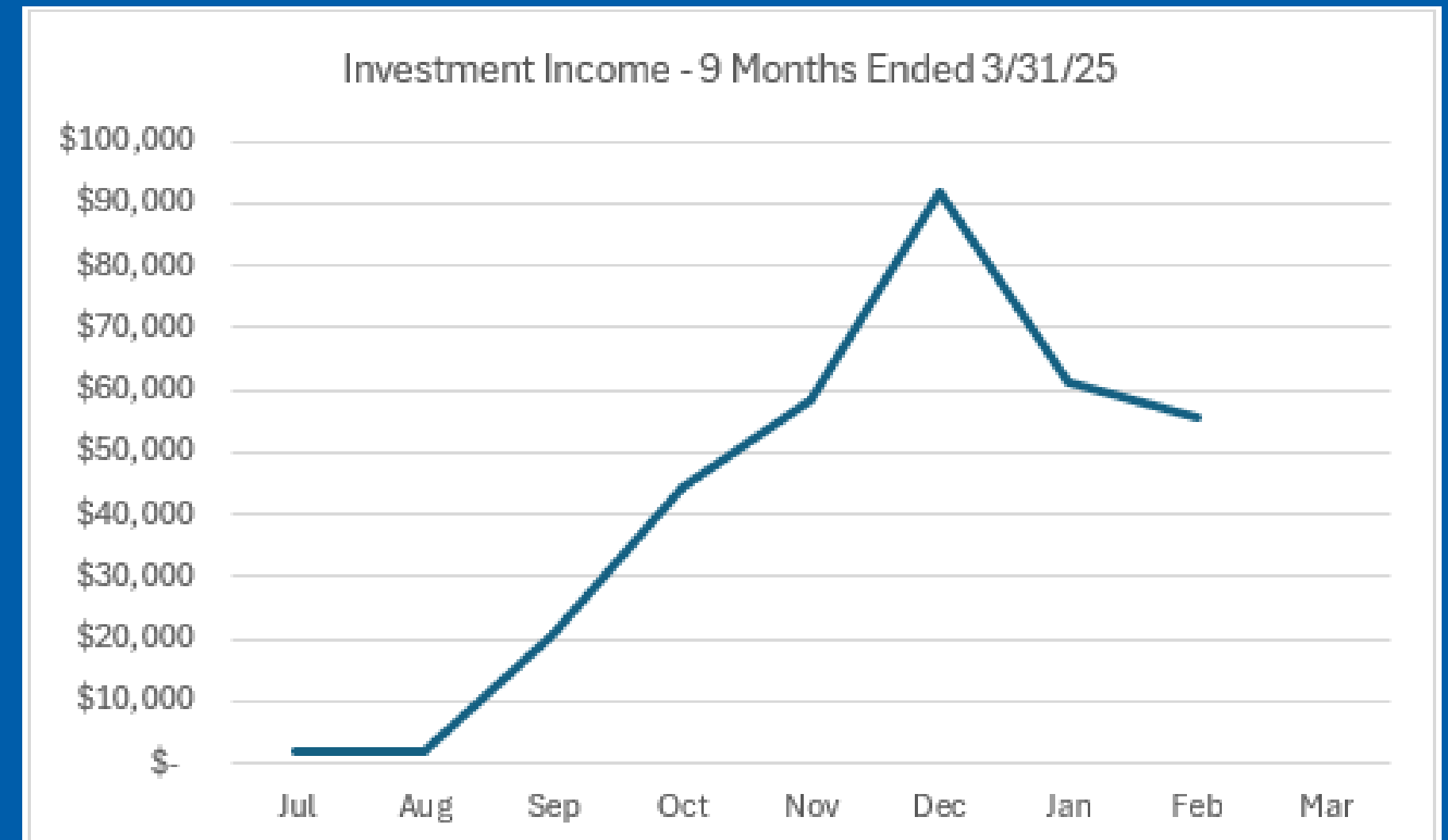


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REVENUE HIGHLIGHT: INVESTMENT INCOME

GCTD Investment Income Key Highlights

- New Investment Policy Approved by the Board Last Year.
- The SB 125 Operating Fund generated the highest returns, accounting for 79% of total investment income.
- January 2025 recorded the highest monthly earnings.
- Money Market Account and LAIF Account provided modest but stable returns.



FY 2026

BUDGET EXPENSES

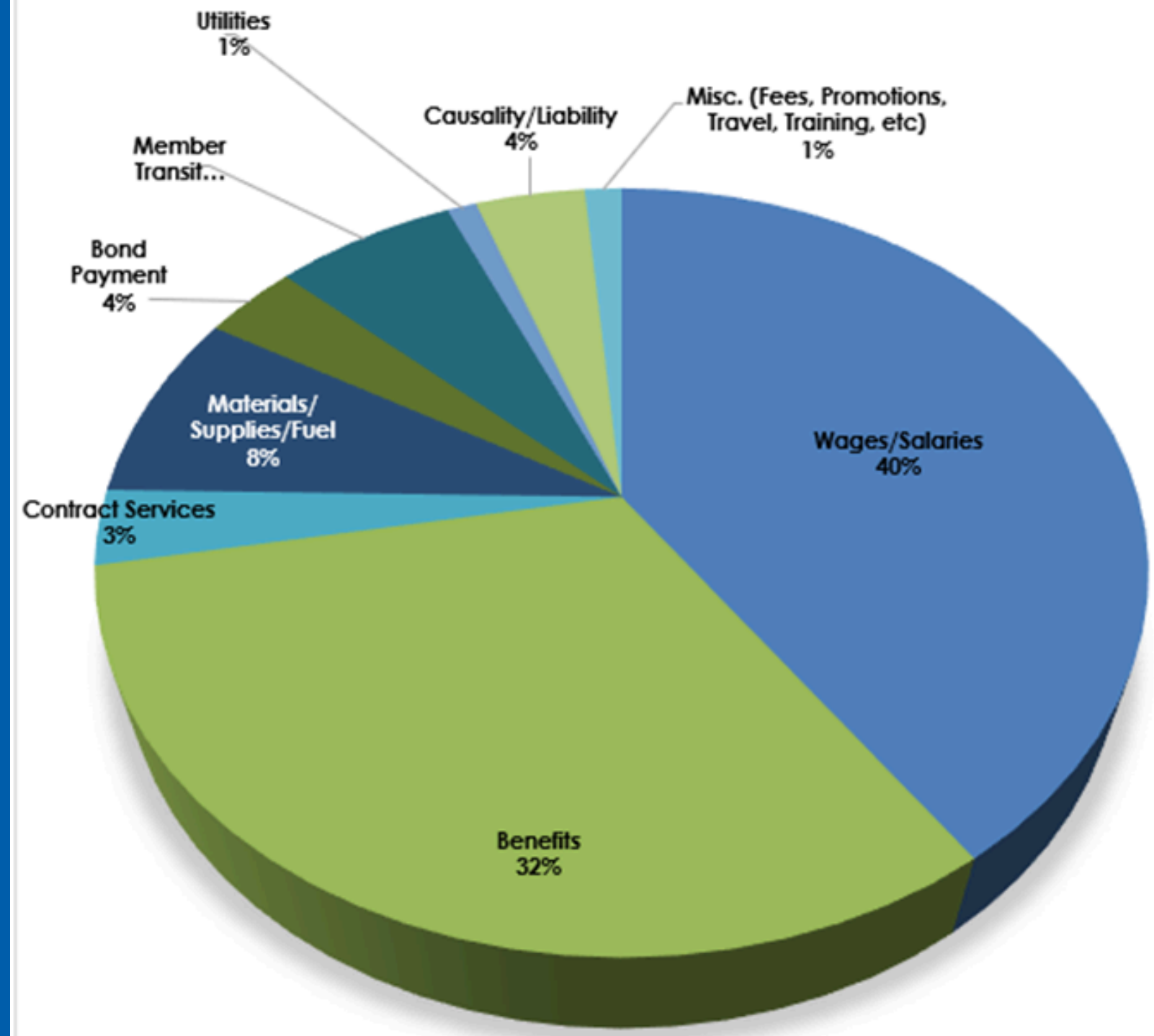
FY 26 Expense Budget

Wages/Salaries	\$	16,218,107
Benefits	\$	12,807,941
Contract Services	\$	1,274,086
Materials/Supplies/Fuel	\$	3,248,366
Utilities	\$	437,000
Causality/Liability	\$	1,636,500
Misc.	\$	551,000
Total Operating	\$	36,173,000

Bond Payment	\$	1,384,506
Member Transit Needs	\$	2,680,718
Total-Non Operating and Debt	\$	4,065,224

FY 2026 -Total Expense Budget	\$	40,238,224
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FY 26 Expenses



FY 2026

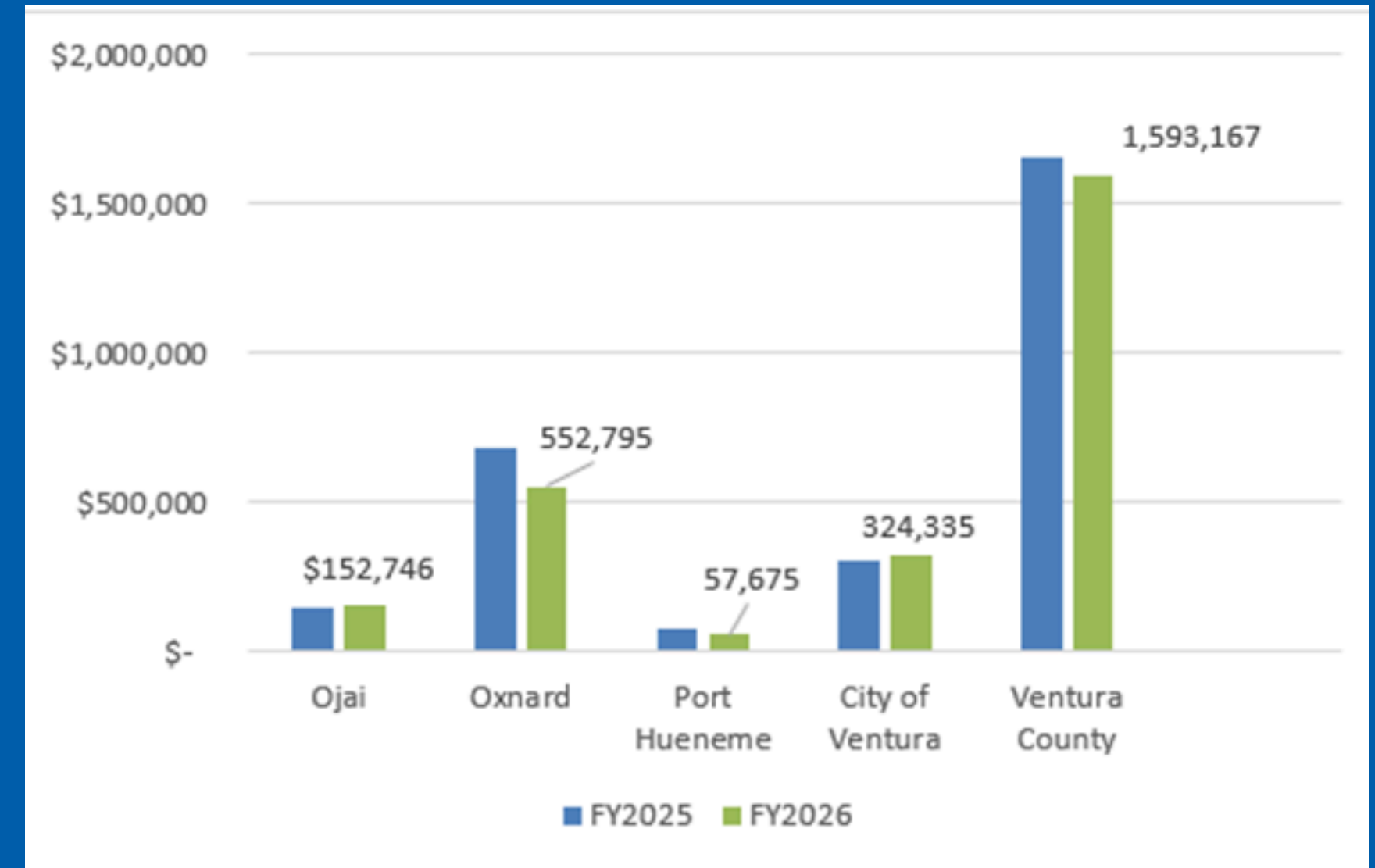
MEMBER AGENCY TRANSIT FUNDING

Total funding requests from member agencies for recurring transit needs:

\$2.68 million

Includes adjustments for carryover amounts for Ventura County, Oxnard & Port Hueneme.

- Member Funded Transit Services
- Oxnard/Ventura Transit Center Maintenance
- Kanan Road Shuttle/East County Transit Alliance (ECTA)
- Bus Stop Maintenance



FY 2026

DEBT - BOND PAYMENT

The FY 26 Budget Includes the Annual \$1.34 Million Bond Payment.

A key milestone in GCTD history occurred when the District relocated to the new facility in July 2019.

To fund the facility, the District secured commitments for over 50% of the total project cost in Federal and State grants, with the remainder coming from a \$22 million Certificates of Participation (COPs) issue.



FY 2026

CAPITAL PLAN - FUNDING IDENTIFIED

Capital Projects included in the FY 2026 Budget are projects with grant funding that has been identified for a specific use, such as bus replacements, and can not be used for Operating purposes.

FY 26 CAPITAL EXPENSES

Replacement Fixed Route Bus, CNG (9 Gilligs)	\$6,864,188
Replacement Demand Response, CNG (6 Cutaways)	\$1,131,000
Replacement Demand Response, Gas (1 Ford Transit)	\$110,000
Replacement Fixed Route Bus, FCEB (New Flyer)	\$6,664,663
Hydrogen Fuel Station Project Management, Design & Construction	\$4,587,186
Replacement Support Vehicle (Non-Revenue)	\$65,000
Replacement Service Vehicle, ZEB (Non-Revenue) Relief Sedans)	\$93,000
Business System Upgrades (Security camera system, computer replacements, etc.)	\$72,000
Facility Solar/Energy Storage Project	\$1,824,496
Vehicle Charging Infrastructure	\$89,745
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	\$21,481,248



FY 2026 BUDGET TWO - YEAR COMPARISON

- Proposed FY 2026 Budget is Balanced
- Represents a 4.15% Increase Over FY 2025

FY 26 FUNDING SOURCES

LOCAL OPERATING REVENUE				
Total Local Operating Revenues (Fares, Advertising, etc)	\$	3,530,970	\$	3,650,000 3.37%
LOCAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDS / TDA Allocation to GCTD				
Total Local Transportation Funds / Transportation Development Act	\$	20,631,299	\$	20,167,648 -2.25%
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION				
Total Federal Funds (Formula 5307, 5310, 5339)	\$	8,696,270	\$	9,354,523 7.57%
STATE FUNDS				
Total State Operating including B 125 (One time funding)	\$	5,775,005	\$	7,066,053 22.36%
Total Operating Revenues--Funding Sources	\$	38,633,544	\$	40,238,224 4.15%

FY 26 EXPENSES

	FY 25		FY 26	
Wages/Benefits	\$	25,893,422	\$	29,026,048 12%
Contract Services	\$	2,580,550	\$	1,274,086 -51%
Materials/Supplies/Fuel	\$	3,618,300	\$	3,248,366 -10%
Utilities	\$	450,000	\$	437,000 -3%
Causality and Liability	\$	1,340,000	\$	1,636,500 22%
Misc. (Fees, Promotions, Travel, Training, etc)	\$	509,500	\$	551,000 8%
Total Operating	\$	34,391,772	\$	36,173,000 5%
Bond Payment and Member distribution				
Total Non-Operating	\$	4,241,772	\$	4,065,224 -4.16%
Total Expenses:	\$	38,633,544	\$	40,238,224 4.15%



FY 2026

RECOMMENDATION

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Conduct Public Hearing to Receive Comments on the Proposed DRAFT FY 2026 Operating & Capital Budget.

A final Budget will be brought back for the Board to Consider for Approval in June.

