

January 06, 2026

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 383
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
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MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

18 January 6, 2026

EDWARD YEN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RECEIPT OF THE PUBLIC DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET PRESENTATION PROCESS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNANCE REFORM TASK FORCE (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

The Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors (EO) is requesting the Board of Supervisors (Board) receive the Governance Reform Task Force's (GRTF) recommendations developed in response to Board order No. 19 of November 26, 2024, to establish a process for departments to present their budget requests in a public Board meeting, including schedules that comply with state law, starting with FY 2026–27.

The EO also requests the Board direct the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in collaboration with the EO, to implement the GRTF recommendations that can be feasibly carried out within existing authority and within the timelines required under state law and the Los Angeles County Code for the FY 2026–27 budget cycle. EO further requests the Board direct the CEO, in collaboration with EO, to report back with an analysis regarding implementation of the GRTF's recommendations for consideration as part of longer-term process improvements for future fiscal years.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Receive the GRTF recommendations to be implemented beginning with the FY 2026-27 budget cycle within existing authority and in accordance with timelines established under state law and the Los Angeles County Code. The GRTF recommendations include structured scheduling, transparency and access, improved presentation format, performance evaluations, public engagement strategies, and long-term process considerations, are set forth in detail in the GRTF reports on Public Budget Presentations (Attachment 1).

2. Direct the CEO, in collaboration with the EO, to take all necessary actions to implement the GRTF recommendations that can be feasibly carried out for the FY 2026-27 budget cycle and to report back in 180 days with an analysis of implementing the GRTF recommendations in future budget cycles.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended actions is to fulfill Board order No. 19 of November 26, 2024, which tasks the GRTF with proposing a process for public departmental budget presentations beginning in FY 2026-27.

By implementing the recommended actions, the Board ensures that:

- The FY 2026-27 budget cycle will include a transparent, structured public budget hearing process for departments enabling a more meaningful public oversight and engagement in County budgeting decisions.
- The implementation aligns with the voter approved Measure G Charter Amendment, which mandates public budget presentations and broader governance reforms.
- The County institutionalizes greater transparency and accountability in fiscal decision making, strengthening public trust and supporting equitable, community responsive resource allocation in alignment with the core governance reform goals of Measure G.

The GRTF recommendations are set forth in detail in the GRTF report on Public Budget Presentations (Attachment 1).

CEO will consult with departments and relevant stakeholders, including the GRTF, as necessary while implementing the recommended actions.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support North Star 3: Realize tomorrow's government today, Strategy G - Internal Controls and Processes, of the County's Strategic Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Implementation of the GRTF recommendations for FY 2026-27 public budget presentations using existing authority is expected to have no fiscal impact beyond normal budget process operations.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Board order No. 19 of November 26, 2024, directed the EO, in consultation with County Counsel, to establish the GRTF, develop a draft scope of work, and ensure the Task Force is empowered to make recommendations on governance reforms, including a proposed process for public budget hearings beginning in FY 2026-27.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Implementation of the GRTF's recommendations to the extent feasible for the FY 2026-27 public budget presentations is designed to enhance current public departmental budget presentations. Departments will continue to prepare and submit budgets on schedule, while the new public budget presentation process increases transparency, accountability, and public engagement without delaying internal workflow.

CONCLUSION

Upon the Board's receipt, the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, is requesting to return one received stamped Board Letter to the GRTF.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward Yen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Edward" on the top line and "Yen" on the bottom line.

Edward Yen

Executive Officer

EY:SH:SK:js

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel



Los Angeles County Governance Reform Task Force

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 W Temple Street, ROOM 383, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012



December 10, 2025

TO: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell
Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

FROM: Los Angeles County Governance Reform Task Force

SUBJECT: **GOVERNANCE REFORM TASK FORCE PROPOSED
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEPARTMENTS TO PRESENT THEIR
BUDGET REQUESTS IN A PUBLIC BOARD MEETING, INCLUDING
SCHEDULES THAT COMPLY WITH STATE LAW, STARTING WITH
THE FY 2026-27 BUDGET (ITEM NO. 19, AGENDA OF NOVEMBER
26, 2024).**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On November 5, 2024, Los Angeles County voters approved Charter Amendment Measure G. The Governance Reform Taskforce (GRTF), created under Measure G, is charged with implementing the amendment, conducting robust community and stakeholder outreach, and advising the Board on matters related to the governance transition.

Among the provisions, Section 25-2/3 of the Charter Amendment requires each County department head to present their requested budget at a public Board meeting prior to adoption of the annual County budget. The GRTF established a Public Budget Hearing Ad Hoc Subcommittee to review the process, examine best practices, conduct outreach, and develop recommendations for improving the process.

The subcommittee reviewed all public budget presentations delivered by department heads during a series of special Board meetings held in February and early March 2025 and met with representatives from the Chief Executive Office (CEO) to discuss their interim implementation process. With staff support, the subcommittee also conducted an internal county survey, which included 45 respondents across 38 County

departments, to gather input from departments on their experience and issued a publicly accessible survey with 1,853 participants to assess whether the public watched and understood the presentations and to assess whether the interim process developed by the CEO's office improved transparency and comprehension of County budget requests. According to the public survey a slim majority believe the presentations increased transparency at least somewhat; but one-third saw no change, and approximately 1 in 10 felt transparency decreased. This ambivalence indicates that Year One delivered partial progress toward Measure G's transparency goals but fell short of transformative impact.

On December 10, 2025, during its regular meeting, the GRTF Public Budget Presentations Ad Hoc Subcommittee presented its recommendations to the full task force for consideration and vote. Twelve of the thirteen task force members were in attendance, and after review and discussion, they unanimously approved all proposed recommendations. The GRTF offers these recommendations to build upon the progress made in Year 1 and will continue to observe and monitor the next two fiscal years to evaluate impact. The Board of Supervisors and the future Charter Review Commission should continue to monitor in subsequent years. These recommendations are advisory and intended to support implementation of Measure G; they do not modify or expand statutory requirements under the Charter.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Following a review of relevant documents, analysis of internal and public survey results, review and evaluation of all departmental public budget presentations from special Board meetings held in February and March 2025, and consultation with CEO on the interim process, the GRTF makes the following recommendations:

Structured and Consistent Scheduling

- Cluster-Based Presentation Model: Group departmental budget presentations according to their program clusters (e.g., Public Safety, Health, Community Services) to provide thematic continuity and improve public understanding.
- Fixed Annual Presentation Window: Establish a predictable, recurring timeframe, including the designation of February as the annual month for Public Budget Presentations to support consistent planning for departments, stakeholders, and the public.
- Efficient Public Comment & Q&A Management: Develop clear procedures for public comment and Board member Q&A that maintain transparency while keeping presentations timely and manageable.

Transparency and Public Access to Materials

- Advance Posting of Materials: Require all departmental presentations and supporting materials to be posted on a central CEO Budget webpage at least five days before Public Budget Presentations.
- Centralized Information Hub: Create a single, easy-to-find online location for all budget-related presentations, reports, and schedules to prevent confusion and improve accessibility.
- Budget Notification System: Add a budget-specific GovDelivery subscription option to provide automatic alerts regarding new postings, meeting dates, presentation schedules, and opportunities for public input.

Accessible Presentation Materials

- Simplified Presentation Format: Redesign or refine the standardized presentation template to focus on high-level summaries while shifting detailed financial data, unmet needs, and technical documentation to separate supplemental reports.
- ADA & Language Access: Ensure all presentations, summaries, videos, and posted materials meet ADA requirements and are accessible across multiple languages and abilities.

Performance Evaluation

- Performance & Goals Integration: Require each departmental presentation to include a summary of performance outcomes, progress toward goals for the previous year, and proposed measurable metrics for the coming year.
- Each department should undertake a stakeholder engagement process that incorporates input from service end users, other external stakeholders, department leadership, and rank-and-file employees who carry out daily operations as they relate to the County Strategic Plan and Priorities.

Public Education & Engagement

- “What to Expect” Video Guide: Produce and post a clear, plain-language video on the CEO Budget website that explains the budget process, how to engage, and what occurs during Public Budget Presentations.
- Expanded Educational Resources: Develop additional short video explainers or infographics to help the public understand County budget fundamentals before attending presentations.
- Post-Presentation Surveys: Conduct surveys of both departments and community participants after each annual cycle to collect feedback and inform continuous improvement.

Long-Term Process Considerations

- Assess Structural Reform Needs: Evaluate broader structural changes to the County's overall budget development process including but not limited to budgetary best practices, alternative budget cycles, participatory budgeting, anticipation of changes for the FY 2029-2030 budget cycle with the formation of an executive branch, also mandated under Measure G.
- Develop Guidance for Future Budget Director: Consider processes and mechanisms to support the future Budget Director to work collaboratively with the Board, Department Heads, and the future County Executive in designing and implementing a stakeholder outreach process to ensure stakeholder voices are systematically integrated into budget development and presentation.
- Phased Improvement Plan: Acknowledge that while there is substantial work ahead, this set of recommendations is achievable for the 2026 cycle, with additional refinements and long-term improvements to follow in future cycles.

The subcommittee will continue to observe and monitor the process for the next two fiscal years to evaluate impact and offer additional feedback. The Board of Supervisors and the future Charter Review Commission should continue to monitor in subsequent years.

INTRODUCTION

According to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), transparency in budgeting is crucial for building citizen trust, fostering accountability, improving governance and leading to better financial management and outcomes. Transparency in the budget process helps governments make smarter, more effective financial decisions by providing accessible information for informed public engagement and oversight. An overwhelming 92.2% of respondents to our public survey of external stakeholders deem accessible budget information “very” or “extremely important.” This is a clear mandate from the public that transparency is not optional – it is central to trust and accountability and aligns with nationally recognized best practices.

The Governance Reform Taskforce recognizes transparency as the core purpose of Section 25-2/3 of the Measure G Charter Amendment. Approved by voters on November 5, 2024, Measure G requires significant changes to the County's governance structure, including the establishment of the GRTF.

BACKGROUND: INTERIM PROCESS FOR PUBLIC DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET HEARINGS

Immediately following the passage of Measure G, the CEO faced a new and unexpected mandate to hold public budget presentations. Because the County had already issued its budget instructions in mid-November, the CEO had to design a

completely new public-facing process that would run in parallel with, but not disrupt, the internal budget review schedule. After considering several options, the CEO selected February for the presentations since it was late enough that departments could complete and submit their requests, but still early enough that the Board's input could shape the recommendations being developed in March.

To maintain clarity and ensure consistency across all departments, the CEO issued a standardized three-slide template and communicated specific expectations regarding presentation length. The guidance instructed departments to focus on priority issues, key initiatives, significant risks, and any fire related issues requiring immediate attention.¹ Departments were also encouraged to bring all relevant data and information to the presentation so they could respond to Board questions without requiring supplemental reports.

The interim cycle brought forward a number of logistical hurdles. One of the most complex tasks was arranging approximately 38 departmental presentations within the existing Tuesday meeting schedule. This involved extensive coordination with the Board Chair's office and required ongoing adjustments due to competing scheduling demands. The slide template, while helpful for standardization, proved visually dense when viewed on the non-HD broadcast feed, making it difficult for members of the public to follow along. The CEO also dedicated time in their regular budget meetings with departments to help them prepare for their public presentations.

The CEO also noted that the overall process was constrained by state-mandated deadlines, the compressed January-through-March review window, staggered departmental submissions, and the unpredictability of both public comment and Board Q&A.

In Los Angeles County, the Board of Supervisors traditionally approves the recommended budget in April, conducts a public hearing on the budget in May, and adopts the budget in June prior to the start of the fiscal year to ensure complete spending authority is in place on July 1. The County then makes revisions to the adopted budget throughout the fiscal year, including a supplemental budget, also called the Final Adopted Budget, in September/October and two mid-year adjustments².

¹ In January 2025, two fires in Los Angeles County burned over 37,000 acres, including structures in both rural and urbanized areas, causing the county to face \$2 billion in recovery costs, straining its budget

Rebecca Ellis, *L.A County Faces \$2 Billion in Fire Recovery Cost Straining Budget*, Los Angeles Times, April 14, 2025, <https://www.latimes.com/article/la-county-faces-2-billion-in-fire-recovery-cost-straining-budget>.

² The County Budget Act (Gov't Code §§ 29000–29144) establishes the statutory framework governing how California counties must prepare, publish, review, and adopt their annual budgets. The Act defines the “budget year” as the fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) for which the budget is being prepared (Gov't Code § 29001(e)); the “recommended budget” as the preliminary budget prepared and submitted by the county administrative officer

To provide context for this timeline, the CEO provided the GRTF with a chart outlining the budget calendar in terms of State law, County Code, and the dates used for the 23-24 through 25-26 budget processes which details the key procedural steps and statutory deadlines followed by the County of Los Angeles in the development and adoption of its final budget ([see Appendix A](#)).

GRTF REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

From September through December 2025, the Public Budget Hearing Ad Hoc Subcommittee of the GRTF conducted a comprehensive review of the interim public budget hearing process. This review included examining the public budget presentations and materials delivered by department heads during the special Board meetings held in February and early March 2025, meeting with representatives from the CEO's office to understand the interim implementation approach and collecting feedback through both internal and external surveys.

The interim process review provided the GRTF with essential factual and operational insight into how Measure G's new budget requirements functioned during their first year of implementation. However, logistical assessment alone could not determine whether the interim approach meaningfully advanced the measure's central goals: transparency, public engagement, and departmental readiness. For this reason, the GRTF relied on two complementary survey instruments: one internal and one public-facing. This approach provided a comprehensive understanding of the interim process from both those responsible for delivering information and those intended to receive it. This feedback was critical to refining the process for Year 2, strengthening alignment with Measure G's transparency and accountability goals, and improving public accessibility and trust.

INTERNAL SURVEY

With staff support, the subcommittee designed and administered an internal survey that received responses from 45 individuals representing 38 County departments, capturing departmental experiences with preparing for and delivering public budget presentations. Conducting an internal survey allowed the GRTF to capture the experiences of those directly responsible for preparing and delivering the presentations, identify systemic challenges and points of strain, and gather practical recommendations from practitioners themselves.

To encourage candid feedback, we did not require respondents to identify their department, so we cannot definitively confirm that all 38 departments submitted a

(Gov't Code § 29001(j) and 29061(c); the "adopted budget" as the budget approved by the Board of Supervisors after public hearings (Gov't Code §§ 29001(b), 29080 - 29093); and the "final budget" as the adopted budget adjusted by all revisions throughout the fiscal year as of June 30 (Gov't Code §§ 29001(g), 29120-29130).

survey. However, the number of responses received, along with the fact that those departments with multiple staff respondents did identify their department, suggests that the remaining anonymous responses likely came from other departments. This indicates that nearly all departments participated (**see attached Appendix B: Internal Budget Survey Results**).

We reviewed the internal survey results. The objective of this analysis is to evaluate Year 1 of the new public presentation mandate by assessing:

- How departments experienced Year 1 of the new public presentation mandate
- Where gaps and opportunities exist in the current process
- What practical improvements departments themselves recommend for the 2026-27 Budget Year (Year 2)

In terms of context, Year 1 was implemented on a compressed and unanticipated timeline. The CEO's Office had to pivot in early December, overlaying a new public hearing format on top of the existing budget process and compressing scheduling, preparation, and public broadcast logistics. The standardized template helped maintain consistency but was not easily readable to the public on television or online viewing, and public engagement was lower than hoped, with most feedback focused on the unreadable slides rather than the substance of the process.

Across the survey:

- **Leadership involvement was high.** About two-thirds of respondents were “very involved” in planning/delivering their presentation, and over one-third were department heads.
- **The template and direct CEO analyst support were the most valued tools** for getting presentations ready under tight timelines.
- **Time constraints were overwhelming.** Over 90% identified time constraints as a challenge, and open-text responses repeatedly flagged late notice, shifting instructions, and compressed prep time.
- **Transparency goals were partially met but not fully realized.** Most respondents felt presentations were at least “somewhat effective” at increasing transparency, but few said they were “very effective,” and nearly 9 in 10 reported receiving *no* direct public feedback.
- **Departments want more stable, flexible, and publicly readable formats** and more lead time, along with clearer expectations about how the presentations tie to final funding decisions and Measure G’s statutory intent.

Overall, the survey suggests that Year 1 successfully launched a new public-facing practice aligned with Measure G’s transparency and accountability goals, but under

significant operational strain. Departments see value in the concept and support of continuing it; strongly signaling that timing, template design, public readability, and community voice mechanisms need improvement for Year 2.

PUBLIC SURVEY OF EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS

To ensure a comprehensive assessment of LA County's interim public budget presentations under Measure G, it was necessary to pair the internal department survey with a community-wide public survey. Best-practice frameworks in participatory budgeting and government transparency consistently emphasize the importance of collecting feedback from both internal stakeholders, who understand operational processes, and community members, who experience public engagement efforts firsthand.

Accordingly, this report incorporates results from a countywide SurveyMonkey questionnaire completed by 1,853 participants during Year 1. When combined with the already completed internal survey, these public survey findings provide a dual-lens evaluation; one that captures how departments implemented the inaugural public hearing process and how residents perceived its accessibility, clarity, and usefulness. Together, these perspectives form a more complete evidence base for improving Measure G implementation in the 2026–27 Budget Year (Year 2) and beyond (**see attached Appendix C: Public Budget Survey Results**).

Key takeaways:

1. Awareness and Reach Were Limited.

- Only 19.1% of respondents attended the presentations (2.9% in person, 16.2% online).
- A majority (55.2%) did not even know the presentations occurred; another 25.6% were aware but did not attend.

2. Transparency Improved, But Not Dramatically.

- 54.3% felt presentations increased transparency in budget decisions ("greatly" or "somewhat"), but 33.9% saw no change and 9.0% felt transparency decreased.
- Understanding of the budget process also improved somewhat, but one-third reported no change and 11–13% reported decreased understanding.

3. Community Voice Is Not Yet Visible.

- Only 44.8% felt community voices were reflected “very much” or “somewhat” in the process; 48.5% answered “not really” or “not at all.”
- Open-ended comments repeatedly describe one-way presentations, with limited opportunities to influence priorities or ask questions.

4. Presentations Were Generally Accessible, But Content Was Dense.

- For language clarity, 67.2% found presentations “very” or “mostly accessible.”
- Yet 40.4% cited length/complexity as a key barrier and 21.7% cited lack of awareness as a barrier to access.

5. The Public Wants Concrete, Local, Outcome-Focused Information.

- Top priorities for future content include:
 - How much funding each department receives (68.9%)
 - Outcomes from spending (66.1%)
 - Administration vs direct services (64.4%)
 - Plain-language visuals (64.9%)
 - How funding decisions are made (62.0%)
- Public safety/justice and health/human services budgets are of greatest interest (~72–73% each).

6. Strong Appetite for Continued Engagement.

- 89.5% of respondents say they would participate in future public budget discussions (“yes” or “maybe”).
- At the same time, only about 1 in 5 feel they understand the County budget “well” or “very well”; most describe their understanding as moderate or slight.

7. Results Align with Measure G’s Intent but Highlight Gaps.

- The survey affirms that public budget hearings are valued and seen as consistent with Measure G’s goals of transparency and community engagement.

- However, the Year 1 interim process, implemented quickly by the CEO's Office with a standardized template under tight Board scheduling, limited public readability and engagement.
- For Year 2, the public is calling for earlier notice, better outreach, clearer visuals, more time for questions, stronger community voice, and explicit attention to equity and local impacts.

These findings support the Board's directive that GRTF recommendations on public budget hearings must be grounded in actual practice and stakeholder input and must strengthen transparency, community engagement, and accountability under Measure G.

Together, these surveys serve as critical evidence-based tools that allow the GRTF to compare internal experience with public perception, identify gaps and areas of misalignment, and determine what improvements are most necessary for the FY 2026–27 budget cycle. This analysis forms the foundation for the recommendations that follow.

The following sections present the recommendations derived from our findings. For complete information on the findings of both surveys see Appendix B.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To advance Measure G's goals of greater transparency, stronger financial decision-making, and more informed public engagement and oversight, the GRTF offers recommendations to improve the public budget hearing process in five key areas: scheduling, transparency of materials, accessibility of materials, departmental performance evaluation, and public education and engagement.

RECOMMENDATION AREA 1: Structured and Consistent Scheduling

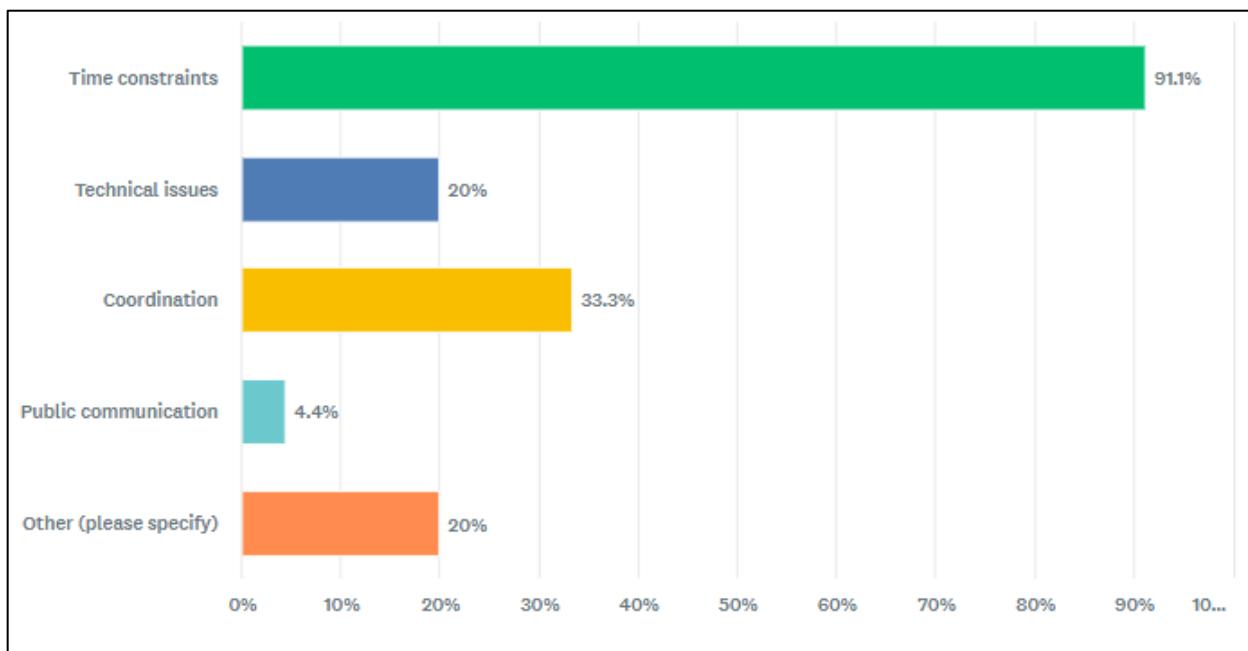
The results of the internal survey showed that department heads and senior staff were heavily involved in planning and delivering presentations. However, they repeatedly cited compressed timelines, shifting instructions, and limited preparation time as major barriers to doing the job in a way that fully matches Measure G's spirit of meaningful transparency and public understanding. When asked, "which of the following types of additional support or resources would have most improved your team's preparation?" 62% of respondents said clarity of instructions and 60% said timeliness of coordination.

Perhaps the most striking result of the internal survey was over nine in ten respondents (91.1%) cited time constraints as a challenge. Coordination and technical issues were significant but secondary. This aligns with the known Year 1 context: Year 1 was a sudden mandate layered onto an existing budget calendar, requiring the CEO to fit 39

department presentations into already packed Board agendas and forcing departments to prepare complex, public-facing presentations on a short timeline.

Graph 1: Challenges and barriers in planning

Question: *“What were some of the challenges or barriers your team faced in planning and preparing your budget presentation? (Select all that apply)” (n=45)*



Departments are essentially saying: “The supports we had were helpful, but we needed them earlier, clearer, and more stable.” Even though the template and support were valued in prior questions, respondents still identified clarity of instructions and timeliness as the top areas needing improvement.

Departments repeatedly requested more lead time and earlier release of final instructions and templates. Example sentiment: “I recommend allowing more time to prepare and offering clearer instructions,” often paired with concern about late changes to expectations.

Similarly, results from the public survey of external stakeholders found that awareness and direct participation were limited. Only 19.1% of respondents report attending in person or online, while over three-quarters (80.8%) did not attend, and a majority of all respondents were not aware that the presentations occurred at all. This aligns with Year 1 implementation challenges, where the CEO’s Office had to fit dozens of departmental presentations into a compressed Board calendar and public outreach was limited.

We offer the following recommendations to build a culture in which annually both departmental leadership and the public can anticipate when the hearings will happen. By building upon the cluster model, interested community members can engage in the budgets of greatest interest to them early in the process.

- **Cluster-Based Presentation Model:** Group departmental budget presentations according to their program clusters (e.g., Public Safety, Health, Community Services) to provide thematic continuity and improve public understanding.
- **Fixed Annual Presentation Window:** Establish a predictable, recurring timeframe such as designating February as the annual month for Public Budget Presentations to support consistent planning for departments, stakeholders, and the public.
- **Standardized Inclusion in Cluster Agendas:** Agendize each department's budget presentation materials for public comment at the appropriate Cluster meetings one week prior to public presentations (for public comment only, without discussion) to ensure transparency and early engagement.
- **Efficient Public Comment & Q&A Management:** Develop clear procedures for public comment and Board member Q&A that maintain transparency while keeping presentations timely and manageable.

RECOMMENDATION AREA 2: Transparency and Public Access to Materials

According to the public survey of external stakeholders, relatively few respondents believed the 2025 hearings greatly improved transparency. Among the relatively small group who did hear about the presentations, direct County communication (emails) and the County website were dominant information sources. Community-based channels, social media, and traditional media played a minor role. This suggests that outreach is still heavily institution-centric, not community-centric, which may limit reach to already-connected stakeholders rather than the broader public Measure G seeks to involve.

Despite challenges, however, many respondents from the internal survey viewed the Measure G presentation process as a positive step toward transparency, public engagement, and direct communication with the Board. Several highlighted the value of the experience and expressed appreciation for the CEO's support.

We offer the following recommendations to improve the Year 2 process:

- **Advance Posting of Materials:** Require all departmental presentations and supporting materials to be posted on a central CEO Budget webpage at least five days before both Cluster meetings and Public Budget Presentations.
- **Centralized Information Hub:** Create a single, easy-to-find online location for all budget-related presentations, reports, and schedules to prevent confusion and improve accessibility.

- **Budget Notification System:** Add a budget-specific GovDelivery subscription option to provide automatic alerts regarding new postings, meeting dates, presentation schedules, and opportunities for public input.

RECOMMENDATION AREA 3: Accessible Presentation Materials

An overwhelming 92.2% of respondents deem accessible budget information “very” or “extremely important.” This is a clear mandate from the public that transparency is not optional – it is central to trust and accountability. Yet, after the first year of public budget hearings, understanding the budget remains limited with only about 18.7% reporting they understand the budget “well” or “very well” while nearly half report only basic or no understanding.

The public wants clear, plain-language explanations, visuals, and outcome-oriented narratives to make sense of complex fiscal decisions. Internal survey results indicated that several respondents expressed confusion about whether the presentations were primarily for the Board of Supervisors, the public, or the CEO’s office. This ambiguity affected how departments approached their messaging and content.

Survey findings show that although a majority of respondents found the language in the presentations generally accessible, the overall design and density of the materials significantly limited public understanding. Only one-third of respondents rated the format and length as accessible, and 40.4% identified length and complexity as the primary barrier to engaging with the presentations. At the same time, residents expressed a strong preference for simplified layouts: 64.9% requested plain-language visuals, and many called for clearer charts, outcome-focused explanations, and short summaries that help viewers understand how resources are allocated and what results they produce.

The survey also highlights the importance of designing materials that reflect the County’s linguistic and accessibility needs. With nearly 26% of respondents indicating Spanish proficiency and several other languages represented, there is a clear need for translated materials, captioning, and consistent use of ADA-compliant formats. This aligns with another critical finding: roughly half of respondents report understanding the County budget only “slightly” or “not at all.”

Together, these results underscore that effective public transparency requires more than compliance, it requires presentation materials that are visually clear, multilingual, accessible, and structured around the needs of a general audience rather than technical experts.

We offer the following recommendations to improve the accessibility of the presentation materials:

- ***Simplified Presentation Format:*** Redesign or refine the standardized presentation template to focus on high-level summaries while shifting detailed financial data, unmet needs, and technical documentation to separate supplemental reports.
- ***ADA & Language Access:*** Ensure all presentations, summaries, videos, and posted materials meet ADA requirements and are accessible across multiple languages and abilities.

RECOMMENDATION AREA 4: Performance Evaluation

The Year 1 interim process focused on the budget allocation request process, but what the public wants to see is greater analysis of how money is being spent. 66.1% of respondents from the public survey said they would like to see more information about the outcomes and results from how tax dollars are spent in LA County. Residents want a full chain of information: allocations → decisions → local impacts → outcomes → accountability.

In response to the question, *“How important is it for you or your community to have information about each of the following aspects of County spending?”* Across all topics, “very” + “extremely important” ratings are consistently high (roughly 65–80%). Examples include:

- **Department-level spending allocations**
 - Very important: **35.3%** (453)
 - Extremely important: **36.3%** (466)
- **Local spending in my district**
 - Very important: **34.1%** (432)
 - Extremely important: **39.9%** (505)
- **Program outcomes and impact**
 - Very important: **36.7%** (466)
 - Extremely important: **46.1%** (585)
- **Public input opportunities in budgeting**
 - Very important: **32.4%** (436)

- Extremely important: **34.2%** (394)
- **Year-over-year spending changes**
 - Very important: **34.4%** (432)
 - Extremely important: **31.1%** (505)
- **Contracts and vendor transparency**
 - Very important: **31.6%** (400)
 - Extremely important: **42.4%** (538)
- **Salaries and administrative cost**
 - Very important: **29.5%** (378)
 - Extremely important: **39.9%** (511)
- **How spending supports equity and underserved communities**
 - Very important: **28.1%** (358)
 - Extremely important: **40.4%** (515)

Across every category, the dominant answer is that information is very or extremely important, with especially high importance assigned to program outcomes, equity, local spending, and vendor transparency. This is a strong endorsement of Measure G's focus on performance metrics, equity, and accountability.

We view this as a significant and necessary shift in the culture of the County's budgetary practices, and one that holds the potential to transform the County's fiscal management. A recent survey from Loyola Marymount University found that only 24% of residents trust Los Angeles County government "most of the time." While the prior recommendations reflected tactical changes in the County's approach to the public budget hearing process, these recommendations aim to shift the substance of the budgetary process to more concretely foster accountability, build citizen trust, and improve financial management and outcomes.

We offer the following recommendations:

- **Performance & Goals Integration:** Require each departmental presentation to include a summary of performance outcomes, progress toward goals, and proposed measurable metrics for the coming year.

- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Each department should undertake a stakeholder engagement process that incorporates input from service end users, other external stakeholders, department leadership, and rank-and-file employees who carry out daily operations as they relate to the County Strategic Plan and Priorities.

RECOMMENDATION AREA 5: Public Education & Engagement

Survey results make clear that public education is a foundational requirement for effective engagement under Measure G. While a strong majority of respondents expressed interest in participating in future budget discussions (89.5% said “yes” or “maybe”), their ability to meaningfully engage is limited by a lack of accessible, introductory information about how the County budget works and where the public presentations fit within the annual budget cycle. Only 18.7% of respondents reported understanding the County budget “well” or “very well,” while nearly half said their understanding was only “slight” or “none.” This demonstrates that without dedicated educational tools, even motivated residents struggle to interpret the information presented or understand how their input influences decisions.

Respondents also emphasized that the current format does not offer sufficient opportunities to understand or engage with the content in real time. More than half of those who attended the presentations reported having no opportunity to ask questions. Many described the presentations as “one-way briefings,” noting that without context-setting materials, public participants could not fully grasp key budget concepts or the implications of departmental requests. This indicates that public hearings alone are insufficient; they must be paired with educational supports that empower residents to follow the content and engage meaningfully.

Finally, the community survey shows strong demand for accessible, multimedia learning tools, with large portions of respondents requesting visuals, summaries, and infographics to help make sense of complex fiscal information. These expectations underscore the value of short video explainers, infographics, and a “What to Expect” guide and similar resources that can demystify the budget process, explain how the public can participate, and clarify what happens after presentations conclude. Regular post-presentation surveys will further reinforce a culture of continuous improvement, ensuring that the County evolves its public engagement approach based on real-world feedback from both departments and the community.

We offer the following recommendations to improve public education and engagement:

- **“What to Expect” Video Guide:** Produce and post a clear, plain-language video on the CEO Budget website that explains the budget process, how to engage, and what occurs during Public Budget Presentations.

- **Expanded Educational Resources:** Develop additional short video explainers or infographics to help the public understand County budget fundamentals before attending presentations.
- **Post-Presentation Surveys:** Conduct surveys of both departments and community participants after each annual cycle to collect feedback and inform continuous improvement.

Long-Term Process Considerations

- **Assess Structural Reform Needs:** Evaluate and recommend broader structural changes to the County's overall budget development process including but not limited to budgetary best practices that are not currently being considered and/or implemented, alternative budget cycles (i.e. two year budget cycle), participatory budgeting, and the anticipation of changes for the FY 2029-2030 budget cycle due to the formation of an executive branch that is mandated under Measure G.
- **Develop Guidance for Future Budget Director:** Consider processes and mechanisms to support the future Budget Director to work collaboratively with the Board, Department Heads, and the future County Executive in designing and implementing a stakeholder outreach process to ensure stakeholder voices are systematically integrated into budget development and presentation.
- **Phased Improvement Plan:** Acknowledge that while there is substantial work ahead, this set of recommendations is achievable for the 2026 cycle, with additional refinements and long-term improvements to follow in future cycles.

The subcommittee will continue to observe and monitor the process for the next two fiscal years and offer additional feedback. The Board of Supervisors and the future Charter Review Commission should continue to monitor in subsequent years.

BUDGET CALENDAR

APPENDIX A

Procedure	State Law	L. A. County Code	FY 2023-24 Budget Calendar	FY 2024-25 Budget Calendar *	FY 2025-26 Budget Calendar *
Governor's Budget	January 10 <i>CA Constitution Article IV Section 12(a)</i>	--	Tuesday, January 10, 2023	Wednesday, January 10, 2024	Friday, January 10, 2025
Departments file requests	June 10 <i>Government Code Section 29040</i>	March 31 <i>Section 4.12.030</i>	Staggered submissions, but no later than Wednesday, January 18, 2023	Staggered submissions, but no later than Wednesday, January 17, 2024	Staggered submissions, but no later than Wednesday, January 15, 2025
CEO submits recommendations to the Board of Supervisors	June 30 <i>Government Code Section 29062</i>	June 30 <i>Section 4.12.050(a)</i>	Tuesday, April 18, 2023	Tuesday, April 23, 2024	Tuesday, April 15, 2025
Board approves Recommended Budget	June 30 <i>Government Code Section 29064</i>	June 30 <i>Section 4.12.070</i>	Tuesday, April 18, 2023	Tuesday, April 23, 2024	Tuesday, April 15, 2025
Public Notice of Recommended Budget availability and Public Hearing dates	September 8 <i>Government Code Sections 29065 & 29080(a)(b)</i>	September 8 <i>Section 4.12.090</i>	Friday, April 28, 2023	Friday, May 3, 2024	Wednesday, April 23, 2025
Public Hearings (not to exceed 14 calendar days)	10 days after public notice of Recommended Budget availability <i>Government Code Sections 29080(b) & 29081</i>	September 8 (but no fewer than 10 days after public notice of Recommended Budget availability) <i>Section 4.12.100(a)</i>	Begin Wednesday, May 10, 2023	Begin Wednesday, May 15, 2024	Begin Wednesday, May 7, 2025
Revisions to Governor's Budget	--	--	Friday, May 12, 2023	Tuesday, May 14, 2024	Wednesday, May 14, 2025
Board Budget Deliberations	--	--	Begin Monday, June 26, 2023	Begin Monday, June 24, 2024	Begin Monday, June 23, 2025
Board adopts Budget	October 2 <i>Government Code Section 29088</i>	October 2 <i>Section 4.12.100(b)</i>	Monday, June 26, 2023	Monday, June 24, 2024	Monday, June 23, 2025
Final Budget transmitted to State Controller by Auditor-Controller	December 1 <i>Government Code Section 29093</i>	--	Thursday, November 30, 2023	Tuesday, November 26, 2024	TBD

*Tentative Dates

TBD: To be determined - subject to Board action.

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX B

INTERNAL BUDGET SURVEY RESULTS

This addendum summarizes feedback from 45 internal department heads and staff who participated in the public budget presentations required under Measure G for the **2025–26 Budget Year (Year 1)**. The addendum aims to support the Government Reform Task Force (GRTF) by shedding light on how departments experienced the first year of the new public presentation mandate, identifying gaps and opportunities in the current process, and capturing practical recommendations from departments for improving the approach in the **2026–27 Budget Year (Year 2)**.

Year 1 was launched under a compressed and unexpected timeline. In early December, the CEO's Office had to quickly adapt by layering a new public hearing format onto the existing budget process. This shift created challenges in scheduling, preparation, and managing logistics for public broadcasts. While the standardized presentation template helped ensure consistency across departments, it proved difficult for the public to read on television and online platforms. As a result, public engagement fell short of expectations, with most feedback centering on the unreadable slides rather than the content of the presentations.

Despite these challenges, survey responses indicate that Year 1 successfully introduced a new public-facing practice that aligns with Measure G's goals of transparency and accountability. Departments expressed support for continuing the initiative, recognizing its value, but also emphasized the need for improvements. Key areas for enhancement include better timing, a redesigned and more readable template, and stronger mechanisms for incorporating community voices into the process for Year 2.

Methodology

- **Population:** Internal LA County department heads and staff who participated in the 2025 public budget presentations.
- **Instrument:** SurveyMonkey online survey.
- **Survey Response Window:** October 23, 2025 through November 11, 2025
- **Total respondents:**
 - Most closed-ended questions: 45 respondents (0 skipped)
 - Optional demographic question on department size: 43 answered, 2 skipped

- **Respondent profile:**
 - 35.6% (16 of 45) identified as Department Heads
 - Approximately 24.4% (11 of 45) identified as Staff across two staff categories
 - 40.0% (18 of 45) selected “Other” roles, indicating participation from a mix of budget, program, and administrative leadership
 - No respondents selected “Analyst” as their primary role
- **Data Analyzed:**
 - Raw Excel spreadsheet containing multiple worksheets, with each worksheet corresponding to one survey question, including both closed-ended and open-ended items.
 - SurveyMonkey summary report.
 - Background notes summarizing the CEO’s Year 1 implementation challenges and Board expectations.

Note: Percentages in this report are based on respondents to each question, rounded to one decimal place. “Select all that apply” questions sum to more than 100%.

Overall Findings

1. Strong leadership engagement and buy-in, but under severe time pressure

Department heads and senior staff were heavily involved in planning and delivering presentations. However, they repeatedly cited compressed timelines, shifting instructions, and limited preparation time as major barriers to doing the job in a way that fully matches Measure G’s spirit of meaningful transparency and public understanding.

2. Standardized template and CEO support were crucial, but imperfect

The standardized template and access to CEO budget analysts were widely seen as essential supports that made it possible to deliver coherent presentations quickly. At the same time, departments reported that the template was not always well aligned with their specific context and was difficult for the public to read on a non-HD broadcast.

3. Transparency improved, but community voice and engagement remain weak

Most respondents felt the presentations improved transparency “somewhat,” and many saw the potential to build trust with the public. Yet almost 89% reported no direct public

feedback, and respondents expressed uncertainty about how community input was integrated at different stages of the budget process.

4. Year 1 was “proof of concept” for Measure G accountability

Departments generally support the idea of public budget presentations and see them as consistent with Measure G’s goals for transparency, accountability, and public visibility into spending and priorities. But they emphasize that implementation mechanics such as timing, format, support, and engagement channels, must be refined for the practice to genuinely deliver on community voice and department-head accountability.

5. Clear Year 2 direction: more time, clearer instructions, more accessible presentations, stronger community engagement tools

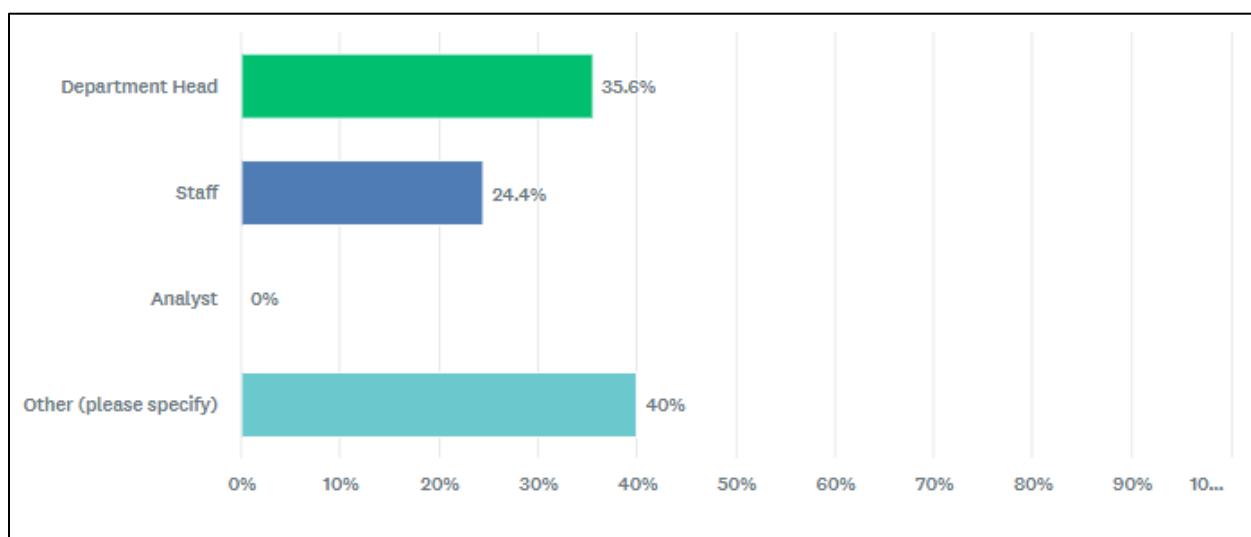
Across quantitative and qualitative responses, four priorities emerge for Year 2:

- Earlier and more stable instructions
- A more readable, flexible, and truly public-facing template
- Stronger linkage between presentations and Measure G expectations (including department-head visibility)
- Concrete, accessible mechanisms for community feedback and participation

Question-by-Question Analysis

Question 1

“What was your role in the 2025 public budget presentations?” (n=45)



- 35.6% (16) – Department Head
- 24.4% (11) – Staff
- 40.0% (18) – Other (please specify)
- 0.0% (0) – Analyst

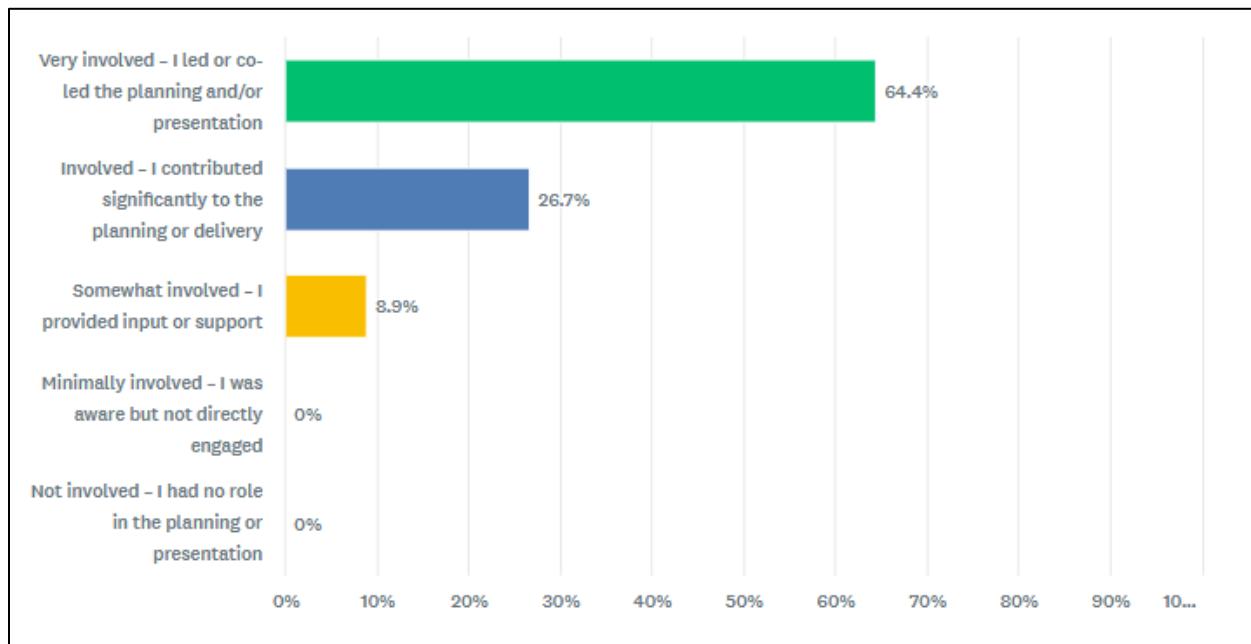
Interpretation

Year 1 implementation drew participation primarily from department heads and other senior staff, with nearly three-quarters of respondents in leadership or “other” roles which included category included Chief Deputies, Administrative Deputies and Departmental Finance Managers rather than line analysts. This is broadly consistent with Measure G’s emphasis on department-head accountability and visible leadership in presenting and defending departmental priorities to the public.

The high share of “Other” suggests a mix of chiefs, deputies, and specialized managers were directly involved, reflecting a collaborative leadership model rather than presentations being handled only by budget analysts in the background.

Question 2

“How involved were you in planning or delivering your department’s budget presentation?” (n=45)



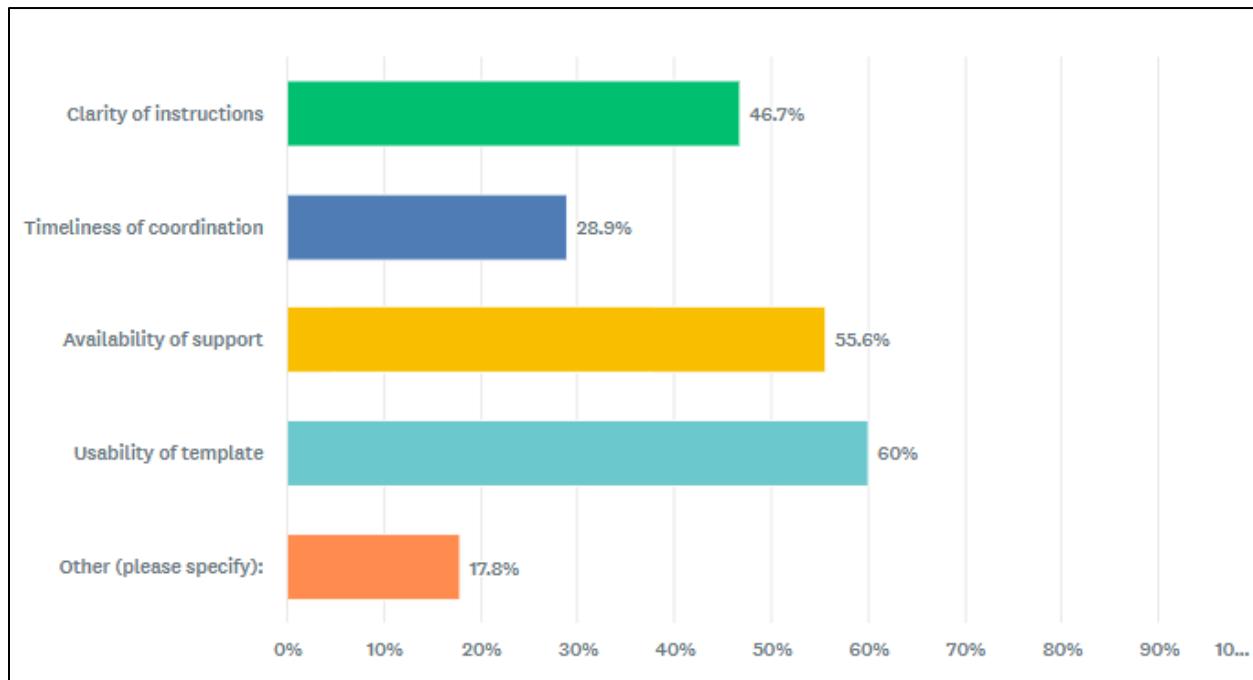
- 64.4% (29) – Very involved – led or co-led planning/presentation
- 26.7% (12) – Involved – contributed significantly
- 8.9% (4) – Somewhat involved – provided input/support
- 0.0% (0) – Minimally involved
- 0.0% (0) – Not involved

Interpretation

This is a high-ownership survey. Over 90% of respondents report being either “very involved” or “involved,” indicating that the survey largely captures the perspectives of the people who actually designed and delivered the presentations, not distant observers. This gives the GRTF confidence that the findings reflect those closest to Measure G implementation on the ground.

Question 3

“Which of the following resources or support were most useful in preparing you for your presentation? (Select all that apply)” (n=45)



- 60.0% (27) – **Usability of template**
- 55.6% (25) – **Availability of support**

- 46.7% (21) – **Clarity of instructions**
- 28.9% (13) – **Timeliness of coordination**
- 17.8% (8) – **Other (please specify)**

(Multiple selections per respondent.)

Interpretation

Despite known flaws in public readability, the template itself was the single most frequently cited useful resource for internal preparation. Departments viewed it as a concise, structured roadmap for distilling complex budget information into a short, Board-ready presentation.

Availability of CEO support, especially access to budget analysts and staff who could troubleshoot issues, was also highly valued, as were clear written instructions when they were timely and stable.

Question 4

“Please briefly explain why the selected resources and supports above were useful in preparing you for your presentation:”- Open-Text Themes (~44 narrative responses)

1. Template as roadmap and organizer

- Respondents repeatedly described the template as a roadmap that simplified what to include and how to structure limited time.
- Example quotes:
 - “The template provided a good road map to follow in preparing the presentation.”
 - “It kept the presentations uniform across all departments and provided a roadmap for departments to follow.”

2. Accessible CEO support and guidance

- Departments appreciated being able to reach CEO budget analysts and presentation support staff directly, especially under compressed timelines.
- Example quotes:

- “CEO made themselves available to support our department... and the template ensured consistency and was easy to follow.”
- One respondent noted that the CEO analysts were “able to provide guidance on how to complete the template,” reducing guesswork.

3. Clear deadlines and instructions (when stable)

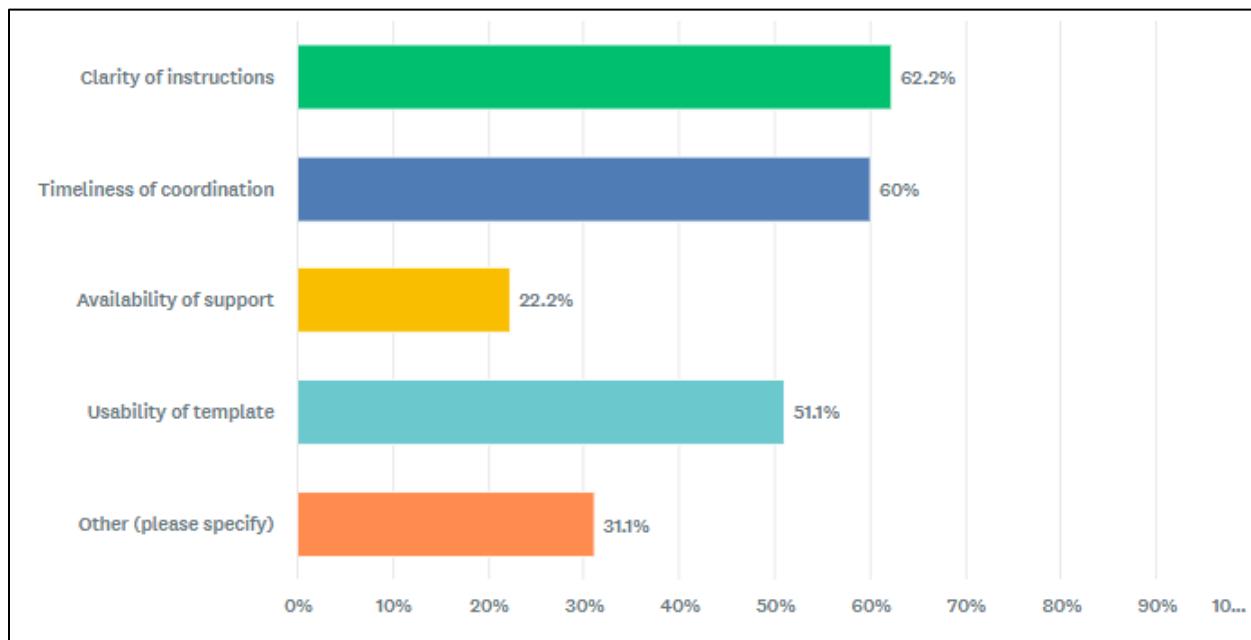
- Where instructions were clear and not changing, they made it possible to coordinate internal leadership and deliver on time.
- Example: “The template was helpful, deadlines were clear and CEO was available and honest about things still being worked out.”

4. Reduced internal burden in a short timeframe

- Several respondents emphasized that the standardized approach reduced workload in a very tight window.
- One respondent described the support as critical “to shorten workload and time to prepare the presentation.”

Question 5

“Which of the following types of additional support or resources would have most improved your team’s preparation? (Select all that apply)” (n=45)



- 62.2% (28) – Clarity of instructions
- 60.0% (27) – Timeliness of coordination
- 51.1% (23) – Usability of template (further improvement)
- 22.2% (10) – Availability of support
- 31.1% (14) – Other (please specify)

Interpretation

Departments are essentially saying: “The supports we had were helpful, but we needed them earlier, clearer, and more stable.”

Even though the template and support were valued in Question 3, respondents still identified:

- Clarity of instructions and timeliness as the top areas needing improvement.
- About half want the template to be further improved, suggesting design/usability issues (especially for public readability and flexibility across different department types).

Question 6

Please briefly explain why the selected support or resources above would have helped your team prepare more effectively. (Explain) Open-Text Themes (~44 narrative responses)

1. More lead time and earlier notice

- Departments consistently asked for more time to prepare, given the newness of the process and internal approvals required.
- Example: “There is never enough time and resources to prepare a comprehensive presentation.”
- Another respondent noted that departments “had minimal time to prepare and adjust to the new process,” suggesting the instructions arrived too late relative to internal cycles.

2. Stable, predictable instructions

- Several respondents mentioned that instructions “changed a number of times and were not timely,” creating confusion and rework.
- The message: once instructions and templates are released, changes should be minimal and clearly communicated.

3. More flexible and intuitive template

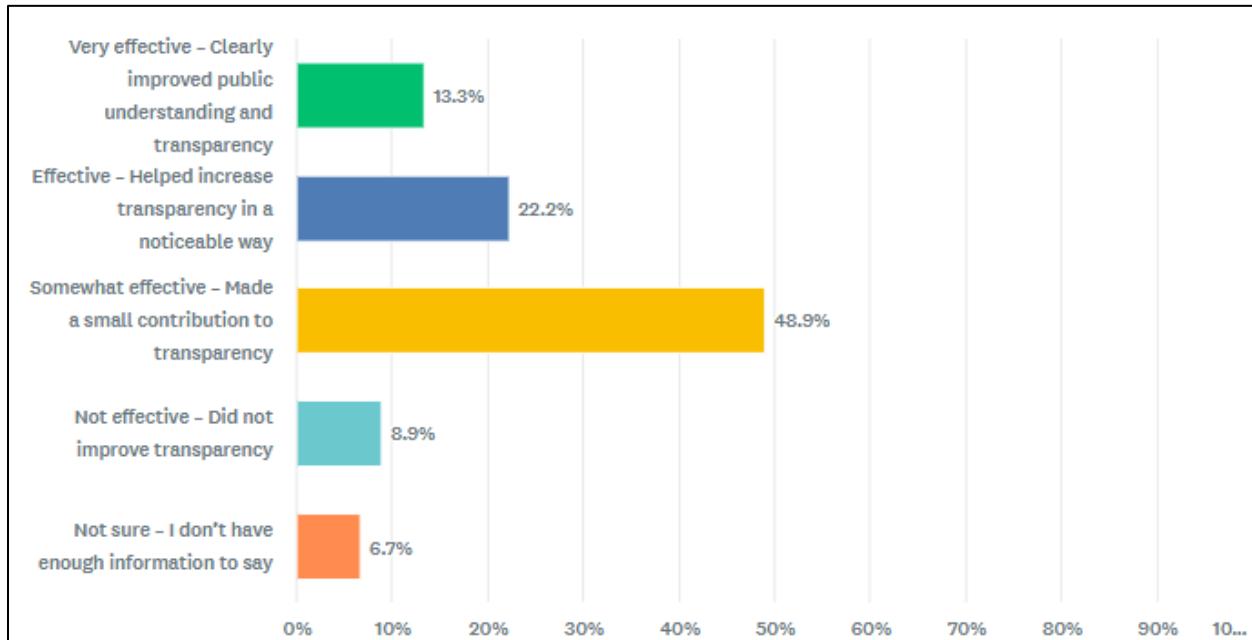
- Respondents indicated that a more flexible template would have better allowed departments to communicate priorities and context specific to their operations, instead of forcing all departments into one mold.
- One respondent wrote that a more flexible template “would have helped our department better communicate its priorities.”

4. Improved alignment with internal approval processes

- Because departments must route content through executives before public presentations, short timelines and shifting requirements stressed internal processes and risked errors.

Question 7

“How effective do you feel the public presentations were in increasing transparency about the County’s budgeting process? (n=45)



- 13.3% (6) – Very effective

- 22.2% (10) – Effective
- 48.9% (22) – Somewhat effective
- 8.9% (4) – Not effective
- 6.7% (3) – Not sure

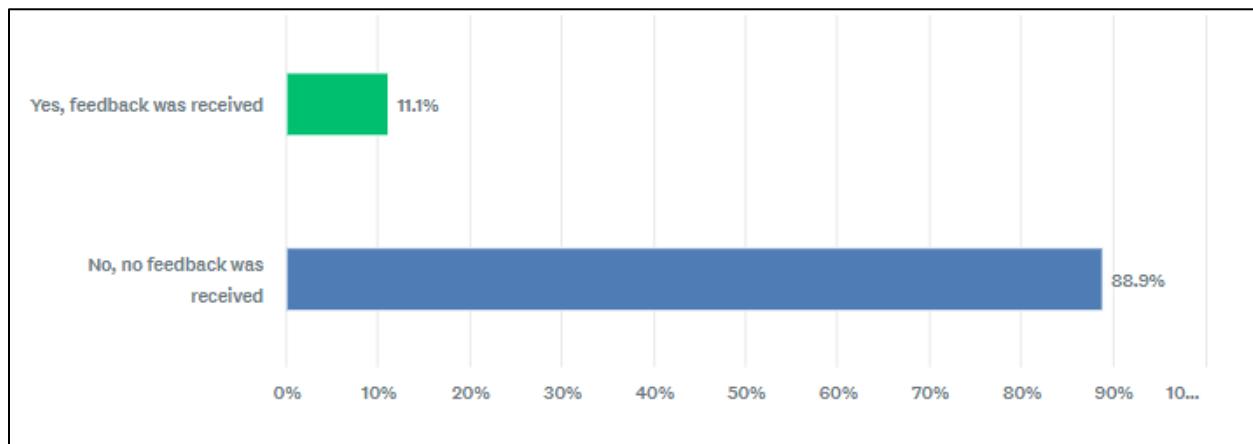
Interpretation

Most respondents, approximately 84.4%, felt the process improved transparency at least “somewhat.” However, only 13.3% described it as “very effective,” and nearly half chose “somewhat effective,” underscoring that Year 1 was viewed as a partial, not full, realization of Measure G’s transparency goals.

This suggests that the concept of public presentations is directionally correct, but the execution (time, format, public visibility, and engagement mechanisms) has not yet reached its full potential.

Question 8

“Did you receive any direct public feedback or engagement related to your department’s presentation?” (n=45)



- 11.1% (5) – Yes, feedback was received
- 88.9% (40) – No, no feedback was received

Interpretation

Despite the significant effort to stage public presentations, almost nine in ten respondents reported receiving no direct public feedback. This is a critical finding for Measure G's core goal of community voice and engagement.

The low engagement is consistent with Year 1 context: the process was implemented quickly, broadcast readability was poor, and public outreach was limited beyond formal Board proceedings.

Question 9

“From your perspective, how well were community voices integrated into each stage of the process?” (n=45; 3 stages)

For each stage, respondents rated community voice integration as “Very well,” “Well,” “Somewhat,” “Not at all,” or “Not sure.”

Planning stage (n=45)

- 6.7% (3) – Very well
- 6.7% (3) – Well
- 22.2% (10) – Somewhat
- 26.7% (12) – Not at all
- 37.8% (17) – Not sure

Presentation stage (n=45)

- 6.7% (3) – Very well
- 13.3% (6) – Well
- 31.1% (14) – Somewhat
- 24.4% (11) – Not at all
- 24.4% (11) – Not sure

Follow-up stage (n=45)

- 6.7% (3) – Very well
- 11.1% (5) – Well
- 20.0% (9) – Somewhat

- 22.2% (10) – Not at all
- 40.0% (18) – Not sure

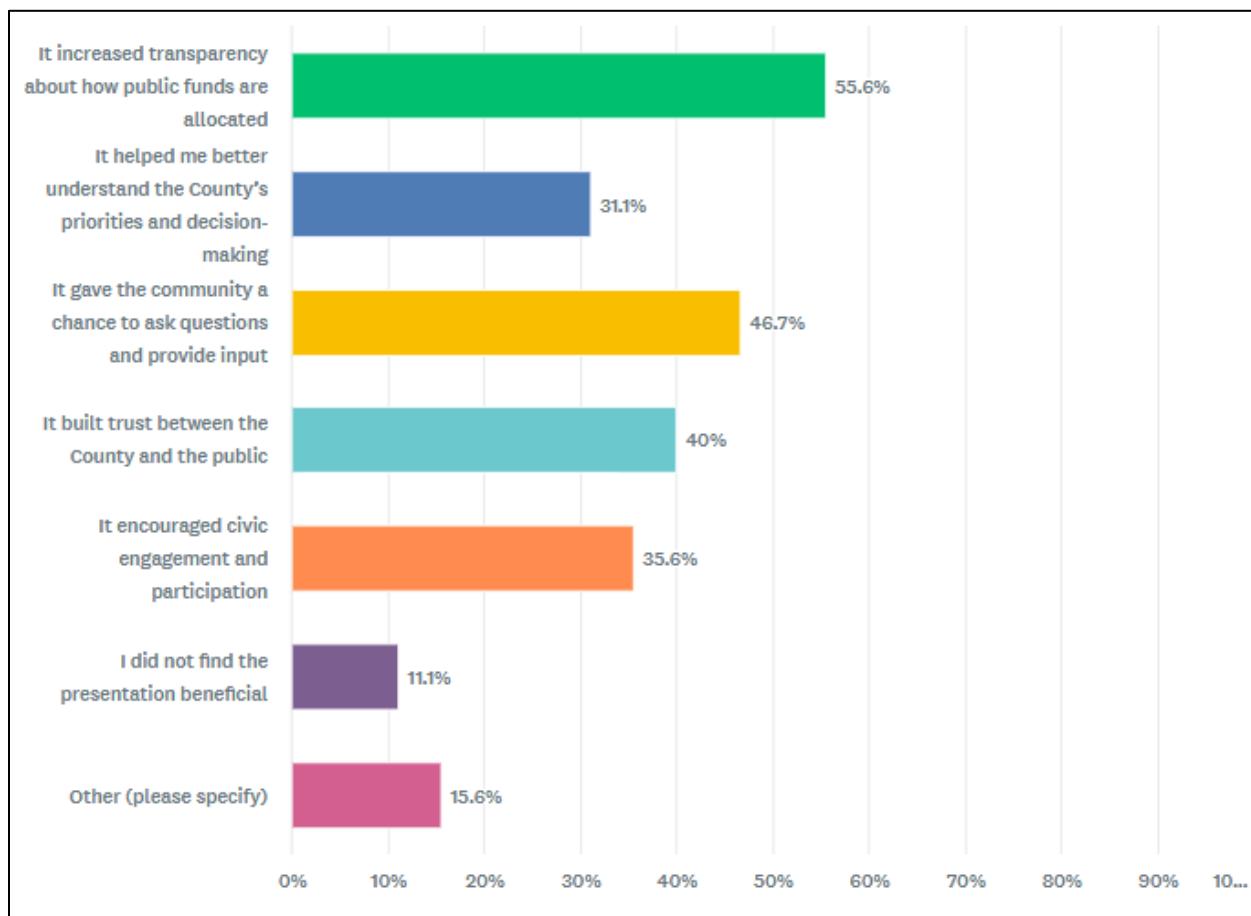
Interpretation

Across all stages, a large share of respondents either selected “Not at all” or “Not sure,” especially at the planning and follow-up stages. Only a small minority felt community voices were integrated “very well” or “well.” This underscores a systemic gap between Measure G’s community engagement intent and what departments actually observed in practice.

Departments are uncertain not only about the quantity of community input but also about how and when community voices are supposed to be integrated into the budget process and not just at the moment of public presentation.

Question 10

“What did you find to be most beneficial about the LA County public budget presentations? (Check all that apply)” (n=45)



- 55.6% (25) – Increased transparency about how public funds are allocated
- 46.7% (21) – Gave the community a chance to ask questions and provide input
- 40.0% (18) – Built trust between the County and the public
- 35.6% (16) – Encouraged civic engagement and participation
- 31.1% (14) – Helped me better understand the County’s priorities and decision-making
- 11.1% (5) – Did not find the presentations beneficial
- 15.6% (7) – Other (please specify)

Interpretation

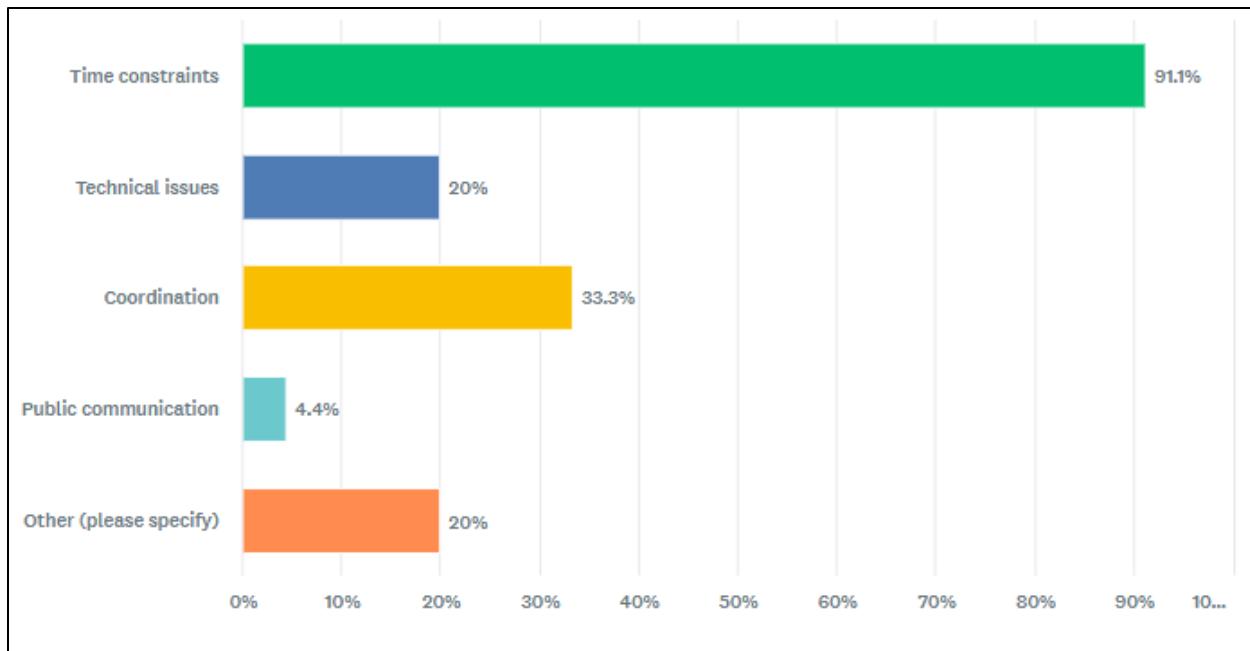
Despite significant operational challenges, respondents recognize that the core Measure G goals of transparency and trust-building are being advanced:

- A majority see increased transparency in how funds are allocated.
- Nearly half feel the process provides a meaningful opportunity for the community to ask questions and provide input.
- A substantial minority perceive gains in trust and civic engagement.

However, a non-trivial 11.1% reported not finding the presentations beneficial, likely reflecting frustrations with rushed implementation, confusing templates, and limited public interaction.

Question 11

“What were some of the challenges or barriers your team faced in planning and preparing your budget presentation? (Select all that apply)” (n=45)



- 91.1% (41) – Time constraints
- 33.3% (15) – Coordination
- 20.0% (9) – Technical issues
- 20.0% (9) – Other (please specify)
- 4.4% (2) – Public communication

Interpretation

This is perhaps the most striking quantitative result: over nine in ten respondents cited time constraints as a challenge. Coordination and technical issues were significant but secondary.

This aligns with the known Year 1 context: Year 1 was a sudden mandate layered onto an existing budget calendar, requiring the CEO to fit 39 department presentations into already packed Board agendas and forcing departments to prepare complex, public-facing presentations on a short timeline.

Question 12

“What specific changes or improvements would you recommend for next year’s presentations, and why would they make a difference? (Explain) Open-Text Themes (~44 responses)

Three recurring themes are particularly relevant for GRTF:

1. More time and earlier, stable guidance

- Departments repeatedly requested more lead time and earlier release of final instructions and templates.
- Example sentiment: “I recommend allowing more time to prepare and offering clearer instructions,” often paired with concern about late changes to expectations.

2. Improved template design and readability

- Many departments found the templates too rigid, not tailored to their specific needs, or difficult to use for public communication.
- There was a desire for more flexibility to include department-specific context and public-facing information.
- Example sentiments: “we also lost the ability to share more public facing information about what each department does.” And “Its is not feasible to create a singular presentation template for all 39 County Depts.”

Question 13

“Do you have any additional feedback you'd like to share about your experience including positive highlights, lessons learned, or suggestions for future improvement? (n≈42 text responses)

Key Themes

1. Clarify the purpose and audience of the presentations

- Several respondents expressed confusion about whether the presentations were primarily for the Board of Supervisors, the public, or the CEO's Office. This ambiguity affected how departments approached their messaging and content.
- Clarifying the intended audience would help departments tailor their presentations more effectively and ensure alignment with Measure G's goals.

- Example sentiments: “Be clear on the main purpose, if it's for the public vs BOS vs CEO those would lead to different approaches...” And “I am not sure how much the public will be able to glean from the presentations as they are very technical.”

2. More time, earlier guidance, and better scheduling

- Many departments reiterated the need for more preparation time, advance notice of expectations, and spreading presentations over multiple days to reduce logistical strain and improve quality.
- This theme echoes concerns from Question 12 and reinforces the need for a more structured and predictable process
- Example sentiments: “Please allow more time to prepare and provide clearer instructions in the future... consider offering greater opportunity for community feedback...” And “It would be helpful to have the budget presentations spread out over additional days so that all presentations are not held on the same day.”

3. Positive reception and support for transparency

- Despite challenges, many respondents viewed the Measure G presentation process as a positive step toward transparency, public engagement, and direct communication with the Board.
- Several highlighted the value of the experience and expressed appreciation for the CEO’s support.

Question 14

“Please enter your department name (Optional)” (n=25 answered; 20 skipped)

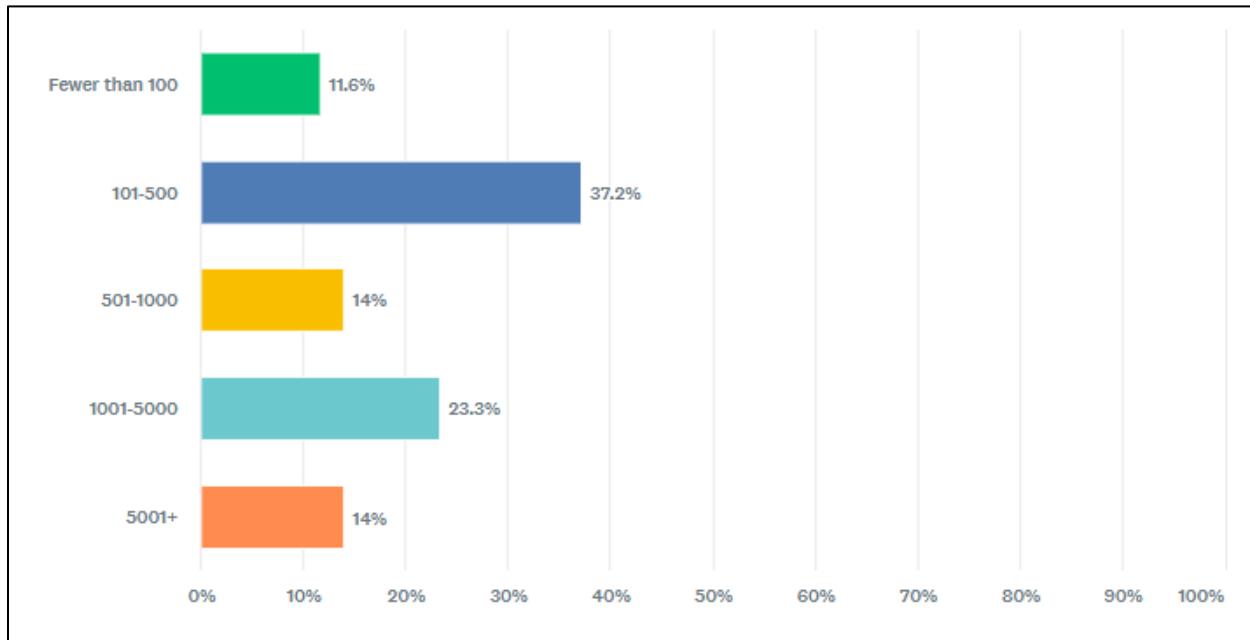
Responses include a range of departments such as the Public Defender, the Chief Executive Office, and several other justice, youth, and central support entities.

Interpretation

While not a representative departmental census, the responses show that the survey reached a cross-section of major operational and central departments rather than a narrow subset. This bolsters the relevance of the findings for countywide implementation.

Question 15

“Approximately how many people are in your department? (Optional)” (n=43; 2 skipped)



- 11.6% (5) – Fewer than 100
- 37.2% (16) – 101–500
- 14.0% (6) – 501–1000
- 23.3% (10) – 1001–5000
- 14.0% (6) – 5001+

Interpretation

Departments of all sizes participated, with a slight concentration in the 101–500 range but significant representation from very large departments (1001+ employees). This suggests that any Year 2 improvements must work for both:

- Smaller departments with limited internal staffing and
- Very large departments with complex program portfolios and more elaborate internal review processes.

Conclusion

The Year 1 survey makes clear that the inaugural Measure G public budget presentations:

- Did move the County toward greater transparency, especially in showing how funds are allocated and what priorities departments are advancing.
- Did not yet deliver fully on Measure G's ambitions for community voice, robust public engagement, and clearly visible department-head accountability.
- Were implemented in an environment of accelerated timelines, scheduling constraints, and imperfect tools, which departments nevertheless navigated with significant effort and collaboration with the CEO's Office.

Departments are not asking to roll back the public presentation requirement; instead, they are asking for time, clarity, better tools, and stronger engagement structures so that the process genuinely serves the Board's directive and Measure G's statutory intent.

APPENDIX C

PUBLIC BUDGET SURVEY RESULTS

This addendum presents results from a community SurveyMonkey questionnaire on LA County's public budget presentations conducted for the **2025-26 Budget Year (Year 1)** under Measure G. The survey gathered 1,853 total participants, with between 1,200–1,300 respondents answering most mid-survey questions and 1,100–1,200 completing optional demographics.

Together with the internal department survey already completed for Year 1, these results give the GRTF a dual-lens view of how the public and County departments experienced the inaugural public hearing process and what they recommend for **2026-27 Budget Year (Year 2)** and beyond.

Methodology

- **Population.** Residents and stakeholders in Los Angeles County, reached through County and partner outreach channels.
- **Instrument.** SurveyMonkey online questionnaire titled *LA County Public Budget Presentation Survey*.
- **Method of Delivery.**
 - The survey was distributed multiple times through the County's GovDelivery platform, reaching up to 95,317 recipients in a single instance. **Attached** are the email blast metrics and performance statistics detailing delivery and engagement.
 - Survey was also posted to various social media platforms including X, Bluesky, Threads, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn and Nextdoor
 - Survey link was also published in the Measure G website.
- **Response window.** Responses were collected between November 5 and November 23, 2025, aligning with the GRTF's Year 1 evaluation timeline.
- **Total participants.**
 - 1,853 total started the survey (Question 1: 1,849 answered, 4 skipped).
 - Core questions (12–17) have approximately 1,300 respondents.

- Optional demographics (Questions 18–25) have between 1,147 and 1,211 respondents.
- **Data Analyzed**
 - Raw Excel spreadsheet containing multiple worksheets, with each worksheet corresponding to one survey question, including both closed-ended and open-ended items.
 - SurveyMonkey summary report.
- **Analysis approach.**
 - Percentages are calculated directly from the survey's reported fractions and rounded to one decimal place.
 - Counts are shown when helpful for context.
 - For open-text items, responses were coded into 3–4 major themes per question, with 1–2 short, anonymized example quotes per theme.
 - Interpretations explicitly reference Measure G's requirements: public departmental budget hearings, robust public engagement, performance metrics, and clear accountability structures.

Overall Findings

1. Public Awareness and Access

- Just under 1 in 5 respondents actually attended or watched any budget presentation; more than half had no awareness that presentations occurred.
- When people did attend, accessibility in terms of language and format was generally positive, but the substance was often seen as dense and technical.
- Lack of awareness and scheduling barriers reduced participation, directly conflicting with Measure G's intent for broad public engagement and voice.

2. Perceived Transparency and Understanding

- A majority believe transparency improved somewhat, but relatively few say it greatly improved.

- Understanding of the budget and budget process remains limited: only about 18.7% feel they understand the budget “well” or “very well,” while nearly half report only basic or no understanding.
- The public wants clear, plain-language explanations, visuals, and outcome-oriented narratives to make sense of complex fiscal decisions.

3. Community Voice, Accountability, and Equity

- Respondents do not yet perceive that community voices are fully reflected in the process; many see presentations as one-directional broadcast rather than genuine dialogue.
- Open-text comments repeatedly ask for time to ask questions, mechanisms to provide feedback, and clearer explanations of how public input will shape decisions.
- The importance of information on equity and underserved communities scores very high, signaling a strong expectation that Measure G implementation will center equity in both substance and communication.

4. Content Priorities for Future Presentations

- Residents want to know who gets what, why, with what results, and what it means locally:
 - Department-level allocations, local/district spending, administrative vs direct services, and concrete outcomes (e.g., reductions in homelessness, improved services).
- Many respondents explicitly request comparisons over time, clarity on contracts and vendors, and visibility into salaries and compensation for top officials.

5. Demographic Reach and Implications

- The sample is racially and linguistically diverse, with substantial representation from Hispanic, Black, Asian/Pacific Islander, and White respondents and a notable share of Spanish-speaking and multi-language respondents.
- A sizeable share of respondents do not know their Supervisorial district, underscoring the need to pair budget transparency with basic civic information and navigational aids.

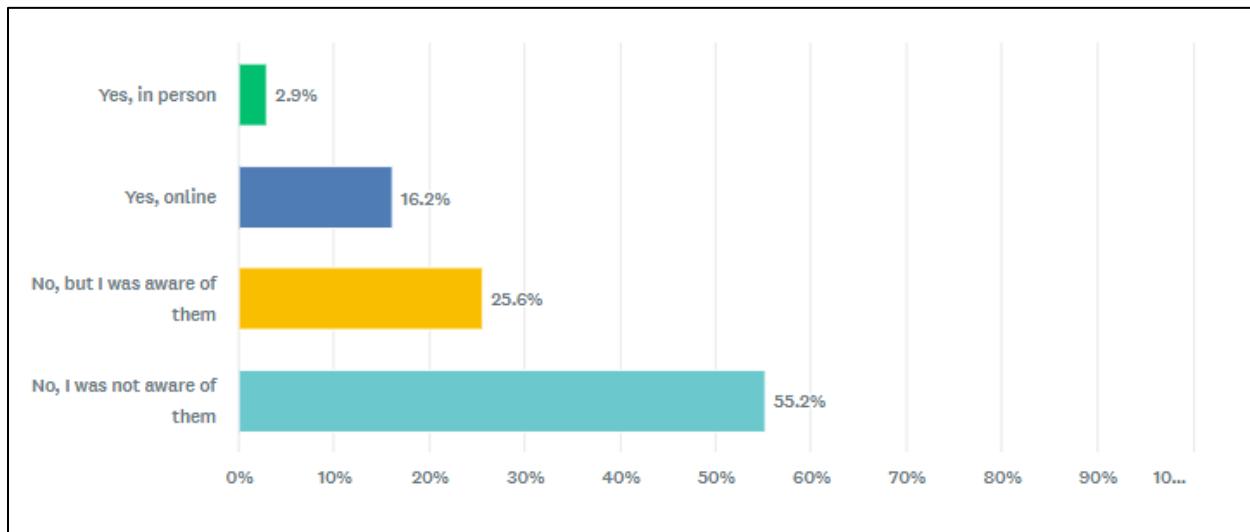
- Housing status and income distribution show participation from both homeowners and renters, and from lower-income as well as higher-income households, aligning with Measure G's equity and inclusion goals.

Question-by-Question Analysis

Question 1

“Did you attend or watch any of the LA County public budget presentations held on February 11, February 12, February 18, February 21, February 24, or March 4, 2025?”

- **Answered: 1,849; Skipped: 4**



Results

- Yes, in person: 2.9% (54)
- Yes, online: 16.2% (300)
- No, but I was aware of them: 25.6% (474)
- No, I was not aware of them: 55.2% (1,021)

Interpretation

Awareness and direct participation were limited. Only 19.1% of respondents report attending in person or online, while over three-quarters (80.8%) did not attend, and a majority of all respondents were not aware that the presentations occurred at all. This aligns with Year 1 implementation challenges, where the CEO's Office had to fit dozens of departmental presentations into a compressed Board calendar and public outreach was limited.

Question 2

“How did you first hear about the LA County budget presentations?”

- **Answered:** 228; **Skipped:** 1,625

Results

- Email from a County department: 38.2% (87)
- LA County website: 25.9% (59)
- Word of mouth: 11.4% (26)
- I don't remember: 5.26% (12)
- Public Meeting or town hall: 3.9% (9)
- Community organization or advocacy group: 3.1% (7)
- Social media: 2.2% (5)
- Local news: 1.3% (3)
- I was not aware of presentations: 1.3% (3)
- Flyer/poster: 0.4% (1)
- Neighborhood Apps: 0.4% (1)
- Other: 6.6% (15)

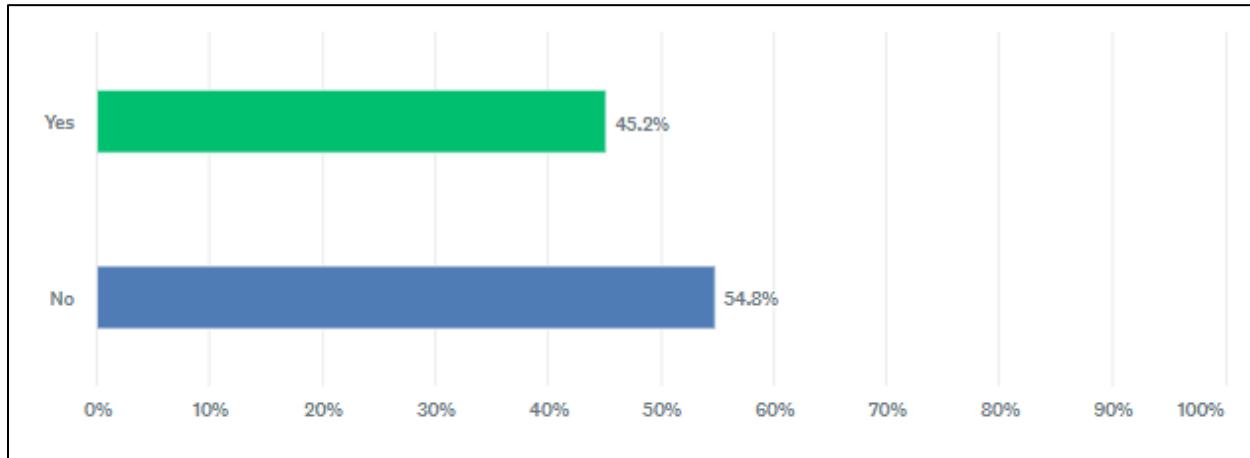
Interpretation

Among the relatively small group who did hear about the presentations, direct County communication (emails) and the County website were dominant information sources. Community-based channels, social media, and traditional media played a minor role. This suggests that outreach is still heavily institution-centric, not community-centric, which may limit reach to already-connected stakeholders rather than the broader public Measure G seeks to involve.

Question 3

“Did the County provide you with an opportunity to ask questions about the budget?”

- **Answered: 217; Skipped: 1,636**



Results

- Yes: 45.2% (98)
- No: 54.8% (119)

(A smaller subset answered a follow-up question on whether their questions were satisfactorily answered.)

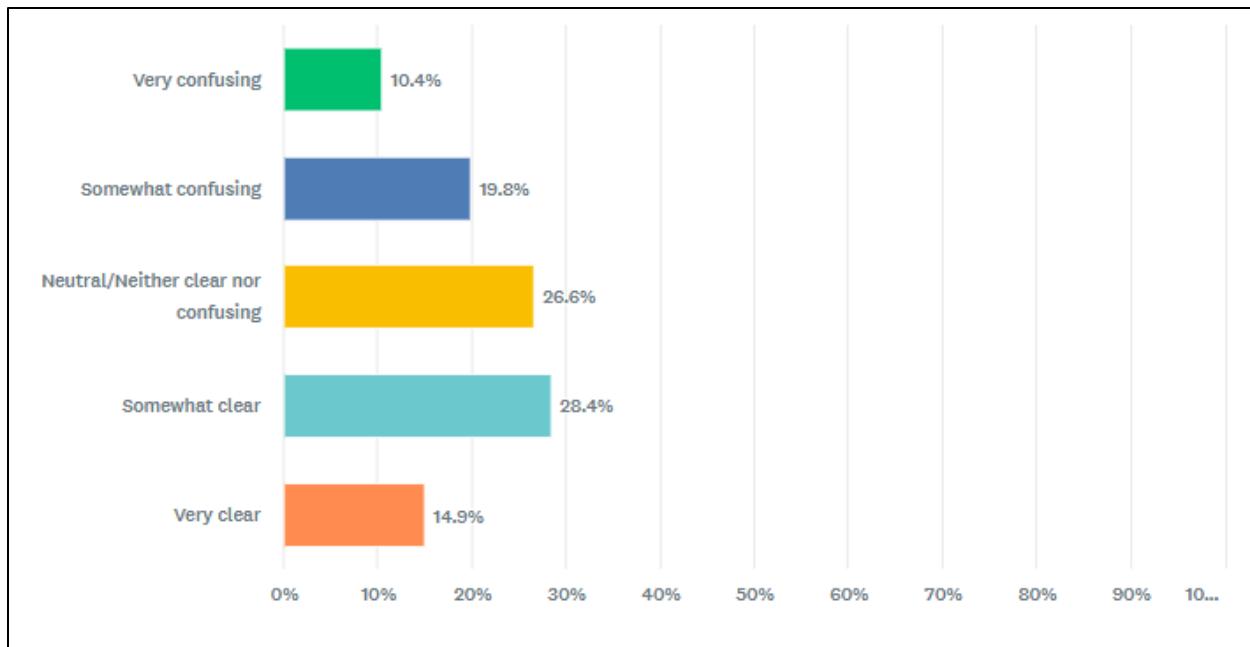
Interpretation

Almost half of respondents who engaged report having some opportunity to ask questions, but a slight majority did not. For a process that is statutorily intended to enhance community voice and engagement, this suggests that the Year 1 hearings often functioned more as one-way briefings than as interactive sessions.

Question 4

“How understandable was the budget information presented by the Departments?”

- **Answered: 222; Skipped: 1,631**



Results

- Very confusing: 10.4% (23)
- Somewhat confusing: 19.8% (44)
- Neutral: 26.6% (59)
- Somewhat clear: 28.4% (63)
- Very clear: 14.9% (33)

Interpretation

Perceptions of clarity are mixed. While 43.3% found the presentations “somewhat” or “very clear,” over 30% found them confusing, and over a quarter selected “neutral.” This pattern echoes concerns raised in the internal staff survey about dense templates and limited public readability on non-HD broadcasts.

Question 5

**“Were the presentations accessible in terms of language, length, and format?”
(Matrix)**

- **Answered:** 219; **Skipped:** 1,634

Language clarity

- Very accessible: 42.5% (93)
- Mostly accessible: 24.7% (54)
- Moderately accessible: 20.1% (44)
- Slightly accessible: 8.2% (18)
- Not at all accessible: 4.6% (10)

Length/Duration

- Very accessible: 33.3% (68)
- Mostly accessible: 28.4% (58)
- Moderately accessible: 19.6% (40)
- Slightly accessible: 10.8% (22)
- Not at all accessible: 7.8% (16)

Format (visuals, captions, etc.)

- Very accessible: 33.5% (68)
- Mostly accessible: 28.6% (58)
- Moderately accessible: 21.2% (43)
- Slightly accessible: 8.9% (18)
- Not at all accessible: 7.9% (16)

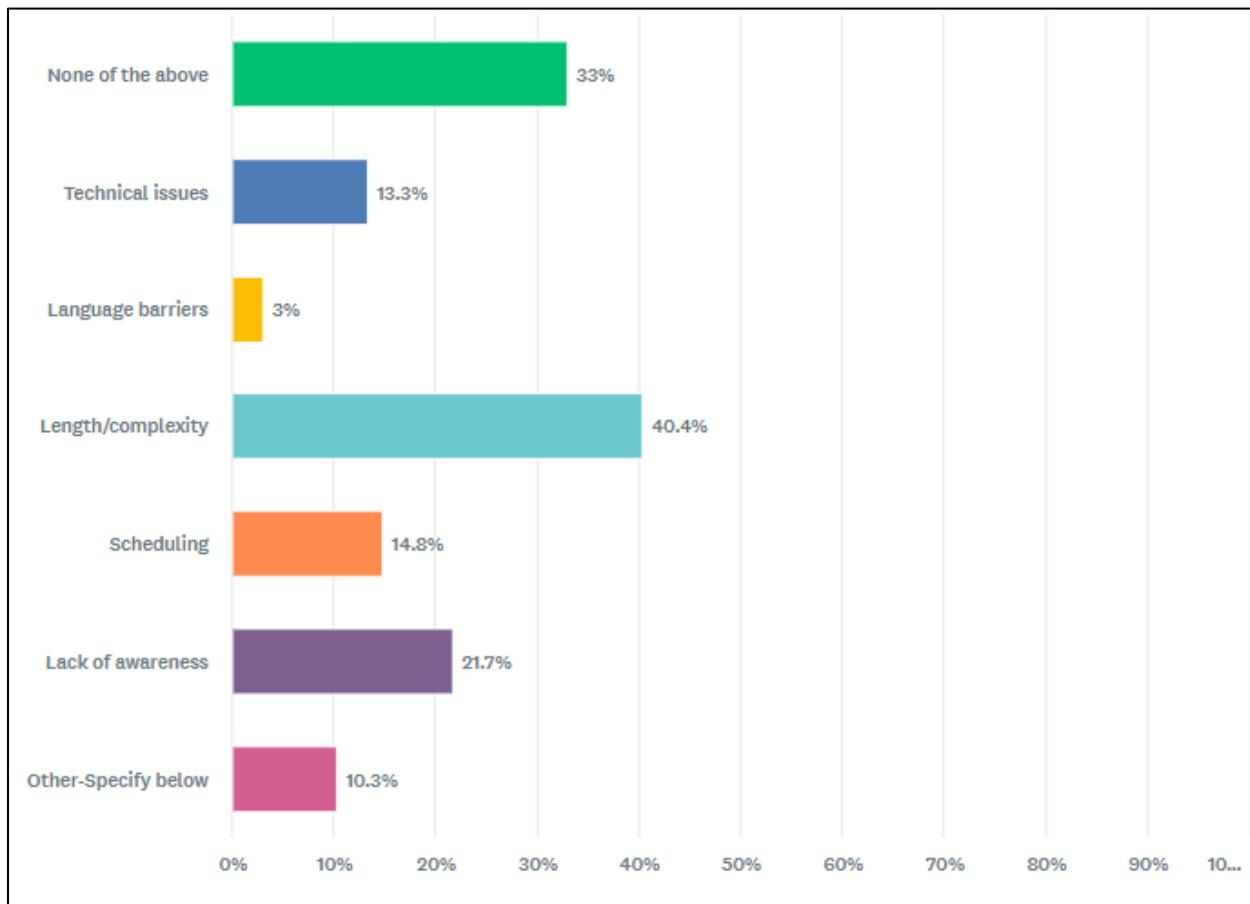
Interpretation

Language was rated more accessible than length and format, with roughly two-thirds finding clarity “very” or “mostly accessible.” However, 16–17% rated length or format as “slightly” or “not at all accessible,” reinforcing concerns that presentations were too dense and not optimized for public viewing, particularly on televised or streamed platforms.

Question 6

**“What factors made it difficult to understand or access the budget presentations?
(Select all that apply and briefly explain)”**

- **Answered: 203; Skipped: 1,650**



Results (multi-select)

- Length/complexity: 40.4% (82)
- None of the above: 33.0% (67)
- Lack of awareness: 21.7% (44)
- Scheduling: 14.8% (30)
- Technical issues: 13.3% (27)
- Language barriers: 3.0% (6)

- Other (specify): 10.3% (21)

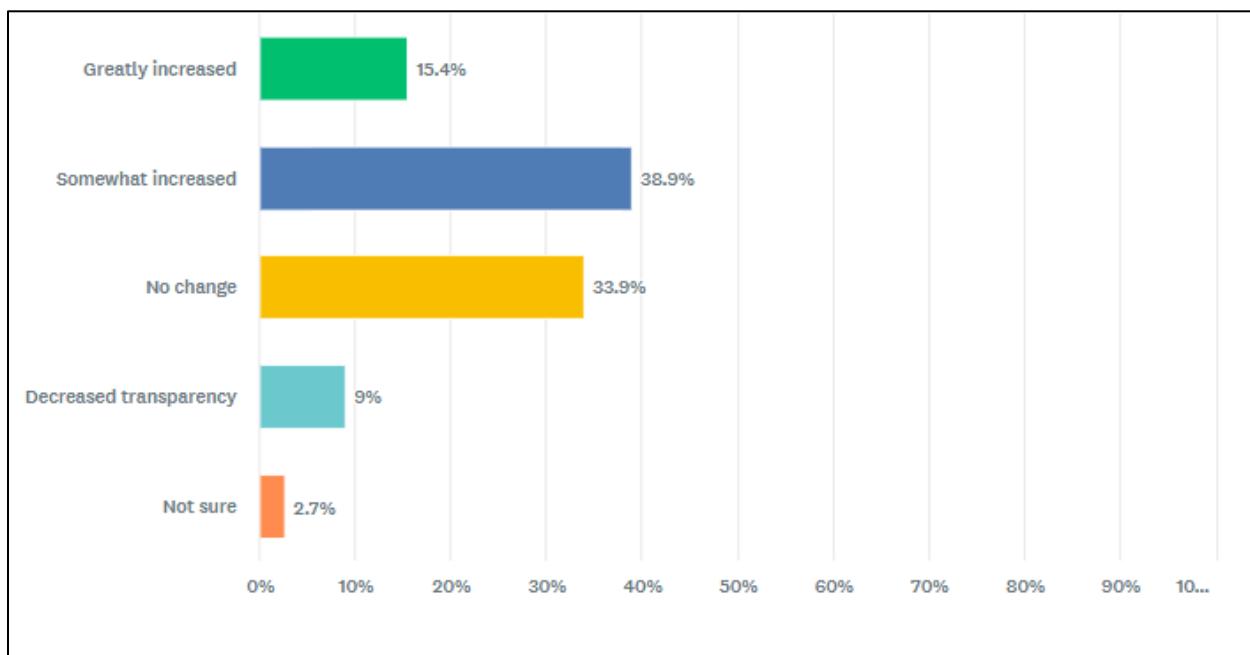
Interpretation

The most significant constraint was length and complexity, followed by lack of awareness and, to a lesser degree, scheduling and technical issues. A third of respondents reported no major barriers, indicating that when people were aware and able to attend, many could engage successfully. The pattern suggests the primary obstacles are content design and outreach, not only technology or language.

Question 7

“To what extent do you believe these presentations increased transparency in LA County’s budget decisions?”

- Answered: 221; Skipped: 1,632



Results

- Greatly increased: 15.4% (34)
- Somewhat increased: 38.9% (86)
- No change: 33.9% (75)
- Decreased transparency: 9.0% (20)

- Not sure: 2.7% (6)

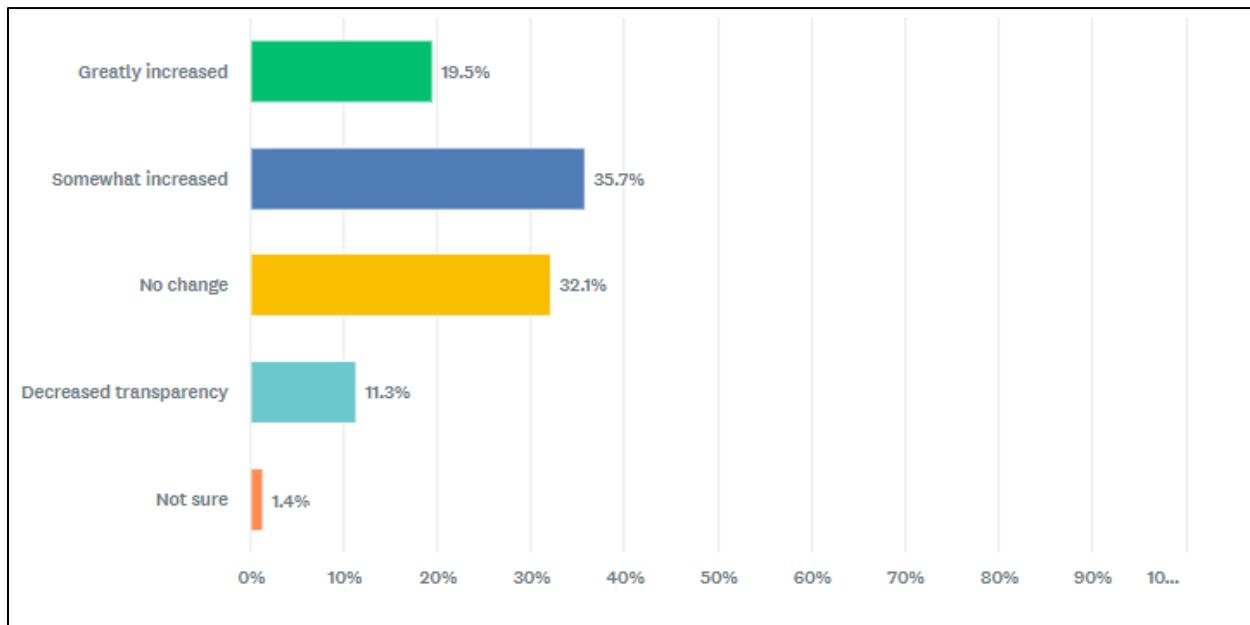
Interpretation

A slim majority (54.3%) believe the presentations increased transparency at least somewhat, but one-third saw no change, and approximately 1 in 10 felt transparency decreased. This ambivalence indicates that Year 1 delivered partial progress toward Measure G's transparency goals but fell short of a transformative impact.

Question 8

“To what extent do you believe these presentations allowed you to better understand the LA County’s budget process?”

- Answered: 221; Skipped: 1,632



Results

- Greatly increased understanding: 19.5% (43)
- Somewhat increased understanding: 35.8% (79)
- No change: 32.1% (71)
- Decreased understanding: 11.3% (25)
- Not sure: 1.4% (3)

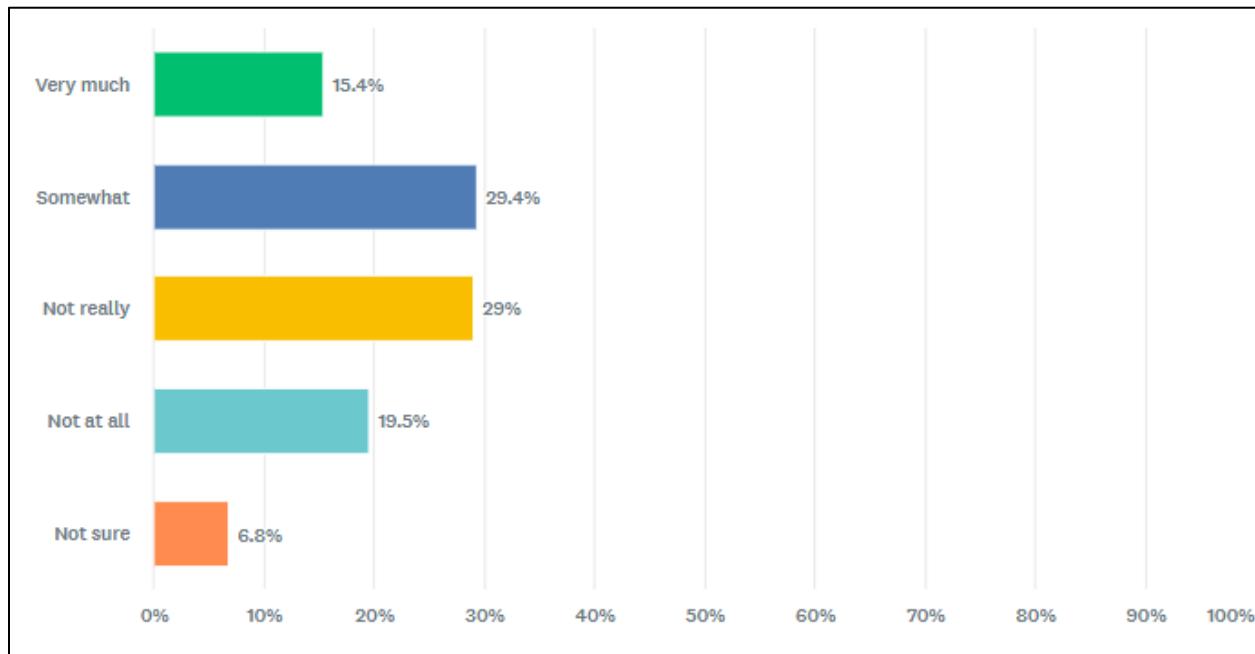
Interpretation

Patterns mirror Question 7: a majority (55.2%) report at least some increased understanding of the budget process, but a substantial minority experienced no change or decreased understanding. For a complex process that includes CEO review, Board deliberation, and statutory timelines, the Year 1 presentations provided some clarity but not enough to anchor community understanding.

Question 9

“To what extent do you feel community voices were reflected or valued in the presentations or budget process?”

- **Answered: 221; Skipped: 1,632**



Results

- Very much: 15.4% (34)
- Somewhat: 29.4% (65)
- Not really: 29.0% (64)
- Not at all: 19.5% (43)
- Not sure: 6.8% (15)

Interpretation

Perceptions of community voice are split almost evenly between those who see some reflection and those who do not. Nearly half (48.5%) feel their voices are “not really” or “not at all” reflected, which is a direct challenge to Measure G’s mandate for robust public engagement at multiple stages of the budget process.

Question 10 – Open Text

“What areas would you like to see prioritized in future LA County budget presentations? (Explain)”

- **Answered: 116; Skipped: 1,737**

Major Themes & Example Quotes

1. Clearer Link Between Spending and Outcomes (Especially Homelessness and Safety)

Many respondents want presentations to show what money is achieving, particularly around homelessness, public safety, and social services.

- Example: one respondent requested that the county prioritize public safety by stating “*Need bigger budget for law enforcement and quality of life programs... BOS should focus on safety.*” and show the impact of those choices on services.
- Another emphasized “*the astronomical expense on the homeless issue yet nothing has changed,*” calling for clearer results. Another respondent wrote “*A majority of the budget is set aside and spent on the homeless...*”

2. Department- and Program-Level Detail, Not Just Gaps

Respondents want full department budget overviews, not only gap or “ask” slides.

- Example: a respondent wrote, “*Full department budget presentations. Not just on gaps.*” Another wrote “*Please require departments to explain their programs’ purposes, progress to-date, expected results, targeted client population*”
- Others asked to “*distinguish between programs funded by County dollars and those funded by State or federal reimbursements.*”

3. Workforce, Compensation, and Frontline Services

Several comments highlight staffing, pay, and working conditions, especially in health and safety roles, as critical to understanding the budget.

- Example: one respondent noted, “*Nursing... we make the biggest impact with patient care; and we do not feel valued,*” asking for more focus on frontline services.
- Another requested more detail on “*raises, cost of living, [and] hiring more LASD personnel.*”

4. Community-Level Impacts and Equity

Respondents want to see local, neighborhood-level implications, including support for community-based organizations and equity outcomes.

- Example: one person asked for “*grants to local CBOs to clean up our community.*” Another wrote ““*Use the allocated money to invest into the community’s needs....*”.
- Others asked for presentations to show how spending supports equity and underserved communities, echoing later rating-scale results. Examples include a respondent that wrote ““*ISD should use that money to subsidize Internet service for income-eligible households*” while another respondent asked for more representation of “*youth programs, arts and culture...*”

Question 11 – Open Text

“What suggestions do you have to improve future public budget presentations? Please focus your suggestions on the Department's content and delivery and the overall public engagement.

- **Answered: 91; Skipped: 1,762**

Major Themes & Example Quotes

1. Clearer, More Accessible Presentations (Language & Visuals)

Respondents ask for simpler language, visual aids, dashboards, and written materials.

- Example: one respondent suggested that presentations “*include easy-to-follow visuals and summaries showing fund sources and outcomes.*” Another

wrote “Put everything in clear, concise writing that the general public can understand...”

- Another proposed using a “*live dashboard... informative to see changes play out in real time or close to it.*”

2. More Accessible and Meaningful Public Engagement

Many respondents called for more accessible engagement opportunities, including advance release of materials, more online access, evening meetings, and additional time for public comment. They felt that working residents often cannot participate in the current format.

- Example: One respondent stated that “Meetings should start at 6 pm when the true public can participate,” while another asked to “Provide materials in advance and allow public feedback beforehand.”
- Regarding more time for public comment, one respondent wrote that “I would like to see public comments to be given more time.” While another wrote “I suggest all public budget presentations adhere to time limits to give more time for public comment from resident stakeholders.”

3. Pacing, Structure, and Scheduling Improvements

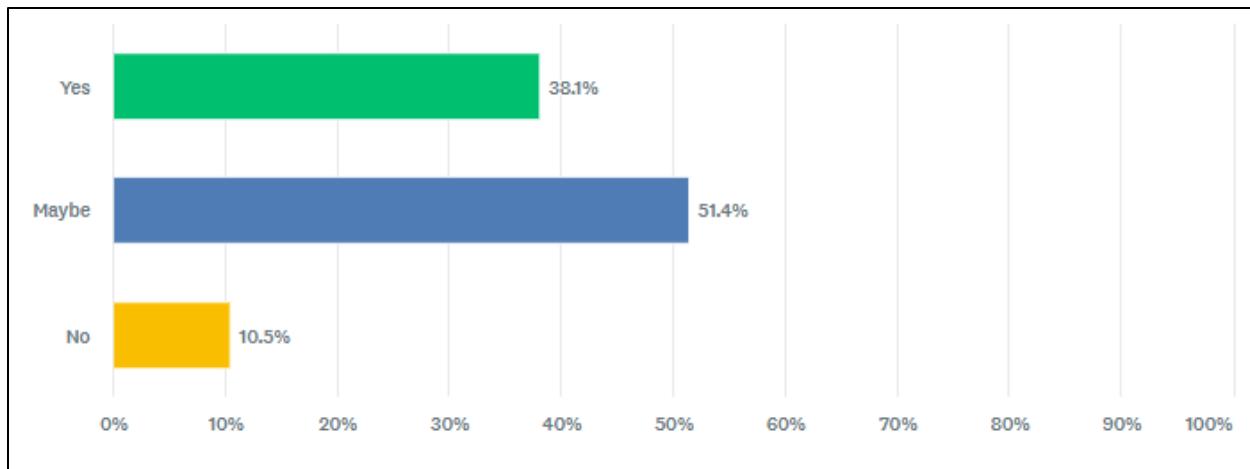
Respondents recommend slowing down presentations, spreading them out, and imposing clear time limits.

- Example: “*Slow down, all speakers are in a hurry so as not to be questioned on their lack of transparency.*”
- Another suggested “*place time limits on each phase of the discussion and reschedule if [the Board] cannot complete in one sitting.*”

Question 12

“Would you participate in future LA County public budget discussions or presentations?”

- **Answered:** 1,323; **Skipped:** 530



Results

- Yes: 38.1% (504)
- Maybe: 51.4% (680)
- No: 10.5% (139)

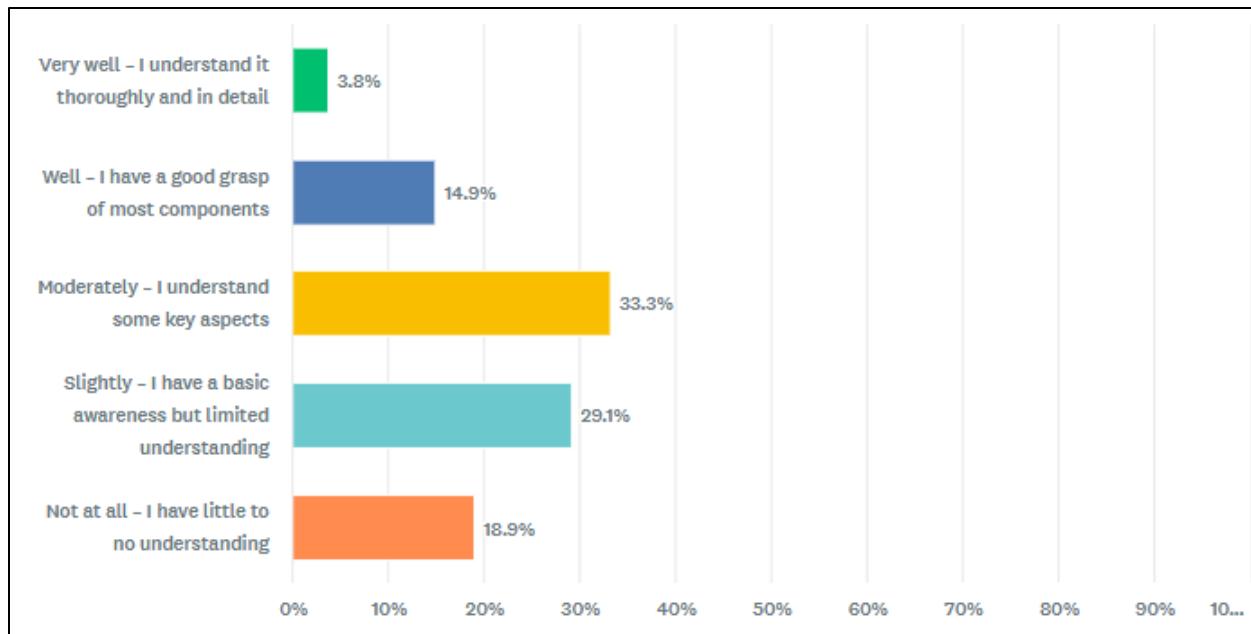
Interpretation

There is strong latent interest in future engagement: nearly 9 in 10 respondents are open to participating again, contingent on how accessible and meaningful the process feels. The challenge is less about willingness and more about designing a process that feels worth people's time.

Question 13

“In general, how well do you feel you understand the Los Angeles County Budget?”

- **Answered:** 1,322; **Skipped:** 531



Results

- Very well: 3.8% (50)
- Well: 14.9% (197)
- Moderately: 33.3% (440)
- Slightly: 29.1% (385)
- Not at all: 18.9% (250)

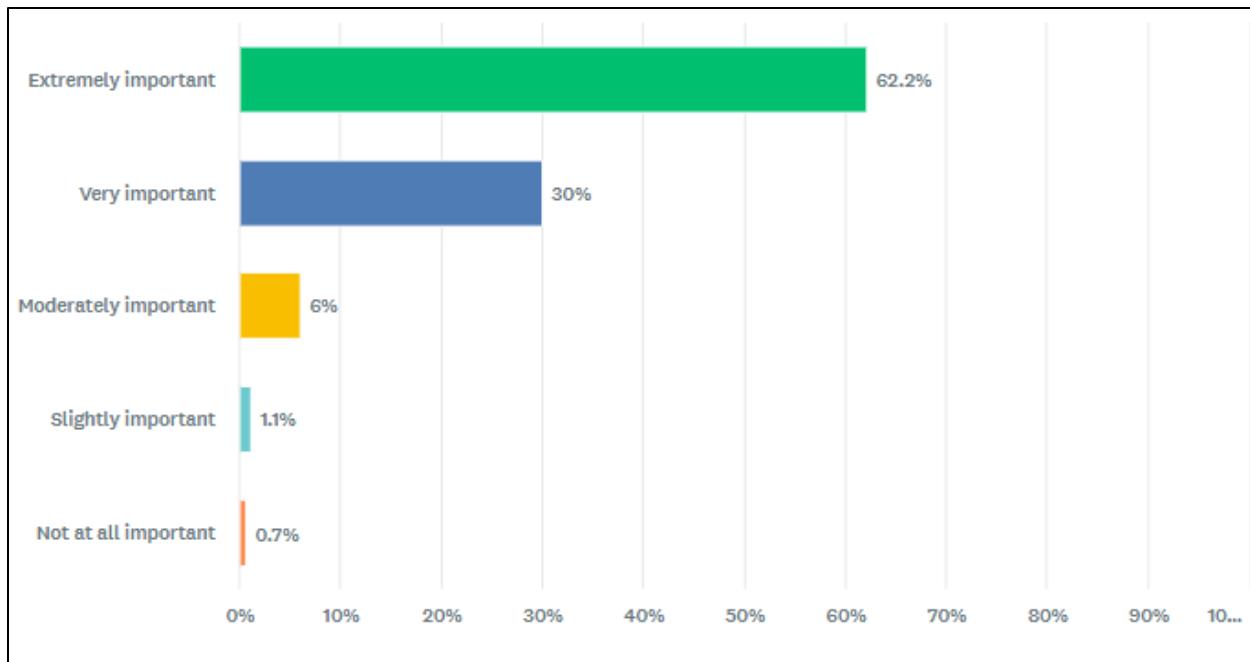
Interpretation

Only about 18.7% of respondents report understanding the budget “well” or “very well,” while roughly 48% describe only “slight” or no understanding. This underscores the need for education-oriented presentations, not just technical briefings.

Question 14

“How important is it to you or your community for LA County to provide clear and accessible information about how public funds are allocated and spent?”

Answered: 1,322; Skipped: 531



Results

- Extremely important: 62.2% (822)
- Very important: 30.0% (397)
- Moderately important: 6.0% (79)
- Slightly important: 1.1% (15)
- Not at all important: 0.7% (9)

Interpretation

An overwhelming 92.2% of respondents deem accessible budget information “very” or “extremely important.” This is a clear mandate from the public that transparency is not optional; it is central to trust and accountability.

Question 15

“Which departments’ budgets are of greatest interest/concern to you or your community? (Select all that apply)”

- **Answered:** 1,316; **Skipped:** 537

Results (multi-select)

- Public Safety & Justice: 72.6% (956)
- Health & Human Services: 72.5% (954)
- Community & Housing Services: 59.0% (777)
- Infrastructure & Public Works: 57.9% (762)
- Finance, Administration & Oversight: 55.6% (732)

Interpretation

Public attention is especially focused on safety/justice and health/human services, but interest is broad across all major functional clusters. This reinforces the need for clustered, thematic presentations and perhaps tailored dashboards for each area.

Question 16

“In general, what kind of information would you or your community like to know about how tax dollars are spent by LA County? (Select all that apply)”

- **Answered:** 1,321; **Skipped:** 532

Top responses (multi-select)

- How much funding each County department receives: 68.9% (910)
- Outcomes/results from spending: 66.1% (873)
- Budget information in plain language and visuals: 64.9% (857)
- Percentage of budget going to administration vs direct services: 64.4% (851)
- How funding decisions are made and who makes them: 62.0% (819)
- How much money is spent in my local community/district: 55.9% (738)
- How federal or state grants are used locally: 53.9% (712)
- Salaries/compensation for top County officials: 53.4% (706)
- How spending compares to previous years: 50.6% (669)
- Contracts and vendors receiving County funds: 48.8% (644)
- Opportunities to give input on budget priorities: 47.6% (629)

- Other: 9.8% (129)

Interpretation

Residents want a full chain of information: allocations → decisions → local impacts → outcomes → accountability. The strong emphasis on plain language, visuals, and local details aligns directly with Measure G's goals for transparency, community voice, and public visibility into spending.

Question 17

“How important is it for you or your community to have information about each of the following aspects of County spending?” (Matrix)

- **Answered:** 1,313; **Skipped:** 540

Across all topics, “very” + “extremely important” ratings are consistently high (roughly 65–80%). Examples:

- **Department-level spending allocations**
 - Very important: 35.3% (453)
 - Extremely important: 36.3% (466)
- **Local spending in my district**
 - Very important: 34.1% (432)
 - Extremely important: 39.9% (505)
- **Program outcomes and impact**
 - Very important: 36.7% (466)
 - Extremely important: 46.1% (585)
- **Public input opportunities in budgeting**
 - Very important: 32.4% (436)
 - Extremely important: 34.2% (394)
- **Year-over-year spending changes**
 - Very important: 34.4% (432)

- Extremely important: 31.1% (505)
- **Contracts and vendor transparency**
 - Very important: 31.6% (400)
 - Extremely important: 42.4% (538)
- **Salaries and administrative cost**
 - Very important: 29.5% (378)
 - Extremely important: 39.9% (511)
- **How spending supports equity and underserved communities**
 - Very important: 28.1% (358)
 - Extremely important: 40.4% (515)

Interpretation

Across every category, the dominant answer is that information is very or extremely important, with especially high importance assigned to program outcomes, equity, local spending, and vendor transparency. This is a strong endorsement of Measure G's focus on performance metrics, equity, and accountability.

Questions 18–25: Demographic Profile (Optional)

These optional questions provide context on who responded; they are important for understanding whose voices are reflected in these results.

Question 18 – Race/Ethnicity (n=1,147)

- Hispanic: 34.5% (396)
- White/Caucasian: 28.8% (330)
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 16.7% (191)
- Black or African American: 16.6% (190)
- American Indian or Alaskan Native: 2.7% (31)
- Multiple/Other: 7.8% (89)

Question 19 – Language Proficiency (multi-select, n=1,211)

- English: 97.7% (1,183)
- Spanish: 26.3% (319)
- Mandarin: 2.5% (30)
- Armenian: 2.1% (26)
- Cantonese: 1.0% (12)
- Tagalog/Filipino: 1.7% (21)
- Farsi, Korean, Russian, Vietnamese, others: each 0.5–1.1%
- Other languages: 3.5% (43)

Question 20 – Gender Identity (n=1,180)

- Female: 59.4% (701)
- Male: 32.8% (387)
- Prefer not to say: 5.4% (64)
- Others: 3.8% (45)

Question 21 – Sexual Orientation (n=1,133)

- Straight/Heterosexual: 77.9% (873)
- Prefer not to say: 12.1% (136)
- LGBTQ+ identities combined: 11.0% (124)

Question 22 – Education (n=1,215)

- Bachelor's degree or higher: 67.7% (822)
- Some college/Associate's: 25.2% (307)
- High school or less: 4.0% (48)
- Prefer not to say: 3.1% (38)

Question 23 – Household Income (n=1,173)

- Under \$50,000: 8.3% (97)
- \$50,000–\$74,999: 13.2% (155)

- \$75,000–\$99,999: 12.3% (144)
- \$100,000–\$150,000: 24.1% (283)
- Over \$150,000: 26.5% (311)
- Prefer not to say: 15.6% (183)

Question 24 – Housing Situation (n=1,206)

- Own home: 60.7% (732)
- Rent: 26.0% (314)
- Staying with friends/family: 3.3% (40)
- Living in shelter/transitional housing: 0.2% (2)
- Unhoused: 0.6% (7)
- Prefer not to say / Other: 9.2% (111)

Question 25 – Supervisorial District (n=1,170)

- First District – Solis: 15.8% (185)
- Second – Mitchell: 14.9% (174)
- Third – Horvath: 9.2% (108)
- Fourth – Hahn: 15.1% (177)
- Fifth – Barger: 20.8% (243)
- Don't know: 24.2% (283)

Interpretation

The survey reached a racially diverse, multilingual, and geographically dispersed set of respondents. However, higher levels of education and income are somewhat overrepresented, and nearly a quarter do not know their district, which may limit district-specific interpretation.

Conclusion

Taken together with the internal department leadership survey, the community survey indicates that Year 1 of Measure G's public budget presentations was a real but incomplete step toward the voter-mandated goals of transparency, community voice, and accountability.

- The public values the concept of public budget hearings and wants more: more information, more clarity, more local relevance, more equity focus, and more chances to be heard.
- At the same time, many residents still did not know the hearings occurred, did not see their voices reflected, and struggled with dense, technical content.
- The building blocks are in place: a Board-mandated process, CEO experience from Year 1, and clear public signals about what matters. The next step is to refine and stabilize the process so that it truly delivers on Measure G's statutory requirements.

Subject: LAST CHANCE: Your Voice Matters for LA County's Budget Transparency!
Share Your Thoughts in Our Survey!

Sent: 11/20/2025 04:18 PM PST

Sent By: BHernandez@bos.lacounty.gov

Sent To: 34 Topics

96,795
Recipients

✓  Email
✓  SMS
✗  Facebook
✗  Twitter
✓  RSS

98%
Delivered



0% Pending
2% Bounced
24% Open Rate
2% Click Rate

Email Delivery Stats

Minutes	Cumulative Attempted
3	62%
5	89%
10	91%
30	99%
60	100%
120	100%

Delivery Metrics - Details

96,795 Total Sent
95,317 (98%) Delivered
0 (0%) Pending
1,478 (2%) Bounced
0 (0%) Unsubscribed

Bulletin Analytics

29,246 Total Opens
22034 (24%) Unique Opens
2,769 Total Clicks
2176 (2%) Unique Clicks
16 # of Links

Delivery and performance

These figures represent all data since the bulletin was first sent to present time.

	Progress	% Delivered	Recipients	# Delivered	Opened Unique	Bounced/Failed	Unsubscribes
Email Bulletin	Delivered	98.4%	94,622	93,148	22034 / 23.7%	1,474	0
Digest	n/a	n/a	0	0	0 / 0.0%	0	0
SMS Message	Delivered	99.8%	2,173	2,169	n/a	4	n/a

Link URL	Unique Clicks	Total Clicks
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XJCSLX?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	606	944
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https://www.facebook.com/LACountyBOS?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	16	23

Link URL	Unique Clicks	Total Clicks
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Subject: Your Voice Matters for LA County's Budget Transparency! Share Your Thoughts in Our Survey!

Sent: 11/05/2025 02:33 PM PST

Sent By: BHernandez@bos.lacounty.gov

Sent To: 26 Topics

26,293



-   Email
-   SMS
-   Facebook
-   Twitter
-   RSS

96%
Delivered



0% Pending
4% Bounced
32% Open Rate
2% Click Rate

Email Delivery Stats

	Minutes	Cumulative Attempted
	3	88%
	5	88%
	10	90%
	30	97%
	60	99%
	120	99%

Delivery Metrics - Details

26,293 Total Sent
25,158 (96%) Delivered
0 (0%) Pending
1,135 (4%) Bounced
0 (0%) Unsubscribed

Bulletin Analytics

11,131 Total Opens
7700 (32%) Unique Opens
655 Total Clicks
578 (2%) Unique Clicks
16 # of Links

Delivery and performance

These figures represent all data since the bulletin was first sent to present time.

	Progress	% Delivered	Recipients	# Delivered	Opened Unique	Bounced/Failed	Unsubscribes
Email Bulletin	Delivered	95.5%	25,385	24,254	7700 / 31.7%	1,131	0
Digest	n/a	n/a	0	0	0 / 0.0%	0	0
SMS Message	Delivered	99.6%	908	904	n/a	4	n/a

Link URL	Unique Clicks	Total Clicks
https://bit.ly/GRTFsurvey?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	165	198
https://bit.ly/GRTF-survey?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	145	175
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XJCSLX?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	106	114
https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=en&tl=es&u=https%3A%2F%2Fcontent.govdelivery.com%2Faccounts%2FCALACOUNTY%2Fbulletins%2F3fa0c44&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	71	71
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XJCSLX?lang=es&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	70	70
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XJCSLX?lang=ko&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	5	10
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CALACOUNTY/subscriber/edit?preferences=true#tab1	5	5
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XJCSLX?lang=hy&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	3	4
https://www.youtube.com/c/LACountyBOS?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	3	3
https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/CALACOUNTY/bulletins/3fa0c44?reqfrom=share	3	3
https://www.instagram.com/lacountybos?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	2	2
https://twitter.com/lacountybos?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	2	2

Link URL	Unique Clicks	Total Clicks
https://bos.lacounty.gov/executive-office/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	2	2
https://www.facebook.com/LACountyBOS?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	1	1
https://www.linkedin.com/company/lacountybos/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	0	0

Subject: Your Voice Matters for LA County's Budget Transparency! Share Your Thoughts in Our Survey!

Sent: 11/10/2025 11:44 AM PST

Sent By: jchan@oig.lacounty.gov

Sent To: Subscribers of BOS - COMMSERV_Citizens Redistricting Commission, BOS - EO - All BOS Staff, BOS - Executive Office News & Announcements, BOS - Governance Reform Task Force, BOS - LA County Citizens Redistricting Commission CRC Subscribers, BOS - Measure G Updates, or BOS - Office of Inspector General

30,120



-   Email
-   SMS
-   Facebook
-   Twitter
-   RSS

96%

Delivered



0% Pending
4% Bounced
31% Open Rate
2% Click Rate

Email Delivery Stats

	Minutes	Cumulative Attempted
	3	88%
	5	88%
	10	89%
	30	97%
	60	99%
	120	99%

Delivery Metrics - Details

30,120 Total Sent
28,802 (96%) Delivered
0 (0%) Pending
1,318 (4%) Bounced
0 (0%) Unsubscribed

Bulletin Analytics

12,349 Total Opens
8529 (31%) Unique Opens
714 Total Clicks
535 (2%) Unique Clicks
16 # of Links

Delivery and performance

These figures represent all data since the bulletin was first sent to present time.

	Progress	% Delivered	Recipients	# Delivered	Opened Unique	Bounced/Failed	Unsubscribes
Email Bulletin	Delivered	95.5%	29,205	27,891	8529 / 30.6%	1,314	0
Digest	n/a	n/a	0	0	0 / 0.0%	0	0
SMS Message	Delivered	99.6%	915	911	n/a	4	n/a

Link URL

Unique Clicks **Total Clicks**

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XJCSLX?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	197	325
https://bit.ly/GRTFsurvey?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	160	203
https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=en&tl=es&u=https%3A%2F%2Fcontent.govdelivery.com%2Faccounts%2FCALACOUNTY%2Fbulletins%2F3fad755&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	77	80
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XJCSLX?lang=es&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	73	73
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XJCSLX?lang=ko&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	5	10
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CALACOUNTY/subscriber/edit?preferences=true#tab1	5	5
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XJCSLX?lang=hy&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	4	4
https://www.instagram.com/lacountybos?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	4	4
https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/CALACOUNTY/bulletins/3fad755?reqfrom=share	3	3
https://www.linkedin.com/company/lacountybos/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	3	3
https://twitter.com/lacountybos?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	3	3
https://www.youtube.com/c/LACountyBOS?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	3	3

Link URL	Unique Clicks	Total Clicks
https://www.facebook.com/LACountyBOS?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	3	3
https://bos.lacounty.gov/executive-office/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	2	2

Subject: REMINDER: Your Voice Matters for LA County's Budget Transparency! Share Your Thoughts in Our Survey!

Sent: 11/17/2025 12:16 PM PST

Sent By: BHernandez@bos.lacounty.gov

Sent To: 33 Topics

34,099



✓  Email

✓  SMS

✗  Facebook

✗  Twitter

✓  RSS

96%

Delivered

0% Pending

4% Bounced

30% Open Rate

2% Click Rate

Email Delivery Stats

	Minutes	Cumulative Attempted
	3	88%
	5	88%
	10	89%
	30	97%
	60	99%
	120	99%

Delivery Metrics - Details

34,099 Total Sent

32,812 (96%) Delivered

0 (0%) Pending

1,287 (4%) Bounced

0 (0%) Unsubscribed

Bulletin Analytics

13,347 Total Opens

9413 (30%) Unique Opens

706 Total Clicks

530 (2%) Unique Clicks

16 # of Links

Delivery and performance

These figures represent all data since the bulletin was first sent to present time.

	Progress	% Delivered	Recipients	# Delivered	Opened Unique	Bounced/Failed	Unsubscribes
Email Bulletin	Delivered	96.1%	32,570	31,287	9413 / 30.1%	1,283	0
Digest	n/a	n/a	0	0	0 / 0.0%	0	0
SMS Message	Delivered	99.7%	1,529	1,525	n/a	4	n/a

Link URL

Unique Clicks **Total Clicks**

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XJCSLX?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	170	273
https://bit.ly/GRTFsurvey?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	139	162
https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=en&tl=es&u=https%3A%2F%2Fcontent.govdelivery.com%2Faccounts%2FCALACOUNTY%2Fbulletins%2F3fbdb596&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	82	96
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XJCSLX?lang=es&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	78	83
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XJCSLX?lang=ko&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	9	15
https://www.youtube.com/c/LACountyBOS?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	8	15
https://twitter.com/lacountybos?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	8	11
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XJCSLX?lang=hy&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	6	10
https://www.facebook.com/LACountyBOS?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	7	9
https://bos.lacounty.gov/executive-office/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	6	8
https://www.instagram.com/lacountybos?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	6	8
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CALACOUNTY/subscriber/edit?preferences=true#tab1	4	6

Link URL	Unique Clicks	Total Clicks
https://www.linkedin.com/company/lacountybos/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=	3	6
https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/CALACOUNTY/bulletins/3fb596?reqfrom=share	4	4