CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
ANNUAL BUDGET AND WORK PLAN
FISCAL YEAR 2026
OCTOBER 1, 2025 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

6800 Burleson Road, Building 310, Suite 165, Austin TX 78744 | www.capcog.org. | (512) 916-6000

A RESOLUTION
ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of the Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG) has prepared a budget for fiscal year 2026 (FY 2026) from October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026, of $41,408,533; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget has been prepared in accordance with CAPCOG's bylaws; and

WHEREAS, CAPCOG has adopted a salary plan, travel policies, and procurement policy in compliance with State Law; and

WHEREAS, CAPCOG's has submitted its FY 2026 salary plan to the State Auditor's Office at least 45 days prior to the start of FY 2026 as required by law; and

WHEREAS, CAPCOG's budget incorporates grant budgets that have been approved by State and Federal agencies and by the Capital Area Emergency Communications District Board of Managers; and

WHEREAS, CAPCOG's proposed budget incorporates a cost allocation plan developed in accordance with Title 2, Section 200 of the Code of Federal Regulations (Uniform Guidance) and the Texas Grant Management Standards (TxGMS) in accordance with instructions from CAPCOG's cognizant federal agency and in conformance with applicable laws and regulations of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, CAPCOG's Executive Committee reviewed the proposed budget and recommended it for approval at its August 13, 2025, meeting;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the General Assembly of the Capital Area Council of Governments hereby adopts the FY 2026 budget and authorizes the Executive Director to perform all duties necessary to implement this budget.

Resolution adopted by the Capital Area Council of Governments General Assembly on this 17th Day of September, 2025.

Brett Bray

Judge Brett Bray, Chair
Executive Committee
Capital Area Council of Governments

Steve Hougen

Mayor Pro Tem Steve Hougen, Secretary
Executive Committee
Capital Area Council of Governments

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Budget Summary

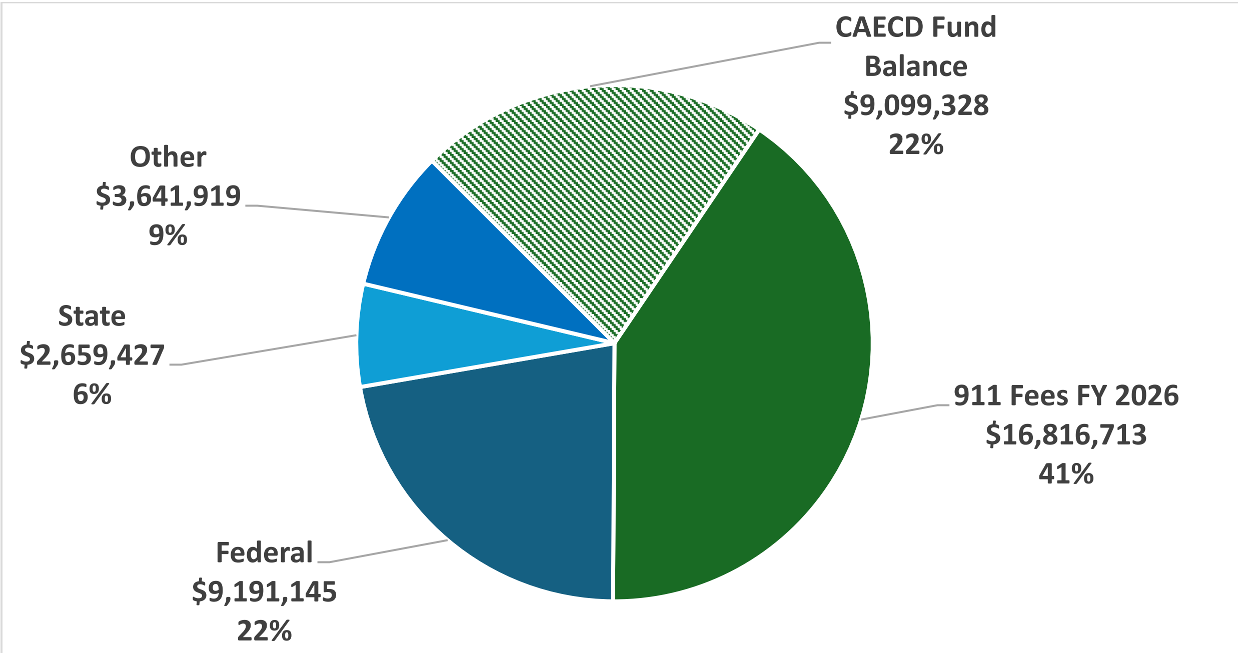
CAPCOG's proposed budget for FY 2025 is $41,408,533. CAPCOG expects to receive $31,056,405 in new revenue for FY 2026, with the balance expected to be covered from carry-forward balances from the Capital Area Emergency Communications District (CAECD) designated for one-time capital expenses in FY 2026 ($9,099,332), the Capital Area Initiatives Foundation (CAIF) ($831,896), and Older Americans Act (OAA) funding awarded in FY 2025 ($420,904).

The largest portion of CAPCOG's budget is CAPCOG's Emergency Communications Division, which accounts for 64% of proposed expenditures, followed by the Aging Services Division, which accounts for 25% of proposed expenditures. The Regional Planning and Service Division accounts for 5% of the budget, the Homeland Security Division accounts for 4% of the budget, and the Regional Law Enforcement Academy accounts for 2% of the budget.

CAPCOG's proposed FY 2026 budget incorporates the FY 2026 CAECD budget, which was adopted by the CAECD Board of Managers on July 9, 2025. This accounts for 9-1-1 operations and projects managed by the Emergency Communications Division, for the Regional Notification System (RNS) and WebEOC programs managed by the Homeland Security Division, and for most of the cost of the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) program managed by the Regional Planning and Services Division. About $8.3 million of the CAECD budget is set aside for capital costs associated with design, construction, and furniture costs for potential new office space that may be needed beyond the tenant improvement allowance for a new lease. The CAECD budget assumes that other CAPCOG funding sources would repay its share of these costs over 10 years with interest.

CAPCOG's individual grant budgets are prepared and finalized in consultation with funding agencies at varying timelines that do not necessarily coincide with the timeline for preparing and finalizing CAPCOG's annual budget. This makes CAPCOG's budget process somewhat different from the process our member city and county governments follow. We typically are fairly certain about which grants and programs will be funded during the year and, except mainly for the use of unrestricted funds, proposed expenditures just match anticipated revenue and represent a 12-month snapshot of the various funding sources and expenditures.

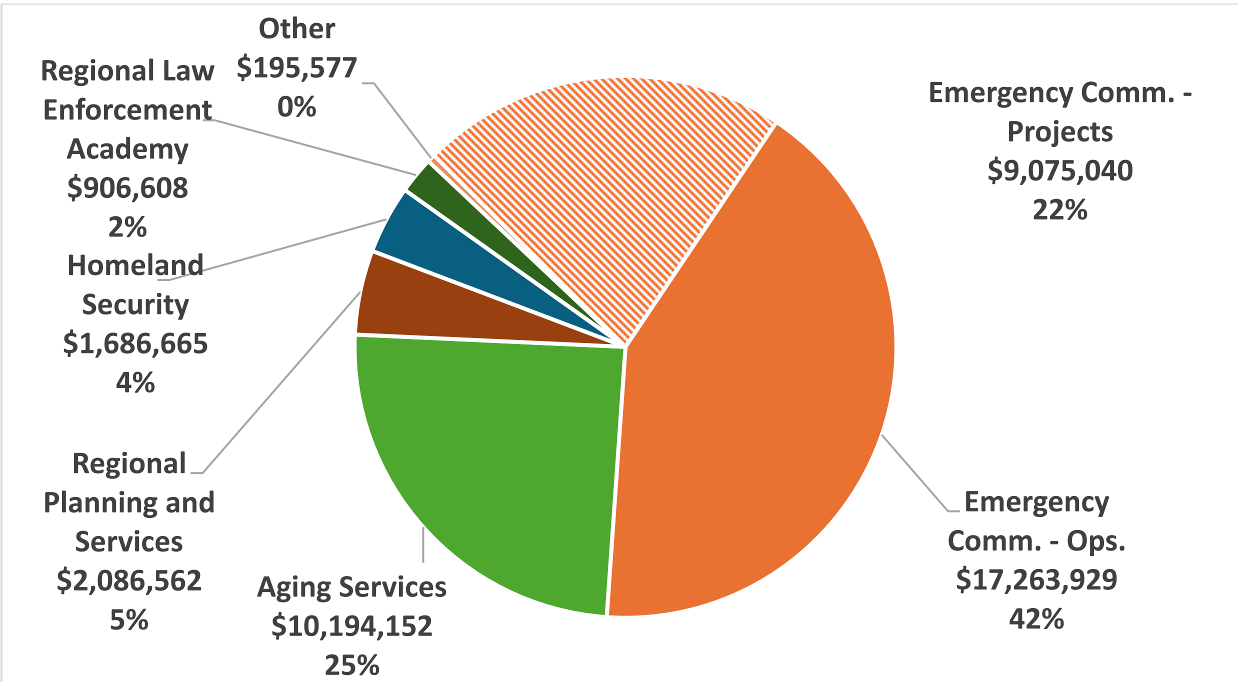
Revenue by Source Type



FY 2026 CAPCOG BUDGET

SOURCES OF FUNDS	FY 2026
LOCAL & NON-GRANT	
Membership Dues	$331,204
Local Air Quality Contributions	$334,571
RLEA Tuition and Fees	$300,685
Private Switch Agreements	$14,986
Interest/Misc. Income	$1,330,085
Subtotal	**$2,311,530**
9-1-1 SERVICE FEES	
CAECD Fund Balance	$9,099,328
Landline Fee-FY 2026	$2,027,927
Wireless Fee-FY 2026	$13,930,638
Prepaid Wireless Fee-FY 2026	$858,148
Subtotal	**$25,916,041**
STATE	
Office of the Governor - Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement	$446,941
Office of the Governor - Homeland Security	$40,700
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	$1,124,385
Texas Department of Transportation	$200,000
Texas Department of Agriculture	$12,993
Texas Health and Human Services Commission	$834,408
Subtotal	**$2,659,427**
FEDERAL - (Through State/Other Agency)	
City of Austin (Climate Protection Grant)	$50,000
Office of the Governor - Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement	$291,564
Office of the Governor - Homeland Security	$805,995
Tx. Health and Human Services Commission - Current Year	$7,502,651
Tx. Health and Human Services Commission - Carry-Forward	$420,904
Subtotal	**$9,071,114**
FEDERAL - (Direct)	
Economic Development Administration	$70,000
Environmental Protection Agency	$50,031
Subtotal	**$120,031**
OTHER GRANTS	
City of Austin Congregate Meal Funding	$367,134
CAIF - St. David's Foundation - Current Year	$131,359
CAIF - St. David's Foundation - Carry-Forward	$831,896
Subtotal	**$1,330,389**
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	**$41,408,533**

Expenditures by Division



FY 2026 CAPCOG BUDGET

USES OF FUNDS	FY 2026
AGING SERVICES	
Area Agency on Aging - Program Operations	$9,608,164
Aging and Disability Resource Center	$277,983
Alzheimers Disease and Related Disability Grant	$149,923
St. David's Foundation Programs	$158,082
Subtotal	**$10,194,152**
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS	
Operations	$17,263,929
Projects	$9,075,040
Subtotal	**$26,338,969**
HOMELAND SECURITY	
Homeland Security Planning and Training	$846,695
Regional Notification System	$621,197
WebEOC	$218,773
Subtotal	**$1,686,665**
REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY	
Peace Officer Training	$867,364
Jailer Training	$39,245
Subtotal	**$906,608**
REGIONAL PLANNING AND SERVICES	
Air Quality	$1,199,490
Community Development Block Grant - Rural Areas	$12,993
Criminal Justice Planning	$132,582
Economic Development	$140,000
Solid Waste	$366,497
Transportation	$200,000
Other Projects	$35,000
Subtotal	**$2,086,562**
OTHER AND CONTINGENCY	**$195,577**
TOTAL FUNDS USED	**$41,408,533**

Unrestricted Funding

CAPCOG's small amount of unrestricted revenue comes primarily from membership dues, but also includes investment interest, credit card rebates, and other small miscellaneous sources. **For FY 2026, CAPCOG estimates $406,454 in unrestricted revenue**.

These funds are budgeted as follows:

1. **$175,877 for required match for grant programs**:
    a. $105,877 for a 25% match for administration of the Area Agency on Aging (AAA)
    b. $70,000 for a 50% match for the Economic Development Administration (EDA) planning grant.
2. **$169,142 for staff to work on activities that fall outside of CAPCOG's existing grants**.
    a. $134,142 for a new Local Government Coordinator position.
    b. $35,000 for Regional Planning and Services staff time to work on non-grant projects.
3. $**61,435 for other expenses**:
    a. $28,100 for certain expenses that are not eligible for reimbursement from grants, such as food costs for CAPCOG's General Assembly meetings.
    b. $33,335 for other contingencies.

As a result of new Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funding that we expect to receive from the Office of the Governor (OOG), the Regional Law Enforcement Academy (RLEA) no longer requires local funding in the FY 2026 budget. Freeing up these funds from being needed for the RLEA is enabling CAPCOG to create a new Local Government Coordinator position to assist local governments with pursuing and managing grants within the region and otherwise serve as a liaison between CAPCOG and the region's local governments.

FY 2026 UNRESTRICTED FUNDING

Revenue	FY 2026
Membership Dues	$331,204
Misc. Income/Rebates	$75,250
Total Revenue	**$406,454**
Specified Expenditures	
Match - Area Agency on Aging Administration	$105,877
Match - Economic Development (EDA)	$70,000
Regional Academy	$0
Regional Planning & Services	$35,000
Other (GA Meetings, Meeting Food, etc.)	$28,100
Local Government Coordinator	$134,142
Subtotal	**$373,119**
Unassigned/Contingency	
CAPCOG Unassigned/Contingency	$33,335
Subtotal	**$33,335**

Staffing and Salaries

CAPCOG's FY 2026 budget includes a 3% across-the-board labor market adjustment to salaries, plus allowances for additional performance-based increases to base pay up to 3%.

Under state law, COGs are required to have pay plans that limit pay for positions to no more than the state pays for equivalent positions. CAPCOG complies with this requirement by assigning an equivalent state job description to every CAPCOG position and then apply the state's pay scale for that position to the equivalent CAPCOG position. Under state law, this plan is required to be submitted to the state no later than 45 days prior to the start of CAPCOG's fiscal year (i.e., August 17), so the plan presented to the Executive Committee on August 13 was submitted to the state following that meeting.

The pay plan identifies planned position for FY 2026, along with the corresponding state pay range. CAPCOG's budget accounts for a total of 82 positions, including 3 temporary positions. CAPCOG is adding positions in all divisions other than Homeland Security and Information Technology Services. Specific positions, titles, pay ranges, etc. may change throughout the year as needed.

CAPCOG FY 2026 Salary Plan					
#		**CAPCOG Job Title**	**Pay Grp.**	**Min.**	**Max.**
		Administration			
1	ADM_01	Executive Director	EX. 07	$166,860	$268,900
2	ADM_18	Director of Administrative Services	B33	$149,134	$252,224
3	ADM_15	Director of Human Resources	B27	$84,182	$142,374
4	ADM_17	Local Government Specialist	B21	$54,278	$87,046
5	ADM_16	Public Information Officer	B20	$51,158	$81,351
6	ADM_14	Executive Assistant	B19	$48,244	$76,028
7	ADM_04	Front Office Coordinator	A15	$38,976	$58,045
		Finance			
8	FIN_01	Director of Finance	B28	$92,600	$156,612
9	FIN_02	Assistant Director of Finance	B26	$76,530	$129,430
10	FIN_06	Finance Operations Manager	B24	$65,104	$106,634
11	FIN_05	Accountant V-Aging	B22	$57,614	$93,138
12	FIN_07	Accounting Analyst	B20	$51,158	$81,351
13	FIN_04	Accounting Analyst	B18	$45,521	$71,055
		Information Technology Services			
14	ITS_01	Chief Information Security Officer	B32	$135,577	$229,295
15	ITS_03	Network Administrator	B23	$61,184	$99,658
16	ITS_04	System Support Specialist	B20	$51,158	$81,351
		Aging Services			
17	AAA_01	Director of Aging Services	B28	$92,600	$156,612
18	AAA_38	Assistant Director of Aging Services for Program Implementation	B25	$69,572	$114,099
19	AAA_48	Special Projects Manager	B25	$69,572	$114,099
20	AAA_45	Program Manager for Care Coordination and Caregiver Support	B21	$54,278	$87,046
21	AAA_44	Program Manager for Nutrition and Benefits Counseling	B20	$51,158	$81,351
22	AAA_30	Ombudsman Program Manager	B20	$51,158	$81,351
23	AAA_07	Aging Program Specialist	B19	$48,244	$76,028
24	AAA_36	ADRC Program Specialist	B19	$48,244	$76,028
25	AAA_54	ADRD Project Coordinator	B19	$48,244	$76,028
26	AAA_46	Lead Care Coordinator	B19	$48,244	$76,028
27	AAA_14	Care Coordinator	B19	$48,244	$76,028
28	AAA_15	Care Coordinator	B19	$48,244	$76,028
29	AAA_26	Care Coordinator	B19	$48,244	$76,028
30	AAA_29	Care Coordinator	B19	$48,244	$76,028
31	AAA_49	Information, Referral, and Assistance Navigator	B19	$48,244	$76,028
32	AAA_50	Information, Referral, and Assistance Navigator	B19	$48,244	$76,028
33	AAA_51	Information, Referral, and Assistance Navigator	B19	$48,244	$76,028
34	AAA_55	Ombudsman Volunteer Coordinator	B19	$48,244	$76,028
35	AAA_28	ASC/ADRC Network Coordinator	B17	$42,976	$64,469
36	AAA_13	Benefits Counselor	B18	$45,521	$71,055
37	AAA_19	Benefits Counselor	B18	$45,521	$71,055
38	AAA_43	Benefits Counselor	B18	$45,521	$71,055
39	AAA_47	Health and Wellness Program Coordinator	B17	$42,976	$64,469

#		CAPCOG Job Title	Pay Grp.	Min.	Max.
Aging Services (continued)					
40	AAA_17	Program Monitor	B17	$42,976	$64,469
41	AAA_20	Data Entry Clerk	B17	$42,976	$64,469
42	AAA_40	Data Entry Clerk	B17	$42,976	$64,469
43	AAA_52	Information, Referral, and Assistance Navigator	B17	$42,976	$64,469
44	AAA_53	Information, Referral, and Assistance Navigator	B17	$42,976	$64,469
45	AAA_21	Ombudsman	B17	$42,976	$64,469
46	AAA_31	Ombudsman	B17	$42,976	$64,469
47	AAA_33	Ombudsman	B17	$42,976	$64,469
48	AAA_35	Ombudsman	B17	$42,976	$64,469
49	AAA_12	Intake Specialist	B14	$37,144	$55,134
50	AAA_22	Intake Specialist	B14	$37,144	$55,134
51	AAA_10	Administrative Assistant	A13	$35,439	$52,388
Emergency Communications					
52	ECD_01	Director of Emergency Communications	B30	$112,047	$189,499
53	ECD_02	9-1-1 Assistant Director - Operations	B26	$76,530	$129,430
54	ECD_11	9-1-1 Assistant Director - Policy and Administration	B26	$76,530	$129,430
55	ECD_15	Cyber Security Specialist	B25	$69,572	$114,099
56	ECD_16	9-1-1 Training and Public Education Manager	B25	$69,572	$114,099
57	ECD_03	9-1-1 Telecommunications Technologies Project Manager	B24/B25	$69,572	$106,634
58	ECD_05	9-1-1 Telecommunications Coordinator A	B24	$65,104	$106,634
59	ECD_08	9-1-1 Telecommunications Coordinator B	B24	$65,104	$106,634
60	ECD_12	9-1-1 Telecommunications Coordinator C	B24	$65,104	$106,634
61	ECD_14	Trainer/Public Education Specialist	B23	$61,184	$99,658
62	ECD_09	Administrative Coordinator	A15	$38,976	$58,045
Homeland Security					
63	HLS_01	Director of Homeland Security	B27	$84,182	$142,374
64	HLS_08	Emergency Management Information Systems Manager	B23	$61,184	$99,658
65	HLS_05	Homeland Security Planner	B20	$51,158	$81,351
66	HLS_07	Homeland Security Program Manager	B22	$57,614	$93,138
Regional Law Enforcement Academy					
67	RLE_01	Director of Regional Law Enforcement Academy	B26	$76,530	$129,430
68	RLE_03	Chief Academy Instructor	B23	$61,184	$99,658
69	RLE_05	Remote BPOC Coordinator	B23	$61,184	$99,658
70	RLE_04	Academy Office Coordinator	A19	$48,244	$76,028

#		CAPCOG Job Title	Pay Grp.	Min.	Max.
		Regional Planning and Services			
71	RPS_01	Director of Regional Planning and Services	B26	$76,530	$129,430
72	RPS_04	GIS Program Manager	B24	$65,104	$106,634
73	RPS_10	GIS Operations Coordinator	B24	$65,104	$106,634
74	RPS_13	Planning and Economic Development Coordinator	B24	$65,104	$106,634
75	RPS_16	Transportation Planner	B22	$57,614	$93,138
76	RPS_03	Air Quality Program Manager	B23	$61,184	$99,658
77	RPS_15	Solid Waste Program Manager	B23	$61,184	$99,658
78	RPS_07	Community Development Coordinator	B20/B21	$54,278	$81,351
79	RPS_09	GIS Database Specialist II	B20	$51,158	$81,351
80	RPS_12	Air Quality Program Specialist	B19	$48,244	$76,028
81	RPS_17	Air Quality Program Specialist	B19	$48,244	$76,028
82	RPS_11	Administrative Coordinator	A15	$38,976	$58,045

Fringe Benefits

<u>CAPCOG's fringe rate for FY 2026 is 55.22%</u>, representing the ratio between the estimated fringe cost pool and the portion of salaries paid to regular employees for time worked. The fringe pool includes benefits, the employer portion of Social Security and Medicaid/Medicare taxes, paid leave, merit bonuses, and benefit consulting services. CAPCOG's benefit package includes medical, vision, dental, life, and long-term disability insurance for employees, as well as a retirement plan and a wellness program. The proposed FY 2026 pool includes an adjustment to account for over-recovery of fringe costs in FY 2024.

- **Health, Dental, Vision, Life, and Long-Term Disability Insurance**:
  - Insurance is on a calendar year basis rather than a fiscal year basis, and currently, CAPCOG's medical, dental, and vision insurance plans are provided by Cigna and life and long-term disability insurance plans are provided by Ochs.
  - The proposed fringe rate accounts for a possibility of an increase in medical rates of up 10% in calendar year 2026 as advised by our benefits consultant but staff will not know final rates or the structure of the plan until October.
  - CAPCOG's health benefits package includes a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) for each employee to defray unreimbursed health care costs. These funds belong to the employer rather than the employee and are retained by CAPCOG if not used by the employee.
- **Retirement Plan**:
  - CAPCOG's retirement plan is a voluntary, defined contribution 401k plan.
  - Employees receive employer contributions semi-annually, with a five-year vesting schedule.
  - The FY 2026 budget continues to allow for employer matching contributions up to 8% of the employee's earnings for the period.
- **Paid Leave**:
  - Paid time off for employees includes 12 days of holiday time, 2 personal holidays, sick leave, vacation leave, and administrative leave.
  - Since employees are able to get paid for up to 240 hours of unused vacation leave and 48 hours of sick leave upon separation, the pool also includes amounts set aside to cover those costs.
- **Other**:
  - The fringe pool also includes various costs associated with staffing, including the employer portion of payroll taxes, workers' compensation insurance, and unemployment insurance.
  - The costs for CAPCOG's benefits consultant are also included in the fringe pool.

FY 2026 CAPCOG FRINGE RATE

Release Time	FY 2026
Holiday and Admin	$403,626
Vacation	$296,784
Sick Leave	$213,685
Total Release Time	**$914,095**
Benefits	
Employee Insurance	$915,221
Health Reimbursement Accounts	$151,422
Payroll Taxes	$486,518
Retirement	$469,231
Bonuses	$0
Potential Leave Payout	$23,799
Consulting Services/Other Services	$29,790
Workman's Compensation	$20,575
Unemployment Insurance	$10,553
Wellness Program and Employee Assistance Program	$9,750
Fees for Flexible Spending and Dependent Care Accounts	$1,200
Total Benefits	**$2,118,059**
Total Paid Time Off and Benefits	**$3,032,154**
Carry-Forward Adjustment from Last Audit FY	($128,271)
Total Fringe Pool	**$2,903,883**
Salary Base	
Total Regular Salaries	$6,173,110
Less Release Time	($914,095)
Total Salary Base	**$5,259,015**
Fringe Rate (Total Fringe Pool/Total Salary Base)	**55.22%**

Indirect Rate

CAPCOG has certain costs, such as general administration and common areas of the office space that need to be allocated as an indirect cost to the various programs that we administer. **<u>CAPCOG's proposed FY 2026 indirect cost pool includes $1.5 million in expenditures</u>**. In order to recover indirect costs from grants, CAPCOG uses a negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA) that is approved by CAPCOG's Federal Cognizant Agency, which is the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI). For FY 2026, CAPCOG is splitting the cost of the indirect pool evenly between the Emergency Communications District, which constitutes more than half of the agency's total proposed FY 2026 spending, and between all other funding sources. For the portion covered by other funding sources, **<u>CAPCOG expects a final FY 2026 indirect rate of 26.23% applied to salaries</u>**. CAPCOG's actual final indirect rate is subject to approval of the federal government pursuant to a new NICRA, which may or may not be finalized by the start of CAPCOG's fiscal year.

FY 2026 CAPCOG ESTIMATED INDIRECT RATE

Total Expenses	**FY 2026**
Salaries and Fringe	$661,211
Office Space and Facilities Maintenance	$535,375
Information Technology Support	$112,790
Accounting and Finance Support	$35,053
Dues and Memberships	$32,632
Insurance and Bonding	$22,000
Travel and Professional Development	$15,000
Payroll/Personnel Support	$21,391
Office Suplies	$11,700
Photocopies, Printing, Postage, and Delivery	$10,053
Telecommunications	$8,015
Software and Computer Supplies	$5,200
Cable TV Service	$2,000
Publications and Subscriptions	$1,800
Legal Services	$3,500
Other Expenses	$37,200
Total	**$1,514,919**

Cost Pool For Indirect Rate	
50% Charged to CAECD	($757,460)
Carryforward Adjustment for Other Sources	($11,517)
Indirect Cost Pool	**$745,942**

Salary Base	
Total Salary Expenses (not including paid time off)	$5,368,855
Minus Indirect, Accounting, IT, and HR/Payroll Salary Expenses	($1,301,304)
Minus CAECD and Related Salary Expenses	($1,223,636)
Salary Base	**$2,843,915**

Indirect Rate (Indirect Cost Pool / Base)	**26.23%**

Indirect costs are not to be considered administrative or overhead costs. It is an accounting method used when costs are: (a) incurred for a common joint purpose benefiting more than one cost objective; and (b) not readily assignable to the cost objective specifically benefited, without effort disproportionate to the results achieved. This method is outlied in OMB Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (codified at 2 C.F.R. Part 200) as an allowable method of cost distribution. CAPCOG uses total direct salaries and wages as the basis for distributing indirect costs to individual program areas, resulting in each award bearing a fair share of the indirct costs in reasonable relation to the benefits received from the costs. Separate cost pools have been established for Accounting Services, Personnel/Payroll Services, Information Technology Services, Office Space, Telephone Services, Photocopies, and Postage, and are allocated as direct costs to program areas based on allocation methods included in CAPCOG's Cost Allocation Plan. Indirect rate for budget year may not yet been approved by CAPCOG's Federal Cognizant Agency.

Aging Services Division

The Aging Services Division serves as the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) of the Capital Area, providing Older Americans Act (OAA) services to older individuals and their caregivers. The CAPCOG AAA is also the lead agency for the region's Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), which supports older individuals with disability under the age of 60 seeking long-term services. Starting in FY 2025, the Aging Services division also added an Alzheimer's and Dementia-Related Disease (ADRD) program through a new state grant. The Aging Services division also administers privately funded programs on behalf of the Capital Area Initiatives Foundation (CAIF).

Major Activities/Outputs

- **Benefit counseling**: assist residents with applying for and understanding public benefits.
- **Care coordination**: assess need and authorize short-term in-home support services.
- **Caregiver support coordination**: assess and coordinate caregiver support services.
- **Health and wellness**: provide programs for healthy aging, including falls prevention, disease management, self-management, and caregiver stress relief.
- **Housing navigation**: advocate for affordable and accessible housing in the region, maintain an inventory of resources, and coordinate with developers to build housing capacity.
- **Information, referral, and assistance**: provide information on regional resources and make referrals.
- **Lifespan respite care program**: provide short-term respite for caregivers caring for children with special needs or adults of all ages with a disability.
- **Local contact agency services**: provide decision support guidance for non-Medicaid nursing facility residents seeking information about available community-based options for care.
- **Nutrition programs**: contract with providers for home-delivered and congregate meals.
- **Ombudsman services**: advocate for the rights of residents of long-term care facilities.
- **Senior center operations**: support for regional senior centers.
- **Transportation**: provide transportation demand response services for seniors.
- **Special grant programs**: manage special grant projects funded outside of traditional AAA and ADRC funding, including the Aging Services Council (ASC) / ADRC Network Coordinator position funded by St. David's Foundation through the CAIF.

FY 2026 Budget Highlights

- **The FY 2026 Aging Services budget is $6 million below its FY 2025 budget**.
- **Loss of OAA Carry-Forward**: CAPCOG's FY 2025 budget anticipated carrying forward about $7.5 million in federal OAA funding from FY 2024 into FY 2025 and $5 million from FY 2025 into FY 2026, the FY 2026 budget only anticipates approximately $420k to carry-forward into FY 2026 and none from FY 2026 into FY 2027. This is the result of two factors:
  - The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) has withheld approximately $3.4 million in unexpended balances from FY 2023 and FY 2024 funding awarded to CAPCOG due to issues with securing the state's portion of the required match for certain funding categories.
  - During FY 2025, HHSC advised CAPCOG not to count on being able to carry forward funding requiring a state match from FY 2025 into FY 2026, leading CAPCOG to instead plan to spend down as much of these balances as possible in FY 2025.

- **Level Annual OAA Funding Projected**: While historically, CAPCOG has received significant increases in "regular" OAA funding year over year due to the state's funding formula and population increases both statewide and within our region, CAPCOG actually received less "regular" OAA funding in FY 2025 than in FY 2024. This was due to the state receiving less funding and less funding awarded nation-wide. Therefore, in order to be conservative, CAPCOG is not projecting any increase in OAA funding for FY 2026.
- **St. David's Foundation Funding**: St. David's Foundation has decided to sunset the CAPABLE and Aging Services Council (ASC) / Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Coordinator grants. However, they have agreed to allow CAPCOG to use any unexpended balances from previously issued grants to support aging services in Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson Counties.
- **Alzheimer's Grant**: The FY 2026 budget includes a new grant related to Alzheimer's and other dementia-related diseases that CAPCOG was awarded starting in FY 2025 and which is continuing into FY 2026.
- **City of Austin Congregate Meal Funding**: The budget includes about $367k in "new" revenue from the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department for congregate meals at their senior centers. CAPCOG had been receiving this funding from FY 2014 - FY 2020 until the start of COVID-19. This funding was not needed for the last several years as a result of a large infusion of federal funding related to COVID, but since that funding has now ended, City of Austin is now resuming this funding in FY 2026.

Emergency Communications Division

CAPCOG's Emergency Communications Division provides funding, planning, equipment, technical support, training, and educational outreach assistance to 30 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) throughout the CAPCOG region to enable those agencies to deliver advanced regional emergency 9-1-1 telecommunications systems and services to residents, employees, and visitors to the region.

Major Activities/Outputs

- **Operational Support**:
    - Plan, fund, deploy, and maintain advanced fully redundant emergency telecommunications network infrastructure and equipment to support the delivery of 9-1-1 calls to the region's 30 PSAPs with accurate caller location and telephone number information for responding emergency services.
    - Provide an operational regional backup 9-1-1 center for emergency contingency use for continuous 9-1-1 call delivery and dispatch by regional governments.
- **Training**:
    - Operate a fully equipped training facility used to instruct over 800 call-takers on the effective use of 9-1-1 equipment.
    - Provide over 20 mandated and continuing education courses on state and national standards including topics related to 9-1-1 operations skills and leadership.
- **Public Outreach**:
    - Promote the proper use of 9-1-1 by educating regional school children, neighborhood, and community outreach programs.
    - Provide diverse educational support materials and promotional items designed to enhance the understanding of the 9-1-1 program.

FY 2026 Budget Highlights

- **CAECD Budget**: The FY 2026 CAPCOG budget incorporates the budget of the Capital Area Emergency Communications District (CAECD), which was adopted by the CAECD's Board of Managers in July. The CAECD is a separate legal entity but is administered by CAPCOG and is considered a business unit of CAPCOG financially.
- **One-Time Projects**: The FY 2026 CAECD budget includes $9 million in capital projects that will be funded out of the CAECD fund balance, including $8.3 million set aside for capital costs related to a potential new lease starting in FY 2027.
- **New Positions**: The FY 2026 budget includes funding for two new positions in the Emergency Communications division: a new cyber security analyst to help protect the 9-1-1 system from cyber threats, and a new 9-1-1 training and public education specialist to enhance CAPCOG's ability to meet the region's 9-1-1 training needs and expand public understanding of when and how to use 9-1-1 services.

Homeland Security Division

CAPCOG's Homeland Security Division assists local governments in preparing, planning, responding to, mitigating, and recovering from terrorism, man-made disasters, natural disasters.

Major Activities/Outputs

- **Best Practices**: identify and promote the use of best practices in hazard mitigation and emergency management within the CAPCOG region.
- **Grant Prioritization**: assist the Office of the Governor (OOG) Public Safety Office (PSO) in prioritizing projects for Homeland Security grant funding within the region.
- **Grant Technical Assistance**: provide technical assistance to local governments in meeting grant eligibility and funding requirements for the State Homeland Security grant program and support pursuit of other grants such as State Regional Interoperability Grants, Assistance to Firefighter Grants, and Community Development Block Grant Mitigation funds.
- **Local Emergency Management Plans**: Assist jurisdictions with developing and updating local emergency management plans.
- **Mutual Aid Agreements**: Promote the use of mutual aid agreements and monitor their implementation throughout the region.
- **Regional Notification System (RNS)**: Operate a regional emergency notification system and provide technical assistance and training to jurisdictions on its use.
- **Regional Plans**: Coordinate the development and maintenance of regional emergency management plans.
- **Stakeholder Groups**: Host regional meetings with stakeholder groups to improve all phases of emergency management and awareness.
- **Training and Exercises**: conduct and support regional training and exercises.
- **Warn Central Texas**: maintains the Warn Central Texas (www.warncentraltexas.org) website and support its promotion.
- **WebEOC**: Operate a regional WebEOC situational awareness system and provide technical assistance and training to jurisdictions on its use.

FY 2026 Budget Highlights

- **Recurring Funding from the Office of the Governor (OOG)**: The Homeland Security Division receives recuring funding from the OOG to assist with the prioritization of Homeland Security grant applications, conduct regional planning, provide regional training, and support hazardous materials reporting. This funding accounts for approximately $700k.
- **RNS and WebEOC**: The Homeland Security Division manages the RNS and WebEOC programs, both of which are funded by the CAECD. These programs account for approximately $840k.
- **New Grants**: The FY 2026 budget also includes two additional grants from the OOG related to supplies for Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) and enhanced interface with emergency responders. These grants total approximately $150k.

Regional Law Enforcement Academy

CAPCOG's Regional Law Enforcement Academy has been recognized as one of the premier law enforcement training institutions in the state, with regular courses to train new police officers and corrections officers and providing ongoing in-service training to maintain and enhance the skills of existing police and corrections officers.

Major Activities/Outputs

- **Basic Peace Officer Course (BPOC)**:
    - **Day classes**: host three full-time BPOCs over a two-year period to train at least 25-35 cadets per class in the skills required to be licensed as a peace officer to meet the region's law enforcement staffing needs.
    - **Night classes**: host 1 part-time night BPOC each year to train 10-20 cadets who have not yet been hired by a police department or may otherwise be unable to attend CAPCOG's day class.
- **In-Service Training**: Provide regular course offerings to assist local law enforcement officers to meet specific continuing education course requirements, obtain certifications required for career advancement, or otherwise enhance skills. The following is a list of classes held over the past 12 months:
    - Basic instructor;
    - Canine encounters;
    - De-escalation techniques;
    - Field training officer;
    - Intermediate crime scene;
    - Interactive with deaf drivers;
    - Mental health officer;
    - New supervisor;
    - State and federal law updates; and
    - Spanish.
- **Basic Jailer Course**: With help from a new grant from OOG, CAPCOG is planning to resume offering basic jailer courses in FY 2026 targeted at assisting the region's smaller counties that lack their own training program.

FY 2026 Budget Highlights

- **State Training Grant**: CAPCOG receives a recurring 2-year regional law enforcement training grant from the state that provides $314k per year. FY 2026 is the start of a new 2-year grant.
- **Tuition and fees**: The FY 2026 budget anticipates $278k in tuition from tuition and fees.
- **New Grants for FY 2026**: The FY 2026 budget includes three federal Justice Assistance new grants from the OOG as recommended by CAPCOG's Criminal Justice Advisory Committee:
    - $152k to cover the costs of the Chief Instructor position;
    - $115k to provide a remote Basic Peace Officer Course; and
    - $24k to restart offering basic jailers' courses (last offered in FY 2019).

Regional Planning and Services Division

CAPCOG's Regional Planning and Services Division includes a variety of programs that support CAPCOG's goal of coordinated, data-driving, sustainable regional planning and growth, including an air quality program, a rural community development block grant (CDBG) program, a criminal justice planning program, an economic development program, a solid waste program, and a rural transportation planning program.

Major Activities/Outputs

- **Air Quality Program**: support efforts to reduce air pollution and maintain compliance with federal air quality standards within the Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos metro area, including monitoring, emissions research, air quality data analysis, planning, technical assistance, and outreach.
- **CDBG Program**: provide technical assistance on the CDBG program to communities within the CAPCOG region that do not receive CDBG funding directly from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (also known as "non-entitlement" communities) and help set priorities for non-entitlement CDBG funding awarded within the CAPCOG region.
- **Criminal Justice Planning**: develop and update a regional criminal justice plan that identifies priorities for funding needs and assist the OOG PSO in prioritizing does of grant applications for victim's services, truancy prevention, juvenile justice, and general justice assistance grants.
- **Economic Development Program**: develop and update the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to support coordinated regional economic development.
- **Solid Waste Program**: support regional efforts to manage municipal solid waste, including awarding grants to support the implementation of the region's solid waste management plan and providing technical support to local efforts to deter and abate illegal dumping.
- **Transportation Program**: facilitate coordinated regional transportation efforts in rural areas of the region through the Capital Area Regional Transportation Organization (CARTPO) and various projects to support local governments in enhancing the transportation system region-wide.

FY 2026 Budget Highlights

- **Changes in Air Quality Grant Funding related to $PM_{2.5}$**: Two 3-year grants from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) related to air fine particulate matter (PM2.5) monitoring are expiring in FY 2026, but state funding for PM2.5 will be increasing, and CAPCOG will also be receiving funding from the City of Austin as a subrecipient on a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) from EPA.
- **Level Funding/Small Increases for Other Programs**: All other grants for FY 2026 are projected to be level or will see small increases due to the region's population growth relative to the rest of the state.

Unrestricted Fund Balance

Staff project an ending unrestricted fund balance of $3,106,018 for FY 2026, which is $2,306,018 more than the $800,000 minimum target established by CAPCOG's 2011 fund balance policy, and represents approximately 2.6 months' worth of operating expenditures.