



# AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Control: 26001037

**MEETING DATE:** 06/23/2026

**LEGAL ENTITY TAKING ACTION:** Board of Supervisors

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DISTRICT(S):** All Districts

**SUBMITTING AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** OC Public Works

**DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSON(S):** Kevin Onuma, 714-647-3939  
Justin Kirk, 714-667-1627

**SUBJECT:** Approve Center for Demographic Research Memorandum of Understanding

CEO CONCUR	COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW	CLERK OF THE BOARD
Concur	Approve agreement to form	CONSENT CALENDAR 3 Votes Board Majority

<b>Budgeted:</b> N/A	<b>Current Year Cost:</b> N/A	<b>Annual Cost:</b> FY 2026-27 \$154,544 FY 2027-28 \$160,616 FY 2028-29 \$171,312
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<b>Staffing Impact:</b> No	<b>Funding Source:</b> Fund 115: 50%, Fund 400: 50%	<b>Sole Source:</b> No
<b>Current Fiscal Year Revenue:</b> N/A		<b>County Audit in Last 3 years:</b> No
<b>Levine Act Review Completed?</b> N/A		

**Prior Board Action:** 4/25/2023 #9, 4/28/2020 #28, 3/14/2017 #38

### RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Authorize the County Executive Officer or designee to execute the Memorandum of Understanding by and between Orange County Interests and CSU Fullerton Auxiliary Services Corporation for the Continued Operation of the Center for Demographic Research at California State University, Fullerton, effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2029, for an estimated total cost of \$3,906,061, with the County of Orange's portion of sponsorship fees not to exceed \$486,472.

### SUMMARY:

Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Continued Operation of the Center for Demographic Research will ensure continued access to reliable demographic data and projections utilized by the County of Orange and regional agencies for planning and policy development.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Prior to the County of Orange's (County) bankruptcy in 1994, the County maintained an in-house demographic department that produced population forecasts and related analytical products. Since April

1996, the County has partnered in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with several government entities, including Orange County Transportation Authority, Orange County Council of Governments, Orange County Sanitation District, Transportation Corridor Agencies, Municipal Water District of Orange County, Orange County Water District, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission and the Center for Demographic Research (CDR) at California State University, Fullerton, which now performs these functions on a regional basis.

Since its inception, CDR has served as the primary source of demographic projections for Orange County and plays a critical role in regional planning efforts, including the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, facilities planning and timing, development of fee programs, bond revenue stream analyses, Regional Housing Needs Assessment, water and wastewater demand forecasting and coordination with SCAG.

As a sponsoring entity under the proposed MOU, the County participates in the governance and technical oversight of the CDR and continues to receive access to Geographic Information System data, census data processing, population, housing unit and employment projections and annual housing unit and population estimates. The MOU also provides for preparation of reports, public information services, maintenance databases and participation in technical and policy committees to ensure that County interests are reflected in regional planning efforts.

Previous MOUs were approved by the Board of Supervisors on April 25, 2023; April 28, 2020; and March 14, 2017.

The proposed MOU MA-080-26011417 covers a three-year term from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2029, with an estimated total cost of \$3.9 million shared among sponsoring and contributing agencies. The County's portion of sponsorship fees will not exceed \$486,472. An increase in total program costs compared to prior MOUs reflects California minimum wage increases, updated market studies related to salaries, updated work programs and increased healthcare and overhead costs.

**Compliance with CEQA:** This action is not a project within the meaning of the CEQA Guidelines Section 15378 and is therefore not subject to CEQA, since it does not have the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. The approval of this agenda item does not commit the County to a definite course of action in regard to a project since it is an approval of an MOU for the continued operation of CDR to ensure continuous access to reliable demographic data and projects for use by the County. This proposed activity is therefore not subject to CEQA. Any future action connected to this approval that constitutes a project will be reviewed for compliance with CEQA.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Appropriations for the MOU will be included in the FY 2026-27 Budget and will be included in the budgeting process for future years for the following funds.

Fund 115, OC Road	50%
Fund 400, OC Flood	50%

The MOU is contingent upon funding availability. In the event funding is reduced or terminated, the County may terminate the MOU by giving each of the other parties sixty days written notice. Upon termination, the County would be responsible for paying the balance of fees owed by the County for that fiscal year.

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

N/A

**REVIEWING AGENCIES/DEPARTMENTS:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A - Memorandum of Understanding MA-080-26011417 for the Continued Operation of the Center for Demographic Research