



## Commission Meeting Agenda

Date: Wednesday, January 20, 2026  
Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Location:** First 5/United Way Conference Room, 4450 Capitola Road, Suite 106, Capitola, CA

All members of the public are welcome to join the meeting in-person or virtually. To join virtually, enter the link below into a web-browser.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4539542581?pwd=MTNGK2VoM3NMc0hSV3o1UHhcS0hJZz09>

Meeting ID: 453 954 2581

Passcode: 2217

Participants may also join the meeting by calling into any one of the following phone numbers:

669-900-6833 or 253-215-8782 or 346-248-7799 or 312-626-6799 or 929-205-6099 or 301-715-8592

**Members:** Sandy Brown, Jennifer Herrera (Vice Chair), Heidy Kellison, Monica Martinez, Kimberly Petersen (Secretary), Dr. Faris Sabbah (Chair), Sheree Storm, Maia Yates

### 1. Call to Order and Establish Quorum

### 2. Commission Member Remote Attendance Approval – Action Item

Per SB 707, Commissioners may participate in the Commission meeting remotely under certain conditions of "just cause".

### 3. Welcome New Commissioner Maia Yates

### 4. Review and Adopt Agenda – Action Item

### 5. Consent Agenda – Action Item

A. Approve October 28, 2025 Commission Meeting Minutes

B. Accept Financial Report for the period ending December 2025

C. Accept First 5 Santa Cruz County Grant Application Tracker, 01/20/2026

D. Accept FY 25/26 First 5 Santa Cruz County Contracts Executed Under Executive Director Authority, 01/20/2026

E. Accept FY 25/26 First 5 Santa Cruz County Sponsorships report, 01/20/2026

### 6. Community Oral Communications

The community may address the Commission on items not listed on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of First 5 Santa Cruz County. If any member of the community wishes to address the Commission on any item that is listed on the agenda, they may do so when that item is called. Every item on the agenda welcomes public comment.

### 7. Commissioner Oral Communications

### 8. Santa Cruz County's 2026-2032 Strategic Plan Focus Conversation – Information Item

Sarah Emmert, Social Impact Consultant with the County of Santa Cruz, will lead a conversation and solicit input from the Commission on Santa Cruz County's 2026-2032 Strategic Plan.

**9. Raising A Reader Sustainability Plan – Information Item**

Jennifer Robinson, Raising A Reader Coordinator with Pajaro Valley Unified School District (PVUSD), will present on PVUSD's sustainability plan for the Raising A Reader program.

**10. Update on Funded Program Review – Action Item**

Director Brody will update the Commission on the status of the internal funded-program review and preliminary recommendations for funding reductions in FY 26/27.

**11. 2025-2026 Budget Revision – Action Item**

- A. The Commission will consider approval of the Revised First 5 Santa Cruz County Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget in an amount not to exceed **\$3,562,811**.
- B. The Commission finds that the contracts listed below continue to meet the factors described in its sole source contracting policy section 1.b relating to the contractors' expertise being vital to the provision of services. The Commission delegates authority to the Executive Director to negotiate, execute, and amend contracts up to the amounts specified.
  - i. **Operating Expenses – General Admin/Program Support/Evaluation**  
Approval of contract with United Way of Santa Cruz County for First 5 Administrative, Program Support, and Evaluation between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed **\$652,118 (no change)**.
  - ii. **Strategic Priority Investments**
    - a. Approval of contract with United Way of Santa Cruz County for First 5 Strategic Priority Investments between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed **\$1,300,316**.
    - b. FY 2025-2026 community grants and professional services contracts approved in amounts not to exceed:

Vendor	Priority Area	Program	Prior Authorization	Revised Authorization
Pajaro Valley Unified School District	Early Care & Education	Quality Counts – Quality Improvement Grants	\$35,378 (9/16/2025)	<b>\$45,000</b>
Happy Days Children's Learning Center	Early Care & Education	Quality Counts – Quality Improvement Grants	N/A	<b>\$25,000</b>

**12. 2025-2026 Commission Meeting Calendar – Information Item**

Director Brody will update the Commission on a possible change to the June 2026 Commission meeting date.

**13. Adjourn**