2026

EARTHQUAKE SAFETY AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE BOND

Firefighter putting out a fire at Divisadero and Beach streets caused by the Loma Prieta earthquake on Oct. 17, 1989.

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ESER 2026 BOND OVERVIEW

The City and County of San Francisco is proposing a $535 million Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response (ESER) Bond for the June 2026 ballot to fund seismic upgrades and much-needed improvements to aging first responder facilities and capital infrastructure.

These improvements will increase San Francisco's capacity to quickly respond to a major earthquake or other disaster and recover from the aftermath. The ability to respond quickly in an emergency will have a direct impact on how well San Francisco recovers after the next big earthquake.

San Francisco, located close to two major fault lines, has experienced several large earthquakes. Much of the damage and loss of life from these disasters was due to the collapse of buildings and the resulting fires.

ESER 2026 will provide funding for seismic upgrades and essential improvements to vitally important infrastructure to make sure that San Francisco responds promptly and has the capacity to launch an effective, safe recovery that protects the City's residents, businesses and assets.

The City's time-tested policy is to issue new bonds only after previously issued bonds are paid off. This strategy aims to keep property tax rates unchanged.

ESER 2026 will be subject to rigorous accountability, fiscal responsibility and transparency standards. This includes public review by the Citizens' General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee to ensure the integrity of bond fund expenditures. Additional layers of mandated oversight will come from the Capital Planning Committee, the Controller's Office and the Board of Supervisors.

THE ESER 2026 BOND CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM COMPONENTS

BOND COMPONENT	BUDGET
Renovate, expand and seismically upgrade the City's aging Emergency Firefighting Water System	$130 million
Repair and replace deteriorating and seismically unsafe neighborhood fire stations	$100 million
Make seismic, safety and operational improvements to district police stations and support facilities	$72 million
Critical building repairs and improvements at public safety facilities	$33 million
Replace a 110-year-old, seismically unsafe bus yard with a modern bus maintenance and storage facility to help ensure Muni has buses available to provide transit service after a disaster	$ 200 million
Total	**$535 million**

SAFEGUARDING SAN FRANCISCO

ACT NOW FOR A SAFER TOMORROW

The $535 million Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response Bond (ESER 2026) builds on the vital capital improvements that began under the voter-approved 2010, 2014 and 2020 ESER bonds – all under a unified program set up to provide funding for the delivery of critical infrastructure upgrades in a phased, tactical approach.

In keeping with previous ESER upgrades, ESER 2026 focuses on improving the structural resilience of essential facilities so first responders can deploy to emergencies safely and effectively without interruption. These repairs and improvements ensure that infrastructure assets supporting first responders can remain safe and ready during and after a major earthquake or other disaster.

Traffic Company and Forensic Services Division, Photo by Bruce Damonte

It is imperative to continue these repairs and upgrades under the coordinated and strategic ESER Program to strengthen earthquake resiliency and disaster preparedness in San Francisco. Responding quickly in an emergency is critical to reducing the number of injuries and deaths and jumpstarting the City's recovery. A speedy recovery will enable San Francisco residents to keep working and businesses to keep operating in the crucial weeks and months after a major earthquake or other disaster.

Earthquakes continue to be a particularly capricious force of nature. They can upend thousands of lives at a moment's notice and trigger a cascade of devastating disasters, from surging tsunamis to sprawling infernos.

Recent history is littered with painful examples of the destruction and death large temblors can cause in earthquake country:

- In 2023, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake killed more than 53,000 people in Turkey and destroyed or damaged hundreds of thousands of buildings. Another 6,000 people were killed in the northern parts of neighboring Syria.
- In March 2025, a magnitude 7.7 earthquake struck near Mandalay, Myanmar's second-largest city, home to 1.2 million people. It killed more than 3,800 people and either completely or partially destroyed nearly 29,000 homes across the region.

In the Bay Area, too, a recent spate of smaller earthquakes is a constant reminder that the threat of a more serious temblor is looming. We cannot forecast or predict them, but we know with certainty that we need to be prepared for a worst-case scenario. That is why the most precious commodity in the effort to make San Francisco more earthquake-resilient is time.

Acting today increases our chances for a safer tomorrow.

Aftermath of the 1906 Great Earthquake and Fire

Aftermath of the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake

A CITY HEMMED IN BY FAULT LINES

San Francisco is located in earthquake country. A major quake can occur at any time. There is a 72% likelihood that a 6.7 or greater magnitude earthquake will strike the Bay Area in the next 30 years, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

The aftermath of both the 1906 and 1989 earthquakes taught San Francisco lessons that have been taken to heart. Most of us are familiar with the Great Earthquake and Fire of 1906. The majority of the damage came not from the shaking, but from the fires that erupted subsequently. Approximately 80% of San Francisco's total loss was attributed to the fires. The result was devastating: approximately 3,000 deaths and the destruction of nearly 28,000 buildings. The National Fire Protection Association estimates the fire losses amounted to $18 billion in today's dollars.

As a result, less than a decade after the 1906 calamity, San Francisco built a high-pressure dedicated firefighting water system to fight multiple-alarm fires.

More recently, the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake, with an epicenter 60 miles south of the City and measuring 6.9 on the Richter scale, triggered major fires in the Marina District. It is expected that a large earthquake closer to San Francisco will have even more devastating consequences.

The potential monetary losses following a major earthquake are staggering. A 7.2 magnitude earthquake on the San Andreas fault would cause an estimated $44 billion of damage to buildings. Under this scenario, fire damage would account for an estimated 15% of total damage costs. This number could increase if the earthquake occurred under dry and windy weather conditions. A catastrophe of this magnitude will severely damage the Bay Area's economy and San Francisco's capacity to recover. All we need to do is look at the devastation from the fires that ripped through Southern California in early 2025 to see the cataclysmic results – dozens of deaths, thousands of structures destroyed and tens of billions in damages and economic losses.

RESPONSE TIME MATTERS

- A guiding principle of our City's long history of investing in first responders is committing to the quickest possible response. Responding rapidly in an emergency reduces injuries, deaths and property damage.

- Response times have a direct impact on how well San Francisco recovers after the next big earthquake, accelerating the City's economic recovery and preserving the jobs of San Francisco residents in the weeks and months following a major earthquake.

- Without these essential improvements, we put the lives of our first responders at risk, as well as the lives of the San Franciscans who depend on them in times of greatest need.

By improving backup systems, making seismic upgrades and relocating critical first responder facilities to new or rehabilitated buildings that meet today's safety codes, San Francisco can better protect its residents, homes and businesses in the event of an earthquake or other emergency. We know it's not a matter of if, but a matter of when, the next devastating earthquake strikes – and this bond ensures that San Francisco will be better prepared to meet the moment and be ready when the time comes.

WHY THIS BOND PROPOSAL NOW?

The Ten-Year Capital Plan (the Plan) is the City's commitment to building a more resilient and vibrant future for the residents, workers and visitors of San Francisco. The Plan prioritizes critical capital projects to protect the public and places a strong emphasis on fiscal accountability and transparency.

The Plan provides for a balanced approach across a 10-year timespan to incrementally address the substantial citywide needs for continued investment in capital facilities and infrastructure. The City is committed to strategically investing in public safety facilities to ensure the effective delivery of fire and police services and improve disaster response capabilities. The previous three ESER bonds were approved by San Francisco voters in 2010, 2014 and 2020 with strong support. The 2026 ESER bond is the important next phase to build on the progress to protect San Francisco.

All bond program components in the $535 million 2026 ESER bond proposal are included in the current Ten-Year Capital Plan. Projects within the program components will be identified and evaluated using criteria that prioritize enhancements to public safety. All projects will be subject to a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review.

HOW WILL THIS BOND AFFECT PROPERTY TAX RATES?

San Francisco's policy is to issue new bonds after previously issued bonds are retired or the tax base grows, as specified in the City's Ten-Year Capital Plan. Property taxes levied for general obligation bonds will be maintained at or below the Fiscal Year 2006 rate as a result of this bond. Bonds are key to improving, expanding and maintaining our city's infrastructure and have funded the construction of many public assets over the years.

COST SAVINGS

Timing is critical. Every year that we delay needed improvements to our public safety facilities, the cost increases – especially considering external factors, such as the impact of tariffs. This sound investment is using tax dollars wisely for upgrades to essential infrastructure that we must make sooner or later. By acting now, we can improve safety and save local taxpayer dollars.

BENEFITS

- Reduce injuries, deaths and property damage by providing first responders with the infrastructure they need to respond to emergencies and protect our communities.

- Create more than 2,000 direct and in-direct construction-related jobs in San Francisco to boost our economy and put San Franciscans to work. This jobs estimate is based on the REMI Policy Insight model used by the Controller's Office of Economic Analysis. A job is defined as one job of full-time work over a year-long period.

San Francisco firefighters demonstrate the Emergency Firefighting Water System

THE 2026 EARTHQUAKE SAFETY AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND PROGRAM

Emergency Firefighting Water System

Neighborhood Fire Stations and Support Facilities

District Police Stations and Support Facilities

Potrero Bus Yard Resiliency Upgrades

Critical Public Safety Building Repairs

EMERGENCY FIREFIGHTING WATER SYSTEM

WHAT IS THE EMERGENCY FIREFIGHTING WATER SYSTEM?

The Emergency Firefighting Water System (EFWS), formerly referred to as the Auxiliary Water Supply System, is a high-pressure water supply system dedicated to fire protection. It was originally constructed in 1913 in response to the Great Earthquake and Fire of 1906 and is owned and operated by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

The Emergency Firefighting Water System consists primarily of three components:

1. Core facilities: These structures deliver water at high pressure for the suppression of multiple-alarm fires. San Francisco's current core facilities include the Twin Peaks Reservoir, Ashbury Heights Tank, Jones Street Tank, Pump Station No. 1 and Pump Station No. 2.

2. Pipelines and hydrants: Approximately 135 miles of dedicated pipelines and tunnels deliver water to approximately 1,500 high-pressure hydrants throughout San Francisco neighborhoods.

3. Cisterns: These underground water storage tanks each hold roughly 75,000 gallons of water. The system's more than 200 underground cisterns serve as one of the most basic and reliable means for storing water for firefighting. As independent backup supply components, the cisterns are not connected to the City's piping systems; the stored water is pumped from the cisterns by fire engines to fight fires.

The EFWS has unique capabilities that distinguish it from the domestic water system. It can deliver water at very high pressure and draw directly from the San Francisco Bay through two pump stations. In addition, along the northeastern waterfront, 52 connections enable fire engines to pump Bay water into the system, supported by five fireboat manifolds that allow fireboats to pump Bay water directly into EFWS pipelines.

Emergency Firefighting Water System: Twin Peaks Reservoir

Emergency Firefighting Water System: Pump Station No. 1

WHY DOES THE SYSTEM NEED TO BE UPGRADED?

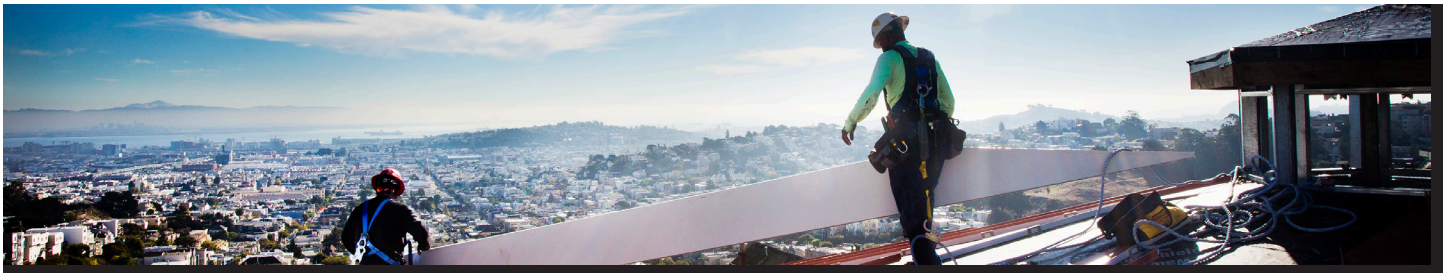
The EFWS is used as the secondary defense against large, multiple-alarm fires, specifically those that can occur after a large earthquake when the domestic water system may be compromised. If the City's domestic water system is damaged as a result of an earthquake – as has happened previously – sufficient water from the domestic water system will not be available to suppress the flames. The EFWS will serve as the alternative water source and will be vital to extinguishing large fires, saving lives and protecting against the loss of homes, businesses and other structures after a large earthquake or other disaster.

Since assuming management of the EFWS in 2010, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) has invested more than $200 million from prior ESER bonds to assess system conditions, construct new cisterns, rehabilitate fireboat manifolds and pipelines, extend pipeline segments and seismically strengthen Pump Station 2. The majority of the current EFWS serves the central and eastern areas of the City. The outer western neighborhoods, such as the Sunset and Richmond districts, currently rely primarily on the existing domestic firefighting water system and emergency water storage cisterns.

This creates a significant vulnerability in the event of a major earthquake or multiple-alarm fire on the west side, where water pressure and supply reliability may be insufficient to meet emergency firefighting needs. Additional ESER bond funding would focus on continued improvements to the existing system and expand coverage in western neighborhoods.

New pipeline work for Potable Emergency Firefighting Water System at 19th Avenue and Sloat Boulevard

Emergency Firefighting Water System bay water test



Roof work underway for the Emergency Firefighting Water System at Ashbury Tank

ESER 2026 PROJECTS

For the next phase of the Emergency Firefighting Water System, the SFPUC will expand capacity to include a separate component that uses drinking water. This extension of the system can supply water for both fighting fires and for drinking.

This expanded system will extend high-pressure water pipelines, hydrants and key connection points into the City's western neighborhoods, allowing firefighters to use the network as a reliable secondary defense against large-scale fires, particularly after a major earthquake when the domestic system may be damaged and service interrupted.

If the City's domestic water system is damaged as a result of an earthquake, as has happened previously, sufficient water from the domestic water system will not be available to suppress the flames. The planned expansion will serve as a robust system that will be vital to extinguishing large, multiple-alarm fires, saving lives and protecting against the loss of homes, businesses and other structures after a significant earthquake or other disaster.

In addition to expanding coverage, this phase will replace the aging fireboat manifold at Fort Mason, a critical link between the City's fireboats and the EFWS network. Those upgrades will also help protect the Marina District – which was hit hard during the Loma Prieta Earthquake – from devastating fires.

Together, these improvements will enhance system redundancy, reliability and firefighting capacity across San Francisco.

The SFPUC's EFWS 2050 Planning Study, completed in 2020, evaluated alternatives for expanding the system and provided a roadmap for addressing current deficiencies. The study's recommendations have guided current ESER 2020 investments and form the basis for the projects proposed under ESER 2026. Final decisions about projects will be made through coordination between the Fire Department, Public Works and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

BUDGET AND SCHEDULE

Of the $535 million proposed for the overall ESER 2026 bond, $130 million will be allocated to continue improvements and seismic upgrades to the Emergency Firefighting Water System. Upon selection of the projects after CEQA clearance, construction will proceed in a phased sequence to work toward the desired levels of service.

For a description of improvements and upgrades to the Emergency Firefighting Water System facilities that were funded by ESER 2010, ESER 2014 and ESER 2020, see pages 32-33 of this report.

LESSONS FROM HISTORY

A pair of catastrophic disasters – one recent, another more than a century old but closer to home – serve as important reminders of why San Francisco has been tactically investing in emergency preparedness and readiness through the ESER Bond Program.

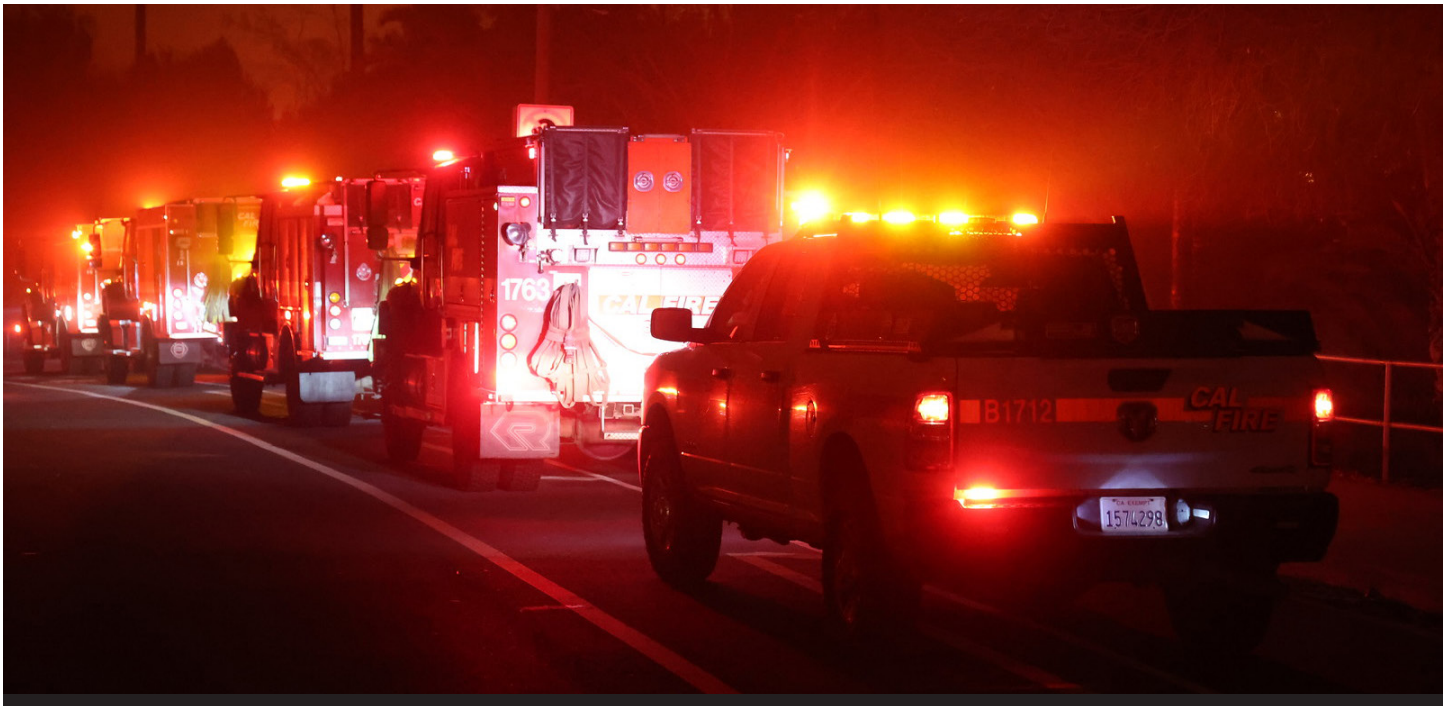
In early January 2025, a tandem of devastating, deadly blazes, later known as the Palisades Fire and the Eaton Fire, ignited and quickly spread through communities in Southern California.

The Los Angeles Department of Water & Power, the nation's largest municipal utility, released a preliminary report in July 2025 regarding the Palisades Fire Water System and the challenges encountered during the wind-fueled wildfire.

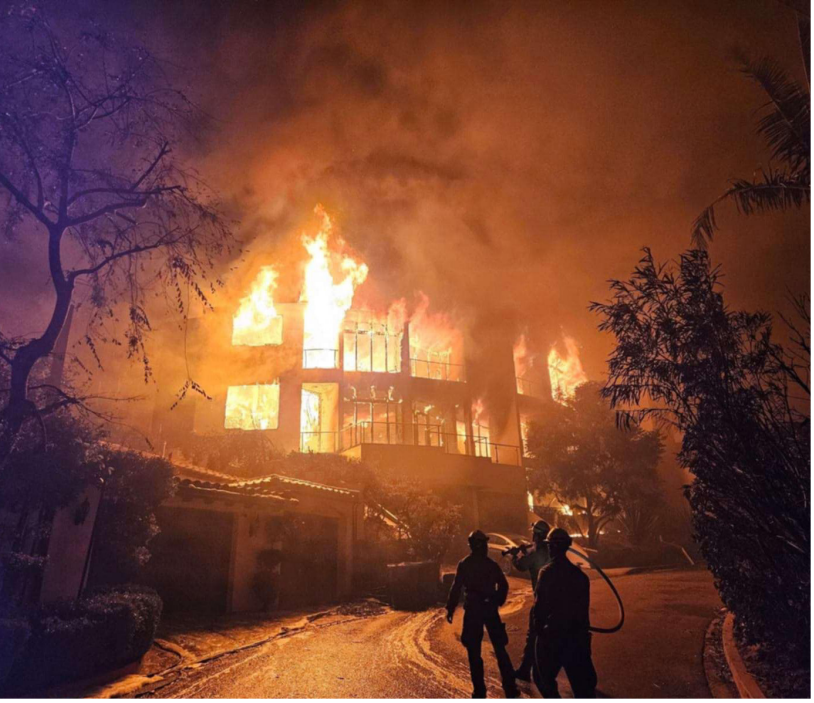
The deadly Palisades Fire spread swiftly, leading to enormous demands on a key water system. Given wind conditions at the time, firefighters could not fight the fire by air, so they used water drawn solely from a large pipe, known as the Westgate Trunk Line. Residents drew on the same trunk line by turning and leaving on sprinklers while evacuating, using hoses on their houses, and leaving hoses running. In addition, as structures burned, damaged or opened premises pipes leaked more water.

As water from the trunk line was used at extraordinary rates, water pressure rapidly decreased. That pressure loss reduced the ability of pump stations to pump water, leading to water being drawn from three tanks without being replenished. By early morning of the next day, three pump stations had shut down and the tanks had run out of water, leaving homes, businesses and natural areas left to burn out of control. There was not another backup water system that firefighters could tap into.

The Eaton and Palisades fires killed 31 people. According to Cal Fire, they rank as the state's second and third most destructive wildfires, respectively, destroying more than 16,000 structures. UCLA researchers estimate total property and capital losses from the fires could range between $76 billion and $131 billion.



Emergency crews respond to the Palisades Fire





Top and bottom: Emergency crews respond to the Palisades Fire; Middle: Aftermath of the fire

More than a century ago, San Francisco grappled with its own cataclysmic blaze in the wake of the Great Earthquake and Fire of 1906.

After the violent 7.9-magnitude earthquake rattled the Bay Area on April 18, 1906, firestorms – fueled by broken gas lines – raged for days in San Francisco. The City struggled to extinguish the blazes without a reliable, functioning water supply. Officials scrambled for alternate solutions, even unsuccessfully attempting to control the fires by dynamiting specific buildings to create firebreaks.

The inferno proved to be even more damaging than the initial shaking. Approximately 80% of San Francisco's total loss was attributed to the fires.

In the decades that followed the catastrophic earthquake, San Francisco leaders have focused on making the City more resilient in the face of the next major quake, from seismically retrofitting public safety facilities to expanding and upgrading the Emergency Firefighting Water System.

Aftermath of the 1906 Great Earthquake and Fire

Aftermath of the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake

NEIGHBORHOOD FIRE STATIONS AND SUPPORT FACILITIES

BACKGROUND

ESER 2026 will continue the work of the previous ESER 2010, ESER 2014 and ESER 2020 bonds, all of which passed with high approval from San Francisco voters. The next ESER phase will renovate or replace fire stations with the highest-priority needs to provide improved life-safety and seismic performance, meet essential facility standards and create a healthy work environment for our firefighters and emergency medical personnel.

NEIGHBORHOOD FIRE STATIONS

Fire stations operate and are staffed by firefighters 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It is critical that our first responders are housed in safe and seismically sound facilities with the capacity to provide essential emergency response services to every San Francisco neighborhood.

Many of San Francisco's fire stations have structural and seismic deficiencies and require upgrades and other health and safety improvements. Without the necessary improvements, some may not be operational after a large earthquake or other disaster, threatening the ability of firefighters to respond to an emergency without delay.

In addition, the Fire Department operates necessary support facilities that augment the department's capacity to provide effective fire suppression, and these facilities also have significant safety and functional deficiencies that must be fixed.

Prior to the passage of ESER 2010, the majority of the City's fire stations and support facilities were assessed for their conditions to identify vulnerabilities and deficiencies that could compromise their essential role as operational deployment venues for first responders.

More recently, a 2017 seismic survey conducted by Public Works rated several fire stations at risk of potential collapse during a major earthquake. For instance, for one of the fire stations that was assessed the survey found seismic vulnerabilities in the frame, beams and columns that "could lead to building collapse, especially during a severe aftershock."

What's more, some of the City's fire stations were constructed decades ago – a few dating back to the 1930s and 1940s – and are not built to modern safety standards. In some cases, the electrical and IT infrastructure is not designed to support an indispensable facility that needs to be fully operational after a major earthquake.

WHAT IF WE DO NOT SEISMICALLY REHABILITATE AND IMPROVE OUR FIRE STATIONS?

If left unaddressed, fire stations with serious structural deficiencies may impair our firefighters' ability to respond during and after a major disaster or even on a day-to-day basis.

The fire stations being considered for potential renovation serve as battalion headquarters, which means they oversee the administration and operations of multiple stations in their geographic areas.

Battalion headquarters stations provide command, control and communications for their geographic areas in times of disaster. Fire Department disaster response operations could be severely hampered if command-and-control fire stations do not survive a severe earthquake.

Apart from the potential loss of response capability, postponing necessary upgrades or replacements of these facilities will lead to higher costs over time. Deferring this work will create increased yearly maintenance and repair costs for existing stations and divert funds from important Fire Department investments.

CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF NEIGHBORHOOD FIRE STATION UPGRADES AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

ESER-funded projects are carefully selected based on the operational and tactical importance of fire stations, ensuring the effective deployment of first responders in the event of a major earthquake or other disaster. The specific improvements and seismic upgrades to neighborhood fire stations are determined by the Fire Department before the design phase begins. This guarantees that bond funds are spent appropriately and on the highest-priority projects.

ESER 2026 bond funding would be used to potentially replace deficient fire stations that do not meet seismic and life-safety requirements, making them vulnerable to failure. Examples of these fire stations include:

- Fire Station No. 2, 1340 Powell St.
- Fire Station No. 7, 2300 Folsom St.
- Fire Station No. 8, 36 Bluxome St.
- Fire Station No. 40, 2155 18th Ave.

ESER 2026 projects are anticipated to be organized and delivered in the same manner as those currently funded by ESER 2010, 2014 and 2020 in accordance with the bond program's capital project planning procedures:

1. Project scope is identified and a cost estimate is prepared during the pre-design phase
2. Projects are characterized as seismic, comprehensive or focused scope
3. Project scope is prioritized, phased and scheduled for project delivery
4. The City's Capital Planning Committee and the independent Citizens' General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee are informed prior to proceeding
5. Projects are designed, bid out and constructed according to the Neighborhood Fire Station master schedule

Fire Station No. 2, 1340 Powell St.


Fire Station No. 8, 36 Bluxome St.

Fire Station No. 7, 2300 Folsom St.

Fire Station No. 40, 2155 18th Ave.

BUDGET AND SCHEDULE

The development of the project scope and schedules for fire station improvements will be guided by the need to improve public safety. Work will be phased as required to maintain Fire Department service levels throughout San Francisco neighborhoods.

The number of stations that can be deactivated temporarily for construction at any given time will be limited.

Of the $535 million proposed for the overall ESER 2026 bond, $100 million will be allocated to strengthen, improve and rehabilitate neighborhood fire stations throughout the City.

DISTRICT POLICE STATIONS AND SUPPORT FACILITIES

BACKGROUND

There are 10 district police stations strategically located throughout the City. The district police stations are vital to the neighborhoods they serve. They support officers and tailor services to the specific needs of a neighborhood or community. Nearly all the patrol units and the responses to calls for service from the public are deployed to the field from these district stations.

Some police stations are more than a century old and at risk of failure during a major earthquake. Additionally, some Police Department stations and support facilities are outdated, inadequate and don't meet today's policing needs.

The San Francisco Police Department relies on its stations and support facilities to effectively deploy and buoy the work of its officers in the field.

WHY DO WE NEED TO UPGRADE AND REHABILITATE DISTRICT POLICE STATIONS AND SUPPORT FACILITIES?

As San Francisco continues to build on its post-pandemic comeback, the City has begun to make small population gains in recent years. In-person events are back, local businesses have reopened and more employees are returning to an in-office work schedule.

As the City comes back to life, public safety remains front and center as a top priority. Part of that effort includes rebuilding police ranks and bolstering the department's capacity to better serve the community.

In an emergency, we count on police to arrive quickly and provide the help we need. Officers must be ready to jump into action and access their equipment, radios and uniforms without delay. In the event of a disaster, a functioning police station is essential – not only to effectively and efficiently respond to emergency calls during and after the event, but to help manage a swift and safe recovery.

If building system deficiencies are not addressed, the Police Department will continue to operate in deteriorating and outdated facilities, which can impair timely officer deployment as they respond to calls for help. Seismically stable police stations will serve both as community-integrated public safety facilities and support the needs of officers who will be tasked with disaster response and public safety services during an emergency.

This bond measure will provide higher standards of facility performance to support police response capabilities that will be critical after a major earthquake or other disaster.

ESER 2026 PROJECTS

1. Taraval Police Station: Built in 1915, this historic building has a high probability of collapsing after a major earthquake and would not be operational, potentially increasing response times and delaying service. A full seismic renovation and expansion of the westside station would create a facility that meets current life-safety codes and accommodates a growing police force.
2. The Property Control Division: Currently, SFPD's Property Control Division, which stores evidence for criminal investigations, is housed at two sites – the former Hunters Point Shipyard and the Hall of Justice – both of which are seismically deficient. Relocating the facility to an earthquake-resilient building would safeguard evidence and ensure this key component of the criminal justice system can continue to function after an earthquake.

BUDGET AND SCHEDULE

Of the $535 million proposed for the overall ESER 2026 bond, $72 million will be allocated for district police stations and support facilities. The City will prioritize the improvement projects that are the most necessary, beneficial and cost-effective to support Police Department emergency response.

Taraval Police Station

POTRERO BUS YARD RESILIENCY UPGRADES

BACKGROUND

After a major earthquake or other disaster, a speedy and full recovery for the City will hinge on a number of factors, including the ability for residents of all stripes and means to move about San Francisco safely and efficiently. The City's public transportation system and infrastructure – including its bus yards – play a pivotal role in ensuring this is possible.

Bus yards are an important part of San Francisco's public transit system where Muni stores, repairs, cleans and maintains its vehicles that get San Franciscans where they need to go. The Potrero Yard provides bus service for more than 95,000 Muni riders each weekday, which is about a fifth of Muni's total ridership. All seven bus routes that run out of Potrero Yard (5 Fulton, 5 Fulton Rapid, 6 Haight/Parnassus, 14 Mission, 22 Fillmore, 30 Stockton and 49 Van Ness/Mission) serve Muni Service Equity neighborhoods.

SFMTA Potrero Yard

WHY DO WE NEED TO UPGRADE AND REHABILITATE TRANSIT FACILITIES, SUCH AS BUS YARDS?

Muni provides an essential lifeline service for many San Franciscans in an emergency by linking them to life-sustaining medical care and other necessary services. Following a disaster, it is critical to keep Muni's transit infrastructure up and running to serve a variety of emergency needs, including the emergency movement of people or resources.

In the event of a large-scale disaster, Muni must be prepared to provide transit services to help evacuate residents, commuters and tourists. Additionally, Muni's bus fleet may be needed for disaster response, including transporting disaster service workers, emergency responders and emergency supplies to key deployment locations across San Francisco. Maintenance facilities like Potrero Yard, which was built in 1915 and is Muni's second oldest bus yard, are essential to repairing and keeping buses running during an emergency event.

The Potrero Yard is more than a century old and long past its lifespan. The facility doesn't meet current seismic safety standards.It is too small to accommodate Muni's fleet and too old to retrofit for new technologies needed to maintain and support electric buses. The yard needs to be modernized to provide a functional, safe and resilient facility for Muni – especially under threat of a major earthquake.

There are enormous safety issues if Potrero Yard partially or totally collapses during a significant earthquake, risking employee lives and the destruction of its fleet of 146 electric trolley buses. If such an unplanned event takes Potrero offline, major disruptions to Muni service operations and maintenance would occur. As a result, bus routes would be out of service or have greatly reduced service, indefinitely. This could hamper evacuation efforts, slow the City's recovery and impact the day-to-day lives of San Franciscans after a major earthquake.

SFMTA Potrero Yard

ESER 2026 PROJECTS

A transit facility project that could be funded with ESER 2026 bond money is:

- Potrero Yard Modernization Project: Rebuild a 110-year-old, converted streetcar facility into a modern, four-story, efficient bus maintenance and storage facility. It would become Muni's trolley bus hub with room to accommodate 246 electric trolley buses, 100 more than the current capacity allows. Potrero Yard does not meet modern seismic standards. Bringing the yard to 21st-century design and safety standards would support the City's ability to continue providing transit service in an emergency or natural disaster.

A rebuilt Potrero Yard would ensure safety for staff, who provide an essential transportation service to the City, and ongoing performance in support of emergency response and transit service following an earthquake or other large-scale disaster.

BUDGET AND SCHEDULE

Of the $535 million proposed for the overall ESER 2026 bond, $200 million will be allocated for transit facilities. The City will prioritize the improvement projects that are the most necessary, beneficial and cost-effective to support Muni's mission and its ability to aid the City's disaster response and recovery efforts following a major earthquake.

SFMTA Potrero Yard bus maintenance pit

CRITICAL PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING REPAIRS

BACKGROUND

These state-of-good-repair projects would include building improvements, such as the repair or replacement of roofs and plumbing and electrical systems. These projects would focus on important public safety facilities, such as police and fire stations, the City's 9-1-1 Call Center and other buildings that support first responders.

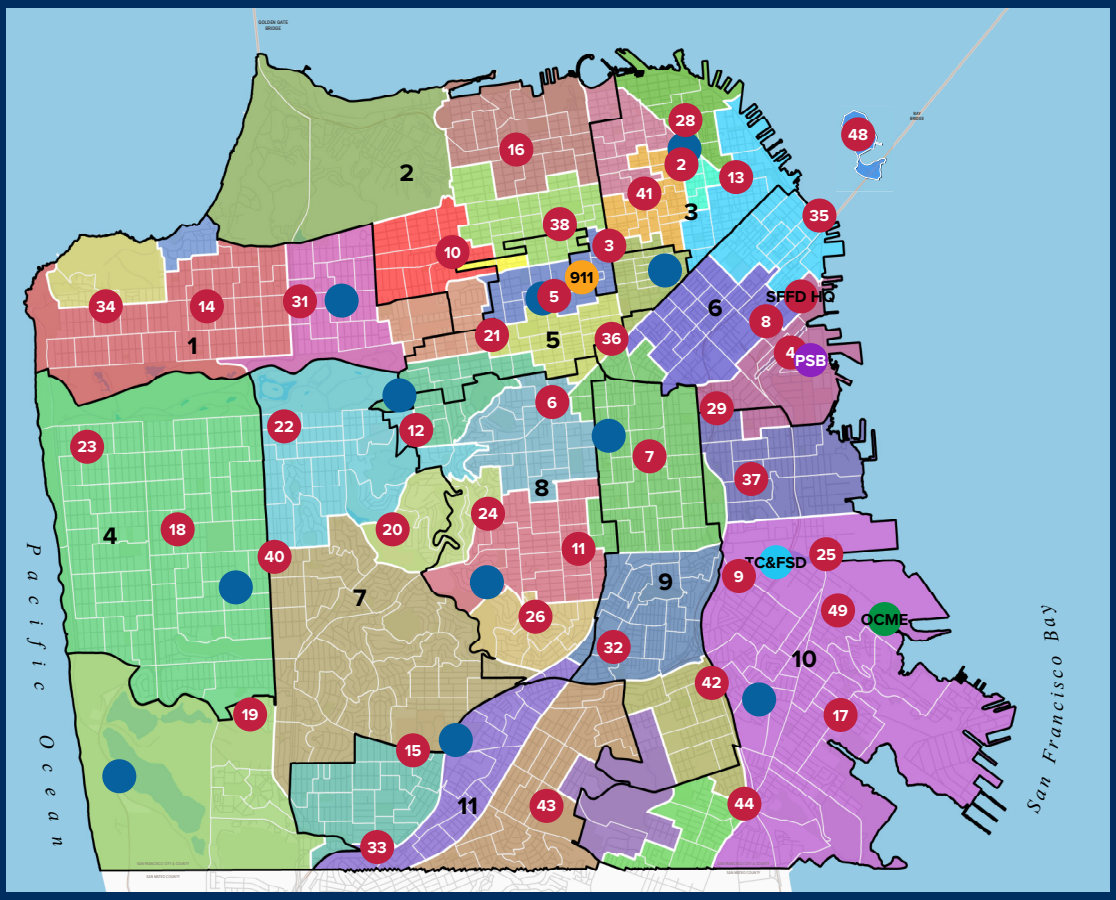
BUDGET AND SCHEDULE

Of the $535 million proposed for the overall ESER 2026 bond, $33 million will be allocated for high-need public safety building repairs. The City will prioritize the improvement projects that are the most necessary, beneficial and cost-effective.

BUILDING ON PROGRESS: ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

COMPLETED PROJECTS FUNDED BY PREVIOUS ESER FUNDS*

- Neighborhood Fire Stations
- District Police Stations
- Public Safety Building
- Motorcycle Police and Crime Lab Facility
- Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
- 9-1-1 Call Center



*Emergency Firefighting Water System can be found on page 33.

ESER 2026 continues the work of the Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response bonds that were overwhelmingly approved by voters in 2010, 2014 and 2020. Collectively, they have funded a wide range of projects to address deficiencies and seismically upgrade the City's aging public safety infrastructure – but there's more work to do.

The accomplishments of the previous three ESER bonds touch neighborhoods throughout San Francisco. Completed projects, and those underway, will safeguard our communities with resilient capital infrastructure built to be fully operational following an earthquake or other major disaster.

Traffic Company and Forensic Services Division: Motorcycle police unit headquarters

Traffic Company and Forensic Services Division: Crime lab

FIRE DEPARTMENT FACILITIES

NEIGHBORHOOD FIRE STATIONS

ESER 2010, 2014 and 2020 have identified much-needed improvements to every neighborhood fire station in San Francisco. To date, improvements have been made at neighborhood fire stations throughout San Francisco.

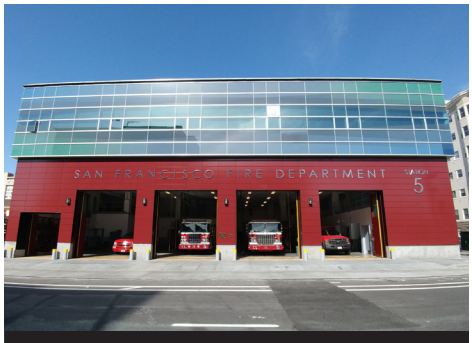
These upgrades include work in nine categories: apparatus bay doors; roofing; exterior envelope; emergency generators; shower replacements; heating, ventilation and air conditioning improvements; windows; sidewalks; and key card access.

Fire Station No. 35

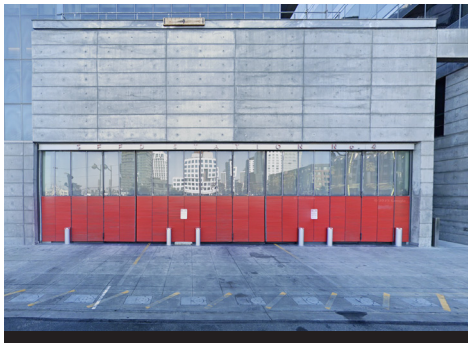
ESER 2010 funded seismic replacements of two neighborhood fire stations and construction of one new neighborhood fire station:

- Fire Station No. 16, located in Cow Hollow, completed in January 2019
- Fire Station No. 5, located in the Western Addition, completed in April 2019
- Fire Station No. 4, a brand-new fire station in Mission Bay, was built as part of the Public Safety Building that opened in April 2015

Fire Station No. 16



Fire Station No. 5



Fire Station No. 4

ESER 2014 funded the replacement of the seismically deficient Fireboat Station 35 at Pier 22½. The 14,837-square-foot floating waterfront fire station is designed to meet the challenges of sea level rise. Located behind the existing historic Fire Station No. 35, it opened for operations in spring 2022.

ESER 2014 also funded the following seismic and comprehensive improvements:

- Completed seismic and modernization projects at Pier 26 Fire Boat Berthing and Fire Station 48 Treasure Island

Funds from ESER 2014 also paid for improving critical systems across multiple fire stations, including emergency generator installations, generator replacements, security fence enhancements, apparatus bay door replacements and railings installations.

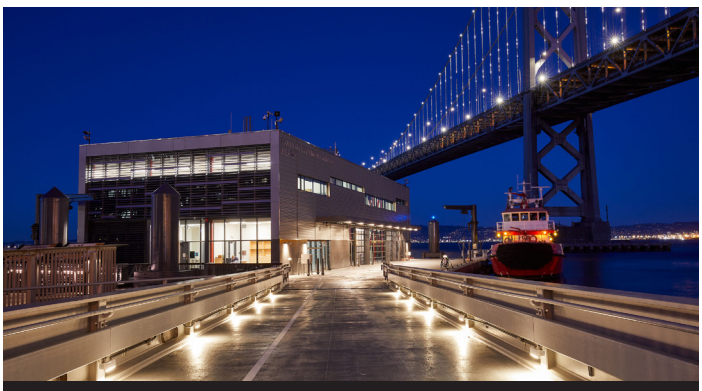
ESER 2020 is funding the new San Francisco Fire Department Division of Training to replace outdated and inadequate facilities on Treasure Island and in the Mission District. The project, which is expected to break ground by the end of 2025, will include state-of-the-art training facilities, offices, classrooms, a 50,000-square-foot scenario district and more.

EMERGENCY FIREFIGHTING WATER SYSTEM

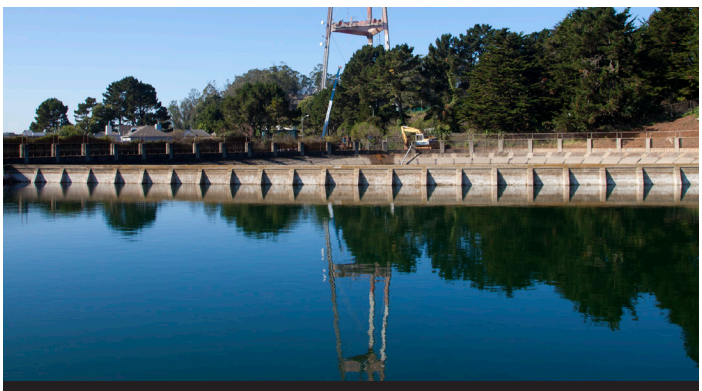
Previous ESER funds paid for upgrades to the City's aging Emergency Firefighting Water System that improved its seismic reliability and range of coverage.

Completed work includes the following:

- Reliability upgrades at the system's primary water sources: Twin Peaks Reservoir, Ashbury Heights Tank; and Jones Street Tank
- Replacing engines and installing remote control capabilities at Pump Station No. 1
- Construction of 30 new cisterns (underground water storage tanks), 15 of which are located in the Sunset and Richmond districts
- Several pipeline projects including Irving Street pipeline, Ashbury Bypass pipeline, Candlestick Point pipeline, Columbus Avenue pipeline, Fillmore Street/Haight Street pipeline, Mission Street pipeline, Mariposa Street/Terry Francois Boulevard pipeline, Terry Francois Boulevard/Mission Rock Street pipeline, 19th Avenue pipeline, Clarendon Supply pipeline and tunnel projects
- Upgrades to Pump Station No. 2 were recently completed: Seismic upgrades at Pump Station No. 2 include a new steel roof, a rebuilt generator room and reinforced concrete walls with interior steel bracing. These are among multiple improvements completed to ensure the pump station can operate after a major earthquake.

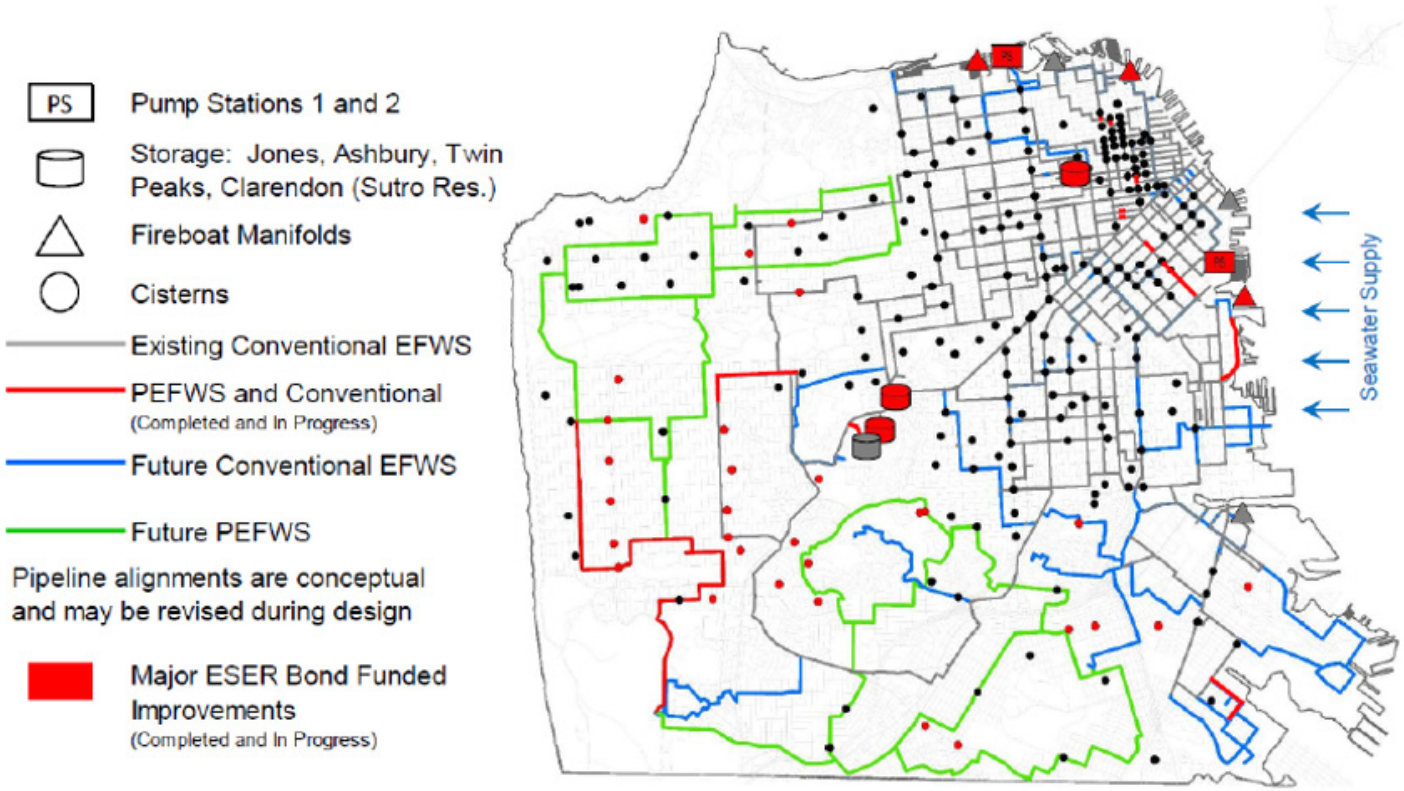


Fire Station No. 35



Emergency Firefighting Water System: Twin Peaks Reservoir

COMPLETED AND FUTURE EMERGENCY FIREFIGHTING WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS



* Presented to Board of Supervisors, Government Audit and Oversight Committee on June 1, 2023, and Capital Project Update to the Land Use and Transportation Committee on January 24, 2024.

Emergency Firefighting Water System cistern construction

POLICE DEPARTMENT FACILITIES

DISTRICT POLICE STATIONS

ESER 2014 identified 12 projects at 12 police stations and facilities; all 12 projects have been completed.

Completed work includes the following:

- Bayview and Tenderloin stations were completed in April 2019
  - » Accessibility, roof, mechanical, electrical and plumbing system upgrades
- Northern Station was completed in May 2018
  - » Accessibility upgrade; seismic strengthening; mechanical, electrical and plumbing improvements; roof replacement
- Taraval and Richmond stations were completed in May 2018
  - » Accessibility, roof, mechanical, electrical and plumbing system upgrades
- Park Station was completed in February 2020
  - » Accessibility, building exterior and site upgrades; seismic strengthening; mechanical, electrical and plumbing improvements
- Ingleside Station work was completed in February 2020
  - » Accessibility, building exterior, roof and site upgrades; mechanical, electrical and plumbing improvements
- Construction of a new firearms simulation training facility at Lake Merced Range
  - » Work completed in February 2018
- Accessibility and barrier removal projects at Mission and Central Stations were completed in September 2016 and October 2016, respectively; accessibility and barrier removal work at the Police Academy was completed in August 2017

New HVAC unit at Park Station

Roof and exhaust fan replacement at Northern Station

ESER 2020 funded structural improvements at Mission Station that were completed in 2023. It also is funding the Ingleside Police Station Replacement project.

The Ingleside District Police Station is located at 1 Sgt. John V. Young Lane, within Balboa Park. The existing station was built in 1910 and is a local historic resource within the Balboa Park Historic District. Recent analysis has determined that Ingleside Station could be vulnerable to damage from an earthquake.

The new facility will allow for continuous operations after a major earthquake – allowing the police department to serve its core mission with enhanced efficiencies. The project will preserve the historic building and will be LEED Gold-certified. The Community Room at the new building will provide a venue for the SFPD's Community Outreach program. The project is currently in the design phase.

Ingleside Police Station rendering

Ingleside Police Station exterior

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

ESER 2010 funded the design and construction of the Public Safety Building that opened in April 2015. The project relocated the police administrative headquarters and the Southern District Police Station from the seismically deficient Hall of Justice to a 290,000-square-foot facility, built from the ground up, in Mission Bay. The campus also houses the brand-new Fire Station No. 4. The new public safety campus allows first responders to better manage public safety services for major events and critical incidents.

Public Safety Building, Photo by Tim Griffith

MOTORCYCLE POLICE AND CRIME LAB

ESER 2014 funded the relocation of the SFPD Traffic Company and Forensic Services Division into one facility that houses the motorcycle police unit and the crime lab in the Bayview neighborhood. The facility, which opened in 2021, is approximately 100,000 square feet. It is equipped with laboratory spaces, evidence storage, a firearm testing facility and conference and office spaces. There also is space allocated for all SFPD motorcycle parking. The building, if necessary, can remain fully operational for up to 96 hours after a major earthquake or other disaster, thanks to a sizable 7,200-gallon emergency diesel generator.

Traffic Company and Forensic Services Division, Photo by Bruce Damonte

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

ESER 2014 funded the construction of a new chief medical examiner's office which opened in October 2017. The 46,000-square-foot facility houses the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner's programmatic and first responder functions consisting of a medical complex, forensics laboratory, administration, field investigations, building support and public services.

9-1-1 CALL CENTER

Fielding an average of 3,200 calls a day, dispatchers at the City's 9-1-1 Call Center – located at 1011 Turk St. – relay time-sensitive information to San Francisco's first responders and public safety teams around the clock. But upgrades were in order to provide needed workspace improvements for the dispatch team and room for the center's expected expansion over the coming years. ESER 2020 funded the much-needed renovations. The improvements included upgrades to the technology and underlying IT infrastructure.

9-1-1 Call Center

9-1-1 Call Center roof work

9-1-1 Call Center

ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY

The 2026 San Francisco Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response Bond will abide by established standards for accountability, fiscal responsibility and transparency. In addition to California state bond requirements, the City will carry out a comprehensive public oversight and accountability process. The City has not yet identified specific projects; transparent and responsible oversight procedures will be used for project selection and prioritization.

THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES APPLY TO ALL COMPONENTS FUNDED THROUGH THE ESER BOND PROGRAM

POLICY COMPLIANCE

San Francisco's policy is to issue new bonds after previously issued bonds are retired in order to maintain the property tax rate at or below Fiscal Year 2006 levels.

BOND ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS

Per the Administrative Code (Section 2.70 to 2.74), 60 days prior to the issuance of any portion of the bond authority, Public Works will submit an accountability report to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, the Controller, the Treasurer, the Director of Public Finance and the Budget Analyst describing the current status and description of each project and whether it conforms to the express will of the voters.

TRANSPARENCY

The City will hold periodic public hearings and reviews of the bond program and its implementation before the Capital Planning Committee, the Police Commission, Fire Commission and the General Citizens' Obligation Bond Oversight Committee. Individual projects will be defined through application of public safety principles and objective evaluation criteria described in the bond report.

CGOBOC AUDITS

The City's Citizens' General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee (CGOBOC) is responsible for auditing the implementation of the ESER Bond program per the Administrative Code (Section 5.30 to 5.36). Should CGOBOC determine that any funds were not spent in accordance with the express will of the voters, they are empowered to deny subsequent issuances of bond funds.

PUBLIC APPROPRIATIONS OF CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS

Public appropriation of bond funds shall be in accordance with the San Francisco Charter and Administrative Code, including review by the Capital Planning Committee to assure the projects are consistent with the City's Ten-Year Capital Plan; review and recommendation by the Budget and Finance Committee of the Board of Supervisors; review and approval by the full Board of Supervisors and the mayor

ANNUAL PUBLIC REVIEW

In accordance with the San Francisco Charter Administrative Code, the bond will be subject to annual public reviews before the Capital Planning Committee, the Controller's Office and the Board of Supervisors.

PUBLIC UPDATES

Public Works maintains a dedicated ESER Bond Program website, describing the programs' progress, activity updates and bond budgets for the ESER 2010, ESER 2014 and ESER 2020 bonds. The ESER 2026 bond would be added to the website portfolio and include project names and estimated construction schedules for ESER 2026 once projects have been determined.

The website is sfpublicworks.org/eser

10-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN

Adopted through legislation by the mayor and Board of Supervisors in 2005, the Capital Planning Committee was created to guide and prioritize capital needs citywide. The Capital Plan is developed by the committee and adopted annually by the Board of Supervisors prior to adoption of the City budget.

The City invests significant General Fund dollars into the repair and rehabilitation of our capital assets every year. However, the City cannot rely on these funds alone to address critical infrastructure needs. Where annual funds are not adequate to pay the costs of major capital improvements, the Plan recommends using one of two sources of long-term debt financing:

- General Obligation (G.O.) bonds backed by property taxes upon approval by voters
- General Fund debt programs backed by the City's General Fund upon approval by the Board of Supervisors and the mayor

General Obligation bonds and General Fund debt programs are appropriate means of funding capital improvements, as they spread the costs over their long, useful lives and across the generations of San Franciscans that reap their benefits.

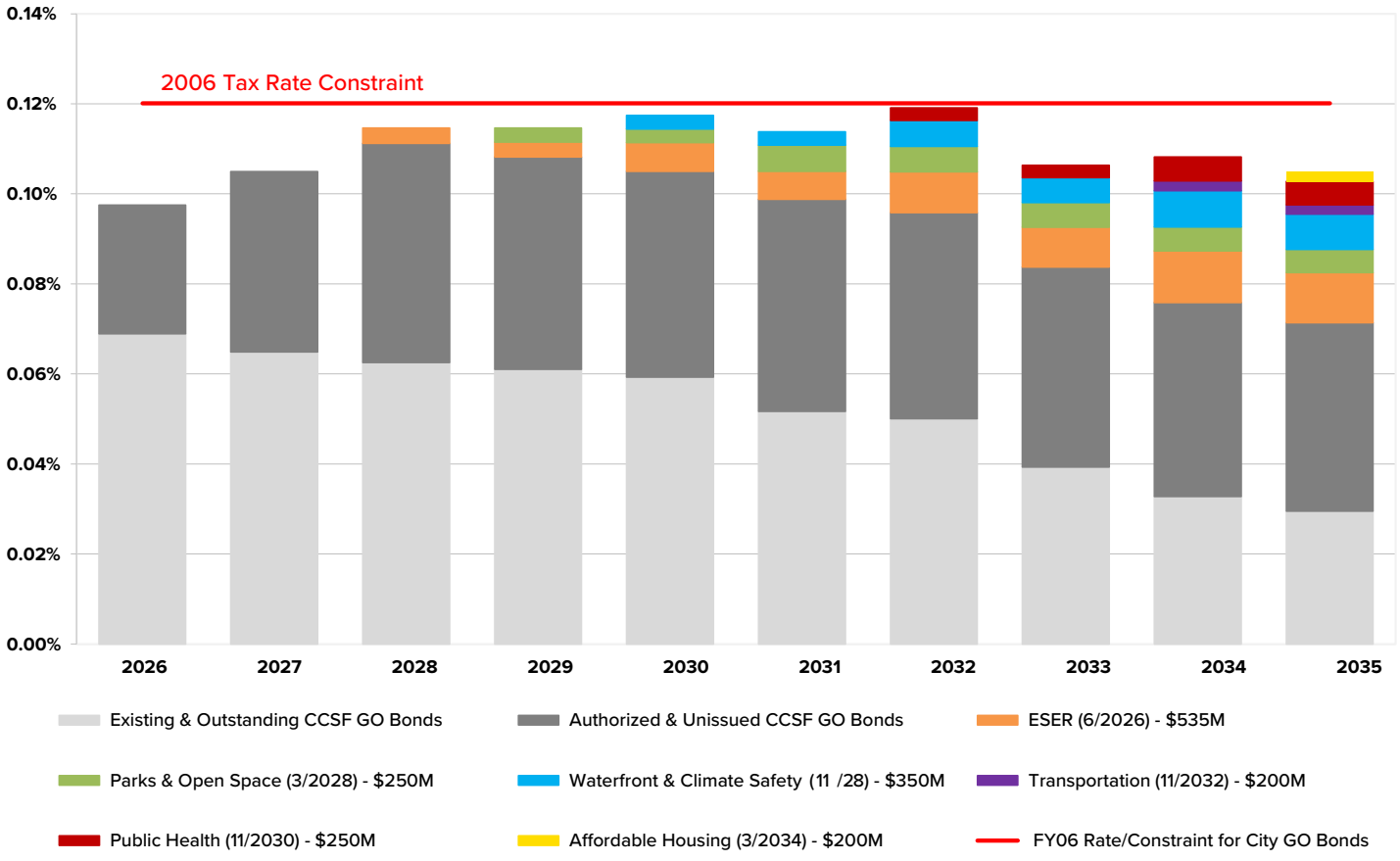
Since its inception, the top priorities of the Capital Plan have been the seismic improvement of essential City infrastructure, including the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, which voters approved in November 2008, and City public safety and emergency response facilities under the ESER Bond Program, which voters approved in 2010, 2014 and 2020. ESER 2026 builds on the City's formal commitment to long-term, strategic and fiscally responsible capital planning.

The Capital Plan General Obligation Bond Program chart below illustrates the relationship between the G.O. Bond Program and the local tax rate, including existing and outstanding issuance and voter-approved bonds. This demonstrates the City's policy objective that General Obligation bonds should not increase the property tax rate above 2006 levels.

For more information on the City's Capital Plan, please visit onesanfrancisco.org

FY2026-2035 CAPITAL PLAN
GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT PROGRAM

$535M JUNE 2026 ESER BOND SCENARIO



Adopted Capital Plan AV assumptions from Nov 2024
Assumes AAB reserves in FY26, and growth of 0.52% in FY27, 2.63% in FY28, 3.18% in FY29, 3.28% in FY30, and 3% per year thereafter

Revised 11-7-25

CONCLUSION

Large earthquakes have struck San Francisco, resulting in death and destruction. Much of the property damage and loss of life was due to the collapse of buildings and the resulting fires. Responding rapidly and establishing a quick, safe and strategic recovery after an earthquake is crucial to our social and economic foundation.

ESER 2026 builds on the progress of the Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response bonds that San Francisco voters approved with strong support in 2010, 2014 and 2020. The ESER 2026 bond will make important seismic upgrades to neighborhood fire houses, district police stations and transit facilities, and expand the City's Emergency Firefighting Water System.

The longer we delay making these improvements, the greater the risk to our public safety facilities – and the first responders and San Franciscans who depend on them – during and after a major earthquake or other disaster. Continued strategic investment through the Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response Bond Program is critical to safeguarding San Francisco.

ONESF

Building Our Future