

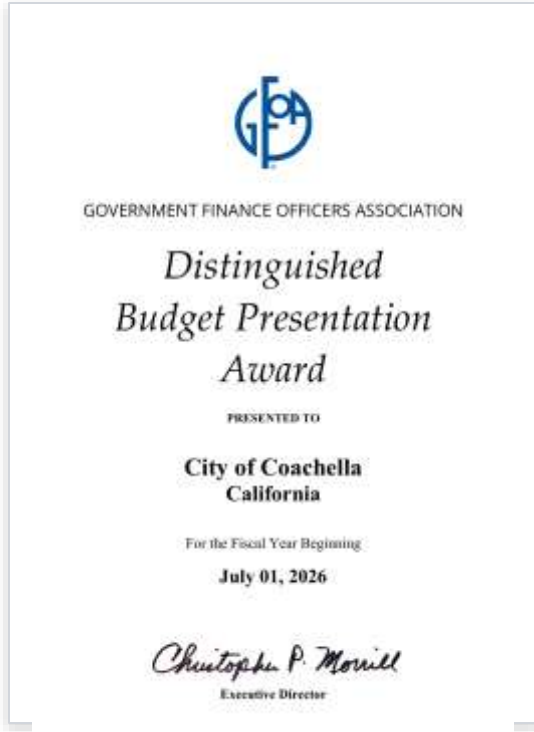


Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

Government Finance Officers Association · FY 2026-27 Adopted Budget

Report to the City Council

Coachella earned GFOA's top budget honor



Independent reviewers judge every budget on how well it works as:

- 1 A policy document
- 2 A financial plan
- 3 An operations guide
- 4 A communications device

1,900+
governments participate in the program

25
criteria scored by three independent reviewers

Proficient or better across the board

4 of 4

overall categories rated Proficient or better by all three reviewers

12

“Outstanding” scores across the 25 criteria

Outstanding

one reviewer’s rating of the budget as a communications device

What reviewers singled out



Priorities & Issues

“Detailed and discussed implications and plan to manage. Outstanding.”



Department/Fund Matrix

“The matrix makes the relationship between the funds and the departments clear.”



Budget in Brief

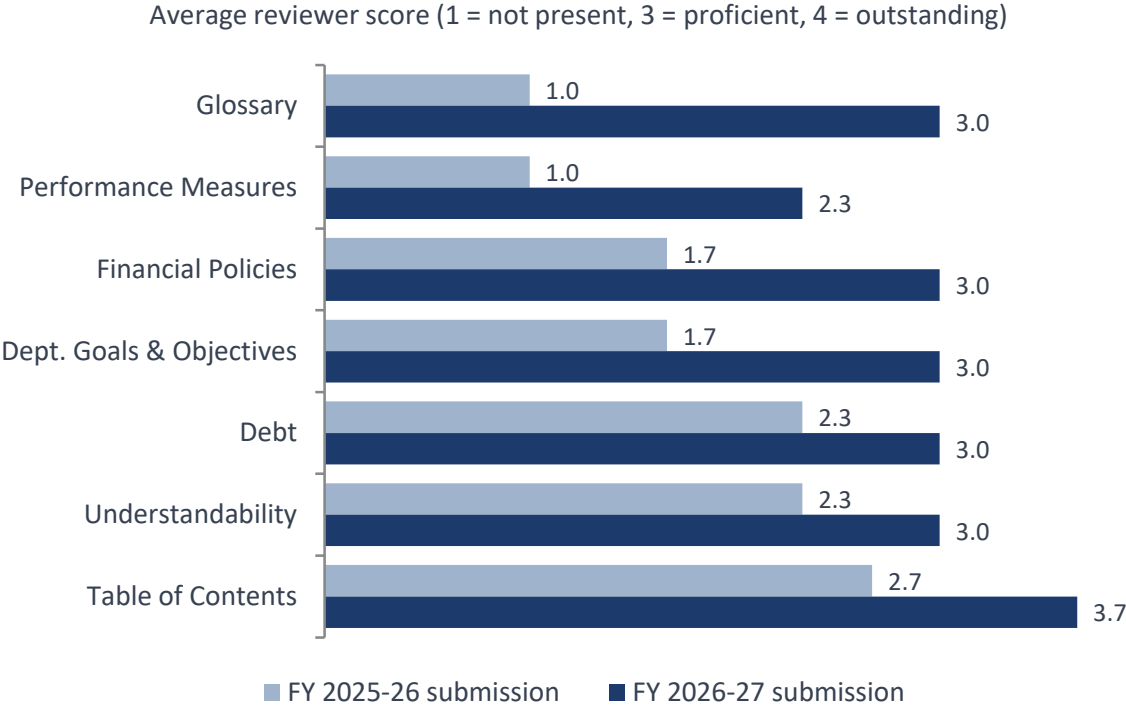
“An excellent way to highlight the budget.”



Linked Table of Contents

“The links are very useful in navigating the budget.”

Scores rose sharply on last year's weakest criteria



3 of 4

mandatory criteria flagged as deficient last year are now fully proficient: Financial Policies, Debt, and Capital Program.

A new glossary, financial policies section, debt schedules, and a criteria location guide drove the gains.

One item to finish: performance measures

Awarded on a qualified basis

- Performance measures were added for every division this year, but show FY 2026-27 targets only.
- GFOA requires at least three years of data: prior-year actual, current-year estimate, and budget-year target.
- Must be corrected by the next submission, or within two budget cycles at the latest, to keep the award.

Plan for the FY 2027-28 budget

1

Track FY 2026-27 results

Divisions report actuals against this year's targets.

2

Rebuild prior-year data

Recover FY 2025-26 actuals for key measures from existing records.

3

Add a long-range forecast

Multi-year financial plan for major funds (recommended criterion).

4

Submit within 90 days

Next budget goes to GFOA within 90 days of adoption.



The Government Finance Officers Association
of the United States and Canada

presents this

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION FOR BUDGET PREPARATION

Finance Department
City of Coachella, California



The Certificate of Recognition for Budget Preparation is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association to those individuals who have been instrumental in their government's unit achieving a Distinguished Budget Preparation Award. The Distinguished Budget Preparation Award, which is the highest award in governmental budgeting, is presented to those government units whose budgets are judged to adhere to program standards.

Executive Director

Christopher P. Merrill

Date: 10/5/2026

Thank you

GFOA also presented a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Preparation to the City's Finance Department.

A commemorative plaque or medallion will arrive by mail.

Questions?