

2025 vs. 2026 A07 SPENDING PLAN – BALANCING THE ‘BUDGET’

Don H, Treasurer & Finance Committee

Feedback July 19, 2025 ACM & *Finance Committee Discussion July 30, 2025 (italics)*

Feedback on Finance Committee general ways to trim (need \$8,800 per spending plan presentation)

- Mileage cut rate to \$0.50/mi (or *\$0.51/mi using a formula like 2/3 business rate \$0.70/mi and 1/3 non-profit \$0.14/mi = to avoid always adjusting the number*) **\$4,553 roughly**
 - Sense of the room: overall, support
 - Comments
 - Use a ratio or calculation to avoid getting focused on one rate, as the IRS one changes over time (e.g., 2/3 IRS/business and 1/3 non-profit = \$0.51/mi)
 - Lower mileage rate to \$0.50/mi
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 - Keep as is
 - Keep as is b/c it includes depreciation
 - Use \$0.37/mi (the federal mileage rate for 2025 is set at \$0.70/mi for business use and includes \$0.33/mi for depreciation and \$0.37/mi for operating the vehicle)
 - Use the non-profit rate of \$0.14 and
 - If go above that, consider it an income and have servants fill out 1099
 - Using an employee rate does not make sense for the spirit of non-profit, charitable work, and
 - Using a higher rate may also create liability issues related to auto insurance and valid driver's licensing?
 - Pay only the actual cost of gas?
 - *Input from other Areas: \$0.45 vs. other vs. IRS*
- One ACM virtual not in-person; still pay translation **\$1,750**
 - Sense of the room: overall, support
 - Comments
 - Have a few virtual ACMs
 - Have two virtual ACMs
 - Have fewer in-person ACMs and go virtual
 - On one hand, yes, could save \$; on the other hand, worry about effect on rel'ps and unity
 - *One → two ACM virtual not in-person \$1,750 → \$3,500*
 - *If so, which ones?*
 - *March: has a lot of travel (PRAASA, GSC workshops); already into Agenda items*
 - *Summer: June or July*
 - *Note: if a virtual assembly would be August (as GSC agenda items due mid-September)?*
- All assemblies two days **\$2,500**
 - Sense of the room: overall, unclear
 - Comment: *move to two-day Election/Mini-PRAASA (maybe have a one-day virtual one for the 'work')*
- An additional, one-day virtual assembly 1 day in August or September (and subtract an ACM = actual cost \$1,750 and translation \$450) **\$2,200**
 - Sense of the room: overall, some support
 - *Note: if a virtual assembly would be August (as GSC agenda items due mid-September)*
- Phase out Oral Translation? **\$0** (not filled)
 - Sense of the room: overall, support, as well, no one is stepping up
- Phase out Written Translation to artificial intelligence or such? **\$2,500**
 - Sense of the room: overall, unclear

- Comments
 - Could we use artificial intelligence and other options
 - Do we do this or convert to a Communication Chair with outreach to Hispanic and other groups?
 - Could we use artificial intelligence and other options instead?
 - The Oral and Written Translation chair positions are an important pipeline for chairs/officers
- Encourage contribution increases **\$4,000**
 - Sense of the room: some support
 - Normally, we look at data; however, if we never shoot higher, it will not go higher?
 - *Are we going to really be self-supporting (or not)?*
 - Comment: 'have to' due to cost of living (\$2,000) at least

Other feedback at microphone

- General
 - It is important to cost out and fund the key activities; cannot depend on some paying out of their own pocket; *right of participation*
 - It is unclear if we should raise contributions...we're at 48% from groups but revenue only at 44% (partly due to assembly costs)
 - Asked for clarification as to why assembly, literature, and GV/LV are not part of plan as break-even; counterpoint was to track it all to see real costs
 - Have to be prudent: something added = something subtracted; watch 'budget creep' (upward)
 - Dislike specific chair/officer positions are \$0 and some budgeted for PRAASA/other (even if it is randomly done)
 - Check alignment of Spending Plan and Expense Revenue Summary (one has \$5,300 and other has \$4,600)?
 - There doesn't need to be a 'balanced budget'...we underspend every panel (and year) (with the exception of 2024); it will all work out
 - The projects above/below: do we know if there is a pattern as to who they help (e.g., North, South or Sacramento)?
- Technology
 - A technology budget for 2026 is needed (pending E-services/Tech Comm; they were asked twice in May-June already)
 - AV tech Starlink cost not be listed in 2026 as have own account (actually, we have some basic fees) and the additional tech support this year will not be needed in 2026
- Mileage
 - Current budget: GSC \$600 and Other \$500
 - Background
 - GSC events:
 - 2025: \$600
 - 2024: \$2,000
 - 2023: \$1,800
 - 2022: \$800
 - Other events not reimbursed
 - 2025: \$500
 - 2024: \$500
 - 2023: \$1,000
 - 2022: \$0
 - Summary (combined)
 - 2025: \$1,100 budgeted and \$300 or so spent
 - 2024: \$2,500 budgeted and \$1,853 spent

- 2023: \$2,800 budgeted and \$3,166 spent
 - 2022: \$800 budgeted and \$2,192 spent
- Comment
 - May need to increase GSC workshop and unreimbursed other district mileage (8071/2)
 - *FC suggests \$1,200 and \$1,200*
 - *Encourage folks to submit claims and can always give it back; right of participation*
 - *Important to track 'real' cost if at all possible*
- Conferences and PRAASA
 - Background
 - History: 16 PRAASA & 7 special conferences; not including Linguistic/Hispanic Conference?
 - 2025: 13 PRAASA & 3 special conferences= \$16,000 actual?
 - 2026:
 - Draft with 8 PRAASA (\$11,200) and 4 special conferences (\$4,000) = about \$15,000?
 - Alternatively, could cap funding for PRAASA at \$9,000/year and special conferences at \$3,000?
 - Need a meaningful way to decide who goes (e.g., Area need, alternate, or random?)
 - Comments
 - Cap it per person at like \$800 and folks pay the rest if they want to go; right of participation
 - Chairs should not have to choose between PRAASA and a special conference – it is our job to go to these
 - Chairs really have to choose between PRAASA and a special conference ... a matter of \$, really
 - Hesitant to cut conferences, in general, as this is important grooming of leaders as part of our service work
 - PRAASA may be \$1,200/person rather than \$1,400 (e.g., cheaper flights, 3 folks/room, other)?
 - *Suggest AV Tech not be a PRAASA attendee*
 - *What are the special conferences: BTG, GV/LV, Archives, NAATW; NCCAA and Hispanic one are different, so to speak.*
 - *Which ones are truly critical? GV/LV less so?*
- Lower ACM rent
 - Was \$225 but now \$300 at current site
 - Had been closer to \$100 with East Yolo Fellowship; they just moved, so see if option
 - District 17 will check; WiFi needed?

Other

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Other

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