



SEPTEMBER 2026 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

Introduction Highlights

The Department of Planning and Building Services (“PBS”) is undergoing a period of organizational transition and modernization while maintaining forward momentum on key County priorities. Major areas of progress include strengthening staffing and permitting operations, launching a new permitting technology platform, and advancing coastal and sea-level-rise resilience initiatives.

PBS is navigating recent leadership transitions, with Richard Anglely serving as Interim Director following the departure of the former director. Staffing has also been strengthened through new hires and promotions, bringing all front counter staff to Permit Technician I level or above.

PBS continues to advance its mission of delivering effective, transparent, and responsive service to the Mendocino County community by maintaining transparency with monthly performance metrics. It is also progressing in the implementation of Accela, the County’s new cloud-based permitting system. The project is on schedule, with a formal kickoff expected in September and implementation is anticipated to take approximately twelve (12) months. In addition, Canna Business Services continues to provide direct support to participants in the Local Equity Entrepreneurial Program (LEEP).

PBS is actively addressing a fraudulent email scam targeting applicants and impersonating Interim Director Richard Anglely. The Department is urging applicants to verify suspicious payment requests directly with County offices and avoid opening attachments or responding to potential fraudulent messages.

Mendocino County continues to make progress on coastal planning and sea-level-rise preparedness. Updates to the Local Coastal Program are advancing from technical studies toward policy development, while the Sea Level Rise Resiliency Strategy remains on track for completion by December 31, 2026. The Planning Commission recently unanimously recommended approval of proposed sea-level-rise baseline policies, which are expected to go before the Board of Supervisors in September or October. In addition, California Fish and Wildlife approved approximately \$82,521 in propagation grants for five (5) local organizations, subject to final Board of Supervisors approval.

I. Effective County Government Organization

- PBS has recently undergone leadership shifts with the recent departure of PBS Director Julia Krog and the Cannabis Program’s Senior Program Manager, Sara McBurney. Effective July 19, 2026, PBS is being led by Chief Building Official Richard Anglely, serving as the Interim Director until a permanent role for the Director position is established. With this shift, the Cannabis Program Planners have been moved under the Planning Division to maintain organizational stability.
- As of August 3, 2026, PBS has hired two (2) new Permit Technicians – one for each office, and the Ukiah Permit Tech being a supervisor, which should help streamline processes and permit efficiency. There was also one promotion from Staff Assistant III to Permit Technician I which brings all assigned front counter staff to the Permit Technician I level or higher.
- To support transparency and track departmental performance, monthly metric reports are published on our webpage. These reports provide an overview of permit and project application

PBS SEPTEMBER 2026 CEO REPORT

submittal volumes, current workloads, and processing timeframes for each division. The most recent reports can be accessed here:

<https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/departments/planning-building-services/metrics-and-permits>.

- PBS is moving forward with implementation of Accela, the County's new cloud-based permitting system. Following execution of the implementation contract in June, the County has begun project initiation activities in preparation for the formal project kickoff. Department staff have completed an internal kickoff to review the project scope, staff roles and responsibilities, implementation expectations, and opportunities to maintain transparency with the public throughout the project. The County's project manager has also begun coordinating with the contracted implementation team, including transferring materials prepared in advance of the project and working with the contractor to establish the implementation schedule. A formal kickoff between County staff and the contractor is anticipated in early September. The project remains on schedule and is expected to take approximately 12 months to complete.
- The Code Enforcement Division is planning to prepare an October presentation to the Board of Supervisors regarding the division's current staffing levels, workload progress, and request direction for future enforcement priorities.
- For the month of July, Canna Business Services hosted one live workshop and had approximately six 1:1 technical support meetings with verified participants of the Local Equity Entrepreneurial Program (LEEP) applicants licensees.

II. A Safe and Healthy County

- A new series of fraudulent emails is being sent to PBS applicants, impersonating PBS Interim Director Richard Angley and requesting additional payments via wire transfer. This scam continues to be part of a nationwide scheme targeting local and county planning departments. Applicants are encouraged to call either the Ukiah or Fort Bragg office to verify any questionable communications. If you receive a suspicious message, DO NOT open attachments. Report the message as spam and delete it. The most recent Press Release can be accessed here: <https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/Home/Components/News/News/7597/626>.
- The Department re-issued an RFP for the Resource Management Element of the General Plan, which closed on June 24, 2026 and has begun contract negotiations.

III. A Thriving Economy

- PBS has partnered with Sonoma County - Permit Sonoma on a California Energy Commission Grant Partnership for Mendocino County to contract as a Subrecipient for a geothermal study that involves a physical and environmental constraints analysis, regional and tribal coordination, and stakeholder engagement to identify suitable sites for large-scale geothermal energy projects within the Sonoma, Lake, and Mendocino County region.

IV. A Prepared and Resilient County

- Mendocino County is continuing to update its Local Coastal Program ("LCP"), which guides land use and development along the coast. Background and technical studies are nearing completion, and County staff are beginning to draft policy amendments.
- The Mendocino County Sea Level Rise Resiliency Strategy is still on track to have a final completion date of December 31, 2026.

PBS SEPTEMBER 2026 CEO REPORT

- The Final Sea Level Rise Analysis and Risk Assessment was published in May 2026 and is available here: <https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/78102/639171988749930000>
- PBS continues to advance the Sea Level Rise Baseline Policy LCP Update (GP_2026-0001). Draft baseline policies were presented to the Planning Commission at its meeting on August 20, 2026. The Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the policy amendments to the Board of Supervisors. The Department anticipates that the Board will hear the proposed amendments in September or October.
- On July 14, 2026, California Fish and Wildlife approved the five (5) recommendations for propagation fund grants, totaling approximately \$82,521.00 for the following organizations: Noyo Center for Marine Science, Reef Check Foundation, Mendocino Wildlife Association, Ukiah Rod and Gun Club, and the Eel River Recovery Project. The next step in this process will be to take these proposals to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.

Other/Additional Information

- Planning and Building Services Online Customer Survey is Live! Click the link or copy the QR code to complete our confidential Customer Survey. <https://forms.office.com/g/UjZnVN4eHe>