

# Auro Metals Inc. Intersects 705.7 m Grading 0.61 g/t Gold at the Santa Barbara Gold-Copper Project, Ecuador

22.06.2026 | [Newsfile](#)

## Including 235m Grading 0.97 g/t Gold Starting from Surface

[Auro Metals Inc.](#) (TSXV: AURO) (OTC Pink: AURFF) ("Auro" or the "Company") is pleased to announce the assay results of the first three drill holes from the 2026 Phase I Drill Program at its 100%-owned Santa Barbara Gold-Copper Project (the "Project") located in the Zamora-Chinchi Province in southeastern Ecuador. The drill program commenced on April 14, 2026 (please refer to the Company's news release dated May 19, 2026). To date, 12 holes have been completed and assay results for the first three have been received.

## SUMMARY OF DRILL RESULTS

All three holes were drilled at the southern part of the known mineralized porphyry system of the Project ("Santa Barbara South") which is believed to be the core area of the known porphyry mineralization system. The purpose of drilling these holes was to test the continuity of mineralization between historical drill intercepts and the extension of mineralization in up-dip and down-dip directions. Results of the drilling are as follows:

- Drillhole DSB-54 intersected 705.7 metres ("m") grading 0.61 grams per tonne (g/t) gold (Au) and 0.1% copper (Cu), from surface, including;
  - 235m grading 0.97 g/t Au and 0.11% Cu from surface.
  - This drillhole is fully mineralized and ended in mineralization.
- Drillhole DSB-55 intersected 246m grading 0.56 g/t Au and 0.09% Cu, from surface, including;
  - 155.5m grading 0.73 g/t Au and 0.11% Cu, from 31.5m.
- Drillhole DSB-56 intersected 134m grading 0.67 g/t Au and 0.09% Cu from surface, and 24m grading 0.89 g/t Au and 0.07% Cu from 164.5m.

All three holes intersected wide mineralization starting from surface, and a summary of drill intercepts are presented in Table 1 below. The drill results indicate mineralization is open in both up-dip and down-dip directions, also demonstrating good consistency of gold-copper grades. Specifications of completed drillholes are provided in Table 2, and a drill plan view is shown in Figure 1.

"These first three holes drilled at Santa Barbara South from our Phase I Drill Program speak to the scale and consistency of the Project," said Victor Feng, CEO of Auro. "DSB-54 intersected over 700 metres of continuous gold-copper mineralization starting from surface and ended in mineralization at depth. DSB-55 and DSB-56 both confirm that mineralization remains open in the up-dip direction towards surface. With 9 more holes pending assays and 4 rigs turning at site, we look forward to continuing to share assay results as they become available. Following the Phase 1 Drill Program we plan to dovetail into a planned Phase 2 Drill Program designed to continue expanding the known system and to test new targets nearby."

**Table 1 Summary of Drill Intercepts**

Hole_ID	Depth from	Depth to	Interval m	Au g/t	Cu %	AuEq g/t
DSB-54	0.00	705.70	705.70	0.61	0.10	0.64
incl.	0.00	235.00	235.00	0.97	0.11	1.00
DSB-55	0.00	246.00	246.00	0.56	0.09	0.58
incl.	31.50	187.00	155.50	0.73	0.11	0.76
DSB-56	0.00	134.00	134.00	0.67	0.09	0.69
	164.50	188.50	24.00	0.89	0.07	0.90

**Notes:**

1. Drill location, altitude, azimuth, and dip of drill holes are provided in Table 2.
2. Drill intercept is core length, and grade is length weighted. True width of mineralization is unknown.
3. A cut-off of 0.2 g/t Au is applied for calculation of drill intercept.
4. Calculation of gold equivalent ("AuEq") is defined as  $AuEq (g/t) = Au (g/t) + Cu (\%) \times 0.259$ , based on a gold price of US\$3,200/oz, and copper price of US\$12,000/t metal, assuming average processing recoveries of 85.5% Au and 19.6% Cu.

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Figure 1: Plan view of drill holes

## DESCRIPTION OF HOLES

Hole DSB-54 was drilled at the northern portion of Santa Barbara South to a depth of 705.7m, and intersected 705.7m (from 0.00m to 705.7m at the end of hole) grading 0.61 g/t Au and 0.10% Cu, including 235m (from 0.00m to 235.0m) grading 0.97 g/t Au, 0.11% Cu. Gold-copper mineralization starts from surface and continues until the end of the hole (Figure 2).

The dominant lithology intersected in this hole is aphanitic basaltic andesite which is cut by intrusive diorite dykes with or without porphyritic texture. Both rock types are strongly altered with potassic alteration featured by secondary biotite in patches and along fractures, and alterations with sericite, chlorite and epidote. Quartz veining (A and B types) is common, cutting both basaltic andesite (Figure 3) and intrusive diorite dykes. Mineralization is characterized by pyrite and chalcopyrite in forms of both dissemination and narrow veinlets and threads. Higher grade mineralization is mostly hosted in basaltic andesite associated with abundant quartz veining in the vicinity of intrusive diorite dykes.

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Figure 2: Section A-A'

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Figure 3: Core photo of DSB-54, Box 78, from 194.52m to 197.09m, mineralized basaltic andesite with milky quartz veining.

Hole DSB-55 was drilled 100m to the southeast of DSB-54, and about 150m in the up-dip direction of the historical hole DSB-18. The hole has a length of 285.5m and intersected an interval of 246m grading 0.56 g/t Au and 0.09% Cu from surface to a depth of 246m, including a higher-grade interval of 155.5m from 31.5m to 187m (Figure 4). Drill results from this hole indicate gold-copper mineralization is open in the up-dip direction to surface.

Lithology in the hole is mainly intrusive diorite which extends from surface to a depth of 243 m, and further downwards dominated by a jasperoid horizon which is the result of hydrothermal alteration. Gold-copper mineralization is concentrated in the upper diorite, but little in the lower jasperoid, characterized by disseminated pyrite and chalcopyrite plus minor small veinlets locally. Typical alteration includes secondary biotite and sericite, and quartz veining is common throughout the mineralized interval (Figure 5).

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Figure 4: Section B-B'

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Figure 5: Core photo of DSB-55, Box 60, from 160.71m to 163.31m, mineralized diorite with quartz veining.

Hole DSB-56 was drilled around 60m in the up-dip direction of historical hole DSB-05, on the same cross section of DSB-54. The hole has a length of 274.85m and intersected 134m grading 0.67 g/t Au and 0.09% Cu from 0m to 134m, and 24m grading 0.89g/t Au and 0.09% Cu from 164.5m to 188.5m. The drill results of this hole indicate mineralization is open in the up-dip direction to surface (Figure 2).

The lithology intersected in DSB-56 is dominated by intrusive diorite, starting from surface to a depth of 198m, and further downwards to the end of the hole is a jasperoid horizon. Gold-copper mineralization is well developed in the diorite, but not in the jasperoid, characterized by disseminated pyrite and chalcopyrite plus minor small veinlets locally. Typical alteration includes secondary biotite and sericite, and quartz veining is common throughout the mineralized interval (Figure 6).

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Figure 6: Core photo of DSB-56, Box 08, from 21m to 23.6m, mineralized diorite with quartz veining.

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**Notes:**

1. Drill collar coordinate system is PSAD56 UTM Zone 17S.
2. Coordinate of drill collar is picked with Real Time Kinematics (RTK) GPS.

**QUALITY ASSURANCE AND QUALITY CONTROL**

All samples in respect of the exploration program at the Project discussed in this news release were shipped in securely-sealed bags by a chartered commercial truck, directly from the field to the sample preparation facilities of SGS in Guayaquil, Ecuador for preparation, and to SGS in Lima, Peru for geochemical analysis. SGS is a global leader in inspection, verification, testing, and certification. It is an ISO/IEC 17025 accredited laboratory independent from Auro. All samples go through fire assay (SGS code FAA313) for gold and multi-acid digestion ICP-AES multi-element assay (SGS code ICP40B) for other elements. Certified reference materials, various types of blank samples and duplicate samples are inserted into normal drill core sample sequences prior to delivery to laboratory for preparation and analysis. The overall ratio of quality control samples in sample sequences is around twenty percent.

**QUALIFIED PERSON**

The scientific and technical information contained in this news release has been reviewed and approved by Alex Zhang, P. Geo., a Director of the Company, who is a Qualified Person for the purposes of National Instrument 43-101 - Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43-101"). The Qualified Person has verified the information disclosed herein, including the sampling, preparation, security and analytical procedures underlying such information, and is not aware of any significant risks and uncertainties that could be expected to affect reliability or confidence in the information discussed herein.

**ABOUT AURO METALS INC.**

Auro Metals Inc. is a mineral exploration company which holds a 100% interest in the Santa Barbara Gold-Copper Project in the Zamora Copper-Gold Belt of southeastern Ecuador. The Santa Barbara Project is a large-scale porphyry system comprising Indicated resources of 29.8 million tonnes grading 0.73 grams per tonne gold and 0.10% copper containing 697,000 ounces gold and 68 million pounds copper, and Inferred resources of 205.7 million tonnes grading 0.52 grams per tonne gold and 0.09% copper containing 3,418,000 ounces gold and 426 million pounds copper. For more detail, see the Company's mineral resource estimate prepared in accordance with NI 43-101 by SRK Consulting, effective March 23, 2026 which can be found on SEDAR+ and the Company's website.

On Behalf of Auro Metals Inc.

signed "Victor Feng"  
Victor Feng, CEO and Director

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### **Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

*This news release contains forward-looking statements and forward-looking information (collective, "forward looking statements") within the meaning of applicable Canadian and U.S. securities legislation. All statements, other than statements of historical fact included in this release, including, without limitation, statements regarding the potential of the Project; the anticipated exploration, drilling, development, and other activities or achievements of the Company; timing of receipt of permits and regulatory approvals; timing of future assay results; and other future plans, objectives or expectations of the Company. Estimates of mineral reserves and mineral resources are also forward-looking information because they incorporate estimates of future developments including future mineral prices, costs and expenses and the amount of minerals that will be encountered if a property is developed.*

*Forward-looking statements are often, but not always, identified by words or phrases such as "expects", "is expected", "anticipates", "believes", "plans", "projects", "estimates", "assumes", "intends", "strategies", "targets", "goals", "forecasts", "objectives", "budgets", "schedules", "potential" or variations thereof or stating that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will" be taken, occur or be achieved, or the negative of any of these terms and similar expressions. Forward-looking statements are based on the opinions, assumptions, factors and estimates of management considered reasonable at the date the statements are made. The opinions, assumptions, factors and estimates which may prove to be incorrect, include, but are not limited to: the ability of drilling and other exploration activities to accurately predict mineralization; possible variations in mineralization, grade or recovery rates; fluctuations in commodity prices; actual results of current exploration activities; that the Company will be able to obtain and maintain governmental approvals, permits and licenses in connection with its current and planned operations, development and exploration activities, including at the Project; and other exploration, development, operating, financial market and regulatory factors; environmental risks; adverse weather conditions; ability to exploit successful discoveries; risks related to contractors and service providers; the current and future social, economic and political conditions in Ecuador.*

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*Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. The Company undertakes no obligation to update any of the forward-looking statements in this news release or incorporated by reference herein, except as otherwise required by law.*

*Additional information in relation to the Company, including the Company's most recent management discussion & analysis, can be obtained under the Company's profile on SEDAR+ at [www.sedarplus.ca](http://www.sedarplus.ca) and on the Company's website at [www.aurometals.ca](http://www.aurometals.ca).*

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