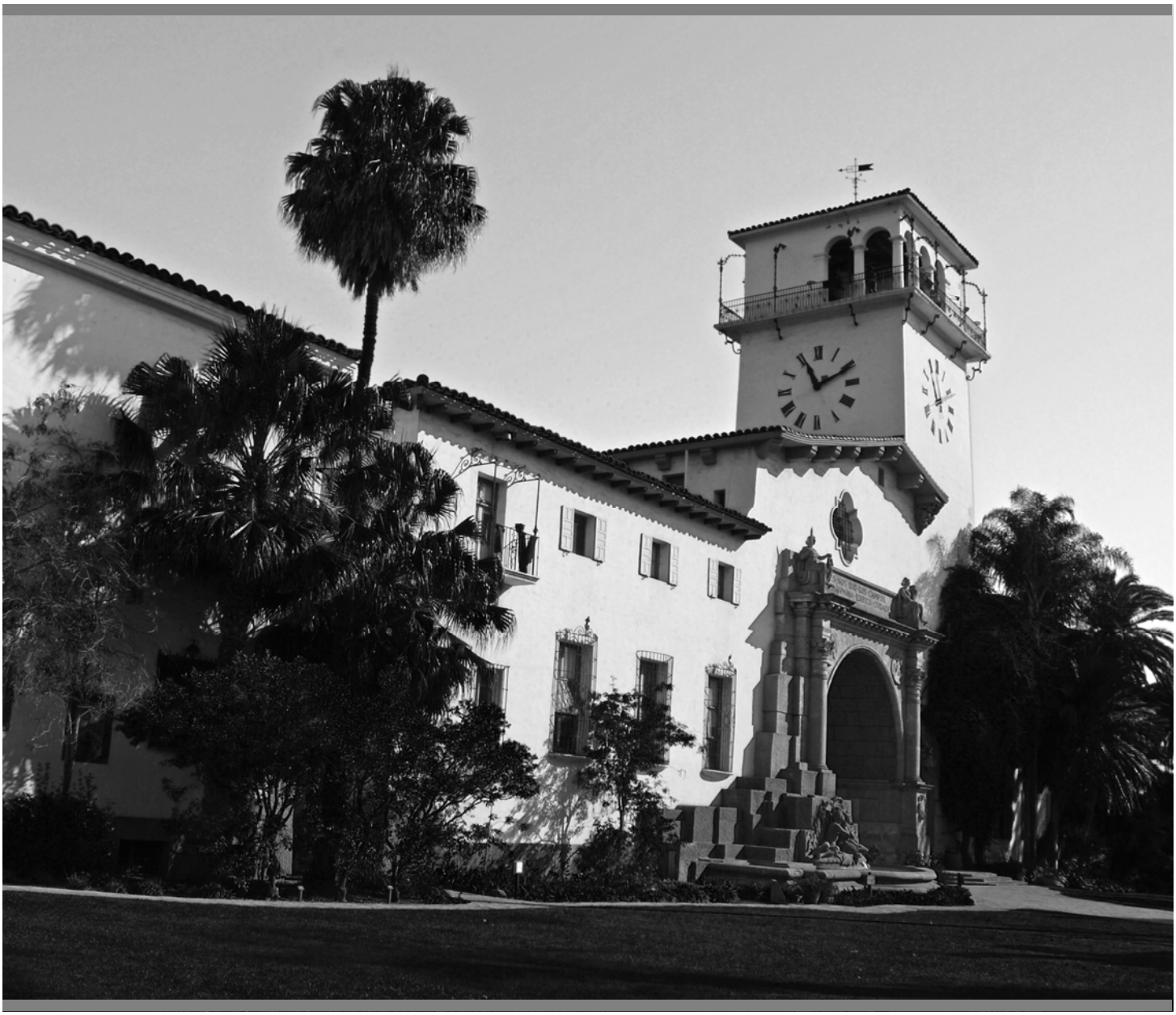
2015 Legislative Platform



County of Santa Barbara

Adopted by the Board of Supervisors on January 13, 2015

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

CALIFORNIA

Table of Contents
2015 Legislative Platform Planks Matrix

Subject	Principle	Strategy	Page
Agriculture/Williamson Act Subvention	Community Sustainability	Funding Request	1
County Library Services	Efficient Service Delivery /Operations	Funding Request	2
Funding For Exclusion And Early Pest Detection Programs Against High Risk Pests	Community Sustainability	Funding Request	3
Historic Santa Barbara County Courthouse	Community Sustainability	Funding Request	5
Hollister/State Street Improvements Project	Inter-Agency Collaboration	Funding Request	6
Marketplace Equity and Consumer Protection	Local Control	Funding Request	7
Parks/Open Space	Community Sustainability	Funding Request	9
Pesticide Law Enforcement Activities	Community Sustainability	Funding Request	11
Veterans Memorial Buildings	Community Sustainability	Funding Request	13
Ocean Water Testing	Health & Human Services	Funding Request	15
Economic Enhancement/Revenue Diversification	Job Growth/Economic Vitality	Funding & Advocacy	16
Homelessness	Health & Human Services	Funding & Advocacy	17
Lake Cachuma	Inter-Agency Collaboration	Funding & Advocacy	18
Sustainable Infrastructure Funding	Fiscal Stability	Funding & Advocacy	20
US Highway 101 - Regional	Job Growth/Economic Vitality	Funding & Advocacy	21
Pavement Preservation	Fiscal Stability	Funding, Legislative, & Advocacy	22
Resource Recovery Project	Efficient Service Delivery /Operations	Funding, Legislative, & Advocacy	23
Lower Mission Creek, Santa Barbara, CA	Community Sustainability	Funding, Legislative, & Advocacy	25
Seismic Monitoring	Community Sustainability	Funding, Legislative, & Advocacy	27
Improving Local Governance: Unincorporated Powers	Efficient Service Delivery/ Operations/Local Control	Legislative & Advocacy	28
Land Use: Enforcement Fines for Land Use Violations	Local Control	Legislative & Advocacy	29
Regional Coastal Management Projects-Federal Authority For California	Community Sustainability	Targeted Advocacy	31
Access to Quality Health Services	Health & Human Services	Targeted Advocacy	33
Air Quality-Marine Vessel Emissions	Community Sustainability	Targeted Advocacy	34
Bridges	Fiscal Stability	Targeted Advocacy	35
Comprehensive Immigration Reform	Job Growth/Economic Vitality	Targeted Advocacy	36
Health in our Community	Health & Human Services	Targeted Advocacy	37
Safety Net Preservation	Health & Human Services	Targeted Advocacy	38
Senior Services-Older Americans Act Reauthorization	Health & Human Services	Targeted Advocacy	39
Social Services TANF Reauthorization	Health & Human Services	Targeted Advocacy	40
Subsidized Child Care	Health & Human Services	Targeted Advocacy	41
Telecommunications Legislation	Local Control	Targeted Advocacy	42
Tribal Gaming Compacts & Land Use	Local Control	Targeted Advocacy	44
Probation Services Funding	Fiscal Stability	Targeted Advocacy	46

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

CALIFORNIA

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

PURPOSE

Originally established in 1991, the Legislative Program Committee is an advisory body to the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors. A dynamic program of County sponsored legislative actions is developed and tracked by the Committee with the assistance of county departments and legislative advocates in Washington, DC and Sacramento. The Committee meets almost monthly and public comment is welcome. Committee membership includes two members of the Board of Supervisors appointed by the Board, County Executive Officer, County Counsel and the Auditor-Controller.

Each year, the Committee drafts a Legislative Platform of prioritized legislative principles, specific issues, projects and/or programs (priorities) that warrant targeted advocacy, funding requests or legislation. The proposed legislative Platform is recommended to the Board of Supervisors for subsequent review and approval. Once the Legislative Platform is adopted by the Board, various advocacy strategies are used to advance the identified principles and Legislative Platform Planks with regular reporting to the Legislative Program Committee. Pending legislation of interest to Santa Barbara County is tracked and updates of the status are provided continuously by legislative advocates to the Legislative Program Committee and the Board of Supervisors.

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Legislative Program for Santa Barbara County, in conjunction with its State and Federal advocates, successfully advanced the 2014 Platform Principles including but not limited to the following:

Job Growth/Economic vitality

- Supported legislation that would authorize a county board of supervisors to levy, increase, or extend a transaction and use tax (TUT), for general or specific purposes, within the unincorporated area of the county.
- Supported reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act.

Efficient Service Delivery/Operations

- Supported legislation which establishes the Distinguished after School Health (DASH) Recognition Program within the Department of Public Health in consultation with the Department of Education, as appropriate. It allows after-school programs to apply for DASH certification by self-certifying to meeting the requirements of the program. It also requires DASH-certified programs to recertify every year.
- Supported legislation to prevent the insolvency of the Highway Trust Fund, which would have disrupted funding for local transportation and road maintenance activities.

Fiscal Stability

- Worked with the State legislature and the Administration to ensure the County was kept whole during the Low Income Health Program realignment (AB 85). Santa Barbara was the only county out of 58 to receive an exemption to AB 85.
- Supported full funding for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Program.

Interagency Collaboration

- Supported legislation, along with CSAC, to create the Community Investment and Innovation Program which will provide funding to local governments in the form of grants and other financial assistance to develop and implement greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction projects.
- In conjunction with CSAC, advocated to extend the comment period for the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Proposed rule to revise regulations governing the process and criteria by which the Secretary acknowledges an Indian tribe.

Local Control

- Supported provisions in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act to ensure consideration of regional characteristics in levee vegetation management.

Health and Human Services

- Supported legislation to protect our community and mentally-ill populations with Gun Violence Temporary Restraining Order (AB 1014).
- Supported the Reauthorization of the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act.

Community Sustainability

- Supported State resources from the legislature, the Administration and the Department of Water Resources to address the impacts of the California drought on Lake Cachuma.
- Opposition to proposed provisions in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act that would have led to the de-authorization of the Lower Mission Creek flood control project.

2015 LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

The Legislative Platform aligns with the County's legislative principles. These principles serve as a guide for the County in developing a position on any forthcoming federal and state legislation.

❖ **JOB GROWTH/ECONOMIC VITALITY:** Continue to support the development of employment opportunities, and support efforts to promote local business and job growth in an endeavor to decrease the unemployment rate and heighten individual and community economic vitality. Foster interaction and dialogue with public, private, and nonprofit sectors, with a focus on the pursuit of and advocacy for economic vitality and innovation. Support necessary infrastructure development projects as a job creator and economic engine which increases economic vitality across multiple industries and markets.

❖ **EFFICIENT SERVICE DELIVERY/OPERATIONS:** Striving to balance the diversity of needs countywide, support efforts to streamline processes and promote operational enhancements relevant to County departments' missions and core services by thoroughly evaluating legislation, and if warranted, consider opposition to legislation that creates undue fiscal and operation burdens on individual departments.

❖ **FISCAL STABILITY:** Support efforts to generate new intergovernmental revenue and/or enhance existing revenue/reimbursement levels and oppose the loss of, or redirecting of, existing revenue and/or the creation of additional unfunded mandates to the County. Such efforts also include supporting a majority state budget vote requirement and a timely adoption of the state budget before the new fiscal year begins.

❖ **INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION:** Partner with neighboring cities on infrastructure and other large-scale projects when possible. Support the advocacy efforts of such organizations as the: California State Association of Counties (CSAC), National Association of Counties (NACO), Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG), First 5 Santa Barbara, and other local and regional agencies. Collaborate with other institutions and entities on mutually beneficial issues such as transportation, housing, protection of children, the elderly and other "at risk" populations while upholding the principles of efficient service delivery and operations, fiscal stability and local control.

❖ **LOCAL CONTROL:** Ensure local authority and control over governance issues, land use policies and the delivery of services, including flexibility and customization in designing and implementing policies and services that are responsive to the community's preferences. Secure where appropriate, direct distribution of federal funds to local governments rather than state pass-throughs. Support efforts to maximize local control to ensure safe and effective speed limits.

❖ **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES:** Support efforts to maintain and enhance "safety net" services that protect the most vulnerable within a community, including children, the elderly and other "at risk" populations. Such services in the area of health and human assistance include, but are not limited to, preventive and emergency health care to the uninsured and underinsured; HIV/AIDS programs; maternal and children health; adult protective services; dependent care; child welfare services; adoptions and foster care; food stamps and unemployment assistance and workforce development. The County supports collaboration between the federal, state and local governments in the delivery and funding of such services. The County opposes the further erosion in federal and state funding of these vital services.

❖ **COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY:** Support efforts to foster communitywide sustainability by promoting economic stability and environmental stewardship through participation in the growing green economy. Continue to engage in federal and state deliberations to ensure that local government receives the economic and financial benefits associated with new policies. Support efforts to catalyze community renewal, redevelopment and reinvestment, incubate and support innovative businesses, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and incentivize energy efficiency, water conservation, and the use of renewable energy. Recognize the need to promote mutually beneficial partnerships with public, private, and nonprofit sectors to maintain and protect agricultural and rural resources, housing, coastal areas, and bio-diversity. These collective efforts aim to engender healthy communities by balancing social well-being, economic prosperity, and environmental responsibility. Support actions to secure sustainable water supplies throughout the region through ensuring both reliable quality and quantity, and promoting best practices for water conservation measures.

AGRICULTURE/WILLIAMSON ACT SUBVENTION

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

California's agricultural sector is the most important in the United States, leading the nation's production in over 77 different products including dairy and a number of fruit and vegetable "specialty" crops. The large variety of crops grown allows California to be on the leading edge of agricultural markets and technology. California produces almost twice as much as its closest competitor, Texas, and is the sole U.S. producer of crops such as almonds, artichokes, persimmons, raisins, and walnuts.

Locally, agriculture continues to be the County's major producing industry. The 2013 gross production was valued at $1.4 billion. This is a $145 million (10%) increase in gross value when compared with the 2012 figures and is the eighth year in a row that agriculture has surpassed the one billion dollar benchmark. The County is the second largest producer in the state for broccoli and cauliflower as well as having a high production of strawberries, grapes, lettuce, and other produce. Farming and ranching operations are also one of the most important industries and economic drivers in the County.

The California Land Conservation Act of 1965, also known as the Williamson Act, allows local governments to enter into ten year contracts with private landowners for the purpose of restricting specific parcels of land to agricultural or related open space use. Landowners are assessed property taxes based upon farming and open space uses as opposed to full market value of the land. Local government in exchange receives an annual subvention of forgone property tax revenues from the State via the Open Space Subvention Act of 1971. Approximately 550,000 acres of land are enrolled within the Williamson Act within the County of Santa Barbara. The FY 2009-10 state budget reduced the Williamson Act Subvention payments from $39 million to $1,000, effectively suspending the payments to local governments during an already difficult economic time. There have been no subvention payments to the County since then. Historically, the County had received an annual subvention payment from the State of approximately $600,000.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☐Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests its State delegation, the Legislature, and the Administration to restore the funding for subvention reimbursement to counties who continue to have a Williamson Act program.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The Williamson Act program has been an effective tool to preserve farmland and open space. It assists local government with general plan and zoning objectives and promotes orderly growth.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

There has been no appropriation of subvention funds for the Williamson Act program since FY 2011-12.

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COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICES

Principle	
Efficient Service Delivery/Operations	
Strategy	**Target**
Funding	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The County of Santa Barbara funds Library services and operations for 17 city and county libraries. Library services in the County are administered via contracts with the City of Santa Barbara, the City of Santa Maria and the City of Lompoc. Through this arrangement, the county partners with local cities to provide library facilities, services and materials in a cost effective manner. Library services are provided through the following established zones:

Zone 1: Santa Barbara. Services provided to the cities and unincorporated areas located within or in close proximity to Santa Barbara, Carpinteria, Montecito, Isla Vista, Goleta, Solvang, Santa Ynez and Los Olivos.

Zone 2: Lompoc. Services provided to the cities and unincorporated areas located within or in close proximity to Buellton, Lompoc, Vandenberg Village and Vandenberg Air Force Base.

Zone 3: Santa Maria. Services provided to the cities and unincorporated areas located within or in close proximity to Cuyama, Guadalupe, Los Alamos, Orcutt and Santa Maria.

The County's contribution to library services for each zone is based on the population of the cities and unincorporated areas within the respective zone as certified January 1st of the prior fiscal year by the California State Library Public Library Fund (PLF).

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☐Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests state funding for our library system. The first priority is to fund needed new library technology, books and materials. In addition, the County seeks funding for equipment, furnishings and to expand hours of operations at various library locations.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The demand for countywide library services continues to increase. Residents of the County view library services as an essential part of the community and an avenue for all segments of the population to continue self-improvement and education. Current library facilities are in need of renovation, new books and materials, new technology and increased hours of operation.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The County contributes approximately $2.9M annually from its General Fund, for library services and operations countywide. The cost to maintain library operating hours, replace materials, books, and technology far exceeds our current ability to provide funding. The County seeks additional annual funding, to allow for replacement of out dated equipment, furnishings, technology and materials and increase library hours of operation.

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Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Fed/State

FUNDING FOR EXCLUSION AND EARLY PEST DETECTION PROGRAMS AGAINST HIGH RISK PESTS

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

California's impressive and valuable agricultural production, which California's County Agricultural Commissioners are entrusted to promote and protect include (***based on latest USDA national agricultural statistics information***):

- California is ranked #1 in the United States in cash receipts at $42.6 billion for their output in 2012
- California represents 11.9 percent of total U.S. agricultural revenue
- There are approximately 77,857 farms and ranches and 25,569,001total acres.
- The largest dairy industry in the nation
- More than 400 commodities are grown in California
- California produces about half of the U.S. grown fruits, nuts and vegetables
- Many crops are solely produced in California

There are a number of significant invasive species being introduced and detected in California that threaten agriculture and the environment. Continued funding of Pest Exclusion, Pest Detection trapping and Survey Activities, Rapid Response, Pest Management and Eradication (if feasible), and Public Education Outreach Programs is critical in protecting California's resources. Unique in the United States to California, County Commissioners and Sealers provide the first line of defense against the introduction of injurious plant and animal pests.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☐Targeted Advocacy

Action: The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests its federal delegation, the Legislature, and the Administration to:

- Protect existing revenue sources and enhance state and federal funding of Pest Prevention Program activities.
- Provide full cost recovery for new Invasive Pest programs and maintain or enhance funding for current Invasive Pest programs.
- Support all reasonable efforts by the California Department of Food and Agriculture, County Agricultural Commissioners, and the agricultural industry to acquire funding and to prevent the introduction and potential spread of invasive pests in California.
- Support Legislation and/or state and federal programs that provide for effective pest management and eradication activities.
- Provide local flexibility to enhance the Agricultural Commissioner's ability to respond to pest emergencies and high priority local pest exclusion pathways.
- Support research on invasive species pathways as well as funding mechanisms to close potential pathways.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

In addition to benefits to California agriculture, early pest detection and surveillance programs benefit the natural ecosystem, consumer interests, and human health, as well as agriculture in states other than California.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

A reduction or elimination of federal and state funding for the State and counties to perform early pest detection and surveillance activities will result in either an additional cost to local governments to cover the costs of these critical pest exclusion activities or a reduction or elimination of these services all together. This will lead to the agricultural industry, the public and environment being put at risk for further invasive pest infestations. California agricultural losses to exotic pests exceed $3 billion annually.

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HISTORIC SANTA BARBARA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	**Target**
Funding	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Santa Barbara Courthouse is owned by the County of Santa Barbara and serves as a community resource for the area's civic groups, non-profit groups and other residents. However, this aging building is in need of funding to correct deficiencies and undertake historic rehabilitation of the structure.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☐Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Through the Department of the Interior, National Endowment for the Arts, Housing and Community Development, Homeland Security or direct Budget Appropriation—fund the continued conservation, preservation and conservation of this iconic National Historic Landmark; a request of five million over the next five years is requested.

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests that the Department of the Interior, Housing and Community Development, Department of Commerce and Homeland Security all be funded with a component of this request and that the request be earmarked for the Santa Barbara Historic Courthouse.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The historic (City Landmark, State Historic Landmark and National Historic Landmark) Santa Barbara Courthouse, constructed in 1929, is a 156,000 square foot building home to the Superior Court of California and Civic Government. It is comprised of multiple offices, courtrooms, and historic rooms that are able to accommodate hundreds of people. Moreover, it serves as a vital component of civic society, primarily as a gathering place for community celebrations in the area.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The County has estimated the cost of renovation to be approximately $40 million, which includes:

- ADA upgrades including lift installation, restroom upgrade, handrail and signage installation ($1,235,000)
- Architectural / Safety upgrades including installation of exit sign, fire rated doors and related hardware and fire alarm and fire sprinkler system, stone and cast store restoration, leather and furniture restoration, painted ceiling restoration, draperies and textile restoration, insulation, restroom addition, roof tile and downspout repair ($22,000,000)
- Structural upgrades including structural analysis and retrofitting of structural elements ($1,775,000)
- Mechanical upgrades to existing heating and plumbing systems ($6,475,000)
- Electrical upgrades including replacement of circuitry and re-wiring of building ($2,760,000)
- Hazardous Material abatement including asbestos and lead paint abatement, and termite inspection report ($4,600,000)
- Exterior modifications including repair of existing sidewalks, curbs and gutters and enhanced landscaping ($3,118,000)

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HOLLISTER/STATE STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Principle	
Inter-Agency Collaboration	
Strategy	**Target**
Funding	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Hollister Avenue from San Antonio Road to Modoc and State Street from Modoc to State Route 154 are primary arterials in Santa Barbara County. This corridor serves as an alternative route to U.S. 101 and needs improvements to accommodate multimodal travel at current and future traffic volumes.

Proposed improvements include widening the corridor to create additional capacity and improve multimodal circulation. The project will add pedestrian boulevards, bike lanes, bus accommodation, transportation enhancements, and replace a narrow and outdated railroad overhead crossing. The project is supported by the community and will promote a unified sense of community, improve public health and welfare, provide alternative routes for movement of goods and services, and stimulate economic development throughout the area.

The County requests $8M for design and construction of Phase 1 to widen a portion of Hollister Avenue between San Antonio and Modoc Roads.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☐Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests participation by providing funds for design and implementation of this project.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

This project supports multimodal transportation and infill development. Some of the benefits to the community include:

- Reduced travel time for movement of people, goods and services, resulting in less congestion, and pollution and improved regional air quality
- Reduced conversion of agricultural land, sensitive habitat, and open space for new development
- Reduced costs to build and maintain expensive new infrastructure
- Improved health and welfare with opportunities for active transportation
- Added vibrancy and a unified sense of community to the corridor
- Implements complete streets concepts, accommodating vehicles, pedestrians, and bicycles
- Improves facilities to comply with the American Disabilities Act

COST TO GOVERNMENT

$8M for design and construction of Phase 1.

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MARKETPLACE EQUITY AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Principle	
Local Control	
Strategy	**Target**
Funding	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Weights and Measures Programs are important to businesses and consumers in California. Weights and Measures ensure there is a "level playing field", maintaining fair competition for business and industries. Likewise, these programs are critical in providing protection for consumers and a method for making value comparisons.

The Division of Measurement Standards (DMS) within the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) is the lead agency for weights and measures and works closely with county sealers of weights and measures who carry out the vast majority of weights and measures enforcement activities at the local level. County sealers of weights and measures have a variety of programs that protect consumers and provide an equitable marketplace for local business. Examples of programs consist of Device Registration & Inspection, Price & Quantity Control, Weighmaster, Service Agents, and Petroleum Products. DMS provides the regulatory oversight for county sealers for weights and measures programs in addition to the California Type Evaluation Program and Metrology. The California Type Evaluation Program tests, evaluates and approves all new commercial weighting and measuring devices to be used for commercial purposes in California. The State Metrology laboratory keeps and maintains standards of weight, volume, time, temperature, and length that are used to ensure accuracy for weights and measures in the state of California. These physical standards form the legal and scientific basis for commercial transactions in California involving weights and measure. The values of these standards are traceable to national and international standards. Without these standards, county sealers could not test commercial devices for accuracy and businesses would be at a disadvantage globally without proof of accurate measurement standards. DMS has taken significant general fund reductions that have diminished their role in consumer protection, promoting an equitable marketplace and support services for county sealers. General fund support for all programs except Metrology has been eliminated.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☐Targeted Advocacy

Action:

- Support legislation that preserves and enhances funding resources for weights and measures programs at the state (DMS) and local (Sealer) level for consumer protection. /Encourage the use of state general fund for the Division of Measurement Standards.
- Support legislation which assures clear labeling and accuracy of the net quantity of package products to promote value comparison and to ensure the consumer receives the correct product and the quantity of product for which they pay.
- Oppose legislation that would allow for industry self-certification of commercial weighing and measuring devices.
- Oppose legislation that would diminish or remove protections now afforded to consumers for transactions measured by weighing or measuring devices.
- Support legislation that establishes funding for quantity control and package inspection.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Weights and measures programs serve the people of California by aggressively preserving and defending the measurement standards essential in providing the citizens a basis of value comparison and fair competition in the marketplace.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

During the 2011-12 fiscal year, CDFA experienced a $19 million General Fund reduction. Funding for many important programs was affected including those in DMS. An industry led consortium guided CDFA through the reduction process, in which alternatives were considered, including reduction and elimination of programs, and other funding sources. The Device Administrative Fee was authorized by the California Legislature in Assembly Bill 120 and signed by Governor Brown on July 26, 2011. This fee is to fund the DMS Device Compliance Program which provides oversight and training to county weights and measures officials in areas of commercial weighing and measuring device inspection. However, other weights and measures programs continue to lack the necessary funding to provide adequate services.

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PARKS/OPEN SPACE

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Santa Barbara County Parks provides services to over 7 million annual visitors to 71 day use parks, open space locations and two camping parks as well as to a network of trails and coastal access easements. The County is interested in preserving and expanding the amount of open space located within its boundary. As such, the County is supportive of funding opportunities that enable local governments: (1) to maintain existing facilities (i.e. funding for park and trail maintenance); (2) to acquire additional land for open space preservation and (3) to ensure safe access to beaches, parks and open space. Examples of these projects are listed below as well as in other areas of the 2014 platform.

Gaviota Coast Preservation: The Gaviota Coast is a largely undeveloped area along Highway 101 North of Goleta and South of Lompoc that consists primarily of agricultural land in private ownership, Vandenberg Air Force Base, US Forest Service Land, and three state parks. There are a number of endangered or threatened species in the area, including the red legged frog, steelhead trout, and California tiger salamander. A National Park Service Study looked at various conservation methods, including a potential federal designation, and concluded that the area is "nationally significant" and the best conservation approach was through local and private conservation efforts. Currently there is no interest in reconsidering a potential federal designation for the Gaviota Coast. There is a need for federal funding and assistance for planning efforts and land conversation acquisition by local government and/or private land trusts.

Point Sal Access and Management Plan and Implementation: This project will provide public access to Point Sal "Reserve", which consists of 2,600 acres of publicly and privately-owned lands located in the northwestern corner of the County, along the coast of the Pacific Ocean. In 1991, an original management plan was developed and revised in 2002 under an internal administrative draft, to include parcels acquired by the County since the original 1991 plan. Costs total approximately $8 Million to update the management plan ($50,000), implement public access including land acquisition and vehicle improvements to the trail-head and pedestrian trail ($7.6 Million), signage and cattle control ($350,000). The United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service has provided a $200,000 California Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) Grant for the preparation of environmental documents, design and permit applications.

Santa Claus Lane Beach Access and Development: This project will secure public access rights and easements to the beach and open an access way over the existing railroad tracks and rock seawall. The total project cost is approximately $6.9 million which includes acquiring access rights and the design and construction of safety developments for the railroad and seawall crossings, installation of a parking lot, landscape screening, a restroom and other ancillary facilities. The United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service has provided a $316,000 California Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) Grant to facilitate securing access rights.

Goleta Beach County Park

Goleta Beach County Park is a heavily-used and wildly popular beach and park that serves approximately 1.5 million visitors annually. The grass and associated picnic facilities, children's playground, sandy beach, ocean and pier are all highly visited and heavily utilized by our local population and out-of-town visitors alike. In particular, with the combination of recreational amenities it provides, is extremely popular with lower to moderate income members of our community. There is no charge for parking, providing cost-free opportunities to all visitors.

The County continues to invest resources in this park to make it more accessible for all users. The Board of Supervisors appropriated $3.2 million to build a new Goleta Beach Park bridge that spans the Goleta Slough and provides the only access to park. It also serves as a vital connection for the Coastal Route bike path across the Slough to the park and continuing west to University of California, Santa

Barbara. However, the Goleta Beach County Park is still in need of major infrastructure improvements to the public pier ($250,000) (which is currently closed due to storm damage), pavement and parking lots ($750,000) and restrooms in need of restoration ($100,000).

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☐Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County requests support from its delegation to: (1) assist the County in its interaction with other affected agencies and (2) identify funding opportunities for these projects.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

These projects enhance the opportunities of residents and visitors to the County to gain safe access to beaches, partake in recreational activities and learn more about natural habitat.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The County has secured partial funding for many of these projects and is seeking additional funding to complete these projects.

CONTACT

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Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

PESTICIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The size and diversity of California agriculture, and the State's increasing urbanization, require a more complex partnership between state and local pesticide regulatory authorities than anywhere else in the nation. The California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) is vested with primary authority through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to enforce federal and state laws pertaining to the proper and safe use of pesticides. DPR's enforcement of pesticide use in the field is largely carried out in California's 58 counties by County Agricultural Commissioners (CACs) and their staffs (approximately 400 inspector/biologists). CACs seek compliance through education, including presentations to community and industry groups, training sessions for pesticide users, informal or formal compliance actions (such as warning letters), and corrective interviews. CACs regulate pesticide use to prevent misapplication or drift, and possible contamination of people or the environment. Among a Commissioner's most important responsibilities is investigating pesticide-related illnesses and injuries. All reported pesticide related illnesses and injuries are investigated by the CAC in the county which the illness occurred. If the law was broken and people made ill, the commissioner takes enforcement action. CAC staffs also enforce regulations to protect ground and surface water from pesticide contamination. To do this, they may work with regional waters boards and the State Water Resources Control Board. Farmers must obtain site-specific permits from their CAC to buy or use many agricultural chemicals. The CAC staff must evaluate the proposed use to determine if the pesticide can be used safely, particularly in sensitive areas, such as near residential neighborhoods, schools and other sensitive sites. State law requires CACs to ensure that applicators take precautions to protect people and the environment.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☐Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests its State delegation, the Legislature, and the Administration to:

- Support methods that would provide long-term funding for county pesticide regulatory activities.
- Support legislative or budgetary proposals that maintain or increase funding through the pesticide mill fee that is sufficient for pesticide regulatory activities to protect the safety of farm labor, the public and the environment and provides funding for education, outreach and compliance assessment activities related to the safe use of pesticides.
- Support the preemptive status of state pesticide laws and authority provided to the Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) and California Agricultural Commissioners.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The mission and objectives of local pesticide enforcement programs is to protect public safety, the environment and farm labor from pesticide exposure. County Agricultural Commissioner's provide the local regulatory framework to carry out the mission and to meet the objectives of the pesticide enforcement program.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

During the 2014 Legislative Session, the budget-trailer bill (Chapter 741, Statues of 2003; SB 1049) intent language indicates that the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) should fund County Agricultural Commissioners' local pesticide regulatory programs with $22 million annually. The Legislature failed to appropriate adequate funding to DPR to meet this level, nor was authority provided to the County Agricultural Commissioners to establish fees to cover their program costs. Approximately $15 million in County general funds in California are contributed per fiscal year in order to maintain the integrity and

quality of the pesticide regulatory system Californians have grown to expect. It is critical that we find a way to fund these local pesticide enforcement programs and provide CACs full cost recovery for local pesticide enforcement services.

CONTACT

Cathleen M. Fisher, Agricultural Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, (805) 681-5600
Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDINGS

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Santa Barbara, Lompoc and Carpinteria Veterans Memorial Buildings are owned by the County of Santa Barbara and serve as a community resource for the area's veterans, non-profit groups and other residents.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☐ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Strategy: Veterans of foreign wars are often overlooked, forgotten and misunderstood---giving them a place to interact with other veterans regardless of wartime experience in not only important—it is our duty to do so. The generation of the 20s and 30s understood this obligation—the generation of this decade needs to follow through. This request will enable the Veterans Memorial Buildings within the County of Santa Barbara to continue to serve our returning veterans for decades to come.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Santa Barbara Building

This 83-year old building built in 1927 is located on historic Santa Barbara's premier waterfront. It is heavily used by the Veterans and the community alike. It has been designated a "City Landmark" by the City of Santa Barbara and eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Historically, Veterans Memorial Buildings came into being through the counties of California, which provided publicly-owned or donated land for the construction of memorial sites to be built in their cities. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s, memorial halls and structures were constructed and dedicated as a tribute to those who fought in World War I. The usage of these spaces is guided and governed by the California Military and Veterans Code, which provides for the use of such facilities by persons or organizations other than veterans, either free of charge or for stated compensation to aid in defraying the cost of maintenance. These facilities are being closed in many counties. It is desired to save this building and ensure the usage for many years to come.

Lompoc Building

The historic (City Landmark, listed on the California Register and eligible for the National Register) Lompoc Veterans Memorial building, constructed in 1936, is a 20,393 square foot building home to several veterans groups. It is comprised of multiple offices, a large commercial kitchen, and two large halls that are able to accommodate hundreds of people. Moreover, it serves as a vital component of Lompoc civic society, primarily as a gathering place for the military veterans in the area.

Carpinteria Building

The historic (City Landmark and eligible for the National Register of Historic Places) Carpinteria Veteran's Memorial Building was constructed in the early 1930s, is a 13,400 square foot home to Carpinteria Valley Veterans of Foreign Wars and many local non-profit community service organizations. Due to the age of the building major areas of work include: electrical systems, seismic upgrading or retrofitting, heating ventilation and air conditioning, ADA improvements both exterior and interior and replacement of aging and failing wood components.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The work items listed below are in priority order for each building.

Santa Barbara Building

The County has estimated the cost of renovation to be approximately $800,000, which includes:

1) **Seismic Safety**: This includes seismic retrofitting, foundation stabilization, and deteriorated wood framing components. Total cost estimated for this work is $300,000.
2) **Electrical Systems**: This includes main panel, subpanel upgrades, internal wiring systems and aging light fixtures. Total cost estimated for this work is $200,000.
3) **Energy**: This includes water distribution systems, HVAC, utility regulation equipment and window upgrades. Total cost estimated for this work is $300,000.

Lompoc Building

The County has estimated costs for restoration to be $700,000, which includes:

1) **Architectural**: This section includes exiting, fire protection, accessibility for the disabled and other life-safety related projects; roofing, replacement of doors and windows and related buildings systems upgrades. Federal Share request is $400,000.
2) **Hazardous Materials**: This section includes removal of lead based paints and asbestos materials. Federal Share request is $300,000.

Carpinteria Building

The County has estimated costs for restoration to be $900,000, which includes:

1) **Architectural**: This section includes exiting, fire protection, accessibility for the disabled and other life-safety related projects; roofing, replacement of doors and windows and related buildings systems upgrades. Federal Share request is $400,000.
2) **Hazardous Materials**: This section includes removal of lead based paints and asbestos materials. Federal Share request is $300,000.
3) **Seismic Safety.** The main spaces and bell tower are in need of seismic stabilization and the building in general requires seismic retrofitting to attach roof, wall and foundation systems for movement during an earthquake event. Federal Share request is $200,000.

CONTACT

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Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

OCEAN WATER TESTING

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Funding	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Ocean water testing is performed at sixteen Santa Barbara County beaches on a weekly basis to identify any areas where bacterial health standards are exceeded. When sampling results indicate water quality meets state health standards, the beaches are open. Warnings are posted at beaches when one or more of the state health standards have been exceeded. Beaches are closed when water is contaminated by sewage at the location and there is an imminent public health concern. The current testing methodology provides tests results 24 hours after the ocean water has been tested. There is a new ocean water testing methodology, Method 1609 polymerase chain reaction (qPCR,) that provides point in time water testing results. These results could be provided to the public in a timelier manner, thus supporting timely postings of beach warnings and closures to keep our residents safe and healthy.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☐Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests funding support in the amount of $70,500 for the costs associated with the implementation of Method 1609 qPCR for ocean water testing. These costs are due to the "parallel" testing (running duplicate methods to ensure accurate and consistent results) is required for the first year of implementation

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Beaches are a significant environmental resource in Santa Barbara County used by many residents. If residents enter ocean water when water quality exceeds safe standards, there are increased health risks. Ocean water testing results are shared broadly on our website, in media and through various organizations as a public health service to our community.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

During Fiscal Year 2013-14, the Public Health laboratory testing cost $73,000 under the existing testing methodology. The new Method 1609qPCR testing is projected to increase costs one-time by $70,500 for the first year of implementation because of the parallel testing required. This projected one-time cost is currently unfunded.

CONTACT

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Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT/ REVENUE DIVERSIFICATION

Principle	
Job Growth/ Economic Vitality	
Strategy	**Target**
Funding & Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Economic enhancement offers local government, the private sector, the nonprofit sectors and residents the opportunity to work together to improve local economy. It aims to enhance competitiveness and thus encourage sustainable economic growth given the priorities for a specific area.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests the county's state and federal delegation in aggressively seeking and securing legislation to provide for enhanced funding and streamlined processes that will encourage the diversification, development, incubation, and growth of business determined to be of priority to California counties in general and Santa Barbara County specifically.

Funding and process improvements should include, but not be limited to, County's access to:

- Establishing or expanding revolving loan funds,
- Small business loans,
- Community Reinvestment Act Community Development loans and investments, and
- Equity capital and tax relief for startup businesses.

This funding will enhance opportunities to increase economic vitality and diversify the county's revenue base. In addition, the County supports efforts to secure, where appropriate, direct distribution of federal funds to local governments rather than state pass-throughs.

Priority focus areas for Santa Barbra County include but are not limited to:

- Film and tourism
- Agriculture
- Wine Industry
- Green technology and manufacturing
- Education
- Aerospace
- Entrepreneurial development
- Developing hard and soft infrastructure to support economic growth
- Technology infrastructure improvements
- University/Governmental Research
- Clean energy

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Facilitating local job growth, economic enhancement and revenue diversification of local revenues, based on community priorities, creates an environmentally sustainable economy that improves the community's ability to generate and retain local revenues, address priority needs, create jobs, and weather the swings in the economy.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

In the long term, costs to government are reduced as the private and nonprofit sectors expand and diversify.

CONTACT

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3400

HOMELESSNESS

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Funding & Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The County of Santa Barbara in partnership with cities and community organizations drafted the "Bringing Our Community Home: The Santa Barbara Countywide 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness" plan in 2006. The County continues to work on these and other efforts in partnership with the Central Coast Collaborative on Homelessness or C3H. The County seeks funding support to implement this plan, including financing a comprehensive system of housing, services and treatment to help prevent homelessness.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests that its state and federal delegations support existing and new legislation to address the issue of homelessness and support funding of housing, services and treatment programs to end chronic homelessness.

Specifically, the County requests the Federal delegation's support for funding McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants, including the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program, and the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program. These programs are authorized under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended by the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009. The County recommends the inclusion of provisions which allow for additional flexibility in the use of Federal funds on the local level to address housing for the homeless. The County also requests continuing support for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and the HOME program. These two programs provide additional public services, capital improvements, and new affordable housing, which work together to reduce homelessness and prevent additional persons and families from becoming homeless.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Each year more than 6,300 people in Santa Barbara County experience homelessness; on any given night, nearly 2,000 people are homeless. Of the people who are homeless, 45% or as many as 913 people are chronically homeless. Santa Barbara County's chronically homeless population is composed of single adults and families with children who have either been continuously homeless for a year or more or have had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years, have a disabling condition and have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g. living on the streets) or in an emergency shelter during that time. Many of these individuals have serious mental illnesses; two-thirds of all people with serious mental illness have been homeless or have been at risk of being homeless at some point in their lives.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Chronically homeless people may consume more than 50% of all the services provided to homeless people due to their continued movement through the service system without obtaining the help they need. Chronically homeless individuals are also frequent users of other costly public services, such as hospital emergency rooms, psych emergency wards and the criminal justice system. Chronic homelessness is expensive, but these costs can be reduced and chronic homelessness can be ended through the provision of permanent supportive housing. Studies have demonstrated that providing people with permanent supportive housing is the most humane and cost-effective way to end chronic homelessness.

CONTACT

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LAKE CACHUMA

Principle	
Inter-Agency Collaboration	
Strategy	**Target**
Funding & Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

As a result of a biological opinion issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Federal Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) has evaluated the impacts of raising the water level at Lake Cachuma to protect the endangered steelhead trout. The increased water level, coupled with the need to replace outdated and aging infrastructure, is the catalyst for funding requests to continue Parks operations listed below.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests its Congressional delegation support new appropriations requests as follows: Fire flow and water distribution system improvements - $5.1 million; New water treatment plant and related systems - $3.5 million; Sewage treatment - $4.7 million; Boat Ramp Extension - $1 million; Recreational improvements - $9.1 million.

PROJECT	TOTAL COST	AMOUNT FUNDED	SOURCE OF AMOUNT FUNDED***	UNFUNDED AMOUNT	STRATEGY TO SECURE FUNDING**
BIOLOGICAL OPINION / SURCHARGE INITIATED PROJECTS					
Fire Flow and Water Distribution Improvements	$2,249,000	$504,000	BOR / SBC	$1,745,000	BOR ($1,745,000)
Construction Road Repair & Access Improvements (connected to fire flow for fire truck access)	$3,331,000	$0	-	$3,331,000	BOR ($3,331,000)
New Water Treatment Plant and Related Systems	$6,217,500	$2,737,500	BOR / SBC	$3,480,000	BOR ($3,480,000)
Sewage Treatment Plant and Related Systems	$5,040,000	$335,000	BOR	$4,705,000	BOR ($4,705,000)
Boat Ramp Extension	$1,000,000	$0	DB&W	$1,000,000	DB&W $1.0 M
Boat Launch Ramp	$2,626,140	$2,626,140	DB&W	$0	**COMPLETE**
New Fire Suppression Water Storage Reservoir (ARRA)	$1,051,056	$1,051,056	ARRA	$0	**COMPLETE**
Existing Water Reservoir Re-roofing	$460,321	$460,321	BOR	$0	**COMPLETE**
Sewer Lift Stations	$1,138,500	$1,138,500	BOR / SBC	$0	**COMPLETE**
TOTAL	**$23,113,517**	**$8,852,517**	-	**$14,261,000**	
OTHER CAPITAL FACILITIES AND RECREATIONAL PROJECTS					
Live Oak ADA Showers, Restrooms & Electrical Upgrades, and Marina Cafe	$1,960,472	$1,960,472	BOR / SBC (& OGALS)	$0	BOR ($938,236) SBC ($1,022,236)
New Overnight Accommodations (Cabins / Yurts)	$2,496,000	$290,000	BOR / SBC	$2,206,000	BOR ($1,118,000) SBC ($1,088,000)
Recreation Improvements (Pool Facilities)	$6,900,000	$0	BOR / SBC	$6,900,000	BOR ($3,450,000) SBC ($3,450,000)
Mohawk ADA Bathrooms	$569,094	$284,547	BOR / SBC / ARRA	$0	**COMPLETE**
TOTAL	**$11,925,094**	**$2,535,019**	-	**$9,106,000**	
GRAND TOTAL FOR ALL PROJECTS	**$35,039,083**	**$11,387,536**	-	**$23,367,000**	

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The County provides an array of recreational amenities including boating, fishing, camping (tent, RV, yurts and cabins), seasonal naturalist programs, and nature cruises to approximately 800,000 visitors year-round.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The Bureau owns all "project" facilities and operates Bradbury Dam, which was constructed under contract with the Santa Barbara County Water Agency to provide irrigation and water supplies.

CONTACT

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Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Funding & Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Transportation facilities are essential for the current and future well-being of the State of California and the country. Traditional sources of revenue for transportation are declining as communities develop more sustainably and vehicles become more fuel-efficient. Additional funding is required to respond significantly to transportation needs.

A multi-year transportation bill that provides certainty for businesses and communities, creates jobs, and makes necessary policy updates to lay the foundation for lasting economic growth. Transportation infrastructure is too essential to suffer continued neglect.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors calls on Congress and the California State Legislature to commit to a sound, long-term financial solution that will ensure stability of the surface transportation system.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

A multi-year transportation bill that provides certainty for businesses and communities, creates jobs, and makes necessary policy updates to lay the foundation for lasting economic growth. Mobility and accessibility are essential to the financial and social well-being of individuals. A commitment to maintaining our nation's infrastructure will create jobs, improve quality of life, and ensure that the USA continues to be a leader in the global economy.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Ongoing sustainable funding to maintain roads and other essential transportation infrastructure is critical to the public's health, safety and welfare throughout the nation. The lack of a consistent source of funding leads to costly deferred maintenance, extensive repairs and increased liability claims. Additional state and federal revenue sources can be found in ways such as gas and sales taxes, congestion pricing, public-private partnerships, and user or transaction fees.

CONTACT

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Terri Nisich Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

US HIGHWAY 101 - REGIONAL

Principle	
Job Growth/Economic Vitality	
Strategy	**Target**
Funding & Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Highway 101 Lane Widening is the No. 1 Regional funding priority for the County. The project will increase U.S. Highway 101 from 4 to 6 lanes by adding High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes between the Cities of Carpinteria and Santa Barbara, a distance of 10 miles, to improve safety, reduce traffic congestion and match the 6-lane highway south of Carpinteria and north of Santa Barbara. US 101 is one of two north-south highways in California that connect the Los Angeles basin, with a population of 13 million, and the greater San Francisco Bay Area, with a population of 7 million. The other north-south highway, Interstate 5, is periodically closed due to inclement weather and US 101 serves as the primary alternate route in California during those periods.

The corridor provides access from Central Coast agricultural operations to markets around the country. US 101 also provides critical access to Vandenberg Air Force Base in central Santa Barbara County. The entire project corridor is within the Santa Barbara urbanized area that includes the University of California at Santa Barbara, defense-related businesses, and hundreds of businesses related to the tourism industry. On a daily basis, commuters from neighboring Ventura County, interregional truck traffic, and tourists contribute to the facility's average daily traffic of 90,000 vehicles per day, exceeding the capacity of the four-lane facility for hours at a time, bringing this 10-mile segment of highway to a crawl.

Upon completion of the project, the corridor will be a part of a continuous 40-mile, 6-lane facility, extending from the City of Ventura in Ventura County to the City of Goleta in Santa Barbara County. The corridor will include 16 miles of continuous HOV lanes. This 10-mile segment, and an adjacent 6-mile segment to the south at the Ventura/Santa Barbara County line currently under construction, will be the first HOV lanes on the Central Coast of California.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Santa Barbara County and the eight cities within the County support the Highway 101 Widening Project as the region's top regional roadway priority for Federal funding. Santa Barbara County will work in a support position to the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments to promote the critical nature of the project at the State and Federal level.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

US Highway 101 is one of only two north-south transportation routes between Los Angeles and San Francisco within the State of California. Transportation of commuters and goods and services, including Central Coast agricultural crops, are essential to the overall economic health and vitality of the State. When Interstate 5 is closed, due to accident, fire or snow, all north-south traffic is diverted to the US 101. It is designated as a State Focus Route and High Emphasis Route.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The total estimated cost of the project is $425 million. The project will be funded by $140 million from Measure A, the local transportation sales tax, and $285 million in State and Federal funding.

CONTACT

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Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

PAVEMENT PRESERVATION

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	**Target**
Funding, Legislative & Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Santa Barbara County roads are deteriorating faster than they can be maintained. Approximately $12M is needed each year to effectively implement Pavement Preservation best management practices. The County currently has $3M available for this work. An additional $9M is needed annually from other sources, including local, State, and Federal funds. This issue is well documented at every level of government in needs assessments throughout the country.

Every trip begins and ends on a local road. They are critical for moving people, goods, and services reliably and safely to their destination. Pavement preservation strategies for transportation infrastructure have been employed to maintain these networks since the early 1990's. These strategies have evolved and become more effective and efficient since then, but the core concept remains the same: pavements treated more frequently with lower cost treatments last much longer, at a much lower cost, than those maintained using a 'worst first' strategy. In order to maintain this road system in a safe and serviceable condition the philosophy of pavement preservation must be embraced by our country's leadership to provide the right treatment, to the right road at the right time.

The reauthorization of MAP-21 and prioritization of State spending should include measures to bring funding levels in line with the current needs, and to focus on 'fix it first' strategies to maintain existing infrastructure.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒Funding Request ☒Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests participation by passing legislation to increase funding for pavement preservation, and by setting priorities for spending on maintaining existing infrastructure.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

This project supports the existing transportation network, to maintain safe and efficient movement of goods, services, and people. If the backlog of existing maintenance is not addressed now, the cost to maintain it will double by 2020. For Santa Barbara County, this means a roadway maintenance backlog will go from $250M to $500M.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

$9 M annually

CONTACT

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RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT

Principle	
Efficient Service Delivery/Operations	
Strategy	**Target**
Funding, Legislative, & Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Resource Recovery Project is a promising new way for Santa Barbara County to further enhance the region's recycling programs while reducing our community's carbon footprint. Established in February 2007, under the direction of the Board of Supervisors, this project is a coordinated effort of the County of Santa Barbara and the Cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, Solvang and Buellton.

For the past six years, County Staff has been looking to dramatically increase recycling and convert "leftover" mixed municipal solid waste (through non-combustion thermal, chemical or biological means) into green energy. The County has determined a preferred vendor for this project that uses both a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and an Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Facility. The MRF will enable us to divert recyclables that are still ending up at our landfill. This MRF will also allow us to sort out our organics, which is the common cause of methane gas generation in landfills worldwide. Once the organic waste is separated from our waste, we accelerate and control the decomposition process through the use of anaerobic digestion or "AD." This process captures all of the methane potential of our organic material, generates green energy, and greatly reduces our future greenhouse gas impact. The organics processed by the AD facility are composted into a product that can be used as a soil amendment. The MRF and AD Facility working together are projected to reduce the amount of waste currently landfilled at Tajiguas by 60%, bringing our region's total recycling rate well above 80%.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☒Funding Request ☒Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action: Funding Request: Santa Barbara County, along with the four partnering cities, has been pursuing this project as an environmentally beneficial alternative to landfilling of our municipal solid waste. In order to limit financial impact to the ratepayer the County is requesting a grant equaling 25% of capital costs ($15 million) or equivalent tax credits.

Action: Legislative Proposal & Targeted Advocacy: the County is requesting legislation similar to H.R. 8 – The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, related to Renewable Energy Tax Credits (specifically Investment Tax Credits or Production Tax Credits), that would benefit the Resource Recovery Project through its production of renewable energy. A goal of this legislation would be to extend these tax credits at a minimum through 2016 or be made permanent.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The Resource Recovery Project would have several sustainable and beneficial impacts:

- Providing a comprehensive and flexible 20 year solid waste management solution for the region
- Increasing the amount of material recycled in our region
- Providing a local source of green energy
- Eliminating future greenhouse gases generated by the landfill
- Helps the County achieve State mandates on waste diversion (75% by 2020 – AB 341), greenhouse gas reduction (1990 levels achieved by 2020 – AB 32), and green energy production (33% renewable energy by 2020 – SB X1 2).

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The estimated capital cost of the project is $60 million. The project will be privately financed through a tipping fee at the facility. This cost will then be passed onto the ratepayers in their monthly bills. The costs for a project that includes a MRF and AD Facility are comparable if not lower than its alternatives.

CONTACT

Mark Schleich, Deputy Director of Public Works, (805) 882-3603
Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

LOWER MISSION CREEK, SANTA BARBARA, CA

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding, Legislation & Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Lower Mission Creek Project was initiated by the Corps of Engineers (Corps) to study the flood threat to the City of Santa Barbara. Through a series of feasibility studies, a final project was developed in the 1990's that optimized the costs and environmental features of the project that would provide additional flood protection with a project that was locally acceptable.

The EIS/EIR was completed and certified in 2001 and since that time the permit process was completed and some design work started by the Corps. Today, the project is stalled because the new cost estimate from the recent design work puts the project below the required Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR).

The City and County of Santa Barbara have worked to forward the project starting at the lower end and hope to implement the elements below the freeway. We desire the Corps to find a way to fund the remainder of the work. This project has seen significant investments by the Corps and Local Agencies and as such we need to finish the project. The Lower Mission Creek: County Funding Table, below, shows the amount of money that has been locally invested including a one-time contribution from the State.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☒Funding Request ☒Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Fund the completion of Design and Construction; Include language in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) to keep Lower Mission Creek a viable project; Advocate for continued Corps funding.

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests that the Corps of Engineers be funded to complete the Design of the Lower Mission Creek Project and continue into Construction. Both the Corps and Local Agencies have spent decades developing the current project and have spent significant dollars each on getting to a viable project.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Lower Mission Creek dissects the City of Santa Barbara. Past flood events, most notably the 1995 flood events have shown the devastating impact these floods have on the community. The 1995 events showed that aside from the obvious devastating impacts to home owners and business owners, there is a serious impact to the transportation system, including US 101 (a major North – South Transportation corridor), the Railroad, and local streets. In addition, damages to public infrastructure results.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Previous costs estimates put the project costs at about $80 Million which would leave approximately $40 Million local share. Local funding for this project would take decades without Federal assistance.

Local costs could be further mitigated by subventions of the Federal Project with State funding.

LOWER MISSION CREEK: COUNTY FUNDING TABLE*

Fund 2610 – South Coast Flood Zone 2

SC8042 MISSION CREEK CIP	Expenditures
FISCAL YEAR	
1997-98	$ 390,300
1998-99	$ 145,000
1999-00	$ 4,600
2000-01	$ 47,700
2001-02	$ 6,200
2002-03	$ 203,200
2003-04	$ 95,200
2004-05	$ 142,300
2005-06	$ 25,000
2006-07	$ 61,800
2007-08	$ 359,300
2008-09	$ 2,013,000
2009-10	$ 517,500
2010-11	$ 539,300
2011-12	$ 3,700,000
2012-13	$ 3,300,000
2013-curr	$ 179,300
totals	**$ 11,729,700**

*Data only available back to 1997-98

CONTACT

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SEISMIC MONITORING

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	**Target**
Funding, Legislative, & Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The California Integrated Seismic Network is a *collaborative* effort, founded in 2000, to *integrate* existing, separate California earthquake monitoring networks into a single seismic monitoring system. The CISN provides the organizational framework to coordinate these earthquake-monitoring operations. The CISN constitutes the California region within Advanced National Seismic System (ANSS). Santa Barbara County has recently added 7 vault installations contributing towards CISN and looks to implement the beta platform for ShakeAlert which provides Earthquake Early Warning System capabilities. Santa Barbara County Emergency Management Director Ryan Rockabrand currently serves as the Vice-Chair of the CISN Advisory Committee and 1st District Supervisor Salud Carbajal serves on the California Seismic Safety Commission. More information on CISN is available at www.cisn.org.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒Funding Request ☒Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests funding, legislative and advocacy support for the continued development of CISN. This support will augment the core members which include the California Geological Survey, U.C. Berkeley Seismological Laboratory, Caltech Seismological Laboratory, Menlo Park USGS, Pasadena USGS, USGS National Strong Motion Project and contributing members including the University of California, Santa Barbara; University of California, San Diego; University of Nevada, Reno; University of Washington; California Department of Water Resources; Lawrence Livermore National Lab; and Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Contribute towards the operation of a *reliable* and *robust* statewide system to record earthquake ground motions over the *relevant range of frequencies and shaking levels*. To distribute information about earthquakes *rapidly* after their occurrence for emergency response and public information. Lastly, to create an *easily accessible archive* of California earthquake data for engineering and seismological research, including waveform data and derived products.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The cost of short-term and long-term solutions for CISN include costs for design and engineering, preparing and filing permit applications, monitoring associated vault installations, conducting public outreach, and preparing notification protocols. The total project costs associated with implementing short-term installations statewide of approximately $20 million with a sustained annual cost of approximately $16 million. The United States Geological Survey in conjunction with Caltech has provided a roadmap in the form of an implementation plan outlining these costs in detail. (http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2014/1097/pdf/ofr2014-1097.pdf)

On December 16, 2014, President Obama signed into a law a $1.1 trillion spending bill. Prior to the signing, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., and U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Burbank, released a joint statement that $5 million has been allocated to support the continued development of the USGS/Caltech earthquake early warning system. In 2013, California legislators passed a bill asking officials to set up a seismic early warning system. The bill was approved by the Governor however; no funding was attached to the bill. The state has until January 2016 to get funding in place.

CONTACT

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IMPROVING LOCAL GOVERNANCE: UNINCORPORATED POWERS

Principle	
Efficient Service Delivery / Operations/Local Control	
Strategy	**Target**
Legislative & Advocacy	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

States grant cities and counties the ability to administer government at the local level. Santa Barbara County as a general law County operates under California Government Code Title 3, and other applicable California laws. General Law cities operate under California Government Code Title 4 and other applicable California laws.

In many counties in California, more than half of a county's population is in an unincorporated area, as opposed to an incorporated city. Therefore, the county government is responsible for the provision of services and addressing infrastructure needs. Counties, however, do not enjoy the same taxing, revenue generation, and governing authorities as cities. AB2119 signed by Governor Brown on July 18, 2014, is intended to provide more flexibility to counties to raise certain revenues to fund local services in unincorporated areas consistent with incorporated areas. Specifically, AB 2119 allows voters in the unincorporated areas of a county to vote on a tax measure that would apply within an unincorporated area only. AB 2119 requires the revenue derived from the imposition of the tax to only be used within the area from which the tax was approved by the voters. While this new legislation provides for the imposition of sales and use tax, within a specific unincorporated area, increasing of the opportunities available for revenue generation, a general law county's ability to enjoy the full spectrum of governance powers provided to general law cities remains limited.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☐Funding Request ☒Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Work in conjunction with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) to fully assess spectrum of differences in powers of general law cities vs general law counties and develop and support legislation which provides general law counties all governance powers afforded general law cities in order to adequately address full spectrum of services and infrastructure needs in unincorporated areas.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Unincorporated areas of counties must have mechanisms in place to address service and facility needs. Residents of unincorporated areas of a county should not be limited in the ability to achieve goals and address needs as a result of a lack of governance powers provided via the State. Preserving, enhancing and managing the revenue base in addition to employing all tools currently available to cities is essential to govern effectively and address collective and community specific needs. Tools to be explored will include but are not limited to levying of all administrative fines, forfeitures and penalties.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Counties will be better able to manage operating budgets if afforded the instruments to recover costs for services and infrastructure in unincorporated cities. Current services require funding sources that are acquired through indirect means. Using tools such as but not limited to fines, forfeitures and penalties will better equip counties with the potential for full cost recovery.

CONTACT

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LAND USE: ENFORCEMENT FINES FOR LAND USE VIOLATIONS

Principle	
Local Control	
Strategy	Target
Legislative & Advocacy	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

State law governing ordinance violations sets maximum fine amounts for violators of land use codes at a maximum of $100 for the first violation within a one year timeframe, a maximum of $200 for the second violation within a one year timeframe, and a maximum of $500 for each additional violation within a one year timeframe, including one-time violations. One-time violations are violations that cannot be corrected or cured. Similarly, fine amounts for violators of local building codes are set at a maximum of $1,000 for each violation within a one year timeframe.

Santa Barbara County recognizes the need for the State legislature to set maximum fine amounts to ensure fairness and consistency across the State of California. However, the $500 maximum severely hinders the County's ability to adequately enforce land use violations, particularly regarding one-time violations. One-time violations often occur when owners rent out their properties for special events (e.g. weddings). The County's Land Use Codes specifically prohibit this type of use on residentially zoned properties without proper permits. As written, the maximum amount the County may fine the owner for this type of violation is only up to a maximum of $500 in any given year. This substantially undermines the County's Land Use Codes because the maximum allowable fine amount is insufficient to deter owners who rent out their properties for commercial purposes when the profit margin for violating the local ordinance is much greater. For example, a large commercial wedding with over 300 guests was held on residential property without the benefit of permits. Permit review would have addressed public safety and traffic concerns for an event of this magnitude. In this case, the County was only allowed to fine this owner $100 for this purposeful violation. This amount is insufficient to deter property owners who can easily absorb this as part of their routine business operating expense.

Redrafting the applicable state codes to enable the local agency more discretion to impose appropriate fines, and the collection and enforcement of those fines, would greatly enhance the land use and building code enforcement program in Santa Barbara County.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐Funding Request ☑ Legislative Proposal ☑ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The County requests its delegation to support legislation that would provide the County with more local control and discretion over fines imposed for violations of the County's Land Use and Development Codes. For violations where a permit is available, the County requests that fines imposed be set at the discretion of the local agency, and up to ten times the maximum amount of permit fees allowable under the agency's adopted fee schedules. Where a permit is not available for the offending activity, the fines should be set at no less than $1,000 per violation, with a maximum amount to be set at the discretion of the local agency not to exceed $25,000. Property owners will continue to have rights to appeal any fines imposed and the appeal hearing officer will continue to have the discretion to waive, reduce, or modify the fine. In addition, the one year timeframe should be stricken from the Government

Code, or in the alternative, be increased to a five year timeframe, so that fines may further deter repeat offenders.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Revised legislation of applicable state law would provide the County with more effective tools to gain compliance from those who violate our County's land use codes. Increased penalties for one-time violations would be a greater disincentive and promote greater compliance with County ordinances. This would ensure that the County's land use codes are enforced thereby ensuring that the County's policies regarding land use and development continue to be met.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

No direct costs to the government are anticipated.

CONTACT

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REGIONAL COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECTS - FEDERAL AUTHORITY FOR CALIFORNIA

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Our coast provides enormous recreational and economic benefits and houses a massive range of ecological resources. However, the California Coast is under severe threat from:

- Coastal erosion
- Storm damage
- Coastal environmental impacts
- Ability to maintain navigation channels
- Sea level rise

Regional Sediment Management solutions to these threats include:

- Recognize coastal sediment as a natural resource
- Maintaining and enhancing the natural sand (sediment) supply in the coast
- Ensuring regular small-harbor dredging and improving the beneficial reuse of sediment (i.e., use of dredged sand from harbors)
- Linking coastal sand needs with availability
- Undertake beach nourishment projects and consider other innovative technologies to maintain our coastal beaches

However, with the exception of harbor dredging, there are no specific Federal Authorities in place designed to fund Regional Sediment Management Projects that can result in a systems approach to a sustainable and resilient California Coast. Over the past eight years, nine separate regions along the California Coast have prepared or are preparing Regional Sediment Management Plans that define appropriate projects and policies to address regional challenges. As a result, California is ready to act.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Establish Federal Authority that is consistent with the US Army's Corps of Engineers (USACE) missions of coastal risk reduction, ecosystem restoration and navigation and that will fund Regional Sediment Management projects on the California Coast. The purpose of the Federal Authority will be to:

- Implement coastal projects that restore, maintain, and enhance the natural flow of sediments to the coast,
- Ensure regular small-harbor dredging,
- Improve beneficial use of sediment from dredging operations,
- Link coastal sand needs with availability,
- Implement beach nourishment and consider the use of innovative technologies to maintain California's coastal beaches, and
- Implement coastal wetlands and coastal dunes restoration projects.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The 1,100 mile California Coast is one of the most prized natural resources in the nation. It provides enormous recreational and economic benefits and includes an extensive array of ecological resources. However, this vital resource is under constant threat from upland and coastal development, ocean pollution, rising sea-levels, increasingly frequent intense coastal storms, and a reduction in the natural sediment supply. To address these threats, Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plans funded through the USACE and cost shared with the State have resulted in a comprehensive and integrated approach for resolving coastal issues in California.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The total projected cost to implement the BEACON Plan is $175M over 20 to 30 years.

CONTACT

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ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH SERVICES

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

One of the most important ways of supporting the health of Santa Barbara County residents is to ensure their access to health care coverage and health care services. With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, many residents are now eligible for health care coverage for the first time. All health care plans now include some essential benefits like maternity, mental health, preventive, and pediatric dental care. Thus, enrollment in these health plans provides many health benefits. To maintain the health of our residents, we are committed to assisting residents enroll in benefits for which they are eligible, providing health care services through Federally Qualified Health Centers for individuals who receive Medi-Cal or Medicare in addition to those without other coverage options, maintaining infrastructure for a quality health service agency, and pursuing related requirements to receive federal funding for public healthcare organizations.

REQUESTED STRATEGY & ACTION

Strategy: ☐Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action: The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors support measures which establish, enhance or fund policies, programs, research, standards, educational material and public awareness campaigns that prevent disease, promote wellness and ensure access to needed health care.

- Assistance for health care coverage – Support direct assistance with applications and patient education concerning health care coverage, support for renewals and re-application for health benefits, coordination with our county and state partners at the Department of Social Services and Covered California.
- Organizational infrastructure for public healthcare organizations – Support automated systems and staffing that manage, report on and evaluate health care delivery, programs and incentives to maximize the capacity of our systems and coordination of care.
- Provision of essential health care services – Support measures that would provide for the continued expansion of both county and community Federally Qualified Health Clinics (FQHCs) and the provision of quality health care services. Favor approaches such as the Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) that promotes partnerships and coordination in the provision of services to patients. Continue to advocate for programs and FQHC payment reform that provides for reimbursement for the necessary wrap around and support services of the treatment team, such as pharmacists and Marriage & Family Therapists (MFTs).

Support should include no decreases in current funding levels in these health related programs.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

There will be an increase in access to health care coverage and a decrease in morbidity and mortality among residents in Santa Barbara County.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

There is no immediate or additional cost incurred directly.

CONTACT

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AIR QUALITY - MARINE VESSEL EMISSIONS

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

In Santa Barbara County, the thousands of marine vessels that travel along the 130 miles coastline produce significant emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx), particulates, air toxics, and greenhouse gases. The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District has estimated that more than half of the smog-forming NOx emissions in the County are from marine vessels transiting the Santa Barbara Channel (Channel). Emissions threaten air quality and public health and constrain the County's ability to meet federal and state standards pertaining to ozone and particulates. In the summer of 2014, The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District worked with partners to institute a small-scale trial incentive program to reduce ship speeds in the Channel to gather data and help establish the foundation for a larger-scale program.

While progress has been made in efforts such as the trial program, and in achieving regulations such as the California Air Resources Board fuel rule, and engine and fuel rules associated with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) designating 200 miles off the coast of North America as an Emission Control Area (ECA), there are four areas that still need to be addressed namely:

1. Responding to challenges to the ECA and its rules that need to be addressed by the U.S. Delegation to the IMO
2. Efforts to reduce emission from existing engines
3. Quantifying air quality impacts associated with the existing shipping lanes in the Channel and
4. Identifying funding and/or regulatory options to implement a large-scale vessel speed reduction plan in the Channel to reduce ship speeds down to 12 knots or less, providing air quality (and whale-protection) benefits.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The County requests its delegation support efforts to reduce emissions from marine vessels through securing economic incentives to accelerate the retrofit of engines and funding for research and development of new technologies and strategies to control shipping emissions. The County also requests its delegation support efforts related to analyzing the current shipping lanes and traffic north and south of the Channel Islands and the speed at which vessels travel, and to support funding for a large-scale vessel speed reduction program in the Santa Barbara Channel. Such a program could be structured as a voluntary incentive program (with an identified source of funding, for example, State Cap-and-Trade auction revenues). Implementing a full-scale vessel speed reduction program in the Santa Barbara Channel of 12 knots or less could reduce emissions from these large marine vessels and reduce lethality of ship strikes on endangered whale species.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Ships contribute to worldwide emissions of nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, sulfur, air toxics, and greenhouse gases. These emissions represent a serious threat to air quality and public health. Moreover, local control is diminished as federal and state laws (Federal and California Clean Air Acts) require adherence to air quality standards and local jurisdictions have limited authority over regulating shipping vessels. Ship speed reduction to 12 knots will reduce emissions of all pollutants by up to 50% annually and would increase the protection of endangered whales and other marine mammals.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

There may be indirect costs to local governments that are required to maintain federal and state standards for air quality and greenhouse gas reductions, despite having no local control over shipping vessels' emissions.

CONTACT

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BRIDGES

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Funding & Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Reauthorization of the transportation bill must prioritize funding for locally-owned bridges that would include a dedicated funding set aside for on-system bridges. This funding is necessary to ensure the safety and reliability of the nation's entire bridge network. MAP-21 includes methods to continue maintenance for two of the three categories of structures on the transportation system: those on the National Highway System (NHS) and off-system bridges. However, MAP-21 does not provide secured future funding for on-system bridges; those on Federal-Aid Routes, but not on the NHS. These structures account for over half of California's local bridge inventory. They carry millions of vehicles each day and are an integral part of our arterial and collector road system.

Continuing federal funding, through reestablishment of the Highway Bridge Program (HBP) as a core formula program, is critical to local agencies' ability to maintain the nation's entire bridge network. Bridges are a unique component of our nation's transportation system and there is little room for error when it comes to bridge safety, as they must remain structurally sound in order to ensure that vehicles and motorists are secure.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☐Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests participation by including a fully-funded Highway Bridge Program for all three categories of bridges, NHS, on-system and off-system, in the next Transportation Bill.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

On-System bridges are a significant piece of county transportation infrastructure. Without dedicated funding for all three categories of bridges, National Highway System (NHS), on-system, and off-system, local agencies would have to divert billions of dollars from other sources of funding for important transportation infrastructure projects and programs.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

This program existed in previous transportation legislation under the Highway Bridge Program. If included in a re-authorization of MAP-21 with specific set-asides, it could be absorbed in current transportation funding programs.

CONTACT

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COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

Principle	
Job Growth/ Economic Vitality	
Strategy	**Target**
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The challenges associated with our nation's broken immigration system has been an ongoing issue that has impacted all levels of our government, multiple sectors of the economy, wage-earners, taxpayers and families across the country. In many communities across the nation, including Santa Barbara County, we have seen the impacts of a broken immigration system on local communities, especially the agricultural industry that makes up a major part of the local economy. Various proposals for immigration reform have been discussed in recent years but have not resulted in the adoption of any legislation. The possibility of a bi-partisan comprehensive immigration reform solution has created the opportunity for advocacy.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐ Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors urges Congress and the President to enact comprehensive immigration reform this year that:

- Secures the borders of the United States;
- Includes a national strategy for coordination among federal, state local and tribal authorities;
- Establishes a sensible and orderly guest worker program;
- Imposes no unfunded mandates on state and local governments;
- Includes no mandates on counties to enforce immigration laws;
- Preserves the eligibility of legal non-citizens for federal-funded health benefits and provides sustainable funding streams to counties for their cost of providing health services to legal non-citizens who are denied federal-funded health benefits;
- Establishes an earned path to citizenship that includes registering, background checks, demonstrating employment, learning English and civics, paying back taxes and fees that may be required;
- Improves and simplifies the current legal immigration system, and
- Provides green cards for science, technology, engineering and mathematics students who have received a graduate degree from American universities.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Legal immigrants, refugees, undocumented individuals and others enter and remain in this country as a result federal action or inaction. Our current immigration system is confusing and complicated. Communities would benefit economically from comprehensive immigration reform based on the framework identified above.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

While immigration is a federal responsibility, counties are directly affected by immigration. Counties provide health, education and public safety to all residents, regardless of immigration status. Immigrants and their families, regardless of whether they are authorized or unauthorized to be in this country, contribute to the local economy. As an employer, the County may be impacted by the backlog of employer visas.

CONTACT

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HEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

We can be successful in improving the health of all residents by supporting legislation that prevents chronic disease, prevents the spread of illness, promotes healthy behaviors and promotes wellness. Legislative, policy, environmental changes and education can influence behavior and thus impact health and health outcomes. Three behaviors (poor diet, physical activity levels and tobacco use) contribute to four chronic diseases (vascular disease, cancer, lung disease and Type 2 diabetes) that cause more than 50 percent of the deaths in Santa Barbara County. We can directly impact behaviors that drive chronic and communicable diseases and poor health outcomes. We can also directly impact health with access to services, preparedness, and our response to health conditions.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☐Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors support measures which establish, enhance or fund policies, programs, research, standards, educational material and public awareness campaigns that prevent disease, promote wellness and ensure access to needed health care.

- Healthy behaviors and activities to promote wellness- Support programs and funding that encourage physical activity, healthy eating, breastfeeding, healthy parenting practices, healthy and safe foods, and reduce the prevalence of smoking and obesity.
- Disaster preparedness and emergency medical response to protect the community - Support programs and funding that prepare our emergency response procedures, training, and disaster command structures for the entire community including vulnerable populations and medically fragile residents. Support legislation and regulatory measures that improve the quality and delivery of emergency medical services and pre-hospital care.
- Prevention of harmful health conditions and ensures access to health care – Support programs and funding that prevent injuries and violence, prevent the spread of communicable disease, promote infection control practices, identify and address environmental conditions that are barriers to health.

Support should minimally include no decreases in current funding levels in these health related programs and measures that maintain or strengthen local agency roles.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

There will be a decrease in disease and illness and a decrease in premature death among residents in Santa Barbara County.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

There is no immediate or additional cost incurred directly.

CONTACT

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SAFETY NET PRESERVATION

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

According to 2013 Census figures, in Santa Barbara County 68,116 people (16% of residents) are still living below the federal poverty level (compared to 11.9% in 2007). There are approximately 19,866 (21%) of the County's children living in poverty (compared to 13.5% in 2007). Our poverty rates reflect the impacts of a weakened economy and the slow and prolonged recovery from the Great Recession, and drastic cuts in health and human services programs at the State level. All of these factors have disproportionately affected low income seniors as well as children and families, leaving their "basic" needs of food, shelter, personal and financial security, health and welfare at risk of being unmet and leading to food insecurity, diminished health, and homelessness.

For those workers and their families who are getting by living paycheck to paycheck with little to no assets to fall back on, the loss of a job or serious illness can plunge their families into poverty. Many will turn to government-run safety net programs for help. Unfortunately, cumulative cuts to county-administered health and human services programs add up to a loss of more than $2.4 billion in state and federal funds since June 2001. Additionally, nationwide, food stamp benefits saw a $5 billion reduction in November 2013 when Congress allowed a recession-era boost to expire. The shrinking public safety net has put extreme pressure on underfunded faith-based and community-based organizations to "catch" these needy families. If the safety net, "public" or "non-public," cannot respond to the growing need to temporarily assist those in need until their economic conditions improve, more residents will fall into poverty.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☑Targeted Advocacy

Action: In order to preserve the safety net for the County's most vulnerable citizens we request that its delegation advocate to preserve existing safety net program funding levels at both the State and Federal levels and restore cuts to safety net programs in future budgets.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Hunger and malnutrition exacerbate chronic and acute diseases and speed the onset of degenerative diseases among the elderly, which affects their quality of life and increases the cost of caring for them. Children who are hungry or sick cannot learn, and may fail to reach their full potential, leading to an uneducated future workforce who compromise future personal self-sufficiency and economic competitiveness. Residents without health insurance turn to emergency rooms, which shifts the burden and cost of health care to local communities. They may forego preventive or basic care, which increases the risk they will need more expensive care in the future. Without child care subsidies, low income working parents may be forced to quit their jobs as the costs of child care becomes too expensive and staying home to provide child care affects their ability to maintain their employment and self-sufficiency.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Poverty imposes enormous costs on society and can have devastating implications on the short-term and long-term economic vitality of Santa Barbara County. The long-term economic impacts of poverty include the lost potential of children raised in poor households. The short-term impacts include lower productivity, earning, and purchasing power of poor adults, poor health, increased crime, and broken-down neighborhoods.

CONTACT

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SENIOR SERVICES-OLDER AMERICANS ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Older Americans Act provides federal funding to Area Agencies on Aging (AAA's) to help low-income seniors live independently in their communities through supportive, nutrition and health promotion programs and services. According to 2013 Census data there are over 59,000 seniors age 65 and older within the County of Santa Barbara (14% of the County's population). This number is expected to double by the year 2050 placing additional demands on a variety of health and human services programs. Key issues facing seniors within the County are in-home care housing as well as public assistance needs for those that live below the poverty level. Therefore, it is imperative to ensure that the services and programs currently in place, are reauthorized to meet the growing population and needs of low-income seniors.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☑Targeted Advocacy

Action: That the County work with its legislative delegation and key representatives to support reauthorization of the Older Americans Act and increase funding for senior related services. Support critical components of the Older American's Act which promotes the health and well-being of low-income seniors by providing funding for Area Agencies on Aging for nutrition services and prevention and health promotions services enhancing the quality of life of low-income seniors.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

While seniors are the fastest growing sector of the population, little funding is provided to address overall spectrum of needs faced by individuals as they age. Without assistance, seniors often lack the ability to remain in their own homes and thus must resort to assisted living facilities at extraordinary costs or rely on family members and professional or informal caregivers for continued care. In addition, as a result of increasing medical needs, seniors utilize emergency rooms and public clinics at an increasing rate as a result of lack of appropriate health coverage. A comprehensive program of safety net services provided via community providers and governmental agencies, provides for the opportunity for seniors to remain independent for a longer period and provides for the spectrum of health and human services needs required to age with dignity.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

For many older adults, a few hours a week of in-home services provided by the Older Americans Act can delay or prevent costly nursing home care for low-income seniors who are not eligible for In-Home Supportive Services administered by the Department of Social Services. Evidence confirms that good nutrition is important in maintaining the health and functional independence of older adults. It can reduce costly hospital admissions and delay nursing home placement. A majority of older adults in the US have diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol or a combination of these chronic conditions. These conditions can be successfully managed with appropriate nutrition interventions that will improve health and quality of life. Left unchecked, these conditions result in increased costs.

CONTACT

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Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3412

SOCIAL SERVICES TANF REAUTHORIZATION

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program was founded on the idea that states should have the flexibility to design their programs in a way best suited to their unique populations in order to help families transition from assistance to self-sufficiency. The last reauthorization of TANF, which was part of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, was heavily weighted toward Federal oversight and penalties instead of state flexibility – a change that reflected a level of distrust that was unwarranted given the progress states made in reducing the welfare rolls after TANF was initially implemented. The success of TANF depends on counties' flexibility to target local needs and support participant's work activities. Without that flexibility and the funding to implement it, the working families who are struggling toward self-sufficiency will lose supportive services and many will be unable to successfully end their reliance on cash assistance. Welfare reform is an ongoing process of supporting working families in gaining self-sufficiency, not a one-time removal of families from the welfare rolls.

With congressional reauthorization looming, the county supports flexibility that allows States and counties to meet the individual needs of their caseloads. We support establishing Federal rules that measure the effectiveness of welfare programs by utilizing more outcome-based measures.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☑Targeted Advocacy

Action: The County requests that its delegation advocate at the Federal level to reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program to restore and enhance state and county flexibility to tailor work and support services that move families into self-sufficiency based on their unique needs. TANF Reauthorization must reverse the damaging effects of the 2005 TANF Reauthorization changes to the Work Participation Rates (WPR) formula and definition of "work." The County is interested in a balanced approach between federal oversight and state flexibility with better and more outcome-based measures of success.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Santa Barbara County continues to struggle with the challenge of complying with Federal regulations and finds it difficult to achieve the federal WPR, placing our county at risk of fiscal sanction. TANF Reauthorization offers an opportunity to change the current one-size fits all Federal rules that penalize States and Counties instead of offering flexibility and incentives gauged toward effective measures of welfare program success.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Since TANF Reauthorization in 2005, the current required Federal participation rate of 50% has not been met statewide and State Legislation requires that counties participate in the required fiscal sanction. TANF Reauthorization offers an opportunity to change the current one-size fits all Federal rules that penalize States and Counties instead of offering flexibility and incentives gauged toward effective measures of welfare program success.

CONTACT

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Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3400

SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

As the California legislature responded to the state's budget deficits over the past 6 years, cuts were made virtually across the board, but subsidized child care services and supports funded through the Department of Education's Child Development Division (now Early Education Support Services) were reduced disproportionately. These services for low income families include CalWORKs and Alternative Payment child care subsidies, "General Child Care" subsidy contracts with centers and State Preschools, as well as critical support services such as Child Care Planning Council and Children's Resource and Referral. Without child care subsidies, low income working parents are either forced to quit their jobs or put their children in substandard care which impacts children's futures and our communities' viability. And, without adequate investment in the child care infrastructure, providers and parents lack the supports necessary for a strong system. The state legislature is beginning to restore funding and the County is advocating for further restoration of funding to increase quality, child care slots, reimbursement rates and infrastructure.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☑Targeted Advocacy

Action: The County requests that its delegation advocate at the State level to strategically increase funding for child care subsidies, rates and support services to align with current programming and trends in the early care and education field.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Researchers and economists have documented that high quality early care and education offers a high return on investment ($4.00 to $17.00/per dollar spent), especially for children with risk factors. Reductions in juvenile crime, teen pregnancy, high school drop-out rates and intervention services are well-documented for children who attended such programs. Additionally, the child care industry contributes significantly to the local economy both in their workforce, and the ability for parents to be gainfully employed. Therefore, providing children with a strong start can counteract the negative implications of disadvantaged environments.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

In FY 2013-14 Santa Barbara County received $2,572,920 in stage 1 child care funding, as compared to $3,064,607 in FY 2012-13, translating to a 16% decrease in funding.

When former CalWORKs families who cannot work due to the reduction in child care benefits end up back on aid receiving cash benefits, CalFresh benefits, and Medi-Cal, the local economy is impacted. Costs shift from a relatively reasonable cost for keeping people employed to a more expensive model in which the State and Counties pay for people to remain on public assistance. Additionally, reduced access to high quality early care and education services for children at risk will result in higher social service and law enforcement costs in the near future.

CONTACT

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Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3400
Ben Romo, Executive Director, First 5 Santa Barbara County, (805) 884-8085

TELECOMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION

Principle	
Local Control	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Section 332(c)(7) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 prevents local governments, including the County of Santa Barbara, from opposing the placement and regulation of personal wireless service facilities on the basis of the environmental effects of radio-frequency emissions to the extent that the proposed facilities comply with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations concerning such emissions. The California Public Utilities Code also limits the authority of local governments to regulate wireless facilities in public rights of way.

There is ongoing debate within the scientific community regarding how thoroughly the long-term health effects of low-frequency electromagnetic and radio-frequency emissions are understood. Questions remain regarding how well the existing regulations established by the FCC protect more vulnerable populations such as school-aged children, and how well they protect against the cumulative effect of radio-frequency emissions on people who live or work in close proximity to multiple cellular facilities. Currently, the ability of local governments to include a consideration of the health and environmental effects of these facilities when deciding whether or not to approve the construction or modification of a cellular communications facility is limited. Existing regulations regarding telecommunication facilities also hamper local agencies' ability to protect the visual quality of their communities. Protecting a high quality visual environment is vitally important to community residents; it is equally important to protect the desirability of an area as a tourist destination.

On November 18, 2009, the Cellular Telecommunications Industry of America (CTIA) petitioned the FCC to make certain declaratory rulings related to the local zoning authority of state and local governments, including requesting the FCC establish a review time of 45 and 75 days for wireless tower siting applications; deem applications granted if a government entity does not adhere to these stipulated timeframes; prohibit state and local governments from considering the presence of service by other carriers in evaluating an additional carrier's application and preempt any state or local zoning ordinances that require variances for wireless tower siting applications. As a result, the FCC ruled in favor of the CTIA, thus upholding limitations of local government control.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☐Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The County requests that its delegation seek and support federal legislation to repeal limitations on state and local authority imposed by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 that infringe upon the authority of local governments to regulate the placement, construction, and modification of telecommunications towers and other personal wireless service facilities on the basis of the health and environmental effects of these facilities. The County opposes sections of the Act that preempt local control and prevent local governments from considering health effects. The County urges the FCC to work in cooperation with the FDA and other relevant federal agencies to revisit and update studies on potential health concerns arising from wireless emissions in light of the national proliferation of wireless use. In particular, the County believes it is imperative that the FCC undertake longitudinal health studies to determine whether its existing exposure limits are adequate to protect public health. The longitudinal studies should encompass a broad demographic (i.e. children, people with compromised health, etc.) in order to fully protect public health. It is significant to note that the exposure limits allowed by the FCC appear to exceed the levels considered

permissible by most other countries.[1] Finally, the County requests that the FCC revise the processing deadlines for new telecommunication facilities to insure that local agencies have adequate time to fully evaluate siting and design options to minimize visual impacts and protect a high quality visual environment. Santa Barbara County's stance advocating for improved local regulation over telecommunications facilities aligns with the position taken on this issue by the National Association of Counties (NACO).[2] NACO's platform advocates for Counties, as the trustees of public property and as protectors of public safety and welfare, to retain authority over telecommunication facilities. NACO's platform states that Counties have an obligation to their constituents to ensure that the public health, safety, and welfare are not endangered or otherwise compromised by the construction, modification, or installation of wireless communications facilities. Santa Barbara County shares these concerns and NACO's advocacy position.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Health advocates have worried for decades that exposure to frequencies emanating from telecommunications sources might be harmful. There are increasing health and environmental effects resulting from the location of certain cell phone towers and antennas, especially in regards to the cumulative effect of radio-frequency emissions on people who live or work in close proximity to multiple cellular facilities. . Longitudinal studies need to be conducted to determine whether the exposure levels currently allowed by the FCC are safe or whether they may cause adverse health effects to any population group. Citizens would be better served by allowing local government greater flexibility to regulate the placement of cellular facilities near areas such as residences, schools, daycares, or parks. Longer processing times would give local agencies the opportunity to evaluate alternative locations and designs in order to maximize the protection of a high quality visual environment.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

This is largely a regulatory function to allow local governments' greater discretion to decide how, when, and where cellular facilities should be sited.

CONTACT

Glenn S. Russell, PhD., Director, Planning and Development Department, (805) 568-2085
Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

[1] See Reference:
http://www.rivm.nl/Documenten_en_publicaties/Algemeen_Actueel/Uitgaven/Milieu_Leefomgeving/Comparison_of_international_policies_on_electromagnetic_fields
[2] See Reference: The American County Platform and Resolutions 2014-2015, at
http://www.naco.org/legislation/pages/legislative-affairs.aspx

TRIBAL GAMING COMPACTS & LAND USE

Principle	
Local Control	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The County of Santa Barbara supports government-to-government relations that recognize the role and unique interests of tribes, states, counties, and other local governments to protect all members of their communities and to provide governmental services and infrastructure beneficial to all. In addition, the County recognizes and respects the tribal right of self-governance to provide for tribal members and to preserve traditional tribal culture and heritage. In similar fashion, the County recognizes and promotes self-governance by counties to provide for the health, safety, and general welfare of all members of our communities. In order to provide for full participation by all community members, the County supports the full involvement of local government agencies on issues and activities taking place on tribal fee or trust lands which may create impacts to public health, safety or the environment.

The County of Santa Barbara recognizes that gaming on tribal land in California is governed by a unique structure that combines federal, state, and tribal law. While the impacts of gaming fall primarily on local communities and governments, policy is largely directed and controlled at the state and federal level. However, consistent with the legislative platform adopted by the California Association of Counties (CSAC), many impacted counties find that the compacts as well as distribution of funds via the Special Distribution Fund (SDF) fail to adequately address these impacts and/or to provide meaningful and enforceable mechanisms to prevent or mitigate impacts.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Support the restoration of full funding of the county share as a direct contribution of the annual Indian Gaming Special Distribution Fund with letters of support, as well as, the appearance and testimony of County lobbyists.

In the spirit of developing and continuing government-to-government relationships between federal, tribal, state, and local governments; the County of Santa Barbara will coordinate work with CSAC, NACo, and the legislative delegation to improve existing and future Compact language in the following areas:

1. A Tribal Government constructing or expanding a casino or other related businesses or development that impacts off-reservation land will seek review and approval of the local jurisdiction to construct off-reservation improvements consistent with state law and local ordinances including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
2. A Tribal Government operating a casino or other related businesses or development will mitigate all off-reservation impacts caused by project. In order to ensure consistent regulation, public participation, and maximum environmental protection, Tribes will promulgate and publish environmental protection laws that are at least as stringent as those of the surrounding local community and comply with CEQA.
3. A Tribal Government operating a casino or other related businesses or development will be subject to the authority of a local jurisdiction over health and safety issues including, but not limited to, water service, sewer service, fire inspection and protection, rescue/ambulance service, food inspection, and law enforcement, and reach written agreement on such points.

4. A Tribal Government operating a casino or other related businesses or development will pay to the local jurisdiction the Tribe's fair share of appropriate costs for local government services. These services include, but are not limited to, water, sewer, fire inspection and protection, rescue/ambulance, food inspection, health and social services, law enforcement, roads, transit, flood control, and other public infrastructure.
5. The Indian Gaming Special Distribution Fund, created by Section 5 of the Tribal-State Compact will not be the exclusive source of mitigation, but will ensure that counties receive some funding to mitigate off-reservation impacts caused by tribal gaming.

The County of Santa Barbara continues to support the policy and platform positions of CSAC and NACo stating that judicially enforceable agreements between counties and tribal governments must be required in order to ensure that potential impacts resulting from projects are fully analyzed and mitigated to the satisfaction of the surrounding local governments. These agreements would fully mitigate local impacts from a tribal government's business and development activities and fully identify the governmental services to be provided by the county to that tribe.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Involvement of the local government, general public and technical consultants in matters pertaining to future land use and potential development is critical to the overall review of any project to ensure compliance with Community Plans and the County's General Plan. Failure to fully engage critical stakeholders in project development and review impairs the ability of a local government to seek appropriate mitigation and/or provide critical public services which may have long term impacts on a region as a whole.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The County of Santa Barbara previously enjoyed a distribution from the SDF of approximately $1.4 million annually. Recent reports from the state Legislative Analysts Office and Controllers office indicate that funds are unlikely to be available for gaming impact mitigation grants. These funds were previously utilized to fund fire, law enforcement, and capital projects. In addition development which occurs on lands taken fee to trust are taken off property tax rolls thus critical revenue to address service and infrastructure related impacts are lost to a local government in perpetuity.

CONTACT

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3400

PROBATION SERVICES FUNDING

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Senate Bill 678 (SB678), the California Community Corrections Performance Incentive Act, was passed prior to Public Safety Realignment (AB109). SB 678 was the State's initial attempt at reducing the number of felony probationers committed to state prison. The bill allowed for the Community Corrections Performance Incentives Fund (CCPIF) that authorizes the state to annually allocate money into a State Corrections Performance Incentives Fund to be used for specified purposes relating to improving local probation supervision practices and capacities. SB678 has become a significant funding source for Probation Departments to develop and implement critical evidenced based programs and services. With SB678 funding, Santa Barbara County developed and enhanced evidence based services at two Probation Report and Resource Centers in Santa Barbara and Santa Maria serving high risk felony probationers as well as high risk supervision services to felons. The services provided under SB678 were used as a foundation to build upon when AB109 was implemented in October 2011. SB678 funding has been volatile and allocations have changed significantly from year to year.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☐Funding Request ☐Legislative Proposal ☒Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Advocate for stable and guaranteed funding for SB678 services, particularly in light of Prop 47 which modifies criminal sentences and misdemeanor penalties. Advocacy for SB678 is important as many County of Santa Barbara AB109 services are built upon and enhanced by SB678.

With the advent of AB109 and now with the passage of Prop 47, the State will need to again revisit and establish a new SB678 formula.

Of note, AB109's permanent base formula has been adopted and it appears more equitable than earlier formulas. Likewise it is vital that the state establish a formula for SB678 that provides guaranteed, stable funding. Related to AB109, the funding methodology developed for AB109 growth provides flexibility for counties as it takes into account performance outcomes related to prison commitments, successful probation completions, and recidivism. This is currently one funding source that provides counties the opportunity to enhance their state funds for realigned and felony offenders under probation supervision.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Guaranteed and stable funding will ensure that evidence based program and treatment services are available for high risk felony probationers in Santa Barbara County. The successful outcomes from these services reduce recidivism and enhance community safety.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The State currently provides SB678 funding. Both the total dollar amount and county specific allocations vary from year to year. The cost to the State will depend on the change from current funding levels.

CONTACT

Beverly A. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer, Probation Department, (805) 882-3650
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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

CALIFORNIA

Appendix

County at a Glance

The People (U.S. Census Bureau)

Population: (2013 estimate) 435,697

Ethnicity: (2013 estimate)

- **47% White**
- **44% Hispanic**
- **6% Asian**
- **2% Black**

Median Age: (2013 estimate)

- **23% under 18 years of age**
- **14% over 64 years of age**

The Cities

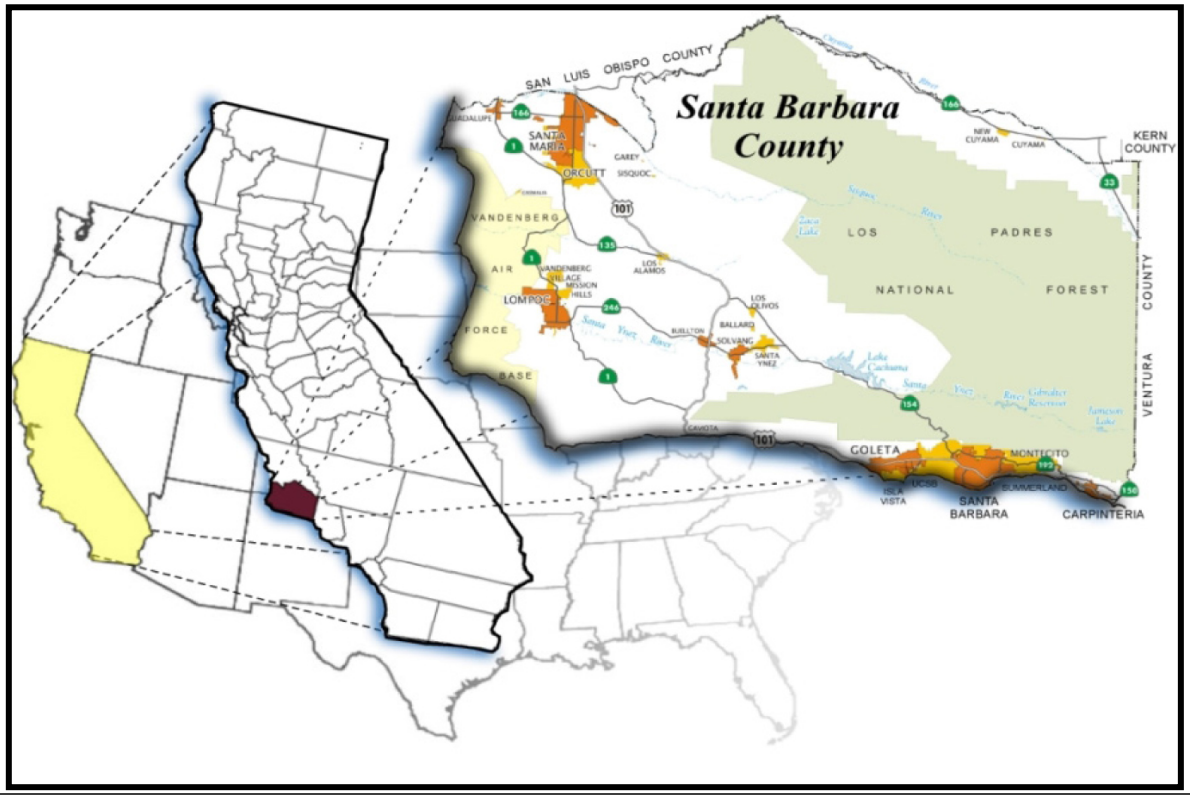
- **Buellton**
- **Carpinteria**
- **Goleta**
- **Guadalupe**
- **Lompoc**
- **Santa Barbara**
- **Santa Maria**
- **Solvang**

The Community

- **114 parks**
- **18 beaches**
- **18 open space preserves**
- **15 public libraries**
- **17 golf courses**
- **Civic Participation (November 4, 2014)**
  -Number of Precincts: 257
  -Number of Eligible Voters: 203,994

The Land

- **2,735 square miles**
- **1/3 located within the Los Padres National Forest**
- **150 square miles Vandenberg Air Force Base**
- **117 miles of coastline**
- **Average temperature 64 degrees F**
- **Average 300 days of sunshine a year**



Santa Barbara County

Federal Officials

President Barack Hussein Obama II,
44th President of the US
whitehouse.gov
Bio - Previous occupation: US Senator. Elected in 2008.
Key Issues: Revitalizing the economy, healthcare, US global leadership and homeland security.

United States Senator Barbara Boxer,
114th Congress
boxer.senate.gov
Bio - Previous occupation: Politician-10 years as member of the US House of Representatives. Elected to Senate in 1993. Committee assignments include Commerce, Science and Technology, Environment and Public Works (Chair), Foreign Relations and Ethics.
Key Issues: Public education and after school programs, affordable health care and patient bill of rights and environmental issues including safe drinking water.

United States Senator Dianne Feinstein,
114th Congress
feinstein.senate.gov/public
Bio - Previous occupation: Politician- Member Board of Supervisors and Mayor, San Francisco. Elected to Senate in 1992. Committee assignments include Appropriations, Intelligence (Chair), Judiciary, and Rules & Administration.
Key Issues- crime victims' rights, healthcare, economy, national security/homeland security, environmental issues including water supply and agriculture and education.

Congresswoman Lois Capps,
24th District
capps.house.gov
Bio - Previous occupation: Nurse, educator. Elected to Congress in 1998. Committee assignments include Committee on Energy and Commerce, and Natural Resources Committee.
Key Issues: Budget, education, energy and environmental issues, public health, immigration, gas prices and health care issues.

State Officials

Governor Jerry Brown,
39th Governor
gov.ca.gov
Bio - Previous occupation: Elected Governor of California in 2010, elected California Attorney General in 2006, elected Mayor of Oakland in 1998 and reelected in 2002, elected Governor of California in 1974 and reelected in 1978, elected California Secretary of State in 1970.
Key issues- jobs for California's future, education, budget , environment, clean energy jobs plan, pension reform, water for the 21st century, and fighting to protect civil rights.

California State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson,
19th District
sd19.senate.ca.gov
Bio – Previous occupation: Deputy District Attorney, CA State Assemblymember elected to State Senate in 2012.
Key Issues: Reproductive health, spousal support, economic and wage equality.

California State Assemblyman Katcho Archadjian,
35th District
arc.asm.ca.gov/member/AD35
Bio - Previous occupation: Business owner, elected County Supervisor in 1998, appointed to California Coastal Commission in 2006, Elected CA Assemblymember in 2010.
Key Issues: Health care, public safety, community improvement, fiscal reform and education.

California State Assemblyman Das Williams,
37th District
asmdc.org/members/a37
Bio- Previous occupation: CA State Assemblymember, City Councilmember, Educator, and Legislative Aide.
Key issues: State budget, higher education improvement, fiscal issues and off-shore oil drilling.

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