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ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

| Principle | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Job Growth and Economic Vitality | |
| Strategy | Target |
| Legislative & Advocacy | Fed/State |

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

We can be successful in improving the opportunities women and girls in Santa Barbara County have by supporting public policies that aim to bolster: women's access to equitable health care, affordable and quality child care, economic and workplace advancement opportunities to close the gender wage gap, and to better support survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking.

In Santa Barbara County, women comprise 39% of the workforce, but earn \$0.81 for every dollar their male counterparts earn. Women are more likely than their male counterparts to live in poverty, both among peer groups in the workforce and for those who are unemployed. And while cases of domestic violence and human trafficking are lower in Santa Barbara County than across the state, much can be done to better aid survivors and punish the perpetrators of violence against women.

REQUESTED ACTION

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests the county's state and federal delegation to aggressively seek and secure legislation and funding for programs and services that improves the lives of women and girls in the following areas:

- Women, Poverty and Economic Empowerment Opportunities
- Women, Working Families and the Workplace
- Women's Access to Health Equity
- Addressing Human Trafficking and Violence Against Women and Girls

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Supporting women and girls is essential. It has been proven that women make special and unique contributions to governing bodies and boards (public, private and not-for-profit), and that they offer perspectives often overlooked. The more opportunities women and girls are afforded, the more our society will benefit.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

No direct cost at this time. Nevertheless, for all of the stated items any financial cost will be more than recovered when women can meet their full capacity. Economic empowerment, legislation that helps working families, access to health equity and addressing human trafficking and violence will make women more productive and lead them to higher paying work and success. In turn, they will be earning and spending more money and expand their tax contribution.

CONTACT

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ARTS & CULTURE

| Principle | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Job Growth and Economic Vitality | |
| Strategy | Target |
| Advocacy | Fed/State |

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The role of Arts and Culture in the community can be a force in developing economic vitality. Recent studies and arts-grant funding initiatives at the National and State level are helping to demonstrate the vital impact arts & culture have on the economy and on civic engagement. Art includes, but is not limited to literary, visual and performing arts, dance, drama, film and new media.

Arts as a tool for creating economic vitality and stimulating job growth

Nationally, Creative Placemaking has proven to be invaluable as a tool in stimulating and creating economic development, job growth, neighborhood revitalization, greater vitality, while building safer communities and neighborhoods.

Creating a workforce for the 21st Century- Support for Arts Education in Schools

Studies have proven that workforce needs are dramatically shifting. The Business Sector and companies are looking for employees with new skill sets that focus on “out of the box” thinking and solutions; and workers that do well as part of a team. Studies show that arts in schools help develop these skills and better prepare youth for the job market and new career paths. Studies show that students exposed to arts in school stay in school and are less likely to drop out.

Arts as a tool for addressing Social Service Issues

A number of recent initiatives are employing arts to solve social issues. Examples are programs that engage veterans and their families in arts programs and arts in prison that are aimed to decrease recidivism.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Support legislative efforts to increase funding support from the **National Endowment for the Arts** (NEA) and the **California Arts Council** (CAC) in particular. The NEA and CAC agencies are committed to supporting the Arts and increasing access to the arts for all. Programs for literary, visual and performing arts, as well as intra-disciplinary arts are included. A number of initiatives and grants focus on the arts as a tool for creating economic vitality. Additionally, each do Economic Impact Studies and research to indicate the economic impact of art and culture which have been powerful tools in shaping public opinion and policy. Support legislative efforts to increase funding support for Arts Education in the Schools/Preparing next generation workforce.

Support for Public Art Programs and Creative Placemaking grant opportunities that link the public and private sectors, and programs that link Arts to addressing Social Services (i.e., Arts linked to veteran’s families, people with disabilities and, the incarcerated).

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

- Quality of life and lifelong learning
- Building alliances between the public and private sector
- Increased access to art results in community engagement
- Public spaces and parks activated through the arts
- Increased public safety
- Preserving cultural assets and practices and increasing cross-cultural understanding
- Providing youth with opportunities and skills for careers to meet a changing workforce

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Grant funds from National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and California Arts Council (CAC) are used to

attract private sector support and to leverage matching public sector funds. As an example, the Arts Commission's recently awarded \$43,500 California Creative Community Grant for the LightWorks Isla Vista Project in collaboration with the University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB) Arts Department, and Isla Vista Recreation & Parks Department.

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COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

| Principle | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Job Growth and 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 bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform solution has created the opportunity for advocacy.

REQUESTED ACTION

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors urges Congress and the President to enact comprehensive immigration reform 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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ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT/REVENUE DIVERSIFICATION

| Principle | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Job Growth and 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.

REQUESTED 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

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LOWER MISSION CREEK PROJECT

| Principle | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Job Growth/Economic Vitality | |
| Strategy | Target |
| FUNDING, LEGISLATIVE & ADVOCACY | Federal |

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Lower Mission Creek Project was initiated by the U.S. Army 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 are implementing elements up to U.S. 101. 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.

REQUESTED 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 each has spent significant dollars on getting to a viable project.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Lower Mission Creek bisects 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 U.S. 101 (a major North – South Transportation corridor), the railroad, and local streets. In addition, damages to public and private 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 -- So Coast Flood Zone 2 | |
|---|---------------------|
| SC8042 LOWER 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 |
| 2013-14 | \$ 1,081,600 |
| 2014-15 | \$ 584,600 |
| 2015-16 | \$ 5,020,900 |
| totals | \$ 18,237,500 |

CONTACT

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SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT FUNDING

| Principle | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Community Stability/Economic Vitality | |
| Strategy | Target |
| Funding & Legislative | State |

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Two groundwater bills became effective January 1, 2015 (SB 1168, and SB 1319). Together these bills comprise the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The intent of the Act, which is being implemented by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), is the sustainable management of California’s groundwater within about 25 years. Basins that are subject to the legislation include all medium and high priority basins as defined by DWR that have not previously been adjudicated. Within Santa Barbara County, there are three such basins. They are the Cuyama Valley, San Antonio, Santa Ynez, and the unadjudicated portions of the Santa Maria Groundwater Basins.

The Act requires the completion of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) for each basin. The general components of GSPs will include technical information about aquifer yield, use, and balance, measurable objectives for sustainability, and actions to meet the sustainable yield. The entity responsible for complying with the requirements of the Act is the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). Counties are the presumed GSAs in the absence of other entities assuming the role.

Although the Proposition 1 includes \$100 million in grant funds for SGMA, it is a relatively small amount for the number of basins subject to the Legislation. Therefore, we desire the State to provide additional funding mechanisms for SGMA implementation as compliance will require the expenditure of significant resources over a period of decades.

REQUESTED ACTION

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests that the State Department of Water Resources (DWR) develop additional funding mechanisms for Santa Barbara County to implement the requirements of SGMA, which is, in essence, a mandate for comprehensive analysis and management of the three largest groundwater basins in Santa Barbara County.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

California is one of the last remaining States that has not required some form of sustainable management of groundwater. As a result, many of the States basins are in a state of critical imbalance which has resulted in degradation of water quality, land subsidence, loss of surface water interaction, and economic hardship among users. In addition, it has reduced the water available for use during periods of drought such as the current one. Creating additional funding mechanisms for the implementation of SGMA will allow for sustainable management of the County’s basins which will ultimately benefit several of the 2016 Legislative Principles including Economic Vitality, Community Stability, and Health and Human Services. It will allow basins to retain their value as sources of emergency water supply, agricultural vitality, and environmental resources.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Precise cost estimates for the implementation of SGMA are unavailable at this time because the State has not yet finalized guidelines for its implementation and because associated costs will extend far into the future.

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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 only 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, 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 ACTION

Santa Barbara County and the eight cities within the County support the Highway 101 Widening Project as the region's highest 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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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, Buellton, Solvang, Santa Ynez and Los Olivos.

Zone 2: Lompoc. Services provided to the cities and unincorporated areas located within or in close proximity to 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 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 \$3.38 M 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.

CONTACT

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IMPROVING LOCAL GOVERNANCE: UNINCORPORATED POWERS

| Principle | |
|---|--------|
| Efficient Service Delivery and Operations | |
| 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. In 2014, legislation was passed that allows voters in the unincorporated areas of a county to vote on a tax measure and the resulting revenue can only be applied within the unincorporated area. While this change 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 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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SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

| Principle | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Fiscal Stability | |
| Strategy | Target |
| Funding, Legislative & Advocacy | State |

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Every trip begins and ends on a local facility. Local transportation systems are critical for moving people, goods, and services reliably and safely to their destination. 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.

In order to maintain the transportation system in a safe and serviceable condition the philosophy of system preservation must be embraced by our country's leadership to provide the right treatment, to the right facility at the right time. This issue is well documented at every level of government in needs assessments throughout the country.

Sustainable and dedicated transportation funding is needed to provide certainty for businesses and communities, create jobs, and make necessary policy updates that lay the foundation for lasting economic growth. Transportation infrastructure is too essential to suffer continued neglect. We must commit to finding ways to support maintenance of existing infrastructure.

REQUESTED ACTION

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

The solution must include dedicated funding for properly maintaining existing transportation infrastructure including, but not limited to pavement, bridges and pedestrian facilities.

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 in the next decade. For Santa Barbara County, this means the transportation maintenance backlog will increase from \$250M to \$500M. An additional \$9M of annual funding is needed for pavement maintenance alone to prevent roads from deteriorating further and even more is needed to implement pavement best management practices.

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.

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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 the portion of Hollister Avenue between San Antonio and Modoc Roads.

REQUESTED 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 the portion of Hollister Avenue between San Antonio and Modoc Roads.

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LAKE CACHUMA

| Principle | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Inter-Agency Collaboration | |
| Strategy | Target |
| Funding & Advocacy | Fed/State |

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 ACTION

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests its Congressional delegation support new appropriation requests as follows: Fire flow and water distribution system improvements - \$5.6 million; New water treatment plant and related systems - \$3.7 million; Sewage treatment - \$5.1 million; Recreational improvements - \$10.5 million.

| PROJECT | TOTAL COST | AMOUNT FUNDED | STRATEGY TO SECURE FUNDING |
|---|---------------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| BIOLOGICAL OPINION / SURCHARGE INITIATED PROJECTS | | | |
| Fire Flow and Water Distribution Improvements | \$2,100,000 | - | BOR |
| Construction Road Repair & Access Improvements (connected to fire flow for fire truck access) | \$3,500,000 | - | BOR |
| New Water Treatment Plant and Related Systems | \$3,700,000 | - | BOR |
| Sewage Treatment Plant and Related Systems | \$5,100,000 | - | BOR |
| TOTAL | \$14,400,000 | | |
| OTHER CAPITAL FACILITIES AND RECREATIONAL PROJECTS | | | |
| Boat Ramp Extension | \$1,000,000 | - | DB&W |
| Boat Dock Replacement | \$350,000 | - | DB&W |
| New Overnight Accommodations (Cabins/Yurts) | \$2,200,000 | - | BOR |
| Recreation Improvements (Pool Facilities) | \$6,900,000 | - | BOR |
| TOTAL | \$10,450,000 | | |
| GRAND TOTAL FOR ALL PROJECTS | \$24,850,000 | | |

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 500,000 visitors year-round.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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 500,000 visitors year-round.

CONTACT

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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.

REQUESTED 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. Furthermore, the County will continue to work in conjunction with the CSAC Housing, Land Use & Transportation Committee to assist in the development of information and policy positions for consideration by CSAC.

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 received a distribution from the SDF of approximately \$1.4 million annually. The State has not made funds available for gaming impact mitigation grants since FY 2013-14. These funds were previously utilized to fund fire, law enforcement, and capital projects. In addition development which occurs on lands taken into 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

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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 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, CenCal Health, 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. Support accreditation of the PHD to support quality.
- 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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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.

REQUESTED ACTION

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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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 test 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 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 2015-16, the Public Health laboratory testing cost approximately \$73,000 under the existing testing methodology. The new Method 1609qPCR testing is projected to increase costs one-time by approximately \$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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SAFETY NET PRESERVATION

| Principle | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Health & Human Services | |
| Strategy | Target |
| Advocacy | Federal/State |

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

According to 2014 Census figures, in Santa Barbara County 68,953 people (16.6% of residents) are still living below the federal poverty level (compared to 11.9% in 2007). There are approximately 20,475 (21.3% or more than one in five) 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 Federal and State levels. 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. 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. Though there have been modest restorations over the past couple of years, too many core public services are underfunded following years of deep cuts. 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.

REQUESTED ACTION

The County requests that its delegation advocate to preserve existing safety net program funding levels at both the Federal and State levels and restore cuts to safety net programs in future budgets in order to preserve the safety net for the County’s most vulnerable citizens.

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 that do not qualify for Medi-Cal expansion of coverage or are unable to pay the insurance premium through Covered California continue to be without health insurance and 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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 Joseph Toney, Deputy County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

SOCIAL SERVICES TANF REAUTHORIZATION

| Principle | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Health and 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.

REQUESTED 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 been a challenge to meet at the county level. 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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SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE

| Principle | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Health & Human Services | |
| Strategy | Target |
| Advocacy | State |

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Without child care subsidies, low income working parents are unable to obtain employment, are forced to quit their jobs, or put their children in substandard care which impacts children's futures and our communities' viability. Without adequate investment in the child care infrastructure, providers and parents lack the supports necessary for a strong system. Therefore, the County is advocating for sufficient funding to increase the quality and quantity of child care slots, reimbursement rates, and infrastructure.

REQUESTED ACTION

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

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 2015-16 Santa Barbara County received \$3,633,259 in stage 1 child care funding, compared to \$3,310,139 in FY 2014-15, translating to a 10% increase in funding. However, this increase in funding has been offset by a 4.5% increase in the Regional Market Rate in October 2015 and a local 15% increase of licensed care providers (which use higher reimbursement rates) resulting in additional expenditures for the CalWORKs and Alternative Payment programs.

When former CalWORKs families cannot work due to the reduction or lack of child care benefits, their self-sufficiency is threatened and many end up back on aid (cash, CalFresh, and Medi-Cal). 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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AGRICULTURE/WILLIAMSON ACT SUBVENTION

| Principle | |
|---|--------|
| Community Sustainability and Environmental Protection | |
| 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 2015 gross production was valued at \$1.47 billion. This is a \$10 million (.7%) decrease in gross value when compared with the 2014 figures and is the tenth 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, wine 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 \$653,000.

REQUESTED ACTION

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.

CONTACT

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

| Principle | |
|---|-----------|
| Community Sustainability and Environmental Protection | |
| Strategy | Target |
| Funding & Advocacy | Fed/State |

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The National Association of Homebuilders reported Santa Barbara County as the 5th least affordable small housing market in the nation. The elimination of redevelopment agency funding at the state level and reductions in federal affordable housing funds puts greater emphasis on finding other funding streams to help create and preserve both affordable rental and ownership housing. There is a need for improvement in community resources, services, and infrastructure to improve the economic, social and community wellbeing of the County. The impact of the lack of affordable housing, social services, and accessible employment was underscored by the County's 2013 Poverty Study, which found an unacceptably high percentage of County residents living below the federal poverty threshold, including an increasing incidence of child poverty. Federal resources, such as the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) programs have continually been subject to appropriation reductions; since 2010, the County's funding for these programs dropped 43%. Such reductions negatively impact our community as this funding provides an important resource to address County needs in the areas of capital infrastructure, public service, microeconomic development and affordable housing. Such funding is critical in maintaining a level of community sustainability that provides for a growing and vibrant economy. The County also supports creative strategies to preserve, build, and make affordable housing available for individual and family households countywide.

REQUESTED ACTION

The County supports community development program efforts at the local, state, and national level to:

- 1) provide resources to address the housing needs of elderly persons, persons with disabilities (including developmental disabilities), low-moderate income households, workforce households, large families, farmworker households, single parent headed households, persons needing emergency shelter, transitional housing and supportive housing, and veteran households; and
- 2) create public-private partnerships to develop housing and services.

At the state level, the County supports advocacy for housing finance bills in the Legislature to create a dedicated source of revenue to produce new housing. At the federal level, the County supports continued advocacy for affordable housing and community development programs including, but not limited to, CDBG, HOME, the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program and the new National Housing Trust Fund, which will begin in 2016. The County also supports full funding of HUD's homeless assistance programs, such as the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and the Continuum of Care (CoC) programs.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The development of affordable housing at all income levels will not only help mitigate the County's housing crisis, but will increase construction jobs and tax revenues. Federal and state efforts to develop creative funding strategies, such as a \$75 recordation fee on real estate transactions, the LIHTC Program, and the National Housing Trust Fund, among other federal and state programs, will help to address housing needs. The availability of housing and community services supports stronger communities, improved outcomes in schools, and work-ready community residents. Federal and state legislation in support of housing and community infrastructure would stimulate the construction industry, generating tax revenue and positive ripple effects throughout the economy.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The Federal CDBG and HOME programs provide up to 20% and 10%, respectively, of the annual grant amount to offset program administration costs to government. Advocates point out that for every \$1 in

CDBG or HOME funds expended, the community leverages over \$4 from other sources. In terms of the cost benefit to government in providing funding to supportive housing for homeless persons, a 2010 study by the National Alliance to end Homelessness found that the use of permanent supportive housing was cost effective and reduced the use of shelter, ambulance, police/jails, health care, emergency room, behavioral health, and other service costs. Secondary positive impacts include improved outcomes for children and families, low/moderate income households, senior adults, disabled households, and veterans.

CONTACT

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HEALTHY SOILS INITIATIVE

| Principle | |
|---|--------|
| Community Sustainability and Environmental Protection | |
| Strategy | Target |
| Funding & Legislative | State |

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Scientific and policy developments in California now provide a unique opportunity to advance and scale agricultural and land management practices that improve soil carbon (and soil health) and increase water holding capacity in soils, while addressing the State's climate change goals. Policy proposals being considered by the State Legislature and the Governor's Office would create an incentives program that would provide farmers, ranchers, and organizations with financial incentives to implement carbon-beneficial agricultural practices that sequester carbon, reduce greenhouse gases and increase soil carbon. This program, the Healthy Soils Initiative, is being advanced by Governor Jerry Brown and will be administered by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), the Department of Conservation (DoC), CalRecycle (for compost production and application to farms and ranches), and several other key agencies.

REQUESTED ACTION

- Support legislation that provides funding resources at the state and local level to develop and implement land management practices to improve soil carbon and soil health.
- Support legislation that creates incentives programs that would provide farmers, ranchers, and organizations with financial incentives to implement carbon-beneficial agricultural practices that sequester carbon.
- Support State funding for Healthy Soils Program and Sustainable Agricultural Land Conservation Program from Cap and Trade Revenue.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

- Sustainability: Carbon sequestration aligns with the goals of the County's adopted Energy and Climate Action Plan and provides a mechanism/tool to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Agricultural: Pilot programs that utilize carbon sequestration land management practices have resulted in increased productivity and increased water holding capacity in soils.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

No direct costs to the government are anticipated.

CONTACT

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PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

| Principle | |
|---|-----------|
| Community Sustainability and Environmental Protection | |
| 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 to: (1) maintain existing facilities (i.e. funding for park and trail maintenance); (2) acquire additional land for open space preservation and (3) ensure safe access to beaches, parks and open space. Examples of these projects are listed below as well as in other areas of the 2017 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) and install 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 and design for a parking lot at the Southern Point Sal public access point and permit applications and construction of a culvert enhancement for improved public access.

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.

Jalama Beach Facility Improvements: This project will improve existing facilities to better serve the public at one of the only overnight camping parks in northern Santa Barbara County. The total project cost is approximately \$2.5 million and includes systematic renovations to the restroom and shower facilities to meet major maintenance needs and bring facilities into ADA compliance. The Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund (CREF) has provided \$551,000 to facilitate some of the restroom improvements.

REQUESTED 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.

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REGIONAL COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECTS- FEDERAL AUTHORITY FOR CALIFORNIA

| Principle | |
|---|---------|
| Community Sustainability and Environmental Protection | |
| Strategy | Target |
| Advocacy | Federal |

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

- Coastal erosion
- Storm damage
- Coastal environmental impacts
- Sea level rise

These threats not only impact the ecological, recreational and economic threats to the coast, but the ability to maintain navigation channels as well. Regional Sediment Management solutions to these threats include:

- Recognizing coastal sediment as a natural resource
- Maintaining and enhancing the natural sand (sediment) supply on 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
- Undertaking beach nourishment projects and considering other innovative technologies to maintain our coastal beaches

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.

REQUESTED ACTION

Establish Federal Authority that is consistent with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) mission 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.
- Implement coastal wetland and coastal dune 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.

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SUPPORT FOR WASTE RECOVERY AND REDUCTION PROGRAMS & FACILITIES

| Principle | |
|---|-----------|
| Community Sustainability and Environmental Protection | |
| Strategy | Target |
| Funding, Legislative, & Advocacy | Fed/State |

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Communities are continually affected by new state and federal mandates regarding the safe and effective management of waste materials, including the increased recovery of materials for beneficial reuse and recycling, as well as the appropriate management of a growing number of commonly used hazardous wastes. In order to implement new programs and to build facilities to comply with growing regulations and general interest in doing more with waste materials, the County would benefit from receiving resources such as funding, permitting assistance, and resources associated with the better management of waste.

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is an alternative approach to materials management that requires manufacturers and retailers to take greater responsibility for reducing the life-cycle impacts of their products and packaging. This approach encourages designing products for recycling, reducing excess packaging, and eliminating or reducing toxic materials in products. EPR also involves the development of effective end-of-life collection and recycling/disposal programs that are designed, funded, and operated by producers or their associated stewardship organizations.

Household hazardous waste (HHW)(e.g. paint, used motor oil, antifreeze, batteries, fluorescent lights, and electronic devices, such as computers, televisions, and cell phones) is a classification of solid waste that includes products that are toxic, flammable, corrosive, or reactive. These types of products are prime candidates for establishing EPR programs. Due to their hazardous nature, the disposal of these products must be handled separately from other types of solid waste. Local governments must provide collection and disposal/recycling opportunities, which may include permanent collection centers, periodic collection events, or curbside collection services. These programs, which require considerable public outreach and education, are costly to operate.

The County of Santa Barbara, in collaboration with the cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, Solvang, and Buellton, is pursuing the development of the Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project (TRRP). This facility is projected to be publicly owned and privately operated on the County owned and operated Tajiguas Landfill. All waste currently buried at this landfill will be processed by removing recyclables for sale and having organics anaerobically digested into biogas and digestate. This facility will provide a 20-year waste management system by increasing the region's recycling rate, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and generating green energy.

REQUESTED ACTION

The County requests that its delegation actively support: 1) funding opportunities such as grant programs or other funding mechanisms related to implementing new waste recovery programs and facilities and 2) existing and new legislation that will help local governments sustainably and cost effectively manage solid waste, such as HHW, including mandated EPR programs, for individual products or groups of products.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The County of Santa Barbara would benefit from assistance, including new funding opportunities available for waste recovery programs and facilities in order to support the local economy, provide cost effective services, and a create a variety of environmental benefits including

- Reduction of greenhouse gasses
- Conservation of water and energy
- Conservation of natural resources by reusing extracted materials rather than extracting new materials and further impacting natural areas
- Reduction in use of toxic chemicals
- Keeping dangerous and potentially harmful materials out of our environment
- Reduction in air emissions

Other benefits include a decrease in costs to local government and improved worker safety. The Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project in particular, will help the County achieve State mandates on waste diversion (75% by 2020 – AB341), greenhouse gas reduction (1990 levels achieved by 2020 – AB 32), green energy production (33% renewal energy by 2020 – SB X12), and the reduced disposal of organics (collection and diversion of organics from commercial generators - AB 1826, 15 years of organics processing capacity - AB876, and the collaboration of state entities on the development of composting facilities - AB1045).

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Local governments are currently responsible for providing recycling and disposal programs for unwanted products. The implementation of these types of programs and facilities can cost in the range of tens of thousands of dollars to over a hundred million dollars, so securing external resources would greatly benefit these efforts. For example, costs for managing products containing hazardous materials are very expensive. Legislation that would alleviate these burdens, such as EPR programs that shift the financial burden of managing products to producers and retailers of those products, would result in significant cost savings and potentially enhanced customer service for local governments.

The estimated capital cost for the TRRP is approximately \$100 million. The project will be financed through a tipping fee at the facility, and this cost will then be passed on to ratepayers in their monthly bills. This project's costs, which include a Materials Recovery Facility and an Anaerobic Digestion Facility, are comparable to other alternatives (e.g. exporting waste to another facility or expanding the existing landfill). Any external resources that can be provided will assist in the financial feasibility of this project.

CONTACT

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VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDINGS

| Principle | |
|---|-----------|
| Community Sustainability and Environmental Protection | |
| 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 ACTION

Veterans of foreign wars are often overlooked, forgotten, and misunderstood. Giving them a place to interact with other veterans regardless of wartime experience is not only important, it is our duty to do so. The generation of the 1920s and 1930s 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

The historic (City Landmark and eligible for the National Register) Santa Barbara Veterans Memorial Building, constructed in 1927, is located on Santa Barbara’s premier waterfront. It is heavily used by veterans and the community alike. 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 veterans and 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 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 Veterans Memorial Building, constructed in the early 1930s, is a 13,400 square foot home to the 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, exterior and interior ADA improvements, replacement of aging and failing wood components, and heating, ventilation and air conditioning.

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 the cost 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 cost 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.

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WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS

| Principle | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Community Sustainability | |
| Strategy | Target |
| Funding | State |

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Onsite wastewater treatment systems (septic systems) that are properly sited, installed and maintained provide a safe and effective means of handling domestic wastewater in areas where the public sewer is unavailable. Conversely, antiquated systems or systems installed in areas that are not especially suitable for the use of septic systems represent a potential health and safety hazard as they may expose the public to sewage and noxious odors as well as contaminating surface water (creeks) and groundwater.

In 2012, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted the Water Quality Control Policy for the Design, Operation and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) that for the first time established statewide regulations for OWTS. The policy not only sets stringent standards for new systems but also for the repair or modification of existing systems. Depending on location specific conditions, the cost of installing or repairing an OWTS will increase significantly. As a result, homeowners may delay making needed repairs or upgrades to their systems.

By providing financial assistance in the form of grants or low or no interest loans, property owners will be more proactive to replace or repair a failing or antiquated OWTS. Such a program would enhance the public health and safety by eliminating exposure to sewage and preventing contamination of the County's water resources.

REQUESTED ACTION

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests that funds be made available in the form of grants, low interest loans or no interest loans to assist homeowners that must make expensive repairs or upgrades to their OWTS in order to be in compliance with new state standards.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Providing inducements to replace or repair antiquated or failing OWTS will reduce the potential for exposure to sewage and contamination of surface water and groundwater provide greater protection of the public health and safety.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

No immediate direct cost but unknown administrative costs associated with working with a financial institution or other entity with expertise to manage a grant or loan program.

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