2020 Legislative Platform

County of Santa Barbara

Adopted by the Board of Supervisors December 17, 2019

ONE COUNTY. ONE FUTURE.

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SANTA BARBARA COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

PURPOSE

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 programs (priorities) that warrant targeted advocacy, funding requests and/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, a variety of 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.

2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Legislative Program for Santa Barbara County, in conjunction with its State and Federal advocates, successfully advanced the 2018 Platform Principles, including, but not limited to the following:

Federal:

- Enactment of budget agreement in August that ensured continuity of operations and prevented a ten-percent across the board cut in Federal funding.
- $4.7 million for Santa Monica Debris Basin through support for County Public Works Agency advocacy at the Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- Payments in Lieu of Taxes funding to the County of $1.9 million.
- HUD funding to the County of $1.2 million from the Community Development Block Grant program, $1.17 million from the HOME Investment Program, and $2 million in Continuum of Care awards for ongoing projects in the County serving the homeless.
- Legislation enacted to continue funding for Federally Qualified Health Centers, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and other safety net programs while Congress finishes up longer-term authorizations at the end of this year.
- House passage and Senate Committee approval of H.R. 317, the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians Land Affirmation Act, to implement the County's agreement regarding Camp 4, which is also currently pending in National Defense Authorization Act of 2020.

State:

- *AB 85 Formula – As the County's number one priority,* we successfully worked with the Department of Finance and the Administration to withdraw their proposal to change the AB 85 diversion ratio to 75/25 for Article 13 counties. The Governor's original plan was to change the AB 85 formula to pay for the expansion of Medi-Cal Coverage proposal, which would have redirected $2.1 million dollars from the County's core Public Health services. The information of withdrawal came out on May 10th, through a Department of Finance Letter stating: "The 2019-20 May Revision (released on May 9, 2019) maintained the Governor's Budget proposal to increase the redirection of health realignment revenues from 60 percent to 75 percent for the counties of Placer, Sacramento, Santa Barbara and Stanislaus. The Administration has subsequently reevaluated this proposal due to the potential negative impacts to public health activities in these counties. Therefore, the Administration is withdrawing its proposal, which reduces the amount of redirected funding to offset General Fund costs in CalWORKs by $5,086,000. Forthcoming statutory changes will conform to reflect this amendment."
- *SETNA Trailer Bill* – We successfully supported the SETNA Trailer Bill – SB 96, in order to improve the State's outdated 9-1-1 system that uses pre-Internet and pre-cellphone era technology, and is prone to failure, especially during major disasters. During

the recent wildfires, dispatch centers were unable to receive 9-1-1 calls and California's antiquated, analog microwave network must be upgraded to a digital network to maintain safety operations when the public needs it the most. The budget transfers $50 million General Fund to SETNA to support workload funded from SETNA.

- *Housing and Homelessness* – The Governor's January Budget made the affordable housing crisis and homelessness in California one of his top priorities. On January 15th, the Governor announced a series of proposals to provide a solution for housing affordability. The proposals included signing an executive order to build affordable housing on excess state lands, $1.75 billion in new housing production funding that is in the state budget to help incentivize housing production and has requested the Legislature to work collaboratively on efforts to help renters and protect families from out of control rent increases. The Governor formed the Homeless and Supportive Housing Advisory Task Force in order to meet throughout the year in cities and counties around the state to observe best practices first-hand and receive input from governments and constituents statewide to propose solutions to address the homelessness epidemic. In addition, the Governor signed: AB 1763 (Chiu), which creates more affordable housing by giving 100 percent affordable housing developments an enhanced density bonus to encourage development, SB 330 (Skinner), which establishes the Housing Crisis Act of 2019, which will accelerate housing production in California by streamlining permitting and approval processes, ensuring no net loss in zoning capacity and limiting fees after projects are approved, and AB 116 (Ting), which removes the requirement for Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts (EIFDs) to receive voter approval prior to issuing bonds.
- *340B Program* – The Governor's Executive Order N-01-19 will have a major impact on the five health care centers and three homeless shelter clinics operated by the Public Health Department. We set up meetings for the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department to meet with the California Health and Human Services Agency and the Department of Health Care Services in order to discuss the impacts on the County due to the Governor's Executive Order. We received positive feedback from the Agency and DHCS acknowledging that was not their intended purpose, and that they are still waiting back on other clinics for feedback. There are no current commitments on any specific fix but they understand the County's concerns and will continue to be in communication with the County. This could be a possible budget issue in the upcoming year.

B Delegation – Worked directly with the County's Legislators on legislation that would directly affect the County, including:

- *AB 255 (Limon)* - Successfully supported AB 255, which clarifies that Native American tribes and other public entities are also eligible to receive grants through the Office of Spill Prevention and Response's local government grants program for oil spill response equipment. The bill was signed by the Governor on July 12th.
- *AB 585 (Limon)* - Successfully supported AB 585, which authorizes the State Lands Commission when considering the approval of an assignment, transfer, or sublet of an oil and gas lease to consider whether a proposed assignee is likely to comply with the provisions of the assigned, transferred, or sublet lease for the duration of the lease term. The bill also requires present and future oil and gas leases or permit holders to be liable for specified obligations. The bill was signed by the Governor on July 30th.
- *AB 1057 (Limon)* - Successfully supported AB 1057, which renames the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources the Geologic Energy Management Division to the Geologic Energy Management Division and authorizes the Oil and Gas Supervisor to require an operator to provide an additional amount of security in an amount not to exceed the reasonable costs of plugging and abandoning all of the operator's wells or $30 million. The bill was signed by the Governor on October 12th.
- *SB 160 (Jackson)* - Successfully supported SB 160, which requires a county to integrate cultural competence into its emergency plan, upon the next update to its emergency plan, and requires counties to provide a forum for community engagement in geographically diverse locations in order to engage with culturally diverse communities. The bill was signed by the Governor on October 2nd.
- *SB 551 (Jackson)* - Successfully supported SB 551, which phases in a requirement that oil and gas well operators provide estimates of the cost to plug and abandon wells and decommission attendant oil and gas production facilities, as specified, and requires the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources to establish criteria for these estimates and perform certain related inspections, among other things. The bill was signed by the Governor on October 12th.

C Legislation – Reviewed and assessed all of the introduced legislation and worked with the County to determine which legislation fit in the County's Platform. Below is legislation that the County was successful in:

- Emergency Response - The Governor signed a total of 22 bills to enhance wildfire mitigation, preparedness and response efforts including AB 1054 (Holden), which creates additional safety oversight and processes for utility infrastructure, recasts recovery of costs from wildfire damages to third-parties, and authorizes an electrical corporation and ratepayer jointly funded Wildfire Fund to address future related wildfire liabilities. In addition he signed: SB 167 (Dodd), which requires IOUs to improve their WMPs by including specified requirements to mitigate the impacts of Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS), SB 560 (McGuire), which will mitigate impacts of PSPS, SB 670 (McGuire), which will improve the coordination of emergency communication systems during 9-1-1 outages, and SB 190 (Dodd), which includes a specific requirement to develop best models for defensible space and additional standards for home hardening and construction materials to increase the resilience of communities.
- *SB 144 (Mitchell)* – Successfully opposed SB 144 along with CSAC. The bill would eliminate numerous criminal justice fees. Removal of specified fees for probation services alone would likely result in the loss of tens of millions of dollars in probation funding that currently supports vital programs and practices as well as probation positions. The bill was pulled from the Assembly Public Safety Committee Hearing and is now a two-year bill.

2020 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 AND 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 that increases economic vitality across multiple industries and markets.

❖ **EFFICIENT SERVICE DELIVERY AND 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, including disaster prevention & response, 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 jurisdictions, institutions and entities on mutually beneficial issues such as disaster prevention, response and recovery, 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 <u>customization in designing and implementing policies and services that are responsive to the community's preferences.</u> Secure where appropriate, direct distribution of federal funds to local governments rather than a state pass-through. 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, homeless 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; supportive housing; dependent care; child welfare services; adoptions and foster care; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) 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 AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:** Support efforts to foster communitywide sustainability by promoting economic stability and environmental protection and 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 including disaster prevention, response and recovery. 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. 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. Encourage actions to address climate change, reduce pollution, prevent & respond to disasters and protect the environment. These collective efforts aim to engender healthy communities by balancing social well-being, economic prosperity, and environmental responsibility.

2020

LEGISLATIVE PLANKS

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

Principle	
Job Growth and Economic Vitality	
Strategy	Target
Funding & Legislative	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 California, women earn $0.89 for every dollar their male counterparts earn. Nationally, working women experience an annual wage gap of $10,169 according to the National Partnership for Women and Families published in May 2019. Women with children are more likely than their male counterparts to live in poverty, almost 500,000 statewide. . According to the 2017 Children's Scorecard the cost of child care can be prohibitively expensive for working women especially single mothers. The average county-wide cost of child care for infants is $1,171 per month and $788 per month for preschool. 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

Support funding and legislation for programs and services that improve 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 Care
- Affordable and Accessible High Quality Child Care
- Addressing Human Trafficking and Violence Against Women and Girls

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Supporting women and girls is essential. Economic inequality and increased risk of poverty has negative impacts across multiple generations. It has been proven that women make special and unique contributions to organizations (public, private and not-for-profit), and they offer perspectives often overlooked. The more opportunities women and girls are afforded full and equal access to opportunities compensation and support such as affordable and high quality childcare the more our society will benefit.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

No direct cost at this time. Any financial cost will be more than recovered when women can equally meet their full economic capacity. Economic empowerment, legislation that helps working families, access to health care and child care, and addressing human trafficking and violence, will increase the productivity of women, and increase their access to higher paying work and success. In turn, they will be earning and spending more money and expand their tax contribution.

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ARTS & CULTURE

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Arts and Culture are a proven force in developing sustainable economic and community vitality. Recent studies of arts funding initiatives at the national and state level demonstrate the vital impact of arts & culture; in Santa Barbara County, the not-for-profit arts sector generates over $200 million dollars in revenue each year and provides almost 6,000 full-time-equivalent jobs for residents. Arts and culture catalyze civic engagement, increased property values and public safety. As it pertains to Santa Barbara County, art includes, but is not limited to: literary arts and publishing; textiles and fashion; visual arts, film and new media; performing arts, music, dance and drama; culinary arts; landscape arts; cultural and creative enterprises.

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

Art has proven to be invaluable as a tool in stimulating and creating economic development, job growth, neighborhood revitalization and greater vitality while building safer communities and neighborhoods. Studies released in 2016 demonstrated that in Santa Barbara County, participating arts and culture nonprofits provided $131,421,000 in household income, spent $126,303,269 locally and generated almost $20 million dollars in city, county and state tax revenue. Per the 2016 National Endowment for the Arts Study, the City of Santa Barbara ranks 9th out of 367 municipalities surveyed nationally in Working Artists Per Capita. Nationally, Arts account for 4.2 percent of the GDP. The production of arts and cultural goods in the U.S. added $730 billion to the economy in 2014, and included a $30 billion international trade surplus.

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

In California, one in ten jobs available to graduating students throughout the state is part of the creative economy. Studies have proven that workforce needs are dramatically shifting—creativity is the top attribute sought in today's CEO's. Private sector companies are looking for employees with new skill sets that focus on creative thinking and solutions, and workers that do well as part of a team. Studies have demonstrated repeatedly that arts in schools help students develop these skills and better prepare them for the job market and new career paths as well as encouraging them to stay in school. Every child should have access to a well-rounded education that includes the arts. Arts-integrated instruction helps strengthen elementary school students' reading, fluency, and comprehension. Students engaged in arts learning have higher GPAs, standardized test scores, and college-going rates as well as lower drop-out rates.

Arts as a tool for addressing Social Service Issues

A number of recent initiatives are successfully employing arts to solve social issues nationally and this has also been true in Santa Barbara County. Examples are programs that engage veterans and their families in the arts, generating a direct positive impact on mental health; art programs in prison provide trade skills and effectively reduce recidivism. Additionally, increased arts programming for students has directly correlated to minors' decreased participation in gangs in Santa Barbara County. Areas with a public art component have a statistically higher level of public safety. Researchers have demonstrated that a high concentration of the arts leads to civic engagement, more social cohesion, higher child welfare, and lower poverty rates.

Creative Placemaking

Nationally, Creative Placemaking brings together the public and private sectors, nonprofit organizations, artists and community members to strategically influence the physical and social character of communities through arts and cultural activities and public art. Cultural districts or a high concentration of cultural facilities and programs can serve as economic anchors. Public art can increase community cohesion, civic engagement and public safety. Santa Barbara County and its municipalities are actively pursuing local arts placemaking efforts. The County Office of Arts & Culture is partnering with the County Arts Commission and local constituents as part of a multi-year countywide cultural placemaking and master planning initiative.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Advocate for increased funding of art and culture initiatives from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the California Arts Council (CAC). Encouraging charitable gifts and provisions to support community access to the arts. Support grant opportunities that link the public and private sectors, and programs that link arts to addressing social services. Promote creativity and public access to the arts. Advocate for economic impact research to determine the economic impact of art and culture. Support legislative efforts to increase funding for school-based arts education and prepare the next generation workforce.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

- Quality of life and lifelong learning
- Economic growth and revenue
- Significant and diverse employment opportunities
- Public spaces and parks activated through the arts
- Increased public safety
- Providing youth with opportunities and skills for careers to meet a changing workforce
- Increased property values
- Decreased levels of recidivism
- Preserving cultural assets and practices and increasing cross-cultural understanding

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 County Office of Arts and Culture was recently awarded $62,750 from the CAC to support administrative expenses as well as a regional poetry program for high schools called Poetry Out Loud.

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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, including Santa Barbara County, we have seen the impacts of a broken immigration system, 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 need for a bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform solution has created the opportunity for advocacy.

REQUESTED ACTION

Advocate for 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;
- Supports the continuation of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program;
- 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 of 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 the costs associated with the current immigration policies. 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.

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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

Advocate 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. Support for funding and process improvements should include, but not be limited to, County's access to:

- Establishing or expanding revolving economic development 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-through. Priority focus areas for Santa Barbra County include but are not limited to:

- Film and tourism
- Agriculture/Wine Industry
- Green technology and manufacturing, including technologies and services that promote clean, renewable energy and water use, non-fossil-fuel-based forms of transportation, waste minimization and a circular economy, green building and infrastructure, and responsible use of lands and waterways
- Education, University/Governmental Research
- Healthcare Industry
- Aerospace
- Developing hard and soft infrastructure to support economic growth
- Technology infrastructure improvements

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.

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LOWER MISSION CREEK PROJECT

Principle	
Job Growth/Economic Vitality	
Strategy	Target
Funding & Legislative	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

Support legislative language in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) to keep Lower Mission Creek a viable project.

Support funding for the Corps of Engineers 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
2016-17	$2,578,000
2017-18	$1,366,800
2018-19	$2,757,500
totals	$24,939,800

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MARKETPLACE EQUITY AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Principle	
Job Growth and Economic Vitality	
Strategy	Target
Legislative	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Weights and Measures Programs are important to businesses and consumers in California. Weights and Measures regulatory activities ensure that there is a "level playing field" for business and industries. Likewise, these programs are critical in providing protection for consumers and a method for making value comparisons by providing equity in the marketplace. The Division of Measurement Standards (DMS) within the California Department of Food and Agriculture is the lead agency for weights and measures. DMS has incurred significant general fund reductions that have diminished their ability to provide consumer protection.

REQUESTED 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 including the use of state general funds for the Division of Measurement Standards.

Support legislation that establishes funding for quantity control and package inspection.

Support legislation which assures clear labeling and accuracy of the net quantity of packaged 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 or computed by Point of Sale systems.

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.

CONTACT

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SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
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 is the sustainable management of California's groundwater within about 25 years. SGMA is being implemented by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).

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 five such basins. They are the Cuyama Valley, San Antonio Creek Valley, Santa Ynez River Valley, Montecito, Carpinteria.

The Act requires the completion of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) 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 each basin's Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA).

Although Proposition 1 includes $100 million in grant funds for SGMA, it is a relatively small amount for the 127 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

Develop additional funding mechanisms by the State for Santa Barbara County and GSAs to implement the requirements of SGMA. Without funding SGMA becomes essentially an unfunded mandate for comprehensive analysis and management of groundwater basins in Santa Barbara County.

PUBLIC

California is one of the last remaining States that has not required some form of sustainable management of groundwater. As a result, many California basins are in a state of critical imbalance that 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. Creating additional funding mechanisms for the implementation of SGMA will allow for sustainable management of the County's basins that will ultimately benefit several of the 2019 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, maintain 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 all future funding guidelines and because associated costs will extend far into the future.

CONTACT

Scott D. McGolpin, Director, Public Works Department, (805)568-3010
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

The U.S. 101 High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes project is the highest regional funding priority for the County. The project will increase U.S. 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 U.S. 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. U.S. 101 also provides critical access to Vandenberg Air Force Base in central Santa Barbara County, which is headquarters for the 30th Space Wing, which manages for the Department of Defense missile testing and satellite launches into polar orbit. 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. The first six miles were completed in 2015, from northern Ventura County to southern Santa Barbara County were the first HOV lanes on the California Central Coast. The remaining 10-mile segment will commence construction in 2020.

REQUESTED ACTION

Request the continuation of federal funding for the region's highest regional roadway priority.

Advocate, in cooperation with the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments, for legislative and administrative action on the critical nature of the project at the State and Federal level.

PUBLIC

U.S. 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 U.S. 101. It is designated as a State Focus Route and High Emphasis Route.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The total estimated cost of all 5 of the segments of the final phase of the U.S. 101 HOV Project is approximately $700 million. The U.S.101 HOV project will be funded by leveraging $140 million, 2008 unescalated, from Measure A, the local transportation sales tax. To date SBCAG and Caltrans have received $394 million in Senate Bill 1 (SB1) state funds currently allocated by the California Transportation Commission. The remaining funding needed, approximately $150 million, will also be filled with state or federal discretionary transportation funds to fully fund completion of the corridor.

CONTACT

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Marjie Kirn, Executive Director, SB County Association of Government, (805)961-8908
County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

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 seventeen city and county libraries. Library services in the County are administered via contracts with the City of Santa Barbara, the City of Goleta, 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, and Montecito. **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.

Zone 4: Goleta. Services provided to the cities and unincorporated areas located within or in close proximity to Goleta, unincorporated Eastern Goleta Valley/Community Service Area 3, Isla Vista, Gaviota, Buellton, Solvang, Santa Ynez, Los Olivos and Hope Ranch.

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

Seek State funding for the County's library system. If funding is provided, 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 $3.8 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

George Chapjian, Director, Community Services Department, (805)568-2467
County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

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

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. Work with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) to fully assess spectrum of differences in powers of general law cities vs general law counties.

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

Dennis Bozanich, Deputy County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3403

MODERNIZATION OF THE CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Flexibility, Efficiency, and Modernization in Child Support Enforcement Programs final rule was published in the Federal Register on December 20, 2016. Implementation will require some changes in California legislation, and decisions about whether to implement parts of the Rule that are state-optional. The proposed changes are intended to move the program toward a more family-friendly philosophy that acknowledges Child Support occurs in a context that necessarily includes recognition of employment challenges, custody and visitation arrangements, and co-parenting challenges. Mindful that some of the Child Support enforcement tools can create unnecessary damage to struggling individuals, the proposed changes in regulations also permit families to seek assistance from Child Support without being enrolled in all of its available services. The NPRM has been widely circulated during a public comment period. The Child Support program will benefit from the implementation of the proposed regulations.

REQUESTED ACTION

The Flexibility, Efficiency, and Modernization in Child Support Enforcement Programs final rule was published in the Federal Register on December 20, 2016. Implementation will require some changes in California legislation, and decisions about whether to implement parts of the Rule that are state-optional.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Many aspects of the Child Support program have not been updated in 35 years. The public will benefit from increased program flexibility, efficiency and modernization; adaptations that take advantage of advances in technology; and the correction of technical errors in current regulations.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The proposed changes will utilize existing state and federal resources currently budgeted for the Child Support program.

CONTACT

Joni Maiden, Director, Child Support Services Department, (805)568-2343
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PUBLIC SAFETY & CRIMMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Funding, Legislative, & Advocacy	**Fed/State**

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The tenet of the public safety departments in the County of Santa Barbara is the protection of life and property through highly competent delivery of emergency response, fire prevention services, constitutional and effective law enforcement, custody, and rehabilitation services that provide a high level of safety to residents and visitors. The public is well served when victims of crime are protected and individuals charged with a crime have equal access to justice, are prosecuted and defended diligently and ethically, and all involved parties receive a fair and timely resolution of their case.

REQUESTED ACTION

Support funding and advocate for legislation that aligns with the goals of the County of Santa Barbara Public Safety Realignment Act FY 2019-20 Plan, including:

- Enhancing public safety by reducing recidivism through evidence-based and cost effective programming;
- Enhancing the use of alternatives to detention for appropriate offenders pre and post-sentence;
- Providing services and treatment that aid offenders successful re-enter communities;
- Coordinating efforts to eliminate duplication, increase efficiencies and promote best practices; and
- Support a systematic approach to studying and addressing ethnic and racial disparities in the justice system.

Support continued State investment in local facilities and programs that will aid in addressing the "revolving door" problem in state and local detention facilities.

Support State funding that improves the delivery of inmate physical and mental health care services.

Support the national Stepping Up Initiative efforts to safely reduce the number of adults with mental and co-occurring substance use disorders in jail by connecting them to community-based treatment and services when possible.

Support State funding and policies in adult probation that build a continuum of intervention, prevention and supervision services for adult offenders.

Support State funding and policies that fully support Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) initiatives.

Advocate for increased juvenile placement options due to further restriction of group homes, especially residential and intensive outpatient treatment for the most seriously disturbed or at-risk youth, that are child welfare involved or clients of Behavioral Wellness.

Advocate for targeted funding designed to provide local jurisdictions funding for "co-response teams", that is a collaboration between law between law enforcement officers trained in Crisis Intervention and mental health case workers.

Seek changes in legislation allowing costs incurred providing mental health treatment services to inmates housed in county jail facilities to be reimbursed through MediCal.

Advocate for changes to federal law to expand the maximum number of beds within Institutes for Mental Disease (IMD) beyond the current 16 beds.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Improving the means and tools for the Public Safety Departments that will allow them to provide quality public service to the people in Santa Barbara County by:

- Safeguarding them from the impacts of crime, fires, medical emergencies, and disasters;
- Providing information and recommendations to the Courts;
- Enforcing the laws and providing correctional services;
- Enforcing court orders and post-release community supervision conditions;
- Requiring offender responsibility and accountability;
- Delivering safe and effective juvenile detention, treatment, and rehabilitation services;
- Prosecuting the guilty, protecting the innocent, and preventing crime;
- Ensuring constitutional rights of all; and
- Delivering effective and timely law enforcement services.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Public safety services can be very costly and demanding on local government budgets. This plank aims to seek additional funding and resources without negatively impacting the County's budget. There is no immediate or additional cost incurred.

CONTACT

County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM FUNDING

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

A number of significant invasive species are routinely 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.

REQUESTED ACTION

- Protect existing revenue sources and enhance state and federal funding of Pest Prevention Program activities.
- Provide full cost recovery for new programs.
- Maintain or enhance funding for current 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 abilities of Agricultural Commissioners to respond to pest emergencies and high priority local pest exclusion pathways.
- Support budgetary efforts to restore and maintain funding for agricultural border stations.
- Support research on invasive species pathways as well as funding mechanisms to close potential pathways.

PUBLIC

Continued funding of Invasive Pest programs and Farm Bill Specialty Crop specific programs is critical in protecting Santa Barbara County agriculture and its natural resources.

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's agricultural losses to exotic pests exceed $3 billion annually.

CONTACT

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County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Every trip begins and ends on a local road, bridge or sidewalk. 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

Advocate with Federal leaders for a sound, long-term financial solution that will ensure stable funding of the surface transportation system.

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT

Maintaining local roads to ensure safe and efficient movement of people, goods, and services is critical for public safety and economic development. This plank supports maintaining the existing transportation network that provides the first and last part of every trip. 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 $315M to $630M. An additional $6M 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, less safe roads, loss of efficiency, and increased liability claims.

CONTACT

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County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

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.

REQUESTED ACTION

Requests funding of $8 million for design and construction of the improvement project of Hollister Avenue between San Antonio and Modoc Roads.

PUBLIC

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

$8 million

CONTACT

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County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

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 capacity, coupled with the need to replace outdated and aging infrastructure, is the catalyst for funding requests to continue Parks operations listed below. Ongoing drought conditions have increased the need and the opportunity to fund needed capital improvements to Lake Cachuma.

REQUESTED ACTION

Requests state and federal legislative support new appropriation requests as follows: Road repair, 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 - $20 million.

PROJECT	TOTAL COST	AMOUNT FUNDED	FUNDING SOURCE
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	$3,500,000	-	DB&W
Boat Dock Replacement	$600,000	-	DB&W
New Overnight Accommodations (Cabins/Yurts)	$5,000,000	-	BOR
Recreation Improvements (RV Facilities)	$4,000,000		BOR
Recreation Improvements (Pool Facilities)	$6,900,000	-	BOR
TOTAL	**$20,000,000**		
GRAND TOTAL FOR ALL PROJECTS	**$34,400,000**		

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 annually.

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 annually.

CONTACT

George Chapjian, Director, Community Services Department, (805)568-2467
County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – YOUTH AND ADOLECENCE

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Community health surveys conducted by Santa Barbara County Public Health Department, Dignity Health and Cottage Health all indicate that behavioral health is a primary concern for youth throughout Santa Barbara County. When behavioral health is compromised, symptoms of mental illness may become apparent. Indicators occur across a wide spectrum and are classified as mild to moderate or severe, depending upon the extent to which the symptoms disrupt daily functioning. Symptoms can be temporary and situational or chronic and persistent. The signs of mental illness in children vary by age and type of illness, with some psychiatric disorders appearing even in preschool years.

Warning signs may include:

- difficulty thinking or paying attention
- extreme emotional highs and lows
- sleep problems
- social withdrawal

Statistics from the National Institute on Mental Health tell us that:

- 46.3 % of youth ages 13-18 may be diagnosed with a mental disorder at some time in their life, and over 20% either currently or at some point during their life may have a seriously debilitating mental disorder.
- Approximately 13% of children ages 8-15 had diagnosable a mental disorder within the previous year, with 8.5% being diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).
- Half of all lifetime cases of mental illness begin by the age of 14, and 75% begin by the age of 24.
- Suicide is the second leading cause of death in youth ages 10-24, and 90% of those who died from suicide had an underlying mental illness.
- Approximately 70% of youth in state or local juvenile justice systems have a mental illness (in Santa Barbara County, 84% of youth in custody in 2015 were receiving mental health services).
- Approximately 50% of students with mental illness drop out of high school.

REQUESTED ACTION

Advocate with State and Federal leaders to maintain and/or increase state and federal funding for quality youth and adolescence that includes:

- Universal screenings of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in medical homes
- Programs that promote early mental health consultation in schools and other trusted venues
- Strengthen the continuum of care in Santa Barbara County to include crisis and residential treatment services for children and youth.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Each year, the Santa Barbara County Department of Behavioral Wellness serves over 3000 children and youth who are severely emotionally disturbed and/or who meet medical necessity criteria for Medi-Cal and are moderate to severe in their level of impairment. Those with Medi-Cal who are low to moderate in level of impairment receive specialty mental health services through CenCal Health (via contract with the Holman Group). If a child does not meet Behavioral Wellness criteria and has private insurance or no insurance, the

family may experience challenges as they attempt to navigate provider networks, insurance plans, eligibility requirements and treatment options and the costs can be an impediment to the County system.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

There is no direct cost to government. Funding leveraged through state and federal advocacy for the County will support the development, expansion and enhancement of the already existing system of care.

CONTACT

Wendy Sims-Moten, First 5 Executive Director (805)884-8086
Michelle Robertson, First 5 Assistant Director (805)560-1039
Barbara Finch, KIDS Network Director (805)681-4678
County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

There is overwhelming need to prioritize and support the youngest children in our communities to ensure that they are ready for school and are prepared to lead healthy and productive adult lives in Santa Barbara County. Children birth to 5 across Santa Barbara County are experiencing conditions that are less than optimal for their development such as poverty and exposure to traumatic experiences. Due to a variety of reasons, many children still do not access on-going health and dental care and are on long wait lists for high quality early care and education programs that support their school readiness and family's ability to stay gainfully employed.

Data from the 2017 Children's Scorecard highlights the needs of Santa Barbara County's youngest citizens.

- More than 60% of Santa Barbara County's children enter kindergarten lacking the social, cognitive, and or emotional capacities they need to succeed in school.
- The capacity falls short of the need with fewer than 18,000 licensed early care and education spaces for an estimated 35,000 needing care.
- The greatest need is for infants and toddlers with available spaces for only one in five children.
- The cost of care can be prohibitively expensive for working families, who may not qualify for subsidy.
- Between 2007 and 2014, the percentage of Santa Barbara County children living below the federal poverty level grew from under 15% to nearly 25%.

REQUESTED ACTION

Advocate with State and Federal leaders to maintain and/or increase state and federal funding stream for quality early care and education that includes:

- Development on new childcare slots/spaces
- Early Care and Education facilities development
- Family Strengthening

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

By exploring and advancing opportunities to preserve and increase funding streams committed to early childhood programs, the County is working to ensure that California's youngest children and their families thrive. Researchers and economists have documented that high quality early care and education offers a high return on investment, especially for children with risk factors. The childcare industry contributes significantly to the local economy, by providing childcare employment and supporting parents to be full-time employed. Therefore, providing families with high quality, accessible, affordable childcare experiences ensure children's school readiness and productive members of the community and counter-acts the negative impacts of such conditions as poverty,

COST TO GOVERNMENT

There is no direct cost to local government. Funding leveraged through state and federal advocacy for the County will support the development, expansion and enhancement of the already existing early care and education infrastructure and system. Additional funding and legislation in needed in the area of early

identification and intervention, quality early learning, childcare facility funding, subsidized care, and early care and education workforce development.

CONTACT

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Michelle Robertson, First 5 Assistant Director (805)560-1039
County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – FAMILY STRENGTHENING

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Many things influence a child's growth and development, and perhaps the most critical factor is the presence of reliable, responsive, and sensitive parenting. Effective early parenting contributes to future development of cognitive and social skills, positive parent-child and peer relationships, and prevention of delinquency, risky behaviors, and school failure.

In addition to social isolation, many families in Santa Barbara County are raising children with the added pressures of economic stress and family dysfunction. Poverty compounds other stressors, such as marital discord, domestic violence, mental health concerns, or drug and alcohol abuse. Generally, recent immigrants, single-parent families, and very young families have substantially higher rates of poverty than the general population and are therefore at increased risk of having higher levels of parenting stress.

Family Strengthening and engagement is the shared responsibility of many which includes the family itself but also cuts across and reinforces in multiple settings where children learn including in the home, in their school, and in the community. Santa Barbara County recognizes that children are only as strong as their family unit, and a family unit is only as strong as the community in which they live. Therefore, by supporting families to build their strengths and resiliency, we foster a foundation of support for our current and future citizenry. This two generational approach has a goal of building five protective factors – parental resilience, social connections, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete support in times of need, and the development of social and emotional competence of children.

REQUESTED ACTION

Support funding and legislation for programs and services that improve the lives of families in the following areas:

- Programs that promote positive parenting practices and parent-child relationships that can reduce behavioral problems; easing mental health and juvenile justice solutions
- Promote home learning activities and effective teaching strategies that foster early learning
- Policies and programs that address the effects of poverty, including access to educational opportunities for parents to ensure economic stability and mobility
- State and local community organizations who are trusted partners with immigrants or families whose home language is not English
- Community centers, family resource centers, and behavioral health services as hubs for families to access

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Family Strengthening prepares lifelong skills that creates opportunities for families to connect with trusted community resources and organizations, empowers families to be community ambassadors to connect their peers/neighbors that may be having difficulty, and values the diversity of our Santa Barbara County demographics. If families feel a part of a community, they will feel valued and be active and engaged participants. Children will model after their parents and contribute to our community vibrancy.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

No direct cost at this time.

CONTACT

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TELECOMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION

Principle	
Local Control	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Fed/State

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.

In addition to regulating the scope of local review, local jurisdictions are limited by federal and state law, in the time they have to review and process, including environmental review and permits for telecommunications facilities. The planning review process must be complete in: (1) 60 days for modifications to existing facilities that would not substantially change their physical dimensions; (2) 90 days for modifications to existing facilities that would substantially change their physical dimensions and new collocated facilities; and (3) 150 days for new facilities; otherwise, the facilities are deemed approved.

REQUESTED ACTION

Support state and federal legislation that repeals limitations on state and local authority imposed by federal and state law that limit 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.

Oppose sections of the Act that preempt local control and prevent local governments from considering health effects.

Advocate for 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 (e.g., children and people with compromised health) in order to fully protect public health. The exposure limits allowed by the FCC appear to exceed the levels considered permissible by most other countries.[1]

Advocate that the FCC revise the processing deadlines for new telecommunication facilities to insure that local agencies have adequate time to fully evaluate proposed projects under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to address siting and design options to minimize visual and site disturbance impacts and

[1] See Reference: https://www.rivm.nl/comparison-of-international-policies-on-electromagnetic-fields-2018

protect a high quality visual environment. The 2019 NACo Legislative Priorities supports the County's position: "NACo urges Congress and federal agencies to recognize counties as co-regulators, providers and partners in extending the benefits of advanced telecommunications and broadband technology — including improvements to county emergency preparedness and response systems — to all Americans. Federal policymakers should support local decision-making and accountability of local elected officials and should oppose any actions that would preempt or limit the zoning and siting authority of local governments.

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 regard 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

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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 State 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. The Affordable Care Act has made many residents eligible for health care coverage. All health care plans include most essential benefits like maternity, mental health, preventive, and pediatric dental care. To maintain the health of our residents, we are committed to assisting residents to 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 support and 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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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. In a 2015 survey, residents reflected priority areas of healthy eating, active living, mental healthcare, and housing to improve health 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. Health looks at the whole person including physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being.

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, ensure access to needed health care and maintain a safe and healthy environment.

- 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.
- Promote public health and safety, and prevention of harmful environmental 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 and laboratory practices.
- Protect public health by cleaning up and maintaining hazard free streambeds.

Increase the integration of behavioral and physical healthcare, and identify opportunities to address the social determinants of 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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HOMELESSNESS

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The County of Santa Barbara works in partnership with cities and community organizations to address homelessness. The County seeks funding support to implement effective strategies to address homeless issues of replacement, including financing a comprehensive system of housing, sheltering services and treatment to help prevent homelessness.

REQUESTED ACTION

Support existing and new legislation to address the issue of homelessness. Advocate for State support of multi-year funding streams that allow communities to address the shelter and housing crisis, such as the California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program (CESH), Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP). Legislation streamlining approvals and construction of housing units is essential to homelessness efforts. 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. Advocate for federal ESG to lower threshold criteria to determine funding eligibility of jurisdictions.

Support the inclusion of provisions that allow for additional flexibility in the use of State and 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. Expansion of the federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program provides incentives for private investment in the development of new affordable and supportive housing units.

Support No Place Like Home (NPLH) funding regulations that provide local discretion on program design to address the needs of mentally ill persons experiencing homelessness.

PUBLIC

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, 23 % or as many as 450 people are chronically homeless. Santa Barbara County's chronically homeless population is composed of primarily single adults who have either been: 1) continuously homeless for a year or more or have had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years, 2) have a disabling condition and 3) 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

In 2018, the League of California Cities and California State Association of Counties published its Homelessness Task Force Report. One of the report's conclusions is that addressing homelessness early on and implementing preventative services and strategies, using a coordinated and specialized support to homeless individuals at greatest risk, can result in significant cost savings to local government. Chronically homeless people may consume more than 50% of all the services provided to homeless people, such as hospital emergency rooms, mental health crisis services, and criminal justice system, due to their continued movement through the service system without obtaining the help they need. The provision of permanent supportive housing, with easily accessible services for residents, is an evidence-based model that ends homelessness, and is the most humane and cost-effective way to end long-term 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 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 ACTION

Request 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 2017 Census figures, in Santa Barbara County 65,493 people (15.4% of residents) are living below the federal poverty level (compared to 11.9% in 2007). There are approximately 18,861 (19.4% or about one in five) of the County's children living in poverty (compared to 13.5% in 2007). Seniors, children and families are disproportionately represented, 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. Many core public services remain 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

Support the maintenance of existing safety net program funding levels at both the Federal and State levels 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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SENIOR SERVICES FUNDING

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Our aging population is a priority in our County and state alike. Additional resources are needed beyond what the Older Americans Act provides to increase service capacity to meet the growing demand, not only for basic needs like food, transportation, and housing but also for workforce development i.e. geriatric specialization and caregiver support.

Recognizing that California's over-65 population is projected to grow to 8.6 million by 2030, Governor Gavin Newsom signed an executive order calling for the creation of Master Plan for Aging to be developed by October 1, 2020. The Master Plan will serve as a blueprint that can be used by state government, local communities, private organizations and philanthropy to build environments that promote healthy aging.

According to 2017 Census data there are over 67,000 seniors age 65 and older within the County of Santa Barbara (15% 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, food, housing, transportation, as well as public assistance needs for those that live below the poverty level. It is critical to ensure that the programs and services that are needed to meet the needs of the growing population and low-income seniors are available.

REQUESTED ACTION

Support re-authorization of the Older Americans Act.

Support for California's Master Plan on Aging.

Support increased Federal and State funding and support for services that promote health and well-being, as well as support family and informal caregivers of seniors, thereby enhancing the quality of life of low-income seniors.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

California's baby boomers are turning 65 years of age at the highest rate in the nation. California's age 65 and older population currently stands at 5.5 million, and is projected to grow to over 8 million by 2030. Among persons 65 years of age or older, an estimated 70% will use long-term services and supports. Additionally, the projected average life expectancy has increased to over 81 years for women and over 76 years for men.

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. When seniors are not healthy and lack transportation options, it deprives the community of their involvement in civic activities and the sharing of their professional or personal experiences in the community. In addition, because of increasing medical needs, seniors utilize emergency rooms and public clinics at an increasing rate as a result of lack of appropriate health coverage.

The SCAN Foundation highlights Medicare-Medicaid integration, person-centered care and long-term care financing as key issues to meeting the increasing demands. 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. The Governor has asked that the State's Master Plan for Aging address these and other concerns, such as fragmented services, social isolation, nursing shortages, and transportation needs.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Preventative, proactive, geriatric specific services for the aging population is more cost effective and better practice in comparison to institutional placements. Evidence confirms that skillful case management community centered services and nutrition-based programs are important in maintaining the health and functional independence of older adults. Said services 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 interventions that will improve health and quality of life. Unchecked, these conditions result in increased costs.

CONTACT

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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, and two extensions signed by the President, are 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

The CalWORKs child care program is three different stages with Stage I administered by County Welfare Departments and Stages 2 and 3 administered by the California Department of Education. 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 future and our communities' viability. Without adequate investment in child care infrastructure, providers and parents lack the support necessary for a strong system.

REQUESTED ACTION

Support maintaining or increasing State funding for quality and quantity of child care slots, subsidies, reimbursement rates, infrastructure, and support services to align with current programming, changes in regulations, and trends in 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 2018-19 Santa Barbara County received $3,085,024 in Stage 1 child care funding, compared to $3,373,027 in FY 2017-18, translating to a 8.5% decrease in funding. 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.

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WORKFORCE INNOVATION & OPPORTUNITY ACT FUNDING

Principle	
Workforce Development	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 is the nation's public/private partnership on workforce development. The WIOA empowers private-sector led local Boards (WDB's) to develop and oversee workforce strategies, policies, and implementation to assist businesses to compete and local residents to acquire the skills and training necessary for well-paying jobs. In Santa Barbara County, County government is an equal partner with the WDB, tasked with fiduciary responsibility for the WDB's WIOA funding.

Over the past decade, the federal government has decreased funding by 50 percent for workforce programs. Nevertheless, public workforce systems have been the lifeline to more than 4 million job seekers annually through a coordinated and professional network of 2,500 "America's Job Centers" nationwide. WIOA funds are used to establish these "one-stop centers' that serve job seekers and employers alike; and support youth programs that help develop a solid work ethic in young people, as well as the all- important summer jobs program for the thousands of 14-24 year olds who want the opportunity to work and earn money.

In California, with the transition of Gavin Newsom as Governor, the statewide workforce system is being primed for dramatic changes. A new State Department (the "Workforce & Economic Development Department") is being created to coordinate workforce development with local, regional, and statewide economic development activities in order to position California – and its workforce, to meet the future challenges of advanced technology, collaborative industry sector strategies, and upgrade/incumbent worker training.

Our local workforce system is especially challenged due to minimal WIOA funding (a combined $3 million), a vast geographical area – with three distinct industry sector "anchors," and two economic mini-regions: Santa Barbara/Ventura, and Santa Maria/San Luis Obispo.

REQUESTED ACTION

The County requests that its delegation advocate at the Federal level for increased funding for all three funding streams of WIOA in the U.S. Department of Labor's budget: adult programs; youth program; and business serving programs. Statewide organizations like the California Workforce Association (CWA) have impressive statistics that speak to California's successes—and we know other states have similar information.

In Santa Barbara County, we have succeeded in building successful partnerships with (among others) the State EDD, our two local community colleges (SBCC, AHC); as well as success in putting over 300 (WIOA enrolled) adults per year into sustainable wage, career pathway jobs, countless others via job fairs and specialized recruitment events, and nearly 300 youth in Santa Maria were served via a special anti-youth gang federal Department of Labor grant.

In addition to increased funding, we request enhanced advocacy in the area of program flexibility and innovation to meet local needs. Granting performance measurement relief for serving individuals with extreme barriers (e.g., justice-involved ex-offenders), as well as for self-employed/entrepreneurial training would allow local creativity in Santa Barbara County.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Santa Barbara County continues to struggle with attracting opportunities for our citizens to live and work here. Research has already shown the percentage of low-wage jobs in the county to be very high; near the top for California counties. This is what happens when there is not a coordinated, strategic planning system between WDBs, community colleges, adult education, the chambers of commerce, and economic vitality groups. The role of the WIOA-funded WDBs (within the capacity that their budget allows) is to convene stakeholders and partners; educate the business community; understand and engage the growth industry sectors that offer middle-wage jobs; and to assist the citizens of the community to raise their incomes in proportion to a booming economy.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The WIOA program does not require a county match. If additional federal resources were to be secured it is anticipated that no additional county match would be required.

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AGRICULTURE/WILLIAMSON ACT SUBVENTION

Principle	
Community Sustainability and Environmental Protection	
Strategy	Target
Funding	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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 statewide, 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.

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 2018 gross production was valued at $1.52 billion. This is a $72 million (4.9%) decrease in gross value when compared with the 2017 figures and is the thirteenth 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.

REQUESTED ACTION

Restore State subvention funds that reimburse counties which 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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AIR QUALITY – MARINE VESSEL EMISSIONS

Principle	
Community Sustainability and Environmental Protection	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

In Santa Barbara County, more than one thousand large marine vessels make several thousand trips along our coastline each year and produce significant emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx), particulates, air toxics, and greenhouse gases. The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (District) estimates that more than half of the smog-forming NOx emissions in the County are from ocean-going vessels as they travel to and from U.S. ports. Emissions threaten air quality and public health, and constrain the County's ability to meet and maintain federal and state air quality standards. Over the last several years, the District has worked with partners to implement a voluntary incentive program to reduce ship speeds in the Santa Barbara Channel (Channel) and San Francisco Bay regions. As the program has scaled up, shipper participation has increased and it has achieved significant emission reductions. Regulatory measures, such as the California Air Resources Board fuel rule and the engine and fuel requirements of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) action designating 200 miles off the coast of North America as an Emission Control Area (ECA), have also helped reduce emissions from this source.

While progress has been made, the following areas still need to be addressed:

1. Identify funding options to support and continue a large-scale voluntary vessel speed reduction program to reduce ship speeds in the Channel, providing air quality and whale protection benefits,
2. Technology improvements to reduce emissions from existing vessel engines, and
3. Support initiatives that recognize shipping companies for their efforts to reduce vessel speeds for air quality and whale protection.

REQUESTED ACTION

Support ongoing funding for a large-scale vessel speed reduction program in the Channel region. A program could be structured as a voluntary incentive program (with an identified source of funding - for example, supplemental environmental projects funded through violation settlement agreements). This program could be expanded to include a component that provides recognition of participating shipping companies.

Support securing economic incentives to accelerate the retrofit of engines and funding for research and development of new technologies, and strategies to control shipping emissions.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Ships contribute to worldwide emissions of NOx, particulate matter, sulfur, air toxics, and greenhouse gases. These emissions represent a serious threat to air quality and public health. Moreover, local jurisdictions have limited authority to regulate these vessels. Recognizing and/or incentivizing ship speed reduction will reduce air pollutant emissions and protect endangered whales and other marine mammals. Vessel speed reduction can reduce the fatality of whale strikes.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Emissions from marine vessels may result in indirect costs to local governments and businesses that are required to plan for and achieve emission reductions in order to maintain federal and state air quality standards, as well as greenhouse gas reductions, despite having no local control over shipping vessel emissions.

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 fifth 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. 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 affect 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. In 2018, the State provided significant new funding resources to address housing and homeless service needs, such as the California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) Program, and the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) authorized by SB 850 Housing, and SB 2 Building Jobs and Homes Act. Such funding is critical in addressing immediate housing and service needs of the most vulnerable community members, and improving the community's overall quality of life, resulting in a growing and vibrant economy. The County supports creative strategies to preserve, build, and make housing available and affordable for individual and family households countywide.

REQUESTED ACTION

Support the following policy and funding commitments to community development programs at the state, and national level:

1) Provide resources to address the housing needs of all households, but in particular: 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 permanent supportive housing, and veteran households; and

2) Advocate that the State allocate State funds to jurisdictions by formula rather than on a competitive basis. Allow jurisdictions to administer their allocations of State funds for eligible uses via grants or loans, and allow the use of loan repayments to support additional eligible uses. Example funding sources include Housing Trust Fund, recording fees collection as required by SB 2, No Place Like Home, and others.

3) Create public-private partnerships to develop housing and services.

At the state level, the County supports advocacy for housing finance bills in the Legislature, which 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 National Housing Trust Fund. 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. Cross collaboration across federal and State programs, exemplified by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) recent report "Home, Together: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness" and the State's Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council and the State Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency, will result in greater coordination between partners and improved service delivery for community consumers.

PUBLIC

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, 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.

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ENERGY AND CLIMATE

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

In March 2009, the County of Santa Barbara instituted immediate, cost-effective, and coordinated steps to reduce the County's collective greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The County has since accelerated existing or established new sustainability initiatives, including making clean energy and building efficiency improvements to public facilities, and helping residents and businesses do the same. In May 2015, the County adopted an Energy and Climate Action Plan (ECAP) to reduce GHG emissions to 15% below baseline levels (2007) by 2020, consistent with Assembly Bill (AB) 32. The ECAP includes 50 emission reduction measures encompassed in the following eleven categories:

Community Choice Energy	Industrial Energy Efficiency
Sustainable Communities Strategy	Waste Reduction
Land Use Design	Agriculture
Transportation	Water Efficiency
Built Environment	Governmental Operations
Renewable Energy	

A recent GHG emissions inventory (Ascent Environmental, Inc. June 2018) revealed that the unincorporated county will be 3% over the 2007 baseline levels by the year 2020, instead of 15% below 2007 baseline levels by 2020, despite the implementation of emission reduction measures. Therefore, further implementation of emission reduction measures set forth in the ECAP and possibly new, additional measures will be required to effectively reduce GHG emissions.

Senate Bill (SB) 32 and Executive Order B-30-15 extend the goals of AB 32 to reduce emissions 40% below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. In December, 2018, the County Board of Supervisors directed staff to update the ECAP to: (1) achieve a GHG emission reduction goal of 50% below 1990 levels by 2030, and (2) incorporate climate adaptation measures.

While some of the emission reduction measures in the ECAP are already in existence, others require funding for further development. The ability to fully develop the ECAP measures and make sustainable energy programs more robust is integral for countywide reduction of energy consumption in order to meet climate and sustainability goals.

In addition to measures outlined in the ECAP, the County is monitoring opportunities related to carbon sequestration, emissions resulting from wildfires, and climate change planning and adaptation strategies. To coordinate climate and sustainability implementation efforts across departments, the County established a County Sustainability Committee in 2015, and in 2018 began formation of a Santa Barbara County Climate Collaborative with local cities and public agencies. The County is also participating in the: (1) Central Coast Climate Collaborative (4C), which focuses on regional climate mitigation and adaptation strategies; (2) International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)-Local Governments for Sustainability, which provides GHG emissions monitoring tools and other sustainability support; (3) the Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition, a program of the Local Government Commission that provides best practices and policy support for clean energy and sustainability activities; and (4) the California Coastal Resilience Network, which allows local jurisdictions to share lessons learned about coastal climate change adaptation.

Furthermore, Santa Barbara County participates prominently in the management and regulation of not only traditional petroleum-based energy resources, but renewable energy resources, as well. The County's promotion of and participation in projects that cover the spectrum of renewable energy generation and storage demonstrates its commitment to sustaining the region's economic vitality, maintaining grid reliability and resiliency, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change associated with more traditional energy development. The County will release a "Strategic Energy Plan" in fall 2019, which

is a joint effort with the cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, and Carpinteria to regionally address energy needs and opportunities. The County will then initiate zoning ordinance amendments to facilitate utility-scale solar development.

The County also has interest in supporting efforts to transition from the use of natural gas, gasoline, and other fossil fuels to electricity to enable deeper GHG reductions economy-wide. For example, the County participates with other regional local governments, air pollution control districts, and transportation planning bodies to prepare for and support the installation of electric vehicle chargers and encourage the electrification of the transportation sector. The County is also monitoring state and local opportunities to encourage all-electric homes, businesses, and public facilities to enable the use of 100% renewable energy resources.

REQUESTED ACTION

Support funding for local and regional energy and climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives, including, alternative transportation, energy efficiency, water efficiency, distributed clean energy, electrification of the transportation sector and other energy end-uses (e.g., space and water heating), and climate change adaptation planning.

Support more funding for local and regional energy and climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives from Cap and Trade auction revenues, and other State programs.

Support legislation and California Public Utility Commission and California Energy Commission regulatory actions and legislative activities that are favorable to local energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy storage, electrification initiatives, and Community Choice Energy programs.

Support access to clean energy related financing (e.g. California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority) as well as federal and State actions associated with increasing consumer protections related to clean energy financing.

Sponsor legislation that allows governmental customers to offset more than one electric meter with power generated from just one solar electric array allowing for multiple meters to be offset by electricity generated by a central solar facility.

Support legislation that improves air quality in coordination with the Air Pollution Control District; advocate for and seek legislation and funding to support County participation in emerging and proven renewable energy development programs, projects, and infrastructure.

Identify, evaluate, and advocate for changes to state and federal regulatory requirements that create unnecessary and/or unintended barriers to implementation of renewable energy programs and projects.

Advocate for the continuation of the current 30 percent federal investment tax credit for solar systems on residential and commercial properties beyond 2019.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Co-benefits of climate action implementation and achieving the ECAP goal of lowering GHG emissions 15% below baseline levels by 2020, and 50% below baseline levels by 2030, include:

- Reduced energy usage
- Monetary savings
- Support of the local economy
- Improved mobility
- Informed public
- Improved public health
- Reduction in water use
- Conservation of natural resources

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Specific emission reduction measures and projects not already in existence will vary in cost. The costs for development and implementation of most are anticipated to be good candidates for external funding from private sector investment and/or grant funding from state and federal sources while others may require County investment.

CONTACT

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HISTORIC SANTA BARBARA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Principle	
Community Sustainability and Environmental Protection	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Fed/State

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 for it to continue serving the community going forward. The historic (City Landmark, State Historic Landmark, and National Historic Landmark) Santa Barbara Courthouse, constructed in 1929, is a 156,000 square foot complex of buildings and home to the Superior Court of California and Civic Government.

REQUESTED ACTION

Request $10 million in funding, over the next five years, for the continued conservation and preservation of this iconic National Historic Landmark through the Department of the Interior, National Endowment for the Arts, Housing and Community Development, Homeland Security, or direct Budget Appropriation.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The complex is occupied by 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. The Courthouse hosts multiple weddings, private or public celebrations, and serves as a backdrop in commercial ad projects. There is a strong public-private partnership of fund raising with the help of the Courthouse Legacy Foundation and Courthouse Docent Council. These organizations have raised almost $3,000,000 over the previous five years for projects at the Santa Barbara Courthouse. This has allowed the County of Santa Barbara to leverage public resources to assist with the many projects underway at the Santa Barbara Courthouse annually.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The County has estimated the cost of life-safety, conservation, preservation and restoration projects to be approximately $55 million, which includes:

- ADA upgrades including ramps, restroom upgrade, handrails, signage installation ($2,235,000)
- Life-Safety upgrades including installation of exit sign, fire rated doors and related hardware, fire alarm and fire sprinkler system ($6,000,000)
- Architectural Conservation: stone and cast store restoration, leather and furniture restoration, painted ceiling restoration, draperies and textile restoration, wrought-iron, ceramic tiles and general plaster repairs ($25,000,000)
- Structural upgrades, retrofitting and stabilization of non-bearing elements ($2,775,000)
- Mechanical upgrades to existing heating and plumbing systems ($6,475,000)
- Electrical upgrades including replacement of circuitry and re-wiring of building elements ($3,760,000)
- Hazardous material abatement including asbestos, lead paint abatement, and organic material destroying organisms ($4,600,000)
- Exterior modifications including repair of existing sidewalks, curbs and gutters and hard/soft landscaping elements ($4,000,000)

CONTACT

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OIL & GAS INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Oil & gas development has occurred in Santa Barbara County since as early as the 1890's. A significant amount of onshore and offshore oil & gas production continues within the County today. Numerous private operators utilize infrastructure such as pipelines, tanks and specialized equipment to serve this ongoing production. Existing infrastructure continues to age and degrade, some of which is in need of replacement. Existing, aging oil & gas infrastructure is less likely to include modern technological features that help ensure safe operations and reduce potential for spill/upset. A significant amount of historic, abandoned infrastructure associated with discontinued operations is also located within the County. Local jurisdictions have limited ability to require upgrading of aged infrastructure, and to enforce existing safety-related and environmental protection-related laws and ordinances.

Oil & gas operators continue to operate under a difficult financial context with oil persisting at historically lower prices leading to the potential for corporate financial collapse. Several local operators have recently filed for bankruptcy including Venoco (2016), Breitburn Energy (2017), ERG Operating Company (2016) and Greka (2019). In the case of Venoco, government entities inherited various oil and gas assets and were forced to finance their disposition including the State of California which will eventually pay out several hundred million dollars in order to abandon Platform Holly and its related onshore processing facility. The potential for Santa Barbara County to be affected by a similar future action is concerning. While several financial mechanisms are required by various state and federal agencies to address infrastructure appropriately in the case of bankruptcy, a comprehensive regulatory approach to ensure field safety and remediation is currently lacking.

REQUESTED ACTION

Support legislation that incentivizes and/or requires private oil & gas operating companies to repair/replace aging infrastructure including pipelines and tanks. Also include requirements for the use of best available safety-related technologies, with the intent of reducing the frequency and volume of upset events that result in environmental damage. (Funding for improvements would be provided by the affected company.)

Support legislation that provides local jurisdictions with increased regulatory authority and enforcement capability to oversee inspection and maintenance activities of existing/future oil & gas infrastructure.

Support legislation allowing for stronger enforcement actions, including increased penalties, to be imposed by the land use authority for oil & gas operators that are clearly in violation of permits and related entitlements.

Support funding for cleanup/removal of historic, abandoned oil and gas wells and equipment where there is no existing responsible party with an urgent priority targeting wells that pollute the marine environment, as well as for equipment that creates public safety/nuisance concerns.

Support legislation to strengthen the rules set forth by, and enforcement capabilities of, the Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) and State Lands Commission (SLC) to require timely and proper abandonment of oil & gas facilities which have an existing responsible party.

Support legislation that would require oil and gas operating companies to provide comprehensive financial assurance for the purpose of disaster response in the instance the company is not able to pay for cleanup

of a spill or other related incident. Financial assurance should be required of new owners at the time of transfer of any oil and gas lease.

Support legislation that would require oil and gas operating companies to provide comprehensive financial assurance for the purpose of lease remediation at lease end of life including cleanup/removal of historic, abandoned oil and gas wells and equipment as well as site contamination.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Reduce likelihood of oil spills and public safety hazards with the intent of protecting public health and the ecologically sensitive habitats of Santa Barbara (including terrestrial and marine environments). Increase oil and gas operators' compliance with environmental and health-protective permit requirements. Reduce the likelihood of local government financial responsibility for oil & gas related liabilities.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

There are no known direct costs to the County. Economic impacts would be absorbed by private oil and gas operators.

CONTACT

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PARKS/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 seven million annual visitors to 71 day use parks, open space locations, two aquatic facilities and two camping parks as well as 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 2019 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 conservation 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 along the coast of the Pacific Ocean in the northwestern corner of the County. 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 provided a $136,000 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 culvert enhancement permit applications for improved public access. The County will provide funding for construction of the culvert enhancements.

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 provided a $380,000 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 $3.0 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.

Goleta Beach Park: This project includes ongoing efforts to insure sand replenishment at the County's most visited beach. Essential to the sand replenishment project is the rather work intensive task of a future long-term sustainable plan, including federal and state permitting, to address beachside access and erosion.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND 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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REGIONAL COASTAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT PROJECTS - FEDERAL AUTHORITY FOR CALIFORNIA

Principle	
Community Sustainability and Environmental Protection	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Our coast provides unique recreational and economic benefits and includes significant ecological resources. However, the California Coast is under severe threat from coastal erosion, storm damage, coastal environmental impacts, and 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; and
- 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, 11 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

Support establishment of and funding for a 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 Regional Sediment Management solutions including those identified above.

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, 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 Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON) Coastal Regional Sediment Management 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 management of solid waste, 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 products. In order to implement new programs and to build facilities to comply with growing regulations, the County would greatly benefit from receiving resources, funding, and permitting assistance associated with the efficient management of waste.

REQUESTED ACTION

1. Support legislation that provides flexibility to local government agencies in meeting state and federal waste reduction mandates and that provides for performance-based standards rather than prescriptive requirements; conversely, oppose legislation that is overly prescriptive and/or inflexible.

2. Support legislation and policies that promote the development and operation of facilities, such as the County's ReSource Center, that divert materials from landfills, and ensure that these facilities qualify for incentives associated with renewable energy production, landfill disposal reduction, reduced carbon fuels production, and greenhouse gas emission reduction.

3. Support funding opportunities and subsidies for the operation of composting facilities, particularly anaerobic digestion facilities like the County's ReSource Center, which generate green energy and result in lower water consumption and a smaller land use footprint when compared with traditional aerobic composting operations.

4. Support proposals to provide funding to local governments for the environmentally safe management of hazardous and electronic waste.

5. Support legislation and funding to expand markets for diverted materials and support measures for Recycling Market Development Zones.

6. Support extended producer responsibility legislation and manufacturer take-back programs that require producers to fund the end-of-life management of their products, thereby reducing public costs and motivating improvements in product design.

7. Support legislation that facilitates funding for and/or strengthens the ability of local governments to prevent and remediate illegal dumping of solid waste.

8. Support legislation that reduces the negative environmental impacts of single-use items by implementing extended producer responsibility programs for single-use products and packaging; promoting more sustainable alternatives to single-use items; and phasing out the use of single-use items on a statewide basis when environmentally preferable alternatives are available.

9. Support legislation that provides resources to local agencies to increase edible food recovery programs.

10. Support legislation that provides funding to green business programs in California that certify and recognize businesses and organizations that excel in the areas of waste reduction, environmentally preferable purchasing, energy and water conservation, and pollution prevention.

11. Support proposals that establish greater multi-disciplinary coordination of state environmental policies and programs.

12. Oppose legislation which bans new hazardous materials from landfill disposal unless the proposals also provide a funding mechanism and/or establish programs and guidelines for local governments to manage the banned materials.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The recommended actions above would result in a variety of local benefits to the community including:

- Conservation of water, energy, and other natural resources
- Reduction in the use of toxic chemicals
- Prevention of hazardous materials from entering our environment
- Decrease in costs to local government
- Improved worker safety
- Increase in local waste management jobs
- Reduction of greenhouse gasses
- Reduction in air emissions

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Local governments are responsible for providing waste management programs and infrastructure for their communities. The cost to do so is quite high, especially for new facilities and for managing hazardous wastes. Securing external resources greatly benefits these efforts. Additionally, legislation that alleviates the burden on local agencies, such as extended producer responsibility programs, would result in significant cost savings and potentially enhanced customer service for local governments.

CONTACT

Leslie Wells, Deputy Director of Public Works, (805) 882-3605
County Executive Office, (805) 568-3400

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. 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.

REQUESTED ACTION

Request funding for needed health and safety improvements to the County's Veteran's Memorial Buildings.

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 $1,250,000, which includes:

- **Seismic Safety**: This includes seismic retrofitting, foundation stabilization, and deteriorated wood framing components. Total cost estimated for this work is $375,000.
- **Electrical Systems**: This includes main panel, subpanel upgrades, internal wiring systems, and aging light fixtures. Total cost estimated for this work is $500,000.
- **Energy**: This includes water distribution systems, HVAC, utility regulation equipment, and window upgrades. Total cost estimated for this work is $375,000.

Lompoc Building

The County has estimated the cost for restoration to be $1,050,000, which includes:

- **Architectural**: This section includes exiting, fire protection, accessibility for the disabled and other life-safety related projects; replacement of doors and windows, and related buildings systems upgrades. Federal Share request is $750,000.
- **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 $1,300,000, which includes:

- **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 $750,000.
- **Hazardous Materials**: This section includes removal of lead based paints and asbestos materials. Federal Share request is $300,000.
- **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 $250,000.

CONTACT

George Chapjian, Director, Community Services Department, (805)568-2467
County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS

Principle	
Community Sustainability & Environmental Protection	
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. The Santa Barbara County board of Supervisors approved the County Local Agency Management Plan (LAMP) in late 2015 that outlines how the county will implement the state policy. Depending on location specific conditions, the cost of installing or repairing an OWTS has increased significantly. This is especially true in the county designated special problems areas that include places such as Los Olivos, Janin Acres and Mission Canyon. 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

Request funds, 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 be made available.

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.

CONTACT

Van Do-Reynoso, PhD., Director, Public Health Department, (805) 681-5105
Larry Fay, Environmental Health Services Director, (805) 346-8483
County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

HOUSING LEGISLATION

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding/Legislation	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

As part of each legislative session since 2017, California has passed a number of aggressive new bills into law which either mandate, or reduce local jurisdictions' ability to impede, the development of housing sufficient to meet the State's housing needs. Although these bills include a number of disparate methods to address housing needs, in general these bills are an attempt to: increase opportunities for affordable housing; streamline and remove barriers to housing production; hold cities and counties accountable for addressing local housing needs; and reform planning, regional housing needs, and fair housing laws. For example, in 2018 and 2019, several bills went into effect which amended State Density Bonus Law (SDBL) and the Housing Accountability Act (HAA). In part, the SDBL legislation expanded eligibility and streamlined the permit process for qualifying housing projects, and the HAA legislation elevated the evidentiary standard necessary for local jurisdictions to deny, conditionally approve, or reduce the density of certain housing development projects. Additional bills passed in 2018 and 2019 increased the reporting requirements for annual progress reports and revised Housing Element law to require an assessment of fair housing and surplus land available for low-income housing within each jurisdiction.

However, despite efforts to reduce regulatory and other barriers to housing development, the County continues to see a deficiency in housing stock, particularly for very low- and low-income categories due to the high price of land and lack of sufficient funding sources for affordable housing developers. Indeed, for the last annual reporting period, the County did not meet its pro-rata share of lower-income Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) (i.e., a deficiency of 42 very low- and 3 low-income units) and is unlikely to do so in future years, unless more aggressive efforts are initiated to assist with the development of such housing.

REQUESTED ACTION

- Support state and federal legislation that creates new funding streams and opportunities for developers of housing that will serve very low and low income categories.
- Support incentives for reduced parking requirements for affordable housing and market rate housing that is close to employment centers.
- Draft legislation that creates incentives for employers to either build, or subsidize the building of, workforce (moderate and upper moderate) housing for their employees.
- Support legislation that addresses the unique housing needs and demographics of each jurisdiction, by allowing jurisdictions the opportunity to implement creative solutions that work for their community and provide the needed housing.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The provision of local affordable housing would have multiple social, economic, and environmental benefits. When affordable housing is available, homeowners are able to spend more of their income on goods and services (e.g., health and education costs), rather than housing costs, which provide economic advantages to the immediate community. Furthermore, affordable housing accommodates individuals with a variety of skills that are critical to the community (e.g., teachers, nurses, and construction workers), and creates a more economically and socially vital community. The provision of housing for these income categories also would reduce the number of those who must commute relatively long distances to their place of employment, thereby reducing vehicle miles traveled, traffic congestion (primarily along State Route 101), and associated greenhouse gas emissions.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Cities and counties may incur significant costs to implement recent housing legislation. The Senate Bill 2 Planning Grants Program provides funding to assist local governments in preparing, adopting, and implementing plans and processes that accelerate housing production. However, this program only offers one-time financial and technical assistance. Additional grant opportunities are essential to implement future housing legislation given that recent trends suggest (1) the State will continue to require jurisdictions to revise existing and develop new procedures and regulations to meet state housing needs, and (2) RHNAs are projected to increase (potentially two- or three-fold) for most jurisdictions in the sixth housing-element update cycle.

CONTACT

Lisa Plowman, Director, Planning and Development, (805) 568-2086
George Chapjian, Director, Community Services Department, (805) 568-2467

FLOOD CONTROL INFRASTRUCTURE

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding & Legislative	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Weather is taking on the nature of extremes. Severe drought, wildfires, intense, prolonged rainfall severely impacts communities, often times with devastating and tragic results.
These forces of nature cannot be controlled. The best that can be achieved is to mitigate to the greatest extents possible, given the resources of available funding, community support, regulatory allowance, and a host of other often times conflicting interests.

Flood Control infrastructure, when combined with other best available management practices, represents the front-line defense to these cycles of drought-fire-flood.

REQUESTED ACTION

Craft federal legislation that allows the flexibility to address levee issues efficiently and effectively. Levee vegetation policies, USACE Section 408 Permissions, and regulatory permitting all influence the ability to provide for levee safety (federal).

Funding to construct and/or modify existing debris basins (state and federal)

Funding to accomplish creek/channel conveyance capital improvement projects

Facilitate acquisition of long-term debris disposal sites (state and federal)

Reform regulatory requirements, including the Endangered Species Act, that pose to delay projects and maintenance, increase costs, threaten life and property, and restrict the effectiveness of infrastructure performance.

PUBLIC

- Along the Santa Maria River Levee, expenditure of limited financial resources to the most cost effective protective measures, and in a timely manner not bogged down by lengthy Section 408 USACE Permissions and regulatory permitting.
- Debris basins offer a front line defense to those in the community that live in high risk hazard areas. Newly constructed or modified basins elevate the levels of protections against the threat of debris-laden flooding and debris flows.
- Channel conveyance improvements mitigate the limits of the flood hazard areas.
- Debris basins and channels accumulate sediments and other debris in the natural environment. Disposal sites dictate the costs of sediment removal. Local disposal sites are crucial to keep removal costs manageable.
- Disposal of riverine sediments to our beaches must be facilitated to protect from beach erosion and staving our beaches of sediments naturally intended for the ocean.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Federal legislation:	$250k
Cost of Regulations	$2 million per year (estimated)
Debris basins:	$35 - $50 million
Channel conveyance systems	$400-$500 million
Debris disposal site:	$10 - $15 million
Total:	$550 Million

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

CONTACT

Scott D. McGolpin, Director, Public Works Department, (805)568-3010
County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
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 is the sustainable management of California's groundwater within about 25 years. SGMA is being implemented by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).

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 five such basins. They are the Cuyama Valley, San Antonio Creek Valley, Santa Ynez River Valley, Montecito, Carpinteria.

The Act requires the completion of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) 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 each basin's Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA).

Although Proposition 1 includes $100 million in grant funds for SGMA, it is a relatively small amount for the 127 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

Develop additional funding mechanisms by the State for Santa Barbara County and GSAs to implement the requirements of SGMA. Without funding SGMA becomes essentially an unfunded mandate for comprehensive analysis and management of groundwater basins in Santa Barbara County.

PUBLIC

California is one of the last remaining States that has not required some form of sustainable management of groundwater. As a result, many California basins are in a state of critical imbalance that 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. Creating additional funding mechanisms for the implementation of SGMA will allow for sustainable management of the County's basins that will ultimately benefit several of the 2019 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, maintain 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 all future funding guidelines and because associated costs will extend far into the future.

CONTACT

Scott D. McGolpin, Director, Public Works Department, (805)568-3010
County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

Appendix

County at a Glance

The People (U.S. Census Bureau)

Population: (2018 estimate) 453,457

Ethnicity: (2018 estimate)

- **43.6% White**
- **47.2% Hispanic**
- **4.8% Asian**
- **1.6% Black**
- **2.2% Mixed Race**

Age: (2018 estimate)

- **24.5% under 18 years of age**
- **15.1% over 65 years of age**

The Cities

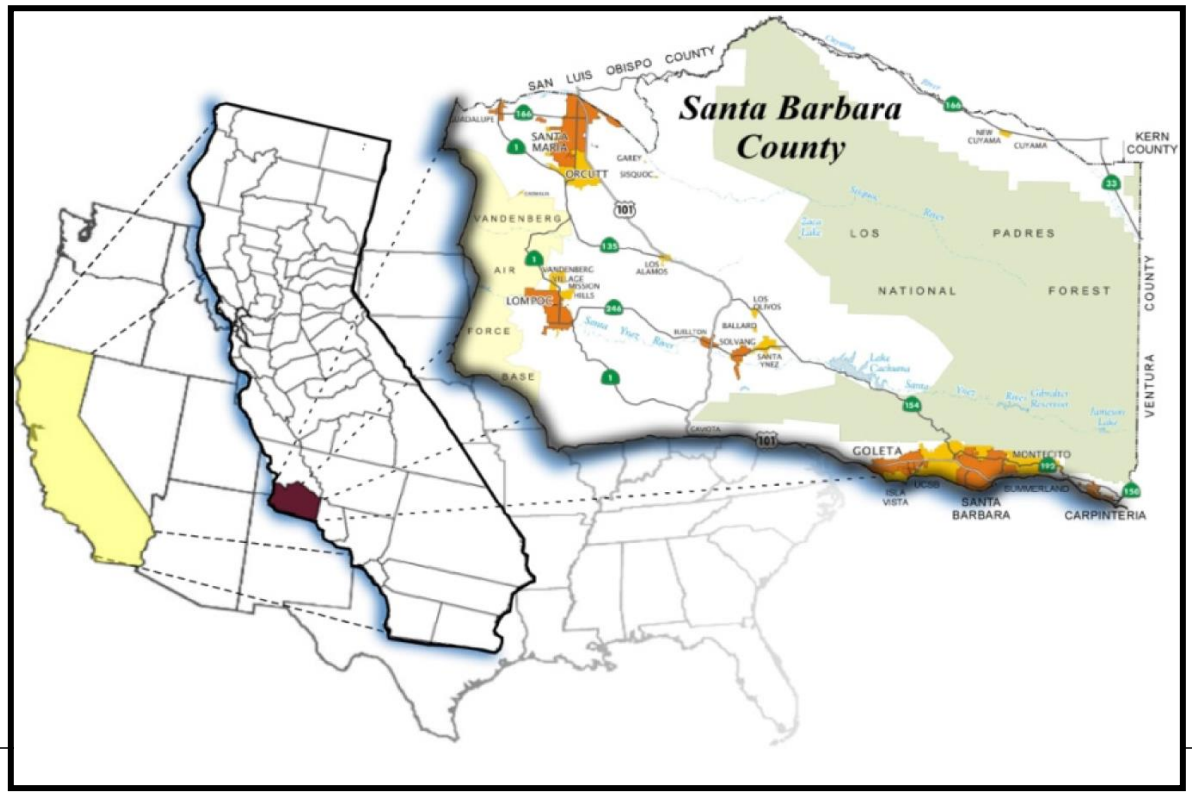
- **Buellton**
- **Carpinteria**
- **Goleta**
- **Guadalupe**
- **Lompoc**
- **Santa Barbara**
- **Santa Maria**
- **Solvang**

The Community

- **114 parks**
- **18 beaches**
- **18 open space preserves**
- **17 public libraries**
- **17 golf courses**
- **Civic Participation (November 2018)**
  -Number of Voting Precincts: 263
  -Number of Registered Voters: 217,417

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 Donald J. Trump, 45th President of the United States

whitehouse.gov
Bio - Previous occupation: Developer. Elected in 2016.
Key Issues: Infrastructure, veteran services reform, immigration, foreign trade, national & cyber security, repeal & replace Affordable Care Act, regulatory reform.

United States Senator Dianne Feinstein, 115th 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.
Committee Assignments:
Judiciary, Intelligence, Appropriations, Rules and Administration.

United States Senator Kamala Harris, 115th Congress

harris.senate.gov
Bio - Previous occupation: California Attorney General. Elected to Senate in 2016. Committee assignments include Homeland Security & Government Affairs, Environment and Public Works, Intelligence and Budget.
Committee Assignments:
Homeland Security and Government Affairs, Environment and Public Works, Intelligence, Budget.

Congressman Salud Carbajal, 24th Congressional District

carbajal.house.gov
Bio - Previous occupation: County Supervisor.
Elected to Congress in 2016. Committee assignments include: Armed Services and Budget
Committee Assignments:
Armed Services, Budget.

State Officials

Governor Gavin Newsom, 40th Governor of California

gov.ca.gov
Bio - Previous occupation: Elected Governor of California in 2018, elected Lieutenant Governor in 2010, served as Mayor of San Francisco from 2004 to 2011.
Key issues- eliminating child poverty, building an upward economy for all, renewing commitment to education, meeting the state's housing needs.

California State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 19th State Senate District

sd19.senate.ca.gov
Bio – Previous occupation: Deputy District Attorney, CA State Assemblymember elected to State Senate in 2012.
Committee Assignments:
Judiciary, Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency Management, Budget and Fiscal Review, Subcommittee #1 on Education, Labor and Industrial Relations, Natural Resources and Water, Public Safety.

California State Assemblyman Jordan Cunningham, 35th State Assembly District

ad35.asmrc.org
Bio - Previous occupation: Deputy District Attorney and Trustee for Templeton Unified School District
Elected CA Assemblymember in 2016.
Committee Assignments:
Business and Professions, Elections and Redistricting, Judiciary, Rules, Public Safety

California State Assemblywoman Monique Limon, 37th State Assembly District

A37.asmdc.org
Bio- Previous occupation:
Elected CA Assemblymember in 2016.
Committee Assignments:
Banking and Finance, Budget, Health, Housing and Community Development, Natural Resources, Fisheries and Aquaculture.

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