

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM



2014

*Approved by the Board of Supervisors on
January 14, 2014.*

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SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

PURPOSE

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

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

2013 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During the past year, the Legislative Program for Santa Barbara County successfully:

- Delivered over 180 advocacy letters on more than sixty issues and pieces of legislation in support of the 2013 legislative program;
- Conducted legislative advocacy trip to Sacramento and Washington, DC to press the needs of importance to Santa Barbara County and its residents;
- Advocated for reducing the impacts to core public health programs as a result of the Governor's budget;
- Advocated for approval of legislation and the Governor's signature for AB 65 (Achadjian). District Attorney Dudley sought this legislation which protects victims of sexually violent crimes;
- Advocated for approval of legislation and the Governor's signature for AB 154 (Atkins) which provides an expanded scope of practice for properly trained Nurse Practitioners;
- Advocated for approval of legislation and the Governor's signature for SB 191 (Padilla) which authorizes the collection of funds to support local emergency medical services;
- Advocated for approval of legislation and the Governor's signature for SB 510 (Jackson) which requires local governments to consider the support of mobile home park residents prior to a decision on mobile home park conversion

2014 LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FUNDING REQUESTS

AGRICULTURE/WILLIAMSON ACT SUBVENTION

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

Locally, agriculture continues to be the County’s major producing industry. The 2012 gross production was valued at \$1.3 billion. This is a \$96.6 million (8.1%) increase in gross value when compared with the 2011 figures and is the seventh year in a row that agriculture has surpassed the one billion dollar benchmark. The County is the second largest producer in the state for broccoli and cauliflower as well as having a high production of strawberries, grapes, lettuce, and other produce. Farming and ranching operations are also one of the most important industries and economic drivers in the County.

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests its State delegation, the Legislature, and the Administration to restore the funding for subvention payments to local governments as part of future budgets.

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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COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICES AND CAPITAL

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The County of Santa Barbara funds Library services and operations for 15 city and county libraries. Library services in the County are administered via contracts with the City of Santa Barbara, the City of Santa Maria and the City of Lompoc. Through this arrangement, the county partners with local cities to provide library facilities, services and materials in a cost effective manner. Library services are provided through the following established zones:

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

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

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

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The County contributes approximately \$2.9M annually, for library services and operations countywide. These limited funds have caused hours of operations at our library facilities to decrease over the last few years. The cost to maintain library operating hours, replace materials, books, and technology far exceeds our current ability to provide funding. The County seeks additional annually funding, to allow for replacement of out dated equipment, furnishings, technology and materials and increase library hours of operation.

CONTACT

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ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT/ REVENUE DIVERSIFICATION

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Economic enhancement offers local government, the private sector, the nonprofit sectors and the local community the opportunity to work together to improve the local economy. It aims to enhance competitiveness and thus encourage sustainable economic growth that is inclusive and achieves the priorities for a given area. The purpose of economic enhancement programs is to build up the economic capacity and vitality of a local area to improve its economic future and the quality of life for all. It is a process by which public, business and non-governmental sector partners work collectively to create better conditions for economic growth and employment generation.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

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

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

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

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

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the CEO, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

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

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

- California is ranked #1 in the United States in cash receipts at \$43.5 billion for their output in 2011;
- California agriculture revenues increased 15 percent for 2011 from the 2010 income level of \$38 billion;
- California represents 11.9 percent of total U.S. agricultural revenue;
- There are approximately 81,500 farms and ranches in California with 25.4 million acres of farmland in production;
- The largest dairy industry in the nation;
- More than 400 commodities are grown in California;
- California produces about half of the U.S. grown fruits, nuts and vegetables and
- Many crops are solely produced in California.

California County Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers promote and protect the agricultural industry, the environment and the public in the State of California. Unique in the United States to California, County Commissioners and Sealers provide the first line of defense against the introduction of injurious plant and animal pests. Early Pest Detection and Surveillance programs prevent the establishment and spread of plant pests that endanger agriculture, the environment and the economy of the State and Santa Barbara County.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests its federal delegation, the Legislature, and the Administration to support federal and state legislative and administrative proposals that provide resources for the state and counties to perform early pest detection and surveillance activities.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

A reduction or elimination of federal and state funding for the State and counties to perform early pest detection and surveillance activities will result in either an additional cost to local governments to cover the costs of these critical pest exclusion activities or a reduction or elimination of these services all together. This

will lead to the agricultural industry, the public and environment being put at risk for further invasive pest infestations. California agricultural losses to exotic pests exceed \$3 billion annually.

CONTACT

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HEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY

Principle	
Inter-Agency Collaboration	
Strategy	Target
Funding & Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The health of all residents can be improved by supporting legislation that prevents chronic disease, prevents the spread of illness, promotes healthy behaviors, and promotes wellness. Legislative, policy, and environmental changes combined with 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.

Behaviors that drive chronic and communicable diseases that result in poor health outcomes can be changed. Access to services, preparedness, and our response to health conditions will have a positive impact on health

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

- Healthy behaviors and activities to promote wellness - Support programs and funding that encourage physical activity, healthy eating, breastfeeding, healthy 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 enhance our emergency response procedures, training, and disaster command structures for the entire community including vulnerable populations and medically fragile residents.
- Support legislation and regulatory measures that improve the quality and delivery of emergency medical services and pre-hospital care.
- Prevention of harmful health conditions and ensure access to health care – Support programs and funding that prevent injuries and violence, prevent the spread of communicable disease, promote infection control practices and promote resident enrollment in health care coverage programs.

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, illness, and 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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HISTORIC SANTA BARBARA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

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

CONTACT

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HOLLISTER AVENUE CORRIDOR

Principle	
Inter-Agency Collaboration	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

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

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

- Reduced travel time for movement of people, goods and services, resulting in less congestion, and pollution and improved regional air quality;
- Reduced conversion of agricultural land, sensitive habitat, and open space for new development;
- Reduced costs to build and maintain expensive new infrastructure;
- Improved health and welfare with opportunities for active transportation and
- Added vibrancy and a unified sense of community to the corridor.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

\$8 million is needed for design and construction of Phase 1.

CONTACT

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HOMELESSNESS

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

Specifically, the County requests the Federal delegation’s support for \$1,601,515 to fund authorized programs under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended by the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009, including the provision of additional flexibility in the use of Federal funds on the local level to address housing for the homeless.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

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LAKE CACHUMA

Principle	
Inter-Agency Collaboration	
Strategy	Target
Funding & Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests its Congressional delegation support new appropriations requests as follows: Fire flow and water distribution system improvements - \$5.4 million; New water treatment plant and related systems - \$3.5 million; Sewage treatment - \$4.7 million; Boat Ramp Extension - \$1 million; Live Oak ADA showers, restrooms, electrical upgrades and Marina Café - \$200,000; Recreational improvements - \$4.7 million.

PROJECT	TOTAL COST	AMOUNT FUNDED	SOURCE OF AMOUNT FUNDED***	UNFUNDED AMOUNT	STRATEGY TO SECURE FUNDING**
BIOLOGICAL OPINION / SURCHARGE INITIATED PROJECTS					
Fire Flow and Water Distribution Improvements	\$2,249,000	\$249,000	BOR / SBC	\$2,000,000	BOR (\$2,000,000)
Construction Road Repair & Access Improvements (connected to fire flow for fire truck access)	\$3,331,000	\$0	-	\$3,331,000	BOR (\$3,331,000)
New Water Treatment Plant and Related Systems*	\$6,217,500	\$2,737,500	BOR / SBC	\$3,480,000	BOR (\$3,480,000)
Sewage Treatment Plant and Related Systems	\$5,040,000	\$335,000	BOR	\$4,705,000	BOR (\$4,705,000)
Boat Ramp Extension	\$1,000,000	\$0	DB&W	\$1,000,000	DB&W \$1.0 M
Boat Launch Ramp	\$2,626,140	\$2,626,140	DB&W	\$0	COMPLETE
New Fire Suppression Water Storage Reservoir (ARRA)*	\$1,051,056	\$1,051,056	ARRA	\$0	COMPLETE
Existing Water Reservoir Re-roofing*	\$460,321	\$460,321	BOR	\$0	COMPLETE
Sewer Lift Stations	\$1,138,500	\$1,138,500	BOR / SBC	\$0	COMPLETE
TOTAL	\$23,113,517	\$8,597,517	-	\$14,516,000	
OTHER CAPITAL FACILITIES AND RECREATIONAL PROJECTS					
Live Oak ADA Showers, Restrooms & Electrical Upgrades, and Marina Cafe	\$1,980,000	\$1,347,200	BOR / OGALS / SBC	\$632,800	BOR (\$201,764) SBC (\$431,036)
New Overnight Accommodations (Cabins / Yurts)	\$2,496,000	\$20,000	BOR / SBC	\$2,476,000	BOR (\$1,238,000) SBC (\$1,238,000)
Recreation Improvements (Pool Facilities)	\$6,900,000	\$0	BOR / SBC	\$6,900,000	BOR (\$3,450,000) SBC (\$3,450,000)
Mohawk ADA Bathrooms*	\$569,094	\$284,547	BOR / SBC / ARRA	\$0	COMPLETE
TOTAL	\$11,945,094	\$1,651,747	-	\$10,008,800	
GRAND TOTAL FOR ALL PROJECTS	\$35,058,611	\$10,249,264	-	\$24,524,800	

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

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LOWER MISSION CREEK, SANTA BARBARA, CA

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding, Legislation & Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

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

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

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

CONTACT

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LOWER MISSION CREEK: COUNTY FUNDING TABLE***Fund 2610 – South Coast Flood Zone 2**

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

*Data only available back to 1997-98

PARKS/OPEN SPACE

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Santa Barbara County Parks provides services to approximately 5.6 million annual visitors to 71 day use parks, open space locations and two camping parks as well as to a network of trails and coastal access easements. The County is interested in preserving and expanding the amount of open space located within its boundary. As such, the County is supportive of funding opportunities that enable local governments: (1) to maintain existing facilities (i.e. funding for park and trail maintenance); (2) to acquire additional land for open space preservation and (3) to ensure safe access to beaches, parks and open space. Examples of these projects are listed below as well as in other areas of the 2013 platform.

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

Point Sal Access and Management Plan and Implementation: This project will provide public access to Point Sal “Reserve”, which consists of 2,600 acres of publicly and privately-owned lands located in the northwestern corner of the County, along the coast of the Pacific Ocean. In 1991, an original management plan was developed and revised in 2002 under an internal administrative draft, to include parcels acquired by the County since the original 1991 plan. Costs total \$3.2 Million to update the management plan (\$50,000), implement public access including land acquisition and vehicle improvements to the trail-head and pedestrian trail (\$2.8 Million), signage and cattle control (\$350,000). The United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service has provided a \$200,000 California Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) Grant for the preparation of environmental documents, design and permit applications.

Santa Claus Lane Beach Access and Development: This project will secure public access rights and easements to the beach and open an access way over the existing railroad tracks and rock seawall. The total project cost is approximately \$6.9 million which includes acquiring access rights and the design and construction of safety developments for the railroad and seawall crossings, installation of a parking lot, landscape screening, a restroom and other ancillary facilities. The United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service has provided a \$50,000 California Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) Grant to facilitate securing access rights.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

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PAVEMENT PRESERVATION

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Funding, Legislation & Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

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

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

Funding Request

Legislative Proposal

Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

\$9M annually.

CONTACT

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RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Resource Recovery Project is a promising new way for Santa Barbara County to further enhance the region's recycling programs while reducing our community's carbon footprint. Established in February 2007, under the direction of the Board of Supervisors, this project is a coordinated effort of the County of Santa Barbara and the Cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, Solvang and Buellton. For the past six years, County Staff has been looking to dramatically increase recycling and convert "leftover" mixed municipal solid waste (through non-combustion thermal, chemical or biological means) into green energy.

The County has determined a preferred vendor for this project that uses both a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and an Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Facility. The MRF will enable us to divert recyclables that are still ending up at our landfill. This MRF will also allow us to sort out our organics, which is the common cause of methane gas generation in landfills worldwide. Once the organic waste is separated from our waste, we can speed up the decomposition process of this material in an air-tight container. This is called anaerobic digestion or "AD." This process captures all of the methane potential of our organic material, generates green energy, and greatly reduces our future greenhouse gas impact. The organics processed by the AD facility are composted into a product that can be used as a soil amendment. The MRF and AD Facility working together are projected to reduce the amount of waste currently landfilled at Tajiguas by 60%, bringing our regions total recycling rate well above 80%.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

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U.S. HIGHWAY 101 - REGIONAL

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

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

Upon completion of the project, the corridor will be a part of a continuous 40 mile, 6-lane facility, extending from the City of Ventura in Ventura County to the City of Goleta in Santa Barbara County. The corridor will include 16 miles of continuous HOV lanes. This 10 mile segment, and an adjacent 6 mile segment to the south at the Ventura/Santa Barbara County line that will be constructed in 2011, will be the first HOV lanes on the Central Coast of California.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

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VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDINGS

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Santa Barbara and Lompoc 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 20s and 30s understood this obligation—the generation of this decade needs to follow through. This request will enable the Veterans Memorial Buildings within the County of Santa Barbara to continue to serve our returning veterans for decades to come.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Through the Department of Defense, Homeland Security, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Commerce and Department of the Interior fund the \$1.5 million request to bring these two Veterans Memorial Buildings into the compliance with modern codes and conditions.

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests all or a portion of the funding and that those funds are identified specifically for these important projects.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Santa Barbara Building

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

Lompoc Building

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

Santa Barbara Building

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

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

Lompoc Building

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

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

CONTACT

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WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Principle	
Job Growth & Economic Vitality	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The national, publicly-financed Workforce Development/Workforce Investment system is in the process of being reauthorized and updated for the first time since 1998. This system, authorized by the Workforce Investment Act is a public/private partnership—with the County of Santa Barbara representing the public. The reauthorization is currently before Congress. Santa Barbara County would like to build upon the best practices of the current system in order to continue to recover from the economic downturn of 2009, and produce better jobs for our citizens, and a stronger community.

During these difficult fiscal times, nationally, we are concerned that funding will be reduced; decision-making will be done at the national or state level—when it should be done at the local level; and, that local flexibility will suffer under new Federal or State mandated set-asides, requirements, priorities. In short, we want a locally-driven workforce system.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests the following reforms be included in the reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act:

Governance:

- **Regionalization.** Provide incentives for regional collaborations—while, not undermining the foundation of “local control” or attempt to merge WIBs, which is a concession to the inability of the State to manage the program. Collaboration of WIBs that share common industry sectors should be rewarded with additional new funding.
- **Oversight.** Strengthen the role of the local boards to convene and connect economic vitality, education, and workforce development (including the Wagner-Peyser programs).
- **Local Flexibility.** Retain local flexibility of the WIBs by encouraging the expanded use of “waivers” that foster innovation in program design, service delivery, and collaboration. Waivers that allow for greater use of the self-employment/entrepreneurial training options, enhanced services and collaborations with the private sector businesses, and university-generated start-up businesses should be encouraged.

Structure:

- **One-Stops.** Continue to support the One-Stop system as the *primary* deliverer of WIA services—while leaving the option open for WIBs to work with other delivery systems (e.g., community colleges) on an as-needed basis, and when economically advantageous. Consistent with a re-definition of “Mandated Partners” require that the Mandated Partners not only co-locate at the One-Stops but also provide financial support for the “basic” operational costs.
- **Business Services.** Consistent with Business being recognized as an equal customer (along with job-seekers), allow WIBs increased flexibility in serving the business community—including allowing Dislocated Worker funding to be used for incumbent worker/up-grade training, as a deterrent to lay-offs (modeled after the California ETP program). Also, a new separate funding stream should be created to fund Business Services (*separate* from the Rapid Response funding), including several categories of performance measurements. In addition, encourage the alignment of the Small

Business Development Center programs, SBA loan programs, and incubator programs *under the WIBs oversight.*

- **Sequence of Services.** Relax requirements for the sequencing of “core”, “intensive” and “training” services in order to allow job-seekers to receive the services they need as expeditiously as possible. As part of this relaxation, there must be WIB policies and guidelines around any exception to the basic triage delivery model.
- **Youth Councils.** Continue the Youth Councils, with the following modifications: greater flexibility by local WIBs on the membership; strong encouragement of youth as members of the council; expand the role of the council as “conveners” of meetings, forums, conferences on youth issues; require an annual Work Plan and a Report of Accomplishments from the council to the WIB.

Accountability Measures:

- Add performance standards for Business Services to WIA performance measurements.
- Require an Annual Work Plan from the One-Stop Operator to the WIB, and an Annual “One-Stop Assessment” performed on behalf of the WIB to identify items for continuous improvement—and validate the continued use of the Operator.

Eligibility:

- Add additional funding to the WIA (out-of-school) Youth Program to target “transitional youth” who are 21-24 years old. There should be no income criteria associated with this group—but eligibility should be based upon documentation of local WIB-defined “barriers.” These funds and program design must focus on job skills acquisition, soft skills and job-keeping skills. These funds may also be used for OJT for transitional youth. The performance measurement associated with this new eligibility group should be obtaining and retention in employment.
- Recognizing what is already occurring, the “Adult” and “Dislocated Worker” funding should be combined to serve one overall target group of “Adults.” The combining of both funding streams should be a “local decision” and option that would be included in the local WIB Plan. [If the funding streams are combined, the funding could be used for incumbent worker training, as outlined above.]

Funding & Formula:

- Re-establish a separate funding stream for Summer Youth Jobs Programs. Similar to ARRA, this funding would recognize that because of year-round school calendars, summer is not restricted to the traditional May through August months. WIBs would need to designate, in their Plan to the State, which months they will use Summer Youth Jobs funding for (Note: There can be more than one “summer” period within a LWIA). Also, again as in ARRA, summer jobs programs will be exempt from the established 10 Elements of WIA Youth Programs. And, eligibility will be broadened to include up to 30% of participants NOT meeting any income criteria.
- **Small WIB Flexibility/Waivers.** Because we believe in the value of all WIBs, and the local point-of-view that even the smallest WIBs provide, we believe there should be additional flexibilities—and Rule Waivers—available to those WIBs with total (all programs) allocations of \$5 million or less. Targeted Small WIB waivers may include: greater flexibility to transfer funds between adult funding streams (not Youth); greater ability to use Rapid Response funds for program activities; and, modification of Federal (and State) imposed “training mandates” or requirements. *One size does not fit all.*

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

As the publicly-funded workforce system, the community benefits from a well-trained, competitive workforce and a thriving business community. The workforce system also assists local Elected Officials, private foundations, community colleges and others in formulating their priorities for funding, training, and initiatives.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The current funding received is determined via national formula based on unemployment rates, numbers of people in poverty, and other factors; with Santa Barbara County’s combined WIA funded currently at \$3.7 million. The decrease from the earlier days of the program continues when, it should be noted, the

unemployment rates and national economy were in much better shape than they are today. There is no General Fund cost (via a Match or other requirement) to Santa Barbara County in the administration/operation of the program.

CONTACT

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LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

2012 FARM BILL & DISEASE MANAGEMENT

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Legislation	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

In 2008 Congress adopted the Food, Conservation and Energy act of 2008 (Farm Bill) (P.L. 110-146) containing important provisions for ongoing efforts to combat pests and diseases in the U.S. Section 10201 of the Farm bill explicitly mandates funding “shall (be made) available to carry out this section,” that includes “(b) Early plant pest detection and surveillance...(c) Threat Identification and Mitigation Program...and (d) Specialty Crop Certification and Risk Management Systems.” Congress authorized a total \$407 million in the 10-year agriculture budget baseline for this program.

Upon receiving an apportionment each year from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), USDA is required to make funds available from the Commodity Credit Corporation in the following amounts for respective fiscal years:

- \$12 million in FY 2009,
- \$45 million in FY 2010 and
- \$50 million in FY 2011 and thereafter

Congress recognized the challenge and appropriately addressed the issue with targeted funding toward identified high-risk pest pathways. The statute is clear with regard to funding priorities. The funds are to be used for early plant pest detection and surveillance activities that will likely:

- Prevent the introduction and establishment of plant pests and
- Provide a comprehensive approach to compliment Federal detection efforts.

Further the statute is clear with regard to special funding considerations (based on pathways). The Secretary of Agriculture shall provide funds to a state department of agriculture if the Secretary determines that the state department of agriculture is in a state that has a high risk of being affected by one or more plant pests or diseases taking into consideration the following important priorities:

- The number of international ports of entry in the state;
- The volume of international passenger and cargo entry into the state;
- The geographic location of the state and if the location or types of agricultural commodities produced in the state are conducive to agricultural pests and diseases;
- Crop diversity or natural resources (including unique plant species) of the state and
- Whether the Secretary has determined that an agricultural pest or disease in the state is a federal concern.

2012 Farm Bill: the funds in the 2008 farm bill are targeted and critical and need to be reauthorized in the 2012 Farm Bill. It is widely accepted that additional resources are needed to safeguard America’s natural environment and food and fiber systems from the potential destruction caused by invasive pests and diseases. The lesson States have learned from implementing Section 10201 of the 2008 Farm bill is there is a great need to use consistent federal funding to support their efforts not just to discover new pests and diseases that impact agriculture but to:

1. Mitigate pests offshore and eliminate pathways of introduction,
2. Prepare for the potential introduction of certain pests and
3. Rapidly and effectively respond to introductions when they occur.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests its Federal delegation, the Legislature and the Administration to Support the passage of a 2012 Farm Bill that would continue the provisions and level of funding provided in Section 10201 of P.L. 111-246 (Farm Bill) beyond FY 2012 in the manner and purposes set forth by the statute. With budget sequestration and farm policy priorities under review, strong consideration should be given to consistently fund pest and disease management programs by up to \$615 million over the ten year budget baseline.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Now more than ever, due to increased international trade and travel early pest detection is important to prevent significant economic and environmental damage throughout the U.S. Once a pest becomes established or spreads significantly, the cost to eradicate, suppress, or manage it can be in the millions of dollars not to mention the economic costs in lost crops and damage to native ecosystems. A 1997 General Accounting Office report estimated the national cost to taxpayers from invasive species was close to \$41 billion annually in lost production, prevention, and control expenses. In 1998, the impact due to invasive weeds alone was estimated at about \$15 billion.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

To date, funding from Section 10201 of the Farm Bill has provided California a total of:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Total Amount Available</u>	<u>Total to California</u>
2009	\$12,000,000	\$3,067,226
2010	\$45,000,000	\$19,159,358
2011	\$50,000,000	\$14,007,044
2012	TBD	TBD

CONTACT

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CACHUMA LAKE – BOATER SAFETY AND ENFORCEMENT FINANCIAL AID

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Legislation	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The County of Santa Barbara enforces safe boating protocol, as well as enforcing the rules and regulations on Cachuma Lake for over 50 years. The California State Department of Boating and Water Ways has a financial aid program to help offset the costs of boating safety and enforcement (Boating Safety and Enforcement Financial Aid Program). Currently, there are 38 counties participating in this program. However, due to program and legal constraints, any new counties wishing to sign up for the program are put on a waiting list. The current program will allow any county to receive up to 20% of the program funds, which is allowing one county to monopolize the majority of funding. The current program has \$10.6 million per year in funding, of which over \$2.1 million go to one county agency, leaving the other 37 counties to split the remaining \$8.5 million, for an average of \$229,000 each.

The Boating Safety and Enforcement (BS&E) Financial Aid Program was established in 1969 by Assembly Bill 1827, which became Section 663.7 of the Harbors and Navigation Code (H&N) once enacted. Section 6593 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) was developed in 2002 to further implement this program. The purpose of the BS&E Financial Aid Program is to provide State financial aid to local governments. The program is intended to augment existing local resources for boating safety and enforcement activities.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests that the County work with appropriate counties and stakeholders to pursue legislation or other administrative remedies to adjust requirements for the boating and safety enforcement financial aid program to allow more counties access to the funding and also allow for more even distributions of the funds available.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Cachuma Lake serves over 800,000 visitors each year and the majority of visitors use the lake for recreational boating. Access to the boating and safety enforcement financial aid program will help the county offset the costs of providing safety and enforcement on Cachuma Lake.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

While the County does currently receive funding for safety and enforcement from recreational boat licensing fees collected by the state, any costs occurred above this amount is done so at the expense of the County.

CONTACT

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DISTRICT ATTORNEY LEGISLATION: CALIFORNIA ARSON REGISTRY

Principle	
Efficient Service Delivery	
Strategy	Target
Legislation	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

In 1985, California established an arson registry in which all convicted arsonists must register with certain local officials in the area in which the arsonist resides. An adult arsonist must register for life, while youth are removed at age 25 or when their records are sealed. As of September 2009, over 3,700 people were on the registry.

When registering with local authorities, arsonists' information is given to the law enforcement and fire agencies that oversee the jurisdiction where the arsonist resides. The Department of Justice (DOJ) is sent all statewide information and is responsible for managing California's Arson Registry.

Under existing law, access to the full Arson Registry is limited to peace officers. Local fire officials are only granted access to information related to registrants who reside in their local jurisdictions. This is problematic in California because many counties and cities are within a very small geographic area. People move freely from county to county on a regular basis, thus falling under the jurisdiction of multiple law enforcement and fire agencies. To assist in preventing and investigating arson crimes, fire officials should be granted access to the DOJ's full arson registry.

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce Dudley established the Arson Task Force in 2010 in an effort to bring multiple law enforcement agencies together to collaborate on arson investigations and prosecutions. District Attorney Dudley worked with Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian to introduce Assembly Bill 347 in an effort to help local fire officials prevent and investigate arson crimes by requiring the Department of Justice to grant chief fire official's access to the full California Arson Registry.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors will work in collaboration with the District Attorney Arson Task Force and the County's legislative delegation to support passage of AB 347.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

By granting chief fire officials full access to the California Arson Registry, AB 347 would ensure that these officials have access to the information necessary to better track the movement of convicted arsonists and to help prevent re-offense by those registrants. Additionally, granting fire officials access to this information would assist in efforts to investigate arson crimes.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Prosecution of crimes is borne by the taxpayers and County public safety departments.

CONTACT

Joyce Dudley, District Attorney, (805) 568-2308

Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the CEO, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LEGISLATION: SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATORS

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Legislation	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

In October 1974, Tibor Karsai was convicted of brutally raping a 17-year-old girl in Santa Barbara County and was committed to state prison. Karsai was paroled in March 1979 and took up residence in San Luis Obispo County. In February 1980, Karsai was arrested and convicted for rape and sexual assault of a minor in Placer County and was sentenced to 26 years in state prison. He was committed as a Sexually Violent Predator (SVP) in July 1998. In 2012, the Placer County Superior Court determined that Karsai would be released from the SVP program and domiciled in Santa Barbara County as a “transient.”

The Santa Barbara County District Attorney fought the release of Karsai into Santa Barbara County and appealed to the highest level, the California Supreme Court. The Court denied the petition for review, therefore condoning the release of Karsai into Santa Barbara County as a transient. Karsai currently lives in a recreational vehicle as a transient. A private health company drives him to treatments and to places where his vehicle can park overnight. Thus, he will never truly establish a permanent residence.

Permitting dangerous criminals to be released as a transient and driven around the county without a permanent fixed address conflicts with the purpose of the SVP conditional release program. This program is designed to allow SVPs to reintegrate back into society and establish roots in the community. Moreover, releasing SVPs as transients prevents the public from having accurate information related to the location of these individuals.

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce Dudley worked with Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian to introduce Assembly Bill 768 in an effort to change the law which allows SVPs to be released as transients. AB 768 prohibits the release of SVPs as transients and removes recreational and other types of vehicles from the list of locations that qualify as a residence in order to ensure that SVPs are placed in fixed locations where they can be easily tracked. This bill also authorizes SVPs to be placed in any county where housing exists if no fixed housing exists in their home county.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors will work in collaboration with the County’s legislative delegation and law enforcement agencies to support passage of AB 768, as well as support other legislative efforts to strengthen laws regarding sexual crimes.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

By ensuring that SVPs are placed in fixed housing, AB 768 would improve public safety, help integrate offenders back into society, and hopefully help prevent them from reoffending.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Prosecution of crimes is borne by the taxpayers and County public safety departments.

CONTACT

Joyce Dudley, District Attorney, (805) 568-2308
Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the CEO, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

DRUG OVERDOSES

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Legislation	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The County of Santa Barbara Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Services department (ADMHS), Alcohol and Drug Program (ADP), provides referrals to Substance Use Disorder treatment, and primary prevention services including education and early intervention services targeted to prevent individuals from abusing substances. Drug overdose is now a leading cause of accidental death in California and the nation, but currently there is no state plan, and no programs or grants to address this issue.

AB 831

During the 2013 Legislative Session, AB 831 was introduced by Assemblymember Richard Bloom. The bill passed the Assembly Health Committee, but was held in the Committee on Appropriations. The County anticipates that this bill will be reintroduced in the 2014 session.

AB 831 establishes within the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS) a temporary working group to develop a plan to reduce the rate of fatal drug overdoses in the state. The bill would require this group to make recommendations to the respective Chairs of the Senate and Assembly Committees on Health on or before January 1, 2015. This bill is being actively supported by the County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrator's Association of California (CADPAAC).

AB 831 would also establish a grant program within the CHHS Agency to provide funds for programs related to drug overdose prevention, recognition, and response education, and would appropriate \$500,000 from the State General Fund for this purpose in the 2014-15 fiscal year.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

That the County of Santa Barbara work with appropriate counties and stakeholders to advocate for support of State of California Assembly Bill AB 831 (*Bloom*).

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Such a work group would help SB County address and battle its own prescription drug abuse problem and reinforce the SB 2012-2017 Strategic Prevention Plan Priority #4: Awareness of the harms and risks of Prescription Drug abuse by Junior High and High School Students.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

No cost to Santa Barbara County and potential life-savings in the community. \$500,000 cost to the State of California from the State General Fund.

CONTACT

Dr. Takashi Wada, MD, MPH, Interim Director, Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services, (805) 681-5440
Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the CEO, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3400

REGIONAL COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECTS - FEDERAL AUTHORITY FOR CALIFORNIA

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Legislation	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

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

Regional Sediment Management solutions to these threats include:

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

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

Funding Request

Legislative Proposal

Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Include new language in the next Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) that will establish a new Federal Authority that is consistent with the US Army's Corps of Engineers (USACE) missions of coastal risk reduction, ecosystem restoration and navigation and that will fund Regional Sediment Management projects on the California Coast. The purpose of the Federal Authority will be to:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the CEO, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400



TARGETED ADVOCACY

AIR QUALITY - MARINE VESSEL EMISSIONS

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

In Santa Barbara, the thousands of marine vessels that travel along the 130 miles coastline of the County produce significant emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx), particulates, air toxics, and greenhouse gases. The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District has estimated that if emissions are left uncontrolled, by 2020, marine vessel traffic in the Santa Barbara Channel (Channel) will produce more than half of the NOx emissions in the County. Emissions threaten air quality and public health and constrain the County’s ability to meet federal and state standards pertaining to ozone and particulates. While progress has been made in achieving regulations such as the California Air Resources Board fuel rule, and engine and fuel rules associated with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) designating 200 miles off the coast of North America as an Emission Control Area (ECA), there are four areas that still need to be addressed namely:

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The County requests its delegation support efforts to reduce emissions from marine vessels through economic incentives to accelerate the retrofit of engines and funding for research and development of new technologies to control shipping emissions. The County also requests its delegation support efforts related to analyzing the current shipping lanes and traffic outside of the Channel Islands and the speed at which vessels travel, and to support efforts to institute a vessel speed reduction program in the Santa Barbara Channel. Such a program could be structured as a voluntary incentive program (with an identified source of funding, for example, State Cap-and-Trade auction revenues). The California Air Resources Board is conducting regional air quality modeling analyses to assess air quality impacts of vessel traffic scenarios, both inside and outside the Santa Barbara Channel. Implementing a vessel speed reduction requirement in the Santa Barbara Channel of 12 knots could reduce emissions from these large marine vessels and reduce lethality of ship strikes on endangered whale species. This modeling and/or other similar analyses needs to be reviewed and considered to determine the air quality benefits associated with an alternative routing scheme. An alternative route outside the Channel should be implemented if public health is improved.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

This is largely a regulatory function, although there are proposals to provide financial incentives to vessel operators as a way to reduce emissions. There may be indirect costs to local governments that are required to maintain federal and state standards for air quality and greenhouse gas reductions, despite having no local control over shipping vessels' emissions.

CONTACT

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BRIDGES

Principle	
Inter-Agency Collaboration	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

MAP-21 legislation expires in FFY 2014. Reauthorization of the transportation bill must include a dedicated funding set aside and performance measures for On-System bridges to ensure the safety and reliability of the nation’s entire network of bridges.

MAP-21 recognizes the benefits to America from maintaining safe and passable bridges throughout the nation. It includes methods to continue maintenance for two of the three categories of structures on the transportation system: those on the National Highway System (NHS) and Off-System bridges.

Future NHS bridge maintenance is assured by performance measures that must be met in order to avoid restrictions on federal transportation funding. Future Off-System bridges are funded by a specific set-aside of transportation funding for their maintenance. However, MAP-21 does not provide secured future funding for On-System bridges; those on Federal-Aid Routes, but not on the NHS. These structures account for a significant portion of this nation’s bridge inventory. They carry millions of vehicles each day and are integral parts of our arterial and collector road system.

On-System bridges need to be protected and maintained into the future. Continuing federal funding, through reestablishment of the Highway Bridge Program (HBP) for all bridge categories is critical to local agencies’ ability to maintain the nation’s entire bridge network.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

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 Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the CEO, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

Principle	
Job Growth/ Economic Vitality	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

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LAND USE: HOUSING ELEMENT REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Principle	
Local Control	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

State laws governing community planning require the county to prepare and adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan, and require the general plan to include specified, mandatory elements, including a housing element. The law requires the housing element to contain, among other items, an assessment of housing needs; and an inventory of resources, constraints, and land suitable for meeting of those needs. Finally, the law requires the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to review the housing element to determine whether the element substantially complies with applicable housing laws.

Santa Barbara County recognizes that the availability of housing is absolutely critical for families, businesses and communities. The County has policies in place that help to assure that housing is available for all. The County understands the statewide importance of housing and that the Legislature has directed the State HCD to review housing elements. However, the current requirements for meeting housing needs and of having the State HCD review the County’s housing element for compliance with state laws could be improved. Numerous bills previously proposed in the legislature are evidence that multiple agencies continue to struggle with processes and mandates.

Some of these bills address a very specific item, such as removing the requirement that the County can obtain RHNA credit for a transfer of housing units to a city, only if the transfer is proportional across all housing income levels. Another example is a bill that would have required densities less than those specified by existing law to be deemed adequate to accommodate housing for lower income households, if certain circumstances are met. Finally, some bills are broader based and seek to refine, clarify or simplify the HCD review of housing elements.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The County requests its delegation support legislation that would provide the County with more options in meeting its housing needs; or that would simplify the housing element review process while still recognizing the important role that State HCD plays; and still ensuring County housing needs are being met.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

A legislative remedy that provides the County more options in meeting its housing needs or simplifies the housing element review process, while still ensuring County housing needs are being met, will have a beneficial impact on the provision of affordable housing in the County.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

No direct costs to government are anticipated..

CONTACT

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SAFETY NET PRESERVATION

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

According to 2012 Census figures, in Santa Barbara County 67,359 people (16% of residents) are still living below the federal poverty level (compared to 11.9% in 2007). There are approximately 19,600 (21%) of the County's children living in poverty (compared to 13.5% in 2007). Our increasing poverty rates reflect the impacts of a weakened economy and the slow and prolonged recovery from the Great Recession, and drastic cuts in health and human services programs at the State level. All of these factors have disproportionately affected low income seniors as well as children and families, leaving their "basic" needs of food, shelter, personal and financial security, health and welfare at risk of being unmet and leading to food insecurity, diminished health, and homelessness.

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

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 Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the CEO, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

SENIOR SERVICES-OLDER AMERICANS ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Older Americans Act provides federal funding to Area Agencies on Aging (AAA's) to help low-income seniors live independently in their communities through supportive, nutrition and health promotion programs and services. According to 2012 Census data there are over 57,000 seniors age 65 and older within the County of Santa Barbara (13% of the County's population). This number is expected to double by the year 2050 placing additional demands on a variety of health and human services programs. Key issues facing seniors within the County are in-home care housing as well as public assistance needs for those that live below the poverty level. Therefore, it is imperative to ensure that the services and programs currently in place are reauthorized to meet the growing population and needs of low-income seniors.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

Funding Request

Legislative Proposal

Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

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IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES-FUNDING

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program provides assistance to eligible low-income aged, blind and disabled individuals who are unable to remain safely in their own homes without this service. By providing assistance with daily tasks of living such as domestic/related chores and personal care services, IHSS maintains independence and quality of life while avoiding the more costly alternative of institutionalization.

Since 2009-10, the IHSS program has experienced significant budget-related changes intended to achieve state general fund savings. These program changes have included across-the-board and targeted reductions in service hours, reducing the number of people receiving IHSS services by tightening eligibility requirements, administrative reductions, a shift in county funding to a new Maintenance of Effort formula, and the mandated integration of the IHSS program into Medi-Cal managed care, via California's Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) which was approved in 2013 for implementation in eight pilot counties (Santa Barbara County is not one) but won't be actually implemented before April 1, 2014. The eight counties are all currently in the process of trying to coordinate the details of the CCI with their local health plans.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

Funding Request Legislative Proposal Targeted Advocacy

Action:

In order to preserve the safety net for Santa Barbara County's most vulnerable aged and disabled citizens, the County requests that its delegation: 1) advocate to oppose further reductions in service hours and tightening of eligibility requirements; 2) advocate to support an MOE proposal that protects the County and mitigates any adverse financial impact; and 3) oppose any move to IHSS managed care prior to the completion of the Dual Eligibles pilot project.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

IHSS is a critical program, preventing costly institutionalization and directly affecting the health and safety of its elderly and disabled recipients within our community. Few social services programs have had such an immediate, positive and profound effect on a person's quality of life as IHSS. Retaining independence allows low-income elderly and disabled to continue to participate in family and community life, without placing an undue financial burden on loved ones or on local government.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

IHSS is a social services model, supporting and monitoring the elderly and disabled in their homes thus delaying the onset of major medical issues. Program changes that reduce service hours and tighten eligibility may force many frail elderly and disabled residents into more costly institutionalization at the public's expense. The current average Medi-Cal cost of care in a nursing home is approximately \$7,000 per month (and private pay typically costs more), whereas the average cost of care through IHSS is approximately \$850 per month (based on an average of 85 approved hours of care per month paid at \$10 per hour). Additionally, many IHSS recipients who lose hours of caregiver assistance will debilitate more rapidly and require increased medical care, which increases government health care costs and places a burden on local health care systems, such as Public Health Clinics.

CONTACT

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Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the CEO, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

As the California legislature responds to the state’s continuing budget deficits, cuts have been made virtually across the board, but subsidized child care services and supports funded through the Department of Education’s Child Development Division have been reduced disproportionately. These services for low income families include CalWORKs and Alternative Payment child care subsidies, “General Child Care” subsidy contracts with centers and State Preschools, as well as critical support services such as Child Care Planning Council and Children’s Resource and Referral.

Without child care subsidies, low income working parents are either forced to quit their jobs or put their children in substandard care which impacts that child’s future and our communities’ viability. The County is advocating against further cuts to child care, and for the restoration of funding.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests that its delegation advocate at the State level to reinstate funding for child care subsidies and support services.

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 2012-13 Santa Barbara County received \$27.5 million in state and federal contracts as compared to \$32.9 million in FY 2007-08, translating to a 17% decrease in funding and resulting in the loss of 1,238 child care slots over that time—a 25% overall loss of state-funded spaces. Hardest hit were infant and toddler spaces—a 42% loss of slots, followed by a 19% loss of slots for preschoolers.

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

CONTACT

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 Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the CEO, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3400

TELECOMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION

Principle	
Local Control	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

There is ongoing debate within the scientific community regarding how thoroughly the long-term health effects of low-frequency electromagnetic and radio-frequency emissions are understood. Questions remain regarding how well the existing regulations established by the FCC protect more vulnerable populations such as school-aged children, and how well they protect against the cumulative effect of radio-frequency emissions on people who live or work in close proximity to multiple cellular facilities. Currently, the ability of local governments to include a consideration of the health and environmental effects of these facilities when deciding whether or not to approve the construction or modification of a cellular communications facility is limited.

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The County requests that its delegation seek and support federal legislation to repeal limitations on state and local authority imposed by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 that infringe upon the authority of local governments to regulate the placement, construction, and modification of telecommunications towers and other personal wireless service facilities on the basis of the health and environmental effects of these facilities. The County opposes sections of the Act that preempt local control and prevent local governments from considering health effects. Finally, the County urges the FCC to work in cooperation with the FDA and other relevant federal agencies to revisit and update studies on potential health concerns arising from wireless emissions in light of the national proliferation of wireless use.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Health advocates have worried for decades that exposure to frequencies emanating from telecommunications sources might be harmful. There are increasing health and environmental effects resulting from the location of certain cell phone towers and antennas, especially in regards to the cumulative effect of radio-frequency emissions on people who live or work in close proximity to multiple cellular facilities.

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.

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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TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) REAUTHORIZATION

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program was founded on the idea that states should have the flexibility to design their programs in a way best suited to their unique populations in order to help families transition from assistance to self-sufficiency. The last reauthorization of TANF, which was part of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, was heavily weighted toward Federal oversight and penalties instead of state flexibility – a change that reflected a level of distrust that was unwarranted given the progress states made in reducing the welfare rolls after TANF was initially implemented.

The success of TANF depends on counties' flexibility to target local needs and support participant's work activities. Without that flexibility and the funding to implement it, the working families who are struggling toward self-sufficiency will lose supportive services and many will be unable to successfully end their reliance on cash assistance. Welfare reform is an ongoing process of supporting working families in gaining self-sufficiency, not a one-time removal of families from the welfare rolls.

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The County requests that its delegation advocate at the Federal level to reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program to restore and enhance state and county flexibility to tailor work and support services that move families into self-sufficiency based on their unique needs.

TANF Reauthorization must reverse the damaging effects of the 2005 TANF Reauthorization changes to the Work Participation Rates (WPR) formula and definition of "work." The County is interested in a balanced approach between federal oversight and state flexibility with better and more outcome-based measures of success.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

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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 which may create impacts to public health, safety or the environment.

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

- Funding Request
 Legislative Proposal
 Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

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

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

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

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The County of Santa Barbara previously enjoyed a distribution from the SDF of approximately \$1.4 million annually. During the 2011 State Budget reconciliation this number was reduced to approximately \$730,000 to address impacts specifically related to gaming. Funds were previously utilized to fund fire, law enforcement, and capital projects. In addition development which occurs on lands taken fee to trust are taken off property tax rolls thus critical revenue to address service and infrastructure related impacts are lost to a local government in perpetuity.

CONTACT

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Appendix

Santa Barbara County

Federal Officials	State Officials
<p>President Barack Hussein Obama II, 44th President of the US <i>whitehouse.gov</i> Bio - Previous occupation: US Senator. Elected in 2008. Key Issues: Revitalizing the economy, healthcare, US global leadership and homeland security.</p> <p>United States Senator Barbara Boxer, 113th Congress <i>boxer.senate.gov</i> Bio - Previous occupation: Politician-10 years as member of the US House of Representatives. Elected to Senate in 1993. Committee assignments include Commerce, Science and Technology, Environment and Public Works (Chair), Foreign Relations and Ethics. Key Issues: Public education and after school programs, affordable health care and patient bill of rights and environmental issues including safe drinking water.</p> <p>United States Senator Dianne Feinstein, 113th Congress <i>feinstein.senate.gov/public</i> Bio - Previous occupation: Politician- Member Board of Supervisors and Mayor, San Francisco. Elected to Senate in 1992. Committee assignments include Appropriations, Intelligence (Chair), Judiciary, and Rules & Administration. Key Issues- crime victims' rights, healthcare, economy, national security/homeland security, environmental issues including water supply and agriculture and education.</p> <p>Congresswoman Lois Capps, 24th District <i>capps.house.gov</i> Bio - Previous occupation: Nurse, educator. Elected to Congress in 1998. Committee assignments include Committee on Energy and Commerce, and Natural Resources Committee. Key Issues: Budget, education, energy and environmental issues, public health, immigration, gas prices and health care issues.</p>	<p>Governor Jerry Brown, 39th Governor <i>gov.ca.gov</i> Bio - Previous occupation: Elected Governor of California in 2010, elected California Attorney General in 2006, elected Mayor of Oakland in 1998 and reelected in 2002, elected Governor of California in 1974 and reelected in 1978, elected California Secretary of State in 1970. Key issues- jobs for California's future, education, budget , environment, clean energy jobs plan, pension reform, water for the 21st century, and fighting to protect civil rights.</p> <p>California State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 19th District <i>sd19.senate.ca.gov</i> Bio – Previous occupation: Deputy District Attorney, CA State Assemblymember elected to State Senate in 2012. Key Issues: Reproductive health, spousal support, economic and wage equality.</p> <p>California State Assemblyman Katcho Archadjian, 35th District <i>arc.asm.ca.gov/member/AD35</i> Bio - Previous occupation: Business owner, elected County Supervisor in 1998, appointed to California Coastal Commission in 2006, Elected CA Assemblymember in 2010. Key Issues: Health care, public safety, community improvement, fiscal reform and education.</p> <p>California State Assemblyman Das Williams, 37th District <i>asmdc.org/members/a37</i> Bio- Previous occupation: CA State Assemblymember, City Councilmember, Educator, and Legislative Aide. Key issues: State budget, higher education improvement, fiscal issues and off-shore oil drilling.</p>

