

2010 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM



County of Santa Barbara



Contacts

All Priorities/Inquiries: County Executive Office

Michael F. Brown, County Executive Officer
Terri Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer
Kimbra Caywood McCarthy, Fiscal & Policy Analyst
105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 406
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Tel: 805.568.3400 • Fax: 805.568.3414

Federal Priorities/Inquiries: Thomas Walters and Associates, Inc.

Thomas Walters
25 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 570
Washington, D.C. 20001
Tel: 202.737.7523 • Fax: 202.737.6788

State Priorities/Inquiries: Governmental Advocates, Inc.

Cliff Berg and Monica Miller
1127 11th Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814
Tel: 916.448.8240 • Fax: 916.448.0816

Board of Supervisors

Salud Carbajal, 1st District
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Tel: 805.568.2186
Fax: 805.568.2534

Joni Gray, 4th District (Vice Chair)
410 E. Cypress Avenue
Lompoc, CA 93436
Tel: 805.737.7700
Fax: 805.737.7703

Janet Wolf, 2nd District (Chair)
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Tel: 805.568.2191
Fax: 805.568.2283

Joseph Centeno, 5th District
511 E. Lakeside Parkway, Suite 141
Santa Maria, CA 93455
Tel: 805.346.8400
Fax: 805.346.8404

Doreen Farr, 3rd District
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Tel: 805.568.2192
Fax: 805.568.2883



Table of Contents

Contents

Contacts.....	3
Table Of Contents.....	5
County at a Glance.....	6
County Budget at a Glance.....	7
Santa Barbara County Federal and State Officials.....	8
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors.....	10
County Executive Officer's Message.....	11
Legislative Principles.....	12
County's Climate Change Guiding Principles.....	13
Federal Priorities at a Glance.....	14
State Priorities at a Glance.....	15

2010 PRIORITIES

S F Agriculture / Williamson Act Subvention Funding.....	19
S F Air Quality - Marine Vessel Emissions.....	20
S F Collections for Probation as an Eligible IV-D 21 Activity.....	21
F Disaster Preparedness /Bioterrorism Funding.....	22
S F Economic Enhancement / Revenue Diversification.....	23
S EMS Fund.....	24
S F Firefighter Assistance Grant.....	26
S F Goleta Beach County Park.....	27
F Historic Santa Barbara County Courthouse.....	28
S F Homelessness.....	29
S F Lake Cachuma.....	30
S F Lake Cachuma: Quagga Mussel.....	31
F Lake Cachuma: Resource Management Plan.....	33
S Local Control of Speed Limits.....	34
S F Lower Mission Creek.....	35
S F Parks/Open Space.....	36
S Preservation of Mobile Home/Affordable Housing Opportunities/Rent Control.....	37
S F Proposition 10.....	38
S F Public Safety.....	39
S F Santa Claus Lane Beach Access.....	40
S Social Services Implications of Centralization/ Privatization of Public Assistance Programs.....	41
S Social Services Child Welfare Services.....	42
S Social Services Cost of Doing Business (CODB).....	43
S Social Services In-Home Supportive Services.....	44
S F Social Services TANF Reauthorization.....	46
S F State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).....	47
F Telecommunications Regulations.....	49
S Transportation (HUTA, Proposition 42).....	50
F Transportation (SAFETEA-LU).....	52
F Veterans Memorial Building.....	54

S = STATE

F = FEDERAL

County at a Glance

THE PEOPLE

- Population: (7/1/2008)
 - 429,109
- Gender: (2008)
 - 50% Male
 - 50% Female
- Ethnicity: (2008)
 - 55% White
 - 38% Hispanic
 - 2% Black
 - 5% Other
- Median Age: (2008)
 - 33.8

THE COMMUNITY

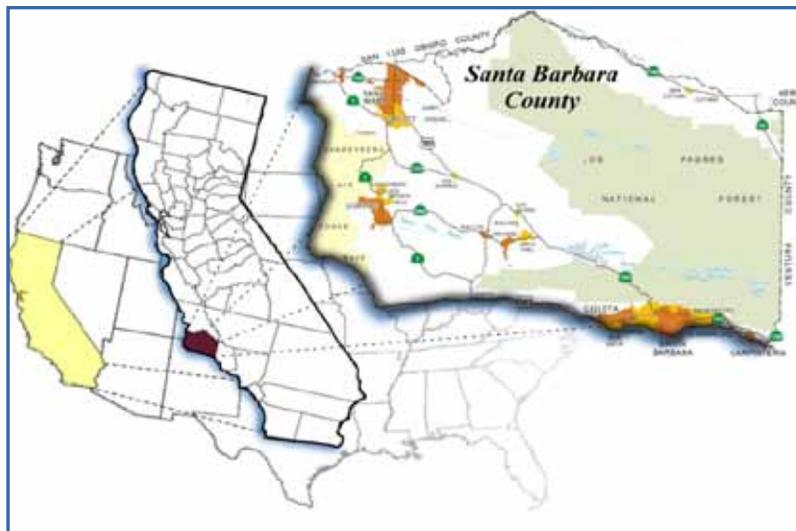
- 114 parks
- 18 beaches
- 16 open space preserves
- 16 public libraries
- 17 golf courses
- Education
 - High school graduation rate: (2008) 83.6%
 - Total K - 12 Enrollment: 65,916 (2007-08)
 - Student/Teacher Ratio: 21.1 (2007-08)
 - Cost Per Pupil: \$948.27 (2007-08)
- Civic Participation (11/2008)
 - Number of Precincts: 318
 - Number of Eligible Voters: 277,157
 - Number of Registered Voters: 204,898
 - Percent of Registered Voters: 73.9%
 - Percent of Registered Voters voting at polls: 39%
 - Percent of Registered Voters voting by mail: 47%

THE LAND

- 2,774 square miles (1/3 located within the Los Padres National Forest)
- 150 square miles Vandenberg Air Force Base
- 110 miles of beaches
- Average temperature 64 degrees F
- Average 300 days of sunshine a year

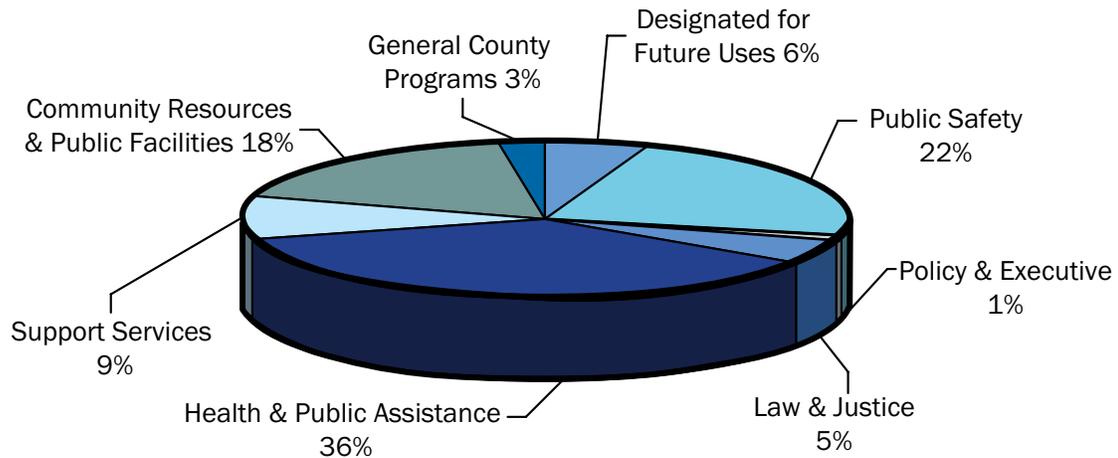
THE GOVERNMENT

- General law County founded in 1850
- 8 cities
- 17 school districts
- 26 special districts
- 4 airports
- 5 members on Board of Supervisors
- 5 elected County officials:
 - Auditor-Controller
 - Clerk-Recorder-Assessor
 - District Attorney
 - Sheriff
 - Treasurer-Tax Collector-Public Administrator
- Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors
 - Salud Carbajal
 - 1st District, 568-2186
 - Janet Wolf, Chair
 - 2nd District, 568-2191
 - Doreen Farr
 - 3rd District, 568-2192 & 686-5095
 - Joni Gray, Vice Chair
 - 4th District, 737-7700 & 346-8407
 - Joseph Centeno
 - 5th District, 568-2187



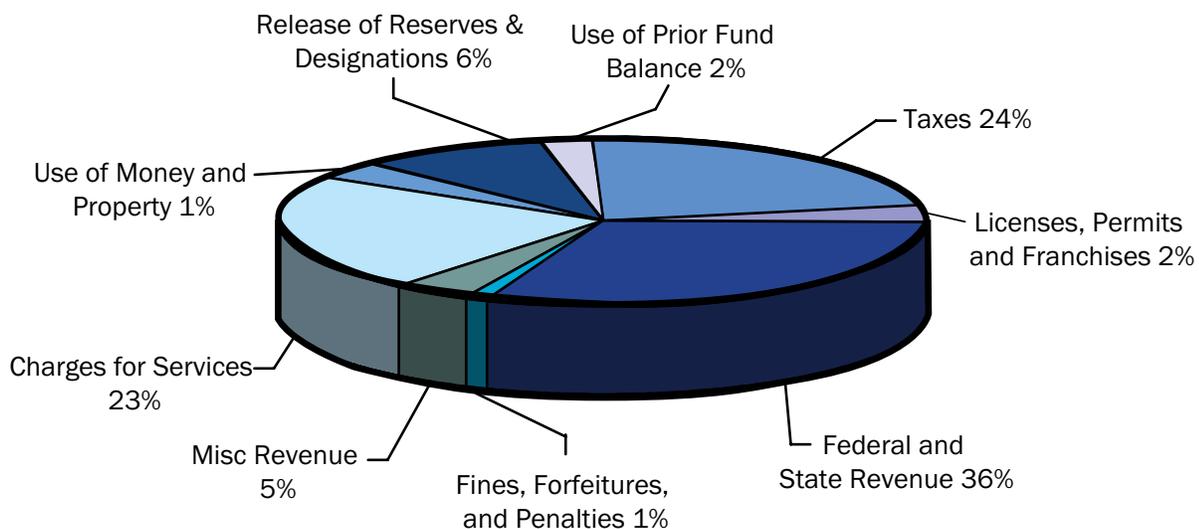
County Budget at a Glance

Source of County Expenditures by Type
(\$826.1 Million FY 2009-10 Recommended)



* Includes \$45.6 million earmarked and Designated for Future Uses and \$780.57 million in Operating Costs.

County Revenue by Functional Area
(\$826.1 Million* FY 2009-10 Recommended)



* Includes \$55.9 million from the release of Reserves and Designations, \$16.6 million from Use of Prior Fund Balance.

Santa Barbara County Federal and State Officials



President Barack Hussein Obama II

44th President of the US

www.whitehouse.gov/contact

Bio- Previous occupation: US Senator. Elected in 2008.

Key Issues- revitalizing the economy, ending the war in Iraq, healthcare, US global leadership and homeland security.



United States Senator Barbara Boxer

110th Congress

senator@boxer.senate.gov

Bio- Previous occupation: Politician-10 years as member of the US House of Representatives. Elected to Senate in 1993. Committee assignments include Commerce, Science and Technology, Environment and Public Works (Chair) and Foreign Relations.

Key Issues- public education and after school programs, affordable health care and patient bill of rights, environmental issues including safe drinking water.



United States Senator Dianne Feinstein

110th Congress

senator@feinstein.senate.gov

Bio- Previous occupation: Politician- Member Board of Supervisors and Mayor, San Francisco. Elected to Senate in 1992. Committee assignments include Appropriations, Energy and Natural Resources, Intelligence, Judiciary and Rules and Administration.

Key Issues- crime victims rights, healthcare, economy, national security/homeland security, environmental issues including water supply and agriculture and education.



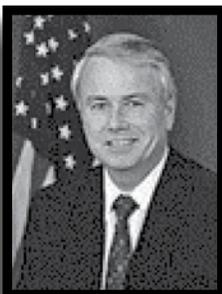
Congresswoman Lois Capps

23rd District

www.house.gov/writereps

Bio- Previous occupation: Nurse, educator. Elected to Congress in 1998. Committee assignments include Committee on Energy and Commerce and National Resources.

Key Issues- budget, education, energy and environmental issues, public health, ending the war in Iraq, immigration, gas prices and health care issues.



Congressman Elton Gallegly

24th District

www.house.gov/writereps

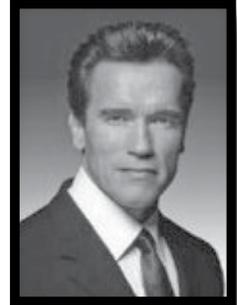
Bio- Previous occupation: Businessman/real estate broker, politician. Elected to Congress in 1986. Committee assignments include International Relations, Judiciary and Resources Committee.

Key Issues- energy, national security/homeland security, illegal immigration and veterans' issues

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
38th Governor
governor@governor.ca.gov

Bio- Previous occupation: Actor and bodybuilder. Promoter of Special Olympics, physical education and after-school programs. Elected in 2003 and re-elected in 2006.

Key Issues- budget and fiscal reform.



California State Senator Abel Maldonado
15th District
senatormaldonado@sen.ca.gov

Bio- Previous occupation- Farmer, Politician. Elected to California Senate in 2004. Committee assignments include Agriculture (Vice-Chair), Education, Health, Budget and Fiscal Review, Human Services (Vice-Chair) and Veterans' Affairs.

Key Issues- agricultural and environmental issue, health and safety issues and accountability and transparency in government.



California State Senator Tony Strickland
19th District
info@tonystrickland.com

Bio- Previous occupation: CA State Assemblymember, business owner for renewable energy development. Elected to California Senate in 2008. Committee assignments include Insurance Committee, Public Employees Retirement and Social Security, and Rules Committee.

Key Issues- protecting consumers, fiscal reform, two-year budget reform, redirecting our dependence on foreign oil, and education



California State Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee
33rd District
assemblymember.blakeslee@assembly.ca.gov

Bio- Previous occupation: Research scientist, owner of an investment firm. Elected to California Assembly in 2004. Assembly Minority Leader.

Key Issues- energy planning/policy and environmental/conservation issues, fiscal issues, budget, tax, budget and electoral reform, renewable energy portfolio and seismic safety.



California State Assemblyman Pedro Nava
35th District
assemblymember.nava@assembly.ca.gov

Bio- Previous occupation: District attorney, civil litigator. Elected to California Assembly in 2004. Committee assignments include Banking & Finance Committee, Business & Professions and Health Committee.

Key Issues- emergency management and disaster preparedness/assistance, public safety and transportation.



Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors



First District Supervisor Salud Carbajal

District includes the City of Carpinteria, portions of the City of Santa Barbara and the unincorporated areas of Carpinteria Valley, Summerland, Montecito, and Mission Canyon. National Association of Counties (NACO) representative.



Second District Supervisor Janet Wolf (Chair)

District includes portions of the Cities of Goleta and Santa Barbara, the unincorporated areas of the Goleta Valley and the Channel Islands. California State Association of Counties (CSAC) alternative representative.



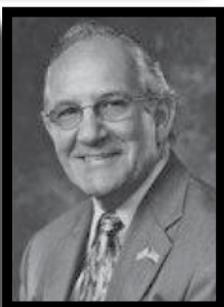
Third District Supervisor Doreen Farr

District includes the Cities of Buellton, (portions of) Goleta, Solvang, and the unincorporated portions of the Gaviota Coast, Lompoc, Los Alamos and Santa Ynez Valley.



Fourth District Supervisor Joni Gray (Vice-Chair)

District includes the Cities of Guadalupe and Lompoc and portions of the unincorporated areas of Santa Maria Valley, including Casmalia and Orcutt. California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Treasurer and County representative.



Fifth District Supervisor Joseph Centeno

District includes the City of Santa Maria and the unincorporated areas of Sisquoc and Cuyama Valleys.

County Executive Officer's Message



Dear Reader:

Santa Barbara County presents its 2010 Legislative Platform for consideration. The issues, programs and projects contained within this Platform ("the legislative priorities") represent key operational issues and projects facing the County. As illustrated within this message, the County's 2009 platform, which focused on public health and safety issues, achieved significant outcomes. The Recommended 2010 Platform continues to advocate for public health, safety, and welfare and includes a focus on restoring state funding for a variety of County programs and projects, in particular, protection of "safety net" programs that protect the most vulnerable within a community, including children, the elderly and other "at risk" populations.

Before the County embarks upon its legislative platform for the upcoming year, reflecting upon the successes of the prior year is in order. The level of assistance rendered by the County's federal and state elected representatives has resulted in significant achievements in the areas of public health and safety. Federal funding has materialized to address long-standing infrastructure needs within the

County including:

- Santa Maria Levee: The FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act authorized \$6.7 million for the Santa Maria Levee. In addition, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act ("ARRA") allocated \$40 million to the Army Corps of Engineers to repair the Santa Maria Levee.
- Lower Mission Creek: \$287,000 in the federal budget as well as \$600,000 in ARRA funds to allow the Army Corps of Engineers to complete the design phase of this flood improvement project.
- Lake Cachuma: In collaboration with the Bureau of Reclamation, \$3.7 million in ARRA funds for improvements to the water and sewer treatment plants located at Lake Cachuma.
- Veterans Building: \$807,500 for renovations and repairs for the Lompoc Memorial Veterans Building.

Funding for these projects is possible due to the continued support rendered by Congresswoman Capps, Congressman Gallegly, Senator Boxer and Senator Feinstein and the County is grateful for their assistance and support.

The partnership with the federal government, coupled with the infusion of ARRA dollars, has resulted in funding for various bridge, road and sidewalk projects. In addition, federal funding has helped preserve the core services delivered by the County including community development, homelessness prevention, public health, public safety, social services and workforce development. For the County of Santa Barbara, quality of life issues also revolve around protection of the County's rural heritage, agricultural-based economy, and access to parks and open space. Accordingly, the 2010 platform includes funding for numerous parks projects and restoration of the Williamson Act subvention payments to local governments.

However, as a local government develops strategies for emerging issues, it cannot forget its fundamental functions related to public health and safety. Specifically, as the County is mandated to provide safety net services, the 2010 legislative platform concentrates advocacy efforts on funding and implementation related to the delivery of social services. Additionally, the County will continue to diligently advocate for the protection of dedicated revenue sources related to children, transportation and other locally-delivered services. Such vigilance in monitoring revenues encompassed a majority of the County's 2009 legislative efforts as the State grappled with balancing its budget amidst a weakened economy. Given the State's continued budget shortfall, currently projected at \$20.7 billion, and declining revenues, which are currently more than \$1 billion below the State Budget forecast of a \$3 billion revenue loss, keeping abreast of various State budget proposals will continue to be a significant portion of the County's advocacy efforts this fiscal year and beyond.

Despite the ensuing fiscal challenges facing the State, the County was able to work with its State representatives to ensure the passage of County-sponsored legislation. Two successful bills focused on reimbursement for digital mammograms as part of the cancer detection program (AB 359) and eligibility for State flood subvention funds for Lower Mission Creek (SB 619) respectively. Another bill supported by the County, AB 486, will make changes in protocol pertaining to the declaration of local disasters. The County wishes to acknowledge the assistance rendered by Assemblymember Blakeslee, Assemblymember Nava, Senator Maldonado and Senator Strickland and their respective staff in shepherding legislation through the Legislature and advocating for local control of revenues. This collaborative process will be part of the platform and the County's elected officials and staff looks forward to working with its delegation to address the complex fiscal and governance issues facing the State.

Success in administering the County's legislative platform is only possible due to the guidance provided by the County's Board of Supervisors. Each member has been keenly aware of federal and state issues, including providing ongoing advocacy for the protection of local revenues and adequate funding of programs during the protracted State budget deliberations. In addition, Board members have been proactively engaged in such adopted legislative priorities as air quality, children's issues, health issues, transportation and Williamson Act preservation. They have generously given of their time to continuously support the County's interests in federal and state affairs, including participation in the County's Legislative Program Committee, in the California State Association of Counties and in the National Association of Counties. With the continued dedication, commitment and leadership of the Board of Supervisors, the 2010 legislative platform is well-positioned for success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael F. Brown".

Michael F. Brown
County Executive Officer

Legislative Principles

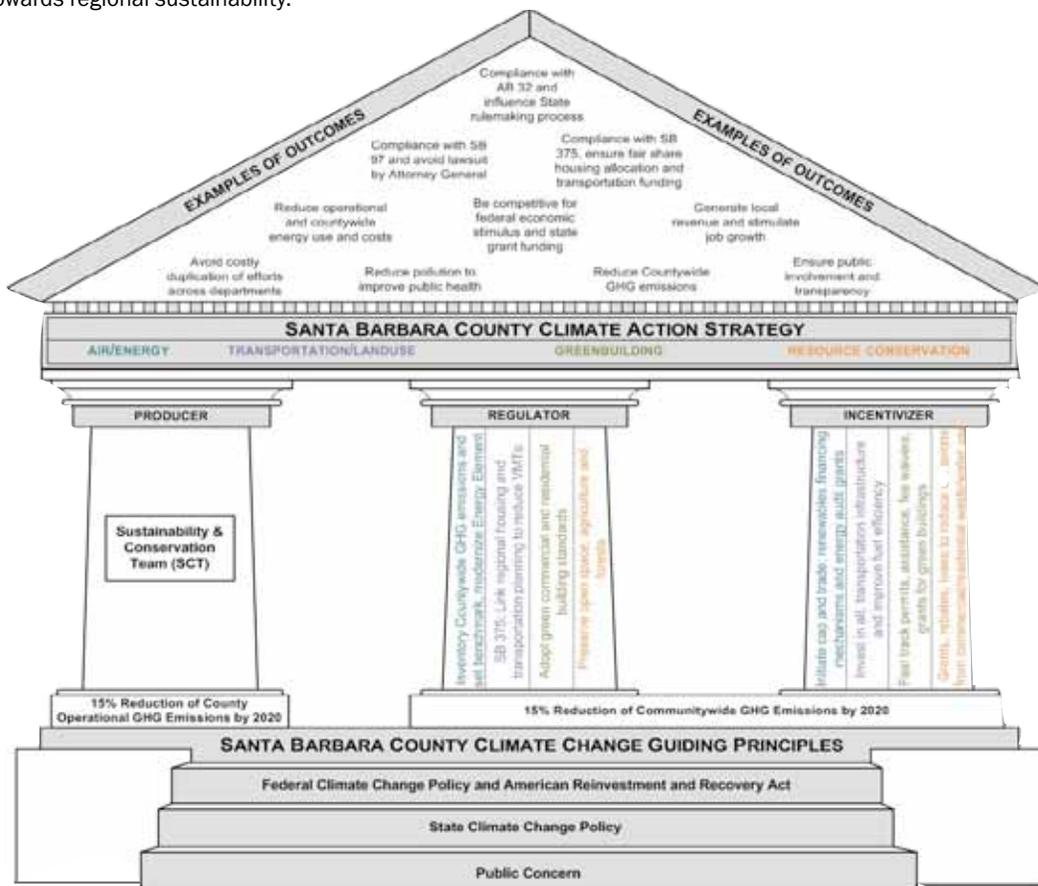
The Legislative Program adheres to the County's legislative principles, which serve as a guide for the County in developing a position on any forthcoming federal and state legislation.

- *Efficient Service Delivery / Operations:* Support efforts to streamline processes and promote operational enhancements germane to a County department's mission and core services, and correspondingly, oppose legislation that creates undue fiscal and operational burdens on 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.
- *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, the Kid's Network and other local and regional agencies. Collaborate with other institutions and entities on mutually beneficial issues such as protection of children, the elderly and other "at risk" populations while upholding the other 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.
- *Protection Of Safety Net Services:* Support efforts to maintain and enhance "safety net" services that protect the most vulnerable within a community, including, but not limited to, 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 services to the uninsured and underinsured; HIV/AIDS programs; maternal and children health; adult protective services; 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 / Economic Stability:* Support efforts to foster communitywide sustainability by promoting economic stability and environmental stewardship through participation in the growing green economy. Continue to engage in related 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, incentivize energy efficiency, water conservation, and the use of renewable energy. To maintain and protect rural resources, coastal areas, and bio-diversity, the County recognizes the need to promote mutually beneficial partnerships with the public, private, and nonprofit sectors across the region. These collective efforts aim to engender healthy communities by balancing social well-being, economic prosperity, and environmental responsibility.

County's Climate Change Guiding Principles

The Board of Supervisors adopted the County's Climate Change Guiding Principles on March 17, 2009 to establish a foundation for a climate strategy, as follows:

- (1) Protecting the community from the effects of climate change is a high priority;
- (2) The County recognizes the State's climate change goals, regulations, and requirements set forth by AB 32 to reduce Statewide GHG emissions and will implement programs to comply with these requirements;
- (3) The benefits of investing in actions to reduce GHG emissions can outweigh the costs in numerous ways, including: economic vitality, public health and safety, natural resource protection, and infrastructure stability;
- (4) In order to maintain long-term regional well-being, health and prosperity of current residents, as well as future generations of residents, the County will preserve and balance its shared social wellbeing, economic prosperity, environmental resources, and biodiversity;
- (5) The County recognizes that challenges associated with climate change are regional in nature and can best be addressed in partnership with both public and private sectors;
- (6) The County has three strategic roles to play in reducing GHG emissions as a producer, a regulator and an incentivizer;
- (7) The County will preserve its fiscal health by conserving resources and promoting renewable resources, thereby reducing costs;
- (8) The County will enhance its local economy through the incubation of clean technology, by attracting innovative firms and talent through private sector incentives, and by creating opportunities for local residents to attain jobs and training in the growing regional green economy;
- (9) A key component in a successful climate strategy is the development of an effective and inclusive decision making process that promotes the sharing of information and encourages diverse public input; and,
- (10) Through coordinated planning, measurement, evaluation, and reporting, the County will continue to address State requirements, capitalize on economic opportunities, and protect the regional quality of life while strategically progressing towards regional sustainability.



Federal Priorities at a Glance



- Reduce air pollution via emissions from marine vessels
- Ensure that Child Support collections for Probation are eligible for IV-D funding
- Center for Disease Control Disaster Preparedness Grants
- Provide for enhanced funding and streamlined processes to encourage the diversification, development, incubation, and growth of business
- Enhance the level of funding for gang prevention programs
- Assistance to Firefighters, COPS and Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants to fund public safety and criminal justice
- Analyze potential long-term options for Goleta Beach County Park
- Restoration of the historic Santa Barbara County Courthouse
- Support reauthorization of McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- Replacement of facilities due to surcharge at Lake Cachuma
- Ensure appropriate resources are provided to the Bureau of Reclamation to facilitate immediate completion of the Lake Cachuma Resource Management Plan
- Invasive species funding targeted to the quagga mussel prevention program at Lake Cachuma
- Protection from flooding via Lower Mission Creek channel improvements
- Protection of open space, including the Gaviota Coast
- Public access to Point Sal Reserve
- Development and Coastal Commission approval of Walter Capps County Park
- Safe public beach access at Santa Claus Lane
- Protection of funding for children age 0-5 (Proposition 10)
- Revise Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF- known as CalWORKS) funding performance targets
- Support reauthorization of State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and improved children's health coverage
- Funding for Transportation projects as part of the reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU for surface treatment, circulation, and safety improvement projects
- Renovations and repairs to the Lompoc Veterans Memorial Building
- Support legislation to repeal limitations on state and local authority to regulate the placement, construction, and modification of telecommunications towers



State Priorities at a Glance

- Reduce air pollution via emissions from marine vessels
- Ensure that Child Support collections for Probation are eligible for IV-D funding
- Extend the Emergency Medical Services Fund beyond its 2011 sunset date
- Provide for enhanced funding and streamlined processes to encourage the diversification, development, incubation, and growth of business
- Enhance the level of funding for gang prevention programs
- Assistance to Firefighters, COPS and Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance grants to fund public safety and criminal justice
- Analyze potential long-term options for Goleta Beach County Park
- Funding for Homeless programs and supportive programs related to housing, mental health and transitional youth
- Replacement of facilities due to surcharge at Lake Cachuma
- Invasive species funding targeted to the quagga mussel prevention program at Lake Cachuma
- Protection from flooding via Lower Mission Creek channel improvements
- Protection of open space, including the Gaviota Coast
- Public access to Point Sal Reserve
- Development and Coastal Commission approval of Walter Capps County Park
- Safe public beach access at Santa Claus Lane
- Maximize local control of speed limits
- Protection of funding for children age 0-5 (Proposition 10)
- Support legislation to ensure mobile home park residents are not involuntarily removed from local rent control or otherwise economically impacted if parks are subdivided or converted
- Reimbursement via the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) and inclusion of undocumented minors in juvenile halls/facilities under SCAAP
- Construction of County jail facility
- Oppose implementation of centralized privatized statewide eligibility determination and case management system for Medi-Cal, Food Stamps and CalWORKS
- Restore Child Welfare Services funding levels
- Restore In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) funding levels and eliminate fingerprinting requirements
- Restore State 'cost of doing business' contribution for mandated Social Services programs
- Revise Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF- known as CalWORKS) funding performance targets
- Support reauthorization of State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and improved children's health coverage
- Protection of Transportation funding- Proposition 42 and Highway Users Tax Account (HUTA)
- Restore Williamson Act subvention payments

2010

Priorities
Priorities

Agriculture / Williamson Act Subvention Funding

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. There are at least four aspects to California's agricultural economy that contributes to its success: its natural resources (land, sunny climate and water resources), its access to markets, its hard-working labor force, and the entrepreneurial nature of California's farm sector.



Agriculture continues to be the County's major producing industry. The 2008 gross production was valued at \$1.1 billion.

This is a \$34 million (3.0%) increase in gross value when compared with the 2007 figures and is the third 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 grapes, lettuce, and other vegetables. In addition, 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 County receives an annual subvention payment from the State of approximately \$600,000. However, amendments to the Budget Act of 2009 reduced the Williamson Act Subvention payments budget from \$39 million to \$1,000, effectively suspending the payments to local governments during an already difficult economic time.

Public Benefit/Impact

Although the Williamson Act program remains in place and local governments cannot immediately terminate contracts due to the loss of subvention funds, the County believes the suspension of subvention payments sends a message regarding the program. 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. For some counties, the loss of subvention payments may be financially too much to bear and incentive such counties to terminate contracts. The loss of agriculture land statewide jeopardizes the viability of this important statewide industry.

Cost to the Government

While the State has achieved \$39 million in savings from suspending the subvention payments, the short-term savings must be balanced against any long-term ramifications of loss of agriculture land and open space if local governments decide to initiate non-renewals of contracts.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County respectfully requests its State delegation, the Legislature, and the Administration restore the subvention payments to local governments as part of the upcoming budget. Further, the County will work with its federal delegation and stakeholders to identify additional related funding opportunities and support programs which provide assistance to agriculture.

CONTACT: Elena Morelos, Assistant Director, Agriculture and Cooperative Extension, 805.681.5600; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Air Quality - Marine Vessel Emissions

Summary of the Issue

Ocean-going vessels traversing the Santa Barbara Channel produce over 40 percent of the nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions generated within the County, threatening air quality and public health as well as constraining the County's ability to meet federal and state standards pertaining to ozone and particulates. The County seeks assistance in regulating shipping vessels and adopting new standards to reduce emissions.

In Santa Barbara, the marine shipping emissions inventory (2005) illustrated that 7,086 transits along the 130 miles coastline of the County produced 14,918 tons of NOx, or 40% of the total NOx emission that year. This inventory also revealed that ten percent of the vessels produced 50 percent of the emissions and 92 percent of the emissions came from foreign flagged ships.¹ The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District has estimated that by 2020, marine vessel traffic in the Santa Barbara Channel will produce nearly 75% of the NOx emission in the County. The increase in vessels transiting the Southern California coast is a result of the State's role as a major point of entry and departure for trade between the US and Asia.

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. More control of onshore sources may be necessary to offset the emissions produced offshore by shipping vessels.

Cost to the 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.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests its delegation support efforts to reduce emissions from marine vessels through regulatory and/or economic incentives. For example, Senator Boxer has introduced (cosponsored by Senator Feinstein) S 1499 to require the Environmental Protection Agency to establish standards to reduce emissions of air pollutants from marine vessels, including requiring marine vessels to use fuel that contains not more than 1,000 parts per million of sulfur in the main and auxiliary engines of the vessels, effective on December 31, 2010. Efforts such as the signing of H.R. 802 into law that brings the US into agreement with the MARPOL Annex VI treaty should be sustained to acknowledge the global nature of this issue. The State should also continue to examine the role of shipping vessels as part of strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including the issue of local control over this source of emissions.

CONTACT: Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400; Terry Dressler, Director and Air Pollution Control Officer, Air Pollution Control District, 805.961.8853



¹ See "Next Challenge on the Horizon: Air Pollution Emissions from Ships" written by Terry Dressler, Tom Murphy and Anthony Fournier.

Collections for Probation as an Eligible IV-D Activity

Summary of the Issue

Child Support Services (CSS) performs activities as defined in Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, funded by Federal (2/3) and State (1/3) funds. California Welfare & Institutions Code Section 903 and 903.4 contain mandates that CSS collect money from families to cover the living expenses of minors in detention. Santa Barbara CSS has been doing this for many years, but has recently been told this is not eligible for IV-D funding. The federal government indicated that a key factor in determining whether probation collections were eligible for funding under the IV-D program is whether the parents of detained children were mandated by California state law to assign their rights to child support to the Probation Department. This is currently not the case.

Public Benefit/Impact

Increased collections for Probation, to ease the burden on the local General Fund and maximize the use of resources, including investigative and collection procedures available to CSS, ensure that court ordered payment/collection is directed to the custodial party, in this instance the Probation Department of the County for the services provided. Given the multitude of investigative and collection resources available by law to a CSS Department, use of such department to continue to provide maximum funding to a probation department ensures that the revenue due to the minor and the custodial party is collected and appropriately remitted. Standard collection agencies throughout the State without such tools collect less money, thus placing the General Fund of the County in the primary position to provide funding for services that have previously been determined to be the responsibility of the custodial parent. Failure to use all resources at the disposal of the local government to seek available revenue further burdens the shrinking revenue of counties, forces an unwarranted general fund subsidy of probation departments, and fails to hold the appropriate party responsible for payment.

Cost to the Government

Ensuring that child support payments are directed to the custodial party to offset the cost of basic services is inherent to the mission and mandates of Child Support Services Statewide. In the particular instance when a child is in the custody of parent(s) and then directed to the custody of a probation department, the custodial party becomes the probations department, which in turn provides basic services such as food, clothing, and shelter of the minor. Collection of the court-ordered child support payment and remission to a probation department to cover the cost of basic services ensures that a responsible party required by law to provide for the minor continues to meet this obligation. The cost of providing basic services such as food, clothing, shelter, and minor necessities such as shampoo and soap amounts to \$29.28 per day per individual. Cost of medical care, supervision, and other administrative costs associated with the care of a minor in the custody of the probation department cannot be recovered via this funding source.

In 2008, the CSS Department collected \$360,000 in support payments on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Probation Department. This represents collections for approximately 360 juveniles. Given the determination by the State Department of Social Services, CSS has not opened any new cases since October 2007.

Further, the State has notified the Department that all remaining cases must be transitioned and an alternative collection program to be instituted by the Probation Department. As of December 2009, the Probations Department has received \$50,000 in payment for services. However, the Probation Department spent over \$1 million on services such as food and clothing for the children in custody in FY 2008-09, which is only a partial offset of the costs. In addition, the loss of revenue to the Probation Department results in decreased funding for other programs, such as offender supervision, where a loss of revenue results in a reduction of officers who supervise high priority cases. In turn, the cases are moved to central caseloads which are already supervised at a ratio of over 600 cases per officer.

Requested Action and Strategy

Engage the County's Federal and State representatives in action to provide that juveniles in the custody of probations departments in the State of California be eligible to receive IV-D funding. Collecting on behalf of the Probation Department results in additional administrative requirements on counties and a new approach to collections; therefore, advocating both the benefits of this type of collection and implementation of collections to other California counties would be advantageous to Santa Barbara County since it is one of the few counties in the state to collect for Probation. In addition, begin research to determine an approach to declare that juveniles in the custody of a probations department may receive temporary rights to child support funding while detained in a juvenile probations facility.

CONTACT: Carrie Topliffe, Director, Child Support Services, 805.568.2326; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Disaster Preparedness / Bioterrorism Funding

Summary of the Issue

The County's Public Health Department (PHD) has received funding for public health preparedness and response to public health emergencies and other types of health disasters from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) which has enabled the County to improve its disaster response infrastructure for H1N1 pandemics, bioterrorism incidents and other disasters that impact the public's health. In order to comply with federal and state benchmarks, PHD has increased staff, upgraded facilities, and purchased equipment and supplies. CDC and State general funding provided additional one-time funding for 09/10 to assist with H1N1 planning and vaccination efforts. However, this state of readiness cannot be sustained without continued funding for nominal staffing levels and equipment and systems maintenance.

Public Benefit/Impact

PHD has established infrastructure to exchange critical health data; conducted training on disease investigation, pandemic influenza, bioterrorism agents, emergency response procedures and disaster management command structures; and written plans and implemented standardized drill and exercise procedures. The needs of vulnerable populations and medically fragile is of critical concern. A reduction in funding will result in less frequent or intensive training and drilling exercises, deferred purchase and maintenance of equipment and decreased spending on communication.

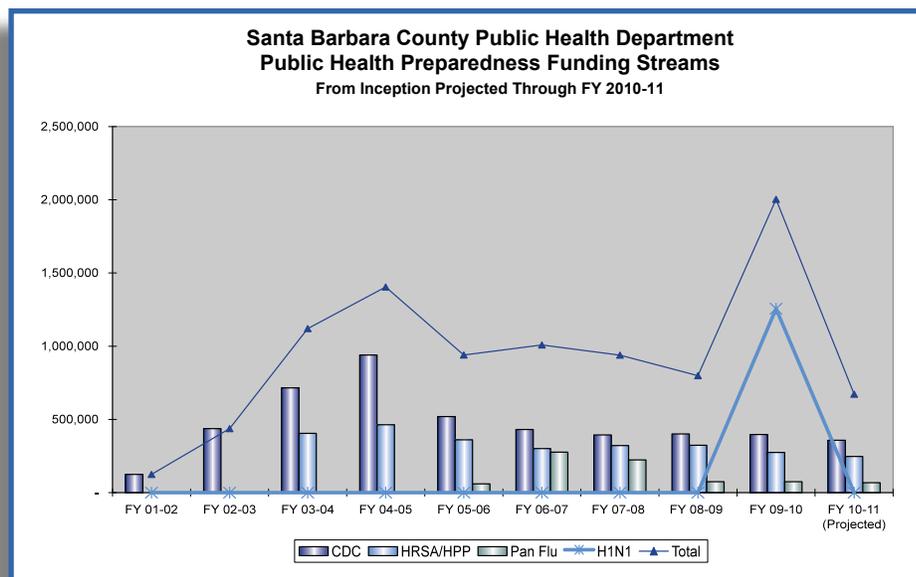
Cost to the Government

PHD anticipates that it requires \$400,000 per year in public health funds and \$325,000 in pass through of hospital preparedness funds in order to maintain communication systems, disaster caches, and personnel training and exercises to insure ongoing preparedness for bioterrorism, pandemics and public health emergencies/disasters. If there is a public health response similar to the H1N1 mass vaccination efforts additional funds would be necessary to meet the level of public health response, similar to the special one-time H1N1 planning and vaccination response funding.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests that its delegation support enhancing, or at a minimum, maintaining, the level of funding allocated to the CDC specifically for this purpose within the federal budget. The County is also interested in exploring other funding options for the specific communication and training items contained within this budget.

CONTACT: Michele Mickiewicz, Interim Director, Public Health Department, 805.681.5446; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400



Economic Enhancement / Revenue Diversification

Summary of the Issue

Economic enhancement offers local government, the private sector, the non profit 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 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.

Public Benefit/Impact

Facilitating local job growth and 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, and weather the swings in the economy.

Cost to the Government

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

Requested Action and Strategy

That the County of Santa Barbara aggressively seek and engage its state and federal delegation in securing legislation to provide for enhanced funding and streamlined processes to encourage the diversification, development, incubation, and growth of businesses determined to be of priority to California counties in general and Santa Barbara County specifically. Funding should include but not be limited to: establishing or expanding revolving loan funds, small business loans CRA loan pool, equity capital and tax relief for start up businesses to facilitate economic enhancement opportunities and diversify county revenue base.

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

CONTACT: Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

EMS Fund

Summary of the Issue

The “Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Fund” is a funding mechanism that generates funding through the assessment of penalties on motor vehicle and criminal fines and forfeitures to partially compensate health care physicians and hospitals for otherwise uncompensated emergency medical and trauma care services. Legislation enacted for Santa Barbara County to continue this fund has established a sunset clause, the current enabling legislation AB1900 sunsets on January 1, 2011.

Maddy Fund History

1991 - Based on strong recommendation from the Courts, Law and Justice Community, option to implement EMS Fund was not taken, funding allocated to address criminal justice facilities.

2003 - Board of Supervisors directed EMS Agency staff to work with other interested parties to seek legislation to establish an EMS Fund.

2005 - SB635, signed into law allowing County to establish an EMS Fund by increasing surcharges on fines and forfeitures under GC76000, for Santa Barbara County only, sunset date Jan.1, 2007.

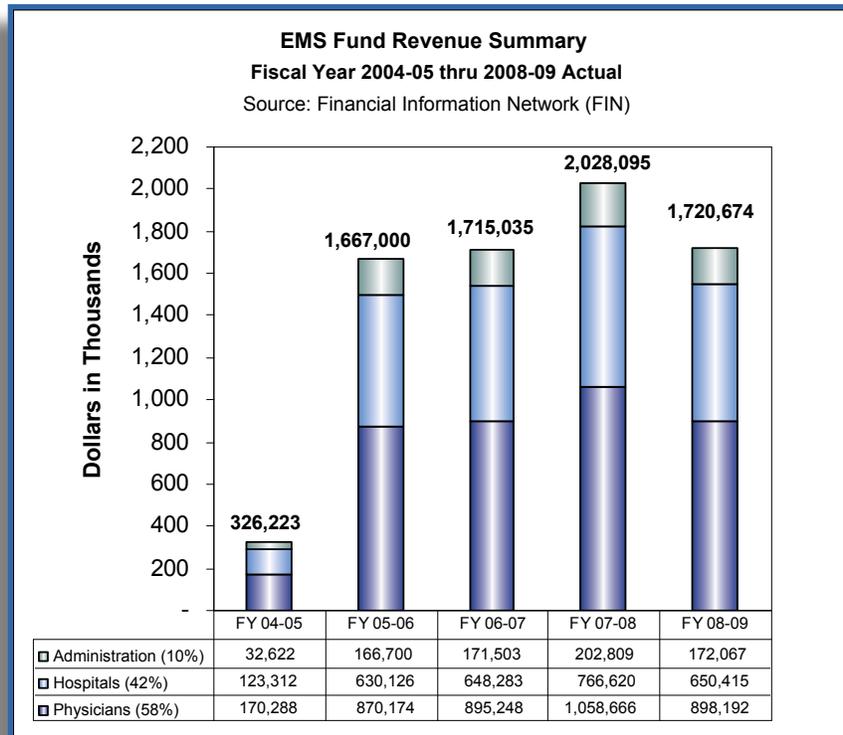
2007 - AB2265 extended sunset until Jan.1, 2009 and required County place an appropriate tax ordinance as a County Measure on the ballot on or before Nov. 2008.

2008 - Measure S, a parcel tax of \$35.15 per parcel of property was placed on the February 5, 2008 election, but failed to gain the required 2/3 votes to pass.

2008 - The Board of Supervisors acknowledged in the September 2, 2008 board meeting that “should AB1900 be signed and chaptered into law, it is the clear understanding of the legislature and the Governor that the County would not pursue another legislative bill to further extend or remove the sunset date of the EMS Fund”.

2009 - AB1900 limited fines and forfeitures to alcohol and drug related violations, reducing fund to an anticipated \$600,000 annually from 1.9 million, and extended sunset date until Jan. 1, 2011, with the stipulation that the County would not seek legislation for another extension, and address EMS funding through a local mechanism.

2009 - SB 1265 State wide legislation provided an increase in fines and forfeitures in GC 76000 to enhance funds and to fund pediatric trauma care, County resolution Dec. 2008 provided access to these funds, which sunset in Jan. 1, 2014.

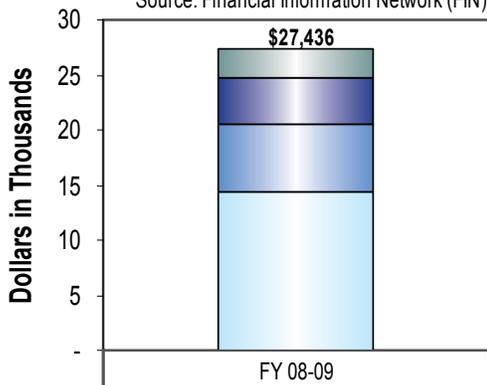


Public Benefit/Impact

The EMS Fund provides reimbursement to physicians and hospitals (Goleta Valley Cottage Hospital, Lompoc District Hospital, Marian Medical Center, Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital and Santa Ynez Valley Cottage Hospital) for costs of providing non-compensated emergency medical and trauma care services. This includes Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara, the only trauma center serving the entire Central Coast and the only comprehensive trauma center between Los Angeles and San Jose. Funding is used to maintain and expand the availability of various specialists on call within the emergency rooms.

AB 1900 YTD Revenue Summary

Source: Financial Information Network (FIN)



Administration (10%)	2,744
EMS (17%)	4,198
Hospitals (25%)	6,173
Physicians (58%)	14,322

Cost to the Government

There is no cost to the State for allowing the County's EMS Fund to continue beyond its 2011 sunset date.

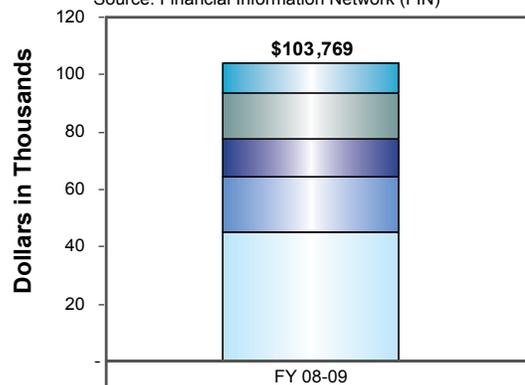
Requested Action and Strategy

- Generate new tax revenue, such as sales tax, parcel tax, transient occupancy tax (hotel), other type of luxury/alcohol, excess tax.
- Tobacco Settlement Funds
- Inter-Governmental Transfer
- Support the implementation of AB1385, which imposes a quality assurance fee to hospitals that is collected at the state, and leverage to increase federal matching funds for the purpose of increase Medi-Cal payment rates to hospitals

CONTACT: Michele Mickiewicz, Interim Director, Public Health Department, 805.681.5446; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

SB 1265 YTD Revenue Summary

Source: Financial Information Network (FIN)



Administration (10%)	10,377
PEDS (15%)	15,565
EMS (17%)	13,231
Hospitals (25%)	19,457
Physicians (58%)	45,140

Firefighter Assistance Grant

Summary of the Issue

Public safety is a core function of the County as it administers programs designed to prevent and respond to fires, disasters and other public safety threats. Ensuring the adequate funding of various public safety programs is of importance to the County.

Public Safety Grants are an important method of providing funding for this core function, even more so in the current economic climate. Grants are awarded to fire departments to enhance their ability to protect the public and fire service personnel from fire and related hazards. Specifically, the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program and other grants can aid fire departments with obtaining equipment, fire station construction, fire training facility construction, prevention programs and personnel training and safety.

Many of the grants available for public safety have sunset dates, limited funding amounts and tight restrictions. The AFG is due to expire in 2010 and will no longer be available unless it is reauthorized by Congress for an additional number of years.

Public Benefit/Impact

The AFG and other grants will assist in meeting the firefighting and emergency response needs of the fire department. The AFG provides funding to obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources needed to protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards. To date the AFG has assisted in the purchase of over \$1M worth of equipment for County Fire including equipment for medical emergencies, technical rescues, vehicle accidents and personnel safety to name just a few.

The Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grant (SCG) was derived from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 and was designed to provide financial assistance directly to fire departments to build new or modify existing fire stations in order for departments to enhance their response capability and protect the community they serve from fire and fire-related hazards. Fire stations are essential public safety facilities and training facilities strengthen fire department competencies and capabilities. County Fire currently has nearly \$60M in planned capital improvements for aging infrastructure. The continuation of the SCG program could be instrumental in providing County Fire with the ability to offset the expenditures for some of these capital projects.

Cost to the Government

County government in general and County Fire in particular is responsible for the costs associated with the purchase of emergency equipment and capital improvements. Without the continued benefit of these grants there would be an increasing possibility that the purchase of necessary equipment and the completion of capital improvements would not occur without severely impacting the County General Fund, and some may not occur at all.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests that its delegation actively seek:

- a. The continued provision of the AFG Program and other public safety grant programs beyond 2010;
- b. The continuance of the SCG Program again in 2010;
- c. Enhancing the level of funding;
- d. Expanding the categories for reimbursement and funding;
- e. Full reimbursement of matching costs for the construction of essential public safety facilities and public safety personnel training programs; and
- f. Ensuring timely reimbursement to local government.

CONTACT: Michael W. Dyer, Fire Chief, 805.681.5552; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Goleta Beach County Park

Summary of the Issue

Goleta Beach County Park is a 29-acre park located in the unincorporated area of Goleta near the University of California at Santa Barbara. With over 1 million visitors a year, Goleta Beach attracts the most visitors of all the County's 23 parks. Several major storms have eroded the beach at the Park, resulting in the loss of coastal recreation and other park amenities. A significant segment of the Coastal Trail and major utility lines are threatened by continued erosion. The County is analyzing a long-term solution to address issues associated with beach erosion.

Public Benefit/Impact

The Park includes a 1,500 ft pier, boat launch and storage, safe swimming beach, a restaurant and snack bar, three sets of restrooms, picnic and barbecue facilities, play equipment, parking, and coastal recreation amenities for persons with disabilities. In response to storm events, emergency rock revetments have been constructed and the beach nourished by depositing sand dredged from local streams onto the beach.

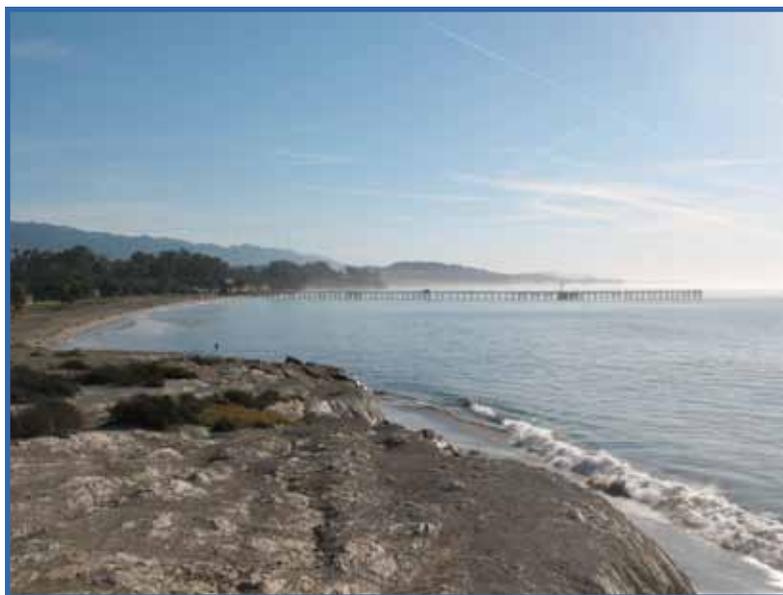
Cost to the Government

The cost of short-term and long-term solutions to protect the park could include costs for preparing and filing permit applications, monitoring associated field conditions, conducting public community planning processes and preparing environmental documents. Costs associated with long-term options will vary depending on the final approved project.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests support from its delegation as it continues to analyze potential long-term options. Any forthcoming project involves interaction with such agencies as the Army Corp of Engineers, California State Coastal Commission, Regional Water Quality Control Board and the State Lands Commission. The County requests support for funding of the costs associated with the process of analyzing options, which includes engineering, environment review, and potential beach nourishment if sand loss materializes with any forthcoming storms.

CONTACT: Dan Hernandez, Director, Parks Department, 805.681.2475; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400



Historic Santa Barbara County Courthouse

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 historic rehabilitation of the structure.

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. Without renovations to the facility, the building may no longer be able to be used by community groups.



Cost to the Government

The County has estimated the cost of renovation to be approximately \$38.845 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)

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests assistance from its delegation to fund a portion of this project through an appropriations request.

CONTACT: Bob Nisbet, Director, General Services Department, 805.568.3070; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, 805.568.3400

Homelessness

Summary of the Issue

The County participated with various cities and community organizations to draft “Bringing Our Community Home: the Santa Barbara County-wide 10-Year Plan To End Chronic Homelessness” in 2006. The County seeks funding support to implement this plan, including financing a comprehensive system of housing, services and treatment to help prevent homelessness.

Public Benefit/Impact

According to the Plan, each year more than 6,300 people in Santa Barbara experience homelessness; on any given night, over 4,000 people are homeless. Of the people who are homeless, 10-15%, or as many as 945 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 the Government

As stated within the Plan, chronically homeless people 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 eradicated 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.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests that its delegation 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 its federal delegation support full funding of authorized programs under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, including providing more flexibility in the use of Federal funds on the local level to address housing for the homeless. Given the nexus between homelessness and mental illness, the County requests its federal and state delegation support funding for mental health treatment services as well as State programs such as the Transitional Housing Plus (THP+) that provides funding for transitional housing for emancipated youth.

CONTACT: Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, 805.568.3400



Lake Cachuma

Summary of the Issue

As a result of a biological opinion issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Federal Bureau of Reclamation has evaluated the impacts of raising Lake Cachuma to capture, retain, and subsequently release additional water for the protection of habitat for the endangered steelhead trout. This surcharge will impact various existing improvements around the lake.

Public Benefit/Impact

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

PROJECT	TOTAL COST	AMOUNT FUNDED	SOURCE OF AMOUNT FUNDED**	UNFUNDED AMOUNT	STRATEGY TO SECURE FUNDING**
BIOLOGICAL OPINION / SURCHARGE INITIATED PROJECTS					
New Water Treatment Plant	\$3,429,850	\$745,000	BLM	\$2,684,850	ARRA (\$2,155,300) BLM (\$374,550) SBC (\$200,000)
Water Reservoir Improvements*	\$1,044,700	\$0	BLM/SBC	\$1,044,700	ARRA (\$1,044,700)
Fire Flow Improvements*	\$712,500	\$75,000	BLM/SBC	\$637,500	BLM (\$637,500)
Water Distribution System Improvements*	\$989,200	\$300,000	BLM/SBC	\$689,200	BLM (\$689,200)
Sewer Lift Stations	\$2,438,650	\$1,150,000	BLM	\$1,288,650	BLM (\$1,088,650) SBC (\$200,000)
Sewage Treatment	\$2,007,000	\$0	-	\$2,007,000	BLM (\$2,007,000)
Road Repair and Access Improvements due to construction impacts	\$599,000	\$0	-	\$599,000	BLM (\$257,900) SBC (\$342,000)
Boat Launch Ramp	\$2,626,140	\$2,626,140	CDBAW	\$0	CDBAW - complete
Boat Ramp Extension	\$2,100,000	\$0	-	\$2,100,000	CDBAW
TOTAL	\$15,947,040	\$4,896,140	-	\$11,050,900	
OTHER CAPITAL FACILITIES PROJECTS					
Live Oak ADA Restrooms	\$1,257,000	\$150,000	SBC	\$1,107,000	BLM (\$907,300) SBC (\$200,000)
Mohawk Bathrooms ADA*	\$1,051,430	\$125,000	BLM	\$1,051,305	BLM (\$579,005) ARRA (\$472,300)
TOTAL	\$2,308,430	\$275,000	-	\$2,158,305	
GRAND TOTAL FOR ALL PROJECTS	\$18,255,470	\$5,171,140	-	\$13,209,205	

* Design is complete for: Reservoir, Fire Flow, Distribution System and Mohawk ADA.

** Bureau of Land Management (BLM); Santa Barbara County (SBC); California Department of Boats and Waterways (CDBAW); American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

Cost to the Government

The County and the Bureau of Reclamation have executed a long-term assistance agreement. The Federal Bureau of Reclamation constructed Bradbury Dam in the 1950's forming Lake Cachuma. The dam was constructed under contract with the Santa Barbara County Water Agency on behalf of the Cachuma Project Member Units for the purpose of providing irrigation and domestic and industrial water supplies to the member units. The Bureau owns all "project" facilities and operates Bradbury Dam. The remaining cost of facility replacement is \$18.2 million; of that amount, \$13.2 million is unfunded.

Requested Action and Strategy

Lake Cachuma received an appropriation of \$967,000 within the Energy and Water Appropriations bill for the replacement of water and sewage treatment facilities. Additionally, the County is poised to receive \$3.687 million in ARRA funding for the remaining scope of these improvements and for Americans with Disabilities Act improvements to existing facilities at the Park. The County requests its Congressional delegation support a new appropriations request for additional funding toward the total cost of replacing the facilities.

CONTACT: Dan Hernandez, Director, Parks Department, 805.568.2461; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Lake Cachuma: Quagga Mussel

Summary of the Issue

The quagga mussel is a non-native aquatic mollusk that threatens freshwater lakes throughout the United States, including Lake Cachuma. The County has implemented inspection and treatment protocols to prevent the introduction of the mussel through infested boats that recreate at Lake Cachuma, rather than disallow boating on the lake. However, a comprehensive mussel prevention program is expensive to maintain and requires funding assistance in order to keep the lake open for recreational activities and ensure the viability of the lake as a potable water supply to the area.

The quagga mussel is a non-native aquatic nuisance freshwater mollusk originating in Eastern Europe that clogs waterways, undermines healthy lake ecosystems, and creates costly maintenance for water resource agencies. Quagga mussels were introduced into the Great Lakes region in 1988 through ballast water emptied from ships and have spread throughout the midwest and the eastern portion of the United States. Quagga mussels were first discovered in California in Lake Mead and the Colorado River system in January 2007 and have recently been found in several Southern California lakes connected to the Colorado River via aqueducts and canals. The spread of the quagga mussel in Southern California is believed to have advanced through those aqueducts and canals via water conveyance systems. In addition to passage through the water conveyance process, the quagga mussel can also be spread by two alternative methods: (1) Adult mussels that have adhered to surfaces, such as boat hulls, are introduced to a water body or system; or (2) Microscopic forms, such as “veligers” that live in the water column and can survive in water carried by recreational boats in bilges, live wells, and other boat areas where water could pool and remain, are transported into a water body or system.

The spread of the quagga mussel in California is becoming a significant concern due to the economic impacts associated with their introduction and proliferation. Quagga mussels cause the greatest economic damage when they infest pipes, pumps, or other components of municipal and industrial water supply systems or power plant cooling systems. In addition to the potential damage on water purveyance systems, quagga mussels can seriously disrupt and negatively affect the ecosystem of freshwater lakes and rivers. Once a water system is infested, the measures required to eradicate the quagga mussel can have serious detrimental effects on the recreational aspects of a freshwater lake or river system. In addition, preventative measures taken such as screening, inspection, and decontamination of boats, along with outright banning of boating, can also have detrimental impacts on boating and fishing and other recreational activities, as well as cause spillover effects on local businesses that derive economic benefits from these recreational activities.

The United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) constructed Cachuma Lake and Bradbury Dam in the early 1950's as part of the Cachuma Project. Under a contract between USBR and the Santa Barbara County Water Agency, USBR furnishes Cachuma Project water in stated quantities to specified water districts and agencies referred to as Cachuma Member Units, which include: the City of Santa Barbara, Goleta Water District, Carpinteria Valley Water District, Montecito Water District, and the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District Improvement District No. 1. Cachuma Project water serves as the primary source of potable water for Cachuma Member Units. Thus, any potential loss of water supply or water contamination at its source in Cachuma Lake, or at subsequent piping and water distribution facilities, poses a serious threat to potable water supplies and agriculture for hundreds of thousands of people in Santa Barbara County.

Public Benefit/Impact

Lake Cachuma serves as a potable water source for residential, commercial and agricultural interests within the County as well as provides various recreational opportunities, including boating, fishing and camping, to residents and visitors. Unlike other lakes in the area, the County has implemented inspection/treatment protocols to enable the Lake to remain open to boating. The following table illustrates the recent boat launch data at Cachuma Lake.

Lake Cachuma: Quagga Mussel

Continued

Santa Barbara County Parks -- Cachuma Lake Boat Launch Data -- 3/26/08 - 8/31/09		
Inspection Data		
Total Vessels entering Park	7545	
Total Vessels launched	7399	
Total Vessels Quarantined	146	2%
Returning with Boat Launch Tag	5845	79%
Arriving new: Inspected, washed	1554	21%

Quarantine Data		
Total Vessels Quarantined	146	2%
Quarantined 7 days	71	
Quarantined 14 days	75	
Quarantine Reasons*		
From infected areas	30	
From Out-of-state	18	
Quarantined from SB County	122	
Water in bilge	29	
Debris on hull	4	
Plug installed	3	
Boat exceeds 24' length	2	
Unspecified**	61	

*Quarantine may be for multiple reasons

** Majority is water

Cost to the Government

The County may continue to implement this inspection and treatment program at the Lake or opt to close the Lake to private boats. The County Parks Department receives approximately \$560,000 annually through daily and annual boat fees, which is used to help the County pay for the cost of maintaining and operating Lake Cachuma. The Parks Department has also received a grant from the State Department of Boating and Waterways (\$2.7 million) for a new boat launch that is now in service. Should private boating no longer be viable due to the possible threat of boats carrying mussels to the Lake, the County may be required to pay back the launch ramp grant.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests assistance in securing funding for a comprehensive mussel prevention program of outreach, information, inspection, monitoring, and treatment protocols to allow boating at Lake Cachuma. This includes the funding of two decontamination/wash stations that apply high-pressure heated water to the boat and trailer undercarriage via a drive-on ramp and rack system estimated to cost \$243,000. The County also requests assistance in the funding of efforts to eradicate the mussel from all freshwater bodies of water.

CONTACT: Dan Hernandez, Director, Parks Department, 805.568.2461; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Lake Cachuma: Resource Management Plan

Summary of the Issue

The County of Santa Barbara was under a 50 year long-term lease with the Bureau of Reclamation for management of Lake Cachuma. This lease has been under a renewal review process since 2003. Without a long-term lease to operate the park, the County cannot extend long-term leases to service providers at the lake. These local concessionaires provide services to Lake Cachuma that enhance recreational opportunities for the public. The lack of a long-term lease precludes the vendors from investing in service or capital improvements to their concessions. A long-term lease would also allow the County to complete planned investments to the infrastructure at Lake Cachuma and extend leases to local concessionaires.



The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the equivalent of an Environmental Impact Review (EIR), be completed before the Bureau can enter into a long-term lease with the County. Currently the Bureau of Reclamation is finalizing the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for Lake Cachuma and is estimating to have the document available for review in February 2010. Thereafter, the Bureau will circulate and process the document into an EIS which is expected to be complete in July 2010. Only then can long-term lease negotiations begin between the County and the Bureau of Reclamation for the operation of the Lake Cachuma Recreation Area be finalized. It is critical to note that that this project has experienced numerous delays which negatively impacts the County of Santa Barbara's ability to provide basic service at the lake and generate essential concessionaire-based revenue to provide both services and complete critical capital projects.

Public Benefit/Impact

The County provides an array of recreational amenities including boating, fishing, camping (tent, RV and yurt), seasonal naturalist programs, and nature cruises to approximately 800,000 visitors year-round at Lake Cachuma. Failure to secure concessionaires to provide such services impacts overall program service-delivery and revenue generation abilities.

Cost to the Government

Currently, the Parks Department operates and maintains Lake Cachuma. The Parks Department, local non-profits, and concessionaires provide services to visitors generating over \$2 million annually in revenue to help offset the cost of operation at Lake Cachuma. Please reference the "Lake Cachuma" legislative brief for a listing of critical infrastructure needs.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County seeks to assist the Bureau of Reclamation with the immediate completion of responses to the RMP and the preparation of the subsequent EIS. The completion of this process will allow the County to move forward on critical projects planned at Lake Cachuma including water treatment plant and water distribution infrastructure and the construction of a fire suppression water supply reservoir. The County requests assistance from its legislative delegation in ensuring appropriate resources are provided to the Bureau to facilitate immediate completion of the long standing project.

CONTACT: Dan Hernandez, Director, Parks Department, 805.568.2461; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Local Control of Speed Limits

Summary of the Issue

The California Vehicle Code requires that non-statutory speed limits on roadways be established based on the findings of an Engineering and Traffic Survey (ETS) which shall include consideration of the prevailing (85th-percentile) speed, collision history and conditions not readily apparent to the driver. In addition to these factors, per California Assembly Bill 2767 (AB2767), local authorities may also consider residential density, pedestrian safety and bicycle safety. California law prohibits the use of radar speed enforcement along such roadways where the speed limits have not been set in accordance with the findings of an ETS within the last seven to ten years, or where significant changes in the roadway or traffic conditions have occurred. While this approach enables consistency throughout the state, it may not recognize the particular nuisances of a community and the appropriateness of that speed limit for the community. Therefore, there should be more local consideration given to speed limits and the process that is utilized by the State to increase speed limits.

Public Benefit/Impact

Maximizing local control and acknowledging unique community characteristics will ensure safe and effective speed limits.

Cost to the Government

This function is largely regulatory; however, the County would assume costs related to the installation of speed limit signs and legends.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County should work in concert with CSAC and the League of California Cities to further research and maximize local government opportunities to impact speeds and further refine strategy following such discussions.

CONTACT: Scott McGolpin, Director, Public Works Department, 805.568.3010; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Lower Mission Creek

Summary of the Issue

The Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project is an Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) project located within the City of Santa Barbara (and part of the South Coast Flood Zone administered by the County) designed to improve channel locations through widening and bridge replacements in order to protect residential, commercial and public properties located in Santa Barbara from flooding. Portions of Mission Creek have been known to include the threatened tidewater goby and the endangered steelhead. The project is currently in detailed design phase and is in need of funding for construction.

Mission Creek's drainage is about 11.5 square miles, extending from the Santa Ynez Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, and flows for eight miles through the City of Santa Barbara. Preliminary design, environment review and detailed design have been performed. The project remains in detailed design phase until funding can be secured. The County and the City of Santa Barbara have formed a partnership to ensure this project continues to move forward.

Public Benefit/Impact

Since Mission Creek is located in the heart of downtown Santa Barbara, improvements to the channel are vital for protecting residential, commercial, and public properties that are subject to major damages during floods. There will also be an opportunity for creek rehabilitation.

Cost to the Government

The project cost is estimated at \$57 million; the ACOE cost is 50% and the remaining half will be borne by the City of Santa Barbara and the County, with the County's portion coming from a flood zone benefit assessment. Federal appropriations would also help the County take advantage of potential State funding related to flood projects.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County and Corps are nearing the completion of the design phase as a result of a 2007 appropriation request of \$215,000 and a 2009 ARRA allocation of \$600,000. The next phase of the project involves construction, which is estimated to cost about \$10 million. The County will consult with the ACOE and submit an appropriation request to its Congressional delegation that funding be provided through the Energy and Water Appropriations bill. It will also seek the support of its State delegation for possible funding from Proposition 84 monies.

CONTACT: Tom Fayram, Deputy Director of Flood Control/Water Resources, 805.568.3436; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400



Parks/Open Space

Summary of the Issue

The County Park Department provides services to approximately 5.6 million annual visitors to 71 day use parks and open space locations and two camping parks, and a network of trails and coastal access easements. In addition, 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 just some of these projects are listed below as well as in other areas of the 2010 platform.

1. 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 requested by Congresswoman Capps was completed five years ago, and looked at various conservation methods - including a potential federal designation - and concluded that the area is "nationally significant" but that the best conservation approach was through local and private conservation efforts. Since then there has been heightened public awareness and conversations about the issue. A comprehensive plan for Gaviota Coast is currently in the early stages of being developed by the County - this effort will likely include an examination of the County land use policies and zoning for the region, the identification of conservation funding sources and strategies, and possible development of habitat conservation plans. While there is not currently interest in reconsidering a potential federal designation for Gaviota Coast, there is a need and interest in identifying federal funding and assistance for planning efforts in the region, as well as federal resources for land conversation acquisition by local government and/or private land trusts.

2. Point Sal Access and Management Plan and Implementation

This project proposes to allow public access to Point Sal "Reserve", which consists of 2,600 acres of publicly and privately-owned lands located in the north western corner of the County, along the coast of the Pacific Ocean. In 1991 an original management plan was developed with a vision that public agencies, conservation organizations and private citizens commit to coordinate their respective conservation efforts for this area. The management plan was then revised in 2002 under an internal administrative draft, to include parcels acquired by the County since the original 1991 plan. The 2002 plan will remain as an overall vision for all publicly owned lands in the Pt. Sal area; however, the County must now move forward in a more serious manner to evaluate, plan for and implement public access to this unique biological, cultural, scenic open space area. Generally the project will include: 1) a detailed public access plan benefiting those lands currently under or soon to be under County ownership, utilizing the 1991 and 2002 plan as a guiding tool, and 2) actual implementation / construction required to facilitate public access. Costs total \$2.4 Million to update the management plan (\$50,000), implement public access including vehicle improvements to the trailhead (\$2 Million) and pedestrian trail, signage and cattle control (\$350,000).

3. Walter Capps County Park

This project consists of the development of a 2 acre bluff top open space park in the community of Isla Vista. In March 2006, final acquisition was completed on 5 private parcels along Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. Combined with adjacent County parcels, this small community park is proposed to be developed into a passive park facility with walks, benches, public restroom, turf play area and a natural native coastal species habitat restoration area. A memorial to the late Walter Capps is also proposed for the site. Requires California Coastal Commission approval. County has secured \$250,000 of the \$800,000 project cost (\$550,000 remaining).

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 the Government

The County has secured partial funding for many of these projects and is seeking funding from the federal and state agencies to ensure safe coastal access to residents.

Requested Action and Strategy

The 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.

CONTACT: Dan Hernandez, Director, Parks Department, 805.568.2461; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Preservation of Mobile Home/Affordable Housing Opportunities/Rent Control

Summary of the Issue

Mobile home parks comprise an important component of the County's stock of affordable housing. Many mobile-home residents rely upon the county to protect the affordability of their homes through the use of a zoning ordinance. Thus, the continuation of local rent control is necessary to protect mobile-home park residents and the stock of affordable housing.

However, mobile-home park owners are able to use a process convert their parks into resident-owned condominiums or subdivisions. This process enables park owners to eliminate local rent control with the completion of a largely ministerial subdivision application and the sale of a single space. Currently, park owners are able to use a loophole in California Government Code Section 66427.5, which eliminates rent control for persons above lower income levels when a mobile-home park owner converts the park. This process was strengthened in *El Dorado v. Palm Springs*, where the California Appeals Court recognized that Section 66427.5 would enable a mobile-home park owner to enact a sham conversion that would result in the elimination of rent control in the mobile-home park for persons above lower income levels. Furthermore, subsequent amendments of this section did not eliminate this threat to mobile-home residents and affordable housing despite the express intent of the legislature to do so. The result has been the elimination of local rent control for mobile-home residents.

Public Benefit/Impact

Many mobile-home residents in the County rely upon rent control to protect the affordability of their homes, thus preserving an essential component of readily available affordable housing stock.

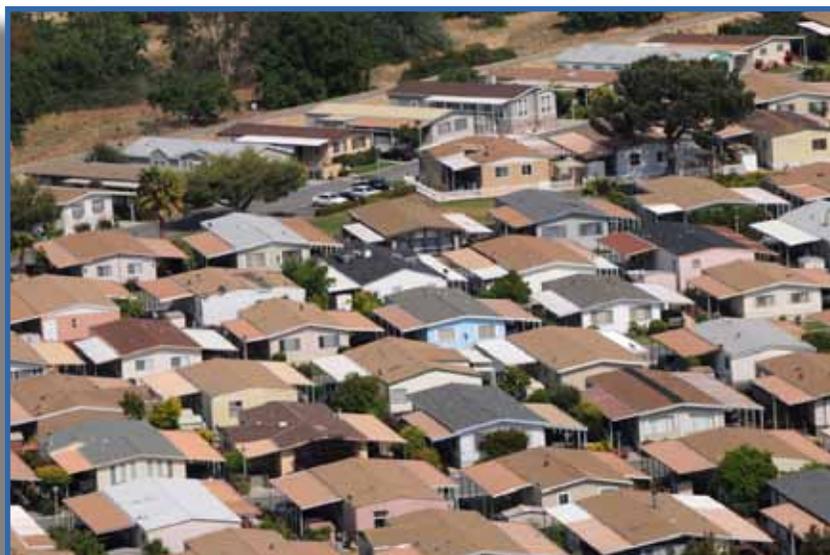
Cost to the Government

The County would suffer a loss of affordable housing units if the stock of affordable housing units is depleted and local rent control is eliminated for mobile-home residents.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County encourages the repeal of Section 66427.5 of the California Government Code and other amendments to relevant sections as necessary to assure that park residents are not involuntarily removed from local rent control or otherwise economically impacted if parks are subdivided or converted. In addition, the County supports legislation which would repeal Section 66427.5 to prevent the conversion of mobile-home parks to resident-owned condominiums or subdivisions and opposes proposed legislation to the contrary, such as AB 761.

CONTACT: David Matson, Interim Director, Housing and Community Development, 805.568.3400; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400



Proposition 10

Summary of the Issue

Proposition 10, “The Children and Families First Act”, was approved by the voters in 1998 to tax tobacco products to fund early child development. Due to the State’s poor economy and budget shortfalls, legislative bills and budget proposals are continuously under consideration to divert Proposition 10 funds to backfill previously State-funded programs which focus on children and families and use the funds for unrelated services. The County opposes any efforts to divert, reprogram or “borrow” Proposition 10 funds.

Public Benefit/Impact

Santa Barbara County First 5 uses its Proposition 10 funds to promote programs focusing on health and well-being, education, safety and early childhood development for families and children under the age of five. These programs reflect local control and local solutions as programs are designed to address the needs of the Santa Barbara County community.

First 5 investments in health, education and family support services for children prenatal through age five has focused on newborn home visiting, early childhood oral health, early childhood mental health and other special needs, school readiness, family support and early care and education.



Proposition 10 was passed by voters eleven years ago. Since then, young children have received health insurance, timely immunizations, dental care, early identification of special needs and quality child care and preschool services. These services have been customized to the local community and reflect the vision behind local community-based strategic plans. Diverting or reprogramming these funds would allow the State Legislature to determine how to use these funds and may even result in these funds being used for services entirely unrelated to children.

Cost to the Government

Diverting or reprogramming these funds would result in significant harm to children ages 0-5, by reducing or eliminating critical prevention and early intervention services. There would be negative impact on the budgets of both local public agencies and local community-based organizations that depend on the long-term contracts currently in place with First 5. Moreover, funding of prevention and early intervention services may save money in the long-term, reducing the need for government to provide crisis services or other more long-term costly treatments that may arise without proper prevention and intervention.

In addition, if the Legislature decides to seek voter approval to divert these funds, it will cost the State (and local government) money to hold a special election unless the initiative is placed on a regularly scheduled election. The cost of the special election held on May 19, 2009 was more than \$1.7 million for Santa Barbara County.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests its delegation oppose any efforts to divert, reprogram, or “borrow” Proposition 10 funds.

CONTACT: Pat Wheatley, Executive Director, First 5 Santa Barbara County, 805.884.8087; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Summary of the Issue

Public safety is a core function of the County, where programs are designed to prevent and respond to public safety threats. The Sheriff's Department is responsible for enforcing laws and providing custody and court services. The Fire Department safeguards the community from fires, medical and environmental emergencies, as well as natural disasters. The District Attorney litigates and prosecutes criminal acts on behalf of the County and the Public Defender provides legal representation to individuals being prosecuted. The Probation Department ensures the safety of the community and works toward rehabilitation of adult and juvenile offenders.

Further, the human tragedy of gang violence continues to be a threat to the County of Santa Barbara and communities served. Arrest and incarceration alone have not proven to be an effective deterrent to criminal gang activity. Innovative prevention and rehabilitation strategies grounded in education, recreation, mentoring, counseling and job training must be blended with ongoing suppression efforts in order to obtain long term solutions. Programs must be available for the wide spectrum of individuals including youth at risk as well as those seeking to leave gangs.

Thus, ensuring the adequate funding of various public safety programs in addition to promoting greater integration of health (and mental health treatment in particular) programs into safety settings such as jail, juvenile halls and other custody facilities is important to the County.

- **Grants:** Ensure full funding of programs that prevent and control crime and improve the criminal justice system such as the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant, Firefighter Assistance Grant, and Community-Oriented Policing grants.
- **Mental Health/Health Integration:** Ensure inmates, including juveniles in detention as applicable, are eligible for Medicaid/Medicare/IHSS/SCHIP entitlements.
- **Jail Construction:** Partnering with government to construct a new jail/ 300 bed facility to address overcrowding at the state and local level (continuation of AB 900 implementation).
- **SCAAP:** Reimbursement for the costs of incarceration of undocumented criminal aliens via the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP). SCAAP does not reimburse the Sheriff's Department for its true costs or reimburse the Probation Department for detainees of undocumented minors at juvenile halls/facilities.
- **Gang Prevention:** Support the reintroduction of S.132 (Senator Feinstein-CA), the Gang Abatement and Prevention Act, which would enhance law enforcement resources committed to investigation and prosecution of violent gangs, revise and enhance criminal penalties for violent crimes, and expand gang prevention programs. In addition, support H.R. 1064 (Congressman Scott-VA), the Youth PROMISE Act, which provides for evidence-based practices for programs related to juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention. Also, continue to research all funding options to further address the criminal gang problem, including enhanced enforcement efforts and increased prevention and rehabilitation programs emphasizing substance abuse treatment, vocational training, job development, recreation, education and mentoring programs designed to assist at-risk youth.

Public Benefit/Impact

These various functions are performed by the County Fire, District Attorney, Probation, Public Defender and Sheriff Departments to ensure the public health and safety of the community.

Cost to the Government

Full funding of programs require the federal and state governments to spend more; however, many of these costs are being bourn by the County even though the function is mandated or is the responsibility of the federal and state governments. Programs that provide prevention and rehabilitation services may achieve savings over time.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests that its delegation enhance the level of funding for public safety and gang prevention programs, provide for continued state grant opportunities, ensure the timely reimbursement of funds to local government, broaden categories for reimbursement/funding as necessary categories, and promote the integration of health and mental health into custody settings through regulatory reform.

CONTACT: Sheriff Bill Brown, 805.681.4288; Fire Chief Michael Dyer, 805.681.5552; Patti Stewart, Chief Probation Officer, 805.882.3656; Greg Paraskou, Public Defender, 805.568.3499; Joshua Lynn, Acting District Attorney, 805.568.2300; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Santa Claus Lane Beach Access

Summary of the Issue

The Santa Claus Lane Beach Access project proposes to provide safe, formalized, and legal public access to the beach at Santa Claus Lane in the Carpenteria area. The Toro Canyon Community Plan provides direction to the County to address deficiencies in current access, use patterns, and facilities to enhance the opportunity for public use. The goals of the project follow:

- Ensure safe, legal public access across the surface of the railroad to the beach through acquisition of an at-grade crossing;
- Ensure legal public use of the dry sand beach area (acquisition);
- Identify needed public improvements and provide amenities for beach users (e.g. off street beach parking Caltrans property, restroom, shower, etc.); and
- Work with local constituents, residents and commercial owners to identify and provide for the operational and maintenance needs of the recreational area as well as potential impacts to the local community.

Public Benefit/Impact

Santa Claus Lane is a popular beach access location for the local community as well as the traveling public due to its adjacent location to Highway 101. With the current access, the public crosses an active railroad line with no legal crossing or warning system of oncoming trains. This project would provide for safe use of this beach area including better parking and visitor serving amenities.

Cost to the Government

Due to the complex nature of the project, including the creation of a new vehicle crossing of the railroad, beach side improvements, road and flood control improvements, all associated engineering design, local and state permits, and environmental permits, it is estimated that the project will cost \$3.75 million to implement. Initial funding for this effort has included the County's General Fund, local mitigation funds, as well as local and state grant funds.



1.5 miles to Loon Point. 1.0 miles to Ash Ave.



Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests support of this project to provide for safe access to and use of this popular beach area. Other regulatory agencies that have permit authority over this proposed project include the California Coastal Commission, State Public Utilities Commission, Army Corps of Engineers and local regulatory agencies, including agreement with the Union Pacific Railroad.

CONTACT: Dan Hernandez, Director, Parks Department, 805.568.2475;
Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Social Services Implications of Centralization/ Privatization of Public Assistance Programs

Summary of the Issue

ABX4 7 was signed into law by the Governor as part of the State budget on July 28, 2009. This bill will allow the State Department of Health Care Services and the State Department of Social Services to contract with a private vendor to perform eligibility determinations for Medi-Cal, Food Stamps, and CalWORKs using a large statewide automation contract centralized in Sacramento. Santa Barbara County believes that the privatization of the statewide eligibility determination and case management process for the CalWORKs, Medi-Cal and Food Stamp may jeopardize the delivery of services to local clients and may not achieve savings.

Public Benefit/Impact

The County is supportive of efforts to increase efficiencies through the use of automation and other technologies. In fact, counties are already using technology to improve services and the County of Santa Barbara opened the Benefit Service Center (BSC) in September 2008. In Fiscal Year 2008-09, BSC staffing levels have remained static despite a 27% combined Medi-Cal and Food Stamp caseload growth. In addition, the County is supportive of a single statewide automated system. Currently there are four Statewide Automated Welfare Systems (SAWS) that are being used by the 58 counties. Significant financial investment of State and Federal monies were put into these systems that accurately determine eligibility in a consistent manner with very low error rates. However, AB 7's intent to develop a new automated system is tenuous when one of these existing systems could be utilized statewide by all 58 counties to determine eligibility and achieve the desired outcomes of AB 7. Federal agencies may not approve funding to develop a new eligibility determination system to replace systems that are currently funded and reporting eligibility determinations. Moreover, as illustrated by experiences in other states, some centralized, privately-administered programs did not achieve effectiveness or efficiencies. Savings did not materialize in similar projects in other states and, in some cases, access to service was reduced and ineligibility errors made.

Potential impacts of this type of system on the public include:

- No local offices for clients to access (for public assistance and emergency services, (i.e. expedited food stamps, CalWORKs homeless assistance).
- A privatized state automated system assumes that all applicants have access to a computer and are computer-literate. Access issues may prevent clients from applying or renewing benefits.
- A privatized state automated system will not be able to recognize and adapt to the barriers that exist for varying clients (i.e., mental health issues, physical disabilities)

Cost to the Government

While the State is proposing to implement a centralized automated system to achieve savings, it is unclear whether these savings will materialize and whether services to clients will be hampered. ABX4 7 appears to duplicate or replace, at a much greater cost on a much longer timeframe, the existing successful systems. Previous state attempts in California to automate similar services have either failed completely or taken an extended period of time to complete at a substantially greater cost than originally estimated. Failed projects in Texas, Indiana, Wisconsin, Ohio and the District of Columbia, provide recent examples of cost overruns and overcharges across multiple human services programs. Counties may be placed in a position of continuing to pay a county share for programs governed solely by the State. Should issues arise in terms of determining eligibility and other administrative issues, there will be less opportunity for a "face to face" resolution between a client and a local County employee.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests that its delegation (1) oppose implementation of a centralized privatized statewide eligibility determination and case management system; (2) propose the use of an existing single statewide eligibility determination system that is county-administered rather than implement a new centralized and privately-administered system; (3) retain eligibility determination at the local county level; (4) ensure safeguards are put in place to ensure that client access to service is not jeopardized and (5) increase funding for technology in general. As illustrated in the "cost of doing business" brief, the County Department of Social Services has not been able to devote funding for technology as it currently must use funds to backfill the State's share of the cost of administering various social aid programs.

CONTACT: Kathy Gallagher, Director, Department of Social Services, 805.681.4451; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Social Services Child Welfare Services

Summary of the Issue

On July 28, 2009, the Governor signed the revised 2009-10 budget package, which included an \$80 million General Fund cut to Child Welfare Services (CWS). When lost federal matching funds are included, the total cut grows to \$124 million. These cuts exacerbate historic under funding to an antiquated CWS budgeting and funding methodology that was established in the mid 1980's. Since that time, dramatic changes in child welfare policy and mandates have occurred, as well as demographic and societal changes, impacting the workload demands of the current system. The SB 2030 Workload Study established minimum and optimal caseload standards in 2000, and subsequent legislation required the development of a plan to implement the findings of this study. However, budget constraints have since prevented the State from allocating sufficient funding to implement the study's recommendations. Additional mandates since the workload study continue to tax social worker resources. CWS funding woes are exacerbated by the freezing of administrative funding at the 2001 level (See brief on "cost of doing business" or CODB). Thus, with increasing caseloads, decreased funding, and decreased staffing, the Department of Social Services' ability to meet federal and state mandates in serving children and families impacted by abuse and neglect is threatened. The existing staffing pattern contributes to a vicious cycle of an overburdened system that cannot adequately protect the children that we serve while pushing counties to improve State and Federal outcome measures for children as set forth in AB636 – California's Outcomes and Accountability System.



Public Benefit/Impact



Reducing funding without eliminating any of the mandates that counties must meet passes the State's responsibility for providing services to the counties without providing adequate resources, policy direction or priorities on how to implement cuts. This places the burden on policy and service delivery on local child welfare agencies and county board of supervisors rather than on the State. For example, county departments must balance performing various functions with limited resources and consider such options as eliminating investigations for general neglect cases and triaging other abuse cases, increasing response times that exceed the immediate and 10-day required response, not seeing children on a monthly basis, or reducing Independent Living Program services for emancipating foster youth, all of which puts vulnerable children at risk. Further, absent services, absent proactive intervention, the

cycle of child abuse expands to subsequent generations.

Cost to the Government

By passing State imposed program cuts to local agencies without providing relief from current requirements, the State is putting counties in the untenable position of deciding what not to do, and is ultimately abdicating its responsibility to abused and neglected children.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests that its delegation seek to restore Child Welfare Services funding to pre-FY 2008-09 status during the State FY 2010-11 budget, and explore the possibility of seeking options to relieve counties from mandates in FY 2009-10 and FY 2010-11 if funding is not restored.

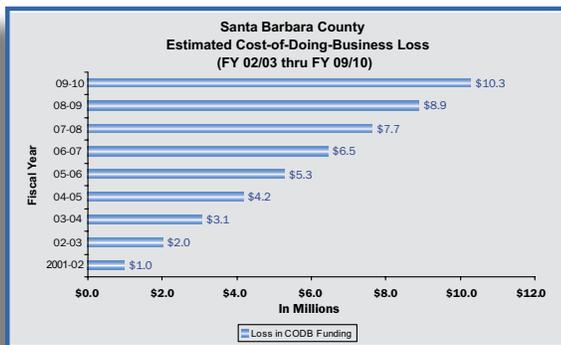
CONTACT: Kathy Gallagher, Director, Department of Social Services, 805.681.4451; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Social Services Cost of Doing Business (CODB)

Summary of the Issue

For the County Department of Social Services (DSS), the State pays a portion of the costs associated with providing mandated public assistance programs (“cost of doing business” or “CODB”). However, the State’s contribution to the County has not kept pace with inflation or the actual costs of administering mandated programs for a number of years. Rather, the State has frozen its funding for administration and overhead at the 2001 level. This began prior to the economic downturn that has resulted in unprecedented caseload growth in most programs. Although the Department receives funding for caseload growth, absence of CODB funding does not allow the Department to pursue new technologies to increase efficiencies, or to achieve staffing levels that adequately address the needs of the clients and fulfill the mandated timelines established by the State and Federal governments. The Department has deferred funding other needs in lieu of programmatic cuts, but cannot continue this practice indefinitely if the State does not increase its contribution levels.

The Department has reached the tipping point. The State does not plan to provide these resources in the foreseeable future. Although it has been mitigated by the Department to a degree up to now, the full impact of not getting these resources will progressively begin to negatively impact the Department’s ability to deliver the services mandated by the State and Federal government.



Public Benefit/Impact

DSS programs affected include Adoptions, Adult Protective Services (APS), CalWORKs, Child Welfare Services (CWS), Food Stamps, Foster Care, In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), and because of legislation passed in the final 2008-09 State budget, the Medi-Cal CODB is also being withheld. As a result of the many years of withholding CODB and a compounding of the shortfall by adding Medi-Cal CODB withholding to the equation, it has eroded DSS’s ability to maintain adequate staffing levels to meet client demand. Consequently, in the public assistance programs clients are experiencing longer wait times for accessing services and delays in eligibility determinations for these various programs. In IHSS, APS and CWS staffing shortfalls result in a delay in investigations, which may result in children, elder and dependent adults to be left longer within an abusive

or negligent situation. DSS has had to divert funds from the pursuit of cost-saving technological improvements geared to increase long-term efficiencies in exchange for funding for the delivery of services in order to backfill lost State reimbursement.

Cost to the Government

The State’s failure to fund actual County cost increases has led to a growing funding gap of nearly \$1 billion annually. Freezing program funding also shifts costs to counties and increases the county share of program costs above statutory sharing ratios. Continued under-funding by the State has resulted in staffing decreases without a comparable decrease in State mandated programs. Should funding shortfalls continue, it would likely result in a significant decrease in service delivery, create inefficiencies in performance and impact the ability to meet mandated timeframes for all programs. Additionally, failure to meet mandated performance measures in programs may lead to fiscal sanctions being imposed by the Federal and State governments. Federal and State resources cannot be used to pay fiscal sanctions; therefore, any sanctions would need to be paid by the County’s General Fund.

The Department estimates a \$10.3 million funding gap for FY 09/10 due to costs of administering programs without corresponding increases in State funding. The Department has used reserves and deferred spending on building maintenance, computer and other equipment upgrades, ergonomic furniture, and equity increases to staff as strategies to absorb the funding gap each year. While these strategies may temporarily make up the funding shortfall, there are both short and long-term impacts to the Department’s operations.

Requested Action and Strategy

CSAC has convened a Human Services Deficit Workgroup to advocate with the Administration and Legislature to restore this CODB to all programs, but has agreed to forgo the restoration of the past deficit. The County requests that its delegation support efforts to restore appropriate funding levels immediately and continuing into the future. Counties do not have the discretionary income to backfill the State’s responsibilities for funding these programs.

CONTACT: Kathy Gallagher, Director, Department of Social Services, 805.681.4451; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Social Services In-Home Supportive Services

Summary of the Issue

The In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program provides assistance to eligible 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 homemaker and personal care services, IHSS maintains quality of life while avoiding the more costly alternative of institutionalization.

ABX 4 4 was signed into law by the Governor with the State budget on July 28, 2009. This bill made significant policy changes in the IHSS program that eliminates (with some exceptions) all program eligibility for applicants/recipients with a Functional Index Score (FIS) below 2, and eliminates (with some exceptions) domestic and related services for applicants/recipients in each category of service with a Functional Rank (FIR) below 4. While new applicants will be able to appeal their Functional Index Scores and Ranking, the cost of processing the appeal will likely be born by the local county department.

A real scenario depicts the real life impacts of the policy changes that were enacted in the FY 10/11 budget. This bill eliminates eligibility for an 87 year old client, who suffers from Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COBD), angina and arthritis. The client lives alone and has no family support. The client has a history of falling and has limited mobility. She is unable to drive and relies on her provider for all transportation. She tires easily and is unable to prepare her meals or accomplish any domestic work. Without IHSS, this client will be at risk for institutionalization.



In addition to the change in eligibility, ABX4 4 also, amongst other fraud detection and prevention measures, requires both IHSS recipients and providers to be fingerprinted, requires providers to undergo criminal background checks, complete a lengthy Provider Enrollment form, and for new providers, attend an orientation. County social services departments will be required to implement these provisions without funding.

Public Benefit/Impact

IHSS is a critical program, preventing costly institutionalization and directly affecting the health and safety of its elderly and disabled recipients. Few social services programs have such an immediate, positive and profound direct affect on a person's quality of life as does IHSS. However, it has long been acknowledged statewide that IHSS is woefully under-funded and has become increasingly complex to administer. Counties have struggled to provide these critical services with fewer resources and Santa Barbara County is no exception.

The County anticipates over 47% of its approximately 2,900 IHSS recipients will be negatively impacted by this policy change. Approximately 575 (19.83%) clients will no longer be eligible for services and another 800 (27.59%) recipients will have their services significantly reduced since they will no longer be eligible for one or more domestic or related services. A number of new applicants will also be denied services because their limitations do not rise to a level of 2 or above. Additionally, some recipients will be denied partial benefits in the domestic and related service areas.

Cost to the Government

Included in this budget was an unanticipated fingerprinting requirement for all In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) recipients. Fingerprinting of IHSS providers has been much debated and its inclusion in the budget was not surprising. However, the recipient fingerprinting portion of the legislation was unanticipated, was not openly debated in a stakeholder forum and will result in unintentional consequences for recipients and the counties administering IHSS.

With this legislation, IHSS recipients (except minors and individuals physically unable to provide fingerprint due to amputation or other physical limitations) are to provide fingerprints at assessment and reassessment. This budget also requires recipient to place their fingerprint on each timesheet to be eligible for payment, effective July 1, 2011. The County believes fingerprinting adds additional burdens to recipients without providing any significant benefit to the state. It puts Social Workers in an adversarial police role that creates an environment of distrust which is detrimental to the social worker consumer relationship. Furthermore, reports of rampant IHSS fraud have not been substantiated so fingerprinting of recipients, in addition to being an administrative burden for the counties, are not based on sound reasoning. The new procedures, although not yet clearly defined, will be expensive and time consuming for county personnel. The changes will not result in any cost-savings, except by imposing bureaucratic burdens that force people who qualify for IHSS to stop getting the services they need.

Social Services In-Home Supportive Services

Continued

Even prior to the policy changes, IHSS was already chronically under-funded due to an outdated budgeting and funding methodology which assumes that county workers need only 11.58 hours per client per year to provide a number of services to administer the program, including recipient enrollment into the program, individualized in-home assessments, and coordinating with other service providers for care. This budgeting yardstick was totally inadequate when it was established in 1993 and has remained relatively unchanged despite significant policy changes and increased mandates over the years. In addition, counties have not received any funding to cover increases in the cost of administering the IHSS program for the past eight years (See brief on the "cost-of-doing-business, or CODB). Note that IHSS denials, which have a significant workload associated with them, are not administratively funded.

Requested Action and Strategy

In order to preserve the safety net for Santa Barbara County's most vulnerable aged and disabled citizens, the County requests that its delegation support legislation to eliminate IHSS recipients from the fingerprinting requirement and to advocate to restore IHSS funding to FY 08/09 levels in order to restore program eligibility to recipients, fund the new provider enrollment mandate, and to oppose further programmatic and budgetary cuts in the FY 10/11 budget year.

CONTACT: Kathy Gallagher, Director, Department of Social Services, 805.681.4451; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Social Services TANF Reauthorization

Summary of the Issue

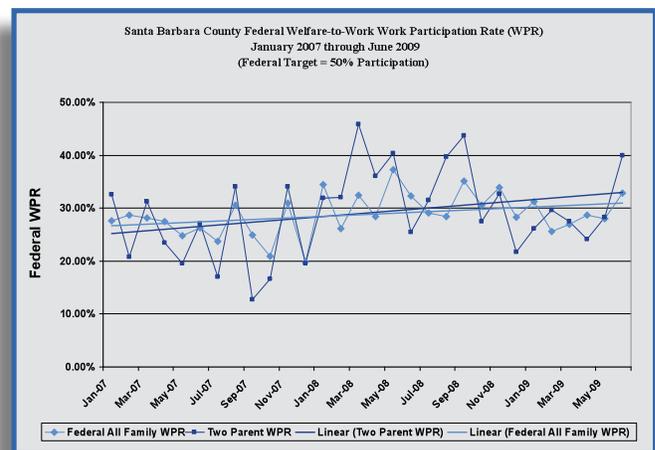
It is a difficult challenge for the County of Santa Barbara to meet performance targets within the regulations issued by the Federal Government for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program (known as CalWORKs in California). The last reauthorization of TANF, which was part of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, was heavily weighted toward Federal oversight and penalties instead of state flexibility and focused on work-participation while limiting what is considered “work”.

The success of TANF depends on counties’ flexibility to target local needs and support participants’ 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.

TANF funding must be flexible to react quickly to economic downturns and other emerging issues. Many TANF participants struggle to find work, lack work experience, and are susceptible to homelessness and other crisis situations or episodes of need. For these reasons, continued funding via the Emergency Contingency Fund (ECF) to support subsidized employment programs and non-recurrent short-term benefits (one time benefit designed to deal with a specific crisis situation) established by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) are crucial to the success of TANF. Once employment is found, TANF participants continue to need assistance with job retention, transportation, counseling, and other supportive services such as childcare and health care. With congressional reauthorization looming in 2010, the County supports flexibility that allows states and counties to meet the individual needs of their caseloads. The County supports establishing Federal rules that measure the effectiveness of welfare programs by utilizing more outcome-based measures.

Public Benefit/Impact

As depicted in the adjacent chart, executed strategies have been successful in improving the Work Participation Rate (WPR) but Santa Barbara County, like many counties, continues to struggle with the challenge of complying with Federal regulations. At the same time, significant funding cuts have been made by the Governor on CalWORKs and Employment Services funding that impacts staffing levels and supportive services, which hampers the progress made to date. If the current TANF Work Participation Rate methodology remains unchanged, counties will be faced with policy decisions that will impact client services and the WPR and possibly lead to county sanctions. These cuts almost certainly will translate into delays in processing applications and issuing checks; fewer clients finding jobs; and cutting programs such as housing, education help and domestic violence counseling. The latest California budget cuts are at the heart of the welfare-to-work approach, which many fear will be difficult to restore even after the current economic crisis is resolved.



Cost to the Government

The current required Federal participation rate of 50% will not be met statewide and State Legislation requires that counties participate in the required fiscal sanction. It is unclear on how sanctions will be passed down and if counties will get credit for the WPR that is achieved or if the sanctions will be distributed evenly among counties regardless of their WPR. 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.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests that its delegation advocate at the Federal level to undue the effects of the 2005 TANF Reauthorization changes to the WPR formula and definition of “work” as TANF is reauthorized. The County is interested in a balanced approach between federal oversight and state flexibility with better and more outcome-based measures of success. The County urges its delegation to seek continued support for the Emergency Contingency Fund authorized under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act as a necessary component of TANF Reauthorization.

CONTACT: Kathy Gallagher, Director, Department of Social Services, 805.681.4451; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)

Summary of the Issue

According to a 2008 state-wide report by Children Now, 15,000 children, or 14%, are uninsured in Santa Barbara County, which is tied with another county for having the second highest uninsured percentage of children in California. Uninsured and underinsured children cost our communities. A 2007 study in Pediatrics found that communities save \$2,100 for every child they insure or keep insured. Uninsured children are eight times more likely to have delayed medical care or too often end up in the emergency room where treatment can be much more expensive than in the doctor's office. Therefore, the need for children to have access to comprehensive healthcare and become automatically enrolled in health coverage is crucial.

The County has undertaken several efforts to address the issue of uninsured children and supports efforts at the Federal and State levels to provide funding for preventive health services and increase access to affordable healthcare for all children.

Public Benefit/Impact

Compared to children with health insurance, uninsured children are¹:

- Three times more likely not to have seen a doctor in the past year
- More than 13 times as likely to lack a usual source of medical care
- Five times more likely to have an unmet health care, dental, vision, prescription drug, or mental health care need
- Two times more likely to die while in the hospital if admitted due to injuries
- Two times more likely to not receive rehabilitative, follow up, or routine care upon discharge from the hospital

In addition, a community's high rate of un-insurance can adversely affect the overall health status of the community. For example, low immunization rates increase the vulnerability of entire communities to outbreaks of measles and influenza. Childhood and adult immunization levels are correlated with having health insurance². Of all of the costs of providing uncompensated care to the uninsured, hospitals carry the bulk of the burden – 63%³. In addition, since 14% of all uncompensated care is provided to children 0-18⁴, the hospitals are also carrying a large proportion of this burden, typically in their emergency departments.

The school-based administration enables the Health Linkages Program, which is under the direction of the Santa Barbara County Education Office, to use the MAA funding to leverage private foundation and public grant dollars. This funding is directed at efforts to identify uninsured children, enroll said children in a subsidized health insurance program, assist families in accessing needed health care services and retain coverage.

Cost to the Government

Currently, it is estimated that there are 5,000 children within the County that would qualify for Healthy Families. As of October 2009, the number of Santa Barbara County children enrolled in Healthy Families is 10,446, an increase of almost 20% from the 8,722 children enrolled in Healthy Families in September 2006 when the Children's Health Initiative of Santa Barbara (CHISB) instituted its Outreach, Enrollment, Retention and Utilization (OERU) activities. In order to increase the number of children with coverage, the County formed a coalition of agencies (Regional Health Authority, First 5 Santa Barbara County Children and Families Commission, County Public Health Department, the County Department of Social Services, Santa Barbara County Education Office and several public and non-profit organizations) that partnered to form the Children's Health Initiative of Santa Barbara County, and implemented a "Healthy Kids" Insurance Program to provide insurance for children from families having a family income between 250% and 300% of the poverty level, or for children who do not otherwise qualify for MediCal or Healthy Families. The Board of Supervisors allocated \$1 Million in the County's 2007-08 and 2008-09 budgets to increase the number of children that could receive Healthy Kids insurance. Funding from the federal and state governments would enhance local efforts to insure children. While the federal government would incur additional costs in enhancing SCHIP funding, the costs are likely to be offset by the long-term cost advantages of ensuring children have access to health insurance and preventive health services prior to catastrophic health issues.

First 5 Santa Barbara County was informed in December 2008 that approximately 163,000 children would be disenrolled from the State program of Healthy Families given the economic and budgetary challenges facing the State. The 58 First 5 Commissions throughout the State were asked to provide the State a proportional share of the cost of this program based on the number of newly enrolled children age 0-5 enrolled in Healthy Families in each county. For 2009-10, California First 5 pledged nearly half of its reserve to sustain Healthy Families through June 2010. Locally, First 5 Santa Barbara contributed \$114,232.



State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)

Continued

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests its delegation support legislation to reauthorize SCHIP and ideally increase funding levels for SCHIP.

The County also recommends that children's health coverage provide the following:

- Improved training for pediatricians to identify mental health and emotional health needs of children and inclusion of mental health services to children
- Improved coverage for dental health care
- Immunizations
- Regular vision plan
- Promotion of developmental screenings in early childhood development
- Enhanced flexibility for states to increase coverage up to 400% of FPL
- Enhanced flexibility for states to expand coverage to undocumented children, and other services that better meet the needs of the state population

The County also requests that its delegation oppose CMS regulations that prevent the elimination of the Medicaid reimbursements for school-based MAA programs.

CONTACT:

Pat Wheatley, Executive Director, First 5 Santa Barbara County, 805.884.8087; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

¹ Campaign for Children's Health Care, Why Insurance Matters for Children (July 2006)

² The Institute of Medicine Washington DC, Uninsurance Facts & Figures (Drawn from Hidden Costs, Value Lost 2003)

³ The Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, What we spend, Who Pays, and What would full coverage add to Medical Spending? (May 2004)

Telecommunications Regulations

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.

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 the Government

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

Requested Action and Strategy

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.

CONTACT: Glenn Russell, Director, Planning and Development, 805.568.2000; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Transportation (HUTA, Proposition 42)

Summary of the Issue

The State charges an excise tax on gasoline and diesel that is intended to fund transportation projects. This tax is received by counties and cities through two revenue streams, the first is the Highway Users Tax Account (HUTA) and the second is Proposition 42. In July 2009, it was decided by the State Legislature that the first 6 months of HUTA would be deferred to counties and cities; however, the only mention of a pay back date was “after January 2010.” The Department of Finance recommended a repayment schedule for these HUTA funds in August 2009. This pay back schedule was written into SB 65, which was approved by the Legislature in October 2009. Currently, the State is working on distributing the first 4 months of HUTA to counties and cities. However, SB 65 does defer payment of 5 months of HUTA revenues. Even though SB 65 was approved by the Legislature, there continues to be concern that the remaining amount of FY 2009-10 HUTA revenues will be taken from counties and cities if the State Budget fix from July 2009 does not prove adequate.

In 2002, voters passed Proposition 42, which amended the State Constitution to dedicate gas-tax revenue to transportation projects. However, Proposition 42 allowed the State to retain the gas-tax revenue in the State’s General Fund during an economic crisis. The State used this provision for three years and diverted more than \$5 billion from transportation to other uses. In 2006, the voters approved Proposition 1A, which amended the State Constitution to further limit the conditions under which the Proposition 42 transfer of gasoline sales tax revenues for transportation could be suspended and required Proposition 42 suspensions to be treated as loans to the General Fund that must be repaid in full, including interest, within three years of suspension. Also, Proposition 1A required that the State could not borrow any additional Proposition 42 funds until previous borrowed amounts were repaid in full. The FY 2008-09 State Budget fully funded Proposition 42, although the borrowing of these funds was considered as part of budget deliberations. Given the economic challenges facing the State, it may consider another borrowing of Proposition 42 funds, although this may be less likely due to the requirement to repay previously borrowed amounts before any additional Proposition 42 funds can be taken. The stringent requirements of Proposition 1A on borrowing Proposition 42 funds likely was the reason why the Legislature contemplated a taking of HUTA funds, as there are currently no protections in place on the taking of HUTA revenues

In addition to preventing the borrowing of Proposition 42 funds by the Legislature, the County supports the recommendation made by the Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO Recommended Legislation December 1, 2008) to increase the State “gas tax.” In addition to this recommendation, in June 2008, the CSAC Board of Directors approved a motion to support an increase to gas tax by 5 cents as an alternative to the taking of HUTA for two years to pay debt service. Additionally, if the 5 cent increase was continued beyond two years, the additional revenues would be split equally between the state, cities, and counties.

The approval of Proposition 1A was a step in the right direction for the protection of Proposition 42 funds. This same protection is needed for HUTA funds. Counties and cities need protections in the future from the taking of HUTA funds without the need for repayment of these funds. This funding source is vital to the future of California’s local road system.

Public Benefit/Impact

The County of Santa Barbara Public Works Department was anticipating receiving approximately \$6.3 million in HUTA revenues for FY 2009-10. Under SB 65, the State will be deferring 5 months of HUTA revenues for FY 2009-10. This results in a deferral of over \$2.5 million to the County of Santa Barbara. The department anticipates funding this shortfall in revenue projections by deferring much needed preventive road maintenance projects, capital improvement projects, and by using Road Fund balances. If the State continues to withhold HUTA revenues beyond April 2010, the department will be forced to reduce the level of service that the County can provide. In addition, if the Legislature continues to consider a taking of HUTA funding in the future or continues to defer HUTA revenues beyond April 2010, the department will be forced to discontinue the following critical operations:

- Loss of approximately \$6.3 million in vital funding annually and 38 positions that are responsible for day to day transportation maintenance operations
- No pot hole patching, tree trimming, weed abatement, annual culvert cleaning, or graffiti abatement
- No traffic safety maintenance work
- No traffic signal maintenance, traffic sign and striping maintenance
- No 24-hour call-out requests from public safety personnel, or response to natural disasters
- No new ‘no parking’ restrictions, new stop signs, updated or new speed surveys
- No Safe Routes to School program
- Inability to meet State and Federal unfunded mandates (ARB Requirements, ADA Requirements, etc.)

Due to the continued instability of the State budget, there continues to be concern over the remainder of FY 2009-10 HUTA revenues, and the County has deferred a large pavement preservation project that would have supported local contractors in this difficult economic time. The department has to deplete its fund balance at a time when it is facing the possibility of an El Nino winter.

Transportation (HUTA, Proposition 42)

Continued

The Public Works Department received \$3.5 million in FY 2008-09 Proposition 42 revenues, which will enable the department to perform necessary preventive maintenance to County roads, repair uplifted sidewalks, curb and gutter, install ADA compliant curb ramps, repair failing drainage structures, and complete repairs to infrastructure due to storm damage.

Both the need for and corresponding costs of maintenance and rehabilitation of roads has increased significantly and these costs are largely absorbed by both HUTA and Proposition 42 revenues. However, this leaves little revenue remaining for transportation projects. Should the gas tax be increased and indexed to account for inflation, then HUTA and Proposition 42 funds would remain a viable funding source for transportation projects statewide and locally.

Cost to the Government

If the HUTA funding is taken for the remainder of FY 2009-10 and FY 2010-11, it would have a devastating affect on Public Works Departments across the State. Santa Barbara County Public Works Department alone would be forced to reduce its highly trained workforce by 38 employees. Many rural Public Works Departments would no longer exist. The effect would be an increase to the unemployment rate and the loss of the ability to get goods to market as the roadways would deteriorate beyond repair. In addition, all of the gains to the condition of roads that were realized with the ARRA funding would be lost.

Should the State continue to borrow Proposition 42 funds, the State is required to repay these funds with interest. Therefore, the use of Proposition 42 funds is a short-term budgetary “fix” that impacts local governments’ ability to provide safe and reliable road maintenance and repair. With Proposition 42 funds, the County is able to continue necessary pavement preservation treatments. By performing pavement preservation treatment techniques, the County is able to extend the useful life of more of maintained lane miles by applying cost-effective treatments instead of applying more costly repairs to a handful of our maintained roads. As an example, Proposition 42 funds can be used to perform pavement preservation treatment to 38 lane miles, which extends the life of these sections of pavement by 7 to 10 years. Without the continued receipt of full Proposition 42 funds, these lane miles will deteriorate and require more costly treatments and repairs in the future when funding becomes available.



In addition, the County uses HUTA and Proposition 42 funds for sidewalk repairs and the installation of curb ramps in residential neighborhoods throughout the County, which are used by many families as they walk their children to school and walk the neighborhood for recreation. This type of work is needed to abate any liability for the County from trip and fall claims. The County has also identified locations where roadway drainage facilities are failing and need to be replaced. If these facilities are not replaced, water could enter the road sub-base and threaten the stability of the pavement, resulting in the complete failure of these roadways. If the County is unable to perform basic corrective maintenance such as pot hole patching and restriping of our roadways, the County’s liability for claims and lawsuits could increase.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests that its delegation (1) oppose any taking of HUTA funds during this current State budget crisis or during any future State budget deliberations; (2) support the full funding of Proposition 42 within the upcoming State budget and prevent the Legislature from borrowing these funds to balance the overall State budget; (3) support efforts to increase and index the State gas tax; and (4) place protections on the proposed future taking of HUTA funding.

CONTACT: Scott McGolpin, Director, Public Works Department, 805.568.3010; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Transportation (SAFETEA-LU)

Summary of the Issue

The County has several transportation projects to be considered as part of the reauthorization of the SAFETEA-LU program. SAFETEA-LU is currently authorized for 2005-2009.

In accordance with the Inter-Agency Collaboration Legislative Principle, the County is supportive of the Santa Barbara Association of Governments (SBCAG) Regional Transportation Priority Requests. This includes their top priority project, the **Highway 101 HOV Widening Project**, as well as overall Highway 101 system enhancements, including supporting Vandenberg AFB and other key projects which complement County federal funding requests.

1. Pavement Preservation Funding

The County of Santa Barbara has been a leader in Pavement Preservation since 1994. The Pavement Preservation philosophy consists of taking care of our backbone roads that are in a good condition to ensure that they continue to stay in good condition. Pavement Preservation practices include both preventive and corrective non-structural actions to provide cost-effective alternatives to local roadways. This is opposite of the common philosophy of fixing roadways which are “worst first” which devotes funds to costly resurfacing, rehabilitation and restoration projects. Preventive maintenance is proactive maintenance and uses cost-effective treatments to arrest surface deterioration and extends the useful life of our pavement. Pavement Preservation treatments require more latitude in the requirements for use of federal funding due to the current service life requirements so that we may utilize a variety of proven tools. Local agencies can perform three innovative, cost-effective treatments for the same cost as one conventional overlay.

2. Off Federal System Local Bridge Funding

The County maintains approximately 110 bridges that are currently eligible to receive funding through the Highway Bridge Project (HBP, formerly HBRR). With the proposed reauthorization language of off system bridges not being eligible for this funding, it would eliminate a potential funding source for the replacement of 50% of our maintained bridges. Local agencies cannot afford to fund these structures themselves and need the federal government’s HBP program to do that.

3. Roadway Surface Treatments and Drainage Improvements

This project consists of in-place recycling and deep-lift asphalt concrete overlays on: (1) four Federal Aid Routes in the 24th Congressional District of the County, which includes various routes within the unincorporated areas of Santa Ynez, Lompoc, and Santa Maria, and (2) ten Federal Aid Routes in the 23rd Congressional District of the County, which includes various routes within the unincorporated areas of Montecito, Summerland, Santa Barbara, Goleta, Guadalupe and Lompoc. Both projects will allow the County to bring the selected roads up to current County standards for safety, ride quality and provides structural and much needed drainage improvements to the road infrastructure (\$4.5 Million - 23rd District, \$6.25 Million – 24th District).

4. Summerland Circulation & Parking Improvements

This project, located on Ortega Hill Road and Lillie Avenue through the town of Summerland, proposes to improve the pedestrian, vehicular and bicycle circulation by constructing curb, gutter and sidewalks, delineating a Class II bike lane and by adding street lighting and angled parking where feasible. The project has received \$2.8 Million in funding and is anticipated to receive \$2 Million in funds through the State Transportation Improvement Plan cycle for portions of the improvements and some improvements are under construction (\$1.4 Million remaining).

5. Hollister Avenue Widening and Commuter Rail

This project will improve the flow of multimodal transportation through an important area to this region. Hollister Avenue is a critical travel path for both residential and commercial traffic from within the immediate vicinity as well as those passing through the area to and from other regions. Improvements consist of widening Hollister Avenue for 1.25 miles from State Highway 154 west to San Antonio Road and include roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian circulation betterments. The widening will result in two 12-foot lanes in each direction, 6-foot shoulders for Class II bike lanes, and 5-foot sidewalks on each side of Hollister Avenue. The Union Pacific Railroad Bridge that crosses Hollister Ave near Modoc Road will be replaced with a longer structure to accommodate the widening, and an additional bridge will be constructed to provide a siding track for Union Pacific Railroad, Amtrak, and the possibility for commuter rail service from the Goleta Area to the bedroom communities in Ventura County (\$5 Million for Design and Environmental Review).

6. Old Town Orcutt Streetscape and Circulation Improvements

This project, located along Clark Avenue in the town of Orcutt, proposes to revitalize a historic downtown corridor of Clark Ave by improving access to Orcutt from Highway 101 and improving parking and pedestrian access within the historic Old Town Orcutt. This project has two components: (1) improvements to the Clark Avenue on and off ramps at Highway 101 and (2) formalization of temporary striping changes, as well as the construction of missing sidewalk segments along Clark Avenue. As more residents travel to this historic area, it has been shown that the traffic will increase at Highway 101 ramps thereby requiring traffic signals on the northbound and southbound ramps and minor widening to align the on and off ramps at both the northbound and southbound ramps of Highway 101. Regarding the striping changes, intersection curb returns will be “bulbed out” with additional sidewalk space for improved pedestrian safety, areas for landscaping and curb cuts that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (\$3.2 Million).

Transportation (SAFETEA-LU)

Continued

7. Refugio Road Safety Improvements

This project, located on Refugio Road along the Gaviota Coast, proposes to realign and widen Refugio Road for seven miles starting at Highway 101 and continuing northerly to the summit of the Santa Ynez Mountains. This portion of Refugio Road attracts recreation enthusiasts so the project will provide for safer access for bicyclists and equestrians by widening the existing roadway to include two lanes of travel, improving shoulders and sight distances. Refugio Road crosses Refugio Creek at seven locations: six low water crossings and one bridge. The low water crossings consist of concrete encased culverts to convey creek flow which act as a bridge in low flow events. However, under high flow conditions, water runs over the roadway and precludes vehicular traffic. Seasonal rains often fill the culvert openings in the crossings with debris, forcing the creek to flow across the roadway year round. The crossings impede the natural flow of the creek as well as the coastal steelhead/rainbow trout, a federally protected endangered species. The project proposes new replacement bridge structures that will improve creek conveyance and the fish and wildlife habitat. The proposed structures will raise the roadway profile as required by current design standards to allow for high creek flows under the road. Additional drainage improvements are proposed along the project limits to ensure rainfall run off is addressed adequately and safe passage is made available year round (\$30 Million total project cost, requesting \$2.9 million for Design and Environmental Review).

8. Purisima Road Widening Improvements

This project would widen Purisima Road from State Highway 1 to State Highway 246 to allow for 5-foot Class II bike lanes adjacent to 11 to 12-foot travel lanes. It would increase safety for bicyclists and encourage regional bicycle travel as a viable form of alternative transportation. The project would include widening approximately 3 miles of roadway on both sides, realigning the roadway and constructing drainage improvements. These improvements will mesh with two proposed regional projects to serve those traveling within and through the region: 1) Caltrans improvements on State Route 246 that include regional bicycle lanes and intersection improvements at the boundary of this project, and 2) a proposed space museum that visitors could access using this route. This area is in close proximity to Vandenberg Air Force Base and to the Purisima Mission, a State Park. (\$4.8 Million).

9. Union Valley Parkway at Bradley Road Intersection Improvements

Phase II of this project will improve an intersection that is vital to travel through the Santa Maria/Orcutt region and the public traversing the State via Highway 101. There are three projects currently underway to improve the Union Valley Parkway corridor: 1) The Union Valley Parkway Extension Project being constructed under the guidance of the City of Santa Maria, 2) the Union Valley Parkway Interchange Project overseen by the State (Caltrans) and 3) this intersection improvement project that the County is spearheading. Operational improvements to the Union Valley Parkway at Bradley Intersection will dovetail with the other two projects to complete an important circulation route for passenger and commercial vehicles, pedestrians and bicycles traveling in the region. This project includes intersection, sidewalk, roadway, signal, drainage, and lighting improvements along Union Valley Parkway to provide smooth and safe access to the traveling public (\$2 Million).

Public Benefit/Impact

These various projects are proposed to increase the safety of the various users of the County's road system including motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians. Other benefits of these projects include drainage and structural improvements and increasing the surface conditions of roads.

Cost to the Government

The President signed SAFETEA-LU into law on August 2005, which authorizes \$244.1 billion in funding for highways, highway safety, and public transportation.

Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests support from its delegation to include these transportation projects in the 2010 SAFETEA-LU reauthorization as well as seek assistance in identifying other funding opportunities for these projects.

CONTACT: Scott McGolpin, Director, Public Works Department, 805.568.3010; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

Veterans Memorial Building

Summary of the Issue

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

Public Benefit/Impact

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. Without renovations to the facility, the building may no longer be able to be used by community groups.

Cost to the Government

The County has estimated the cost of renovation to be approximately \$2.931 million, which includes:

- ADA upgrades including lift installation, restroom upgrade, handrail and signage installation (\$34,000)
- Architectural / Safety upgrades including installation of exit sign, fire rated doors and related hardware and fire alarm and fire sprinkler system, kitchen upgrade to Commercial Code requirements, insulation, restroom addition, roof tile and downspout repair (\$300,000)
- Structural upgrades including chimney repair and structural analysis (\$72,000)
- Mechanical upgrades to existing heating and plumbing systems (\$47,000)
- Electrical upgrades including replacement of circuitry and re-wiring of building (\$760,000)
- Hazardous Material abatement including asbestos and lead paint abatement, and termite inspection report (\$1,600,000)
- Exterior modifications including repair of existing sidewalks, curbs and gutters, enhanced landscaping and additional parking facilities (\$118,000)



Requested Action and Strategy

The County requests assistance from its delegation to fund a portion of this project through an appropriations request.

CONTACT: Bob Nisbet, Director, General Services Department, 805.568.3070; Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 805.568.3400

