

ATTACHMENT D

State 2015 Legislative Platform – Key Principles and Accomplishments

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

JOB GROWTH AND ECONOMIC VITALITY:

Continue to support the development of employment opportunities, and support efforts to promote local business and job growth in an endeavor to decrease the unemployment rate and heighten individual and community economic vitality. Foster interaction and dialogue with public, private, and nonprofit sectors, with a focus on the pursuit of and advocacy for economic vitality and innovation. Support necessary infrastructure development projects as a job creator and economic engine, which increases economic vitality across multiple industries and markets. As the economy continues to recover so does our State budget, however this Administration is committed to not increasing in areas that were decreased due to bad economic times, especially in light of the increase in state revenues are in part due to the passage of Prop. 30, which are temporary and due to expire seven years after it was passed in 2013, however there is some discussion that the Legislature may extend it indefinitely.

EFFICIENT SERVICE DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS:

Striving to balance the diversity of needs countywide, support efforts to streamline processes and promote operational enhancements relevant to County departments' missions and core services by thoroughly evaluating legislation, and if warranted, consider opposition to legislation that creates undue fiscal and operation burdens on individual departments. We achieved this goal by introduction AB 514 by Assembly Member Das Williams. This measure would have increased fines for those out of compliance with permits relevant to one-time events, construction among other things. The bill did have broad support throughout the state but was vetoed by the Governor stating concerns with those not able to pay the fines given the significant increases.

FISCAL STABILITY:

Support efforts to generate new intergovernmental revenue and/or enhance existing revenue/reimbursement levels and oppose the loss of, or redirecting of, existing revenue and/or the creation of additional unfunded mandates to the County. Such efforts also include supporting a majority state budget vote requirement and a timely adoption of the state budget before the new fiscal year begins. With the economy improving and a majority vote on the state budget, the state has seen a significant increase in revenues, which help out locally to offset county budgets. The housing market rebounding and county's reassessing local property taxes also increased fiscal stability. We are far from out of the woods, but making strides to be more fiscally stable at the state level.

INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION:

Partner with neighboring cities on infrastructure and other large-scale projects when possible. Support the advocacy efforts of such organizations as the: California State Association of Counties (CSAC), National Association of Counties (NACO), Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG), First 5 Santa Barbara, and other local and regional agencies. Collaborate with other institutions and entities on mutually beneficial issues such as transportation, housing, protection of children, the elderly and other "at risk" populations while upholding the principles of efficient service delivery and operations, fiscal stability and local control. We worked very closely with both the League of Cities and CSAC on a variety of issues related to both budget requests, funding for transportation projects, the special session on transportation and our legislative package.

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

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the community's preferences. Secure where appropriate, direct distribution of federal funds to local governments rather than state pass-throughs. Support efforts to maximize local control to ensure safe and effective speed limits. This was achieved by supporting AB 3 by Assembly Member Das Williams to allow for Isla Vista in conjunction with the Board of Supervisors to determine if they should have a special district to support the needs of the community.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES:

Support efforts to maintain and enhance "safety net" services that protect the most vulnerable within a community, including children, the elderly and other "at risk" populations. Such services in the area of health and human assistance include, but are not limited to, preventive and emergency health care to the uninsured and underinsured; HIV/AIDS programs; maternal and children health; adult protective services; dependent care; child welfare services; adoptions and foster care; food stamps and unemployment assistance and workforce development. The County supports collaboration between the federal, state and local governments in the delivery and funding of such services. The County opposes the further erosion in federal and state funding of these vital services. We worked closely with our delegation on the proposed MCO Tax fix that was part of special session which is on-going at this point, however we need to continue to keep them updated as details are released to ensure we are able to protect our safety-net. We also worked closely on the restoration of the SSI/SSP COLA that was eliminated in 2008 in budget subcommittees. Additionally, we also supported to repeal of the maximum family grant presented in SB 23 by Senator Holly Michelle, allowing families to receive additional benefits that they are not currently eligible for should they become pregnant while on CalWorks. Finally, we worked closely to ensure that undocumented children would be eligible for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to take to pressure off of local resources in our health care delivery system.

COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:

Support efforts to foster communitywide sustainability by promoting economic stability and environmental protection and stewardship through participation in the growing green economy. Continue to engage in federal and state deliberations to ensure that local government receives the economic and financial benefits associated with new policies. Support efforts to catalyze community renewal, redevelopment and reinvestment, incubate and support innovative businesses, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and incentivize energy efficiency, water conservation, and the use of renewable energy. Recognize the need to promote mutually beneficial partnerships with public, private, and nonprofit sectors to maintain and protect agricultural and rural resources, housing, coastal areas, and bio-diversity. Support actions to secure sustainable water supplies throughout the region through ensuring both reliable quality and quantity, and promoting best practices for water conservation measures. Encourage actions to address climate change, reduce pollution, and protect the environment. These collective efforts aim to engender healthy communities by balancing social well-being, economic prosperity, and environmental responsibility. This was achieved by supporting SB 350 by President Pro-Temp DeLeon, the bill is intended to help California deal with climate change and adaptation. The author along with other high-level dignitaries' throughout the world convened at a climate change conference in Paris after the end of session to reach world wide agreements on solutions to help with adaptation. We also supported SB 788 This bill eliminates the exception in the California Coastal Sanctuary Act of 1994 (AB 2444, O'Connell) (CCSA) that allows the State Lands Commission (Commission) to issue an offshore oil lease if state oil or gas deposits are being drained by wells on federal lands and the lease is in the best interests of the state.