



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: County Executive Office
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: December 6, 2022
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Time: 45 Min
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Legislative Program Committee
Director(s)
Contact Info: Jasmine McGinty, Legislative Coordinator

SUBJECT: 2022 Annual Report and Accomplishments from County's Federal and State
Legislative Advocates and Adoption of the 2023 Legislative Platform

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: NA

Other Concurrence:

As to form: NA

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and file annual report and accomplishments for 2022 from the County's State legislative advocate, Government Advocates, Inc., and Federal legislative advocate, Thomas Walters and Associates; and
- b) Adopt the County of Santa Barbara 2023 Legislative Platform; and
- c) Determine that the above actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), because pursuant to sections 15378(b)(4) and 15378(b)(5) the recommended actions consist of organizational, administrative or fiscal activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary:

During the December 6, 2022 Board meeting, representatives from the County's federal lobbying firm, Thomas Walters & Associates, and the County's State lobbying firm, Governmental Advocates, will provide an overview of the past year's accomplishments and preview of the likely legislative issues for 2023. These annual reports recap the 2022 accomplishments and provide additional information on the

activity through December 31, 2022. Staff recommends the Board receive and file the 2022 Annual Reports from State and Federal advocates as well as review and adopt the 2023 Legislative Platform.

In [December 2019](#), the Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution establishing the Legislative Program Committee (Committee) as a standing committee of the Board. The Committee approved the Draft 2023 Legislative Platform at the November 7, 2022 Legislative Program Committee meeting. Once adopted by the full Board of Supervisors, the 2023 Legislative Platform will be used to communicate key legislative needs and overall priorities to the federal and state governments, effective January 1, 2023.

Background:

Legislative Annual Reports

During the November 16, 2021 Board meeting, the Board approved one-year contract extensions with both the federal and state legislative advocates with terms from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. The agreements include a provision for the advocates to present an update on legislative activity for the year. Each year, our legislative advocates provide an annual report to your Board that summarizes key legislative activity and accomplishments over the past year. The attached reports provide the accomplishments that have transpired through December 31, 2022.

The 2023 Legislative Platform

The Legislative Program Committee approved the 2023 Legislative Platform on November 7, 2022. The development of the platform included review by County departments of the previous year's platforms, updates for the most current available information and development of new proposed planks for consideration.

In addition, public input was solicited for a period of two weeks on the Draft Platform to encourage public input on the proposed planks and principles. Staff sent out an eblast, press release, and posted the draft to the public website. The review period for public feedback was open through October 21. Feedback was received from one member of the public, which was reviewed and taken into consideration for the final draft presented to the Committee.

For the 2023 Platform, six new planks were added, one from the Office of Emergency Management, two from the County Executive Office, and three from a collaboration of Behavioral Wellness and the County Executive Office. The six new planks are as follows:

- Cannabis Federal Coordination
- Broadband Infrastructure and Funding
- Inpatient Administrative Day Payment Structure
- IMD Exclusion
- CARE Court Implementation Efforts
- Emergency Preparedness, Response, Recovery, and Resiliency

There were no additions or changes to the legislative principles. The Legislative Principles for 2023 remain as follows:

- Job Growth and Economic Vitality
- Efficient Service Delivery and Operations
- Fiscal Stability
- Inter-Agency Collaboration

- Local Control
- Health and Human Services
- Community Sustainability and Environmental Protection
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The strategies to promote the legislative principles involve funding requests, creating new or amending existing legislation, and advocacy. The Platform includes fifty individual planks that align with the legislative principles listed above. The planks are sorted by principle and categorized as a funding request, legislative proposal, and/or advocacy. County staff works closely with the County's state and federal advocates, County departments, and legislative partners to develop effective strategies to address the countywide needs as well as effective strategies to address Platform items.

Fiscal Impacts:

The 2023 Legislative Platform includes requests for project and program funding as well as legislation and advocacy for public service improvements that may increase revenue or improve service levels. There are no fiscal impacts for adopting the Legislative Platform.

Attachments:

Attachment A - Santa Barbara 2021 Annual Report (Federal) – Thomas Walters & Associates

Attachment B - Santa Barbara 2021 Annual Report (State) – Governmental Advocates

Attachment C - Proposed 2023 Legislative Platform Book

Attachment D - Redline Version of Planks – Changes only

Authored by:

Jasmine McGinty, Principal Analyst, County Executive Office

cc: Don Gilchrest, Thomas Walters and Associates, Inc.
Cliff Berg, Governmental Advocates, Inc.