



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: CEO
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: 1/13/2015
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Time: 45 minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Legislative Program Committee
Director(s)

TMN for LPC

Contact Info: Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, 568-3400

SUBJECT: 2015 Legislative Platform

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt the County's 2015 Legislative Platform; and
2. Receive and file year-end federal advocacy report from Tom Walters and Associates Inc. and state advocacy report from Governmental Advocates.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to receive the Board of Supervisors approval of the County's Legislative Platform for 2015. Each year, the County identifies specific issues, projects and/or programs ("priorities") to include within the County's legislative platform. Once adopted by the Board of Supervisors, the 2015 Legislative Platform ("platform") will be used by the County to communicate priorities to the federal and state governments.

Background:

The development of the platform began in August, when the County's Legislative Program Committee ("Committee") reviewed the legislative principles. County departments, advocacy firms and other organizations such as the National Association of Counties (NACO) and the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) were contacted to solicit input regarding potential priorities. The

Committee discussed and considered platform elements and submitted the Draft 2015 Legislative Platform to the Board on December 2, 2014, for discussion. The Board reviewed and suggested changes to the Draft 2015 Platform. Staff made the requested changes and the final 2015 Santa Barbara County Legislative Platform is provided for adoption.

During the development of the platform, County staff also discussed potential issues and projects with its federal and state delegation and began designing a legislative strategy. Strategies involve funding requests, crafting new or amending existing legislation and advocacy of program and grant funding and regulatory reform. Once the platform is adopted by the Board, it will be used to communicate the County's priorities to the County's federal and state government and other intergovernmental entities.

This year in developing the overall platform the Legislative Committee reaffirmed the current Legislative Principles to focus and align advocacy issues countywide. The committee is continuing to recommend to the Board, inclusion of a specific legislative principle pertaining to job growth and economic vitality. The Legislative Principles proposed include the following:

- Job Growth/Economic Vitality
- Efficient Service Delivery/Operations
- Fiscal Stability
- Interagency Collaboration
- Local Control
- Health and Human Services
- Community Sustainability.

Definitions of all of the principles may be found in the attached proposed 2015 Legislative Platform.

The proposed 2015 Platform includes the following components:

1) **Funding Requests:** The County submits appropriation requests to the federal and state government for various infrastructure projects and programs. Many of these projects usually have a federal nexus. Requests often include the cost of completing a phase or portion of a project rather than the entire project, as such, project funding requests may extend over multiple years. 2015 Funding requests include:

- Agricultural/Williamson Act Subvention
- County Library Services
- Funding for Exclusion and Early Pest Detection Programs Against High Risk Pests
- Historic Santa Barbara County Courthouse
- Hollister/State Street Improvements Project
- Marketplace Equity and Consumer Protection
- Parks/Open Space
- Pesticide Law Enforcement
- Veterans Memorial Buildings
- Ocean Water Testing
- Economic Enhancement/Revenue Diversification
- Homelessness

- Lake Cachuma
 - Sustainable Infrastructure Funding
 - U.S. Highway 101 – Regional
 - Pavement Preservation
 - Resource Recovery Project
 - Lower Mission Creek
 - Seismic Monitoring
- 2) **Proposed Legislation:** The County proposes ideas for new legislation or amendments to existing law that would help improve the effectiveness and efficiency of departmental operations and service delivery. The 2015 Legislative Platform includes the following legislative proposals:
- Improving Local Governance: Unincorporated Powers
 - Land Use: Enforcement Fines for Land Use Violations
 - Regional Sediment Management Projects
- 3) **Targeted Advocacy:** The County advocates for specific issues, programs, and projects. This includes advocacy for retention or enhancement in funding for existing programs including:
- Regional Coastal Management Projects – Federal Authority for California
 - Access to Quality Health Services
 - Air Quality - Marine Vessel Emissions
 - Bridges
 - Comprehensive Immigration Reform
 - Health in Our Community
 - Safety Net Preservation
 - Senior Services – Older Americans Act Reauthorization
 - Social Services Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Reauthorization
 - Subsidized Child Care
 - Telecommunications Legislation
 - Tribal Gaming Compacts & Land Use
 - Probation Services Funding

County staff works closely with our state and federal advocates and partners to develop effective strategies to address the countywide needs as well as effective strategies to address platform items. The federal and state advocates for Santa Barbara County will provide the Board and public with 2014 year-end reviews of the legislative environments in Washington and Sacramento and the work accomplished on behalf of Santa Barbara County.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The 2015 Legislative Platform includes requests for project and program funding, legislation and advocacy for public service improvements that may increase available revenue, change service levels and thereby reduce or increase the cost of doing business.

Attachments:

A – 2015 Legislative Platform

B – Federal Advocacy Year-end Report from Thomas Walters and Associates

C – State Advocacy Year-end Report from Governmental Advocates

D – Federal and State 2014 Key Principles and Accomplishments

Authored by:

Joseph D. Toney, Fiscal and Policy Analyst, County Executive Office, 805-568-3400.

CC:

Tom Walters, Thomas Walters and Associates, Inc

Cliff Berg and Monica Miller, Governmental Advocates, Inc.

Scott McGolpin, Director, Public Works

Cathleen Fisher, Director, Agricultural Commission/Weights & Measures

Renee Bahl, Interim Director, Community Services Department

Matt Pontes, Director, General Services

Dr. Takashi Wada, Director, Public Health

Daniel Nielson, Director, Social Services

Ben Romo, Director, First 5

Beverly Taylor, Chief Probation Officer

Ryan Rockabrand, Director, Office of Emergency Management

Dr. Glenn Russell, Director, Planning and Development

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

2015 Legislative Platform



Presented to the Board of Supervisor s for consideration on

January 13, 2015

Contacts

All Priorities/Inquiries:

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Renée E. Bahl, Assistant County Executive Officer
Terri Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer
Joseph Toney, Fiscal & Policy Analyst

105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 406
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Tel: 805.568.3400 • Fax: 805.568.3414

FEDERAL:

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

STATE:

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, FIRST DISTRICT

105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Tel: 805.568.2186
Fax: 805.568.2534

JANET WOLF, SECOND DISTRICT

105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Tel: 805.568.2191
Fax: 805.568.2283

DOREEN FARR, THIRD DISTRICT

105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Tel: 805.568.2192
Fax: 805.568.2883

PETER ADAM, FOURTH DISTRICT

401 E. Cypress Avenue
Lompoc, CA 93436
Tel: 805.737.7700

STEVE LAVAGNINO, FIFTH DISTRICT

511 E. Lakeside Parkway, Suite 141
Santa Maria, CA 93455
Tel: 805.346.8400
Fax: 805.346.8404

Table of Contents
2015 Legislative Platform Planks Matrix

Subject	Principle	Strategy	Page
Agriculture/Williamson Act Subvention	Community Sustainability	Funding Request	1
County Library Services	Efficient Service Delivery /Operations	Funding Request	2
Funding For Exclusion And Early Pest Detection Programs Against High Risk Pests	Community Sustainability	Funding Request	3
Historic Santa Barbara County Courthouse	Community Sustainability	Funding Request	5
Hollister/State Street Improvements Project	Inter-Agency Collaboration	Funding Request	6
Marketplace Equity and Consumer Protection	Local Control	Funding Request	7
Parks/Open Space	Community Sustainability	Funding Request	9
Pesticide Law Enforcement Activities	Community Sustainability	Funding Request	11
Veterans Memorial Buildings	Community Sustainability	Funding Request	13
Ocean Water Testing	Health & Human Services	Funding Request	15
Economic Enhancement/Revenue Diversification	Job Growth/Economic Vitality	Funding & Advocacy	16
Homelessness	Health & Human Services	Funding & Advocacy	17
Lake Cachuma	Inter-Agency Collaboration	Funding & Advocacy	18
Sustainable Infrastructure Funding	Fiscal Stability	Funding & Advocacy	20
US Highway 101 - Regional	Job Growth/Economic Vitality	Funding & Advocacy	21
Pavement Preservation	Fiscal Stability	Funding, Legislative, & Advocacy	22
Resource Recovery Project	Efficient Service Delivery /Operations	Funding, Legislative, & Advocacy	23
Lower Mission Creek, Santa Barbara, CA	Community Sustainability	Funding, Legislative, & Advocacy	25
Sesimic Monitoring	Community Sustainability	Funding, Legislative, & Advocacy	27
Improving Local Governance: Unincorporated Powers	Efficient Service Delivery/Operations/Local Control	Legislative & Advocacy	28
Land Use: Enforcement Fines for Land Use Violations	Local Control	Legislative & Advocacy	29
Regional Coastal Management Projects-Federal Authority For California	Community Sustainability	Targeted Advocacy	31
Access to Quality Health Services	Health & Human Services	Targeted Advocacy	33
Air Quality-Marine Vessel Emissions	Community Sustainability	Targeted Advocacy	34
Bridges	Fiscal Stability	Targeted Advocacy	35
Comprehensive Immigration Reform	Job Growth/Economic Vitality	Targeted Advocacy	36
Health in our Community	Health & Human Services	Targeted Advocacy	37
Safety Net Preservation	Health & Human Services	Targeted Advocacy	38
Senior Services-Older Americans Act Reauthorization	Health & Human Services	Targeted Advocacy	39
Social Services TANF Reauthorization	Health & Human Services	Targeted Advocacy	40
Subsidized Child Care	Health & Human Services	Targeted Advocacy	41
Telecommunications Legislation	Local Control	Targeted Advocacy	42
Tribal Gaming Compacts & Land Use	Local Control	Targeted Advocacy	44
Probation Services Funding	Fiscal Stability	Targeted Advocacy	46



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

PURPOSE

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

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

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Legislative Program for Santa Barbara County, in conjunction with its State and Federal advocates, successfully advanced the 2014 Platform Principles including but not limited to the following:

Job Growth/Economic vitality

- Supported legislation that would authorize a county board of supervisors to levy, increase, or extend a transaction and use tax (TUT), for general or specific purposes, within the unincorporated area of the county.
- Supported reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act.

Efficient Service Delivery/Operations

- Supported legislation which establishes the Distinguished after School Health (DASH) Recognition Program within the Department of Public Health in consultation with the Department of Education, as appropriate. It allows after-school programs to apply for DASH certification by self-certifying to meeting the requirements of the program. It also requires DASH-certified programs to recertify every year.
- Supported legislation to prevent the insolvency of the Highway Trust Fund, which would have disrupted funding for local transportation and road maintenance activities.

Fiscal Stability

- Worked with the State legislature and the Administration to ensure the County was kept whole during the Low Income Health Program realignment (AB 85). Santa Barbara was the only county out of 58 to receive an exemption to AB 85.
- Supported full funding for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Program.

Interagency Collaboration

- Supported legislation, along with CSAC, to create the Community Investment and Innovation Program which will provide funding to local governments in the form of grants and other financial assistance to develop and implement greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction projects.
- In conjunction with CSAC, advocated to extend the comment period for the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Proposed rule to revise regulations governing the process and criteria by which the Secretary acknowledges an Indian tribe.

Local Control

- Supported provisions in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act to ensure consideration of regional characteristics in levee vegetation management.

Health and Human Services

- Supported legislation to protect our community and mentally-ill populations with Gun Violence Temporary Restraining Order (AB 1014).
- Supported the Reauthorization of the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act.

Community Sustainability

- Supported State resources from the legislature, the Administration and the Department of Water Resources to address the impacts of the California drought on Lake Cachuma.
- Opposition to proposed provisions in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act that would have led to the de-authorization of the Lower Mission Creek flood control project.

2015 LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

AGRICULTURE/WILLIAMSON ACT SUBVENTION

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

Locally, agriculture continues to be the County's major producing industry. The 2013 gross production was valued at \$1.4 billion. This is a \$145 million (10%) increase in gross value when compared with the 2012 figures and is the eighth year in a row that agriculture has surpassed the one billion dollar benchmark. The County is the second largest producer in the state for broccoli and cauliflower as well as having a high production of strawberries, grapes, lettuce, and other produce. Farming and ranching operations are also one of the most important industries and economic drivers in the County.

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

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒ Funding Request ☐ Legislative Proposal ☐ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests its State delegation, the Legislature, and the Administration to restore the funding for subvention reimbursement to counties who continue to have a Williamson Act program.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The Williamson Act program has been an effective tool to preserve farmland and open space. It assists local government with general plan and zoning objectives and promotes orderly growth.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

There has been no appropriation of subvention funds for the Williamson Act program since FY 2011-12.

CONTACT

Cathleen M. Fisher, Agricultural Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, (805) 681-5600

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICES

Principle	
Efficient Service Delivery/Operations	
Strategy	Target
Funding	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The County of Santa Barbara funds Library services and operations for 17 city and county libraries. Library services in the County are administered via contracts with the City of Santa Barbara, the City of Santa Maria and the City of Lompoc. Through this arrangement, the county partners with local cities to provide library facilities, services and materials in a cost effective manner. Library services are provided through the following established zones:

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

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

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

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

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☐ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The County contributes approximately \$2.9M annually from its General Fund, for library services and operations countywide. The cost to maintain library operating hours, replace materials, books, and technology far exceeds our current ability to provide funding. The County seeks additional annual funding, to allow for replacement of out dated equipment, furnishings, technology and materials and increase library hours of operation.

CONTACT

Renée E. Bahl, Interim Director, Community Services Department (805)568-2467

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

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

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

- California is ranked #1 in the United States in cash receipts at \$42.6 billion for their output in 2012
- California represents 11.9 percent of total U.S. agricultural revenue
- There are approximately 77,857 farms and ranches and 25,569,001 total acres.
- The largest dairy industry in the nation
- More than 400 commodities are grown in California
- California produces about half of the U.S. grown fruits, nuts and vegetables
- Many crops are solely produced in California

There are a number of significant invasive species being introduced and detected in California that threaten agriculture and the environment. Continued funding of Pest Exclusion, Pest Detection trapping and Survey Activities, Rapid Response, Pest Management and Eradication (if feasible), and Public Education Outreach Programs is critical in protecting California's resources. Unique in the United States to California, County Commissioners and Sealers provide the first line of defense against the introduction of injurious plant and animal pests.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒ Funding Request ☐ Legislative Proposal ☐ Targeted Advocacy

Action: The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests its federal delegation, the Legislature, and the Administration to:

- Protect existing revenue sources and enhance state and federal funding of Pest Prevention Program activities.
- Provide full cost recovery for new Invasive Pest programs and maintain or enhance funding for current Invasive Pest programs.
- Support all reasonable efforts by the California Department of Food and Agriculture, County Agricultural Commissioners, and the agricultural industry to acquire funding and to prevent the introduction and potential spread of invasive pests in California.
- Support Legislation and/or state and federal programs that provide for effective pest management and eradication activities.
- Provide local flexibility to enhance the Agricultural Commissioner's ability to respond to pest emergencies and high priority local pest exclusion pathways.
- Support research on invasive species pathways as well as funding mechanisms to close potential pathways.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

A reduction or elimination of federal and state funding for the State and counties to perform early pest detection and surveillance activities will result in either an additional cost to local governments to cover the costs of these critical pest exclusion activities or a reduction or elimination of these services all together. This will lead to the agricultural industry, the public and environment being put at risk for further invasive pest infestations. California agricultural losses to exotic pests exceed \$3 billion annually.

CONTACT

Cathleen M. Fisher, Agricultural Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, (805) 681-5600

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

HISTORIC SANTA BARBARA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒ Funding Request ☐ Legislative Proposal ☐ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

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

CONTACT

Matt Pontes Director, General Services, (805)560-1011

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

HOLLISTER/STATE STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Principle	
Inter-Agency Collaboration	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

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

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

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒ Funding Request ☐ Legislative Proposal ☐ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

- Reduced travel time for movement of people, goods and services, resulting in less congestion, and pollution and improved regional air quality
- Reduced conversion of agricultural land, sensitive habitat, and open space for new development
- Reduced costs to build and maintain expensive new infrastructure
- Improved health and welfare with opportunities for active transportation
- Added vibrancy and a unified sense of community to the corridor
- Implements complete streets concepts, accommodating vehicles, pedestrians, and bicycles
- Improves facilities to comply with the American Disabilities Act

COST TO GOVERNMENT

\$8M for design and construction of Phase 1.

CONTACT

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

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

MARKETPLACE EQUITY AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Principle	
Local Control	
Strategy	Target
Funding	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Weights and Measures Programs are important to businesses and consumers in California. Weights and Measures ensure there is a “level playing field”, maintaining fair competition for business and industries. Likewise, these programs are critical in providing protection for consumers and a method for making value comparisons.

The Division of Measurement Standards (DMS) within the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) is the lead agency for weights and measures and works closely with county sealers of weights and measures who carry out the vast majority of weights and measures enforcement activities at the local level. County sealers of weights and measures have a variety of programs that protect consumers and provide an equitable marketplace for local business. Examples of programs consist of Device Registration & Inspection, Price & Quantity Control, Weighmaster, Service Agents, and Petroleum Products. DMS provides the regulatory oversight for county sealers for weights and measures programs in addition to the California Type Evaluation Program and Metrology. The California Type Evaluation Program tests, evaluates and approves all new commercial weighting and measuring devices to be used for commercial purposes in California. The State Metrology laboratory keeps and maintains standards of weight, volume, time, temperature, and length that are used to ensure accuracy for weights and measures in the state of California. These physical standards form the legal and scientific basis for commercial transactions in California involving weights and measure. The values of these standards are traceable to national and international standards. Without these standards, county sealers could not test commercial devices for accuracy and businesses would be at a disadvantage globally without proof of accurate measurement standards. DMS has taken significant general fund reductions that have diminished their role in consumer protection, promoting an equitable marketplace and support services for county sealers. General fund support for all programs except Metrology has been eliminated.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☐ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

- Support legislation that preserves and enhances funding resources for weights and measures programs at the state (DMS) and local (Sealer) level for consumer protection. /Encourage the use of state general fund for the Division of Measurement Standards.
- Support legislation which assures clear labeling and accuracy of the net quantity of package products to promote value comparison and to ensure the consumer receives the correct product and the quantity of product for which they pay.
- Oppose legislation that would allow for industry self-certification of commercial weighing and measuring devices.
- Oppose legislation that would diminish or remove protections now afforded to consumers for transactions measured by weighing or measuring devices.
- Support legislation that establishes funding for quantity control and package inspection.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Weights and measures programs serve the people of California by aggressively preserving and defending the measurement standards essential in providing the citizens a basis of value comparison and fair competition in the marketplace.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

During the 2011-12 fiscal year, CDFA experienced a \$19 million General Fund reduction. Funding for many important programs was affected including those in DMS. An industry led consortium guided CDFA through the reduction process, in which alternatives were considered, including reduction and elimination of programs, and other funding sources. The Device Administrative Fee was authorized by the California Legislature in Assembly Bill 120 and signed by Governor Brown on July 26, 2011. This fee is to fund the DMS Device Compliance Program which provides oversight and training to county weights and measures officials in areas of commercial weighing and measuring device inspection. However, other weights and measures programs continue to lack the necessary funding to provide adequate services.

CONTACT

Cathleen M. Fisher, Agricultural Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, (805) 681-5600
Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

PARKS/OPEN SPACE

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Santa Barbara County Parks provides services to over 7 million annual visitors to 71 day use parks, open space locations and two camping parks as well as to a network of trails and coastal access easements. The County is interested in preserving and expanding the amount of open space located within its boundary. As such, the County is supportive of funding opportunities that enable local governments: (1) to maintain existing facilities (i.e. funding for park and trail maintenance); (2) to acquire additional land for open space preservation and (3) to ensure safe access to beaches, parks and open space. Examples of these projects are listed below as well as in other areas of the 2014 platform.

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

Point Sal Access and Management Plan and Implementation: This project will provide public access to Point Sal “Reserve”, which consists of 2,600 acres of publicly and privately-owned lands located in the northwestern corner of the County, along the coast of the Pacific Ocean. In 1991, an original management plan was developed and revised in 2002 under an internal administrative draft, to include parcels acquired by the County since the original 1991 plan. Costs total approximately \$8 Million to update the management plan (\$50,000), implement public access including land acquisition and vehicle improvements to the trail-head and pedestrian trail (\$7.6 Million), signage and cattle control (\$350,000). The United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service has provided a \$200,000 California Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) Grant for the preparation of environmental documents, design and permit applications.

Santa Claus Lane Beach Access and Development: This project will secure public access rights and easements to the beach and open an access way over the existing railroad tracks and rock seawall. The total project cost is approximately \$6.9 million which includes acquiring access rights and the design and construction of safety developments for the railroad and seawall crossings, installation of a parking lot, landscape screening, a restroom and other ancillary facilities. The United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service has provided a \$316,000 California Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) Grant to facilitate securing access rights.

Goleta Beach County Park

Goleta Beach County Park is a heavily-used and wildly popular beach and park that serves approximately 1.5 million visitors annually. The grass and associated picnic facilities, children’s playground, sandy beach, ocean and pier are all highly visited and heavily utilized by our local population and out-of-town visitors alike. In particular, with the combination of recreational amenities it provides, is extremely popular with lower to moderate income members of our community. There is no charge for parking, providing cost-free opportunities to all visitors.

The County continues to invest resources in this park to make it more accessible for all users. The Board of Supervisors appropriated \$3.2 million to build a new Goleta Beach Park bridge that spans the Goleta Slough and provides the only access to park. It also serves as a vital connection for the Coastal Route bike path across the Slough to the park and continuing west to University of California, Santa

Barbara. However, the Goleta Beach County Park is still in need of major infrastructure improvements to the public pier (\$250,000) (which is currently closed due to storm damage), pavement and parking lots (\$750,000) and restrooms in need of restoration (\$100,000).

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☐ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

Renée E. Bahl, Interim Director, Community Services Department (805)568-2467

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

PESTICIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The size and diversity of California agriculture, and the State's increasing urbanization, require a more complex partnership between state and local pesticide regulatory authorities than anywhere else in the nation. The California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) is vested with primary authority through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to enforce federal and state laws pertaining to the proper and safe use of pesticides. DPR's enforcement of pesticide use in the field is largely carried out in California's 58 counties by County Agricultural Commissioners (CACs) and their staffs (approximately 400 inspector/biologists). CACs seek compliance through education, including presentations to community and industry groups, training sessions for pesticide users, informal or formal compliance actions (such as warning letters), and corrective interviews. CACs regulate pesticide use to prevent misapplication or drift, and possible contamination of people or the environment. Among a Commissioner's most important responsibilities is investigating pesticide-related illnesses and injuries. All reported pesticide related illnesses and injuries are investigated by the CAC in the county which the illness occurred. If the law was broken and people made ill, the commissioner takes enforcement action. CAC staffs also enforce regulations to protect ground and surface water from pesticide contamination. To do this, they may work with regional waters boards and the State Water Resources Control Board. Farmers must obtain site-specific permits from their CAC to buy or use many agricultural chemicals. The CAC staff must evaluate the proposed use to determine if the pesticide can be used safely, particularly in sensitive areas, such as near residential neighborhoods, schools and other sensitive sites. State law requires CACs to ensure that applicators take precautions to protect people and the environment.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒ Funding Request ☐ Legislative Proposal ☐ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests its State delegation, the Legislature, and the Administration to:

- Support methods that would provide long-term funding for county pesticide regulatory activities.
- Support legislative or budgetary proposals that maintain or increase funding through the pesticide mill fee that is sufficient for pesticide regulatory activities to protect the safety of farm labor, the public and the environment and provides funding for education, outreach and compliance assessment activities related to the safe use of pesticides.
- Support the preemptive status of state pesticide laws and authority provided to the Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) and California Agricultural Commissioners.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

The mission and objectives of local pesticide enforcement programs is to protect public safety, the environment and farm labor from pesticide exposure. County Agricultural Commissioner's provide the local regulatory framework to carry out the mission and to meet the objectives of the pesticide enforcement program.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

During the 2014 Legislative Session, the budget-trailer bill (Chapter 741, Statutes of 2003; SB 1049) intent language indicates that the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) should fund County Agricultural Commissioners' local pesticide regulatory programs with \$22 million annually. The Legislature failed to appropriate adequate funding to DPR to meet this level, nor was authority provided to the County Agricultural Commissioners to establish fees to cover their program costs. Approximately \$15 million in County general funds in California are contributed per fiscal year in order to maintain the integrity and

quality of the pesticide regulatory system Californians have grown to expect. It is critical that we find a way to fund these local pesticide enforcement programs and provide CACs full cost recovery for local pesticide enforcement services.

CONTACT

Cathleen M. Fisher, Agricultural Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, (805) 681-5600

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDINGS

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Santa Barbara, Lompoc and Carpinteria Veterans Memorial Buildings are owned by the County of Santa Barbara and serve as a community resource for the area's veterans, non-profit groups and other residents.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

☒ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Strategy: Veterans of foreign wars are often overlooked, forgotten and misunderstood---giving them a place to interact with other veterans regardless of wartime experience is not only important—it is our duty to do so. The generation of the 20s and 30s understood this obligation—the generation of this decade needs to follow through. This request will enable the Veterans Memorial Buildings within the County of Santa Barbara to continue to serve our returning veterans for decades to come.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Santa Barbara Building

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

Lompoc Building

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

Carpinteria Building

The historic (City Landmark and eligible for the National Register of Historic Places) Carpinteria Veteran's Memorial Building was constructed in the early 1930s, is a 13,400 square foot home to Carpinteria Valley Veterans of Foreign Wars and many local non-profit community service organizations. Due to the age of the building major areas of work include: electrical systems, seismic upgrading or retrofitting, heating ventilation and air conditioning, ADA improvements both exterior and interior and replacement of aging and failing wood components.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

Santa Barbara Building

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

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

Lompoc Building

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

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

Carpinteria Building

The County has estimated costs for restoration to be \$900,000, which includes:

- 1) **Architectural**: This section includes exiting, fire protection, accessibility for the disabled and other life-safety related projects; roofing, replacement of doors and windows and related buildings systems upgrades. Federal Share request is \$400,000.
- 2) **Hazardous Materials**: This section includes removal of lead based paints and asbestos materials. Federal Share request is \$300,000.
- 3) **Seismic Safety**: The main spaces and bell tower are in need of seismic stabilization and the building in general requires seismic retrofitting to attach roof, wall and foundation systems for movement during an earthquake event. Federal Share request is \$200,000.

CONTACT

Matt Pontes Director, General Services, (805)560-1011

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

OCEAN WATER TESTING

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Funding	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Ocean water testing is performed at sixteen Santa Barbara County beaches on a weekly basis to identify any areas where bacterial health standards are exceeded. When sampling results indicate water quality meets state health standards, the beaches are open. Warnings are posted at beaches when one or more of the state health standards have been exceeded. Beaches are closed when water is contaminated by sewage at the location and there is an imminent public health concern. The current testing methodology provides test results 24 hours after the ocean water has been tested. There is a new ocean water testing methodology, Method 1609 polymerase chain reaction (qPCR,) that provides point in time water testing results. These results could be provided to the public in a timelier manner, thus supporting timely postings of beach warnings and closures to keep our residents safe and healthy.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☐ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests funding support in the amount of \$70,500 for the costs associated with the implementation of Method 1609 qPCR for ocean water testing. These costs are due to the “parallel” testing (running duplicate methods to ensure accurate and consistent results) is required for the first year of implementation

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Beaches are a significant environmental resource in Santa Barbara County used by many residents. If residents enter ocean water when water quality exceeds safe standards, there are increased health risks. Ocean water testing results are shared broadly on our website, in media and through various organizations as a public health service to our community.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

During Fiscal Year 2013-14, the Public Health laboratory testing cost \$73,000 under the existing testing methodology. The new Method 1609qPCR testing is projected to increase costs one-time by \$70,500 for the first year of implementation because of the parallel testing required. This projected one-time cost is currently unfunded.

CONTACT

Takashi Wada, MD, MPH Public Health Department (805)681-5105

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT/ REVENUE DIVERSIFICATION

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Economic enhancement offers local government, the private sector, the nonprofit sectors and residents the opportunity to work together to improve local economy. It aims to enhance competitiveness and thus encourage sustainable economic growth given the priorities for a specific area.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☒ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

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

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

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

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

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3400

HOMELESSNESS

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☒ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

Specifically, the County requests the Federal delegation’s support for funding McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants, including the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program, and the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program. These programs are authorized under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended by the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009. The County recommends the inclusion of provisions which allow for additional flexibility in the use of Federal funds on the local level to address housing for the homeless. The County also requests continuing support for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and the HOME program. These two programs provide additional public services, capital improvements, and new affordable housing, which work together to reduce homelessness and prevent additional persons and families from becoming homeless.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

Renée E. Bahl, Interim Director, Community Services Department (805)568-2467

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

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

LAKE CACHUMA

Principle	
Inter-Agency Collaboration	
Strategy	Target
Funding & Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests its Congressional delegation support new appropriations requests as follows: Fire flow and water distribution system improvements - \$5.1 million; New water treatment plant and related systems - \$3.5 million; Sewage treatment - \$4.7 million; Boat Ramp Extension - \$1 million; Recreational improvements - \$9.1 million.

PROJECT	TOTAL COST	AMOUNT FUNDED	SOURCE OF AMOUNT FUNDED***	UNFUNDED AMOUNT	STRATEGY TO SECURE FUNDING**
BIOLOGICAL OPINION / SURCHARGE INITIATED PROJECTS					
Fire Flow and Water Distribution Improvements	\$2,249,000	\$504,000	BOR / SBC	\$1,745,000	BOR (\$1,745,000)
Construction Road Repair & Access Improvements (connected to fire flow for fire truck access)	\$3,331,000	\$0	-	\$3,331,000	BOR (\$3,331,000)
New Water Treatment Plant and Related Systems	\$6,217,500	\$2,737,500	BOR / SBC	\$3,480,000	BOR (\$3,480,000)
Sewage Treatment Plant and Related Systems	\$5,040,000	\$335,000	BOR	\$4,705,000	BOR (\$4,705,000)
Boat Ramp Extension	\$1,000,000	\$0	DB&W	\$1,000,000	DB&W \$1.0 M
Boat Launch Ramp	\$2,626,140	\$2,626,140	DB&W	\$0	COMPLETE
New Fire Suppression Water Storage Reservoir (ARRA)	\$1,051,056	\$1,051,056	ARRA	\$0	COMPLETE
Existing Water Reservoir Re-roofing	\$460,321	\$460,321	BOR	\$0	COMPLETE
Sewer Lift Stations	\$1,138,500	\$1,138,500	BOR / SBC	\$0	COMPLETE
TOTAL	\$23,113,517	\$8,852,517	-	\$14,261,000	
OTHER CAPITAL FACILITIES AND RECREATIONAL PROJECTS					
Live Oak ADA Showers, Restrooms & Electrical Upgrades, and Marina Cafe	\$1,960,472	\$1,960,472	BOR / SBC (& OGALS)	\$0	BOR (\$938,236) SBC (\$1,022,236)
New Overnight Accommodations (Cabins / Yurts)	\$2,496,000	\$290,000	BOR / SBC	\$2,206,000	BOR (\$1,118,000) SBC (\$1,088,000)
Recreation Improvements (Pool Facilities)	\$6,900,000	\$0	BOR / SBC	\$6,900,000	BOR (\$3,450,000) SBC (\$3,450,000)
Mohawk ADA Bathrooms	\$569,094	\$284,547	BOR / SBC / ARRA	\$0	COMPLETE
TOTAL	\$11,925,094	\$2,535,019	-	\$9,106,000	
GRAND TOTAL FOR ALL PROJECTS	\$35,039,083	\$11,387,536	-	\$23,367,000	

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

Renée E. Bahl, Interim Director, Community Services Department (805)568-2467

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Funding & Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Transportation facilities are essential for the current and future well-being of the State of California and the country. Traditional sources of revenue for transportation are declining as communities develop more sustainably and vehicles become more fuel-efficient. Additional funding is required to respond significantly to transportation needs.

A multi-year transportation bill that provides certainty for businesses and communities, creates jobs, and makes necessary policy updates to lay the foundation for lasting economic growth. Transportation infrastructure is too essential to suffer continued neglect.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors calls on Congress and the California State Legislature to commit to a sound, long-term financial solution that will ensure stability of the surface transportation system.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

A multi-year transportation bill that provides certainty for businesses and communities, creates jobs, and makes necessary policy updates to lay the foundation for lasting economic growth. Mobility and accessibility are essential to the financial and social well-being of individuals. A commitment to maintaining our nation's infrastructure will create jobs, improve quality of life, and ensure that the USA continues to be a leader in the global economy.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Ongoing sustainable funding to maintain roads and other essential transportation infrastructure is critical to the public's health, safety and welfare throughout the nation. The lack of a consistent source of funding leads to costly deferred maintenance, extensive repairs and increased liability claims. Additional state and federal revenue sources can be found in ways such as gas and sales taxes, congestion pricing, public-private partnerships, and user or transaction fees.

CONTACT

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

Terri Nisich Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

US HIGHWAY 101 - REGIONAL

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

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

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

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒ Funding Request ☐ Legislative Proposal ☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

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

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

PAVEMENT PRESERVATION

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

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

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

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒ Funding Request ☒ Legislative Proposal ☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

\$9 M annually

CONTACT

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

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Resource Recovery Project is a promising new way for Santa Barbara County to further enhance the region's recycling programs while reducing our community's carbon footprint. Established in February 2007, under the direction of the Board of Supervisors, this project is a coordinated effort of the County of Santa Barbara and the Cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, Solvang and Buellton.

For the past six years, County Staff has been looking to dramatically increase recycling and convert "leftover" mixed municipal solid waste (through non-combustion thermal, chemical or biological means) into green energy. The County has determined a preferred vendor for this project that uses both a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and an Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Facility. The MRF will enable us to divert recyclables that are still ending up at our landfill. This MRF will also allow us to sort out our organics, which is the common cause of methane gas generation in landfills worldwide. Once the organic waste is separated from our waste, we accelerate and control the decomposition process through the use of anaerobic digestion or "AD." This process captures all of the methane potential of our organic material, generates green energy, and greatly reduces our future greenhouse gas impact. The organics processed by the AD facility are composted into a product that can be used as a soil amendment. The MRF and AD Facility working together are projected to reduce the amount of waste currently landfilled at Tajiguas by 60%, bringing our region's total recycling rate well above 80%.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☒ Funding Request

☒ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

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

Action: Legislative Proposal & Targeted Advocacy: the County is requesting legislation similar to H.R. 8 – The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, related to Renewable Energy Tax Credits (specifically Investment Tax Credits or Production Tax Credits), that would benefit the Resource Recovery Project through its production of renewable energy. A goal of this legislation would be to extend these tax credits at a minimum through 2016 or be made permanent.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

Mark Schleich, Deputy Director of Public Works, (805) 882-3603

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

LOWER MISSION CREEK, SANTA BARBARA, CA

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Funding, Legislation & Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

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

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☒ Funding Request

☒ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

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

LOWER MISSION CREEK: COUNTY FUNDING TABLE*

Fund 2610 – South Coast Flood Zone 2

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

*Data only available back to 1997-98

CONTACT

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

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

SEISMIC MONITORING

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The California Integrated Seismic Network is a *collaborative* effort, founded in 2000, to *integrate* existing, separate California earthquake monitoring networks into a single seismic monitoring system. The CISN provides the organizational framework to coordinate these earthquake-monitoring operations. The CISN constitutes the California region within Advanced National Seismic System (ANSS). Santa Barbara County has recently added 7 vault installations contributing towards CISN and looks to implement the beta platform for ShakeAlert which provides Earthquake Early Warning System capabilities. Santa Barbara County Emergency Management Director Ryan Rockabrand currently serves as the Vice-Chair of the CISN Advisory Committee and 1st District Supervisor Salud Carbajal serves on the California Seismic Safety Commission. More information on CISN is available at www.cisn.org.

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

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☒ Funding Request

☒ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors requests funding, legislative and advocacy support for the continued development of CISN. This support will augment the core members which include the California Geological Survey, U.C. Berkeley Seismological Laboratory, Caltech Seismological Laboratory, Menlo Park USGS, Pasadena USGS, USGS National Strong Motion Project and contributing members including the University of California, Santa Barbara; University of California, San Diego; University of Nevada, Reno; University of Washington; California Department of Water Resources; Lawrence Livermore National Lab; and Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Contribute towards the operation of a *reliable* and *robust* statewide system to record earthquake ground motions over the *relevant range of frequencies and shaking levels*. To distribute information about earthquakes *rapidly* after their occurrence for emergency response and public information. Lastly, to create an *easily accessible archive* of California earthquake data for engineering and seismological research, including waveform data and derived products.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The cost of short-term and long-term solutions for CISN include costs for design and engineering, preparing and filing permit applications, monitoring associated vault installations, conducting public outreach, and preparing notification protocols. The total project costs associated with implementing short-term installations statewide of approximately \$20 million with a sustained annual cost of approximately \$16 million. The United States Geological Survey in conjunction with Caltech has provided a roadmap in the form of an implementation plan outlining these costs in detail. (<http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2014/1097/pdf/ofr2014-1097.pdf>)

On December 16, 2014, President Obama signed into a law a \$1.1 trillion spending bill. Prior to the signing, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., and U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Burbank, released a joint statement that \$5 million has been allocated to support the continued development of the USGS/Caltech earthquake early warning system. In 2013, California legislators passed a bill asking officials to set up a seismic early warning system. The bill was approved by the Governor however; no funding was attached to the bill. The state has until January 2016 to get funding in place.

CONTACT

Ryan Rockabrand / Office of Emergency Management, (805) 681-5526

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3400

IMPROVING LOCAL GOVERNANCE: UNINCORPORATED POWERS

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

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

States grant cities and counties the ability to administer government at the local level. Santa Barbara County as a general law County operates under California Government Code Title 3, and other applicable California laws. General Law cities operate under California Government Code Title 4 and other applicable California laws.

In many counties in California, more than half of a county's population is in an unincorporated area, as opposed to an incorporated city. Therefore, the county government is responsible for the provision of services and addressing infrastructure needs. Counties, however, do not enjoy the same taxing, revenue generation, and governing authorities as cities. AB2119 signed by Governor Brown on July 18, 2014, is intended to provide more flexibility to counties to raise certain revenues to fund local services in unincorporated areas consistent with incorporated areas. Specifically, AB 2119 allows voters in the unincorporated areas of a county to vote on a tax measure that would apply within an unincorporated area only. AB 2119 requires the revenue derived from the imposition of the tax to only be used within the area from which the tax was approved by the voters. While this new legislation provides for the imposition of sales and use tax, within a specific unincorporated area, increasing of the opportunities available for revenue generation, a general law county's ability to enjoy the full spectrum of governance powers provided to general law cities remains limited.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☐ Funding Request ☒ Legislative Proposal ☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Work in conjunction with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) to fully assess spectrum of differences in powers of general law cities vs general law counties and develop and support legislation which provides general law counties all governance powers afforded general law cities in order to adequately address full spectrum of services and infrastructure needs in unincorporated areas.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Unincorporated areas of counties must have mechanisms in place to address service and facility needs. Residents of unincorporated areas of a county should not be limited in the ability to achieve goals and address needs as a result of a lack of governance powers provided via the State. Preserving, enhancing and managing the revenue base in addition to employing all tools currently available to cities is essential to govern effectively and address collective and community specific needs. Tools to be explored will include but are not limited to levying of all administrative fines, forfeitures and penalties.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

Counties will be better able to manage operating budgets if afforded the instruments to recover costs for services and infrastructure in unincorporated cities. Current services require funding sources that are acquired through indirect means. Using tools such as but not limited to fines, forfeitures and penalties will better equip counties with the potential for full cost recovery.

CONTACT

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

LAND USE: ENFORCEMENT FINES FOR LAND USE VIOLATIONS

Principle	
Local Control	
Strategy	Target
Legislative & Advocacy	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

State law governing ordinance violations sets maximum fine amounts for violators of land use codes at a maximum of \$100 for the first violation within a one year timeframe, a maximum of \$200 for the second violation within a one year timeframe, and a maximum of \$500 for each additional violation within a one year timeframe, including one-time violations. One-time violations are violations that cannot be corrected or cured. Similarly, fine amounts for violators of local building codes are set at a maximum of \$1,000 for each violation within a one year timeframe.

Santa Barbara County recognizes the need for the State legislature to set maximum fine amounts to ensure fairness and consistency across the State of California. However, the \$500 maximum severely hinders the County's ability to adequately enforce land use violations, particularly regarding one-time violations. One-time violations often occur when owners rent out their properties for special events (e.g. weddings). The County's Land Use Codes specifically prohibit this type of use on residentially zoned properties without proper permits. As written, the maximum amount the County may fine the owner for this type of violation is only up to a maximum of \$500 in any given year. This substantially undermines the County's Land Use Codes because the maximum allowable fine amount is insufficient to deter owners who rent out their properties for commercial purposes when the profit margin for violating the local ordinance is much greater. For example, a large commercial wedding with over 300 guests was held on residential property without the benefit of permits. Permit review would have addressed public safety and traffic concerns for an event of this magnitude. In this case, the County was only allowed to fine this owner \$100 for this purposeful violation. This amount is insufficient to deter property owners who can easily absorb this as part of their routine business operating expense.

Redrafting the applicable state codes to enable the local agency more discretion to impose appropriate fines, and the collection and enforcement of those fines, would greatly enhance the land use and building code enforcement program in Santa Barbara County.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐ Funding Request

☒ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The County requests its delegation to support legislation that would provide the County with more local control and discretion over fines imposed for violations of the County's Land Use and Development Codes. For violations where a permit is available, the County requests that fines imposed be set at the discretion of the local agency, and up to ten times the maximum amount of permit fees allowable under the agency's adopted fee schedules. Where a permit is not available for the offending activity, the fines should be set at no less than \$1,000 per violation, with a maximum amount to be set at the discretion of the local agency not to exceed \$25,000. Property owners will continue to have rights to appeal any fines imposed and the appeal hearing officer will continue to have the discretion to waive, reduce, or modify the fine. In addition, the one year timeframe should be stricken from the Government

Code, or in the alternative, be increased to a five year timeframe, so that fines may further deter repeat offenders.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Revised legislation of applicable state law would provide the County with more effective tools to gain compliance from those who violate our County's land use codes. Increased penalties for one-time violations would be a greater disincentive and promote greater compliance with County ordinances. This would ensure that the County's land use codes are enforced thereby ensuring that the County's policies regarding land use and development continue to be met.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

No direct costs to the government are anticipated.

CONTACT

Glenn S. Russell, PhD., Director, Planning and Development Department, (805) 568-2085

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

REGIONAL COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECTS - FEDERAL AUTHORITY FOR CALIFORNIA

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

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

Regional Sediment Management solutions to these threats include:

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

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐ Funding Request ☐ Legislative Proposal ☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Establish Federal Authority that is consistent with the US Army's Corps of Engineers (USACE) missions of coastal risk reduction, ecosystem restoration and navigation and that will fund Regional Sediment Management projects on the California Coast. The purpose of the Federal Authority will be to:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

Glenn S. Russell, PhD., Director, Planning and Development Department, (805) 568-2085

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH SERVICES

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

One of the most important ways of supporting the health of Santa Barbara County residents is to ensure their access to health care coverage and health care services. With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, many residents are now eligible for health care coverage for the first time. All health care plans now include some essential benefits like maternity, mental health, preventive, and pediatric dental care. Thus, enrollment in these health plans provides many health benefits. To maintain the health of our residents, we are committed to assisting residents enroll in benefits for which they are eligible, providing health care services through Federally Qualified Health Centers for individuals who receive Medi-Cal or Medicare in addition to those without other coverage options, maintaining infrastructure for a quality health service agency, and pursuing related requirements to receive federal funding for public healthcare organizations.

REQUESTED STRATEGY & ACTION

Strategy: ☐ Funding Request ☐ Legislative Proposal ☒ Targeted Advocacy

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

- Assistance for health care coverage – Support direct assistance with applications and patient education concerning health care coverage, support for renewals and re-application for health benefits, coordination with our county and state partners at the Department of Social Services and Covered California.
- Organizational infrastructure for public healthcare organizations – Support automated systems and staffing that manage, report on and evaluate health care delivery, programs and incentives to maximize the capacity of our systems and coordination of care.
- Provision of essential health care services – Support measures that would provide for the continued expansion of both county and community Federally Qualified Health Clinics (FQHCs) and the provision of quality health care services. Favor approaches such as the Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) that promotes partnerships and coordination in the provision of services to patients. Continue to advocate for programs and FQHC payment reform that provides for reimbursement for the necessary wrap around and support services of the treatment team, such as pharmacists and Marriage & Family Therapists (MFTs).

Support should include no decreases in current funding levels in these health related programs.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

There will be an increase in access to health care coverage and a decrease in morbidity and mortality among residents in Santa Barbara County.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

There is no immediate or additional cost incurred directly.

CONTACT

Takashi Wada, MD, MPH, Director and Health Officer (805) 681-5105

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

AIR QUALITY - MARINE VESSEL EMISSIONS

Principle	
Community Sustainability	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

In Santa Barbara County, the thousands of marine vessels that travel along the 130 miles coastline produce significant emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x), particulates, air toxics, and greenhouse gases. The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District has estimated that more than half of the smog-forming NO_x emissions in the County are from marine vessels transiting the Santa Barbara Channel (Channel). Emissions threaten air quality and public health and constrain the County's ability to meet federal and state standards pertaining to ozone and particulates. In the summer of 2014, The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District worked with partners to institute a small-scale trial incentive program to reduce ship speeds in the Channel to gather data and help establish the foundation for a larger-scale program.

While progress has been made in efforts such as the trial program, and in achieving regulations such as the California Air Resources Board fuel rule, and engine and fuel rules associated with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) designating 200 miles off the coast of North America as an Emission Control Area (ECA), there are four areas that still need to be addressed namely:

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The County requests its delegation support efforts to reduce emissions from marine vessels through securing economic incentives to accelerate the retrofit of engines and funding for research and development of new technologies and strategies to control shipping emissions. The County also requests its delegation support efforts related to analyzing the current shipping lanes and traffic north and south of the Channel Islands and the speed at which vessels travel, and to support funding for a large-scale vessel speed reduction program in the Santa Barbara Channel. Such a program could be structured as a voluntary incentive program (with an identified source of funding, for example, State Cap-and-Trade auction revenues). Implementing a full-scale vessel speed reduction program in the Santa Barbara Channel of 12 knots or less could reduce emissions from these large marine vessels and reduce lethality of ship strikes on endangered whale species.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

There may be indirect costs to local governments that are required to maintain federal and state standards for air quality and greenhouse gas reductions, despite having no local control over shipping vessels' emissions.

CONTACT

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

BRIDGES

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Funding & Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Reauthorization of the transportation bill must prioritize funding for locally-owned bridges that would include a dedicated funding set aside for on-system bridges. This funding is necessary to ensure the safety and reliability of the nation's entire bridge network. MAP-21 includes methods to continue maintenance for two of the three categories of structures on the transportation system: those on the National Highway System (NHS) and off-system bridges. However, MAP-21 does not provide secured future funding for on-system bridges; those on Federal-Aid Routes, but not on the NHS. These structures account for over half of California's local bridge inventory. They carry millions of vehicles each day and are an integral part of our arterial and collector road system.

Continuing federal funding, through reestablishment of the Highway Bridge Program (HBP) as a core formula program, is critical to local agencies' ability to maintain the nation's entire bridge network. Bridges are a unique component of our nation's transportation system and there is little room for error when it comes to bridge safety, as they must remain structurally sound in order to ensure that vehicles and motorists are secure.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☐ Funding Request ☐ Legislative Proposal ☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

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

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

Principle	
Job Growth/ Economic Vitality	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐ Funding Request ☐ Legislative Proposal ☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3400

HEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

We can be successful in improving the health of all residents by supporting legislation that prevents chronic disease, prevents the spread of illness, promotes healthy behaviors and promotes wellness. Legislative, policy, environmental changes and education can influence behavior and thus impact health and health outcomes. Three behaviors (poor diet, physical activity levels and tobacco use) contribute to four chronic diseases (vascular disease, cancer, lung disease and Type 2 diabetes) that cause more than 50 percent of the deaths in Santa Barbara County. We can directly impact behaviors that drive chronic and communicable diseases and poor health outcomes. We can also directly impact health with access to services, preparedness, and our response to health conditions.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☐ Funding Request ☐ Legislative Proposal ☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

- Healthy behaviors and activities to promote wellness- Support programs and funding that encourage physical activity, healthy eating, breastfeeding, healthy parenting practices, healthy and safe foods, and reduce the prevalence of smoking and obesity.
- Disaster preparedness and emergency medical response to protect the community - Support programs and funding that prepare our emergency response procedures, training, and disaster command structures for the entire community including vulnerable populations and medically fragile residents. Support legislation and regulatory measures that improve the quality and delivery of emergency medical services and pre-hospital care.
- Prevention of harmful health conditions and ensures access to health care – Support programs and funding that prevent injuries and violence, prevent the spread of communicable disease, promote infection control practices, identify and address environmental conditions that are barriers to health.

Support should minimally include no decreases in current funding levels in these health related programs and measures that maintain or strengthen local agency roles.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

There will be a decrease in disease and illness and a decrease in premature death among residents in Santa Barbara County.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

There is no immediate or additional cost incurred directly.

CONTACT

Takashi Wada, MD, MPH, Director and Health Officer (805) 681-5105

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

SAFETY NET PRESERVATION

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

According to 2013 Census figures, in Santa Barbara County 68,116 people (16% of residents) are still living below the federal poverty level (compared to 11.9% in 2007). There are approximately 19,866 (21%) of the County's children living in poverty (compared to 13.5% in 2007). Our poverty rates reflect the impacts of a weakened economy and the slow and prolonged recovery from the Great Recession, and drastic cuts in health and human services programs at the State level. All of these factors have disproportionately affected low income seniors as well as children and families, leaving their "basic" needs of food, shelter, personal and financial security, health and welfare at risk of being unmet and leading to food insecurity, diminished health, and homelessness.

For those workers and their families who are getting by living paycheck to paycheck with little to no assets to fall back on, the loss of a job or serious illness can plunge their families into poverty. Many will turn to government-run safety net programs for help. Unfortunately, cumulative cuts to county-administered health and human services programs add up to a loss of more than \$2.4 billion in state and federal funds since June 2001. Additionally, nationwide, food stamp benefits saw a \$5 billion reduction in November 2013 when Congress allowed a recession-era boost to expire. The shrinking public safety net has put extreme pressure on underfunded faith-based and community-based organizations to "catch" these needy families. If the safety net, "public" or "non-public," cannot respond to the growing need to temporarily assist those in need until their economic conditions improve, more residents will fall into poverty.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

Daniel Nielson, Director/Department of Social Services (805) 681-4451

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3412

SENIOR SERVICES-OLDER AMERICANS ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Older Americans Act provides federal funding to Area Agencies on Aging (AAA's) to help low-income seniors live independently in their communities through supportive, nutrition and health promotion programs and services. According to 2013 Census data there are over 59,000 seniors age 65 and older within the County of Santa Barbara (14% of the County's population). This number is expected to double by the year 2050 placing additional demands on a variety of health and human services programs. Key issues facing seniors within the County are in-home care housing as well as public assistance needs for those that live below the poverty level. Therefore, it is imperative to ensure that the services and programs currently in place, are reauthorized to meet the growing population and needs of low-income seniors.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

Daniel Nielson, Director/Department of Social Services, (805) 681-4451
Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3412

SOCIAL SERVICES TANF REAUTHORIZATION

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program was founded on the idea that states should have the flexibility to design their programs in a way best suited to their unique populations in order to help families transition from assistance to self-sufficiency. The last reauthorization of TANF, which was part of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, was heavily weighted toward Federal oversight and penalties instead of state flexibility – a change that reflected a level of distrust that was unwarranted given the progress states made in reducing the welfare rolls after TANF was initially implemented. The success of TANF depends on counties' flexibility to target local needs and support participant's work activities. Without that flexibility and the funding to implement it, the working families who are struggling toward self-sufficiency will lose supportive services and many will be unable to successfully end their reliance on cash assistance. Welfare reform is an ongoing process of supporting working families in gaining self-sufficiency, not a one-time removal of families from the welfare rolls.

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action: The County requests that its delegation advocate at the Federal level to reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program to restore and enhance state and county flexibility to tailor work and support services that move families into self-sufficiency based on their unique needs. TANF Reauthorization must reverse the damaging effects of the 2005 TANF Reauthorization changes to the Work Participation Rates (WPR) formula and definition of "work." The County is interested in a balanced approach between federal oversight and state flexibility with better and more outcome-based measures of success.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

Daniel Nielson, Director/Department of Social Services, (805) 681-4451

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3400

SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE

Principle	
Health & Human Services	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

As the California legislature responded to the state's budget deficits over the past 6 years, cuts were made virtually across the board, but subsidized child care services and supports funded through the Department of Education's Child Development Division (now Early Education Support Services) were reduced disproportionately. These services for low income families include CalWORKs and Alternative Payment child care subsidies, "General Child Care" subsidy contracts with centers and State Preschools, as well as critical support services such as Child Care Planning Council and Children's Resource and Referral. Without child care subsidies, low income working parents are either forced to quit their jobs or put their children in substandard care which impacts children's futures and our communities' viability. And, without adequate investment in the child care infrastructure, providers and parents lack the supports necessary for a strong system. The state legislature is beginning to restore funding and the County is advocating for further restoration of funding to increase quality, child care slots, reimbursement rates and infrastructure.

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action: The County requests that its delegation advocate at the State level to strategically increase funding for child care subsidies, rates and support services to align with current programming and trends in the early care and education field.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Researchers and economists have documented that high quality early care and education offers a high return on investment (\$4.00 to \$17.00/per dollar spent), especially for children with risk factors. Reductions in juvenile crime, teen pregnancy, high school drop-out rates and intervention services are well-documented for children who attended such programs. Additionally, the child care industry contributes significantly to the local economy both in their workforce, and the ability for parents to be gainfully employed. Therefore, providing children with a strong start can counteract the negative implications of disadvantaged environments.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

In FY 2013-14 Santa Barbara County received \$2,572,920 in stage 1 child care funding, as compared to \$3,064,607 in FY 2012-13, translating to a 16% decrease in funding.

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

CONTACT

Daniel Nielson, Director/Department of Social Services, (805) 681-4451

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3400

Ben Romo, Executive Director, First 5 Santa Barbara County, (805) 884-8085

TELECOMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION

Principle	
Local Control	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Federal

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

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

There is ongoing debate within the scientific community regarding how thoroughly the long-term health effects of low-frequency electromagnetic and radio-frequency emissions are understood. Questions remain regarding how well the existing regulations established by the FCC protect more vulnerable populations such as school-aged children, and how well they protect against the cumulative effect of radio-frequency emissions on people who live or work in close proximity to multiple cellular facilities. Currently, the ability of local governments to include a consideration of the health and environmental effects of these facilities when deciding whether or not to approve the construction or modification of a cellular communications facility is limited. Existing regulations regarding telecommunication facilities also hamper local agencies' ability to protect the visual quality of their communities. Protecting a high quality visual environment is vitally important to community residents; it is equally important to protect the desirability of an area as a tourist destination.

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.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☐ Funding Request ☐ Legislative Proposal ☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

The County requests that its delegation seek and support federal legislation to repeal limitations on state and local authority imposed by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 that infringe upon the authority of local governments to regulate the placement, construction, and modification of telecommunications towers and other personal wireless service facilities on the basis of the health and environmental effects of these facilities. The County opposes sections of the Act that preempt local control and prevent local governments from considering health effects. 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. In particular, the County believes it is imperative that the FCC undertake longitudinal health studies to determine whether its existing exposure limits are adequate to protect public health. The longitudinal studies should encompass a broad demographic (i.e. children, people with compromised health, etc.) in order to fully protect public health. It is significant to note that the exposure limits allowed by the FCC appear to exceed the levels considered

permissible by most other countries.¹ Finally, the County requests that the FCC revise the processing deadlines for new telecommunication facilities to insure that local agencies have adequate time to fully evaluate siting and design options to minimize visual impacts and protect a high quality visual environment. Santa Barbara County's stance advocating for improved local regulation over telecommunications facilities aligns with the position taken on this issue by the National Association of Counties (NACO).² NACO's platform advocates for Counties, as the trustees of public property and as protectors of public safety and welfare, to retain authority over telecommunication facilities. NACO's platform states that Counties have an obligation to their constituents to ensure that the public health, safety, and welfare are not endangered or otherwise compromised by the construction, modification, or installation of wireless communications facilities. Santa Barbara County shares these concerns and NACO's advocacy position.

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. . Longitudinal studies need to be conducted to determine whether the exposure levels currently allowed by the FCC are safe or whether they may cause adverse health effects to any population group. Citizens would be better served by allowing local government greater flexibility to regulate the placement of cellular facilities near areas such as residences, schools, daycares, or parks. Longer processing times would give local agencies the opportunity to evaluate alternative locations and designs in order to maximize the protection of a high quality visual environment.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

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

CONTACT

Glenn S. Russell, PhD., Director, Planning and Development Department, (805) 568-2085
Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

¹ See Reference:

http://www.rivm.nl/Documenten_en_publicaties/Algemeen_Actueel/Uitgaven/Milieu_Leefomgeving/Comparison_of_international_policies_on_electromagnetic_fields

² See Reference: The American County Platform and Resolutions 2014-2015, at <http://www.naco.org/legislation/pages/legislative-affairs.aspx>

TRIBAL GAMING COMPACTS & LAND USE

Principle	
Local Control	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	Fed/State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

The County of Santa Barbara supports government-to-government relations that recognize the role and unique interests of tribes, states, counties, and other local governments to protect all members of their communities and to provide governmental services and infrastructure beneficial to all. In addition, the County recognizes and respects the tribal right of self-governance to provide for tribal members and to preserve traditional tribal culture and heritage. In similar fashion, the County recognizes and promotes self-governance by counties to provide for the health, safety, and general welfare of all members of our communities. In order to provide for full participation by all community members, the County supports the full involvement of local government agencies on issues and activities taking place on tribal fee or trust lands which may create impacts to public health, safety or the environment.

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

REQUEST STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy:

☐ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

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

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

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

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

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

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

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The County of Santa Barbara previously enjoyed a distribution from the SDF of approximately \$1.4 million annually. Recent reports from the state Legislative Analysts Office and Controllers office indicate that funds are unlikely to be available for gaming impact mitigation grants. These funds were previously utilized to fund fire, law enforcement, and capital projects. In addition development which occurs on lands taken fee to trust are taken off property tax rolls thus critical revenue to address service and infrastructure related impacts are lost to a local government in perpetuity.

CONTACT

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant CEO, County Executive Office, (805) 568-3400

PROBATION SERVICES FUNDING

Principle	
Fiscal Stability	
Strategy	Target
Advocacy	State

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Senate Bill 678 (SB678), the California Community Corrections Performance Incentive Act, was passed prior to Public Safety Realignment (AB109). SB 678 was the State's initial attempt at reducing the number of felony probationers committed to state prison. The bill allowed for the Community Corrections Performance Incentives Fund (CCPIF) that authorizes the state to annually allocate money into a State Corrections Performance Incentives Fund to be used for specified purposes relating to improving local probation supervision practices and capacities. SB678 has become a significant funding source for Probation Departments to develop and implement critical evidenced based programs and services. With SB678 funding, Santa Barbara County developed and enhanced evidence based services at two Probation Report and Resource Centers in Santa Barbara and Santa Maria serving high risk felony probationers as well as high risk supervision services to felons. The services provided under SB678 were used as a foundation to build upon when AB109 was implemented in October 2011. SB678 funding has been volatile and allocations have changed significantly from year to year.

REQUESTED STRATEGY AND ACTION

Strategy: ☐ Funding Request

☐ Legislative Proposal

☒ Targeted Advocacy

Action:

Advocate for stable and guaranteed funding for SB678 services, particularly in light of Prop 47 which modifies criminal sentences and misdemeanor penalties. Advocacy for SB678 is important as many County of Santa Barbara AB109 services are built upon and enhanced by SB678.

With the advent of AB109 and now with the passage of Prop 47, the State will need to again revisit and establish a new SB678 formula.

Of note, AB109's permanent base formula has been adopted and it appears more equitable than earlier formulas. Likewise it is vital that the state establish a formula for SB678 that provides guaranteed, stable funding. Related to AB109, the funding methodology developed for AB109 growth provides flexibility for counties as it takes into account performance outcomes related to prison commitments, successful probation completions, and recidivism. This is currently one funding source that provides counties the opportunity to enhance their state funds for realigned and felony offenders under probation supervision.

PUBLIC BENEFIT/IMPACT

Guaranteed and stable funding will ensure that evidence based program and treatment services are available for high risk felony probationers in Santa Barbara County. The successful outcomes from these services reduce recidivism and enhance community safety.

COST TO GOVERNMENT

The State currently provides SB678 funding. Both the total dollar amount and county specific allocations vary from year to year. The cost to the State will depend on the change from current funding levels.

CONTACT

Beverly A. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer, Probation Department, (805) 882-3650

Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, (805)568-3400

Appendix

County at a Glance

The People (U.S. Census Bureau)

Population: (2013 estimate) 435,697

Ethnicity: (2013 estimate)

- 47% White
- 44% Hispanic
- 6% Asian
- 2% Black

Median Age: (2013 estimate)

- 23% under 18 years of age
- 14% over 64 years of age

The Cities

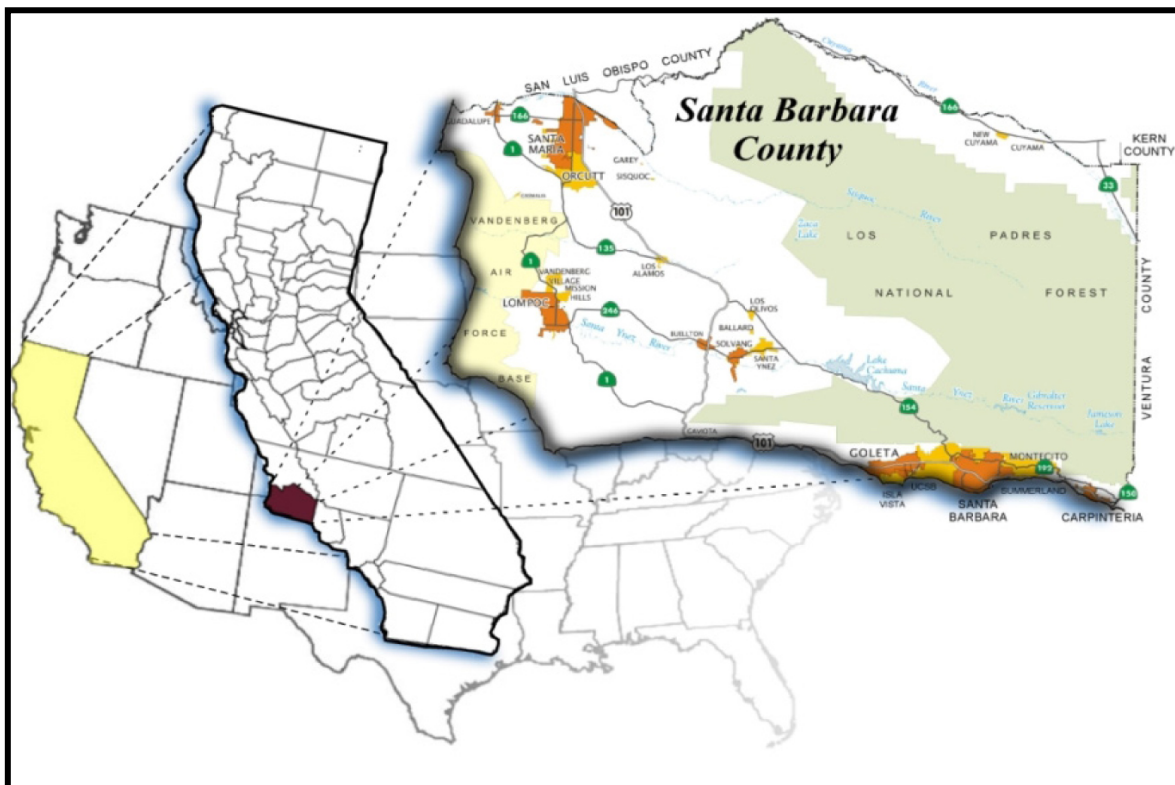
- Buellton
- Carpinteria
- Goleta
- Guadalupe
- Lompoc
- Santa Barbara
- Santa Maria
- Solvang

The Community

- 114 parks
- 18 beaches
- 18 open space preserves
- 15 public libraries
- 17 golf courses
- Civic Participation (November 4, 2014)
 - Number of Precincts: 257
 - Number of Eligible Voters: 203,994

The Land

- 2,735 square miles
- 1/3 located within the Los Padres National Forest
- 150 square miles Vandenberg Air Force Base
- 117 miles of coastline
- Average temperature 64 degrees F
- Average 300 days of sunshine a year



Santa Barbara County

Federal Officials	State Officials
<p>President Barack Hussein Obama II, 44th President of the US <i>whitehouse.gov</i> Bio - Previous occupation: US Senator. Elected in 2008. Key Issues: Revitalizing the economy, healthcare, US global leadership and homeland security.</p> <p>United States Senator Barbara Boxer, 114th Congress <i>boxer.senate.gov</i> Bio - Previous occupation: Politician-10 years as member of the US House of Representatives. Elected to Senate in 1993. Committee assignments include Commerce, Science and Technology, Environment and Public Works (Chair), Foreign Relations and Ethics. Key Issues: Public education and after school programs, affordable health care and patient bill of rights and environmental issues including safe drinking water.</p> <p>United States Senator Dianne Feinstein, 114th Congress <i>feinstein.senate.gov/public</i> Bio - Previous occupation: Politician- Member Board of Supervisors and Mayor, San Francisco. Elected to Senate in 1992. Committee assignments include Appropriations, Intelligence (Chair), Judiciary, and Rules & Administration. Key Issues- crime victims' rights, healthcare, economy, national security/homeland security, environmental issues including water supply and agriculture and education.</p> <p>Congresswoman Lois Capps, 24th District <i>capps.house.gov</i> Bio - Previous occupation: Nurse, educator. Elected to Congress in 1998. Committee assignments include Committee on Energy and Commerce, and Natural Resources Committee. Key Issues: Budget, education, energy and environmental issues, public health, immigration, gas prices and health care issues.</p>	<p>Governor Jerry Brown, 39th Governor <i>gov.ca.gov</i> Bio - Previous occupation: Elected Governor of California in 2010, elected California Attorney General in 2006, elected Mayor of Oakland in 1998 and reelected in 2002, elected Governor of California in 1974 and reelected in 1978, elected California Secretary of State in 1970. Key issues- jobs for California's future, education, budget , environment, clean energy jobs plan, pension reform, water for the 21st century, and fighting to protect civil rights.</p> <p>California State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 19th District <i>sd19.senate.ca.gov</i> Bio – Previous occupation: Deputy District Attorney, CA State Assemblymember elected to State Senate in 2012. Key Issues: Reproductive health, spousal support, economic and wage equality.</p> <p>California State Assemblyman Katcho Archadjian, 35th District <i>arc.asm.ca.gov/member/AD35</i> Bio - Previous occupation: Business owner, elected County Supervisor in 1998, appointed to California Coastal Commission in 2006, Elected CA Assemblymember in 2010. Key Issues: Health care, public safety, community improvement, fiscal reform and education.</p> <p>California State Assemblyman Das Williams, 37th District <i>asmdc.org/members/a37</i> Bio- Previous occupation: CA State Assemblymember, City Councilmember, Educator, and Legislative Aide. Key issues: State budget, higher education improvement, fiscal issues and off-shore oil drilling.</p>

REPORT

Thomas Walters & Associates, Inc.



TO: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors DATE: December 29, 2014

FROM: Thomas P. Walters

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

By almost all measures, the 113th Congress' second session cemented its reputation as one of the least productive Congresses of modern times. As the year began, the House and Senate were immediately faced with completing several tasks left over from the previous year. There were some initial successes, including final negotiations on a Farm Bill and completion of the FY 2014 appropriations process, the latter largely a result of agreements made late in 2013 with passage of the *Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013*. But in a less positive light, only under intense lobbying pressure and with great angst was Congress able to complete work on other legislative initiatives throughout the year, instead focusing on jockeying for position in advance of the November midterm elections. Efforts regarding comprehensive immigration reform stalled repeatedly, and little progress was made on reauthorization of national surface transportation programs. Even though the *Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013* was supposed to simplify the FY 2015 appropriations process, it once again bogged down and was only completed after a bruising fight over President Obama's executive action on immigration that nearly led to another shutdown.

Throughout the year, we aggressively advocated your Board's priorities on a wide range of policies and issues impacting the County's fiscal stability and delivery of services, as addressed in this report. We lobbied these issues with Congressional members, staff and Administration representatives. We also worked closely with other relevant stakeholders on these issues, and during their respective trips to Washington, D.C., we arranged meetings for Board members and various County officials to advocate on critical issues with members of the local delegation, Congressional offices and committees, and Administration officials.

And despite the reputation of this Congress, there were several legislative actions of significance to your Board and the County's mandated responsibilities that *were* completed in 2014. These include:

- Approval of the *Supporting Knowledge and Investing in Lifelong Skills (SKILLS) Act*, to reauthorize and update the Workforce Investment Act;
- Enactment of the *Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA)*, including revision of the Army Corps of Engineers' vegetation management

policy, provisions to streamline environmental permitting, and provisions relating to the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund;

- Passage of the *Farm Bill*, including reauthorization of County Pest Detection programs and provisions relevant to local specialty crops;
- A one-year extension of guaranteed full funding for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes and Secure Rural Schools Programs;
- Approval of the *Homeowners Flood Insurance Affordability Act* to delay implementation of increased flood insurance premiums mandated by the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act until FEMA completes an affordability study and Congress is able to act on its recommendations;
- Reauthorization of the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act, for the first time in seventeen years; and,
- Reauthorization through 2019 of the Debbie Smith Act, which provides grants to conduct DNA analyses of backlogged DNA samples.

Funding for specific projects in general and Santa Barbara County proposals and projects in particular was limited by the continuation of the moratorium on earmarks, as well as the uncertainty of Federal funding streams due to the disruptions in both the FY 2014 and FY 2015 appropriations processes. Nevertheless, the County was awarded several Federal grants and reimbursements, including:

- \$1.8 million under the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program;
- \$1.5 million through HUD's Community Development Block Grant program and \$937,493 under the HOME program;
- \$1.27 million to stakeholders under the jurisdiction of the Santa Barbara/Santa Maria Continuum of Care for homeless prevention programs;
- \$337,748 for activities under Part C of the Ryan White HIV AIDS program;
- \$302,776 for the County's Community Health Centers to increase access to comprehensive primary health care services under the Affordable Care Act;
- \$207,527 reimbursement for the incarceration of criminal undocumented aliens under the State Criminal Aliens Assistance Program (SCAAP);
- \$131,723 under the FY 2014 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program for the Santa Barbara Regional Narcotic Enforcement Team; and
- \$126,795 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding for homelessness prevention, emergency shelter, and related services.

Table of Contents

Agriculture – Farm Bill and Pest Detection.....	4
Emergency Preparedness and Response.....	4
FY 2015 Federal Funding.....	4
Firefighter Grant Program	5
Environment and Land Use	5
Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)	5
Tribal Gaming Compacts and Land Use.....	6
Resource Recovery Project - Conversion Technology.....	6
Coastal Issues	6
Homelessness, Housing and Community Development.....	7
Homelessness	7
Housing and Community Development Resources	7
Immigration Reform	8
Public Health.....	8
Funding for Health Care Programs	8
Ryan White CARE Act Funding	9
Childhood and Women’s Health Issues	9
Public Safety.....	9
Immigration Impacts on Public Safety.....	9
Public Safety Funding.....	10
Title IV-E Funding for Probation Services.....	10
Mentally Ill Offenders	11
Second Chance Act Reauthorization.....	11
Justice For All Act.....	11
Human Trafficking.....	11
Inmate Phone Charges.....	12
Social Services and Workforce Development.....	12
Workforce Development	12
Social Services	12
Older Americans.....	13
Federal Child Care Funding.....	13
Transportation and Public Works	14
Federal Transportation Funding	14
Lower Mission Creek.....	15
Lake Cachuma	15
Water Resources Development Act.....	15
Other Priority Projects	16
Other Advocacy and Support.....	16
Drought Relief.....	16
Earthquake Insurance	17
Federal Tax Intercept	17

Agriculture – Farm Bill and Pest Detection

We continued to advocate the County's priorities as House and Senate conferees negotiated the final version of the 2014 Farm Bill, reiterating the importance of the legislation to local farmers, residents and the County's \$1.8 billion agricultural industry. In particular, we emphasized the need for adequate resources in the areas of pest and disease management and invasive noxious weed management, as well as support for Specialty Crop priorities. One of the most contentious points of the negotiations related to reductions in the level of authorized funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Late in January, conferees concluded their negotiations on H.R. 2642, the *Agricultural Act of 2014*. The final agreement included the language we supported to reauthorize the Section 10210 Pest Detection program. It also included various provisions relevant to specialty crops, including an adjustment to the Specialty Crops Block Grant that recognizes crop value as well as acreage. The agreement reduces SNAP by \$8 billion over ten years, far less than the \$40 billion reduction proposed by the House. President Obama signed the measure into law on February 4.

We advocated for the highest possible levels of funding for Department of Agriculture programs of importance to the County through the annual appropriations process, including the areas of pest detection and food safety. The *FY 2015 Agriculture Appropriations* bill included in the omnibus package approved in the lame duck session provided level funding of \$27.5 million for Pest Detection & Prevention Programs, a \$5.5 million increase in funding for Specialty Crop Pests to \$156.5 million, and level funding of \$1.01 billion for food safety and inspection.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

FY 2015 Federal Funding

We contacted the House and Senate Appropriations Committees to reiterate the County's homeland security and emergency response priorities in anticipation of action on the *FY 2015 Homeland Security Appropriations* bill urging them to adequately fund local emergency response and disaster preparedness activities, including funding to address the needs of public safety, public health, emergency management personnel, and communications infrastructure. We also asked them to fund the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program at the highest possible level, and emphasized the critical importance of Emergency Management Performance Grants to the County's emergency preparedness responsibilities.

Funding for the Department of Homeland Security is traditionally one of the first appropriations measures addressed. When the House committee drafted its version of the *FY 2015 Homeland Security Appropriations* bill, it once again rejected the Administration's proposal to condense all State and Local Programs into a single National Preparedness Grant Program (NPGP). The committee provided a total of \$1.5 billion for State and Local Programs – the same as in FY 2014 – including \$466 million for State and Local Homeland Security Grants. It included \$680 million for Firefighter Assistance Grants, \$350 million for Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG), and \$25 million for the National Pre-Disaster Mitiga-

tion Fund. All of the proposed funding levels were essentially the same as was provided in FY 2014. The Senate committee followed the House's lead, with proposed funding levels at essentially the same as was provided in FY 2014. However, Republican leadership, particularly in the House, were angered this fall by President Obama's decision to exercise "prosecutorial discretion" in the enforcement of federal immigration law, and targeted Homeland Security funding in an effort to react to the action. Since immigration falls under the Department of Homeland Security, DHS programs will be funded at FY 2014 levels under a Continuing Resolution (CR) through February 27, 2015, to enable the new Congress to re-visit funding for immigration programs impacted by the President's recent Executive Order.

Firefighter Grant Program

After FEMA released its Funding Opportunity Announcement for the FY 2014 Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) Grant Program early in November, we provided the County with the information packet regarding this year's competitive process for the grants. Funding can be used for a variety of purposes, including training, equipment, personal protective equipment, fitness, and modifications to facilities. Applications were due by December 5. Two years ago the County successfully secured a grant of \$600,000 for fire operations and safety activities under AFG.

We lobbied throughout the year in support of FY 2015 funding for the firefighting grants. The House Appropriations Committee provided \$680 million for Firefighter Assistance Grants in its version of the *FY 2015 Homeland Security Appropriations* bill, including \$337.5 million for SAFER, and the Senate provided the same funding levels for the programs in its version of the DHS spending bill. This is essentially level funding compared to the previous year, and is likely to be the amount included in the final FY 2015 appropriations levels negotiated next year.

Environment and Land Use

Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)

We joined NACo and other County stakeholders in successfully advocating for language in the final version of the 2014 Farm Bill that extended the authorization of full funding for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program through FY 2014. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell released the funding levels for PILT in June, and we were informed that Santa Barbara County was awarded \$1.8 million, a \$100,000 (6%) increase over FY 2013.

We subsequently continued to work with NACo and other County stakeholders to advocate for full funding authority of PILT in FY 2015. Congressman Calvert, Chairman of the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, included language extending the authorization through FY 2015 in his draft of the *FY 2015 Interior Appropriations* bill, and we encouraged committee members to support the proposal. We also urged Chairman Reed (D-RI) and Ranking Minority Member Murkowski (R-AK) of the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee to include similar provisions when they draft their version of the Interior Department spending measure.

In September, NACo held a fly-in to emphasize the importance of PILT, including a Hill briefing on the issue, and county-specific issue papers. During the recess leading up to the Lame Duck Session, we had asked members of the local House delega-

tion to join in a bipartisan "Dear Colleague" letter to the House Leadership calling for action on full funding for PILT. The final version of *FY 2015 Interior Appropriations* bill included in the omnibus spending package provides for a total of \$442 million for PILT, comparable to FY 2014.

Tribal Gaming Compacts and Land Use

We continued to monitor Congressional activity regarding the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians' Fee-to-Trust Application for the Camp 4 Property, including Congressman LaMalfa's (R-CA) legislation to take the land into trust, H.R. 3313. We discussed the legislation with the House Resources Committee on several occasions, and staff emphasized that Congressman LaMalfa had not contacted them regarding the bill. Congresswoman Capps remained adamantly opposed to the legislation, and worked to dissuade any action on it. No hearings or other actions were scheduled on H.R. 3313 this year. The bill died with the end of the 113th Congress and would have to be formally re-introduced in 2015 for any action to take place.

We joined CSAC in asking Interior Secretary Sally Jewel to extend the comment period for the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Proposed Rule, published in May, to revise regulations governing the process and criteria by which the Secretary acknowledges an Indian tribe. The proposed regulations are very detailed and complex, and we stressed that, since the acknowledgement process can be a precursor to Tribes taking land into trust for gaming and other non-gaming development, counties such as Santa Barbara have a significant interest in these regulations because they could have a significant impact on local land use. We also asked Congresswoman Capps and Senators Boxer and Feinstein to weigh in with Secretary Jewell regarding the comment period. CSAC also pushed for BIA to hold additional hearings on the Proposed Rule in California. We were notified by Senator Feinstein's office that the comment period was extended by 60 days, through September 30. In addition, BIA held two additional public meetings on the rule via teleconferencing.

Resource Recovery Project - Conversion Technology

We arranged and participated in meetings for Supervisor Carbajal and Public Works Director McGolpin to lobby in support of resources for conversion technology efforts such as the County's Resource Recovery Project during their January advocacy trip. This included USDA's Office of Alternative Energy, and we provided follow-up contacts regarding potential grant opportunities. Legislation had been introduced in past Congresses that was designed to implement an investment tax credit for waste-to-energy facilities, but the proposal did not gain traction this year under the current atmosphere of tight budget restraints. We also closely monitored Congressional efforts to address the tax code that might affect Renewable Energy Tax Credits and their potential value to the Resource Recovery Project.

Coastal Issues

At the direction of the County Executive Office, we contacted Interior Secretary Sally Jewel to urge her to assure the continued exclusion of California's Outer Continental Shelf from any proposed oil and gas leases as the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) undertakes the process for drafting the Proposed 2017-2022 OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program. The action was in concert with Congressional efforts led by Senators Boxer and Feinstein and Congresswoman Capps to protect

the California coastline from new drilling sites. BOEM had published a Request for Information (RFI) in the Federal Register on June 16, 2014, which was the first step in what Secretary Jewell described as “a robust public engagement process,” and comments were due from interested parties by August 15. There will be multiple additional opportunities for the County to comment, including during the environmental review processes.

Homelessness, Housing and Community Development

Homelessness

Last spring, HUD Secretary Donovan announced the release of nearly \$1.6 billion in Tier 1 competitive Continuum of Care (CoC) awards for ongoing priority projects serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness. We were informed that the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County CoC will receive \$1.27 million in CoC funding, which can be used for street outreach, client assessment, and direct housing assistance. In a separate action, the County was also awarded \$126,795 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding for homelessness prevention, emergency shelter, and related services.

We lobbied members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, our local Congressional delegation, and Senators Boxer and Feinstein in support of adequate funding for homeless programs in the *FY 2015 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations* bill. When the House approved its version of the FY 2015 THUD Appropriations bill, it provided \$2.1 billion for homeless assistance grants programs, the same level as FY 2014. The Senate Appropriations Committee approved \$2.15 billion for homeless assistance grants, \$261 million below the President's budget but \$40 million above the FY 2014 enacted level. The final version of the measure included in the included in the FY 2015 Consolidated Appropriations Act provides a slight increase of \$30 million for Homeless Assistance grants, to \$2.135 billion.

Housing and Community Development Resources

After Congress reached agreement on the *FY 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act*, early in the year, Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Donovan subsequently announced allocations for community planning and development programs, based on enactment of the FY 2014 budget levels. We were informed that the County would receive \$1,511,673 in CDBG funding and \$937,493 under the HOME program.

Throughout the FY 2015 appropriations process we urged the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, our local Congressional delegation, and Senators Boxer and Feinstein to support funding for housing and community development programs of significance to the County. We also asked our delegation to sign on to “Dear Colleague” letters in support of funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs. The final version of the *FY 2015 Transportation, HUD and Related Agencies Appropriations* bill negotiated during the lame duck session funds HUD programs at the following levels: \$3 billion for CDBG, a decrease of \$30 million; \$900 million for the HOME Program, compared to \$1 billion in FY 2014; level funding for Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) at \$330 million; level funding of \$75 million for HUD-Veterans

Affairs Supportive Housing Program (HUD-VASH); and a \$36.5 million increase in funding for elderly housing to \$420 million. Section 8 funding is increased slightly to \$19.3 billion.

Immigration Reform

During his January advocacy trip to Washington, DC, we arranged and participated in meetings for Supervisor Carbajal to advocate your Board's support for comprehensive immigration reform, similar to the principles included in the Senate-passed S. 744, the *Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act*. These included meetings with both Majority and Minority staff of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration. During the course of those meetings, House Speaker Boehner (R-OH) announced in January that he would be releasing an outline of Standards for Immigration, and we reiterated the County's position to House leadership, members of the Judiciary Committee, and the California House delegation citing the impacts on local communities and their economies. The document released by Speaker Boehner was consistent with many of the principles contained in the Senate bill, but the Speaker remained adamant that the House would pursue a piecemeal approach as opposed to the Senate's comprehensive approach.

The momentum for addressing the immigration issue shifted back and forth several times over the course of the year, and each time we reiterated your Board's support for comprehensive reform with House Leadership and members of the State's Congressional delegation. However, after Majority Leader Cantor's (R-VA) unexpected primary defeat was blamed at least in part on his wavering postures on immigration, comprehensive immigration reform was indeed dead for the year.

Public Health

Funding for Health Care Programs

In September, Health and Human Services Secretary Burwell announced \$295 million in FY 2014 funding under the Affordable Care Act for grants to enable health centers across the country to increase access to comprehensive primary health care services. We were informed that the County of Santa Barbara will receive a grant of \$302,776 under the program. Funding provided by these grants may be used to hire new staff including new health care providers, to keep clinics open for longer hours, and to expand the care provided to include new services such as oral health, behavioral health, pharmacy, and vision services.

We urged members of the House and Senate Labor, HHS, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittees to support public health programs in the *FY 2015 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies* bill, including tuberculosis control and prevention, Ryan White Part B (ADAP) and Part C funding, substance abuse and mental health block grants, community health centers, immunizations, preventative health services, health care safety net grants; and community-based health and nutrition services for older Americans. We also urged them to provide adequate funding for State and local bioterrorism preparedness and bioterrorism hospital grants. The Labor/HHS funding measure included in the FY 2015 Consolidated Appropriations Act provides essentially level funding of \$1.49 billion for community health centers, \$1.74 billion for substance abuse

block grants, \$573 million for immunizations, \$461.5 million for mental health block grants, and increases preventative health services block grants to \$160 million. It also includes \$900 million for ADAP, the same as in FY 2014, and \$2.2 billion for Ryan White Part C grants.

Ryan White CARE Act Funding

Earlier this fall, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that it was awarding \$2.2 billion in FY 2014 Ryan White HIV/AIDS funding for HIV/AIDS care and medications. We were notified by HHS that Santa Barbara County will receive \$337,748 under Part C of the program, 19.9% more than the County received from a similar award in 2013.

We contacted the House and Senate committees of jurisdiction to reiterate the County's support for the Ryan White CARE Act, and to urge them to take action on legislation to reauthorize its programs. While neither the House Energy and Commerce nor the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committees scheduled hearings on the CARE Act this year, Ranking Minority Member Pallone (D-NJ) of the House Subcommittee on Health introduced H.R. 2699, to extend hold harmless provisions pending reauthorization of the overall program.

Childhood and Women's Health Issues

We contacted the House and Senate Appropriations Committees to advocate the County's support for funding for the Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant in the *FY 2015 Labor, HHS, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations* bill. The final version of the measure included in the Omnibus spending package provided \$364 million for Title 5, a slight increase of \$3 million, with \$551.6 million for grants to States.

Public Safety

Immigration Impacts on Public Safety

We provided the County with the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) requirements for seeking reimbursements for costs associated with the incarceration of illegal alien criminals under the FY 2014 State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP). Applications were due in May, and in September we were informed by BJA that the County of Santa Barbara would receive \$207,527 in FY 2014 funding under the program. The decrease in the County's reimbursement compared to FY 2013 is consistent with the overall funding cut that SCAAP suffered for the year.

After the Administration proposed eliminating funding for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program in its FY 2015 Budget Request, we joined CSAC and other stakeholders in urging the California House delegation to make it one of its highest priorities this year. SCAAP funding had been reduced to \$180 million for FY 2014, and we urged the House Appropriations Committee to fund it at least at the FY 2013 level. The House version of the *FY 2015 Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations* bill would have provided a 16% increase in funding for the program, to \$210 million. While SCAAP would still be woefully underfunded at that level, any increase is definitely a victory in the current political and economic environment. However, the version of the CJS spending measure subsequently drafted by the Senate Appropriations Committee would have only provided \$150 million for

SCAAP, \$30 million less than in FY 2014, and \$60 million less than the House. We worked with stakeholders to advocate in support of the higher spending level proposed by the House, and House and Senate negotiators on the final CJS spending measure agreed to increase SCAAP by \$5 million, to \$185 million.

Public Safety Funding

When the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) announced its funding under the FY 2014 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program, we provided the application package to County staff. BJA announced its Byrne grant funding awards this fall, and we were informed that the County of Santa Barbara, in conjunction with the cities of Santa Barbara, Lompoc and Santa Maria, was awarded \$131,723 for the Santa Barbara Regional Narcotic Enforcement Team.

We contacted the House and Senate Appropriations Committees regarding the County's public safety funding priorities, and urged them to provide the highest level of funding possible for local law enforcement activities in the *FY 2015 Commerce, Justice and Science (CJS) Appropriations* bill, including youth delinquency prevention, local law enforcement technology needs, domestic abuse programs, and drug treatment. The final version of the CJS spending measure negotiated during the lame duck session provides: level funding of \$376 million for the Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG); slightly increased funding of \$430 million for Violence Against Women Act programs; \$251.5 million for juvenile justice programs, including \$90 million for youth mentoring and \$15 million for delinquency prevention incentive grants; \$125 million for DNA and forensic-related programs; an 8.8% increase to \$68 million for re-entry programs authorized under the Second Chance Act; \$41 million for drug courts; an increase from \$5 million to \$11 million for veterans treatment courts; \$8.5 million for mentally ill offender programs; and \$2 million to continue the John R. Justice Grant Program.

Title IV-E Funding for Probation Services

We were alerted in January that the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) had ordered California to cease claiming for Title IV-E pre-placement candidacy activities by county probation departments because of deficiencies found in two counties during informational sight visits last fall. These pre-placement activities are used very successfully by the Probation Department to focus on maintaining probation youth with their families when in the best interests of the child, and avoiding much more costly court-ordered placements in foster care or institutions. Elimination of this Federal funding stream would result in the loss of about \$720,000 annually for the Probation Department, affecting six officers supervising approximately 180 high risk youth. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS), working with the Chief Probation Officers of California (CPOC), proposed an alternative resolution containing an expedited implementation of a corrective action plan, and after Chief Probation Officer Taylor wrote our local Congressional delegation, we followed up to educate them regarding the program. We also coordinated with CPOC on its advocacy efforts, and asked Congresswoman Capps and Senators Boxer and Feinstein to weigh in with the Federal agency. Subsequently, ACF notified the State that it had accepted the corrective action plan, enabling the State to resume claiming the funding on behalf of county probation departments.

Mentally Ill Offenders

We urged Senate Majority Leader Reid (D-NV) to expedite full Senate consideration of Senator Franken's (D-MN) S. 162, the *Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Act*. The measure would have reauthorized and improved the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act (MIOTCRA) of 2004, including providing grants for improved mental health treatment services for mentally ill offenders, and giving local officials greater control over program participation eligibility. In the House, we contacted the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime to advocate in support of companion legislation introduced as H.R. 401 by Congressman Nugent (R-FL). The House bill had forty-nine cosponsors, and we asked the local delegation to join in supporting the bill. While a motion to proceed to consideration of S. 162 was made in May, floor action was never scheduled on the measure, and MIOTCRA reauthorization will be left to the 114th Congress.

Second Chance Act Reauthorization

We contacted the Senate and House Judiciary Committees to reiterate support for legislation to reauthorize the Second Chance Act. The previous authorization of the Act expired on September 30, 2010, and while Congress has continued to fund its programs through the annual appropriations process, we argued the importance of reauthorizing and improving Second Chance to ensure the availability of needed re-entry resources to local governments such as the County. Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Leahy (D-VT) introduced S. 1690, the *Second Chance Act Reauthorization Act*, and House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime Chairman Sensenbrenner (R-WI) introduced companion legislation as H.R. 3465. While both bills have bipartisan support, hearings were not held on the proposal this year.

Justice For All Act

We contacted Senate Majority Leader Reid (D-NV) and Senators Boxer and Feinstein in support of Committee Chairman Leahy's (D-VT) S. 822, the *Justice For All Reauthorization Act*. The measure would have extended the authorization of a variety of programs implemented in the original Justice For All Act, including the Crime Victims' Rights Act, the Debbie Smith Act, the Coverdell Forensics Science Improvement Grant Program, and the Innocence Protection Act. It would also have enhanced state and local governments' use of DNA evidence, and made units of local government eligible for grants under the Capital Representation Improvement Grants and the Capital Prosecution Improvement Grants programs. While S. 822 was approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee and placed on the Senate calendar, further consideration did not take place. However, the House and Senate subsequently approved House Judiciary Committee Chairman Goodlatte's (R-VA) H.R. 4323, the *Debbie Smith Reauthorization Act*. The measure specifically reauthorizes the Act through FY 2019.

Human Trafficking

After the House approved H.R. 3530, the *Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act*, by a bipartisan vote of 430-0, we asked Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Leahy (D-VT) and Ranking Minority Member Grassley (R-IA) to expedite consideration on the Senate companion bill, S. 1738. The measure would have increased penalties on human trafficking to establish a fund for victims of trafficking, and would have increased resources for local law enforcement to investigate and prosecute human trafficking. It also included provisions to enable state and local prosecutors to ob-

tain wiretap warrants in state courts for investigations into human trafficking, child sexual exploitation, and child pornography. While the Senate never took up the proposal, the final version of the *FY 2015 Commerce, Justice and Science (CJS) Appropriations* bill included in the year-end omnibus funding bill provides \$42.5 million for State and local governments to address human trafficking and its victims. The Office of Justice Programs will determine how the funding is allocated.

Inmate Phone Charges

Early in October the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced that it would be issuing a Proposed Rulemaking seeking to reform the Interstate Inmate Calling Services (ICS), including banning of “site commissions” charged by prisons and jails. According to the California State Sheriffs Association, the elimination of those commissions could severely curtail the ability of Sheriff’s Departments to provide programming, educational, vocational, and recreational activities to inmates. FCC issued the Proposed Rulemaking in November, and we provided it to the County for review. Comments have been requested and are due January 5.

Social Services and Workforce Development

Workforce Development

Early in the year we arranged and participated in meetings for Supervisor Carbajal to advocate the County’s support for revising the Workforce Investment Act. As a follow-up to those meetings, we worked with relevant stakeholders to urge the House and Senate committees of jurisdiction to move forward in completing legislation to reauthorize WIA. We met with staff from the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training and the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee to discuss WIA reauthorization and reiterate the County’s support. The full House passed H.R. 803, the *Supporting Knowledge and Investing in Lifelong Skills (SKILLS) Act*, last year, but in the Senate, S. 1356, the *Workforce Investment Act*, was stalled on the Senate calendar after having been approved on a bipartisan basis by the HELP Committee. In May, leaders of the House and Senate committees announced a bipartisan agreement on final bill language. The negotiated compromise eliminates 15 federal job training programs - including 14 workforce training programs and one in higher education – and places a focus on training for “in demand” jobs. It reduces the size of Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs), from 43 to 33 members at the state level, and 23 to 19 at the local level. It also sets out specific authorized appropriations for each program through fiscal 2020, with annual adjustments. The measure was overwhelmingly approved by both the House and Senate as H.R. 803, and signed into law by President Obama on July 22.

Social Services

We provided County staff with House Budget Committee Chairman Ryan’s (R-WI) report entitled, *The War on Poverty: 50 Years Later*. The report criticized the Federal government’s patchwork of “duplicative and complex” anti-poverty programs, and proposed two major reforms in Federal safety-net programs. It proposed converting Medicaid to a block grant program, with funding tied to inflation and population growth. Similarly, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) would also become a block grant program to States, with new work requirements for recipients. Chairman Ryan used his plan as the foundation for his Committee’s FY

2015 budget resolution. However, the Senate did not do a budget resolution this year, with Majority Leader Reid (D-NV) arguing that the *Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013* provided the necessary framework for FY 2015 spending. In the 114th Congress, Congressman Ryan will chair the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, which has jurisdiction over income maintenance programs such as TANF, but not over Medicaid or SNAP.

We contacted the House and Senate Appropriations Committee, Congresswoman Capps, and Senators Boxer and Feinstein to advocate in support of Title XX Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funding, emphasizing its importance to a variety of programs in the County, including IHSS and Child Welfare Services. We also encouraged them to adequately fund the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), citing the provision of services funded through the County's Community Action Partnership, including case management, employment services, child care, emergency shelter and food distribution, financial education, protection from violence, and youth services. The final *FY 2015 Labor, HHS, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations* bill negotiated as part of the omnibus FY 2015 funding package provides \$1.7 billion for Title XX Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) and \$674 million for the Community Services Block Grant, the same as in FY 2014 for both programs.

Older Americans

We arranged and participated in meetings for Supervisor Carbajal with the House and Senate committees of jurisdiction to discuss reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (OAA) during his January advocacy trip. In the Senate, HELP Aging Subcommittee Chairman Sanders' (I-VT) S. 1562, the *Older Americans Act Amendments* was placed on the Legislative Calendar under General Orders earlier in the year, and we urged Senate Majority Leader Reid (D-NV) to schedule full Senate consideration of the proposal. In the House, we urged the Committee on Education and the Workforce to move forward on reauthorization legislation. While initial hearings were held by the committee, companion legislation was never introduced. It was anticipated that the completion of negotiations between the House and Senate committees on reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act would clear the way for consideration of the Older Americans Act, but further action did not materialize, leaving it to be addressed by the new Congress.

Foster Care Background Checks

We joined CSAC and CWDA in contacting members of the House Judiciary Committee to advocate in support of Congresswoman Bass' (D-CA) H.R. 3923, which would have expanded the authority of social service agencies with child protection responsibilities to access the national crime information databases. Currently, child welfare agencies such as the County's Department of Social Services cannot access national crime information databases for use in their background checks for foster care placements, and we argued H.R. 3923 would help enable them to perform accurate and timely assessments of potential placements for foster children. While it had bipartisan support, hearings were never scheduled on the bill.

Federal Child Care Funding

We advocated in support of full Senate action on Senator Mikulski's S. 1086, the *Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act*. CCDBG has not been reau-

thorized in 17 years. In March, the Senate overwhelmingly approved the measure on a vote of 96-2, and we then contacted the House Committee on Education and the Workforce to advocate in support of companion legislation to reauthorize CCDBG. We also asked our local Congressional delegation to weigh in with the committee in support of the program. Behind-the-scenes negotiations took place between the House committee and its Senate counterpart throughout the summer, and in September a bipartisan, bicameral compromise was brought to the House floor. We urged the local delegation to support the proposal, emphasizing the critical importance of adequate funding for child care to the County's ability to help low income families transition to self-sufficiency. It was approved unanimously by voice vote, and we immediately lobbied the Senate to approve the new version of the legislation. The measure passed the Senate by a vote of 88-1 on November 17, and President Obama signed it into law two days later.

Transportation and Public Works

Federal Transportation Funding

The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) was an anomaly in that it was only a two-year reauthorization of Federal transportation programs, and was set to expire this year. As Congress reconvened in January we met with the House and Senate committees of jurisdiction to advocate the County's reauthorization priorities, and we arranged and participated in meetings for Supervisor Carbajal and Public Works Director McGolpin to lobby for reauthorization during their January advocacy trip. We briefed Congresswoman Capps and the personal staff for Senators Feinstein and Boxer regarding the ongoing need for Federal resources for the County's high-priority transportation projects. We also requested their support and that of the committees of jurisdiction for robust funding for bridge projects. While MAP-21 consolidated the number of highway programs by two-thirds, the final bill set aside a pot of funding for off-system bridges that essentially preserves the program at the FY 2009 level. We also advocated for an aggressive Federal pavement preservation program.

We reiterated the County's priorities to Chairwoman Boxer and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee as it prepared to take action on a draft bill in May. After the committee marked up and approved the bill, we provided the County with both the text of the measure and a section-by-section summary prepared by committee staff. However, the EPW Committee only has jurisdiction over highway programs, and further action was required by the Senate Banking Committee regarding transit provisions, while the Finance Committee had the responsibility of identifying the tax provisions needed to pay for the legislation. With an estimated \$100 billion in new revenues for the Highway Trust Fund needed above currently projected revenues, the effort in the Senate stalled. Although House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee leadership had indicated they would begin work on a bill by the summer, it soon became clear that the underlying funding issue of how to pay for highway and transit programs without an increase in the motor fuels tax would stymie the effort this year.

In mid-June, the Congressional Budget Office reported that an additional \$8 billion was needed to meet the obligations to highway and transit programs through the end of the current year. The Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and

Means Committee each drafted legislation to provide new revenue to enable the Trust Fund to meet its financial obligations. The end result was H.R. 5021, the *Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014*, which provided \$11 billion to keep the Trust Fund solvent through next May. The legislation also extended existing authority for highway and transit programs through May, providing time for the new Congress to take up MAP-21 reauthorization early in 2015.

Lower Mission Creek

We continued to work with the Army Corps of Engineers and County staff on efforts to obtain further funding opportunities for the Lower Mission Creek Project. In January, we arranged and participated in meetings for Supervisor Carbajal, Public Works Director McGolpin and Deputy Director Fayram with Corps Headquarters staff to advocate in support of moving the project further into the construction phase. We emphasized the significant investment in the project by both the Corps and the County, and the importance of these improvements to protecting lives and property in Santa Barbara. We also discussed the potential for refocusing the project on the most cost-effective improvements. As part of our efforts, we briefed House and Senate Appropriations Committee staff on the project and worked with Senator Feinstein in her role as Chair of the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee.

When the House Appropriations Committee drafted its version of the *FY 2015 Energy and Water Appropriations* bill, it stood firm on its policy of not funding “new” Corps projects until the extensive backlog is whittled down. The Senate version of the bill did provide funding for a few “new starts” but the *FY 2015 Energy and Water Appropriations* bill included in the Lame Duck Omnibus funding package retained the House policy eschewing funding of “new” Corps projects. However, the measure does provide the Corps with funding to select up to ten new study starts when the agency develops its FY 2015 spending plan.

Lake Cachuma

In January, we arranged for Supervisor Carbajal and County staff to meet with the Bureau of Reclamation and House and Senate Appropriations Committees to discuss a variety of issues related to Lake Cachuma, including upgrades to the Federal facilities that serve the recreational users. We also assisted the County throughout the year in advocating these issues with the local Delegation. Resources to address additional facility upgrades continue to be scarce in the environment created by Federal deficit reduction efforts and the earmark moratorium.

During their meetings in Washington, DC, Supervisor Carbajal, Director McGolpin, and Deputy Director Fayram also initiated discussions regarding the impacts of the drought on Lake Cachuma, and the need for emergency relief. In the ensuing months, Deputy Director Fayram continued to pursue resources from the Bureau of Reclamation, and on August 17, Acting Bureau Commissioner Lowell Pimley announced that the agency was providing \$300,000 for emergency operations to maintain water flows from Cachuma.

Water Resources Development Act

Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), legislation is normally enacted on a two-year cycle, but Congress has struggled to adhere to this schedule since the

enactment of WRDA 2007, in part due to the ongoing moratorium on earmarking specific projects in legislation. Last year, the House approved H.R. 3080, the *Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA)*, while the Senate passed its version of the legislation as S. 601, the *Water Resources Development Act*. We lobbied House and Senate conferees regarding the County's priorities as they began to negotiate a final conference agreement on their respective bills early this year. There were significant differences between the two measures, including the mechanisms to be implemented to enable the Corps to authorize projects. In particular, we advocated against provisions that could lead to the de-authorization of projects such as Lower Mission Creek that have not yet received construction funding from the Federal government, arguing that the focus should be on a project's merits rather than lack of funding. We supported provisions directing that the Corps' vegetation management policy be reviewed and revised to take into account regional characteristics and habitat for species of concern, as well as provisions to establish a Public-Private Partnership Pilot Program to increase opportunities for non-Federal interests to support or expedite projects.

In May, conferees announced agreement on the legislation and released their compromise as H.R. 3080, the *Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA)*. The final version directs the Army Corps of Engineers to review and revise its vegetation management policy to take into account regional characteristics and habitat for species of concern, as well as provisions to streamline environmental permitting. It establishes a Public-Private Partnership Pilot Program, and increases opportunities for non-Federal interests to support or expedite projects. The measure also includes a provision to de-authorize \$18 billion in "inactive" projects that have not received USACE construction funds. This provision only applies to projects authorized before WRDA 2007, and since Lower Mission Creek's authorization was increased in 2007, the project is arguably protected. We have continued to work with Congresswoman Capps and the Corps to ensure the Lower Mission Creek is not impacted by de-authorization efforts as WRRDA is implemented.

Other Priority Projects

Despite the moratorium on Congressionally-directed spending, we apprised our local Congressional delegation of the County's other high priority projects, and arranged and participated in meetings for Supervisor Carbajal to discuss those projects during his January advocacy trip. These included the Santa Barbara County Courthouse renovation, Santa Barbara Health and Human Services campus upgrades, open space preservation and acquisition, and renovations at the Santa Barbara and Lompoc Veterans Memorial Building. We researched Federal programs that could provide potential resources and advocated for those programs through the FY 2015 appropriations process. We also monitored the appropriate Federal agencies throughout the year as they announced competitive grant opportunities, and provided information regarding those opportunities to County staff for analysis, consideration, and potential action.

Other Advocacy and Support

Drought Relief

We carefully monitored Congressional efforts to address the ongoing drought in California. Senator Feinstein and members of the California House Delegation intro-

duced a variety of bills to address the situation, and we provided these measures to County staff for analysis, highlighting provisions that might have provided assistance to the County, particularly relative to emergency operating assistance at Lake Cachuma. Early in the year the House approved Congressman Valadao's (R-CA) H.R. 3964, the *Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Emergency Water Delivery Act* by a largely partisan vote. The bill would have maintained water deliveries despite the drought conditions, but because of concerns that its provisions would damage the environment, every Democratic member of California's congressional delegation except one voted against the bill and the Obama Administration signaled it would veto the bill.

In the spring the Senate approved Senator Feinstein's S. 2198, the *Emergency Drought Relief Act*, which would have provided Federal and state water agencies with additional flexibility to deliver water where it was most needed. While earlier versions of the proposal included emergency funding for drought relief efforts, it was stripped out because of strenuous opposition from some of the more conservation members of the Senate. Although Senator Feinstein continued to seek common ground on drought legislation throughout the year, negotiations reached an impasse in the fall. While House Republicans made one last attempt by passing Congressman Valadao's H.R. 5781, the *California Emergency Drought Relief Act*, during the Lame Duck session, it remained unacceptable to Democrats and was never taken up by the Senate.

Earthquake Insurance

Senator Feinstein re-introduced her earthquake insurance proposal from the 112th Congress as S. 1813 the *Earthquake Insurance Affordability Act*, and we contacted the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs to reiterate the County's support for the legislation. The proposal sought to make earthquake insurance more accessible, thus increasing the number of insured homeowners and reducing the financial burden on taxpayers in the aftermath of a catastrophic earthquake. The committee did not schedule hearings on S. 1813, and companion legislation was not introduced in the House.

Federal Tax Intercept

We contacted the respective House and Senate committees of jurisdiction to advocate in support of legislation that would allow the interception of Federal tax refunds as a means to recover fees and judgments owed to the County. We cited the successful program implemented in California enabling the interception of State income tax refunds, which has resulted in the collection of millions of dollars in delinquent criminal restitution, fines, penalty assessments and fees. Even though Chairman Wyden (D-OR) of the Senate Finance Committee supports the proposal and had sponsored tax intercept measures in previous years, legislation was not introduced in the 113th Congress.

TO: Board of Supervisors, County of Santa Barbara

FROM: Cliff Berg, Legislative Advocate
Monica Miller, Legislative Advocate

RE: 2013-2014 State Update

DATE: November 20, 2014

The legislature has adjourned for the 2013-14 session which ends at midnight on November 30, 2014. The new session begins on December 1, 2014, at which time the newly elected members of the legislature will be sworn-in. They will return to their districts until January 5, 2015 and then begin the 2015-16 legislative session.

This past legislative session Governmental Advocates, Inc. has successfully implemented several pieces of the legislative platform. Below are details of issues that we have addressed through legislation, budget augmentations and accessing other resources in an effort to address specific needs of the County.

We successfully moved AB 65 by Assembly Member Katcho Achadjian which was a reintroduction of AB 765 from the last session. This bill was introduced at our request by the Assembly Member on behalf of our DA, Joyce Dudley and is part of the Board of Supervisor's platform. The bill has had bi-partisan support both this year and last year session. AB 765 was held in the Senate Public Safety Committee on June 28, 2011 due to concerns that the bill would create a new crime. This measure will allow the penal code to catch up with modern day life related to sexually violent crimes and allow for DA's to properly prosecute offenders. There has been some significant media around the issue that AB 65 intends to fix; the bill was signed into law on September 9, 2013.

We also worked very closely with the Legislature and the Administration to secure funding for Lake Cachuma; throughout the summer we worked closely with the Governor's staff and our delegation to achieve a fix. Our delegation was briefed regularly by the Department of Water Resources, the Department of Finance, and the Department of Public Health. While we understood that were not eligible for the current emergency drought legislation, we hoped to find a path to success. We were successful at reaching an agreement to obtain funding through various departments to ensure that Lake Cachuma could get the money needed to complete the necessary projects to ensure reliable water supply for the County.

Ground Water Bills

The three bill package has been signed and now the Administration will begin the implementation of those bills over the next several years. With Prop. 1 (Water Bond) passing easily on November 4, 2014 now all the pieces are in place to begin to move forward on the implementation of this bill package. The Department of Water Resources has put together a timeline of the implementation and they hope to stay on track with that schedule. We will continue to check-in to see where they are in the process and what the next steps and keep you updated.

Medi-Cal Expansion under the Affordable Care Act

As you know, the May Revision in 2013 clarified that the Medi-Cal Optional Expansion would be a state run program; however the Administration also stated that they planned on taking \$300 million from Counties to off-set the budget. This started a flurry of activity on behalf of CSAC in an attempt to come up with a workable formula, they finally agreed on various formulas depending upon the county and how they run their public health department. There are the public hospitals counties, the County Medical Services Counties and what are called the “non-non” or 12 others, of which Santa Barbara is due to our clinic system and how we deliver care to our indigent populations.

Unfortunately, in the very late night discussions prior to the June 15th, 2013 deadline, CSAC negotiated a deal that was very bad for Santa Barbara. As such county staff and our lobbying team went into action to brief our delegation and Supervisors. As a result of many long discussions, we successfully proved our case and the Speaker of the Assembly agreed to continue to work with us to resolve our issue. This is due in part to the Public Health Departments tireless efforts, the CEO’s office and our wonderful delegation. We were also successful at demonstrating to other counties the negative impacts with the “take” of \$300 million statewide, due to how we provide care. While it was an incredible hill to climb, we did and our message was heard, once we reached a deal with the Administration and the language was written with all parties signing off, it was determined that we would work out a deal locally and there would not be a need for a state fix. We were very pleased with the response from all of our partners in the legislature and appreciate all of their support during this process.

Bills of Interest to the County

AB 919 (Williams) This bill was a two year bill, but successfully moved to the second house in January. The bill was heard in Senate Appropriations and is currently sitting on their suspense file, its fate will be determined their first week back in August when the suspense file is taken up for a vote. The bill enables a "qualified veteran" to receive from the state a "qualified repayment" of state and local sales taxes paid to the State Board of Equalization (BOE) during the eight-year period beginning on and after April 1, 2002, and before April 1, 2010. The bill is sponsored by the State Board of Equalization and has had unanimous support to date. The bill is supported by the County and was signed on September 27, 2014.

AB 1014 (Skinner, Williams and Senator Jackson, et al.) This bill was a late “gut and amend” hoping to address the situation that occurred in Isla Vista. This bill would create a new Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) that would kick in if a family member has concerns regarding a loved one’s state of mind, therefore allowing law enforcement the legal ability to seize any weapons until the situation can better be ascertained as to the mental state of the individual in question. The County supported this bill and it was signed by the Governor on September 30, 2014.

AB 1799 (Gordon) This bill was introduced to allow for greater use of tax payer dollars. As of late, the Department of Fish and Wildlife have moved to a very aggressive form of endowments for mitigation, therefore locking up precious resources in perpetuity. Local governments are

charged with careful use of tax payer dollars and as such many believe it is an inappropriate use of those dollars to lock them up so DFW can utilize the interest earned to take care of any potential mitigation issues. The bill is not intended to have public agencies get out of covering mitigation costs, simply to use those dollars more appropriately. There are many safe guards in the bill to ensure that they are still responsible for those projects in perpetuity. The bill was referred to Assembly Local Government Committee where it passed unanimously. The bill was held on the Assembly suspense file on May 23, 2014, so the bill is now dead. There was some opposition, which we are continuing to work with to try and find a solution as there is a plan to try to reintroduce this bill next year. The bill is sponsored by the Santa Clara Valley Water District and is supported by the County.

AB 1970 (Gordon) This bill proposes to create the Community Investment and Innovation Program which will provide funding to local governments in the form of grants and other financial assistance to develop and implement greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction projects. The bill is supported by the County and had bi-partisan support to date. However, the bill was held on the Assembly Suspense file on May 23, 2014, the bill is dead for this year.

AB 2026 (Stone) This bill allows for safeguards to individual mobile home owners by decreasing their reliance on mobile home park management when attempting to sell their mobile home. The bill is supported by the County but unfortunately failed to garner the necessary votes to come off of the Assembly floor, the bill is dead for this year.

AB 2119 (Stone) This bill would authorize a county board of supervisors to levy, increase, or extend a transactions and use tax (TUT), for general or specific purposes, within the unincorporated area of the county, if the ordinance proposing the tax is approved by the qualified voters of the unincorporated area. The bill was signed by the Governor on July 18, 2014.

AB 2373 (Hernandez) This bill requires every county to provide its probation officer with the resources the probation officer needs to properly discharge his or her responsibilities or provide notification that it does not have the resources available to do so. The bill is opposed by the County, the bill was held on the Assembly Appropriations suspense file, so the bill is dead for this year.

AB 2455 (Williams) This bill changes the Community Services District Law that specifies that those boards must have 5 board members, AB 2455 would allow this special district to drop down to 3 board members until January of 2035. This will allow the District to conduct its regularly scheduled business which they are unable to do at this time. The bill is supported by the County and was signed on September 20, 2014.

SB 270 (Padilla) This bill is the compromise bill prohibiting stores from allowing single-use carry-out bags. This bill would require stores that have gross sales at a specific price point to allow customers to purchase bags, but they will not have them available for free. As mentioned, this is the compromise bill between government and industry as well as the “mom and pop” stores. This bill is supported by the County. This bill died on the Assembly floor but was revived during the last few days of session and was signed by the Governor on September 30, 2014.

SB 498 (Lara) This bill is a reintroduction of SB 801 that the county supported last year. Unfortunately, due to last minute amendments the Governor vetoed SB 801. The Senator met with stakeholders over the fall and this is the compromise bill. SB 498 will help to facilitate the development of cleaner and more efficient technologies in California for converting biomass materials into renewable energy by expanding the definition of biomass to include non-combustion conversion technology. The County is supporting the bill and was signed by the Governor on September 28, 2014.

SB 949 (Jackson) This bill establishes the Distinguished after School Health (DASH) Recognition Program within the Department of Public Health in consultation with the Department of Education, as appropriate. It allows after-school programs to apply for DASH certification by self-certifying to meeting the requirements of the program. It also requires DASH-certified programs to recertify every year. Additionally, it requires DPH to maintain and update a list of DASH-certified programs on its Internet Web site. The bill is supported by the County and was signed by the Governor on September 16, 2014.

SB 1014 (Jackson) This bill would require the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to develop regulations for programs that collect and dispose of home-generated pharmaceutical waste (HGPW). This bill would declare that a collection program in compliance with these regulations would be considered in compliance with all state laws and regulations concerning the handling, management, and disposal of HGPW. This bill is supported by the County, it died on the Assembly floor when it was taken up for a vote the last week of session.

SB 1451 (Hill) This bill would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, on or before January 1, 2016, and on or before January 1 of each year thereafter, to submit to the Legislature a report on the types and effectiveness of a representative sample of mitigation measures adopted by state and local agencies. This bill was heard in Senate Environmental Safety on April 30, 2014, where it passed, but the bill was pulled from Senate Judiciary Committee, where the bill ultimately died.

Conclusion

With the election behind us and the new session in front of us, we are ready to begin to brief our delegation on the issues that are important to the County. There were many upsets on election day, both houses lost their super majority status, the Republicans picked up a few seats and with the top two style election (meaning regardless of party affiliation, the top two elected in the June primary went on to the November general election) some solid safe members lost to another member in their party. Committee chair assignments have yet to be made; we anticipate that will be released after the new members are sworn-in. We will also start to see a number of special elections with some members winning congressional seats and therefore having to resign from their current senate seats. As always, we are available if you or your staff have any questions or would like additional details.

State 2014 Legislative Platform – Key Principles and Accomplishments

Job Growth/Economic vitality

- Support legislation that would authorize a county board of supervisors to levy, increase, or extend a transaction and use tax (TUT), for general or specific purposes, within the unincorporated area of the county. We supported AB 2119 which was signed by the Governor which would authorize a county board of supervisors to levy, increase, or extend a transaction and use tax (TUT), for general or specific purposes, within the unincorporated area of the county, if the ordinance proposing the tax is approved by the qualified voters of the unincorporated area.

Efficient Service Delivery operations

- Supported legislation that would require the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to develop regulations for programs that collect and dispose of home-generated pharmaceutical waste (HGPW). We supported both SB 727 in 2013 and SB 1014 in 2014, unfortunately they both died due to heavy opposition.
- Supported legislation which establishes the Distinguished after School Health (DASH) Recognition Program within the Department of Public Health in consultation with the Department of Education, as appropriate. It allows after-school programs to apply for DASH certification by self-certifying to meeting the requirements of the program. It also requires DASH-certified programs to recertify every year. We supported SB 949 which was signed by the Governor.

Fiscal Stability

- Opposed legislation that requires every county to provide its probation officer with the resources the probation officer needs to properly discharge his or her responsibilities ahead of any other county service or provide notification that it does not have the resources available to do so. We opposed AB 2373 which was held on the Assembly Suspense file and ultimately died.
- Worked with the legislature and the Administration to ensure the County was kept whole during the Low Income Health Program realignment. We worked with the Administration and the County delegation to get an exemption to AB 85 when we realized the devastating effects it would have on our County health care system. There was agreement to run a clean-up bill, which we ended up not needing due to a local agreement. We were the only County out of the 58 to get this exemption.
- Worked with the legislature in an attempt to reallocate the Special Distribution Fund (SDF). We supported AB 1042 which was signed by the Governor in 2013.

Interagency Collaboration

- Support legislation that changes the Community Services District Law that specifies that those boards must have 5 board members, which would allow The Santa Rita Hills Community Services District to drop down to 3 board members until January of 2035. We supported AB 2455 which was signed into law.
- Supported legislation, along with CSAC, to create the Community Investment and Innovation Program which will provide funding to local governments in the form of grants and other financial assistance to develop and implement greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction projects. We supported SB 804 in 2013 that was vetoed by the Governor; the bill was reintroduced in 2014 as SB 498 which we supported which was signed by the Governor.

Local Control

- Supported legislation to allow for better control of local funds on public works projects. We supported AB 1799 which would allow for public works to use tax payer dollars in a more efficient. Currently, Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) requires that funds for projects have an endowment attached in

State 2014 Legislative Platform – Key Principles and Accomplishments

perpetuity; we proposed some alternatives for local governments that can prove financial stability through a variety of checks and balances. The bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations committee however we are continuing to meet with the Administration to see if we can seek other remedies.

- Supported legislation to close the loophole on the Tranquillon Ridge project. We supported SB 1096 which died on the Assembly Floor that last few days of the session.

Health and Human Services

- Support for legislation that would protect our community and mentally-ill populations. We supported AB 1014 which allows for a temporary restraining order related to guns on an individual that may have some mental health issues. The bill was signed by the Governor.

Community Sustainability

- Support for state resources from the legislature, the Administration and the Department of Water Resources to address the impacts of the California drought on Lake Cachuma. We worked closely with the Administration once we assessed the drought bill package. There did not seem to be a fix for the County in that package, once we were able to educate the Administration officials of our situation they worked with us to secure funding to allow for water sustainability in the region.
- Support legislation that will help to facilitate the development of cleaner and more efficient technologies in California for converting biomass materials into renewable energy by expanding the definition of biomass to include non-combustion conversion technology. We supported both SB 804 in 2013 which was vetoed and SB 498 which was signed in 2014.
- Supported legislation that prohibits stores from allowing single-use plastic carry-out bags. This legislation requires stores that have gross sales at a specific price point to allow customers to purchase bags, but they will not have them available for free. We supported SB 270 which was signed in 2014.

Federal 2014 Legislative Platform - Key Principles and Accomplishments

Job growth

- Reauthorization of the *Workforce Investment Act* - *successful*

Economic vitality

- Reauthorization of the *Workforce Investment Act* – *successful*
- Support for the Community Development Block Grant and other Federal housing and economic development funding streams – *successfully opposed significant cuts to these programs*

Efficient Service Delivery operations

- Opposition to efforts to curtail Federal funding for Title IV-E pre-placement candidacy activities by county probation departments – *tentatively successful, pending corrective action plan*
- Support of legislation to prevent the insolvency of the Highway Trust Fund, which would have disrupted funding for local transportation and road maintenance activities – *successful*
- Reauthorization of the Debbie Smith Act, which provides grants to local public safety agencies to conduct DNA analyses of backlogged DNA samples - *successful*

Fiscal Stability

- Support of full funding for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Program – *successful*
- Support of funding for the State Criminal Alien Assistance (SCAAP) Program – *successfully supported slight increase*

Interagency Collaboration

- In conjunction with SBCAG, support for funding for the Highway 101 Lane Widening Project to add High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes between the Cities of Carpinteria and Santa Barbara – *ongoing effort*
- In conjunction with NACo, support of full funding for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Program – *successful*
- In conjunction with CSAC, advocacy to extend the comment period for the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Proposed rule to revise regulations governing the process and criteria by which the Secretary acknowledges an Indian tribe – *successful*
- In conjunction with CSAC, support of funding for the State Criminal Alien Assistance (SCAAP) Program – *successfully supported slight increase*

Local Control

- Support of provisions to ensure consideration of regional characteristics in levee vegetation management in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act – *successful*
- In conjunction with CSAC, advocacy to extend the comment period for the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Proposed rule to revise regulations governing the process and criteria by which the Secretary acknowledges an Indian tribe - *successful*

Health and Human Services

- Support of Reauthorization of the *Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act* – *successful*
- Support of funding under the Affordable Care Act to enable the County to increase access to comprehensive primary health care services - *successful*
- Support of Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act – *efforts will carry over into 114th Congress*

Federal 2014 Legislative Platform - Key Principles and Accomplishments

Community Sustainability

- Support for Federal resources from the Bureau of Reclamation to address the impacts of the California drought on Lake Cachuma – *successful*
- Support for provisions in the Farm Bill to provide funding for California County pest detection and management activities, as well as provisions enhancing resources for specialty crops - *successful*
- Opposition to proposed provisions in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act that would have led to the de-authorization of the Lower Mission Creek flood control project - *successful*
- Support for the *Homeowners Flood Insurance Affordability Act* to delay implementation of increased flood insurance premiums mandated by the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act until FEMA completes an affordability study and Congress acts on the recommendations - *successful*