



**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: 01/17/2017
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)
Contact Info: Dennis Bozanich, Deputy County Executive Officer, 568-3400

SUBJECT: 2017 Legislative Platform

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and file reports on 2016 legislative accomplishments and status of the development of the 2017 County of Santa Barbara Legislative Platform;
- b) Adopt the County's 2017 Legislative Platform; and
- c) Find that the proposed actions do not constitute a "Project" within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act, pursuant to 14 CCR 15378(b)(2), as it consists of general policy and procedure making.

- OR -

- d) Receive and file reports on 2016 legislative accomplishments and status of the development of the 2017 County of Santa Barbara Legislative Platform;
- e) If needed, provide direction to staff on amendments to the 2017 County of Santa Barbara Legislative Platform and return an amended version on January 24, 2017; and
- f) Find that the proposed actions do not constitute a "Project" within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act, pursuant to 14 CCR 15378(b)(2), as it consists of general policy and procedure making.

Summary Text:

Each year, the County identifies specific issues, projects and/or programs ("priorities") to include within the County's platform. The Legislative Program Committee ("Committee") is providing an update on

the legislative accomplishments of 2016 and the status of the 2017 Legislative Platform (“platform”) for the Board of Supervisors discussion, consideration and possible approval. If after discussion and consideration, amendments to the 2017 County of Santa Barbara Legislative Platform are recommended, staff will be prepared to return with the revised Platform at the January 24, 2017 meeting.

Once adopted by the Board of Supervisors, the 2017 Legislative Platform will be used by the County to communicate priorities to the federal and state governments. In most years, the updates from the legislative advocates and the Legislative Platform are reviewed for possible adoption by the Board in December. Given Board transitions this year, the Legislative Program Committee decided to bring the updates and platform in January

Background:

During the past year several legislative accomplishments occurred. The County’s State and Federal advocates will be presenting brief reports on the past year’s outcomes.

The development of the 2017 platform began in August, when the Committee reviewed the legislative principles, strategies and development timeline. During the development of the platform, the Committee re-affirmed the strategies and principles that guide the platform. Strategies involve funding requests, crafting new or amending existing legislation, and advocacy of program and grant funding and regulatory reform. The Legislative Principles proposed include the following (*Definitions of all of the principles may be found on Page iv of Attachment C proposed 2017 Legislative Platform*):

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

The platform includes forty-five individual planks that align with the legislative principles listed above. The planks are sorted by principle and categorized as a funding request, legislative proposal, and/or targeted advocacy. County staff works closely with our state and federal advocates, County departments, and legislative partners to develop effective strategies to address the countywide needs as well as effective strategies to address platform items.

The following planks were added or substantially revised for the 2017 County of Santa Barbara Legislative Platform:

Child Support Access to Sealed Court Files	Child Welfare Funding
Modernization of the Child Support Program	Organized Delivery System
Farm Bill	Senior Service Funding
Public Safety Funding	State Social Services Funding
Local Governance: Unincorporated Powers	Marketplace Equity & Consumer Protection
Invasive Species Program Funding	Arts & Culture
Pesticide Law Enforcement Activities	Oil & Gas Safety & Compliance
Public Safety	Organized System - Substance Abuse Treatment

The Committee reviewed a draft 2017 County of Santa Barbara Legislative Platform on November 7, 2016 and recommended that it be submitted to the Board for consideration and adoption.

Additional material for the Legislative Program Committee can be found at the following link:

<http://www.countyofsb.org/ceo/legislative.sbc>

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The Fiscal Year 2016-17 Adopted Budget includes budgeted amounts for the County's Federal advocate (Thomas Walters and Associates) and State advocates (Governmental Advocates).

The 2017 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) Federal Advocate Report
- b) State Advocate Report
- c) 2017 Legislative Platform

Authored by:

Dennis Bozanich, Deputy County Executive Officer, County Executive Office, 805-568-3400.

cc:

Tom Walters, Thomas Walters and Associates, Inc.

Cliff Berg, Governmental Advocates, Inc.

Department Directors