



**County of San Diego
SPONSORSHIP PROPOSALS
2020 Legislative Program**

STATE SPONSORSHIP PROPOSALS

I. Health and Human Services Agency

A. Adult Protective Services Information Sharing to Prosecute Elder Abuse or Neglect

Seek a change in law that would allow Adult Protective Services to share information with the City Attorney's Office for the purpose of prosecuting elder abuse cases, as well as clarify the list of law enforcement agencies to allow the FBI access to information in cases they have jurisdiction, such as in national or international elder abuse scams.

II. Finance and General Government

A. Relative Culpability

Seek a change in law that would require consideration of the relative culpability of the parties when determining liability, damages, and attorneys' fees, if applicable against public agencies.

III. Public Safety

A. Human Trafficking and the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Board Directed)

Seek a change in state law that strengthens penalties for crimes related to human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation especially for those convicted of a crime associated with human trafficking or sexual exploitation on school grounds or within 1,000 feet of a school.

FEDERAL SPONSORSHIP PROPOSALS

I. Health and Human Services

A. Refugee Impact Grant Program (Board Directed)

Seek to establish a grant that would provide funding or appropriate funding from an existing federal discretionary grant to provide assistance to government agencies and community organizations in San Diego County heavily impacted by Iraqi refugees.

B. Refugee Services: Results Based Contracting (Board Directed)

Seek a change in federal procedure that would require the federal government to adopt outcome or results based contracting practices with the organizations they fund to provide refugee services.



**County of San Diego
PRIORITY ISSUES
2020 Legislative Program**

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PRIORITY STATE ISSUES

1. JUSTICE SYSTEM REALIGNMENT AND REFORM

Over the past several years, there have been multiple legislative and voter-enacted shifts in criminal penalties and in custodial and community supervision of offenders. At the national and state level, ideas and efforts for further justice system reforms have a high level of legislative and public attention. As demonstrated by Public Safety Realignment, Proposition 47, Proposition 57, Proposition 64 and most recently, the proposed end of cash bail, changes in the law and realignment of justice system responsibilities can have a significant fiscal and operational impact on counties. Adequate funding to respond to such impacts is critical.

In 2011, the passage of State Assembly Bill 109 (Public Safety Realignment) shifted much of the state's prison population and responsibility to county jails and probation departments. Under the law, non-violent, non-serious and non-sexual offenders are housed in county jail facilities rather than state prisons and can serve portions of their sentences in the community under mandatory supervision. Also, certain inmates released from state prisons are supervised by county probation rather than state parole.

In November 2014, California voters approved Proposition 47. This voter initiative reduced penalties for multiple crimes, including commercial burglary, forgery, writing bad checks, petty theft, receiving stolen property and controlled substance possession. For example, petty thefts, including shoplifting, that are valued under \$950 are now misdemeanors and can result in a simple citation by law enforcement. Further, persons who were incarcerated at the time the proposition was approved or had previously been convicted of these reclassified crimes could petition the Superior Court to change their conviction(s) from a felony to misdemeanor.

Proposition 47 was anticipated to have a fiscal impact at both the State and local level. The largest impact is at the State level, primarily from an ongoing reduction in the prison population, creating net state criminal justice savings. These annual savings are transferred into the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund, where 25 percent of the funds go to crime prevention activities in K-12 schools, 10 percent for trauma recovery services, and 65 percent for mental health and substance use disorder treatment programs to reduce recidivism. To distribute the recidivism reduction funds, State legislation created a competitive funding process managed by the Board of State and Community Corrections. In June 2017, the County of San Diego was awarded a three-year, \$6 million grant for a regional proposal which includes programs designed by the County and the City of San Diego, City Attorney's Office.

In November 2016, voters approved Proposition 57. This voter initiative made various changes affecting the state's adult and youth correctional systems by 1) making all nonviolent offenders eligible for parole consideration, 2) expanding the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's authority to award sentencing credits to inmates, and 3) requiring that judges decide whether juveniles should be tried in adult court. The measure states that these changes are intended to protect public safety, save money by reducing spending on prisons, prevent federal courts from releasing inmates and reduce recidivism through rehabilitation. In this same year, voters changed criminal penalties for marijuana by approving Proposition 64, impacting justice system policies and practices.

In August 2018, then-Governor Jerry Brown signed State Senate Bill 10 (SB 10) that proposed to replace the cash bail system with requirements for a pretrial risk assessment and monitoring program. The statute includes required local actions to review and assess individuals within

specified time periods and allows local courts to develop criteria for pretrial actions as specified by a Rule of Court. Implementation of SB 10 is currently pending a referendum item on the November 2020 ballot. If approved by the voters, the State will provide funds to local courts to conduct pretrial assessment. The legislation outlines that pretrial assessment services may be performed by qualified local agencies through contracts with local courts. Also, the State will provide funds directly to county probation departments to provide monitoring services for individuals released pretrial. The actual costs of these required services are being developed. Other cost impacts of SB 10, which do not have a funding source identified in the legislation, are being determined.

The Legislature has also taken actions to reduce fines, fees and penalties assessed to persons in the criminal justice system. The State Legislature removed the authority for counties to assess certain juvenile justice fees after January 1, 2018 (SB 190, 2017). Several legislative proposals seeking to revise criminal justice fees and penalties are currently pending in the State Legislature. Certain criminal fine and fee revenues are used by the County to support the statutorily required and fixed Maintenance of Effort payment to the State Courts.

Strategic Initiative:

- Living Safely
- Building Better Health

Action Needed:

- a. Oppose legislation that limits the authority of counties to administer responsibilities shifted from the state to the counties, including Public Safety Realignment and other state actions, pursuant to local needs.
- b. Oppose legislation that directs or limits the authority of counties to apply resources received to administer state requirements, including Public Safety Realignment and other state actions, to address local needs.
- c. Oppose legislation that would involve further shifts of responsibilities from the state to the county level.
- d. Advocate for adequate funding for the county costs of housing and providing services to and supervision of offenders released or jailed pursuant to state actions, including Public Safety Realignment.
- e. Support legislation or administrative action that provides full funding for the required costs of providing security to the state trial courts.
- f. Support legislation that reduces the County's liability for medical care costs associated with offenders transferred to County responsibility.
- g. Oppose legislation that would make any changes to the Community Corrections Partnerships by any entity other than the County.
- h. Support legislation or administrative efforts to reduce or eliminate the fee charged by the State to counties to house fire camp inmates.
- i. Support legislation that provides local public safety partners tools to address the impact of responsibilities shifted from the state to the counties, such as, but not limited to, alternative custody options, alternatives to cash bail and required pretrial assessment processes, and caps on time spent in local custody.
- j. Support legislation that grants counties additional time to implement bail reform, as required by SB 10 (2018).
- k. Oppose legislation that would redirect savings from Proposition 47 away from counties.
- l. Oppose legislation that removes local government control over spending of State of California savings redirected to counties, as defined by the language in Proposition 47.
- m. Support legislation that would increase funding for services to misdemeanor offenders.

- n. Support legislation that would increase funding for services for justice-involved populations.
- o. Advocate for adequate funding for new responsibilities and requirements enacted by the State, including those associated with eliminating cash bail and outlining new pretrial processes.

2. JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

San Diego County has an established track record of juvenile justice system innovation. In 1996, the Board of Supervisors obtained the first grant awarded to a county by the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to develop a comprehensive strategy to prevent juvenile delinquency. The County's Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan has functioned as a blueprint for community action and collaboration and focuses on evidence-informed practices that link at-risk and justice-involved youth with the appropriate level of service and supervision.

The juvenile justice programs in San Diego County embrace positive youth development in a therapeutic and rehabilitative manner that best meet the needs of justice-involved youth in the most appropriate environment to ensure their long-term success and support community safety. The system of services includes prevention and early intervention, diversion, alternatives to detention, community-based services for youth supervised by probation and, if required, detention options designed using national best practices including the Youth in Custody Practice Model.

In 2007 and 2009, the State shifted responsibility to counties for housing certain youth in custody and supervising them in the community. Funding for this action and other juvenile justice responsibilities is now included in 2011 Public Safety Realignment. Local control of the programs and this funding is a key priority. Funding is dependent on the level of economic activity and is not tied to service need and there is a continued need for discretionary funding opportunities.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Living Safely
- Building Better Health

Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation that supports developing strategies that maximize the provision of collaborative and integrated services for at-risk youth and their families.
- b. Support funding at a level that will sustain existing and proven programs and allow for an increase in level of services to meet the needs of children and families.
- c. Support discretionary funding opportunities to augment Public Safety Realignment resources for juvenile justice services.
- d. Oppose legislation to transfer the remaining Division of Juvenile Justice population to local/county custody.
- e. Oppose legislation that would permanently close all Division of Juvenile Justice facilities.
- f. Oppose legislation that increases costs to counties for housing youth at Division of Juvenile Justice facilities.
- g. Support an effective partnership and coordinated efforts between the DJJ, probation departments and juvenile courts in the treatment and incarceration of youth committed to the DJJ, as well as local custody in lieu of DJJ custody, and support legislation which

would provide funding opportunities to the County to enhance services for this population.

- h. Support legislation to address the needs of at-risk youth and focusing on best practices in responding to emerging issues and trends in this arena.
- i. Support legislation that expedites the transfer of youth committed to DJJ from local custody.
- j. Support legislation that permits county probation departments to focus required training hours on evidence-based practices, including those that support Positive Youth Development, for justice-involved youth.
- k. Oppose legislation that changes juvenile hall eligibility criteria without full funding.
- l. Support legislation that requires the maximum length of juvenile probation terms to be based upon a validated risk-assessment tool.

3. PROPOSITION 172

In 1993, the voters approved Proposition 172, the Local Public Safety Protection and Improvement Act of 1993, permanently extending a half-cent sales tax. These revenues, dedicated to public safety agencies, mitigated but did not fully offset a \$2.6 billion shift of property taxes from counties and cities to local schools and community colleges. Special districts that provided fire and life safety services did not have property tax transferred as part of that \$2.6 billion loss. In addition, the State shifted another \$28 million from the County to Educational Revenue Augmentation Funds (ERAF) in FY 2004-05 and FY 2005-06 as part of the solution to the State budget deficit. Each fiscal year, Proposition 172 has provided less in revenue than the County of San Diego would have received if the property tax shift had not occurred.

When Proposition 172 was passed by the voters, the County of San Diego did not provide fire services, but cities in the region did. The enabling legislation passed by the State Legislature to implement Proposition 172 was written to allow both counties and cities to partially replace funding for the services that each had been provided at the time of the funding shift. More recently, the County of San Diego has invested significant non-Proposition 172 resources in fire preparedness and improved coordination of fire services in the unincorporated area through the formation of the San Diego County Fire Authority. The solution to the need for additional fire resources is not diverting necessary revenues from vital public safety services provided by the Sheriff, District Attorney and Probation Department.

Strategic Initiative:

- Living Safely

Action Needed:

- a. Oppose efforts to divert Proposition 172 funds to fire districts or cities, which would reduce resources for the County's public safety services.
- b. Assist cities and fire districts in advocating at the state and federal levels for additional fire-related resources.

4. IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) is a state mandated, county run program that provides an alternative to out-of-home care. By providing in-home assistance to low income aged and disabled individuals, the IHSS program prevents premature nursing home or board and care placement, allowing eligible residents to remain safely in their own homes.

IHSS is funded through a combination of federal, State and county funds. The number of people eligible for IHSS continues to rise as the population ages. Continued caseload growth and the resulting increase in costs for the IHSS program threaten an array of safety net services in the health, mental health and social services arenas.

Under the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI), which operated from 2014 to 2017, the State of California bore a significant portion of the cost of the IHSS program. With the end of CCI, the new Maintenance of Effort (MOE) was established with an increased baseline cost to the County.

State Funding

IHSS ranks as the third largest social service program in state government and has undergone many changes that have raised concerns and costs for local governments since the 1991 shift in program responsibility from the State to counties. Some of the changes that have taken place are:

- A change to ensure optimal federal funding participation under the federal IHSS Plus Waiver and the 1915 (i) State Medicaid Plan Option.
- Implementation of a Quality Assurance program at the county level.
- Formation of local public authorities and mandate to establish an employer of record (increasing costs for IHSS provider's wages and benefits).
- Requirement for counties to perform criminal background checks and provider enrollment activities for IHSS providers.
- Initiation of the Community First Choice Program, a federal program that impacts IHSS and brings additional workload impacts as well as a decrease in county costs.
- Implementation of the Fair Labor Standards Act for IHSS providers, which mandates the payment of overtime, wait time and travel time within specific limitations.
- Accommodations for blind and visually impaired individuals.
- Implementation of the new Electronic Timesheets Service that allows IHSS providers and recipients to submit and approve timesheets online. This service will become mandatory statewide in January 2021. The County of San Diego will begin the transition in September 2020.
- The assessment process for IHSS service hours was revised January 1, 2018, which resulted in the authorization of more service hours.
- Sick Leave for IHSS providers was implemented July 1, 2018.
- The implementation of Electronic Visit Verification in January 2021 will affect all IHSS providers and recipients and require significant staff support by the County.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Living Safely
- Building Better Health

Action Needed:

- a. Oppose increased workload and cost shifts to the County for In-Home Supportive Services programs, including further/new across the board service reductions and any new workload impacts associated with the implementation of provider overtime or other new requirements.
- b. Oppose elimination of the In-Home Supportive Services Maintenance of Effort and additional cost shifts to the County.

5. SAN PASQUAL ACADEMY

San Pasqual Academy, a first-in-the nation residential education program, opened in 2001 to meet the specific needs of adolescent foster youth and to prepare them for self-sufficiency upon exiting the foster care system. The Academy has the capacity to serve up to 184 youth between the ages of 12 to 18 years old, who are dependents and wards of Juvenile Court. Through a unique partnership of public and private agencies, the Academy offers an alternative placement option for foster youth and provides them with a stable, caring home, a quality, individualized education and preparation for independent living.

While San Pasqual Academy is licensed by the State's Community Care Licensing division as a group home, the distinctive services offered sets the program apart from other licensed congregate care facilities. Campus administrators, as well as senior volunteers serving as "surrogate grandparents" live on campus, creating a community set around the school buildings. Youth have access to health and wellness, therapeutic and independent living skills services on campus. Enrichment activities such as music lessons, intramural sports, outdoor adventures, community service, clubs, etc. are available to the youth by campus partners and philanthropic organizations. Making a long-term commitment to the youth is a part of the Academy's mission and values and graduates often return from college to reside in alumni housing during the holidays and school breaks.

State Assembly Bill 403 (AB 403), signed into law on October 11, 2015, identified home-based settings with resource families as the best placement option for youth and limits a youth's placement in congregate care settings (Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs) to a duration of six months in order to receive intensive treatment to transition to a home-based setting. Fortunately, AB 403 included language to help preserve San Pasqual Academy, recognizing that the program, though licensed as a group home, was built around a residential education environment that promotes independence and self-sufficiency while focusing on completing high school, preparing for the world of work, practicing independent living skills and developing relational permanency.

Through a Memorandum of Understanding with the California Department of Social Services, the County can continue utilizing San Pasqual Academy as an eligible foster care placement for youth under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court of San Diego from December 1, 2018 through December 31, 2021 as a pilot program. As part of the program, the Center for Public Policy at the University of California, Davis will conduct an evaluation to determine the effects associated with the placement of youth at the Academy, including program features and time spent at the Academy in relation to safety, permanency and well-being outcomes. The evaluation team will gather data on youth currently placed at the Academy as well as alumni who have transitioned from the campus. The results of the evaluation are intended to inform federal, state and local policies and practices. A preliminary report is expected in July 2020 with the final report being released in August 2021. The County will closely monitor the progress of the pilot program and evaluation in case further legislation is necessary to maintain the unique residential education program provided to foster youth at San Pasqual Academy.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Living Safely
- Building Better Health

Action Needed:

- a. Oppose legislation that would threaten the unique residential model of San Pasqual Academy as it operates today as a long-term voluntary placement option for San Diego's foster youth.
- b. Support legislation that would continue to recognize alternative placement options for foster youth to include specialized residential education programs which maintain the existing Title IV-E licensed group home funding levels for placement.

6. HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMS

The County administers or delivers health and social services to the homeless in all incorporated cities as well as the unincorporated areas of the county. The County also secures, subject to available resources, housing and care coordination for homeless residents in the unincorporated area of the County, when administering certain programs where the funding source so specifies. Funds for these services come primarily from the federal and state governments, although County general funds are also contributed. The County takes the lead where appropriate to secure federal and state resources and also works collaboratively with the non-profit community and participating cities in the completion of competitive grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and state and federal agencies for funds that would assist homeless individuals.

Housing and Homelessness Program Administrative Costs

The State has recently introduced several new programs to increase the development of affordable housing and fund activities to assist persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness. It is anticipated that the program administration expense cap of five percent will not be sufficient to cover the actual costs of administering the programs; however, not administering the programs would result in the County foregoing millions in critical funding to address housing needs and the homelessness crisis.

California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) and Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP)

CESH and HEAP are flexible funding sources to serve those experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Both programs have an administrative expenditure cap of only five percent. The County was awarded \$2.5 million in Round 1 of CESH funding and anticipates another \$1.4 million award. With the administrative expenditure cap, this amounts to less than \$200,000 to administer this \$3.9 million multi-year program. Also, the County was awarded approximately \$400,000 to administer the HEAP Round 1; however, the underfunded administrative cost issue will be further exacerbated with HEAP Round 2 funding. The County is anticipating an allocation of \$11 million based on the 2019 Point-in-Time Count.

State Senate Bill 2 (SB 2, 2017) Funding

SB 2 is an ongoing funding source providing permanent local housing allocations to counties. Preliminary estimates released by the State indicate that the County's allocation will be approximately \$1.6 million annually ongoing with five percent, or \$78,000, to administer the program. Administrative activities include procurement and contracting, monitoring, program oversight, claiming and financial reporting. The County anticipates the total annual cost for administering the program will exceed the allotted \$78,000.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Living Safely
- Building Better Health

Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation that would allocate and/or increase funding for additional permanent supportive housing for vulnerable populations for purposes of stabilization, treatment and access to supportive services.
- b. Support legislation that increases funding for homeless outreach and housing navigation efforts to vulnerable individuals.
- c. Support legislation that provides additional funding to acquire, develop or rehabilitate affordable housing and address homelessness for vulnerable populations such as veterans and older adults experiencing homelessness and persons with serious mental illness.
- d. Support legislation or administrative action that creates a budget process for housing or homelessness programs that is based on full program administrative costs.

PRIORITY FEDERAL ISSUES

1. ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) is intended to protect species that have been determined to be either endangered or threatened according to assessments of their risks of extinction. The ESA has not been reauthorized since 1992, and efforts to do so have been controversial and complex because it affects the use of federal and non-federal lands and resources, and because decline and loss of species can be seen as a harbinger of broader ecosystem decline.

There currently are more than 60 species in San Diego County listed as rare, threatened or endangered by the State and federal governments, and there are more species of concern in San Diego than in any other county in the continental United States. To reconcile the often-competing demands of environmental protection and economic development, the County has embraced the multi-species habitat conservation plan approach to protect and recover these species, utilizing the State of California's Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) program as a vehicle for the effective development of these plans. The NCCP is an unprecedented partnership among landowners, environmentalists, local governments and state and federal wildlife agencies to permanently protect entire ecosystems, while also accommodating needed economic activity. Through these efforts, the County has become an acknowledged national leader and model for the implementation of multi-species Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs). But to ensure their continued success, the following provisions must be codified:

- **Multi-Species Approach:** The most effective way to protect and recover species is through multi-species HCPs that target ecosystems rather than individual species, and in essence represent a suite of recovery actions.
- **Funding for Implementation:** A cornerstone of HCPs is funding for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (CESCF, also known as Section 6), which funds critical large land acquisitions needed for local jurisdictions to build out the plans. The land acquisitions subaccount of Section 6 was cut from \$41 million in FY 2010 to \$17.9 million in FY 2014. In FY 2018 the allocation was \$19.6 million. In FY 2019 the allocation was \$19.6 million.
- **Assurances:** Local jurisdictions must have "no surprises" assurances that they will not have to amend multi-species HCPs for newly listed or newly discovered species, or for subsequent critical habitat designations.

- **Cost/Benefit Assessment:** The ESA requires the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to consider scientific data in listing determinations, but not potential economic and social impacts on local communities. USFWS should be required to consider economic and social concerns of local communities in the listing process.

Strategic Initiative:

- Sustainable Environments/Thriving

Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation that enhances the ability to prepare and implement multi-species HCPs for a more systemic approach to compliance with the ESA.
- b. Support legislation that would provide a guarantee that, once created, a multi-species HCP would not have to be amended to take additional conservation measures even if a new endangered species were discovered in the area.

2. PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER ISSUES

San Diego County faces unique challenges due to its proximity to the international border with Mexico. As a border county, San Diego incurs additional costs not shared by non-border counties for health and social services, law enforcement and environmental impacts. The federal government must provide appropriate resources required to mitigate the impact of expenses generated by a porous international border.

Criminal Activity at the Border

The Sheriff's Department leads a regional initiative supporting intelligence-led crime suppression operations supported by Operation Stonegarden (OPSG) funds received from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. This effort has grown from six to 23 state and local law enforcement agencies working in an "all threats, all risk" layered and integrated approach to combating the multi-faceted aspects of border-related crimes. With OPSG funding, the Sheriff's Department greatly expanded its multi-agency, multi-layered border crime suppression activities, which resulted in increased highway interdiction operations and enhanced intelligence and threat information among federal, state, local, tribal and territorial law enforcement agencies. Current operations focus on coastal areas and maritime patrols, rural communities, and local surface street and freeway interdiction operations.

The OPSG grant program also funds the multi-agency "Operation Gridlock," a multi-state operation designed to disrupt the flow of narcotics into the United States. Contraband seized as a part of Operation Gridlock consisted of illegal narcotics, firearms and currency, indicating that narco-trafficking continues to be a major border security threat along the highways and coastal waterways of San Diego County. Federal grant programs directed towards border crime, such as OPSG, have enhanced intelligence information sharing and operational readiness among federal and local law enforcement agencies. However, grant programs alone are not the solution; additional resources for local law enforcement and prosecution to combat border-related crime are needed.

Ongoing and sustained OPSG funding would allow state and local law enforcement to continue to perform countywide gang sweeps, narcotic interdiction operations along highways and coastal areas, truck checkpoints on major routes in San Diego, increased aerial patrols and surveillance, weapons trafficking checks at U.S./Mexico entry points, maritime smuggling interdiction efforts, and specialized details targeting drug trafficking organizations and any criminal element that would exploit our proximity to the Mexican border in furtherance of their

criminal enterprises. Continued OPSG funding would also enable state and local law enforcement to assist in federal drug operations (including those of the Drug Enforcement Administration, Homeland Security Investigations and Border Patrol).

Strategic Initiative:

- Living Safely

Action Needed:

- a. Support efforts to modify the Operation Stonegarden grant application cycle such that grant applications are submitted for a multi-year period, instead of on a yearly basis.
- b. Support efforts to increase the nationwide Operation Stonegarden competitive grant cap.
- c. Support ongoing funding that would sustain enhanced border-related crime suppression operations conducted by state and local law enforcement agencies.

Enforcement of Federal Immigration Statute by Local Law Enforcement

Over the last several years, proposals have been introduced in Congress that would have required states and local public safety agencies to become involved in enforcement of federal immigration law. Proposals such as this would conflict with California law, which prohibits local law enforcement agencies from cooperating in enforcement of federal immigration law.

Southwest Border Prosecution Initiative (SWBPI)

Southwest Border Prosecution Initiative (SWBPI) previously reimbursed county and state governments for costs associated with the prosecution and pre-trial detention of federally initiated criminal cases declined by local offices of the U.S. Attorney. The County prosecutes these criminal cases and received reimbursement for handling these cases from 2001 until 2014. In recent years the SWBPI has been excluded from proposed Federal Budgets. It is crucial that these funds be reinstated in the future, as supported by claims for actual federally initiated cases to continue to prosecute those cases.

State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP)

For more than a decade, the last three Presidential Administrations have proposed to eliminate funding for SCAAP in the annual budget request to Congress. However, Congressional support for the program has remained high, particularly in the California delegation, and Congress has restored funding each year. SCAAP was funded in FY 2019 at \$243.5 million, which is an increase from FY 2018 funding of \$240 million, but still a reduction from a high of \$255 million in FY 2013. Even with this funding, however, actual incarceration costs for undocumented persons charged with a crime are much higher and enhanced funding is still a priority issue.

Strategic Initiative:

- Living Safely

Action Needed:

- a. Support state and federal legislation that would provide funding and/or resources for local law enforcement and the District Attorney to combat border-related crime.
- b. Support legislation to authorize and appropriate full reimbursement to the County of San Diego for its costs of apprehending, detaining, adjudicating and providing for defense of undocumented immigrants in the local criminal justice system.
- c. Support legislation that would increase Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice agency participation in existing regional task forces and

- resources dedicated to the San Diego County border to stem the flow of criminal organizations, illegal drugs, firearms and associated criminal activity into the U.S.
- d. Support legislation that would expand deployment of the California National Guard during the fire season to reduce the danger of fires caused by undocumented immigrants.
 - e. Support legislation to provide full reimbursement of verifiable Southwest Border Drug Prosecution Initiative costs for border-related arrests made within 70 km of the U.S./Mexico border.
 - f. Oppose legislation that would require states and local public safety agencies to enforce federal immigration laws and penalize them for failing to do so by withholding funding from SCAAP or other federal justice assistance programs.
 - g. Support legislation that would require the Department of Homeland Security or the Department of Justice agencies such as Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to share information with local law enforcement.
 - h. Support legislation that would require SCAAP funds to be distributed to states no later than 120 days after the last day of the annual application period for such programs.
 - i. Support legislation that would require SCAAP reimbursements to states and localities to be based on the cost of incarcerating undocumented immigrants who have been convicted or charged with criminal offenses, rather than the current reimbursement, which is based on conviction alone.
 - j. Support legislation that would seek funding to cover the burden of local hospitals, to address uncompensated emergency medical costs provided to undocumented immigrants.
 - k. Support legislation to appropriate sufficient funds to reimburse local health care providers, including ambulance providers, for services provided to indigent undocumented immigrants.
 - l. Oppose legislation considered by the Mexican Congress that would decriminalize the possession and consumption of drugs in Mexico.

3. REFUGEE ARRIVALS AND ASSOCIATED IMPACTS

San Diego County has historically received a large percentage of new refugees who enter the country and is designated by the State as a high impacted county. Over the past 10 years, San Diego County has continued to be one of the largest refugee resettlement sites in the State of California. The influx of refugees in the last decade has largely resulted from individuals and families who have come here from Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria. Most recently, the demographics of arrivals have shifted again, with many refugees in San Diego County coming from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Haiti. Each year the President sets a cap for the number of refugees allowed into the United States. From a recent high of 85,000 in FY 2016, the annual cap on refugee admissions decreased to 45,000 in FY 2018 and 30,000 in FY 2019. For FY 2020, the Administration has proposed a further reduction to 18,000.

The arrival of refugees to the County has significant impacts on several Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) programs, as well as other community services such as affordable housing, education and private healthcare, primarily based in the City of El Cajon.

The demographic characteristics present two types of challenges that could be better addressed with additional funding:

- Many of the refugees have limited English language skills, which makes it difficult to navigate application processes and creates difficulties in accessing services such as

CalWORKs. The application process is made more complicated by the lack of translators available to assist the clients.

- A culturally competent approach is necessary to serve this population. Because refugees often experience significant trauma in their country of origin, access to specialty mental health and substance use disorder treatment is also critical.

The examples provided below demonstrate that these challenges are shared across public and private sector agencies, including the public education system and the County's HHS.

- As of April 2019, there were 8,492 refugees receiving public assistance in San Diego County, 57 percent (4,886) reside in the East Region, predominately in the City of El Cajon. The El Cajon Family Resource Center (FRC) continues to experience walk-in clients, many of who are refugees requiring interpretation services. Demand for Arabic language interpreters is particularly high. In order to accommodate these clients, it has been necessary that the County make additional translation services available at the El Cajon FRC.
- The County and its partners have made efforts to increase the availability of English as a Second Language classes to meet the needs of newly arrived refugees. However, there continues to be a gap between availability and need for classes that will develop language skills in the limited time available to refugee clients receiving public assistance. Without adequate English language skills, newcomers cannot obtain employment and become successfully integrated into mainstream society.
- The local public school system reports experiencing difficulty in meeting state standards because many of the refugee school children are not proficient in English and they are failing to pass state tests.
- Public health clinics continue to see a large number of refugee patients who need immunizations and struggle to accommodate language needs.
- Local mental health agencies are reporting an increase in demand for trauma therapy and referrals.

The County receives revenue from the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement intended to help refugees seek employment and enable them to achieve self-sufficiency. However, the funding is restrictive and not all of the needs can be met with these funds. In addition to requests for more funds to provide mental health services, the County has received input from various stakeholders that more resources for education and health care translation and housing are needed to address the multiple needs of the refugee community in San Diego.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Living Safely
- Building Better Health

Action Needed:

- a. Support adequate and ongoing federal funding to meet the health needs of refugees in impacted areas.
- b. Support adequate and ongoing federal funding to provide stable and affordable housing for refugees in impacted areas.
- c. Support an increase in targeted federal funding to effectively resettle refugees and aid in assimilation.
- d. Support adequate and ongoing federal funding to increase self-sufficiency and reduce dependency on welfare and government housing programs funded by local

- governments among refugees in impacted areas, including the provision of federal resettlement benefits for longer than the current eight month time frame.
- e. Support 100 percent federal reimbursement of expenses incurred by local governments and agencies engaged in the refugee resettlement efforts, including physical and mental health services, substance use disorder treatment, education and social services.
 - f. Support a federal planning process that produces a national refugee resettlement plan, in advance of future refugee arrivals, utilizing input from the state and local government.
 - g. Support distribution of funding based on the refugee's current residence rather than his or her point of initial resettlement.
 - h. Support legislation that would require full federal funding for refugee services designed to enable refugees to become self-sufficient including language classes and job training.
 - i. Support legislation that would make current refugees responsible for the relatives whose entry they sponsor.
 - j. Support legislation that would require the federal government to adopt outcome or results based contracting practices with the organizations they fund to provide refugee services.
 - k. Support a federal plan to respond to the rise in unaccompanied alien children (UAC) arrivals that is humane, timely and responsive to the unique needs of the population and takes into account impacts to state and local government programs, including but not limited to child welfare, indigent health and mental health services.
 - l. Support legislation that would provide funding from a federal discretionary grant to government agencies and community organizations impacted by the UAC population.
 - m. Support legislation that would provide education, protection and comprehensive services for immigrants, refugees and children who are victims and/or witnesses of all types of violent crime.
 - n. Support legislation that would provide funding from a federal discretionary grant to provide assistance to government agencies and community organizations in San Diego County heavily impacted by refugees from Near East countries, including, but not limited to, Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria.
 - o. Support legislation that would provide funding for ongoing services for asylum-seeking families and allow local jurisdictions to receive reimbursement for services already provided.

4. SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The County of San Diego receives funding from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) through the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for the administration of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), known as CalFresh in California, with funding through the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, known as the Farm Bill. This bill authorized the continuation of nutrition and agriculture programs including SNAP until September 30, 2023. The SNAP/CalFresh program is the largest nutrition assistance program administered by the County and supplements income and improves access to healthy foods for seniors and families living in poverty. Changes to SNAP program eligibility would hurt already vulnerable populations in San Diego County.

One of the causes of obesity is poor nutrition. Families living in poverty often have no choice but to purchase foods that cost less, are easier to preserve, and will curb their hunger to a greater degree due to high caloric content. However, these types of foods tend to have less nutritional value. Altering nutrition habits is partly predicated on having access to healthy

foods. Seniors, children and families living in poverty often reside in neighborhoods with an abundance of convenience and liquor stores and a lack of grocery stores. Grocery stores typically offer a greater selection of fresh foods and are less expensive than smaller outlets.

Many families who have lived in chronic poverty or reside in a food desert area may not have access or resources to purchase nutritious food. To further promote healthy eating, publicly financed nutrition assistance programs should prohibit the purchase of unhealthy foods with high sugar content and no nutritional value and provide incentives for the purchase and consumption of healthy foods, including fresh fruits and vegetables. The County receives USDA funding through the State of California for the SNAP-Ed nutrition and physical education program. This program is a critical component of the County's chronic disease prevention efforts, as a part of the County's *Live Well San Diego* vision.

Improving access to nutrition assistance programs includes simplifying rules and streamlining the application process to remove unnecessary barriers for eligible low-income working families and vulnerable seniors and creating a streamlined and user-friendly environment in County facilities where residents access nutrition assistance and other services.

Strategic Initiative:

- Building Better Health

Action Needed:

- a. Support increasing the available options and improving the quality of nutritious foods provided by participating retail stores.
- b. Support legislation that allows the use of the federal hub to obtain and verify eligibility information electronically to align SNAP with the Medicaid program.
- c. Support use of an immigration status verification system, including integrating CalFresh with the federal hub used to verify immigration/citizenship status.
- d. Support requirement to verify that SNAP benefits are not being paid to deceased individuals.
- e. Support funding for government agencies to expand outreach to vulnerable populations.
- f. Support legislation that would exclude Basic Allowance for Housing and Basic Allowance for Subsistence military allowances from SNAP eligibility determination.
- g. Oppose elimination of Modified Categorical Eligibility, which allows eligible SNAP households to be determined categorically eligible.
- h. Oppose changes to limit eligibility to the Standard Utility Allowance to households receiving a Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program/State Utility Assistance Subsidy.
- i. Oppose restricting SNAP eligibility for traditional college students.
- j. Oppose termination of SNAP advertisements which would limit the ability to provide program outreach.
- k. Oppose elimination of state performance bonuses for SNAP payment accuracy, application timelines and program access.
- l. Support the inclusion of Healthy Incentive Pilots in future legislation.
- m. Support establishment of a Nutrition Incentive Matching Grant Program to collect matching funds from the Farm Bill's Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentives grant program.
- n. Support the development of a national public assistance database to prevent beneficiaries from receiving payments in more than one state.
- o. Support increasing federal funding and adding Subsidized Employment as a new component for the SNAP Employment and Training Program.

- p. Support legislation that continues the Standard Medical Deduction for the elderly/disabled.
- q. Support legislation that standardizes and aligns the percent of the federal poverty level used for the Gross Income Limit.
- r. Support legislation that keeps SNAP-Ed funding separate from the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program.
- s. Support legislation that ensures SNAP-Ed funding continues to come to state social services departments along with SNAP funding.
- t. Support legislation for SNAP-Ed funding to be based on the total SNAP eligible population in the county.
- u. Oppose legislation that would replace current federal funding of SNAP with State Block Grants.
- v. Support legislation that increases SNAP benefits for families during out of school time.

5. TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES REAUTHORIZATION

Under the welfare reform legislation of 1996, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) replaced the old welfare program known as Aid to Families with Dependent Children. TANF ended federal entitlement to assistance and instead created a block grant that provides states, territories and tribes federal funds each year. The TANF block grant funds cover benefits and services targeted to needy families and helps move recipients into work and turn welfare into a program of temporary assistance.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Living Safely
- Building Better Health
- Sustainable Environments/Thriving

Action Needed:

- a. Support TANF Reauthorization to extend the TANF Program and ensure that any local costs are commensurate with responsibility of counties.
- b. Oppose legislation to sanction individuals for failure to engage in work activities if the failure results from the inability to secure child care or after-school arrangements for a child under age 13.
- c. Oppose penalties for failure to meet standards in the administration of TANF when state and federal regulations are not aligned, or when there are factors beyond the County's control that impact the recipients' ability to meet program requirements.
- d. Oppose legislation that would ban state use of federal TANF funds to replace state or local spending for non-qualified state expenditures.
- e. Support the ban on providing assistance to families not assigning certain child support rights to the State.
- f. Support legislation to maintain or increase funding for CalWORKs Family Stabilization Program, Expanded Subsidized Employment Program, Home Visiting Initiative and CalWORKs Housing Support Program.
- g. Support legislation that provides funding for intensive case management services for vulnerable populations to achieve self-sufficiency.
- h. Support legislation to maintain domestic violence waivers for Time on Aid regulations.
- i. Support legislation that would allow life skills education (e.g., financial literacy, health and nutrition education, job readiness skills, etc.) for Welfare to Work activities.
- j. Support legislation that allows the use of the federal hub to obtain and verify eligibility information electronically to align TANF with the Medi-Cal/Medicaid Program.

- k. Support legislation that would allow former CalWORKs families whose income is at or below 85 percent of the State Median Income to enroll in Child Care Stage 3 when they are no longer eligible for Child Care Stage 1 and/or 2 to help provide child care continuity for families working towards self-sufficiency.
- l. Support legislation that would exclude Basic Allowance for Housing and Basic Allowance for Subsistence military allowances from TANF eligibility determination.
- m. Support legislation that would allow more flexibility to establish Diversion Program payment amounts based on local needs in order to divert CalWORKs applicants from long-term aid.

6. AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

In 2010, the federal government enacted the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA). The law established comprehensive health reforms related to coverage, costs and care with the goal of increasing the number of Americans with insurance, as well as cutting the overall costs of health care to individuals and families.

There have been multiple attempts by Congress to “repeal and replace” the Affordable Care Act under the rules of the Budget Reconciliation Process. Each of these attempts failed; however, the current Administration continues to seek changes to ACA such as freezing risk adjustment payments and reducing funding for outreach enrollment navigators. Additional attempts are expected to continue.

One of the major components of coverage under ACA is the expansion of the Medicaid program, known as Medi-Cal in California. This expanded population of single adults encompasses individuals who have been involved in the criminal justice system and who can now access physical and behavioral health services to assist in their reentry into the community. In FY 2018-19, over 730,000 residents in San Diego County, or 1 in 5, received Medi-Cal. Of these, nearly 240,000 would lose their health care benefits should the ACA Medicaid Expansion be eliminated.

The State of California’s Medi-Cal County Inmate Program implements a provision of federal law which allows the claiming of Medicaid funds at a medical facility located off the grounds of the correctional facility for an expected stay of more than 24 hours and the inmate is found to be Medicaid eligible. Eligible costs were incurred beginning January 1, 2014; however, no retroactive claiming process has been established by the State.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Building Better Health

Action Needed:

- a. Oppose legislation that would shift costs from Medicaid to local government.
- b. Support legislation that allows administration of medical procedures at residential and outpatient treatment facilities, including relevant medication therapies, when under the supervision of a licensed medical practitioner.
- c. Support legislation that ensures the timely and adequate payment by Managed Care Health Plans to Skilled Nursing Facility providers for care provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries.
- d. Support legislation that would limit counties indigent health care responsibilities to individuals ineligible for Medi-Cal or subsidized coverage through the Health Benefits Exchange.

- e. Oppose legislation that would shift funding needed to provide indigent care from counties to the State.
- f. Support legislation that would allow community-based organizations to be reimbursed as Medicare providers for care transitions and health promotion services.
- g. Support legislation that would streamline and connect technology and data systems essential for the Affordable Care Act in order to process information and applications in a timely manner.
- h. Support legislation and funding to facilitate the enrollment of persons leaving County custody and persons supervised by Probation in the community into Medi-Cal and/or other health insurance options.
- i. Support legislation that implements a retroactive Medi-Cal County Inmate Program reimbursement process.
- j. Support legislation that would allow Medi-Cal coverage for local inmates participating in step-down reentry programs.

PRIORITY STATE AND FEDERAL ISSUES

1. WIRELESS EMERGENCY ALERTS

Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) is a public safety system that allows customers who own an enabled mobile device (newer phone models have WEA enabled hardware and software installed) to receive text-like messages alerting them of imminent threats to safety in their area. WEA was established pursuant to the Warning, Alert and Response Network Act of 2006.

WEA enables government officials to target emergency alerts to specific geographic areas through cell towers, which push the information to dedicated receivers in WEA-enabled mobile devices. WEA complements the existing Emergency Alert System which is implemented by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through broadcasters and media service providers.

Wireless companies volunteer to participate in WEA. WEA is the result of a unique public/private partnership between the FCC, FEMA and the wireless carrier industry with the objective of enhanced public safety. Participating wireless carriers were required to deploy WEA by April 7, 2012. Today authorized national, state or local government officials can communicate alerts regarding public safety emergencies, such as a flash flood warning or a terrorist threat through WEA.

WEA authenticates the alert, verifies that the sender is authorized and sends it to participating wireless carriers. Customers do not pay to receive WEA alerts. Customers of participating carriers are automatically signed up, such that no action is required to “opt in” to receiving the messages. WEA allows government officials to send 90 character emergency alerts to all subscribers with WEA-capable devices of participating wireless carriers.

Alerts from WEA cover critical emergency alert messages. Consumers will receive three types of alerts:

- 1. Alerts issued by the President
- 2. Alerts involving imminent threats to safety or life
- 3. Amber Alerts

After participating wireless carriers push the alerts from cell towers to mobile devices in the affected area, the alerts appear as text-like messages on mobile devices. Alerts are geographically targeted, so a customer living in Los Angeles would not receive a WEA alert message for an emergency in downtown Los Angeles if they happen to be in San Diego when the alert is sent. Similarly, someone visiting Los Angeles from San Diego on that same day would receive the alert. Again, this requires a WEA enabled mobile device, participation by the wireless carrier and the customer hasn't opted out of receiving messages.

The FCC recently enacted rule changes that require participating wireless providers, by November 30, 2019, to deliver alerts to an area (as specified by the alert originator) with no more than .10 mile overshoot. Additionally, there was an FCC compliance deadline to extend the length of alert messages from 90 to 360 characters and to support Spanish-language alert messages by May 1, 2019. This deadline was not met and the deadline for the increase in characters and the Spanish language system upgrade was extended indefinitely.

WEA and San Diego

During past disasters which included mass evacuation, San Diego County has relied heavily on a mass notification system populated with listed and unlisted landline telephone numbers. As more and more people in our community and nationwide drop landline phone service in favor of cell phone only service, traditional mass notification systems are slowly becoming less effective. These systems require residents to proactively register their mobile phones and participation around the country is dismal. WEA, on the other hand, requires no proactive "opt-in." In the years to come WEA will be a primary means of mass notification and therefore investment and improvements in the system are critical.

The County of San Diego, which is 4,206 square miles, or roughly the size of the state of Connecticut, encompasses a large geographical area such that alert and warning messages broadcast to the entire county population is largely irrelevant to most residents. Flash floods, fires and other hazards often impact only a small subset of our county's population. San Diego County joins New York City and other major metropolitan areas with dense urban populations in urging the FCC to continue enacting rule changes that further refine the precise geo-targeting of WEA alerts. Precise alert and warning is necessary to avoid over-alerting and unnecessary evacuations.

Any WEA evacuation notice issued by a federal entity should be coordinated with local officials. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) automatically issues pre-scripted messages for flash flooding, tsunamis and other warnings. The local National Weather Service office has no control or ability to adapt the messages. These messages are problematic particularly in the case of the tsunami warning Wireless Emergency Alert, which directs people to, "Go to high ground and move inland." Because of the extensive "bleed over" with WEA messaging, a significant potential exists for over evacuations. History in San Diego indicates that most tsunami waves pose little danger beyond the immediate coast. Pre-scripted messages sent from a national office – and directing potentially unnecessary evacuations – pose a real and significant risk to public safety.

Strategic Initiative:

- Living Safely

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation that requires wireless carriers to participate in WEA and comply with WEA requirements.

- b. Support legislation and/or Rule changes that will allow for more precise geo-targeting, to at least .10 mile.
- c. Support legislation and/or Rule changes that prohibit national organizations from initiating a local evacuation through WEA messages without the approval of local emergency managers unless it is a matter of national security ordered by the President.
- d. Support legislation or administrative action that directs NOAA to allow local National Weather Service office personnel to devise WEA messages rather than sending “pre-scripted” messages from a national office.
- e. Support expansion of WEA messages to include images such as an evacuation area map.
- f. Support upgrades to WEA which will allow alerts to be sent in Spanish.

2. CONTINUED FUNDING

Adult Abuse

The Elder Justice Act, passed in 2010, provided authority to implement a comprehensive national strategy to address elder abuse, neglect and exploitation, yet there is still an unmet need for a system to coordinate elder abuse prevention, response and assistance activities. An estimated 10 percent of older Americans (approximately 5 million people) experience one or more forms of abuse each year, and that number is expected to increase as the senior population grows. Sustained state and federal funding for Adult Protective Services (APS) would enable counties to adequately investigate the continuing increase in the number of reports of abuse perpetrated against elder and dependent adults. Key provisions of the federal Elder Justice Act include:

- Direct funding for APS to enhance, not supplant APS services provided by local realignment funding.
- An Advisory Board on Elder Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation to create a multidisciplinary strategic plan for elder justice.
- An Elder Justice Resource Center as a central repository for information and data regarding elder abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- Funding for training technical assistance, demonstration programs and research to improve ombudsman effectiveness and capacity in addressing elder abuse, neglect and exploitation.

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation to provide full funding for Adult Protective Services to enable counties to adequately investigate the reports of abuse perpetrated against elder and dependent adults.
- b. Support legislation that would enact and fully fund the Elder Justice Act to address elder abuse issues and build the capacity of Adult Protective Services programs at the local level.
- c. Support legislation that would provide adequate funding for programs that address elder abuse, including the Social Services Block Grant.
- d. Support legislation that establishes a federal definition of elder abuse.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program supports funding for carrying out a wide range of community development activities directed toward revitalizing neighborhoods and providing improved community facilities and services.

CDBG provides annual grants on a formula basis to entitled counties and cities. In FY 2010-11, the County's entitlement allocation was \$5,076,476. For FY 2019-20, the County received an allocation of \$4,150,987. CDBG funding has been substantially reduced over the past several years resulting in less funding available to address critical community development projects funded through the CDBG program.

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support funding for the CDBG program at FY 2010-11 levels of \$5,076,476.
- b. Oppose legislation that would reduce the portion below 20 percent of CDBG funds that may be used for administrative expenses.
- c. Support legislation that provides increased CDBG funding for projects that improve and/or rehabilitate facilities aimed towards improving the quality of life for senior citizens, disabled individuals and youth, such as parks, Boys' and Girls' Clubs, safe routes to schools and senior centers.

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

CSBG is a federal block grant which funds the operation of a state-administered network of local Community Action Agencies (CAA) that develop anti-poverty strategies, working with economically disadvantaged individuals to achieve self-sufficiency and to improve the conditions of the communities in which they live. The County of San Diego Community Action Partnership (CAP) is the CAA responsible for administering CSBG funds locally. Key programs funded by CSBG in San Diego County include:

- Communities in Action, regionalized programs to provide targeted services to very low-income communities and the residents that live there, including comprehensive family assessments, stabilization services for individuals and families in crisis, assistance to accessing and navigating social and other services, and leadership training and support for resident-driven community improvement projects.
- School Based Youth Self-Sufficiency Program at O'Farrell Community School that provides supportive services to children and their families living in Southeastern San Diego to move toward self-sufficiency.
- Interfaith Shelter Network, which provides emergency shelter to homeless individuals through a network of congregations located throughout the San Diego region.
- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Coalition, which promotes participation in the EITC program and offers free tax preparation and referral to local resources.
- Resident Leadership Academy, a comprehensive training program to equip grassroots leaders in low-income communities to identify important needs and work collaboratively towards solutions with multiple stakeholders.
- Project MOST, offering training and technical assistance to small, minority-owned businesses serving low-income communities and residents.
- Connect2Careers, a youth work readiness and job experience program, which CAP helps to expand to economically and socially disadvantaged youth throughout San Diego County.

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support the reauthorization and continuing funding for CSBG programs to adequately support the efforts funded through CSBG.
- b. Maintain block grant structure with emphasis on state and local control of activities to ensure flexibility to address specific local needs identified through community assessments, which the County conducts bi-annually as part of the development of a Community Action Plan.

- c. Allow states to move CSBG eligibility criteria up to 200 percent of federal poverty level.
- d. Enhance funding levels and increase opportunities for competitive grants to eligible Community Action Agencies to pilot innovative ideas in addressing the conditions of poverty.

Domestic Violence

The federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) provides funding for key programs in the San Diego region including:

- Victim-Witness Assistance Program of the District Attorney – This program provides important information as to how the justice system works and keeps victims informed of the status of their case. Victim advocates provide comprehensive services to crime victims regardless of whether a suspect has been identified or if the crime is a misdemeanor or felony.
- The San Diego region benefits from other VAWA funded programs, including the San Diego Family Justice Center and the Volunteer Lawyers Program. The federal government's continued support of these local programs through the VAWA grants is critical to ensuring that these services, tailored to meet the needs of the community, remain available for victims.

In addition to the federal programs, the region has benefited from state funded domestic violence programs. Domestic violence shelter-based services in the County are dependent on grants administered by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services' (Cal OES) comprehensive statewide domestic violence program. The State Department of Public Health funded two domestic violence prevention programs in 2018, but does not fund domestic violence shelters. As a result, local domestic violence shelters have limited funding to serve victims of domestic violence, including children. Services currently provided include emergency shelter, counseling, advocacy, child care, housing assistance, parenting skills education, emergency food and legal assistance to help victims re-establish their lives and succeed.

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation that would provide and/or increase funding to support domestic violence programs.
- b. Support the reauthorization and/or funding for the Violence Against Women Act at a level that would sustain existing programs funded and increase the level of services supported by the Act.
- c. Support funding for the Shelter-Based Service Grant Program of the Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Division of the State Department of Public Health and the comprehensive statewide Domestic Violence Program of Cal OES.
- d. Support legislation to provide funding for programs and services that would help prevent the occurrence of domestic violence incidents in at-risk families and recurrence of domestic violence incidents in high-risk families.
- e. Support funding for teen relationship violence education programs, including programs that begin in elementary schools.
- f. Support legislation that would provide funding to support existing domestic violence programs and to increase the level of services that provide critical victim supports and perpetrator accountability.
- g. Support legislation that provides funding to cover the cost of evidentiary exams of individuals who are victims of sexual assault.

Prescription and Illicit Drug Misuse

Methamphetamine abuse and the abuse of prescription drugs, including opioids, continues to adversely affect the region. In 2017, there were over 360 methamphetamine-related deaths. Approximately 37 percent (4,911) of the admissions to publicly funded substance abuse treatment programs in 2017 identified methamphetamine as the primary drug of choice. Also, sample drug testing conducted by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) of adults at the time of booking in county facilities reflected that 55 percent of males and 58 percent of females tested positive for methamphetamine.

In addition to the use of methamphetamines, there were over 270 opioid/prescription drug caused deaths in 2017. According to a SANDAG study of juveniles arrested in 2017, 50 percent of juvenile arrestees in San Diego County reported they had abused prescription drugs in their lifetime and continued to report prescription drugs are easy to obtain. Also, fentanyl, a synthetic opioid that is stronger than morphine, was present in 87 deaths in San Diego County in 2017.

Marijuana use by youth is a risk. According to the California Healthy Kids Survey results for 2017, 15 percent of 11th graders reported smoking marijuana in the last 30 days and nearly half of youth in non-traditional schools reported using marijuana in the previous month. Of youth reporting having used marijuana, seven percent of 11th graders and 21 percent of youth in non-traditional schools reported they have tried to stop using marijuana. According to SANDAG's study of juveniles arrested in 2017, over half stated that marijuana was the first substance they ever tried and 90 percent said marijuana was easy or very easy to obtain. Further complicating the issue are the numerous marijuana-based food products, called edibles, which include snacks and beverages readily available in the marketplace. Edible marijuana products are absorbed through the digestive system with the potency gradually increasing over time and a duration of the effect lasting from two to four hours.

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation that would expand capacity to offer culturally competent and linguistically appropriate, methamphetamine and prescription specific drug treatment and detox services.
- b. Support legislation to fully fund methamphetamine and prescription specific drug treatment and prevention programs.
- c. Support legislation that expands substance use disorder treatment for local jurisdictions, especially to enhance opioid addiction treatment.
- d. Support legislation that provides funding for counties to install secure and locked drop off boxes where unused medications can be safely disposed of, including funding for appropriate destruction of the medications.
- e. Support legislation that seeks to strengthen prescription drug monitoring programs and fraud prevention.
- f. Support legislation that requires marijuana food and beverage labeling with consumer protections, which include contents and dosage information.

Older Americans Act Reauthorization

Support the reauthorization and continued funding for Older Americans Act (OAA) programs to adequately support the aging programs authorized within this Act. The OAA programs enable the County to provide caregiver respite support, health and balance classes, such as Feeling Fit and Tai Chi, minor home modifications and serve more than one million meals a year to older adults. Key programs funded by this Act for San Diego County include:

- Long-Term Care Ombudsman and Elder Abuse Prevention

- Elderly Nutrition Program, which provides both congregate and home-delivered meals
- Social Service programs, including Home and Community-Based Care, Adult Day Programs and other services
- Evidence-based Health Promotion/Disease Prevention
- Family Caregiver Support
- Senior Employment

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation to provide adequate funding for programs authorized under the Older Americans Act, with consideration given to caseload growth, cost-of-living adjustments and equitable distribution of funds to those areas with large senior populations, to adequately serve increasing senior populations based on up-to-date census data.
- b. Support legislation that would provide funding for programs and support services that allow older adults to age in their homes.

3. FIRE PREVENTION

Fire season in California is year-round. Fifteen of the 20 largest California wildfires have taken place since 2002, three of which were in San Diego County. Notably, the San Diego region was devastated by two major wildfires in October 2003 and October 2007. Significant fire events also occurred in San Diego County in 2014, 2017 and 2018. Addressing the threat of wildfire to public safety is an ongoing priority for fire agencies.

Due to the history of catastrophic wildfires in the region, the County of San Diego has continued to target reducing the risk of wildfires by improving local policies and codes and implementing innovative programs to help residents prepare for the next disaster. The County employs a comprehensive approach to fire protection, which includes areas of focus such as fire suppression (expanding coverage and purchasing equipment), fire and building codes, defensible space, land use planning, and community engagement through education and outreach.

In 2019, the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors approved and created the Community Risk Reduction Division (CRR) within the San Diego County Fire Authority. This division focuses on neighborhood-level fire preparedness. CRR works community-by-community to implement a cohesive pre-fire strategy through public education, defensible space inspections, structure hardening programs, fuel management projects and evacuation preparedness. These tasks are large, but worthwhile and necessary in reducing loss due to wildfire.

While the County has made, and continues to make, significant investments in improving fire protection and resources for the public over the past decade, wildfires continue to be a threat to residents, businesses and the environment. The most disastrous wildfires typically occur when weather, terrain and vegetation conditions align. Ignition source and vegetation management are two common components where public efforts can help mitigate the risk of wildfires. The State and County continue to expand outreach efforts related to defensible space, wildfire preparedness through home hardening, and the importance of being wildfire ready. In addition, the County continues to research and expand programs to assist the most vulnerable communities. The State and the County have also continued to improve the fire and building codes to reduce the possibility of wildfire ignition.

In the wildland fire environment, pest outbreaks, such as bark beetle and Golden Spotted Oak Borer (GSOB), add to hazardous fuel conditions. These outbreaks have resulted in widespread infestation levels throughout San Diego County. While GSOB has infested tens of thousands of acres of oak woodland in San Diego County alone, the aggressive Kuroshio Shot Hole Borer and Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer have killed thousands of landscapes, agricultural (avocado), riparian and native trees. With the loss of overstory trees, grass and shrubs are beginning to colonize these sites resulting in an increase in fuel continuity and flammability. Managing and mitigating these hazardous fuels to minimize fire ignitions, especially before hot, dry and windy weather conditions, is vital for the fire service.

Given worsening conditions in the fire environment, there will always be a need for further state and federal action to allow for coordination and management of hazardous fuels and for increasing fire protection for public safety.

The State's investor-owned electric utilities, including San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E), may shut off electric power, referred to as "de-energization" or Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS), to protect public safety under California law. San Diego County has experienced nine PSPS events since 2017, impacting thousands of County residents.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is currently in the process of engaging local communities to create rules around utilities' de-energization processes and practices, including utility communication and notification protocols, the impacts on communities and vulnerable populations and efforts to reduce the need for de-energization. The County has been active in this statewide conversation and intends to continue sharing local best practices to assist in the development of final CPUC guidance. Priorities include ensuring that utilities, not local governments, are responsible for customer alert and warning of power shutoffs, ensuring utilities provide power resources, such as charging stations and/or reception centers, for vulnerable populations during power shutoffs, and regular communication about power status to local first responders and critical infrastructure.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Living Safely
- Sustainable Environments/Thriving

State Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation that amends the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to update provisions with the science of forestry.
- b. Support legislation to establish a year-round fire season, including adequate year-round staffing.
- c. Support continued increased funding and additional staffing for CAL FIRE's vegetation management program.
- d. Support legislation to continue the Governor's Executive Orders to improve fire protection until permanent funding for a year-round fire season is established that includes supplemental helicopter staffing and additional firefighter staffing budgeted in the CAL FIRE San Diego budget.
- e. Oppose legislation that imposes any additional state fees or taxes on property and structures in the State Responsibility Area (SRA) for fire prevention or protection.
- f. Support legislation that would increase the stump diameter of trees exempted from timber harvest plans that landowners may harvest near legally permitted structures to reduce the threat of wildfire.

- g. Support legislation or administrative actions that require power companies to accommodate residents who are power dependent through charging stations and overnight shelters during Public Safety Power Shutoff events.
- h. Support legislation or administrative actions that require power companies to provide alert and warning to customers before, during and after Public Safety Power Shutoff events.
- i. Support legislation or administrative actions that require power companies to prioritize Public Safety Power Shutoff notifications to local first responder and local public safety agencies, rather than State agencies.
- j. Support legislation or administrative actions that will require mobile telephony companies to notify local first responders when a Public Safety Power Shutoff results in degraded phone services in areas without power.
- k. Support legislation that would improve the affordability and accessibility of comprehensive fire insurance for policy holders residing in high or very high fire risk areas.
- l. Support legislation that improves the California FAIR Plan for fire insurance and addresses insurance companies that do not renew fire policies.

Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation to continue the waiver of a local match to receive funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the United States Forest Service to remove dead, dying or diseased trees.
- b. Support legislation or regulations to exempt activities to remove dead, dying or diseased trees caused by insects or drought from compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and Timber Harvest Plan requirements, when a corresponding state exemption has been ordered by the Governor.
- c. Support legislation and administrative action to allow the use of Next Generation Air Tankers at the Ramona Air Attack Base.

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation that provides funding for enhanced fire prevention activities, including vegetation management and removal of dead, dying or diseased trees.
- b. Support legislation that would facilitate expedited environmental review of fuels management projects to protect life and property.
- c. Support legislation that reduces community wildfire risk and/or strengthens community resiliency following a major wildfire.
- d. Support legislation that provides for expedited environmental regulations relating to the management of vegetation through strategic treatment on both public and private lands.
- e. Support legislation that authorizes controlled burning on public lands and improved access roads in remote areas to include an exemption from environmental laws and regulations while taking steps to protect public health and minimize adverse environmental impacts.
- f. Support programs or funding that increase fire prevention or fire suppression activities on state or federal lands.
- g. Support legislation or administrative actions that fund fire prevention activities for individuals or communities through defensible space, home hardening and wildfire readiness.
- h. Support legislation that would continue grant funding directed to local fire agencies for equipment and infrastructure purposes.

- i. Support legislation that would strengthen state and federal laws related to interfering with a firefighter's ability to extinguish a fire by adding penalties for operating an unmanned aircraft or drone that interferes with firefighting efforts.

4. WATER QUALITY PERMITS, UNFUNDED MANDATE REQUIREMENTS AND DEFINITIONS OF REGULATED WETLANDS AND WATERS

Federal and state regulations require that municipalities obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Under this permit each municipality must develop a stormwater management program to control the discharge of pollutants into and from the publicly operated storm drain system to protect local waters. A San Diego Municipal Stormwater Permit (Permit) has been in place for nearly 30 years, during which time it has become increasingly stringent. The 21 Copermittees, which include the County, the 18 incorporated cities in the San Diego region, the San Diego Unified Port District and the Regional Airport Authority, currently spend over \$140 million annually to maintain compliance with Permit requirements. Costs to local businesses are also significant but have not been reliably quantified. The Clean Water Act also leaves municipalities vulnerable to regulatory fines and third-party lawsuits.

The San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) most recently reissued the Permit in 2013 to include a far-reaching Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) regulation. The TMDL establishes a very aggressive timeline to restore water quality to pristine, pre-development levels in eight highly urbanized San Diego watersheds and imposes unattainable limits on the amount of bacteria allowed at beaches and creeks. The stated purpose of the TMDL is to protect public health and it is true that elevated bacteria levels have been shown to correlate with increased risk of water-related illness under certain conditions. However, the TMDL fails to distinguish between bacteria from uncontrollable natural sources such as wildlife, birds and natural decomposition and other more harmful bacteria such as human fecal waste. It has been estimated that the regional cost to attempt to comply with the currently unattainable Bacteria TMDL could be more than \$1 billion over a 20-year compliance period. These costs would largely be additive to the existing compliance costs noted above.

The adopted Permit does include a "reopener" provision, which allows the TMDL requirements to be modified if the Regional Board is presented with evidence demonstrating the need to do so. To this end, the County of San Diego and collaborators spearheaded the Surfer Health Study, the first ever wet weather epidemiology study for coastal waters. The study addresses the core question of health risk to people recreating in the ocean during and after wet weather. The Surfer Health Study found illness risk rises when surfers enter the water following wet weather runoff events. However, gastrointestinal illness risk at San Diego County beaches was observed to be within the limits of what U.S. EPA considers "acceptable" in its Recreational Water Quality Criteria. Moreover, the study identified the primary illness-causing agent to be human sewage, which could be an indication that leaking sanitary sewers or homeless encampments are the most significant cause of beach impairment rather than the typical land uses managed under stormwater programs. These results support the County's recommendations to revise the Bacteria TMDL to focus on mitigating sources of human fecal waste, which pose the greatest threat to illness risk among swimmers and surfers.

The Regional Board has since acknowledged that TMDL implementation resources should be prioritized to address high risk sources of human fecal waste; however, to date, it has declined requests to "reopen" the TMDL until more is known about the specific sources of human fecal waste detected in local watersheds. Until TMDL or Permit language is changed, responsible

parties will remain accountable for achieving unattainable fecal indicator bacteria limits. The first compliance timeline comes due in April 2021.

The State Water Board also regulates wetlands and “Waters of the State” under the federal Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne). The State Water Board recently adopted new “Procedures for Discharge of Dredge or Fill Materials to Waters of the State” (Procedures) to: strengthen protections for waters of the state that are no longer protected under the federal Clean Water Act; address inconsistency across Water Boards in requirements for discharges of dredge or fill material into waters of the state; create a single wetland definition at the state level; and prevent the loss of quantity and quality of wetlands in California. The new wetland definition from the Procedures increases the number of areas considered to be a wetland. The Procedures change the wetland definition at the state level by allowing areas to be considered a wetland even if wetland vegetation is lacking. The Procedures also include new application requirements with an extensive section on potential requirements that can be requested on a case by case basis. These changes will make the process more confusing, subjective, time consuming and expensive.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers currently regulates “Waters of the U.S.” under the federal Clean Water Act. The definition establishing what qualifies as a “Water of the U.S.” has been in place for 25 years, but interpretation of federal jurisdiction has expanded and contracted over the years. The definition of “Waters of the U.S.” is important because it determines where federal agencies have jurisdiction. It affects both private and public development projects and maintenance activities as they must comply with water quality standards and would need to obtain agency permits for any dredge or fill activity. This could affect the County’s ability to control vegetation overgrowth in County-maintained/operated ditches and flood control channels and to comply with TMDLs, because when drainage features get defined as “Waters of the U.S.,” the additional rules leave fewer options available for maintenance and installing water quality treatment systems.

The U.S. EPA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers published The Clean Water Rule: Definition of Waters of the United States (Clean Water Rule) in the Federal Register on June 29, 2015 and the rule became effective on August 28, 2015. On October 9, 2015, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit stayed the Clean Water Rule nationwide pending further action of the court. On February 28, 2017, the President signed an Executive Order on “Restoring the Rule of Law, Federalism and Economic Growth.” As a result of this Executive Order, the U.S. EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers reviewed and subsequently released an official proposal to roll back the Waters of the United States Rule. In August 2018, a federal judge in South Carolina issued an injunction on the Administration’s efforts to delay the controversial 2015 rule, deeming it “in effect” in California and several other states.

Although the U.S. EPA and Army Corps of Engineers assert that they have no intention of expanding jurisdiction under the CWA, the language in the Clean Water Rule is not clear and concerns have been raised that it could be interpreted to expand federal jurisdiction. Other concerns include the potential impact on TMDL compliance, the use of vague terminology, the new definition for tributaries, and a lack of clear exemptions for water conveyance features, ditches, flood control channels and water quality treatment features.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Sustainable Environments/Thriving
- Operational Excellence

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support federal and state efforts to align the State Water Code with the federal Clean Water Act, and support legislation that seeks to define limits for further regulatory requirements imposed beyond the maximum extent practicable (MEP) standard.
- b. Support efforts to modify receiving water limitation language included in permits so that compliance is controlled by regulatory agencies and not third party lawsuits.
- c. Oppose any stormwater effluent standards or limitations more stringent than the provisions of the federal statute.
- d. Support federal and state efforts to require science-based justification and a cost-benefit analysis to be completed before approval of rulemaking or regulatory requirements.
- e. Support federal and state efforts to require and strengthen local participation and input for water quality goals and regulatory programs.
- f. Oppose federal and state efforts that would restrict or dilute local control and accountability.
- g. Support legislation and amendments to federal and state regulations that would improve the regulation of water quality at the state and regional level by increasing the pool of qualified candidates who can serve on boards that issue water quality permits.
- h. Support federal and state efforts to reaffirm that only Congress and the State Legislature have the authority for Clean Water Act related rulemaking legislation and oppose federal and state actions that allow federal and state agencies to make changes to Clean Water Act related statute or promulgate rulemaking through internal guidance or processes.
- i. Support federal efforts to further the implementation of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) of 1995, and state amendments to the California Constitution to more clearly specify what qualifies as an unfunded mandate.
- j. Support federal and state efforts that would codify and standardize the procedure to account for the true costs of federal and state mandates.
- k. Support federal and state efforts that would provide funding for NPDES and TMDL compliance and implementation efforts.
- l. Support legislation that would protect waters of the state and improve the quantity and quality of wetlands, while also ensuring that procedures are clear, concise, consistent and strike the appropriate balance between environmental protection and future use and development.
- m. Support legislation that would maintain protection under the federal Clean Water Act, while also ensuring that any new definition does not expand federal jurisdiction, fully addresses the impacts to TMDL requirements and includes exemptions for water infrastructure.

5. HOMELAND SECURITY/ANTI-TERRORISM/DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

The devastating fires of 2003 and 2007 in San Diego County, other natural and manmade disasters and our nation's ongoing war on terrorism continue to make protecting our region a high priority. Local governments are integral components in homeland security and emergency management, and the federal government must provide significant resources to local governments so that they can prevent and respond to terrorist attacks, as well as mitigate and respond to disasters.

Public Safety

The San Diego region relies upon Homeland Security funds from five major Homeland Security grant programs. These funds have been used to improve our region's ability to respond to both

natural and manmade disasters. Previous key projects and accomplishments include upgrades to our communication infrastructure, development of a regional terrorism threat assessment center, implementation of our mass notification system, Alert San Diego, and providing critical equipment and training for first responders.

San Diego's Unified Disaster Council has established a set of four priorities in its strategic plan, which sets forth a clear focus for our region in the upcoming years. These four priorities are:

1. Expand the culture of preparedness.
2. Strengthen the Operational Area's Catastrophic Response Capabilities and capacities at all levels of government.
3. Prepare for advanced recovery.
4. Incorporate Access and Functional Needs in all preparedness response and recovery efforts.

The region has conducted an extensive risk analysis and understands our most critical gaps in relation to our greatest risks. Funding for planning related to the response to and recovery from a complex coordinated terrorist attack, donations management, mass evacuation and lifeline resiliency remains a critical need for the region. Efforts to integrate considerations into disaster plans for people living with access and functional needs also remains a top priority. State law now broadly defines these population groups and planning requirements; Homeland Security Grant Program funding is needed to enhance disaster planning and processes for people living with physical, developmental or intellectual disabilities, chronic conditions or injuries, limited English proficiency, older adults, children, low income, homeless and/or transportation disadvantaged (i.e., dependent on public transit) and pregnant women.

Due to the unique safety and security risks we face in San Diego, a significant reduction in grant funding will impede our region's ability to sustain the valuable investments we have made in order to protect lives, property and the environment.

Health and Human Services

Prompted by the 2001 national anthrax incident, increased federal funding has fortified public health infrastructure. Funding has supported the County of San Diego in making significant enhancements and partnerships to strengthen the public health infrastructure. Since 2002, over \$4 million of federal emergency preparedness funding has been utilized annually to strengthen the healthcare system to implement a comprehensive strategy to protect local residents against the threat of terrorist attacks. In collaboration with our committed community partners, important strides have been accomplished to help assure the readiness of the local healthcare system.

The County has received Public Health Emergency Preparedness funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Hospital Preparedness Program, and Urban Areas Security Initiative, Homeland Security Grant Program, National Association of County and City Health Officials and Pandemic Influenza Planning grants. These funds are received through a cooperative agreement with the State and continue to be used to build upon and strengthen the County's public health infrastructure including preparation of hospitals and community clinics to address surge capacity issues and development of public risk communication plans. Additionally, emergency equipment/supplies and medications have been procured and are cached to be used in the event of an emergency. However, the grant funding amounts have steadily decreased and have also included the loss of federal funding for Pandemic Influenza preparedness and response.

Earthquake Early Warning System

The objective of earthquake early warning is to protect lives and property by alerting the public that an earthquake has struck and seismic waves are about to reach their location. The warning time could range from a few seconds to a few tens of seconds, depending on the distance to the epicenter of the earthquake. This is enough time to slow and stop trains, to halt surgical procedures, to prevent cars from entering bridges and tunnels, to move away from dangerous machines or chemicals in work environments and to take cover under a desk, or to automatically shut down and isolate industrial systems. Taking appropriate actions before an earthquake occurs can save lives, minimize injury and limit property damage.

Most studies indicate that the County of San Diego could suffer significant damage from a catastrophic earthquake along several regional faults. The San Jacinto Fault is considered to be the most active fault, while the Rose Canyon Fault poses the greatest threat to an urban area. Other studies indicate the La Nacion Fault System is also capable of producing damaging earthquakes.

The development and sustainment of a national system of earthquake early warning has the potential to save lives and money. Numerous states, particularly the State of California, are earthquake prone. A disparate patchwork of earthquake early warning systems is not preferable. There should be one national system of integrated sensors and standardized methods of alert and warning organized at the federal level. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the projected cost of an earthquake early warning system for the West Coast includes initial capital investment as well as ongoing maintenance and operations. California has received federal funding and has allocated State funding over the past several years to build out a network of seismic sensors throughout the state's most populated communities. While additional sensors are needed in rural areas, the County of San Diego build out is complete. Annual maintenance and operation of California's network of seismic sensors will be about \$2 million. The Governor's Office of Emergency Services is expected to launch a public facing mobile application capable of providing earthquake early alert and warning statewide. Further testing and study is needed to ensure the ShakeAlert system and statewide mobile application will meet the accuracy and timing expectations of the public.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Living Safely
- Building Better Health

State Action Needed:

- a. Support additional funding for services including, but not limited to, public safety, fire, hazardous materials, public health, office of emergency services, hospitals, emergency medical services, laboratories, mental health, environmental health, debris management and recovery activities.
- b. Support efforts that ensure the maximum amount of federal funding coming to California for homeland security programs are sub-allocated to local governments.
- c. Support legislation that seeks greater coordination and alignment between the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the California Department of Public Health.
- d. Support efforts to allow increased local flexibility in the use of funding for building and maintaining county public health preparedness and infrastructure.
- e. Support legislation or administrative action which adequately funds the development and sustainment of an earthquake early warning system.

- f. Support legislation that ensures continued funding for local jurisdictions for emergency planning, training, drills, response and recovery activities until all spent fuel is removed from the site of the decommissioned San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station.

Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support additional funding for emergency communications infrastructure.
- b. Appropriate sufficient funds dedicated to building and maintaining county and state public health preparedness and infrastructure.
- c. Support efforts to continue to provide Homeland Security grants to local jurisdictions without the requirement for a local funding match.
- d. Support legislation that seeks closer coordination and joint planning efforts between local, state and federal agencies.
- e. Support efforts that would require states to meaningfully engage and include input from local governments in their Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment, which is required by FEMA for federal Homeland Security Grant Program dollars.
- f. Support legislative change that will allow greater flexibility with the Homeland Security grants to fund mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery planning, equipment, training and personnel for all hazards, both natural and man-made.
- g. Appropriate additional grant funding from the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Office of Preparedness and Emergency Operations, and the Division of National Healthcare Preparedness Programs to offset County costs for administering, planning and implementing grant activities.
- h. Appropriate sufficient funding for disaster medical surge planning and response, including Pandemic Influenza.
- i. Support efforts to allow increased local flexibility in the use of funding to allow funds to be spent on personnel, training or other preparedness needs determined locally.
- j. Support efforts to eliminate caps, including personnel caps, on federal Homeland Security Grant Program dollars.
- k. Support efforts to allow increased local flexibility in the use of Urban Areas Security Initiative, State Homeland Security Grant Program, Emergency Management Performance Grant and other Homeland Security grant funding.
- l. Oppose legislation or policy that proposes to exclude the San Diego region from the Urban Areas Security Initiative Tier I highest risk areas.
- m. Support legislation or administrative action and federal funding to the U.S. Geological Survey or other appropriate federal agency for the development and sustainment of a national system of earthquake early warning to include integration with Wireless Emergency Alerts, the national alert and warning system.
- n. Support legislation that would remove and relocate outside of the San Diego region the spent nuclear fuel stored at the decommissioned San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station.

6. HOUSING

The San Diego region needs more affordable housing. The demand for new affordable housing is greater than the number of units developed and available housing is beyond the reach of many families to buy or rent. Reports continue to show that housing in San Diego County is among the most expensive in the nation and economic conditions have significantly impacted those that are most in need of affordable housing solutions.

The County of San Diego and cities in the region operate a number of programs to provide and develop affordable housing. These programs offer rental assistance, affordable housing

opportunities for renters, financial assistance for first-time homebuyers, and resources for persons experiencing homelessness. Funding for these programs comes from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development and other sources.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Living Safely
- Building Better Health
- Sustainable Environments/Thriving

State and Federal Action Needed:

Housing Element Law

- a. Support greater linkage of transportation and housing policy and funding, while providing adequate funding to maintain and improve existing infrastructure.
- b. Oppose legislation that would fine local governments, or cause state funds to be withheld, when State Housing and Community Development determines that a local government's housing element does not comply with State law.
- c. Oppose legislation that would place the burden of providing compliance with housing element law on local jurisdictions rather than requiring State Housing and Community Development to prove non-compliance.
- d. Support legislation that would impose reasonable reporting/oversight provisions on local government so they will approve housing elements that comply with the law.
- e. Support legislation that recognizes the development limitations within the unincorporated County, in particular the rural areas where existing infrastructure and public services are minimal.
- f. Support legislation that exempts rural areas with limited infrastructure and ground water from requirements, programs, or incentives that increase density beyond the density designated by the jurisdiction's general plan.
- g. Support legislation that recognizes place-based planning and requirements rather than a "one size fits all" approach.
- h. Support legislation that reduces the statutory default density for potential lower-income housing sites from 30 units per acre to 20 units per acre in unincorporated counties.

Affordable Housing

- a. Support legislation to provide new incentives and continue existing incentives to encourage development of affordable housing including low-income housing for persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.
- b. Support state and federal funding to develop, acquire and/or rehabilitate affordable housing.
- c. Support legislation that rewards local governments for local actions to increase the supply of affordable housing.
- d. Support legislation that would encourage permanent affordable housing whenever feasible. Support efforts to enact Housing Choice Voucher program reforms that would strengthen, simplify and ease administrative requirements related to this program through regulatory and administrative revisions.
- e. Support legislation that increases the financing options available to public housing agencies seeking to address the capital needs of their properties, such as the Capital Fund Financing Program, Public Housing Demolition/Disposition and Rental Assistance Demonstration.
- f. Support legislation or administrative revisions to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's definition of "chronically homeless" to allow people who otherwise are

experiencing chronic homelessness who enter any custody or rehabilitative program for more than 90 days to be included in the definition of chronically homeless and be prioritized Continuum of Care housing assistance programs upon their return to the community.

- g. Support legislation that would provide adequate funding for Housing Assistance Payment contract renewals and restore full funding for voucher program ongoing administrative fees, while opposing legislation that requires Public Housing Agencies to deplete Housing Assistance Payment reserves due to sequestration.
- h. Oppose legislation that would reduce Housing Choice Voucher program funding for Housing Assistance Payment contract renewals and ongoing administrative fees.
- i. Support legislation that funds the HOME Investment Partnerships program equal to or greater than the FY 2010-11 level, providing at least \$4,252,789 for the program.
- j. Support legislation that eliminates and/or reduces the Community Housing Development Organization requirements in the HOME Investment Partnerships Program.
- k. Support legislation that either eliminates the requirement to reserve 15 percent of annual HOME Investment Partnerships funds to a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) or allows for a waiver of the requirement based on availability of local CHDOs.
- l. Support legislation that provides local governments the flexibility to utilize tougher requirements for increased accountability in the HOME program.
- m. Support additional funding for the administration of HOME funds.
- n. Oppose legislation that would reduce HOME funding which would impact our region's ability to construct, acquire and/or rehabilitate affordable housing.
- o. Oppose legislation that would reduce Community Development Block Grant funding, which would impact our region's ability to construct, acquire and/or rehabilitate affordable housing.
- p. Support legislation that would eliminate the required unspent funds test for Community Development Block Grant expenditures and/or amend the requirement to expand the amount of unspent funds test to avoid potential penalties.
- q. Support legislation that preserves and expands the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program.
- r. Oppose legislation that would impose an offset against Public Housing operating reserves, effectively creating a disincentive for public housing agencies to administer their program efficiently.
- s. Support legislation that would uncouple the Continuum of Care formula allocation from the Community Development Block Grant formula.
- t. Support legislation or administrative action that revises the Continuum of Care funding formula to be more in line with regional needs.
- u. Support legislation that provides increased funding for affordable housing opportunities, homeless prevention and rapid rehousing.
- v. Support legislation that fully funds Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act requirements.
- w. Oppose any efforts to change program eligibility thresholds that would reduce communities' ability to access resources related to Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS and/or Emergency Solutions Grant.
- x. Support efforts that allow local jurisdictions to directly apply for and/or receive federal National Housing Trust Fund resources with adequate program administrative funding.
- y. Oppose legislation that would reduce funding to the National Housing Trust Fund.

- z. Support legislation that provides local governments the flexibility to utilize housing funds to support vulnerable populations, including the justice-involved population.
- aa. Support legislation that would allow federal surplus properties to be converted into affordable housing.
- bb. Support legislation that prohibits the discrimination of prospective tenants based on their utilization of government-issued housing vouchers or other rental subsidies.

Public Housing Agency Funding Priorities

- a. Support legislation that would increase the funding and number of Housing Choice Vouchers to a level representative of the needs of the region.
- b. Support legislation that fully funds the Public Housing Capital Fund at a level that allows PHAs to fully maintain their housing stock.
- c. Support legislation that allocates the annual Public Housing Operating Fund to the full funding level that the PHA qualifies.

7. INDIAN GAMING

The County is now home to 19 Reservations and 18 Tribal Governments, 14 of which have compacts that allow gaming, and 9 existing Tribal casinos, which are the greatest number of Reservations and of Indian gaming facilities of any county in the nation. The growth of Indian gaming in San Diego County has created positive and negative impacts in this region.

Gambling on Indian lands is regulated by the 1988 Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA). Most IGRA-related issues fall under the responsibility of the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) in the Department of the Interior (DOI), while issues involving Tribal recognition, sovereignty and lands fall under the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), also part of DOI. The Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) of 1934, Title 25 U.S.C.465, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire lands, water rights, or surface rights to lands, within or without existing reservations, including trust or otherwise restricted allotments, whether the allottee is living or deceased, for the purpose of providing land for Indians. The determination that the acquisition of the land is necessary may be discretionary or stated to facilitate tribal self-determination, economic development or Indian housing. One of the most contentious issues is whether gaming should be permitted on new lands taken into trust for Indian tribes by BIA, including both contiguous and non-contiguous lands.

On the State level, Proposition 1A was approved by voters in March 2000, which amended the State constitution to permit Indian tribes to conduct and operate Class III gaming (banked card games, video or electronic games, slot machines, etc.) on Indian land if a tribal-state compact is approved. Compacts negotiated by Governor Davis in 1999 contained very limited provisions to mitigate the environmental and public safety impacts associated with Indian gaming activities. Compacts negotiated since then contain provisions requiring the Tribes to consult with the County of San Diego and to enter into agreements, with binding arbitration if negotiations reach impasse, to develop site or project specific terms and conditions. These terms and conditions address the implementation of feasible mitigation measures and feasible project alternatives concerning significant off-reservation environmental effects stemming from the gaming facility, and compensation for public services and programs to address gambling addiction.

In 2009, the U.S. Supreme Court also issued a decision in a landmark Indian affairs matter, *Carcieri v. Salazar* (2009; No. 07-526). The Court held that the authority of the Secretary of Interior to take land into trust for tribes under the IRA extends only to those tribes under federal

jurisdiction when the law was passed in 1934. In response to this decision, a number of bills have been introduced in Congress to provide the Secretary of the Interior with the statutory authority to take land into trust for Indian tribes, regardless of when they were recognized by the federal government. While there have been concerns with these attempts to expand the statutory authority of the Secretary of the Interior, the County has advocated that this could also be an opportunity for Congress to reform the fee-to-trust process.

Federal legislation has been proposed several times since 2011 seeking to overturn the Carcieri ruling by amending the IRA to give authority to the Secretary of Interior to take land into trust for all Indian tribes regardless of when recognized. None have passed, but it is likely that additional legislation related to the Carcieri fix and fee-to-trust will be discussed or proposed once again in the future.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Living Safely
- Sustainable Environments/Thriving

State Action Needed:

- a. Urge the Governor to continue amending Indian gaming compacts to require agreements between local governments and Tribes to mitigate fiscal impacts on local governments, significant off-Reservation environmental and public safety impacts caused by gaming-related improvements or operations and prevention and treatment of gambling addiction.
- b. Urge the Governor to include the County of San Diego and other local governments in discussions to extend gaming compacts throughout the negotiation process.
- c. Urge the Governor to encourage Tribes from remote or sensitive areas to co-locate their gaming facilities with existing Indian gaming facilities to diminish impacts to the unincorporated areas and local governments, while allowing those tribes to generate revenue for their members.
- d. Oppose legislation that expands Indian gaming without requiring an Intergovernmental Agreement to mitigate existing unmitigated gaming impacts and/or impacts from the expansion.
- e. Support legislation that would distribute funding from the Indian Gaming Special Distribution Fund for local mitigation of Indian gaming impacts, while continuing to advocate for a fair and proportional share.
- f. Support legislation that would ensure the maximum allocation to assist counties in mitigating the environmental, behavioral and public safety impact of gaming activities.
- g. Support legislation that bases allocation of Special Distribution Fund moneys on the number of gaming devices in the jurisdiction.
- h. Support legislation that provides counties with the discretion to use mitigation funds as the County deems appropriate in order to ensure local jurisdictions have the flexibility to balance competing mitigation needs.
- i. Support legislation that provides if there are insufficient funds in the Special Distribution Fund to fund payments to eligible tribes from the Indian Gaming Revenue Sharing Trust Fund (GRSTF), funding to bridge such shortfalls shall be transferred to the GRSTF (in the amount of the deficiency) from payments made by the tribes to the state's general fund pursuant to any tribal-state gaming compact.

Federal Action Needed:

- a. Oppose transfers of land into trust on behalf of a tribe that has not entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement to mitigate adverse impacts from its casino and/or its gaming related facilities, or other large development projects.
- b. Support reform of the land to trust process to require appropriate notice and assessment of applications by local agencies to ensure that proposed and future impacts of the land taken into trust are mitigated.
- c. Support legislation that would require a full Environmental Impact Statement whenever a non-traditional use of land is proposed on an Indian reservation that likely would negatively impact surrounding communities.
- d. Support amendments to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) that require a tribe, during negotiations for a tribal-state gaming compact, to negotiate and sign an Intergovernmental Agreement with the local county government to address mitigation of the impacts of gaming activities on local infrastructure and services.
- e. Support amendments to the IGRA and regulations that allow a tribe to co-locate its casino on another willing tribe's reservation in order to diminish impacts to the unincorporated areas and local governments.
- f. Support amendments to the IGRA and regulations that require as a provision of the tribal-state compact that a tribe must enter into a binding intergovernmental agreement with local government to mitigate economic, social, environmental, health, safety, infrastructure and other impacts.

8. *LIVE WELL SAN DIEGO*

A County that is Healthy, Safe and Thriving is the vision that guides the County of San Diego. *Live Well San Diego* is the County's blueprint for improving community health and quality of life. Adopted in 2010 by the Board of Supervisors, *Live Well San Diego* is made up of three components – Building Better Health, Living Safely and Thriving – that include four strategies: Building a Better Service Delivery System, Supporting Positive Choices, Pursuing Policy and Environmental Changes, and Improving the Culture from Within.

Building Better Health

Throughout the nation and locally three behaviors – poor nutrition, lack of physical activity and tobacco use/substance abuse – are contributing to four chronic diseases: heart disease/stroke, Type II diabetes, cancer and respiratory conditions, such as asthma. These diseases result in over 50 percent of deaths in San Diego County. Improving our health habits will lead to improved quality of life and result in significant savings to taxpayers.

Additionally, obesity is an epidemic with significant health, social and economic implications for adults and children. The number of overweight Americans has increased almost 50 percent during the past 15 years. These individuals are at risk of a wide array of health complications, including cardiovascular, orthopedic, diabetic and pulmonary ailments.

The success of *Live Well San Diego* largely depends on how well the most complex problems facing our region, such as obesity, are addressed. The social determinants of health are key drivers of health outcomes and health inequities.

Living Safely

The Living Safely strategy addresses both the community's perception of overall safety in San Diego, as well as the actual incidence of crime and injury. It is focused on three specific outcomes: a San Diego region where residents are protected from crime or abuse; neighborhoods are safe to work, live and play; and communities are resilient to disasters and

emergencies. Compared to the rest of the country, San Diego is one of the safest places to call home. Crime rates have decreased across the region for the last two decades. The violent crime rate in 2018 was the fourth lowest in the past 39 years and the 2018 property crime rate reached a new 39-year low.

But, safety is about more than reducing the numbers of offenders and criminal incidents that occur; it is also about providing assistance and programs to individuals that have been victimized. Rehabilitation is also a key element of our strategy. Criminal justice partners offer behavioral health treatment and other rehabilitative options to individuals who have a need for those services.

Drugs and alcohol toxicity (combined, whether illicit, prescription or both) continue to be the leading causes of accidental death in San Diego County in 2017, followed by traffic and motor vehicle deaths. The County's long-standing partnerships such as the Methamphetamine Strike Force and Prescription Drug Abuse Task Force are now supported by the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System.

The County also recognizes the special obligation it has to protect vulnerable populations from abuse and neglect, including children, older adults and victims of domestic violence. For all members of the community, County has developed a series of regional initiatives to better prepare government agencies, the business community and families to be ready for and recover from disasters.

Thriving

The Thriving plan calls for cultivating opportunities for all people and communities to grow, connect, and enjoy the highest quality of life and encompasses a broad range of areas that are interconnected and foundational to the quality-of-life for everyone in the region. Therefore, a high degree of partnership is required between government, stakeholders and the community to work together in effective and creative ways to achieve success.

Community and County stakeholders also recognized that the San Diego region is Thriving when residents are engaging (building community awareness and cohesion), connecting (filling gaps and ensuring equal access to basic needs), and flourishing (exceeding basic needs).

The Thriving plan promotes stronger collaboration and coordination throughout the region among all sectors of the community -- public, private, philanthropic, and nonprofit organizations. It embodies a stakeholder-driven approach in the areas of Built and Natural Environment (Transportation, Built Environment and Neighborhoods, Housing); Enrichment (Civic Life, Community Activities); and Prosperity, Economy and Education (Workforce and Economic Development).

Live Well San Diego Food System Initiative

A food system includes all processes and infrastructure involved in feeding a population: growing, production, processing and storage, distribution, retail and acquisition, preparation, consumption, and disposal of food and food-related items. The *Live Well San Diego Food System Initiative* (Initiative) works to support a robust and resilient local food system that builds healthy communities, supports the economy, and enhances the environment. The Initiative will focus on four overarching goals that align with the County's Strategic Initiatives: 1) All residents have access to affordable, local, and healthy food; 2) The region's environment and economy support a robust, diverse, and sustainable food system; 3) The region's food system is resilient

and safe; and 4) The County improves the food system through operational excellence and regional leadership.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Building Better Health
- Living Safely
- Sustainable Environments/Thriving

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support efforts to reduce the number of infants born with low birth weight to prevent lifelong disabilities, including evidence-based home visiting programs.
- b. Support funding to facilitate access for eligible individuals and families by improving internal business efficiencies in CalFresh offices.
- c. Support funding for outreach efforts to families and vulnerable seniors who are eligible for nutritional assistance programs and require nutrition education.
- d. Support legislation that would provide incentives to families to purchase healthy foods like fresh fruits and vegetables.
- e. Support legislation that would combine nutrition education with efforts related to local food assistance programs, especially those that target families with obese children or children who are at risk of becoming obese.
- f. Support legislation to increase resources for outreach efforts and to improve business efficiency of locally administered food and nutrition assistance programs.
- g. Support legislation that would prohibit the use of public food benefits to purchase items that have a high sugar content and little nutritional value.
- h. Support a range of intervention strategies to decrease childhood obesity to no more than 5 percent among children aged 6 to 19 years, which is the goal stated in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Healthy People 2020.
- i. Support legislation that provides funding for needs assessments, data collection at the local level for all ages, including older adults and seniors, and the development and implementation of interventions, screenings and educational efforts to support preventive oral health efforts.
- j. Support National Environmental Education Act grant or other grant funding for programs that provide outdoor education and recreational opportunities.
- k. Support legislation that increases access to healthy foods.
- l. Support funding for financial incentives to qualifying food businesses in food deserts so that they may provide and/or increase the quantity of fresh produce they offer for sale.
- m. Support legislation that encourages healthy communities by expanding options to healthy choices.
- n. Support legislation to provide funding that would maintain the County's administrative capacity to address violence prevention such as technical assistance and training to community providers for program oversight and contract monitoring.
- o. Support legislation to provide funding for programs that help prevent Adverse Childhood Experiences and reduce the risk of exposure to violence and provide essential services for children and families.
- p. Support legislation to provide funding for programs and initiatives that support high-risk neighborhoods and communities to reduce Adverse Childhood Experiences and the risk of family violence, community violence, youth violence and childhood exposure to violence.
- q. Support legislation that provides funding for programs that integrate health and safety through education and resources.
- r. Support legislation that expands the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement Fund.

- s. Support legislation that provides funding for safe and accessible routes for children to walk and bike to school.
- t. Support legislation that provides funding for and encourages transportation planners and engineers to design and enable safe access for all users, regardless of mode of transportation.
- u. Support legislation that establishes standards for nutrition and physical activity in early childhood education programs, infant care programs and afterschool programs.
- v. Support legislation that contributes to the integration of health, housing and human services.
- w. Support legislation that helps create more accessible housing for seniors and people with disabilities to live independently.
- x. Support legislation that encourages the creation of school-based curriculum regarding elections and the voting process.
- y. Support legislation that provides funding to expand crime-free multi-family developments.
- z. Support legislation that increases funding for self-sufficiency programs that enable families assisted through the Housing Choice Voucher program and Public Housing services to increase their earned income and reduce their dependency on welfare assistance and rental subsidies.
- aa. Support the expansion of the federal Moving To Work program to provide a larger number of public housing authorities with flexibility in how they can use their federal funding.
- bb. Support legislation that would improve the food system by incentivizing farmers and other food producers to donate food to food banks and other nonprofit organizations.
- cc. Oppose legislation that would limit and/or hinder a local government's ability to provide quality customer service.
- dd. Support legislation and funding that promotes land use patterns that improve health.
- ee. Support legislation and funding that promote land use patterns that provide access to community spaces including parks.
- ff. Support legislation to provide funding for development of parks, construction of recreational facilities and implementation of recreation programming.

9. FUNDING FOR PLANT PEST AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT

The Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) is an invasive agricultural pest that is known to spread Huanglongbing (HLB), a disease that is deadly to citrus trees. In recent years, ACP has been detected in southern, central and northern California counties. The County of San Diego Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures has been working with federal and state regulators, other counties, the Farm Bureau, local growers and other various partners to strengthen efforts to keep the disease out of the County. There have not been documented cases of HLB within the County of San Diego yet, but Los Angeles, Orange and Riverside counties to our north and Mexico to our south have the disease. The disease threatens the County's \$152 million citrus industry, backyard citrus and the \$3.4 billion citrus industry in California. Further funding and attention are warranted for research and abatement efforts to minimize the impacts of the disease, and the detection and eradication of its carrier.

San Diego has several other kinds of invasive tree pests that need more research on improved control methods and disposal options for infested wood. Invasive shot hole beetles are small beetles that have attacked hundreds of tree species in agricultural, forest, urban and riparian habitats. The South American palm weevil has expanded northward from Mexico, is infesting iconic Canary Island date palms in the landscape and is a threat to the date and ornamental

palm industry. The Gold spotted oak borer has destroyed over 100,000 oak trees in San Diego County and has spread with firewood to other areas in the State. These tree pests contribute to public safety hazards, fire risks, and diminish horticultural, agricultural and recreational tree value.

San Diego has another invasive pest called Red imported fire ant that threatens horticultural plant production areas. It has infested Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties and has been found in limited areas in the County of San Diego. If the pest becomes established and a quarantine is required for San Diego County, export plant shipments would have to be treated with pesticides, increasing the growers' production cost, regulatory burden, and pesticide usage. Efforts to eradicate localized infestations are important to prevent its incursion into the horticultural areas of the County. This pest's stinging may cause public health and safety concerns due to the possible allergic reactions and other implications.

Strategic Initiative:

- Sustainable Environments/Thriving

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation that would fund the research and implementation of biocontrol agents for the control of Asian Citrus Psyllid.
- b. Support legislation that would provide funding for regulatory activities associated with the lethal citrus disease Huanglongbing.
- c. Support legislation that would provide funding for early detection surveys for Huanglongbing.
- d. Support legislation that would fund the research and implementation of new Huanglongbing detection tools and resistant citrus varieties.
- e. Support legislation that would provide funding for research and outreach to limit the spread of the invasive Shot hole borer beetles, Gold spotted oak borer, South American palm weevil and Red imported fire ant.

10. INFORMATION SHARING

The County of San Diego is developing and implementing information sharing systems that allow departments to access shared information more efficiently to better serve County customers and also reduce duplicate data entry. Staff will continue to use existing computer systems that are specifically tailored to the needs of their department, but the new systems will pull information from their existing systems into a central hub. To maintain privacy and security, staff will only be able to access information needed for their specific position. Management will be able to obtain reports regarding populations using County services, including statistics about people using multiple services. They can use this information to make more efficient business decisions to allocate resources where they are needed. Ultimately, the technology will enable customers to access their County service information from home, providing the convenience expected in today's electronic age.

Strategic Initiative:

- Building Better Health
- Living Safely
- Operational Excellence

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation that facilitates information sharing within and among county, state and/or federal agencies.
- b. Support legislation that facilitates information sharing among government organizations and individuals or organizations who serve shared customers, including public health, child welfare, criminal justice, law enforcement, health, behavioral health, housing, substance use disorder services and others.
- c. Support legislation to enable the sharing of client information across departments and divisions for business purposes, including enhancing customer service and care coordination.
- d. Support legislation that promotes information sharing among multi-disciplinary teams who are providing support, benefits or services to a shared customer.
- e. Support legislation that modernizes restrictions to sharing confidential information by including the ability to share non-confidential information from a service when it can be done without revealing the protected information.

11. TREATMENT AND RESEARCH FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Alzheimer's disease is reaching epidemic proportions and the fatal illness is taking an escalating toll on San Diego County households and the region's healthcare system. In 2014, the Alzheimer's Project was launched by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors to oversee the creation of a regional strategy to inventory and improve caregiver resources and support efforts to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease. Alzheimer's San Diego and leaders in both caregiving and clinical medicine are coming together to collaborate on ways to enhance the awareness, partnerships and funding for Alzheimer's research and care strategies.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Living Safely
- Building Better Health

Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation that increases funding for Alzheimer's disease research and provides additional resources to caregivers, family members and those afflicted with Alzheimer's disease.
- b. Support legislation that expands and refines federal tax credits for long term services and supports caregiving expenses.
- c. Support funding to provide additional resources and services for individuals, caregivers and family members impacted by Alzheimer's disease.
- d. Support legislation or administrative action that provides Alzheimer's disease education, treatment and public awareness.

12. HABITAT PRESERVATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

To balance the often-competing demands of environmental protection and economic development, the County has embraced the multi-species habitat conservation plan approach to protect and recover these species. The County has utilized the State of California's Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) program to develop these plans, which are known as multiple species Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) throughout the country. The County's NCCPs include the South County Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) and the draft North County MSCP Plan. The East County MSCP will follow. The NCCP program is a partnership among landowners, environmentalists, local governments and state and federal

wildlife agencies to permanently protect entire ecosystems, while accommodating needed economic activity. County implementation activities of the MSCP include plan development, as well as acquisition, adaptive management and monitoring of lands necessary to provide blocks of persevered habitat. The State's commitment to the NCCP to guide and assist these activities must remain strong.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Sustainable Environments/Thriving

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support funding for and efforts to leverage the benefits of Natural Communities Conservation Planning plans (NCCPs) and regional Habitat Conservation Plans (HCP), such as the Multiple Species Conservation Program and the draft North County Multiple Species Conservation Plan.
- b. Promote effective preparation of NCCPs and regional HCPs as a top priority for the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- c. Oppose efforts that would impose unnecessary encumbrances over property purchased for the acquisition requirements in NCCPs/HCPs.
- d. Support efforts to reduce conservation easement and third-party beneficiary requirements on property acquisition for NCCPs/HCPs.
- e. Support efforts to reduce excessive monitoring requirements (species level monitoring) and to allow for adaptive management monitoring (landscape level or targeted monitoring) in NCCPs/HCPs.
- f. Oppose efforts that would limit passive recreation in preserve land acquired for NCCPs/HCPs.
- g. Support efforts that require the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to provide financial support for the implementation of NCCPs/HCPs which they have approved.

13. VETERANS AND ACTIVE MILITARY

The County's Office of Military and Veterans Affairs assists active duty military, veterans, and their dependents and survivors to obtain federal and State benefits that they are entitled to receive. It also supports the provision of services and supports to the families of active military members in San Diego County. Among the variety of professional support services provided by the County are comprehensive benefits counseling, assistance with claims preparation and submission, assistance with educational benefits for military veterans, dependents and survivors, and advocacy with various federal, state and local agencies.

The services provided are critical as over one-third of county residents are connected to the military in some fashion and San Diego boasts an estimated 243,000 veterans, as well as eight major military bases and installations. The County has the second largest veteran population in California and the third largest in the nation. Since 2010, San Diego County has been the number one place in the country where veterans have settled after leaving the military. Annually an average of 7,000 returning Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, and Operation NEW DAWN Veterans are settling in San Diego County, and the numbers continue to grow.

The County's Office of Military & Veterans Affairs (OMVA) is now rotating accredited Veteran Services Representatives (VSR) in designated County Libraries. The OMVA's Vet-Connect program also allows military, veterans and family members to connect with a VSR for benefits

counseling and online preparation and submission of disability claims and educational benefits via a video teleconferencing system installed in the library.

The Veterans Directed Home and Community Based Services program is a federal program that provides community based, participant directed services to veterans through a partnership between the Area Agency on Aging, the Aging and Disability Resource Center and local Veteran Administration Medical Centers. The targeted population is high-risk veterans who are in need of long-term support services to avoid institutionalization.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Building Better Health
- Sustainable Environments/Thriving

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support legislation that addresses affordable housing for veterans and veteran homelessness.
- b. Support efforts that would reform the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program in order to provide more program vouchers and/or accelerate veteran placement in housing.
- c. Support legislation that supports suicide prevention and other programs designed to assist military service members and veterans in dealing with behavioral health challenges.
- d. Support legislation that would enhance services that will support veterans and their families in achieving self-sufficiency and successfully reintegrating into civilian life.
- e. Support legislation that would provide adequate State and federal funding for programs that support veterans, including county veteran services offices.
- f. Support legislation that requires hiring managers to provide equivalent experience and educational credit to members of the military and military service veterans who performed tasks during military service that are directly related to the duties of the available position.
- g. Support legislation that would allow county veterans services officers to complete the certification required by the State Department of Motor Vehicles to certify that an applicant for a special license plate or placard is a disabled veteran.
- h. Support legislation that would fund services and supports for active military and their families that promote health, safety and well-being, not limited to but including home visitation by public health nurses.
- i. Support legislation that would facilitate the processing of compensation and pension claims for veterans and their dependents access to needed benefits.
- j. Support legislation that supports military operations in the San Diego region including but not limited to homeporting, building and repair of navy ships.
- k. Support legislation that ensures critical infrastructure is upgraded and maintained to allow the maximum number of ships to homeport in San Diego.
- l. Support legislation that would continue to fund the Veterans Directed Home and Community Based Services Program.
- m. Oppose legislative and administrative efforts that would move military personnel and operations out of the San Diego region, including, but not limited to, base closures and closure of recruitment centers.

14. TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

The region has a population of over three million with over 4,000 square miles and about 2,000 miles of roads in extreme terrains and temperature fluctuations. Well maintained local street and road networks connect our communities and provide access to jobs, schools, healthcare and other services, which stimulate our local economy and global competitiveness. Deferring maintenance not only can have immediate safety consequences, it also increases the cost and extent of repairs later. According to the National Center for Pavement Preservation, spending \$1 on a street in fair condition (75 percent of life) eliminates or delays spending \$6 to \$14 on rehabilitation or reconstruction when a street is in poor condition (12 percent of life).

The State Highway Users Tax Account funding is the most important local source for road maintenance. At the national level, transportation bills have provided authority and funding and the next federal transportation investment authorization should not only address highways, but also local streets, roads and bridges. Locally, the region has made great efforts to boost its own funding for local transportation projects. San Diego voters approved TransNet, a funding source for capital improvement projects. The County also imposes a Transportation Impact Fee for new developments. Lastly, the passage of the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, also known as State Senate Bill 1, has supplemented local efforts for road maintenance with additional funding from the State.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Living Safely
- Sustainable Environments/Thriving
- Operational Excellence

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support a streamlined and flexible approach to allocating federal funds for highway, transit, local roads, safe routes to schools and bicycle/pedestrian improvements based on need.
- b. Increase funding to provide for adequate maintenance and preservation of local roads and transportation systems.
- c. Increase funding for regionally important transportation infrastructure and maintenance.
- d. Streamline environmental regulations to allow California Environmental Quality Act compliance to satisfy National Environmental Policy Act.
- e. Support state and federal funding for construction of transportation projects included in the County's Capital Improvement Program.
- f. Support state and federal grant program criteria that considers the rural nature of the County to allow it to be more competitive when applying.

15. TESTING FOR BEACH WATER QUALITY

Under the Beach and Bay Water Quality Monitoring Program, the County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health performs beach water quality sampling. When poor water quality is identified, the public is notified through a number of different outlets, including a website, Facebook, Twitter, email, telephone hotline, press releases and posting signs on affected beaches. Warnings of contaminated water are provided to the public at beaches impacted by sewage spills when monitoring indicates bacteria levels exceed state standards, or during other events that may pose an imminent threat to public health.

The County's Beach and Bay Water Quality Monitoring Program is granted funding through the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) Beach Act Grant and the State Water Resource Control Board's Public Beach Safety Grant Program. However, as in prior years, the State and Federal grants have not fully recovered the local costs of beach water monitoring along the 52 miles of beaches in San Diego County that are enjoyed by millions of residents and visitors each year.

Additionally, as an international border county, local beaches in the south county area may also be impacted by cross-border sewage flows, making binational and regional coordination and responsiveness to potential beach water quality impacts essential for public health protection. Funding to support local beach water quality monitoring and information-sharing is beneficial for public health authorities in the border region.

In addition to funding limitations for beach water quality monitoring, current State and Federal approved testing methods delay the responsiveness of public health warnings. Water samples are currently tested using culture-based methods, which typically require at least 24-48 hours for results. The U.S. EPA, in an attempt to address the slow 24-48 hour response time for culture-based testing methods, certified quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR) as a rapid water quality measurement method. This alternative method can return results in about four hours. The qPCR method is genetically based and measures the presence and amount of DNA from target bacteria (Enterococcus). However, qPCR was not approved to make beach management decisions in California.

The County sponsored State Senate Bill 1395 (SB 1395) in 2014, authored by Senator Block and signed by Governor Brown on September 30, 2014. The bill allows the use of qPCR or an equivalent rapid testing method for beach water quality monitoring provided that the local environmental health department demonstrates that a polymerase chain reaction method (PCR) is a reliable indicator of microbial contamination at beaches, as determined through side-by-side testing of current methods and EPA-approved or PCR methods. Since the enactment of SB 1395, the County has lead and continues to lead a collaborative effort with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), U.S. EPA and other stakeholders to develop a beach testing process and acceptance criteria to replace existing culture-based methods with a more rapid test to ensure that the best possible testing method is available for use. Continued support from CDPH and U.S. EPA is needed as they evaluate the potential future use of modified or enhanced testing methods at San Diego County beaches.

Strategic Initiatives:

- Sustainable Environments/Thriving
- Building Better Health

State and Federal Action Needed:

- a. Support full State and Federal funding for local beach water quality monitoring.
- b. Support certification by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to allow a local health officer to use specified polymerase chain reaction testing methods published by the U.S. EPA or approved as an alternative test procedure to determine the level of enterococci bacteria as a single test based on a single indicator at one or more beach locations within that jurisdiction if the local health officer demonstrates through side-by-side testing over a beach season that the use of the test method provides a reliable indication of overall microbiological contamination conditions.

- c. Support the California Department of Public Health in developing beach testing and acceptance criteria to allow the use of PCR based analytical methods to determine beach water quality at specific beaches.
- d. Support the State Water Resources Control Board in completing the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) certification/inspection process for the California Department of Public Health certified PCR method.
- e. Support reimbursement for public agencies for use of the PCR testing method by the State Water Resources Control Board in the same way the existing culture-based method is currently reimbursed.
- f. Support approval of modified or enhanced PCR testing methods by the U.S. EPA and urge approval of improved methods such as droplet digital PCR.
- g. Support funding that will allow implementation of PCR testing methods certified by CDPH, including the required side-by-side equivalency testing.



**County of San Diego
POLICY GUIDELINES
2020 Legislative Program**

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POLICY GUIDELINES

In addition to the Policy Guidelines, the Board of Supervisors has approved a number of policies (M-policies) that provide the Office of Strategy and Intergovernmental Affairs with additional legislative policy direction to advocate on behalf of the County of San Diego.

I. AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

The policy of the County of San Diego (Air Pollution Control District) with respect to various air pollution control issues shall be as noted below.

A. Air Quality Regulations

1. Support legislation that would provide local flexibility to implement trip reduction programs in non-attainment areas for the State smog standard.
2. Support legislative efforts to amend the federal Clean Air Act to discount transported air pollution when classifying down-wind areas and require the state to reduce pollution from up-wind areas to assure attainment of federal standards in the down-wind areas.
3. Support legislative efforts to provide for the automatic federal approval of proposed revisions to State Implementation Plans if the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) fails to take action on such revisions within 12 months of their submittal.
4. Support federal legislative efforts to require the EPA to adopt regulations and policies to ensure that existing state and local programs controlling emissions of hazardous air pollutants, which are equally or more protective of public health, can be found equivalent to National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants promulgated to EPA for a specified source category.
5. Support federal legislative efforts to simplify and streamline the Title V operating permit program in California by optimizing the use of the current permit program and restricting additional requirements to only those necessary to meet minimum requirements of the federal Clean Air Act.
6. Support federal legislation to require the federal EPA to mandate maximum feasible emission reductions from emission sources over which the EPA has responsibility for such reductions.
7. Support legislation to require all mobile emissions source categories provide their fair share of emission reductions needed to meet state and federal emission reduction targets, including those for greenhouse gases (GHG).
8. Support legislation to require additional, cost-effective reductions in mobile source emissions.
9. Oppose legislation that creates administrative burdens on air pollution control agencies and regulated sources and that provide little or no air quality benefits.

10. Support legislative efforts that would maintain the authority of local districts to regulate stationary sources of air pollution by limiting or rejecting any increases in the allowable uses of registered portable equipment at those sources.
11. Oppose legislation that prohibits air pollution control districts from imposing emission limits, testing and reporting requirements on already regulated stationary source categories.
12. Oppose legislation that creates an elected California Air Resources Board and eliminates the requirement for some members to retain technical expertise in the following categories: Automotive engineering or closely related fields; chemistry, meteorology or related scientific fields, including agriculture or law; physician and surgeon or an authority on health effects of air pollution; and an additional member who meets one of these qualifications or has expertise in air pollution control.
13. Oppose legislation or administrative actions that would result in the loss of the San Diego region position on the California Air Resources Board.

B. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

1. Support legislative efforts to require project applicants to pay lead and responsible agencies for all costs associated with CEQA reviews and indemnify such agencies against court costs, attorney's fees and judgments related to their projects.

C. Electric Vehicles and Emission Reduction Programs

1. Support legislation that encourages or incentivizes the use of low emission vehicles such as plug-in hybrids.
2. Support legislation and regulatory changes statewide that would help increase the affordability and availability of electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
3. Support legislation that encourages or incentivizes the use of cleaner burning alternative fuels.
4. Support legislation that encourages or incentivizes the use of higher efficiency consumer products, including appliances.

D. Funding

1. Support legislative efforts to maintain federal grant funds to air districts at levels commensurate with federal mandates.
2. Support legislative efforts to continue the direct funding of air districts in the event federal air grants are included in block grants to the states.
3. Support legislative efforts to assure that state grants to local air districts are maintained commensurate with state mandates.

4. Support legislative efforts to increase funding of emission reduction programs related to stationary and mobile sources.
5. Support state legislation to allow air districts more flexibility in how state funding is allocated for projects reducing emissions from mobile sources.
6. Support state legislation to provide funding to increase toxic air contaminant monitoring locations in California.
7. Support state legislation to fund state board costs for the Air Toxics Hot Spots program from the State General Fund.
8. Support legislation to help ensure San Diego County receives an equitable and population-based share of state and federal air quality improvement funding.
9. Support legislation to give more weight to population in providing funding to air pollution control agencies.
10. Support legislation to provide funding to reduce diesel emissions from school buses.
11. Support legislation that would require that fines and penalty monies for violations issued by an air district remain with that air district.
12. Support legislation that would allocate state funding to air districts for emission reduction projects (e.g., Carl Moyer program projects) in a manner that is more closely based on population distribution.
13. Support legislation that would increase state subvention funding for air pollution control districts to pay for state-mandated air pollution control activities that help protect public health.
14. Support legislation that provides funding to reduce emissions from goods movement.
15. Support legislative action that extends the availability of incentive fund programs for emission reduction.
16. Support state legislation or administrative action that provides equitable and continued funding for the ongoing implementation of community air monitoring and emission reductions.

E. Single-County Air Pollution District

1. Oppose state legislation that would require single-county air pollution districts to include representatives from cities on their governing boards.

II. BUDGET AND FISCAL

The policy of the County of San Diego with respect to various budget and fiscal matters shall be as noted below.

A. Bond Funding Distribution

1. Support legislation that includes an equitable allocation and distribution of bond funding selection criteria that allows for the participation of all jurisdictions throughout California, including San Diego.
2. Support legislation that recognizes the unique characteristics of border areas and the needs for related infrastructure such as ports and ports of entry, transportation related to goods movement, and air and water quality improvements related to cross border pollution.
3. Support legislation that provides maximum flexibility to local jurisdictions for making decisions on the use of bond funds for local projects.

B. Federal Funding

1. Support federal legislation that would require states to distribute federal pass-through funds in an equitable manner to local subdivisions of the state.
2. Oppose legislation that would prospectively or retroactively restrict or eliminate the availability of traditional local government financing practices and instruments, such as the issuance of tax exempt obligations on a direct or conduit basis.

C. Government Restructuring

1. Support legislation that would align responsibility with authority and provide the necessary resources to execute the responsibility.
2. Support legislation that would eliminate competition among local agencies for the authority or resources reasonably necessary to discharge their responsibilities.
3. Support legislation that would manage the tax burden on the public to prevent taxation from growing faster than personal income growth.
4. Support legislation that would address the inverse relationship between tax revenue and service demand.
5. Support legislation that would bring state and federal laws into line with existing County regulations and ordinances.
6. Support legislation that provides consistency between California code of regulations and state statutes.
7. Support legislation that improves notification and transparency within the application process for the exercise of the governor's commutation power.

D. Incorporations/Revenue Neutrality

1. Oppose legislation that would repeal the revenue neutral provision; and support improvements on procedural, definitional and technical issues related to the incorporation process of a new city that would enhance the transition to cityhood.

E. Maintenance of Effort Requirements

1. Support legislation that would eliminate financial and service level maintenance-of-effort requirements.

F. Mandated Programs

1. Support legislation that would require the state and federal governments to provide full funding of all costs to counties for all mandated programs.
2. Support legislation that would provide that the state reimburses counties for any unfunded mandate imposed by a ballot measure that has previously been found by the Commission on State Mandates to contain reimbursable activities or programs.
3. Support legislation that would prohibit the state from mandating that a county participate in a specific demonstration or pilot project without the express consent of the board of supervisors of that county.
4. Oppose a "super mandate" that would set as the first priority of local government one type of service or services, such as law enforcement or fire services, without regard for other mandated services.
5. Oppose legislation that would impose on counties a mandated service for which the County is required to raise a local fee or tax to generate monies to fund the services.
6. Support legislation that would protect residents of the unincorporated area from the costs that may result from region-wide mandates.
7. Support legislation that would expand local government representation on the Commission on State Mandates.
8. Support legislation that streamlines the state mandate process, making the reimbursement process less lengthy or onerous for local government.
9. Support legislation that provides relief to counties from penalties associated with mandated programs.
10. Support legislation that requires the state to evaluate the cumulative fiscal impact on local government when considering proposals that change existing law.
11. Oppose legislation creating local mandates or programs that do not provide full funding and resources for additional regulatory activities to be carried out by local government.

G. Prevention Efforts

1. Support legislation focusing state and federal resources on services that prevent costly social and health problems, and thereby avoid the need for more costly state or local intervention at a later time.
2. Support legislation restricting advertisement of tobacco, liquor and other products that are known to damage health.

H. Revenues, Fees and Taxes

1. Alcoholic Beverage Excise Tax
 - a. Oppose legislation that would place into the constitution inadequate alcohol excise tax limits, and that would not guarantee a fair distribution of proceeds to counties to address alcohol related health care and law enforcement needs.
2. Government Tax Exemptions
 - a. Oppose exemptions that would reduce local revenue without compensating revenues or reductions in service responsibility.
3. Property Tax Administration
 - a. Support legislation that would require that all local taxing agencies share in the cost of property tax administration.
 - b. Support legislation that would offset the costs incurred by the County in administering the property tax system on behalf of other taxing agencies.
 - c. Support reinstatement of funding for the Property Tax Administration Program.
4. Property Tax Revenue Allocations
 - a. Support a statutory or constitutional redistribution of property tax revenues that more equitably reflects local government responsibilities.
 - b. Oppose measures requiring counties to provide a share of existing property tax revenue to "no" or "low property tax cities."
5. Retail Sales Tax Fund
 - a. Support sales tax distribution formulas that would allocate sales tax funds based on a combination of population and situs, with sales tax growth allocated throughout the region on a per capita basis.
6. Sales Tax Exemption for Local Governments
 - a. Support legislation that would exempt local governments from payment of state and local sales tax on the purchase of goods.

7. Payment in Lieu of Taxes and Secure Rural Schools
 - a. Support full funding of the Payment in Lieu of Taxes and Secure Rural Schools programs.
8. Tax Increment Financing
 - a. Support legislation to reinstate tax increment financing as a tool for projects beneficial to the region, but only if protections are included to mitigate negative financial and operational impacts on affected agencies.
 - b. Oppose legislation that would expand the application of tax increment financing without appropriate criteria to protect against abuse.
9. Taxing Authorization
 - a. Oppose legislation that would reduce local discretion over locally imposed taxes such as transient occupancy tax.
 - b. Support a constitutional amendment prohibiting California courts from ordering a legislative body to raise local levies — such as taxes, fees and assessments — to fulfill a court order.
10. Gas Tax
 - a. Support legislation that would protect gas tax allocations to counties and cities, and/or prevent the state from suspending gas tax payments for any time period.
11. County Fines, Fees and Charges
 - a. Support legislation that would give local government agencies authority to send delinquent civil and criminal amounts owed, where the amount has been reduced to a judgment or is contained in an order of the court, to the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) and/or Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for collection.
 - b. Oppose legislation that shifts fines, fees and forfeitures away from the County.
12. State Fees and Fee Administration
 - a. Support legislation that would require the state to provide an adequate apportionment of funds collected by the state to the County to execute the local responsibility.
 - b. Support legislation that requires the state to include a public outreach component with any new fee the state requires the County to collect on its behalf.
13. Taxation of Employee Deferred Compensation Plan Contributions
 - a. Support legislation that would provide state or local public sector employees with

the option of paying taxes on their deferred compensation plan contributions at the time in which the contributions are made in exchange for receiving tax free distributions at retirement.

- b. Support federal legislative efforts that would extend to all retirees the option to use tax free distributions from qualified retirement plans to pay for medical and long-term care premiums.

14. Small Business

- a. Support legislation that facilitates the State's engagement with federal small business technical assistance grants.

I. Stabilization/Long-Term Financing of Local Agencies

1. Support legislation that would stabilize local government financing, to increase funding to local agencies in an equitable manner, and to permit the most cost-efficient management of state mandated programs.
2. Support legislation that would, during a state budget crisis, allow local agencies to provide temporary loans between funds under that agency's control and discretion, so long as interest is paid.

J. Statewide Initiative Process

1. Support legislation that would require that each provision of an initiative measure must be reasonably germane to the general objective of the measure and interdependent with other provisions.
2. Support legislation that would prohibit an initiative from imposing unfunded requirements for new or expanded programs.
3. Support legislation that would prevent the initiative process from being used to incur long-term debt.

K. Suspension of State Bonds

1. Continue to urge the Legislature and the Governor to pass an on-time budget.
2. Support legislative action that would allow suspended funds to be expended now and guarantees funds will be reimbursed when a funding freeze is lifted.
3. Support legislative action that provides the necessary time extension for deadlines established by bond measures impacted by a potential Pooled Money Investment Board suspension action.
4. Provide funding for invoices that are submitted prior to a Pooled Money Investment Board suspension action.

III. GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The policy of the County of San Diego with respect to various general government matters shall be as noted below.

A. Business Efficiency

1. Support legislation that would simplify or eliminate governmental regulation of local government or businesses, or eliminate duplication of federal, state and local requirements.
2. Support legislation that allows local, state, or federal governments to streamline operations and business efficiency.
3. Support legislation to eliminate additional duties imposed on local jurisdictions without adequate funding to offset increased responsibility and associated costs.
4. Oppose legislation where appropriate funding for proper implementation of a new process or new local responsibility is not provided by the state or federal government.
5. Oppose legislation that would impose federal financial penalties on the County resulting from action or inaction by the state.
6. Oppose legislation that reduces or modifies local authority if it is adverse to existing programs, policies, procedures or processes.
7. Support legislation that provides state and/or federal funding for programs that ensure consumer protection.
8. Support legislation that offers favorable tax deductions or credits and/or other incentive and rebate programs for county capital projects.
9. Support legislation that exempts local government agencies from the autodial provisions of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act.
10. Support legislation that allows local government agencies to participate in the Treasury Offset Program.
11. Support legislation that would enable County employees who perform inspections in their personal vehicles to receive a confidential listing in the Department of Motor Vehicles if requested.
12. Oppose legislation that would modify the size of the Board of Supervisors and/or reduce their existing authority to appoint county executives, county counsels or chief probation officers.
13. Oppose legislation that would eliminate or minimize the representation level or role of the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors on the Board of Directors for the San Diego Association of Governments, North County Transit District or any other local governing agency.

14. Oppose legislation that would limit and/or hinder a local government's ability to provide quality customer service.
15. Support a budget process for programs that is based on full, current costs and considers adequate implementation time for automation, training and other necessary operational changes.

B. California Operational Area Coalition

1. Support establishment of the California Operational Area Coalition as an affiliate member of the California State Association of Counties.

C. Civil Rights

1. Support legislation that would strengthen protections and remedies against employment discrimination without placing an unfair burden of proof upon employers.
2. Support legislation that would have a positive impact on race/human relations.

D. County Law Library

1. Support a permanent and secure funding source for county law libraries and ultimately transferring all responsibilities, including financial support, for law libraries away from counties to courts or other appropriate state agency, consistent with other court-related functions that have been transferred from counties to the state.

E. Disaster Relief

1. Support legislation that would extend the timeframe in which a property owner may transfer the base-year value of property damaged or destroyed in a declared disaster to a replacement property (within the same county).
2. Support legislation that would provide or increase funding for the San Diego region in the event of a disaster or emergency.
3. Support legislation that would provide increased funding and flexibility to local housing authorities for housing and/or housing-related services (such as emergency vouchers, utility assistance programs and other rapid re-housing programs) in the event of a disaster or emergency.

F. Economic Development

1. Support legislation that would enhance business development and the creation of jobs by improving the availability of loans for business development and targeted tax credits, including expansion of Enterprise Zones tax credits for worker recruitment.
2. Support legislation that would authorize counties to exempt public works projects from the prevailing wage requirement.

3. Support legislation that would conform state law to federal provisions which exempt non-profit organizations and volunteer labor from requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act regarding prevailing wage.
4. Support legislation requiring state and federal agencies to prepare an economic impact analysis of proposed regulations.
5. Support legislation and regulatory changes eliminating state requirements, which exceed parallel federal requirements.
6. Support legislation that would offer financial incentives to businesses wanting to expand or relocate in the state.
7. Support legislation that would increase the capital expenditures limit on the use of tax-exempt industrial development bonds.
8. Support legislation that would expand the powers of locally established authorities that issue tax-exempt industrial development bonds.
9. Support legislation that provides tax incentives thereby encouraging reinvestment in businesses, thus helping the region's economy to grow.
10. Support legislation that enacts reforms that would improve the business climate and strike a balance between economic development and environmental protections.
11. Support legislation to establish and fund institutions of higher education in the San Diego region thereby enhancing economic development.
12. Support legislation that diverts property tax increment revenue to finance public works projects in border development zone infrastructure finance districts.
13. Support legislation that would make it easier to establish an assessment district for business and mixed-use developments in cities and counties.
14. Support efforts that would adjust the Federal Housing and Finance Agency's 2010 direction to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac prohibiting the mortgage lenders from purchasing mortgages with Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) assessments, so that residential PACE programs can move forward.
15. Support legislation that would allow a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) lien to be subordinated so that the County can further pursue options for residential PACE programs.
16. Oppose federal or state legislation that would eliminate or restrict the use of Orcas at Sea World.

G. Elections

1. Support legislation that would require the state to pay all expenses for a special election proclaimed by the Governor to fill a vacancy in the state Senate or Assembly, or in the U.S. Senate or House of Representatives, or for a special statewide purpose.

2. Support legislation that would restrict voting eligibility on county ballot measures affecting only unincorporated areas to voters registered in those areas.
3. Support legislation that would increase the maximum count of voters allowed in each election precinct.
4. Support legislation requiring stronger voter identification procedures while registering or voting, including presentation of proof of citizenship and photo identification.
5. Support legislation that strengthens penalties for persons convicted of voter fraud.
6. Support a change in state law that would allow all-mail ballot elections in San Diego County.
7. Support legislation that improves or enhances the County of San Diego's authority to conduct all-mail ballot elections for state legislative and congressional special elections.
8. Support legislation that would prohibit an administrator of a school district or community college district from soliciting contributions for the campaign or legal defense fund of an elected official, or any candidate for an elected office, of that district.
9. Support legislation that clarifies the requirements for conducting a post-election canvass to ensure timely certification of the election results.
10. Support legislation that provides feasible standards for conducting election audits to ensure the accuracy of election results.

H. Employment Verification

1. Support legislation that advances the use of E-Verify or a similar federal system by government agencies and the private sector.
2. Oppose legislation that would limit the County's ability to review and consider criminal conviction history and credit history in the hiring process.
3. Oppose legislation that attempts to eliminate or restrict the County's receipt of Subsequent Arrest Notifications and Subsequent Arrest Disposition Notifications.

I. Facility Standards

1. Support legislation protecting local discretion regarding building and fire code standards.
2. Support legislation that will advance or encourage the placement of Stop the Bleed type bleeding control kits in all public buildings in the same way automated external defibrillator (AED) units are stationed throughout California.

J. FEMA and Insurance on Public Buildings

1. Oppose federal legislation or regulations that would require local governments to purchase property insurance, or earthquake insurance, on public buildings as a condition of eligibility for federal disaster assistance.

K. Information Superhighway

1. Support federal legislation that would permit counties to require franchise agreements, and impose franchise fees, for companies wishing to use the public right-of-way to offer cable television and video services.
2. Support legislation that encourages competition for cable television or video services, to the extent it does not eliminate or diminish rights currently held by the County.
3. Oppose legislation that would diminish the County's control of the public right-of-way.
4. Oppose legislation that would eliminate or diminish the County's ability to utilize cable television or telecommunications resources for emergency response purposes, including the ability to use cable television resources to provide essential information to the public during an emergency or natural disaster.
5. Oppose telecommunications legislation that restricts or removes the County's ability to regulate facilities in the public right-of-way.
6. Support legislation that prohibits competitive video service providers from denying service to any group of potential subscribers because of the income of residents in the local area (redlining).
7. Oppose legislation that reduces the County's ability to enforce anti-redlining measures through its franchise authority.
8. Support legislation to improve broadband accessibility in San Diego County and throughout California.

L. Labor Relations

1. Oppose legislation that would impede local administration of labor relations.
2. Oppose legislation that would require compulsory binding arbitration for public employees.
3. Oppose legislation that would increase county costs or mandate currently negotiable employee group health and welfare benefits.
4. Oppose legislation that would increase the cost of administering benefits or mandate that specific group health and welfare benefits be provided to all employees.
5. Support legislation modifying the Fair Labor Standards Act to permit adjustable work schedules to meet the needs of management and labor.
6. Support legislation that would require the Secretary of Labor to promulgate regulations relieving public employers of the requirement to pay premium overtime to highly-paid management, administrative and professional employees, as well as retroactive relief for prior overtime liability.

7. Oppose legislation that would expand the Public Safety Officers Bill of Rights to non-peace officer employees.
8. Oppose legislation that would limit an employer's ability to engage in electronic monitoring of the usage of equipment provided to employees.

M. Legal

1. Support legislation that provides public and private accommodations/facilities with the opportunity to cure alleged violations within a reasonable time before a lawsuit can be filed.
2. Oppose legislation that would require trial venues to be held outside of the County of San Diego.
3. Oppose legislation that increases the County's liability or puts local government at risk for litigation.
4. Support legislation that would allow the recovery of attorney's fees incurred in successfully opposing motions to vacate bail bond forfeitures and in opposing motions to extend the appearance period prior to the division of the forfeited bail money.
5. Support legislation that would clarify the juvenile record disclosure law to specifically include counsel representing a local child welfare agency.

N. Liabilities and Immunities

1. Support legislation limiting the liability exposure of public agencies and those with whom they contract to provide public services.
2. Oppose legislation that would weaken the Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act, and support legislation that would continue to limit excessive litigation and medical malpractice insurance premiums.
3. Support legislation that would eliminate the joint and several liabilities of public agencies and replace it with the doctrine of comparative negligence.
4. Support legislation that would repeal or modify state and federal statutes governing the awarding of attorneys' fees in actions against public entities so as to limit the exposure of the public entity.
5. Support legislation that would impose a statute of limitations on requests to pay punitive damages for cases that involve county employees.

O. Library Facilities and Operations

1. Support legislative efforts to provide long-term stable funding for ongoing operations of local libraries through the existing property tax.
2. Support legislation that would authorize a community, upon an affirmative vote of the electorate, to impose a fee or benefit assessment for library purposes.

3. Support legislation that would restore and provide full funding for the Public Library Fund for California public libraries.
4. Support legislation that would restore and provide full funding for the Transaction Based Reimbursements Program.

P. Local Public Meeting Procedure

1. Oppose legislation proposing to restrict the use of executive sessions of the Board of Supervisors.
2. Oppose legislation unreasonably expanding the application of the Brown Act.
3. Support legislation that would prevent the state from waiving existing statutory requirements related to noticing and conducting open public meetings.

Q. Military Benefits

1. Support legislation that would end the Survivor Benefit Plan – Dependency and Indemnity Compensation offset, also known as the “widow’s tax.”

R. Payday Lenders

1. Support removal of loopholes in state and federal regulations governing financial institutions that exempt some financial services providers from basic consumer protections, resulting in short term loans at very high interest rates and fees.

S. Petroleum Pricing Practices

1. Support legislation that would require the phase out of refiner operated retail service stations.
2. Support legislation that would specifically provide that local governments are not preempted from regulating competitive conditions affecting the retail price of gasoline within their jurisdictions.
3. Support legislation that would limit the expansion of refiner owned stations that compete with franchisees.
4. Support legislation that would provide that a branded gasoline franchisee may purchase the franchiser’s branded petroleum products from any location or through any vendor in the franchiser’s wholesale network.
5. Support legislation that would prohibit a refiner, distributor, manufacturer or transporter of petroleum products from charging a franchisee a wholesale price that is markedly out of line with prices in adjacent markets.
6. Support legislation that would require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to regularly acquire information, by company and key city market location, on retail and relevant wholesale prices of motor vehicle fuels, and to make the information available to the public.

T. Project Delivery Authority

1. Support legislation that would extend and/or make permanent the authority for counties to use the design-build method of procurement for public works projects.
2. Support legislation that would expand the allowed use of the design-build process to include projects costing less than \$2.5 million.
3. Support legislation that would allow aggregation of similar design-build projects on two or more separate sites.
4. Support legislation that would streamline the evaluation criteria for design-build entities throughout the selection process.
5. Support legislation that would expand design-build authority to include authority for the alteration, repair or improvement of any building owned or leased to align with that of the Construction Manager at Risk delivery method.
6. Support legislation that would allow the option to award annual extensions of job order contracts for up to two additional years.
7. Support legislation that would allow the use of Multiple Award Construction Contracts as a project delivery method for new construction, as well as maintenance, repair and renovation projects.

U. Public Records and Communication

1. Support legislation that would permit public agencies to charge fees for the full recovery of "extraordinary direct costs" incurred in the process of responding to all types of request for public records, including both electronic databases and non-electronic written records and documents.
2. Oppose legislation that would require local agencies to provide databases in digital format for the cost of duplication only.
3. Support legislation that requires a trustee's deed to include responsible party contact information when the document is recorded.
4. Support legislation that would allow local agencies to establish records retention schedules and retain records for a reasonable amount of time.
5. Oppose legislation that prohibits officers or employees of a local agency that are involved in a state audit or investigation from discussing the information with appropriate county staff, county counsel, local government officials or technical experts.
6. Support legislation clarifying that if a state or local agency record is unlawfully possessed or exempt from disclosure, there is no requirement to make a copy of that record for the person who is returning it pursuant to existing law.
7. Support legislation that amends the State Property Tax Rules to allow electronically signed electronic filings of Property Tax Assessment Appeal Applications.

V. Unemployment Compensation

1. Oppose legislation that would increase employer liability for unemployment compensation or that would reduce local discretion to manage this risk.

W. Workers' Compensation

1. Oppose legislation that would provide or expand presumptive eligibility for the award of benefits for Workers' Compensation or other employee benefits.
2. Oppose legislation that would increase employee benefits without system reforms that would offset increased employer costs.
3. Support legislation that would require rehabilitation services only if a worker is permanently disabled and unable to obtain suitable employment.
4. Support legislation that would allow for decreased employer costs within the Workers' Compensation system.

IV. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The policy of the County of San Diego with respect to various health and human services matters shall be as noted below.

A. Behavioral Health

1. Gambling Treatment Services
 - a. Support legislation to provide funding for gambling treatment services.
2. Substance Use Disorder Services
 - a. Support legislation to stabilize and expand funding for substance use disorder services for adolescents, their families and adults.
 - b. Support legislation that would create and fund a statewide comprehensive continuum of care for youth substance use disorder services, including establishing standards of care that are trauma informed.
 - c. Support legislation to prohibit alcoholic beverage companies from marketing alcoholic beverages directed at youth under the age of 21.
 - d. Support legislation to allocate all surtaxes, interest and penalties collected as a result of a reclassification of alcoholic beverages from beer to a distilled spirit to fund substance use disorder related prevention and treatment services.
 - e. Support funding to expand, promote and encourage voluntary and free Responsible Beverage Sales and Service Training to employees of California Alcohol Beverage

- Control off and on sale licensees, including all direct sales clerks, bartenders and beverage servers in tasting environments.
- f. Support legislation to establish California Department of Health Care Services regulation and oversight of sober living homes.
 - g. Support legislation that would establish stable funding, including the use of Medi-Cal funds, for the Screening and Brief Intervention Referral and Treatment program.
 - h. Support legislation that would remove categorical restrictions regarding the integration of primary health, substance use disorder and mental health services funds.
 - i. Support legislation regarding the integration of primary health, mental health and substance use disorder medical records.
 - j. Oppose legislation that attempts to make further cuts to state and federal substance use disorder treatment funding.
 - k. Support legislation to allow County the flexibility to utilize federal and state funding for behavioral health services delivered by both Federally Qualified Health Centers and community licensed treatment programs.
 - l. Support legislation that would establish effective regulation and controls for the marketing of medical and recreational marijuana, and to prohibit distributors from using advertising practices aimed at youth under the age of 21.
 - m. Support funding for collaborative courts, including drug courts, behavioral health courts, reentry courts, veterans treatment court and other multi-disciplinary evidence based interventions to provide services to individuals in the criminal justice system in order to reduce recidivism.
 - n. Support legislation establishing certification and licensing provisions relating to alcohol and drug counselors to be administered by the State of California and ensure consistency in certification standards.
 - o. Support legislation that seeks to maintain, mandate and utilize the Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System to monitor prescription drug abuse.
 - p. Support legislation that would allow substance use disorder treatment programs licensed by the State to include on-staff physicians with knowledge of addiction medicine as a part of a multi-disciplinary healthcare team.
 - q. Support legislation that enhances treatment of opioid addiction at the local level, including residential drug treatment, case management and medically-assisted treatment.
 - r. Support legislation that would provide funding for care transitions and care coordination from an institutional setting to the community for individuals with a substance use disorder.

- s. Support legislation that would provide education on opioid use risk and consequences to mental, emotional and physical health.
 - t. Support the provision of nicotine replacement therapy in behavioral health treatment services to expand the use of medically-assisted therapy for tobacco cessation, concurrent with substance use addiction.
 - u. Support legislation that provides more local control of alcohol licensing or permitting.
3. Mental Health
- a. Support legislation that would provide an equitable allocation of state and federal mental health funds and provide increased funding in the form of a cost of living adjustment for all programs.
 - b. Support legislation that would ensure that foster children and their parents/guardians have information about and access to safe and effective treatment for children's mental health problems, including available medications.
 - c. Support legislation that would establish and fund programs that provide better care coordination for adults and older adults with mental health disabilities and children with mental health special needs.
 - d. Oppose legislation that would impose an undue higher monitoring standard for psychotropic medications than for non-psychotropic medications.
 - e. Support legislation that appropriates funding to augment services and programs that focus on addressing and preventing factors associated with the high incidence of youth suicide and self-inflicted injuries.
 - f. Support legislation to continue flexibility in the allocation of Mental Health Services Act funds to counties.
 - g. Support legislation that would improve or increase flexibility in utilization of Mental Health Services Act Innovation funds.
 - h. Oppose legislation designed to divert Mental Health Services Act funds away from the provision of behavioral health services.
 - i. Oppose legislation designed to divert local control of Mental Health Services Act funds away from counties unless specific provisions ensure the funding will be designated to the local county at a rate no less than the original allocation.
 - j. Support federal legislation to remove the exclusion of Medicaid coverage for patients aged 21 through 64 who are treated in an Institution for Mental Disease or a free-standing non-governmental psychiatric facility.
 - k. Support legislation that allows for the development of pilot programs to prove the efficacy of removing the Institution for Mental Disease exclusion.

- l. Support legislation to encourage and facilitate the integration of substance use disorder, mental health and primary health services delivery models and medical records.
- m. Support legislation that provides military service veterans afflicted with mental health disorders as a result of their military service, and are criminal defendants, with sentencing court options for treatment and rehabilitation services that will allow them to be self-sufficient and successfully re-integrate into society.
- n. Support legislation that provides funding and supportive services for military service veterans afflicted with mental health disorders as a result of their military service.
- o. Oppose legislation that would require acute psychiatric hospitals to maintain a state-mandated patient classification system that imposes criminal penalties for accidental noncompliance.
- p. Support legislation to authorize Marriage and Family Therapists to bill Medi-Cal for behavioral health services.
- q. Support legislation that would strengthen the enforcement process of the judicial order for mental health treatment under Laura's Law, while protecting the civil rights of the mentally ill.
- r. Support legislation that would identify additional revenue streams and allow the use of funding sources that are not currently an option to support Laura's Law.
- s. Support legislation to provide Institutions for Mental Disease appropriate reimbursement rates.
- t. Support legislation that would establish and fund suicide prevention and other programs specifically designed to assist military service members and veterans in dealing with post-traumatic stress disorder and associated illnesses.
- u. Support legislation that increases funding for expanded services for children under the Katie A. lawsuit.
- v. Support legislation that would further expand funding for services for children experiencing a psychiatric crisis and expand crisis residential licensing for this age group.

B. Block Grant Funding

1. Support legislation that fully funds Social Services Block Grant programs and increases the allocations to keep up with inflation and population growth.
2. Support legislation that fully funds Community Services Block Grant programs and increases the allocations to keep up with inflation and population growth.
3. Support legislation to fully fund the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Block Grant programs for clients diagnosed with mental

health and substance abuse issues, and increase the allocations to keep up with inflation and population growth.

4. Support legislation to fully fund Prevention Block Grant to support public health prevention programs and infrastructure.

C. Caregivers

1. Support legislation that would provide or enhance tax credits to caregivers of older adults, child care providers and foster parents.
2. Support legislation that would provide additional funding and resources to Caregiver Resource Centers.

D. Child Care and Development

1. Support legislation that would authorize increased funding for child care services for low-income parents, especially those with children 3 years of age or less.
2. Support legislation that would fund before and after school programs for children in elementary, middle and junior high schools.
3. Support legislation that would provide additional state funding for child care subsidies for low-income working families.
4. Support legislation that would establish the authority to collect overpayments in subsidized child care programs.
5. Support legislation that would increase child care access and capacity for underserved populations such as infants and toddlers, children with special needs, rural and urban populations, and children needing non-traditional hours of care.
6. Support legislation to adequately fund child care programs for middle and junior high school-aged children requiring supervision.
7. Support legislation that would develop and establish a tiered-reimbursement system for subsidized, licensed child care programs based on a quality rating system.
8. Support legislation to align CalWORKs Stage 1, 2 and 3 regulations.

E. Child Welfare Services

1. Child Welfare Laws
 - a. Support legislation that would clarify child welfare laws and define conditions under which children could be removed from their homes.
 - b. Support legislation that would clarify the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act to better define how local law enforcement agencies and/or county child welfare services agencies investigate and report findings regarding the report of suspected abuse, such as clear and uniform definitions for the following terms: investigation

- report, investigative file, unfounded report and inconclusive report and addition of a definition of reasonable suspicion as used in investigations related to suspected elder abuse.
- c. Support legislation that would clarify the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act to better define how mandated reporters such as school and hospital staff define and determine safety and risk factors for children, including funding for prescreening tools and/or training.
 - d. Support legislation that requires law enforcement agencies to report to the Child Abuse Central Index every case of known or suspected child abuse or severe neglect that is determined to be substantiated.
2. Temporary Shelter Care Facilities (Polinsky)
 - a. Support legislation that would preserve state funding for temporary shelter care facilities as an option for counties.
 - b. Support legislation that provides extensions or exemptions for youth to remain in temporary shelter care facilities beyond 10 days for good cause.
 - c. Oppose legislation that would end temporary shelter care facilities as an option for counties.
 3. Family Preservation
 - a. Support legislation that would ensure stable, full funding of family preservation services.
 - b. Support legislation that would increase funding for preventative services for families served by Child Welfare Services, Probation and/or community agencies.
 - c. Support legislation that would provide funding for preservation or prevention services for families with substance abuse and mental health concerns.
 4. Foster Care
 - a. Support legislation that would increase funding for respite care, childcare and increase Head Start capacity services for caregivers of foster children and youth in foster care who are pregnant and/or parenting.
 - b. Support legislation that would continue to allow payment of state Aid to Families with Dependent Children Foster Care for children placed with relatives, provided the state assumes financial responsibility for both the costs of payments and program administration.
 - c. Support legislation that would require the state to assume full responsibility for foster parent liability, including third-party liability.

- d. Support legislation that would provide funding for program expansion to strengthen services to non-minor dependents and former non-minor dependents who will soon reach the age of majority and will transition from foster care to independence.
 - e. Support legislation that would increase the state or federal funding/reimbursement rate for foster care parents as well as relatives, including grandparents raising grandchildren.
 - f. Support legislation that would allow counties to expand independent living skills programs to youth 14 to 15 years of age.
 - g. Support legislation that would provide funding for reimbursement of the County's share of cost of child care expenses incurred by foster parents for pre-school age children or for older children when absence is necessary to fulfill their responsibilities as foster parents (e.g., court appearances, training, etc.).
 - h. Support legislation to authorize counties to obtain criminal background information, including Child Abuse Central Index, state and federal information, for "adults of importance," volunteers and all prospective caregivers, including prospective legal guardians referred by Probate Court, of foster children.
 - i. Support legislation that would clarify and simplify the Resource Family Approval (RFA) process, including which type of assessment is intended when the Welfare and Institutions Code uses the word "assessment" as it relates to RFA approvals versus adoption approvals.
 - j. Support legislation that implements well thought out congregate care reform, taking into account the needs of all children and providing a system that accounts for all children.
 - k. Support legislation that would increase the state contribution/reimbursement rate for children placed in out-of-home care who have permanent plans other than adoption or guardianship.
 - l. Support legislation that would provide additional funding and/or resources for recruitment, retention and support for caregivers.
5. General
- a. Support legislation that would protect the physical, emotional and mental health of children and youth, promote their educational development, and ensure the availability of support services for them.
 - b. Support legislation that would appropriate and allocate adequate funding for mandated caseload standards.
 - c. Support legislation that would provide funding for appropriate and adequate mental health screening and services for foster youth.
 - d. Support legislation that would provide incentives, rather than sanctions, for meeting expectations for which there are no federal mandates.

- e. Support legislation that would preserve and/or enhance funding for staffing, services, training, resources and placements related to Commercially Sexually Exploited Children.
- f. Support legislation that would streamline processes related to assessing the need and securing authorization for psychotropic medication for foster youth, while maintaining appropriate checks and balances.
- g. Support legislation or administrative action that would extend Title IV-E waivers or provide funding for the transition to the Family First Prevention Services Act.
- h. Oppose legislation that would limit congregate care settings to medical models.
- i. Support legislation that would delay a referral to child support services and suspend a money judgment order on an existing child support case when families are working on a reunification plan.
- j. Support legislation that would improve data sharing between child welfare services and child support services.

F. Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

1. Support legislation to provide funding toward the improvement of the EMS/trauma/specialty care systems and emergency department facilities.
2. Oppose legislation that would mandate additional duties on counties with respect to monitoring the EMS system without appropriating funds to reimburse counties for the costs.
3. Oppose legislation that would restrict the imposition of EMS/trauma/specialty care facility designation fees or redesignation fees.
4. Support legislation that would protect the confidentiality of records or proceedings of medical quality assurance committees established by a county to monitor or evaluate the appropriateness, quality or level of pre-hospital emergency medical services or jail medical care procedures.
5. Oppose legislation that would reduce or eliminate the Maddy Fund distribution formula for local EMS agency use.
6. Oppose legislation that would increase costs for distribution of the hospital and physician portions of the Maddy Fund without appropriate adjustment in the administrative allowance for local EMS agencies.
7. Support legislation that would provide state funding for pre-hospital emergency services, including first responder agencies.
8. Oppose legislation that would weaken the authority and regulatory role of the Local EMS Agency (LEMSA) to plan, implement and evaluate all aspects and components of the EMS system.

9. Oppose legislation that would result in fragmentation of the EMS system and allow cities and special districts to provide EMS independent of County/LEMSA administration and medical oversight.
10. Support legislation to fund and train all first responders, including Emergency Medical Technicians, paramedics, firefighters and law enforcement on naloxone administration.
11. Support legislation that would address drug shortages in the pre-hospital environment while maintaining patient safety.
12. Support legislation that would encourage integration of pre-hospital electronic health record systems with the data systems of LEMSAs and hospitals.

G. Faith-Based Services

1. Support legislation to eliminate federal barriers that prevent faith-based and community entities from competing for federal funding.
2. Support legislation to bring faith-based services and resources to this region.

H. First 5 Commission

1. Oppose legislation that would eliminate or reduce county flexibility in the use of Proposition 10 funds, or would supplant state funds with Proposition 10 funds.
2. Support legislation that would assist counties in using Proposition 10 funds to draw down the maximum amount of federal, state and/or other matching funds.
3. Support legislation that is consistent with the County's strategic plan and furthers the support and improvement of early childhood development and school readiness within the County.
4. Oppose legislation increasing the tax on tobacco-related products that would be used for anything other than health care.
5. Support legislation increasing the tax on tobacco-related products that provides for the backfill of Proposition 10 and Proposition 10's backfill of Proposition 99.
6. Support legislation that would mandate stricter enforcement of the taxation of tobacco-related products purchased via the Internet and the fraudulent sale of tobacco-related products.
7. Oppose legislation that would limit or reduce local control of county First 5 Commissions.
8. Oppose legislation that would reduce or eliminate dedicated funding to county First 5 Commissions.

I. Fraud Detection and Prevention

1. Support legislation that would authorize a tamper-resistant identification system for public assistance programs.

2. Support legislation that would create a national clearinghouse to coordinate welfare program elements such as child support enforcement, program sanctions, time limits and fraud detection.
3. Support legislation that would impose strong criminal and eligibility sanctions on those who commit or assist fraud against public assistance programs.
4. Support legislation that would assess an administrative and interest fee on the outstanding balance resulting from intentional fraud of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) overpayments or CalFresh/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) over-issuances.
5. Support legislation that would expand access to the Federal Income Eligibility Verification System, currently used for TANF, Medi-Cal and CalFresh/SNAP, to include county-funded general relief programs.
6. Support legislation that would streamline the verification process and provide adequate time to process expedited services and immediate need applications.
7. Support legislation that would expand protections against Medi-Cal provider fraud.
8. Support legislation to fund the California Department of Education to initiate investigations and program security activities throughout the state to identify and mitigate child care fraud and to discontinue subsidies to individual providers or parents who have committed fraud until repayment is made.

J. General Relief

1. Support legislation that would repeal county requirements to provide general relief contained in Welfare and Institutions Code Section 17000 et seq.
2. Support legislation that would transfer to the state the responsibility for financing general relief.
3. Support legislation that would authorize counties to limit benefit levels based on available general relief budget appropriations, suspending the program when funds are exhausted.
4. Support legislation to deny eligibility for general relief to convicted drug felons.
5. Oppose legislation that shifts the costs of providing assistance to low-income individuals from the state through the CalWORKs program to counties through the General Relief program.
6. Oppose legislation that includes in immigration reform a shift of federal responsibility and costs to state and local government, including a shift to local benefits because they are denied federal benefits.

K. Homeless/Supportive Housing

1. Support legislation that would allocate and/or increase funding for additional permanent supportive housing for vulnerable populations (i.e., homeless, veterans, individuals living with HIV/AIDS, mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, seniors, disabled, low-income families, survivors of commercial sexual exploitation, transition age youth, persons involved with the criminal justice system, pregnant women, etc.) for purposes of stabilization, treatment and access to supportive services.
2. Support legislation that increases funding for homeless outreach and housing navigation efforts to vulnerable individuals.
3. Support legislation and funding to implement an infectious disease homeless program.

L. Housing and Community Development

1. Support legislation regarding the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that would:
 - a. Consolidate and streamline programs as much as possible.
 - b. Eliminate or reduce unnecessary program and financial requirements.
 - c. Limit the role of HUD to fiscal and programmatic oversight.
 - d. Streamline the HUD decision making process by providing HUD field offices with the administrative authority to address local public housing authority regulatory requests.
 - e. Reduce local agency operational requirements and allow more program flexibility that will increase efficiency and program effectiveness.
 - f. Eliminate old, and reject new, matching and leverage fund requirements imposed on local government agencies.
 - g. Assign administrative responsibility and funding for housing and community development programs to local jurisdictions.
 - h. Maintain Housing Quality Standards (HQS) as a landlord friendly and understood methodology for inspection of units for the Section 8 Program and oppose efforts to replace HQS with the Uniform Physical Conditions Standard inspections protocol.
 - i. Support federal legislation that would update the funding formula for dispersing HUD-related monies to the San Diego region for a more equitable equation that takes into account the size of the region and the number of homeless persons that reside here.
2. Support legislation that fully funds Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act requirements.
3. Support legislation that provides increased funding for the creation of affordable housing.

4. Support legislation that would ensure that local agencies receive a fair share of the allocation of state and federal affordable housing resources and community development funds.
5. Support legislation that would permit maximum local control and determination of the use of state and federal affordable housing resources and fair market rent.
6. Support the existing Housing Choice Voucher program, including fully funding Housing Assistance Payment renewal contracts and Administrative Fees to public housing authorities, and oppose any proposal to replace it with block grants to local housing authorities.
7. Support increased funding of housing and community development programs such as Emergency Solutions Grant, Community Development Block Grants, Continuum of Care Program, HOME Investment Partnerships, Housing Choice Voucher, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS and Public Housing.
8. Support legislation or administrative action to renew and expand the Assisted Living Waiver, a Home and Community-Based Services waiver that assists eligible Medi-Cal seniors and persons with disabilities to remain safely in their community as an alternative to residing in a licensed health care facility.
9. Support new or increased funding for programs that support veteran, homeless and elderly housing.
10. Oppose legislation that would reduce funding for Housing Assistance Payment renewal contracts or ongoing administrative fees.
11. Support legislation that would prohibit an offset against Public Housing operating reserves.
12. Support legislation that would fully fund the Public Housing Capital Fund and Operating Fund programs.
13. Support legislation that increases the allocation or number of Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program vouchers.
14. Support legislation that enhances incentives for energy efficiency upgrades to public housing or affordable housing providers.
15. Support state and federal legislation to provide additional funding to acquire, develop or rehabilitate affordable housing and address homelessness for vulnerable populations such as veterans and seniors experiencing homelessness and persons with serious mental illness.
16. Support legislation that would provide administrative allowance funding to Housing Successor Agencies for carrying out the housing obligations of former redevelopment agencies.

17. Support legislation that would extend the four-year term for Housing Administrative Allowance funding to Housing Successor Agencies obligated to accept transferred redevelopment-funded housing assets from other jurisdictions.
18. Support legislation that would provide adequate funding for the administrative costs associated with housing programs, including ongoing monitoring and compliance costs.
19. Support funding to engage, recruit and incentivize landlord participation in affordable housing programs, including tenant based rental assistance programs.

M. Issues Affecting Older Adults

1. Support legislation that would prohibit the Department of Motor Vehicles from releasing, with minor exceptions, the addresses and personal information of adult protective service employees, public guardians/public administrators and long-term care ombudsmen and their families.
2. Support legislation that would increase transportation access and benefits for older adults and adults with disabilities.
3. Support legislation that would provide adequate funding for mandated and non-mandated programs for senior and disabled populations, including state-only funded programs, such as the Linkages Program and Senior Companion, which helps frail and elderly adults with disabilities to remain at home and maximize their independence.
4. Support legislation to fund the County's Project CARE program and to provide a coordinated system of access for older adults and persons with disabilities for daily or emergency contacts to vulnerable citizens.
5. Support legislation to require and provide funding for criminal record checks using the FBI nationwide search process for In-Home Supportive Services home care providers.
6. Support legislation to exempt volunteer stipends from being treated as income towards the SSI benefit.
7. Support legislation to increase funding that would assist seniors at all income levels with re-entering or improving skills in order to participate or remain in the workforce.
8. Support legislation to build on the aging network to fund and establish long-term care services and supports, including more affordable assisted living.
9. Support legislation that would provide full funding for the Long Term Care Ombudsman program at the state and federal levels.
10. Support legislation that provides funding for evidence-based practices for seniors and persons with disabilities such as fall preventions, chronic disease self-management and care transitions models.
11. Support legislation that uses the Elder Economic Security Standard Index or another similar method instead of the current Federal Poverty Level to determine the cost of

meeting basic needs for older adults, and that is funded by the state and/or federal government.

12. Support legislation that provides funding for individuals at risk of, or currently experiencing, cognitive decline/dementia, to support them with decision-making in the areas of health care and finances so they may safely age in place in their home, as opposed to a facility, for as long as possible.
13. Support legislation that maintains or enhances funding for lifelong learning for older adults through the community colleges or adult education venues.
14. Support legislation that assists grandparents raising grandchildren and other kinship caregivers with access to state and federal funding and related services, including cash assistance, housing and food assistance, and emotional, social and physical health needs.
15. Support legislation to fully fund the state mandate to provide guardianship or conservatorship services for low-income individuals.
16. Support legislation that builds a care delivery system that provides effective, reliable, high-quality and efficient services to frail, elderly residents who are living with a serious illness and/or disability.
17. Support legislation that would set an adequate capitation rate for Managed Care Organizations to facilitate the provision of home and community-based services and respite services for individuals who need social supports that are not currently covered by Medicare or Medi-Cal benefits.
18. Support legislation that exempts conservatees from coordinated care initiatives.
19. Support legislation and funding for programs that help enable residents to age in place safely including universal access in the design, building and remodel of housing, facilities and other locations.
20. Support legislation that addresses any of the following for Residential Care Facilities, Skilled Nursing Facilities and other long-term care facilities: increases transparency in operations and information disclosure; increases the frequency of facility inspections, including unannounced visits; implements a program that notifies and protects patients and their rights; increases penalties to facilities for non-compliance; and/or reforms to the current programs that protect the health and safety of the patients residing in these facilities.
21. Support legislation or administrative action and funding for a Memory Care Unit at the Veterans Home of California in Chula Vista.
22. Support legislation to fund the Aging and Disability Resource Connection to enhance access to long-term services and supports for older adults and persons with disabilities in the county.

23. Support legislation that would allow community-based organizations to receive reimbursement from Medicare for care transition services provided to fee-for-service Medicare beneficiaries who are at high risk for a hospital readmission.
24. Support legislation that establishes a sustainable way for community-based organizations to be paid for post-hospital services, including monitoring and coordination of services provided by healthcare and social service providers on behalf of chronically ill and disabled patients upon discharge from an acute care hospital or long-term care facility.
25. Support legislation that extends elder abuse restraining orders to include other crimes against the elderly.
26. Support legislation that would provide dental care and benefit options for older adults.
27. Support legislation that would address nutritional concerns in older adults.
28. Support legislation that provides funding for a statewide adult protective services training program.
29. Support legislation that provides funding for assistive devices and other technology, such as hearing aids and eyeglasses, to enable independent living for older adults.
30. Support legislation that provides funding for programs to prevent senior homelessness.
31. Support legislation that provides full funding for updates to the Case Management, Information and Payroll System, which is required to support the In-Home Supportive Services program, including implementation of a statewide electronic document management system.
32. Support legislation that would seek funding for caregiver training programs, including in-home training that provides basic caregiving techniques and skills.
33. Support legislation that promotes professional standards and/or incentives for caregivers.

N. Maternal Child Health

1. Support legislation that would provide equitable funding in the Title V allocation to California.
2. Support legislation that would ensure that any increase in Title V funding remains in core Maternal Child Health programs, with a significant portion of the increased funding going to counties to support their ability to meet local needs.
3. Support legislation that would aid in the implementation of evidenced-based care coordination practices and systems for the whole child within California Children's Services, while not increasing County program costs.
4. Support opportunities to realign the county share of cost for the California Children's Services program back to the State.

5. Support legislation that would maintain or enhance appropriation of State General Fund to Maternal Child Health programs.

O. Medi-Cal

1. Support legislation that would provide choice for beneficiaries who receive medical care through Medi-Cal managed care health plans in the least restrictive environment.
2. Support legislation that would provide for fair and equitable capitation rates for all Medi-Cal managed care health plans operating in the same geographic area.
3. Support legislation that would close the funding gaps for San Diego County health and dental providers that are disproportionately affected by low government payer reimbursement from Medi-Cal and Medicare.
4. Support legislation that would simplify Medi-Cal program administration by combining Medi-Cal programs, increasing property limits or streamlining the overall Medi-Cal eligibility application process.
5. Support legislation that would simplify the forms for Medi-Cal application and the annual renewal process.
6. Support legislation that would raise the medically needy income level for Medi-Cal.
7. Support legislation to continue funding the federal Children's Health Insurance Program to provide health insurance for children of low-income working families.
8. Support legislation that would implement a moratorium and restrictions on Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ability to issue regulations that are in violation of congressional intent.
9. Support legislation to allow the use of electronic data matching with other states to verify identity for purposes of determining eligibility and to prevent fraud.
10. Support legislation that would continue the Child Health and Disability Prevention program as a gateway to Medi-Cal.
11. Support legislation to sustain Medi-Cal funding to ensure counties can provide mental health and substance use disorder treatment in compliance with federal law.
12. Support legislation to sustain Whole Person Wellness programs established by the Medi-Cal 2020 waiver, which focus on reducing Medi-Cal costs among individuals who are high utilizers of multiple public systems.
13. Support legislation that would allow for reimbursement of healthcare services provided in an alternative to custody setting.

P. Medically Indigent Services

1. Support legislation that would amend current law to permit counties to recover costs for services provided to indigents from pre-trial settlements and/or compromises.

2. Support legislation that would provide equitable state funding to counties for health services to the medically indigent.
3. Support legislation that would improve access to available health coverage for United States citizens and legal alien residents.
4. Support legislation that would expand coverage to, and provide adequate funding for, health coverage for the uninsured who are U.S. citizens and legal alien residents.
5. Support legislation that would simplify the administration of, application for, and enrollment and eligibility processes for health coverage programs.
6. Support legislation to establish an income cap for County Medical Services programs.

Q. Mobile Remote Workforce Expansion

1. Support legislation that would provide funding to expand the Mobile Remote Workforce concept throughout the region and through several key projects.

R. Public Health

1. Support legislation that would increase state and federal funding to support basic public health services, including communicable disease control and prevention activities, and local public health surveillance activities.
2. Support legislation that would provide funding for the continuation and/or expansion of statewide programs to prevent, control and treat Hepatitis C, gonorrhea, syphilis and chlamydia.
3. Support legislation that would increase funding for disease investigation activities related to the increase in infectious syphilis cases in California.
4. Support funding for sexually transmitted disease (STD) prevention and control that allows for continuation of core STD program activities (e.g. surveillance, disease intervention), as well as the implementation of innovative and evidence-based approaches to outreach and screening.
5. Support legislation that removes barriers to utilization of preventive, testing and treatments services for sexually transmitted diseases.
6. Support legislation that would increase funding for disease investigation activities related to the increase in foodborne illness cases in California.
7. Support legislation that would increase funding for disease investigation activities of infectious disease outbreak conditions such as influenza, norovirus, Hepatitis A and other communicable diseases in California.
8. Support legislation that would increase funding for disease investigation activities related to emerging communicable diseases, such as Zika, in California.

9. Support legislation that would establish and fund chronic disease prevention and health promotion programs, including programs that support healthy environments and address the social determinants of health.
10. Support legislation that would make health education activities related to chronic disease management and prevention, such as diabetes, obesity counseling and prevention activities, a covered and reimbursable benefit under Medi-Cal, both through fee-for-service reimbursement and health plan capitation payments.
11. Support legislation that would establish and fund oral health prevention and health promotion programs, including activities that support oral health education in schools and the state Oral Health Assessment requirement.
12. Support legislation that restricts the marketing, advertising and promotion of electronic smoking devices to minors in a manner similar to traditional cigarettes.
13. Support legislation that restricts adding flavors to electronic smoking devices that may be more attractive to children.
14. Support legislation that seeks local input on tobacco licensing in an effort to reduce over-concentration of tobacco retailers in disadvantaged communities and the number of retailers near schools.
15. Support legislation and administrative actions that restrict the sales of flavored and menthol tobacco products.
16. Support efforts to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke in all settings, including multi-unit housing, outdoor dining patios and outdoor workplaces.
17. Support legislative and regulatory efforts at the state level to ban the sale of powdered alcohol until its effects are studied.
18. Support legislation that would improve the County's ability to safeguard public health through enhanced Tuberculosis (TB) Control by:
 - a. Increasing TB categorical funding to support TB control efforts throughout the region, including increasing funding for TB prevention by treating those with inactive or Latent TB Infection so that they do not progress to active TB.
 - b. Expanding the Medi-Cal TB program to include undocumented patients, inpatient care and uninsured persons currently ineligible for Medi-Cal.
 - c. Developing the authority for the federal government to issue and enforce federal orders of adherence to TB isolation and/or treatment when non-adherent TB patients cross state or international borders.
 - d. Developing the authority for the Department of Homeland Security to maintain detainees with Multi-Drug Resistant or medically complex TB in federal custody until treatment is completed.

- e. Developing federal appropriations that would ensure full cost recovery for all local expenditures (inpatient and outpatient medical care, housing, etc.) for local health authorities that accept uncomplicated TB patients into the local community.
 - f. Requiring that all detainees released into a U.S. or foreign jurisdiction prior to completion of therapy adhere to therapy or be faced with federal custody until treatment is completed.
 - g. Requiring Department of Homeland Security officials to monitor detainees released in the U.S. to ensure adherence to their conditions of release.
 - h. Requiring that asylum seekers receive federally funded health screenings within 30 days of initiating the application for asylum.
 - i. Requiring immigrants applying for legal permanent residency who have been classified with active tuberculosis to check in with the local health jurisdiction upon entry into the U.S.
 - j. Increasing federal funding for US-Mexico binational TB control initiatives, including programs to treat drug resistant disease and continuity of care strategies.
19. Support legislation that encourages the immunization of children, especially those within the African-American community and other communities with low immunization rates, against diphtheria, tetanus, measles and other serious disease, which will prevent severe long-term impacts on children's health and education.
20. Expand opportunities to develop and implement asthma surveillance, prevention and treatment programs.
21. Support legislation that would allocate existing funding for a nursing education program that provides incentives to increase the recruitment of persons into nursing careers, particularly young men, and men and women of diversity.
22. Support legislation to streamline hospital seismic safety reviews and other delays.
23. Support legislation that would support the use of the FEMA building evaluation tool, Hazards US, as a prerequisite to establishing future hospital seismic-safety policies.
24. Oppose legislation that would eliminate collection of race and ethnicity data.
25. Oppose legislation that would eliminate, cap or reduce funding for Targeted Case Management services.
26. Support legislation to maintain funding for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009.
27. Support legislation that would restore funding for HIV prevention to 2008 levels.
28. Support legislation that maintains appropriations that fund the Prevention and Public Health Fund programs.

29. Support legislation to add azithromycin to the state Medi-Cal formulary, which is the primary medication for pertussis.
30. Support legislation to increase funding for Zika-related, as well as other emerging public health threats, preparedness and response efforts.
31. Support legislative and regulatory efforts to change California law so that certain samples should be sent to the local public health laboratory regardless of whether a laboratory had to perform a culture.
32. Support legislative and regulatory efforts to ensure that any certified electronic health record technology sold in California should include immunization registry functionality.
33. Support legislation that will continue access to pre-exposure prophylaxis through the State of California's AIDS Drug Assistance Program to minimize risk of HIV transmission.
34. Support legislation that provides funding for navigation assistance for individuals seeking pre-exposure prophylaxis to minimize risk of HIV transmission.
35. Support legislation that will increase funding for educational and media campaigns to promote awareness of HIV and programs and resources for addressing HIV.
36. Support legislation that supports or enhances routine HIV screening in primary care settings.
37. Support legislation that provides funding to conduct a local LGBTQ needs assessment.

S. Self-Sufficiency

1. Administration of Assistance Programs
 - a. Support legislation that would align the use of the Federal Poverty Level among related assistance programs.
 - b. Support legislation that would provide counties adequate time to implement automated support for regulation changes prior to imposing financial sanctions for non-compliance.
 - c. Support legislation that would align the application requirements for related assistance programs.
 - d. Support legislation that would align CalWORKs Immediate Need with CalFresh Expedited Services processing timeframes.
2. Supplemental Security Income
 - a. Support legislation that would require timely processing of applications for Supplemental Security Income, both at the state and federal levels.

3. Nutrition Security

- a. Support legislation that would establish a predetermined CalFresh/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) error rate tolerance threshold based upon the greater of the national error rate average or the predetermined threshold.
- b. Support legislation that would provide an additional standard housing deduction formula to existing deductions when determining income for CalFresh/SNAP benefit allotment.
- c. Support legislation to make former foster youth up to the age of 21 eligible for the transitional CalFresh program.
- d. Support legislation that would promote nutrition and health improvement to CalFresh/SNAP recipients.
- e. Support legislation that would provide financial incentives to businesses that provide incentives to CalFresh/SNAP recipients to purchase healthy foods.
- f. Support legislation that would allow community organizations that receive funding to provide nutrition education to also promote the availability of CalFresh/SNAP.
- g. Support legislation that would allow greater cross sharing of data to identify and serve potentially eligible populations.
- h. Support legislation that would incentivize Medi-Cal providers to offer health and nutrition education to Medi-Cal clients, and promote availability of CalFresh/SNAP benefits to purchase nutritional foods.
- i. Support legislation that would streamline the CalFresh/SNAP application process while maintaining program integrity.
- j. Support legislation that would streamline the process for foster youth who age out of the system into the CalFresh/SNAP program.
- k. Support legislation that would continue to advance and facilitate cost-effective electronic and mail-in application processes that are cost-neutral to the County.
- l. Support legislation that would simplify SNAP reporting requirements.
- m. Support legislation that would align the state CalFresh Expedited Services processing timeframe with federal requirements.

T. Skilled Nursing Facilities

1. Oppose legislation that would subject publicly-operated distinct-part skilled nursing facilities to the rate setting process of the California Medical Assistance Commission.
2. Support legislation that would ensure the continuation of adequate reimbursement to publicly-operated distinct-part skilled nursing facilities that provide heavy nursing and therapeutic services to the most vulnerable adults in our society.

3. Support legislation that would allow targeted case management services provided to Mental Health and Public Guardian conservatees by County staff to be billed separately from the federal rate for skilled nursing facilities.
4. Support efforts to obtain a waiver of existing pharmacy licensing requirements for the Edgemoor pharmacy to authorize use of new technologies that will enhance patient safety and operational efficiencies in dispensing of medication.
5. Support funding that will assist with the costs associated with the Edgemoor Health Facility.

U. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

1. Local Government Costs
 - a. Support legislation that would exempt counties from sharing the penalties associated with failure to meet the required work participation rate outcomes when resulting from differences in state and federal rules.
 - b. Support legislation that would adjust the County's CalWORKs maintenance of effort (MOE) to reflect the reduction of the state's TANF MOE and to individual county allocations.
2. Program Administration
 - a. Support legislation that would maintain or increase counties' flexibility to address local needs and priorities including:
 - i. Maintaining or increasing the federal TANF Block Grant funding level and state CalWORKs allocations.
 - ii. Prohibiting the removal of incentive funds by the state.
 - iii. Allowing the flexible use of funds for families who are receiving or at risk of needing child welfare services.
 - iv. Allowing the rollover of unspent incentive funds.
 - v. Allowing the transfer of TANF funds to Title XX.
 - b. Support legislation that would permit local discretion to set TANF lifetime limits.
 - c. Support legislation that would provide for incentives that encourage recipients to seek and achieve employment at levels that will meet the work participation rates and lead to self-sufficiency.
 - d. Support legislation that allows the use of the Federal Data Hub to obtain and verify eligibility information electronically for the Medi-Cal Program.

V. 2-1-1 Services

1. Support legislation that would provide funding to assist in ongoing operation of a 2-1-1 referral system.

W. Welfare Reform

1. Support reform legislation that would eliminate all local costs for state and federal welfare mandates and provide flexibility to local governments for program activities.

V. PLANNING AND LAND USE

The policy of the County of San Diego with respect to various planning and land use matters shall be as noted below.

A. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

1. Support legislation that would set a baseline for cumulative impact analysis in CEQA guidelines that provides a cut-off point for inclusion of new projects in the collective analysis.
2. Support CEQA reform that would streamline process, reinforce effective public involvement, provide information for informed decisions and provide effective environmental protection.
3. Support legislation that would broaden counties' ability to utilize an expedited review process for infill projects.
4. Support legislation that would establish a specified deadline for public comments and challenges to CEQA documents prior to public hearings.
5. Support legislative efforts that seek to require those bringing legal action in CEQA cases to disclose the identity of a person or entity that contributes funding toward the cost of the legal action.
6. Support legislation that would allow for short term events to be exempt from CEQA.
7. Support legislation that clarifies and strengthens a Lead Agency's discretion to determine when significant new information augmenting a Final Environmental Impact Report requires recirculation.
8. Support legislation that clarifies or modifies the standard of review for a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration.
9. Support legislation that clarifies or allows for more time to implement new CEQA guidelines associated with the switch from looking at Level of Service to Vehicle Miles Traveled associated with vehicle trips/traffic.

B. Eminent Domain

1. Support prohibition of eminent domain power to condemn non-blighted, owner-occupied residential property for transfer to other private property owners for more profitable economic development.

C. General Plans and Land Use Planning

1. Support legislation that would exempt a general plan from new requirements if the city or county has formally initiated proceedings during the preceding year for a general plan amendment to comprehensively update the general plan.
2. Oppose legislation that would erode the land use authority of local government.
3. Oppose legislation that would expand the role of the state and councils of government in local land use matters.
4. Oppose legislation that would mandate planning requirements without any provision for financial assistance.
5. Oppose legislation that would impede the land use authority of local agencies by restricting their discretion to deny or condition approval of development projects, which are incompatible with local conditions or land use standards.
6. Oppose legislation that would require too great a level of specificity in elements of the general plan of a local government.
7. Support legislation that provides up to a two-year tentative map extension without compromising long range general planning and corresponding ordinances.
8. Support efforts at the state and federal levels to include vesting provisions in land use regulations so that projects are only responsible for complying with the regulations and rules existing when processing is started.
9. Support legislative efforts that would encourage Agricultural (Ag) Tourism in the San Diego region and benefit local businesses and property owners involved in Ag Tourism.
10. Oppose legislation that would restrict local government participation in state or federal environmental reviews of projects that could impact local jurisdictions.
11. Support state legislative efforts that reduce or ease regulations for local, small-scale businesses seeking to provide food and goods at community based events on agriculture producing properties and/or direct marketing of agricultural products.

D. Housing Programs

1. Oppose legislation that would require counties to impose and administer rent control programs.
2. Support legislation that would make the state Department of Housing and Community Development an advisory agency rather than a regulatory agency.
3. Support legislation that recognizes that unincorporated areas of a county should not be expected to plan “low and very low” income housing in housing elements at densities as high as that expected of high density urbanized areas.

4. Support legislation that recognizes unincorporated areas of a county should receive a lower allocation of multi-family housing for housing elements than in cities.
5. Support legislation that would amend housing element law to provide local governments more flexibility to establish density for a site.
6. Support legislation that would allow unincorporated county land that contains low-income housing that is annexed into a city to count towards the County's regional housing needs contribution.
7. Support legislation that would provide funding for infrastructure development in the unincorporated area that would aid in more opportunities to meet low-income housing requirements.
8. Support legislation that would classify unincorporated counties as suburban or rural.
9. Support legislation that reinstates local land use authority in determining whether density bonus projects are appropriate for a specific community.
10. Support legislation that would allow County-owned properties and land located within an incorporated city that contains or will contain low-income housing to count toward the County's regional housing needs assessment contribution.

E. Impact of Activities on Indian Reservations

1. Support legislation that would provide funding to offset the transportation impacts associated with the development of Indian gaming and other related uses on reservations adjacent to rural areas with limited transportation infrastructure.
2. Support legislation that would preclude newly purchased land from being designated as "tribal land" by the Secretary of the Interior, for existing or newly recognized tribes, in order that the land may be used for Indian gaming and related uses.
3. Support legislation that would require a full Environmental Impact Statement whenever a non-traditional use of land is proposed on an Indian reservation that likely would negatively impact surrounding communities.
4. Support legislation that would require operators of landfills, and other large development projects, on Indian reservations to obtain appropriate state and local permits, and the associated Tribe to enter into an intergovernmental agreement to mitigate impacts.
5. Support legislation that requires prior to an Indian casino or gaming related facility being granted a liquor license, the Tribe with the casino or gaming related facilities must enter into an enforceable agreement with the County to mitigate any adverse off-reservation environmental, public safety, or behavioral/health impacts the liquor license may cause.
6. Oppose legislation that would limit or restrict the ability of federal, state and local government agencies or departments to comment or take a position on any tribal fee-to-trust applications.

F. Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCO)

1. Oppose measures potentially undermining the authority of LAFCOs in incorporations and other government reorganization proposals.

G. Regional Airport

1. Oppose legislation that would directly or indirectly limit consideration of possible airport sites.

H. Regional Growth Management

1. Support legislation that would reduce competition among local agencies for revenue generating development, including the provision of alternatives to existing revenue allocations, but oppose revenue reallocations that would reduce county revenues without compelling justification.
2. Support legislation that would provide counties greater authority to generate revenue to finance regional services.
3. Oppose legislation that restricts the land use authority of the County of San Diego with regard to decisions not having regional significance.
4. Support legislation that would provide additional resources, including adequate funding, to local agencies to address regional growth issues.
5. Support legislation that would authorize local agencies to establish regional authorities to address growth management issues on a voluntary basis.
6. Oppose legislation that would consolidate special purpose agencies at the expense of the technical expertise and enforcement integrity necessary to accomplish special purpose objectives.
7. Support legislation that would require the existence of a plan for the financing of necessary infrastructure improvements prior to the approval of development permits.
8. Oppose legislation that would usurp, or transfer to another state agency, the authority of the County of San Diego to site public facilities.
9. Support legislation that would create a local agricultural property tax incentive program that would allow a local program that could create or modify property tax incentives to encourage agricultural use of land in a manner similar to the state's Williamson Act.

VI. PUBLIC SAFETY

The policy of the County of San Diego with respect to various public protection matters shall be as noted below.

A. Animal Services

1. Support legislation that would increase criminal penalties for the ownership, possession, keeping, training or transportation of a gamecock or other fighting bird, with the intent that such animal be used or engaged by any person in an exhibition of fighting.
2. Support legislation that would promote the spaying or neutering and/or microchip identification of dogs and cats sold by retail pet shops.
3. Support legislation that would provide for a safety plan and information sharing regarding any animal exhibited by a traveling circus or carnival.
4. Support legislation that would amend the federal Animal Welfare Act to ensure humane standards for the treatment of dogs at puppy mills.
5. Support legislation that would prohibit any person from breeding any animal which he or she knows is intended for use in any exhibition or other activity involving a fight between such animal and any other animal or human, or the intentional killing of any animal for the purpose of sport, wagering or entertainment.
6. Support legislation that would increase the penalty for any spectator, including minors, who visit or attend an exhibition of animal fighting from misdemeanor to a felony.
7. Support legislation that would increase criminal penalties for any individual who hosts, permits, aids or causes an animal fight on their premises.
8. Support legislation that would increase criminal penalties for any individual who is found to be in possession of cockfighting paraphernalia.
9. Support legislation that would increase statewide animal control officer training to the standards of the County of San Diego, provided there is no additional cost to the County as a result of the legislation.
10. Support legislation that would promote or require animal-related businesses (pet stores, board facilities, horse stables, etc.) to have a disaster plan on file with the local animal control agency for the evacuation, transportation and sheltering of the animals at their place of business.
11. Support legislation that would promote the microchipping of animals.
12. Support legislation that would establish uniform standards for the conduct of administrative hearings and/or minimum training/certification standards for administrative hearing officers.
13. Support legislation that requires the state to include animal cruelty data in the FBI National Incident Based Reporting System.

B. Child Support Services

1. Support legislation that promotes flexibility, efficiency and modernization within the child support program.
2. Support legislation that would create the flexibility to use state and federal funding for additional supportive services which would reduce the barriers to compliance with the establishment and enforcement of child support.
3. Support legislation that would simplify the California child support guideline formula used to determine the amount of child support to ensure an accurate and payable order.
4. Support legislation that would develop state and federal automated interfaces with the child support system for better location, asset and employment data.
5. Support legislation that would allow documents to be filed electronically with the local court.
6. Support legislation that allows for an electronic signature on required court documents to be filed electronically.
7. Support legislation mandating that a non-custodial parent must be delinquent on their child support payment for a certain period of time prior to filing a real property lien.
8. Support legislation that extends the waiver of court fees on a response or subsequent paper filed in an action brought by the Department of Child Support Services if a custody issue is raised.
9. Support legislation that would increase efficiencies through the use of administrative changes to the program's processes.
10. Support legislation that would change the interest rate charged to parents on past due support to be more in line with the national average.

C. Crime

1. Support legislation that would protect the public from the dangerous and improper use of weapons, and enact necessary regulations to limit or control their use.
2. Oppose legislation that would weaken the authority of local law enforcement to control the issuance of concealed weapons permits.
3. Support enhanced penalties for persons convicted of willfully obtaining or using personal identity information about another person without that person's knowledge or consent.
4. Support legislation that would make it a felony to flee from enforcement officers (high-speed pursuits).
5. Support development of a tamper-proof, permanent Social Security card to reduce various types of fraud.

6. Support legislation to allow appropriate federal border agencies to detain drivers suspected of being under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol and direct them to awaiting local law enforcement for sobriety checks.
7. Support legislation to require the Attorney General to post a notice that operation of a motor vehicle with a drug or alcohol in the driver's body at a land border port of entry is an offense under federal law.
8. Support legislation to encourage credit issuers to adopt tougher fraud prevention practices to prevent identity theft.
9. Support legislation that would provide the County the authority to impose certain civil penalties on those who violate County ordinances, rules and regulations by compromising the protection of public health and safety and the preservation of the environment.
10. Support legislation that would increase penalties for adults convicted of driving while under the influence of drugs or alcohol with a juvenile passenger, 17 years or younger, regardless of any prior offenses or whether there is a parental/guardianship relationship with the juvenile.
11. Support legislation that would mandate the installation of ignition interlock devices by persons convicted of a driving under the influence offense.
12. Support legislation that imposes stricter requirements on junk dealers and recyclers of nonferrous materials and imposes penalties for metal theft offenders or recyclers that do not adequately document and report metal theft offenses.
13. Support funding that will assist with crime and violence prevention, including gang prevention and intervention activities and County task forces.
14. Support legislation that includes theft from an elder or dependent adult as a qualifying offense for sentencing procedures for petty theft.
15. Support legislation that would provide that electronically digitalized copies of records be included as evidence in court proceedings.
16. Support legislation that would offer state programs and financial assistance to victims of crimes.
17. Support legislation that requires the state to issue appropriate notifications if they release or parole inmates sentenced to life, including, but not limited to, victims and their families and the local District Attorney.
18. Support legislation that eliminates court filing fees related to entering civil judgments for victims of crimes.

D. Criminal Justice Reentry Programs

1. Support full funding from the state and federal governments for diversion, adult ex-offender and reentry programs.

2. Support legislation that invests in adult probation services to build a continuum of intervention, prevention and supervision services for adult offenders.
3. Support legislation that provides additional funding and treatment capacity for mental health and substance use disorder treatment, public health and diversion programs, given that the vast majority of offenders in the state and local system struggle with mental health issues and/or substance use disorders, which can affect their criminal behavior.
4. Support legislation providing additional funding to support the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act initiative, which provides a range of juvenile crime prevention and intervention programs and represents a critical component of an overall crime reduction and public safety improvement strategy.
5. Support legislation that invests in diversion programs for persons with mental illness, where treatment and services can help promote long-term stability in mentally ill offenders or those with co-occurring disorders, decrease recidivism and divert appropriate offenders out of the criminal justice system.
6. Support funding opportunities to restore sustainable funding for the Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction program.
7. Support legislation that would provide sufficient and sustainable funding to expand and maintain offender reentry collaborative programming, including behavioral health treatment services, service navigation and housing support, for criminal justice offenders with substance use, mental health or co-occurring disorders reentering California communities.

E. Data Sharing for Evaluation and Service Delivery

1. Support funding that will enhance criminal justice and public safety information technology infrastructure.
2. Support funding that will allow for multi-agency integration of criminal justice, health and housing-related data for research, evaluation and treatment or service coordination.
3. Support legislation that allows criminal justice agencies and treatment providers to share information on individuals in treatment for the purpose of providing appropriate and coordinated services.

F. Detention Facilities

1. Oppose state intervention in local land use decisions; specifically, the siting of detention facilities and other public facilities.
2. Oppose legislation limiting the authority of boards of supervisors to control the operation of detention facilities.
3. Support legislation providing state assistance in funding the operating costs of county detention facilities.

4. Support legislation providing adequate funding to counties to finance the construction, renovations and improvements, operation and maintenance of adult and juvenile detention facilities.
5. Support legislation that invests in improving, expanding and renovating local detention facilities to address potential overcrowding and the responsibilities shifted to counties under 2011 Public Safety Realignment.
6. Support legislation that includes counties and other affected municipalities as active participants in the planning and decision-making processes regarding the expansion of correctional facilities or the site selection for new facilities.
7. Oppose legislation that limits or changes the Probation Department's ability to manage the operations and policies of their juvenile detention facilities.
8. Support legislation to expand the use of video arraignments.

G. Drugs

1. Support legislation to equalize penalties for methamphetamine, cocaine and heroin.
2. Support legislation or administrative actions to improve the interdiction of the flow of drugs into California and San Diego County.
3. Support legislation that would place Ecstasy (MDMA) on Schedule 1 or 2 of California's controlled substances, thus making it illegal to possess or distribute the drug.
4. Support legislation to add butane hash oil, also known as concentrated cannabis, to the list of substances that may receive harsher penalties when they pose a risk to drug endangered children.
5. Support legislation that increases sentencing enhancements for distributing, trafficking and possessing mass quantities of fentanyl.

H. Emergency/Disaster Management

1. Support legislation to provide full funding for the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program, which is the only all hazards emergency preparedness grant program in support of capacity building at the state and local level.
2. Oppose legislation that places additional requirements on Emergency Management Performance Grant recipients.
3. Support legislation to add "excessive heat" and "mass casualty active shooter" under relevant government codes used to proclaim a state or local emergency for the purpose of enabling local jurisdictions to seek state or federal reimbursement for costs incurred when a heat emergency or mass casualty active shooter event occurs.
4. Oppose reductions in funding to the State Homeland Security Grant Program, Urban Area Security Initiative, or capacity to the Disaster Medical Assistance Team medical supply cache located in San Diego County.

5. Support legislation to provide additional funding for local hazard mitigation efforts.
6. Support legislation to provide additional funding for local governments to prepare for disaster recovery.
7. Support federal legislative efforts that seek to advance or expand the use of the Situation Awareness and Collaboration Tool (SCOUT), which is the State of California's deployment of the Next Generation Incident Command System (NICS), by emergency response officials.
8. Oppose legislation that decreases local authority over public alert and warning.

I. Grant Programs

1. Support full funding for state and federal grant programs supporting local public safety responsibilities.

J. Peace Officers

1. Oppose legislation restricting the availability of evidence in administrative investigations and hearings involving peace officers.
2. Support legislation that allows probation departments to consolidate multiple grants of probation with responsibility to supervise the lengthiest and most serious term.
3. Support legislation which establishes guidelines that law enforcement agencies may adopt on the use of force, utilization of de-escalation techniques and training for peace officers related to use of force, consistent with the U.S. Supreme Court decision on reasonable use of force, and provides funding for training.
4. Oppose legislation that limits use of force to a standard of only when necessary, inconsistent with the U.S. Supreme Court decision on reasonable use of force.

K. Prevention

1. Support legislation that would create strategies to prevent targeted violence through behavioral threat assessment and management and/or funding to support training and implementation of a behavioral threat assessment.

L. Restoration of Competency and Mental Health Treatment

1. Support legislation that allows counties voluntary opportunities to participate in a Restoration of Competency Program or a mental health diversion program.
2. Support legislation that would fully reimburse counties for the Restoration of Competency Program or other mental health diversion program.
3. Support legislation that would require the District Attorney to be notified throughout the restoration process, including cases where competency cannot be restored, and include notifications to the Public Defender when cases involve their clients.

M. Securing Our Border

1. Support legislation to provide adequate funding for sufficient permanent customs agents and advanced technology to every point of entry into the United States to secure our borders.

N. Sex Offenders/Human Trafficking

1. Support legislation that would permit rental housing providers to evict or refuse tenancy to registered sex offenders.
2. Support legislation that would remove the ability of convicted sex offenders to obtain exemptions from having their status posted on the Internet by the Attorney General or local law enforcement and allow as much information as possible to be posted in accordance with the Supreme Court decision (Megan's Law).
3. Support legislation to provide notification 65 days prior to the placement hearing for a sexually violent predator.
4. Support legislation to establish residential placement guidelines for conditionally-released predators.
5. Support legislation to require that any changes in monitoring, treatment or conditions of release must be reported to local officials and require some form of public input and/or notice prior to making any changes.
6. Support legislation to increase the treatment period for sex offenders from two years to five years.
7. Support legislation that would add human trafficking for the purposes of sexual slavery to the list of offenses requiring registration as a sex offender under California's Sex Offender Registration Act.
8. Support legislation that prohibits a person mandated to register as a sex offender from using any Internet social networking website if the victim of the offense was under 18 years of age at the time of the offense and the Internet was used in the commission of the crime.
9. Support legislation that requires any person mandated to register as a sex offender who adds or changes his or her account with an Internet service provider or changes an Internet identifier, to send a written notice to the law enforcement agency where he or she last registered.
10. Support legislation that would require the metallic information strip on a Department of Motor Vehicle license or identification card to include information such as sexually violent predator status or conviction of a sex offense against a minor.
11. Support legislation that permits any law enforcement agency that believes that public safety may be compromised by allowing a convicted sex offender to be excluded from public posting on the Megan's Law website to recommend that the Department of Justice make information about the offender available on the public website.

12. Support federal legislation that would remove the suspect's knowledge of the victim's age as an element of the offense for sex trafficking of children by force, fraud or coercion to ensure successful and timely prosecution.
13. Support legislation that increases penalties or helps in the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking cases.
14. Support legislation that expands the definition of "sexual offense" to include human trafficking, pimping and pandering.
15. Support legislation that provides for victims of human trafficking the ability to take civil actions against their traffickers.
16. Support legislation that provides funding for services and housing for victims of human trafficking.

VII. RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

The policy of the County of San Diego with respect to various resources and environmental issues shall be as noted below.

A. Agricultural Services

1. Pest Exclusion/Detection, Diagnostics and Quarantine
 - a. Support legislation that would recognize the unique characteristics of border areas and support funding to prevent and eradicate invasive agricultural pest infestations from south of the border that pose a threat to the U.S. and California agricultural industry.
 - b. Support legislation that would achieve the optimal level of funding for required regulatory activities, such as pest exclusion, detection and eradication, and improve coordination between federal, state and county programs.
 - c. Support legislation that would provide funding for research, prevention, detection, control and eradication of invasive pests and species.
 - d. Support legislation that would provide funding for outreach on invasive pests to the agricultural industry and the public.
 - e. Support legislation that would support coordinated treatments in commercial citrus groves and continued residential treatments for the suppression of the Asian Citrus Psyllid population.
 - f. Support legislation that would add support for science-based Asian Citrus Psyllid control in organic citrus operations.
 - g. Support legislation that would allow growers of specialty crops to participate in crop insurance programs, including legislation that would treat plant pest quarantines as

- disasters and provide eligibility for economic relief to growers of specialty crops in declared disaster areas.
- h. Support efforts to encourage property owners to remove dead and dying citrus trees.
 - i. Support legislation that would make it easier to remove dead, dying and diseased trees that have the potential to harbor invasive woodboring pests and to require the appropriate safeguards for the movement of such greenwaste that may harbor pests.
 - j. Support legislation that increases funding for the Detector Dog Teams so that additional teams may be deployed and all parcel terminals can be covered to prevent the introduction of invasive pests and diseases.
 - k. Support legislation or rulemaking efforts to facilitate agricultural inspectors' access to mail packages containing plant material profiled by detector dogs.
2. Pesticide Regulation
- a. Support legislation that would improve the funding and effectiveness of pesticide regulation activities to protect the safety of workers, the public and the environment.
 - b. Support legislation that would review, amend or increase user fees collected by the County Agricultural Commissioner for the testing, certification or registration of licensed or certified individuals and pest control businesses.
 - c. Support legislation that would increase funding for regulatory activities associated with structural fumigation inspections to promote worker and public safety.
 - d. Support legislation that would increase funding for education, outreach and compliance assessment activities related to the safe use of pesticides.
 - e. Support legislation that would fund the electronic submission, collection and entry of pesticide data.
 - f. Support legislation that would provide adequate funding through the pesticide mill fee for pesticide regulatory activities to protect the safety of workers, the public and the environment as well as for education, outreach and compliance assessment activities related to the safe use of pesticides.
 - g. Oppose changes to state laws that would remove the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) and County Agricultural Commissioners' authority to regulate pesticides.
 - h. Support legislation that would provide alternatives to enforcement activities by promoting a consultation-based option for compliance.
3. Agricultural Standards: Direct Marketing, Organic, Standardization and Eggs
- a. Support legislation that would provide grants to increase producers' competitiveness in Specialty Crops, including nursery stock.

- b. Support legislation that would improve funding for compliance assessment of Certified Farmers' Markets and Certified Producers.
 - c. Support legislation and proposals that enhance funding and resources to support an effective regulatory program for direct marketing of agricultural products at both the state and local level.
 - d. Support legislation that would improve funding for the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) State Organic Program to protect consumers and industry by improving standards under which fresh agricultural products and foods may be labeled and sold as organic.
 - e. Oppose legislation that would end the CDFA State Organic Program registration requirements and fee based activities performed by the CDFA State Organic Program and County Agricultural Commissioners.
 - f. Oppose legislation that would end statewide enforcement of the State Organic Program by CDFA and County Agricultural Commissioners.
 - g. Oppose legislation that would eliminate the California Organic Products Advisory Committee that advises the California Secretary of Agriculture on the State Organic Program's enforcement activities.
 - h. Support legislation that would increase funding for enforcement of organic labeling or produce quality.
 - i. Support legislation that would authorize counties with a population greater than one million to establish a registration fee for fresh fruit and vegetable wholesalers.
 - j. Oppose legislation that would increase state control over fruit and vegetable standardization programs.
 - k. Support legislation that would enhance funding and resources to support an effective regulatory program to ensure eggs for human consumption are properly handled, labeled and are wholesome and safe to eat.
 - l. Support legislation that would increase regional enforcement collaboration amongst counties that interact with businesses operating in multiple counties if local control is not impacted.
4. Bees
- a. Support legislation that would encourage apiculture on lands that the State Department of Fish and Wildlife and the State Department of Transportation manage in California and authorize apiculture on public land.
 - b. Support legislation that would promote funded regulatory activities for biologically sound beekeeping, improve the safety of people and animals, and improve the protection of European and native honeybee health.

- c. Support continued State funding for California Department of Food and Agriculture's Bee Safe Program that protects the European honeybee and the beekeeping industry from negative impacts caused by theft, pests, lack of adequate forage and possible exposure to pesticides.
 - d. Support legislation that would require property owners to abate unmanaged or feral bee hives, which affect public safety and pose a public nuisance.
5. Integrated Pest Control and Wildlife Services
- a. Support legislation that would promote effective control of rodents that present risks to humans and livestock.
 - b. Support legislation that would improve funding for wildlife management and education programs that aid the public in safely addressing interactions with wildlife such as coyotes, bobcats, mountain lions and feral pigs, which impact public safety and the environment.
 - c. Support legislation that would provide stable funding for Weed Management Areas or programs for the control of harmful non-native or invasive weed pests.
6. Agricultural Land and Water Quality
- a. Support legislation that would increase funding for agricultural water quality education, outreach and compliance assessment.
 - b. Support legislation that would encourage conservation of agricultural land by providing funding for conservation easements or the transfer/purchase of development rights and economic incentives for farmers to conserve wetland and grassland habitats on their farms.
7. Weights and Measures
- a. Oppose legislation that would diminish or remove protections now afforded to consumers for commercial transactions measured by weighing or measuring devices or computed by point-of-sale systems.
 - b. Support legislation that preserves and enhances funding resources for weights and measures programs at the state and local level for consumer protection.
 - c. Support legislation that would review or amend state caps on fees collected by the county sealer for the registration of businesses that use commercial weighing or measuring devices for full cost recovery.
 - d. Support legislation that extends or eliminates the repeal date pertaining to Weights and Measures Device Registration Fees to support cost recovery.
 - e. Support legislation that would improve customer protection during business transactions involving commercial weighing or measuring devices (scales, meters and scanners).

- f. Support legislation that would provide for a more flexible sampling methodology for point-of-sale systems inspections to increase the number of inspections, providing additional consumer protection.
- g. Support legislation that would ensure effective pricing accuracy of retail merchandise and agricultural products when electronic point-of-sale systems are used.
- h. Support legislation that would provide funding for the inspection of businesses licensed as weighmasters.
- i. Support legislation that promotes consumer and business confidence with the accuracy of product weight, measure and price.
- j. Support legislation that would assure the clear labeling and accuracy of the net quantity of packaged products to promote value comparison and consumer confidence.
- k. Support legislation that establishes funding for quantity control and package inspections.
- l. Support legislation that would harmonize the language regarding civil penalty authority in the Food and Agricultural Code and the Business and Professions Code to allow County Agricultural Commissioners to levy, in lieu of civil prosecution, a civil penalty against persons who violate provisions of the codes in order to provide an effective alternative to court prosecution.
- m. Oppose legislation that supports the use of or creates weights and measures standards that have not been officially adopted by the National Conference of Weights and Measures.

B. Biotechnology

- 1. Support legislation that provides assistance from new revenue sources to universities to retain and expand existing biotechnology programs, including pre-doctorial and post-doctoral education and targeting underrepresented or at risk students.

C. California Energy

- 1. Support legislation that would expedite siting and construction of new generation plants.
- 2. Support legislation that would encourage exploration of alternative fuels and renewable energy sources.
- 3. Support legislation that establishes a system for competitive and predictable electricity rates.
- 4. Support legislation that allows for direct access to permit companies to choose their own providers.

5. Support legislation that provides reliable energy including generators, cross border opportunities and energy transfers.
6. Support legislation that provides a fair allocation of Department of Water Resources energy costs to San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) customers.
7. Support legislation that provides clean and diversified energy initiatives (energy efficiency, solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, clean coal technologies and advanced natural gas technologies) to augment traditional resources (oil, natural gas, coal and hydropower).
8. Support incentives that promote “green building” practices to make facilities resource and energy efficient and healthy places to work.

D. Climate Change

1. Oppose legislation that mandates local government programs to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions without providing funding.
2. Support legislation that provides incentives and CEQA streamlining for higher density redevelopment and infill development in urban centers.
3. Encourage, with financial incentives, cost effective and efficient methods to reduce GHG emissions.
4. Oppose legislation that addresses GHG emissions at the expense of jeopardizing existing criteria pollutant reduction programs.
5. Support legislation that clarifies the local air districts’ existing authority, or delegates authority to local air districts, to enforce GHG regulations for stationary sources currently regulated under criteria pollutant programs.
6. Support legislation that provides funding for local climate change programs.
7. Support legislation that provides funding for development and/or implementation of local emergency response and adaptation strategies relating to climate change.

E. Development Process Improvements Related to the Endangered Species Act (ESA)

1. Support legislation that would reduce the complexity and time necessary for the listing process, establish minimum standards for determining the best available scientific and commercial data, and require the scientific data supporting a listing to be published in the Federal Register.
2. Support legislation that would require that a peer review process be established both within and outside of government to verify scientific and commercial data, and its use in the endangered species listing process.
3. Support legislation that would simplify the process for obtaining permits, and extend an option to Section 7 consultation to persons who do not necessarily require multiple agency permits.

4. Support legislation that would provide local agencies having land use authority sufficient funding to implement multiple species and/or habitat recovery plans.
5. Support legislation that would streamline the ESA Section 7 consultations by limiting consultations to species and activities that are not covered within an adopted habitat conservation plan.
6. Support legislation that would provide that critical habitat designations would not include areas that are part of an adopted habitat conservation plan, or one that is currently under development through a planning agreement.
7. Support legislation that would exempt lands supporting existing agricultural uses from requirements arising out of habitat conservation plans prepared pursuant to the state or federal ESA.
8. Support legislation that would require that habitat conservation plans accommodate necessary fire safety and flood control measures such as controlled burning and vegetation treatments.
9. Support legislation that would amend the state and federal ESA to provide that an approved Multiple Species Conservation Program shall not require modification as a result of subsequent unforeseen circumstances or the subsequent listing of additional species.
10. Support legislation that would require the state and federal governments to indemnify local governments for any legal actions arising out of the implementation of multiple species habitat conservation plans or any special rules that carry out the provisions of the ESA.
11. Support legislation that would exempt from normal permit requirements actions taken on private property to prevent or minimize injury to property, health or safety.
12. Support legislation that reaffirms that the development of conservation plans is a priority for federal and state wildlife agencies to review and remain partners on.

F. Environmental Health

1. Support legislation that would promote local control of hazardous materials handling, hazardous waste management, emergency readiness concerning hazardous materials, medical waste management and protection of surface and groundwater from underground and aboveground storage tank leaks.
2. Support legislation prohibiting the state from forcing a county to accept more than its fair share of hazardous waste.
3. Support legislation to amend Public Resources Code relating to solid waste to allow burn dumpsites that are orphaned or held by a property owner to be more competitive for remediation funding in order to mitigate public health risk.
4. Support statewide efforts to hold producers responsible for universal waste, sharps waste, pharmaceutical waste and other product waste management costs and support

legislation to implement the framework for an Extended Producer Responsibility System that shifts universal, sharps, pharmaceutical and other waste management costs from local government to the producer of the product.

5. Support legislation that raises the reporting threshold for low risk hazardous materials.
6. Support statewide efforts to clarify medical waste laws and align them with the regulations established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the U.S. Department of Transportation for handling, storage and transportation of medical waste.
7. Support legislation that would improve health and safety at public spas and swimming pools and increase pool operator knowledge without imposing unreasonable costs or mandates.
8. Support legislation that would protect the public by incorporating food safety in the local design and implementation of new food systems-related programs.
9. Support legislation that would improve food safety procedures at regulated food facilities without imposing unreasonable costs or mandates.
10. Support legislation that would improve health and safety at body art facilities without imposing unreasonable costs or mandates.
11. Support legislation that would ensure public health at cottage food operations by properly addressing food handler training, inspection and enforcement procedures and effective public notification, and also would allow for cost recovery for the agency responsible for implementation.
12. Support legislation that improves food safety knowledge for all food handlers without imposing unreasonable costs or mandates.
13. Support legislation that would improve the County's ability to limit re-occupancy of a residence that has been determined to have been used in the manufacture of Methamphetamine or Fentanyl until such time as the property owner has performed the necessary clean-up and mitigation for hazardous byproducts.
14. Support legislation that would encourage accessibility to and promote the advantages of fishermen's markets and local fresh caught seafood.
15. Support legislation that allows for greater flexibility in public pool signage requirements while protecting public health when advising the public of the health risks associated with the use of a pool by someone who is or has recently been ill.
16. Support legislation that would provide full cost recovery for local radiation health protection programs conducted under contract to assist the State.
17. Support legislation that provides funding for State mandated environmental reporting information systems and funding for the information exchange requirements or modifications that require local data systems to be modified to connect and transmit information to state's data systems.

18. Support state and federal efforts to address and eliminate untreated sewage that originates from across the U.S.- Mexico border.
19. Support legislation that would provide funding for surveillance, control or outreach to limit the spread of the invasive Aedes mosquitoes which are capable of transmitting diseases, such as Zika, dengue and chikungunya.
20. Oppose legislation that would allow food microenterprise home kitchen operations unless it ensures public health protection to prevent foodborne illness, allows for full cost recovery for the local agency to provide regulatory oversight and/or allows cities to authorize or not authorize the implementation of microenterprise home kitchen operations in their jurisdiction.
21. Support legislative changes to the California Retail Food Code that apply grandfathering clauses and/or exemptions to non-profit charitable feeding places, such as food pantries and soup kitchens, that would allow existing structural conditions as long as they do not pose a public health hazard.
22. Support legislation that encourages hazardous waste minimization and when possible, recycling.
23. Support legislation that provides full funding to local primacy agencies to enforce Safe Drinking Water Act requirements commensurate with state mandates.
24. Support legislative efforts to streamline state or federal grant funding to small water systems for infrastructure projects that ensure the safe and reliable provision of drinking water.
25. Support legislation that establishes food safety standards for 3rd party online food ordering and delivery services in the California Retail Food Code.
26. Support legislation that promotes training and funding for disaster preparedness, response, and recovery as it relates to hazardous waste identification, collection and disposal assistance to local agencies.
27. Support legislation that regulates hazardous waste management and disposal from cannabis manufacturing facilities, growers and testing laboratories.
28. Support legislation that provides training, resources and funding to local agencies that respond to illegal and unpermitted cannabis operations that threaten public health and the environment.
29. Support legislation that directs increased State Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment testing of fish for the presence of contaminants in coastal and inland waterbodies and/or provides funding for local public notification when fish consumption is not safe.
30. Support legislation that establishes recreational water quality safety standards for harmful algal blooms in freshwater and estuarine water bodies and/or requires increased State testing and public risk communications during harmful algal bloom incidents.

31. Support legislation that amends Safe Drinking Water Act provisions or local primacy agency delegation agreements to consider State Small Water Systems (i.e. 5-14 service connections) as public water systems to expand potential opportunities for grant funding.
32. Support legislation that provides State or federal grant funding opportunities to private domestic water supply well owners or small drinking water systems to mitigate drinking water quality impacts from elevated nitrates in groundwater basins underlying agricultural valleys.
33. Support legislation that provides an exclusion from the definition of a hazardous waste for organic waste that is not contaminated or mixed with hazardous waste.

G. Historical and Cultural Preservation

1. Support funding for the preservation of historical and cultural resources.

H. Land and Water Conservation Fund

1. Support full and permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund first enacted in 1964 to create and maintain a nationwide legacy of high quality recreation areas and facilities.
2. Support reform of the Land and Water Conservation Fund that would increase the state and local share of funding.
3. Support a greater allocation to the Land and Water Conservation Fund of the funding generated by existing offshore drilling.

I. Offshore Oil Drilling – Outer Continental Shelf

1. Oppose offshore oil drilling in the coastal waters within the San Diego region.
2. Oppose federal efforts that would allow offshore drilling off the coast of California.
3. Support legislation to increase state and local governments' decision-making roles regarding offshore operations.

J. Parks and Recreation

1. Support legislation that preserves natural resources and provides opportunities for environmental education or outdoor recreation.
2. Support funding for physical activity programs that encourage a healthy lifestyle.
3. Support legislation that proposes a change in the distribution of Forest Reserve payments which would provide counties the flexibility to determine how to locally allocate the funds.
4. Support funding for dredging and water management improvements at Lindo Lake in Lakeside.

5. Support funding and policy proposals to provide an important trail linkage for the Stowe Trail in the County's regional trail network, allow recreational trail use and function as a habitat corridor for wildlife.
6. Support funding to provide needed connections within the Trans County Trail or other regional trail systems.
7. Support funding for recreational trails and pathways as alternative transportation routes.
8. Support funding for restoration efforts and flood control in regional watershed river parks.
9. Support funding for a campground and associated studies in the Tijuana River Valley.
10. Support legislation or any appropriate action that would allow a sewer connection from the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park to the International Boundary and Water Commission's South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant.
11. Support legislation that would add Chollas Creek to the list of advisory panels established by the San Diego River Conservancy to administer the San Diego Rivers Watershed Consortium Program.
12. Support legislation to provide funding for new park space and amenities and for creation of adequate park land to help meet County general plan goals.
13. Support legislation to provide funding for County sponsored afterschool recreation programs.

K. Water Availability and Resources

1. Support legislative measures proposing improvements to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and State Water Project facilities that would facilitate conveyance of water to Southern California.
2. Support legislation related to water supply and Delta levee repair that would:
 - a. Improve Delta levees to control flooding, maintain water supply reliability and reduce seawater intrusion to protect water quality.
 - b. Develop adequate and reliable funding from state and federal sources for maintenance of Delta levees.
 - c. Provide funding to enhance conveyance and storage facilities as part of the California Bay-Delta Authority program that are cost-effective, improve the reliability and quality of the San Diego region's water supplies and protect the Bay-Delta's ecosystem.
 - d. Support funding for water conservation, water recycling, groundwater recovery and recharge, and source water protection and watershed planning activities and facilities.

3. Support legislation that provides for the development of a comprehensive state water plan that balances California's competing water needs and results in a reliable and affordable supply of high-quality water for the San Diego region.
4. Support legislation that allocates state water bond funds to the San Diego region in a fair and equitable manner.
5. Support legislation that would expand the use of water conservation and voluntary water transfers.
6. Support legislation that would provide incentives and funding for indoor and outdoor water conservation measures sponsored by local agencies.
7. Support legislation that would assist the reclamation and reuse of water.
8. Oppose legislation creating administrative and financing obstacles to the development of water reclamation programs.
9. Support funding for wastewater or drinking water infrastructure projects including water treatment improvements, storm drain projects and sewer improvements.
10. Support legislation and policy that reduces the impact of water shortages on San Diego agriculture.
11. Support legislation that would maintain the 100-year standard for levee protection in Southern California jurisdictions.
12. Support legislation to reduce revegetation and habitat enhancement success criteria during periods of extended drought declaration.
13. Support state and federal funding and efforts to mitigate drought-related impacts.
14. Support an exemption to the State drought regulations for indoor water consumption at essential government facilities such as jails and courthouses.
15. Support the development of a credit system that could be applied to county facilities located in multiple water districts, thereby allowing government agencies to achieve overall savings across their operations while not penalizing individual water districts serving facilities where savings could not be achieved.

L. Watershed Planning and Water Quality Management

1. Support legislation that would foster science-based, environmentally beneficial, results-oriented and cost-effective water quality programs that draw on the strengths of municipalities that administer stormwater permits and the state and regional water quality control boards. Clean water legislation should address all of the following issues:
 - Use of current science and relevant data when setting water quality objectives in watershed basin plans.
 - Identification and abatement of sources of stormwater pollution.

- Increased local flexibility in the use of local resources to manage stormwater and improve or maintain water quality.
 - Elimination of duplicative efforts by state and local water quality regulatory programs to prevent wasted time and effort and to better use limited funds.
2. Support legislation that would provide funding for implementation of long-term treatment control best management practices, and related storm water quality/urban runoff improvement programs associated with approved Integrated Regional Watershed Management plans.
 3. Oppose legislation that would mandate improvements to water quality, and related actions, but fails to include necessary long-term funding resources.
 4. Support legislation that would provide funding for programs and research to improve the quality or long-term viability of recreational water, surface water and groundwater.
 5. Support legislation that would promote and fund comprehensive solutions to clean water issues that affect public agencies and the private sector, including planning, monitoring and pollution detection, research and program development, data analysis and dissemination, research and water quality protection.
 6. Support state and federal funding for drainage improvement and flood control projects.
 7. Support legislation that would provide funding for flood control and hazard mitigation projects and programs to protect life and property from the impacts of flooding.
 8. Support state and federal funding for digital mapping and public projects to ensure the public is protected from flooding through mitigation measures and adequate insurance coverage.
 9. Support legislation that provides a secure, consistent, and recurring long-term funding source for the testing of beach water quality and corresponding public health notification at San Diego County beaches and bays.
 10. Support legislation and regulatory actions that are consistent with existing mandates of the federal Clean Water Act, provide local flexibility for attaining water quality objectives, and avoid imposing unfunded mandates.

M. Wildlife Preservation – Habitat Protection

1. Support legislation to provide funding to local governments to create programs to protect river parkways and to reclaim damaged river habitat.
2. Support legislation that would balance protection of the nation's biological and wildlife resources with the social, economic, and quality-of-life standards of local communities.
3. Support legislation that would recognize the value of cooperative planning by agencies to protect important natural resources through multi-species habitat plans, and provide funding for regional and sub-regional multi-species habitat plans.

4. Support legislation that would provide federal and/or state funding to complete planning and implementation of regional open space plans, including funding sources for acquisition management, monitoring and maintenance.
5. Support legislation that would require compensation by the state or federal government to private property owners when there has been an effective taking of property as a result of the implementation of environmental laws and regulations.
6. Support continued funding for Farm Bill programs that provide economic incentives to farmers for conservation efforts.
7. Support legislation that would require the commitment of state and federal lands with habitat value to regional preserve systems established by multiple species habitat plans encourage state and federal granting agencies, in concert with regulatory agencies, to provide land transfers and funding for acquisition as part of habitat conservation plans free of encumbrances.
8. Support legislation that would authorize the inclusion of passive recreational uses in regional preserve systems established by multiple species habitat plans.
9. Support legislation that would provide incentives, such as income tax credits, for property owners to preserve, sell or donate biologically valuable land.
10. Support legislation that would provide funding for planning and implementation activities such as acquisition management, monitoring and maintenance for the County Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) Plans that are permitted under the Federal ESA Section 10(a) Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) and the State Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) Act and funding for other regional activities, including funding for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service San Diego National Wildlife Refuge and Otay/Kuchamaa.
11. Support legislation to fund the Department of Defense's (DOD) land buffer program and limit the use of conservation easements within DOD grants.
12. Support funding for necessary Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) technical support to enable the Corps and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to work with the County to develop a streamlined Section 404 permitting process that is equivalent to the permitting benefits of the MSCP. One approach to this goal is to create a Programmatic General Permit/Regional General Permit for the County through a Special Area Management Plan.
13. Support legislation that funds removal of non-native or invasive weeds or provides stable funding for Weed Management Areas or programs.
14. Support legislation that requires the federal government to develop, implement, and fund mitigation plans to address the trash and debris flowing downstream into the Tijuana River Valley from the other side of the border and support funding that mitigates the ecological impacts of the border fence.
15. Support legislation to provide right of first refusal for federal government lands that are offered for conveyance to non-federal entities such as a) Counties/municipalities leasing

U.S. Bureau of Land Management lands and/or b) Counties/municipalities who own or manage lands adjacent to candidate federal lands or c) Counties/municipalities with a Habitat Conservation Plan that includes any federal lands that may be candidates for conveyance to non-federal entities.

VIII. TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

The policy of the County of San Diego with respect to various transportation and public works matters shall be as noted below.

A. Airports

1. Support federal legislation that would continue to fund the Airport Improvement Program at a level necessary to ensure sufficient revenue for local airports to meet safety, security, capacity and noise improvement needs.
2. Oppose legislation that would divert funds from the state aviation program.
3. Support legislation that provides funding for airport security improvements and provides ongoing funding for security at county-owned airports, where county government has been called upon to provide enhanced security.
4. Support full funding for the Airport Improvement Program, the Contract Tower Program, and capital improvements at airports.
5. Support legislation that provides funding for intermodal projects such as mass transit, rail or passenger car that connect airports with the regional transportation network.
6. Support federal legislation that would address the issues related to national security risks from the use of flight schools as identified in the 2012 GAO Report titled "General Aviation Security: Weaknesses Exist in TSA's Process for Ensuring Foreign Flight Students Do Not Pose a Security Threat."
7. Support federal and state legislation that would maintain air traffic control towers at County airports.
8. Support legislation and administrative action to require the Federal Aviation Administration to retain a waypoint that reduces noise to the communities under the flight path as standard operating procedure at the San Diego International Airport.

B. Infrastructure Development in Support of Business and Commerce

1. Support legislation that would provide funding for development of backbone infrastructure systems in support of industrial facilities, business parks and the proposed Port of Entry in East Otay Mesa, consistent with specific plans for the area, and local/regional transportation plans and projects.

C. Regional Wastewater System Improvements

1. Support legislation providing state and federal matching funds to improve the Metro Sewer System and other local wastewater collection, treatment, recycling and disposal facilities.
2. Support funding for development of local and regional water recycling projects, including indirect and direct potable reuse, such as the East County Advanced Water Purification and Pure Water Programs.
3. Support legislation authorizing a combination of water reclamation and advanced primary treatment, i.e., "secondary equivalent" as an alternative to the secondary treatment requirement of the federal Clean Water Act where it can be demonstrated that the impact on receiving waters will be equal to or better than with total secondary treatment and discharge of all effluent.
4. Support legislation that would hold existing Metropolitan Sewage Disposal Agreements and Joint Powers Agreements for Metro participating agencies harmless from subsequent judicial decisions or legislative changes.

D. Sanitation Districts

1. Support legislation that would increase the contract limit at which formal bids are required from \$35,000 to \$50,000 for county sanitation district projects.

E. Solid Waste Planning and Disposal

1. Support legislation that would require active landfill operations to bear the full costs of permitting, operating, long-term monitoring, enforcement and maintenance.
2. Support legislation that would ensure all solid waste management operators and jurisdictions will provide complete information about waste that enters or is diverted from landfills so that all jurisdictions and CalRecycle can make accurate assessments in compliance with AB 939 reporting requirements.
3. Support funding for inactive landfill and burn dumpsite monitoring, maintenance and remediation.

F. Solid Waste Diversion and Recycling

1. Support legislative measures (a) requiring the state to provide funding for added costs to local agencies for preparation and implementation of mandated recycling plans and programs and (b) requiring extended manufacturer responsibility for the recyclability and disposal costs of their products — particularly "e-waste" and (c) encouraging active development of markets for recycled materials.
2. Support legislation establishing grant and loan programs for recycling businesses, including recyclers of construction/demolition materials, organic materials and other disposed materials, and for rural recycling programs.

3. Support legislation that would encourage environmentally preferable purchasing Initiatives on a local, state, and federal level, as well as active development of private markets, to increase the markets for recycled content products.
4. Support legislative measures that would encourage the expansion of organic materials processing infrastructure and waste diversion including composting, anaerobic digestion and other practices approved by CalRecycle.

G. Streambed Alteration Permits – Public Projects

1. Support legislation that would streamline the issuance of a streambed alteration permit for emergency or routine construction and maintenance of public road drainage and flood control facility projects.
2. Support legislation that would establish standards for the use and creation of mitigation banks to meet streambed alteration permit mitigation conditions.
3. Support legislation that would exempt from normal permit requirements actions taken on private and public property to prevent or minimize injury to property, health or safety.
4. Support legislation extending the Water Resources Development Act to allow expedited review of public projects by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regulatory staff.
5. Support legislation to exempt routine maintenance of detention basins and other manmade stormwater control facilities from federal and state permit requirements.

H. Transportation

1. Support legislation that provides sufficient and equitable state or federal funding for roads, highways and bridges, protects local transportation funding and transit services, and facilitates the timely construction of local transportation projects.
2. Oppose legislative efforts to defer or divert transportation-related funding for state or federal deficit reduction/general fund purposes.
3. Support transportation funding legislation that:
 - a. Provides revenues without affecting funding sources of other county projects.
 - b. Allocates funding to counties based on equitable criteria such as total number of registered vehicles and miles of roads.
 - c. Allows local discretion over funds for road improvements.
 - d. Reaffirms state responsibility for highway financing.
 - e. Assures federal funding for local transportation projects.
 - f. Continues state and federal funds for alternative forms of transit.

4. Support legislation to eliminate unnecessary federal or state review of local transportation projects.
5. Support legislation that would allocate funds as a pass-through or block grant directly to applicable local agencies.
6. Support legislation that would provide post-interstate funding for highway maintenance and rehabilitation.
7. Support legislation that would provide federal and state gas tax revenues to local governments on an equitable basis for street and road improvements.
9. Oppose legislation that would reduce the amounts available for the state Transportation Improvement Program or usurp local decision-making on priority transportation projects.
10. Support legislation that would fund and/or expand the implementation of the Federal Rural Transportation Initiative and in particular the funding of transportation improvements, including operation and safety improvements, on heavily traversed two-lane arterials in the unincorporated area of San Diego County.
11. Support continued funding to study the establishment of a magnetic levitation rail system in the region.
12. Support funding for transportation projects such as road maintenance and widening, bypasses, pedestrian and bicycle improvements, and trails.
13. Oppose legislation that seeks to increase truck size or weight limits to a level that puts highways, roads, and bridges at risk of increased damage or deterioration or threatens the capacity of our road systems.
14. Support legislation that would remove the remaining available balance for the \$9 billion in state debt funding for the high speed rail project, while allowing for the \$950 million portion designated for local transportation to remain available for future funding.
15. Support State efforts to prevent suicides on the Coronado bridge, as well as measures to address issues of speeding, debris, guardrails, and wrong-way accidents.