



County of Marin

*2014 Federal & State Legislative
Programs & Policy Guidelines*

Adopted December 17, 2013

COUNTY OF MARIN

2014 FEDERAL & STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMS AND LEGISLATIVE POLICY GUIDELINES

The Federal and State Legislative Programs are designed to provide the Board's policy direction on legislation regarding matters that are of singular and direct interest to Marin County. In some instances, such matters may also be of general statewide or national interest. Some legislative items appear in both the state and federal programs; this is because the focus of the program or the amount of funding requested may differ depending on the legislative body targeted. In other cases, your Board may wish to sponsor legislation to affect a policy change specific to Marin County.

'Attachment A' represents the 2014 Legislative Policy Guidelines. These Guidelines are designed to (a) provide standing authority to take action on pending legislative matters when time constraints preclude bringing such matters to the Board of Supervisors in advance, and (b) provide our lobbyists a better understanding of the Board's policy preferences regarding a variety of intergovernmental issues that might arise during the course of the year.

2014 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

A. POLICY

1. ***Climate Change.*** Support federal action on climate change to assist Marin County and the Bay Area as a whole in meeting its climate change goals. Support efforts to mitigate the effects of climate change and associated sea-level rise, including wetlands restoration, levee construction or other similar structural resilience measures. Support efforts to establish a connection between climate change and local transit systems and other non-motorized transportation programs. Monitor federal legislative proposals on climate change and energy policy to ensure that any legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions nationally be structured to assist the region in achieving our greenhouse gas reduction and mobility goals.
2. ***Sustainable Agriculture on National Parklands.*** Explore opportunities to support sustainable agricultural uses within existing agricultural areas in national parklands in Marin County to enhance local agricultural diversity.
3. ***FEMA Flood Insurance.*** Monitor federal efforts to reform the national flood insurance program. Support efforts to ensure that FEMA uses transparent processes and communicates directly with property owners who are potentially impacted by changes, and ensure that any changes to flood insurance rate maps do not result in disproportionate rate increases to areas that have not historically been subjected to flooding. Support efforts to conduct an affordability study of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act, and to delay implementation of the Act until the study is completed. Seek federal funding to support flood control improvements in flood prone areas.
4. ***Improved Access to Health Care.*** Support efforts to expand health care coverage to all populations. Support efforts to maintain the Prevention and Public Health Fund in the Affordable Care Act, as well as other efforts to require and/or fund evidence-based prevention strategies, including those in the National Prevention Strategy.
5. ***Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME and Section 8 Programs.*** Protect federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) program funding, including the CDBG program, the Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program, and Section 8.

6. ***Restoration of Federal Sequestration Cuts.*** Support efforts to restore federal sequestration cuts to domestic spending programs that took effect in January, 2013 related to the 2011 Budget Control Act. Failure by Congress to agree on a Budget Deal in 2012 led to \$1.2 trillion in automatic spending cuts divided equally between defense and various domestic spending programs, resulting locally in reductions to housing vouchers, senior programs and funding for federal parks.

B. FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION REQUESTS

The following represent the County's highest priority federal transportation requests. The 'Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act' (MAP 21) was enacted in August 2012 and authorized federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety and transit for the 2-year period 2013-14. It expires September 30, 2014. The County will continue to advocate that MAP-21 be fully funded, and also for the following priorities:

1. ***Nonmotorized Transportation.*** Continue to seek funds dedicated to nonmotorized transportation projects and programs included in the next federal transportation bill and any state transportation funding programs. Support continued funding for bicycle, pedestrian and Safe Routes to Schools programs at the same level or greater as was made available in Federal Fiscal Year 2013.
2. ***Highway 101 Multi-Modal Corridor Projects.*** In coordination with the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM), seek additional funding for the "Marin-Sonoma Narrows" Project, including bike, pedestrian, rail and/or other multi-modal project elements along the U.S. 101 corridor from Highway 37 in Novato to Old Redwood Highway in Petaluma. Support the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) District in its efforts to seek federal funding for its project.
3. ***Highway 101 Greenbrae/Twin Cities Corridor Improvement Project.*** Support the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) in its efforts to advance multimodal transit and transportation improvements in the Highway 101 Greenbrae/Twin Cities Corridor.
4. ***Offsets to Impacts from Federal Lands.*** Support continued funding to offset impacts to counties from federal lands such as the Federal Lands Access Program (e.g. portions of Sir Francis Drake Blvd within the Point Reyes National Seashore).

C. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS FUNDING REQUESTS

The following represent the County's priority flood control, navigation, and environmental projects and studies that are managed through the United States Army Corps of Engineers:

1. ***Hamilton Wetlands Restoration Project/Alternative to Todd Road.*** Support City of Novato efforts to seek WRDA legislation to authorize the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) to fund the planning, design and construction of an alternative to Todd Road for access to the wetlands restoration project. Todd Road serves as the only access point to the Hamilton Airfield Wetlands Restoration Project, and is located just feet from a housing development. Because construction traffic to the site poses health and safety risks to nearby residents, an alternative to Todd Road is required to mitigate these health and safety risks while permitting the restoration project to proceed.
2. ***Corte Madera Creek Flood Control.*** Seek funding for improvements to the existing portion, and completion of the final phase, of the ACOE Corte Madera Creek Flood Control Project to adequately protect the local community from flood events. The total request is for \$700,000 for FY 2015. Although 75% of the ACOE Corte Madera Creek Flood Control Project has been constructed, it is less than 25% effective because the constructed portion has performed significantly below expectations; the yet-to-be-constructed final phase is needed to make the entire project work. Continued support is required to fund design and environmental review of the final phase, as well as improvements to already completed portions. In early 2007, residents approved a local fee that provides local funds for the project.

3. ***Las Gallinas Creek/Santa Venetia Levee.*** Seek funding for levee improvements, dredging, watershed restoration and pump station replacement/maintenance in the Las Gallinas Creek Watershed.
4. ***Lower Novato Creek Restoration Planning and Design.*** Past flooding events have caused millions of dollars of property damage and damaged riparian and aquatic habitat, affecting several species on the federal Endangered Species Act list. Support current ACOE watershed reconnaissance level study to identify restoration opportunities in the lower Novato Creek Watershed.

D. OTHER PRIORITY FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2015 FUNDING REQUESTS

Congress instituted a ban on earmarks in Fiscal Year 2011, which has severely constrained the ability of local governments to receive federal funding for local projects. Should opportunities arise for federal funding, the following represent the County's highest priority federal requests for 2014 (Federal Fiscal Year 2015). Many are continuing, multi-year fiscal requests in association with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) for projects already appropriated and/or authorized but requiring additional funding.

1. ***Breast Cancer Research.*** Seek continued funding to support research to better understand the elevated rates of breast cancer in Marin County. Incidence rates from 2006-2010 indicate that Marin County breast cancer rates are at the upper level of the Bay Area, California and the U.S. overall. The intended result is to gain knowledge that will lead to a decrease in breast cancer rates locally and nationally.
2. ***Muir Woods Transportation Management.*** Explore options to identify additional partnerships or revenue opportunities that could provide funds intended to offset or partially offset the costs of transportation management associated with Muir Woods National Monument.
3. ***Tomaes Bay Water Quality Programs.*** Seek federal assistance for infrastructure projects designed to improve water quality or the availability of potable water sources within the Tomales Bay watershed, including ongoing projects that would enable private property owners along Tomales Bay to upgrade failing and substandard on-site sewage disposal systems, or convert to small community waste treatment systems.
4. ***Bolinas Lagoon Ecosystem Restoration.*** Seek federal assistance for the costs associated with the Bolinas Lagoon Ecosystem Restoration locally preferred plan.
5. ***Next Generation Communications System for the Marin Emergency Radio Authority (MERA).*** Support efforts to identify approximately \$40 million in funds for implementation of a replacement mission critical system for Marin County's emergency response agencies. The current system is 14 years old, and is a 400 MHz T-band spectrum system. The new system is proposed to comply with Project 25 national interoperable communication standards. Possible funding sources include HR 3630 which requires reallocation of the T-Band spectrum currently in use by MERA by February 2021, and provides grant funding to recover relocation costs.
6. ***Offsets to Local Impacts from Federal Lands.*** Support continued funding to offset impacts to counties from federal lands such as the Federal Lands Access Program, including portions of Sir Francis Drake Boulevard within the Point Reyes National Seashore.

2014 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

A. SPONSORED BILLS

1. ***Affordable Housing Default Densities.*** Explore amendments to statute to require the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), when considering a housing element, to develop criteria to clarify under what conditions it will approve an affordable housing density lower than a community's required default density. HCD has existing authority to approve lower housing densities where appropriate, but existing regulations are unclear for cities and counties as to what criteria guide its authority when considering a housing element.
2. ***Property Tax Postponement Program.*** Explore permissive efforts to incorporate the goals of the previous property tax postponement program into the Teeter Plan for those counties that include all ad valorem taxes and assessments within their Teeter plan. Broader statewide efforts to facilitate restoration of the State's property tax postponement program, which had allowed seniors, blind and disabled owners to postpone the payment of property taxes until death or upon sale of their property under certain eligibility and income limits, have thus far not been successful. The Teeter Plan provides counties the option of allocating billed, but not yet collected, property tax revenues to local agencies – in exchange for such counties receiving the penalties and interest on delinquent taxes when collected.
3. ***Administrative Contracting for Open Space District.*** Explore amendments to the California Public Resources Code Section 5549 to raise the contract amounts from \$10,000 to \$25,000 for professional services and goods and trade services for which the general manager may administratively bind the Marin County Open Space District, as has been done for the East Bay Regional Park District, the Mid-peninsula Regional Open Space District, and the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District.

B. PRIORITY ISSUES

1. ***Pension Reform.*** In 2012, Governor Brown signed into law AB 320 – the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA) and AB 197, which took effect on January 1, 2013. This legislation incorporated many elements of pension reform that were previously advocated by the County, including a pension benefit cap; prohibiting unfunded retroactive pension increases; providing employers new options to prevent pension "spiking"; creating a comprehensive statewide framework for all public employees to enable an even playing field for recruiting future talent; and adding flexibility to allow greater employee contributions for pension system costs subject to bargaining agreements.

The County supports additional statewide reforms, including efforts to: require Board approval for ad hoc COLAs for retirees within '37 Act systems; expand health care plan options for local governments; and develop a voluntary hybrid defined-benefit/defined-contribution option for new employees.
2. ***Potential Hybrid Pension Option.*** Continue to explore as an employee option a hybrid defined benefit (DB)/defined contribution (DC) plan for new miscellaneous employees, subject to agreement with collective bargaining units, with shared benefits to employees and the County.
3. ***Watershed Management Efforts.*** Explore efforts to support water bond legislation in 2014 to include funding for urban stream, Stormwater, flood management and watershed projects that would reduce the frequency and impacts from floods and sea level rise in watersheds throughout Marin County. Ensure that each region has a fair and reasonable allocation of state bond funds for this work, including funding for pump station replacement/maintenance; increased funding for the Bay Area Integrated Water Regional Management Plan (IRWMP); and reduced matching requirements

from 50% to 25% for projects. SB 42 (Wolk) and AB 1331 (Rendon) are expected to be considered in 2014 by the Legislature for a potential November, 2014 ballot measure.

4. ***Housing Needs.*** Support efforts to permit counties to collaborate with their cities to create more affordable housing opportunities, including a broader range of options that would be eligible to receive state housing element credits, such as the conversion of existing commercial and housing stock to affordable, senior housing, and housing cooperatives, among others. Explore efforts to establish a greater voice for local governments with respect to the share of regional housing needs allocated to them by the state. Allocations should be more consistent with local infrastructure limitations and with countywide plans, and should also acknowledge local infrastructure implications of additional units – including school funding needs. Support the implementation of AB 1103 (Huffman, 2011), and advocate for the re-designation of Marin County from “metropolitan” to “suburban” for the purposes of statewide affordable housing density requirements. Support efforts to provide new statewide funding sources for affordable housing.
5. ***Climate Change, Clean/Renewable Energy, and Electric Vehicle Infrastructure.*** Support efforts to incentivize, promote, or secure additional funding for projects or programs designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to sea-level rise - including, but not limited to: clean energy, energy efficiency improvements, Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), electric vehicle infrastructure and sea-level rise mitigation. Pursue funding for projects or programs eligible to receive carbon credits under California’s greenhouse gas cap-and-trade program, including agricultural projects. Support dedication of Cap and Trade revenues related to fuels to transportation investments for public transit, road operations, and maintenance, as well as for non-motorized transportation goals, with funding determinations made at the regional level. Explore additional avenues made possible by AB 32 (Nunez; 2006), “The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006,” including alternative partnerships for clean energy projects; and Proposition 39, which will fund clean energy and energy efficiency projects in public buildings and schools. Support efforts to facilitate local government planning and implementation measures to comply with SB 375 and related legislation. Support efforts to include health-related concerns and strategies (“Health in All Policies”) as a part of SB 375 implementation.
6. ***Realignment and Cost-Shifts.*** Monitor efforts to re-examine the state's tax laws, and oppose any proposals that would further restructure, realign, or otherwise shift the cost of state programs to local government without a constitutionally guaranteed, ongoing revenue source. Support efforts to improve the stability of current county revenue sources.
7. ***Law Library Funding.*** Support efforts for law libraries statewide to regain permissive legislative authority to seek fee increases from a Board of Supervisors without impairing the State Administrative Office of the Court’s (AOC) financial position.
8. ***New or Additional Taxes/Fees on Alcohol, Tobacco and Soda.*** Support policies or new legislation that would levy taxes on alcohol, tobacco, and/or soda to reduce consumption and harm from these products. Such taxes may, for example, be imposed to fund related public health programs.
9. ***Improved Access to Health Care.*** Support efforts to successfully implement federal healthcare reform, including expansion of children’s health insurance and efforts to expand Medi-Cal coverage to currently uncovered populations.
10. ***Marin General Hospital Design-Build Authorization.*** Consistent with the County’s continued partnership with Marin General Hospital in support of County safety net hospital and mental health programs on the Hospital site, support the Hospital in its efforts to seek legislative authorization to utilize design-build contracting for construction of a new hospital on its Greenbrae campus. Design-build, in which the owner contracts with a single entity to both design and construct a project, could allow for more cost-effective and timely development of the project.
11. ***San Quentin.*** Monitor State plans for infrastructure development/reuse at the San Quentin correctional facility, and actively engage with the Governor’s office and state legislators to forge a

partnership with the State (which owns the land) and the County (in which the land is located), for a potential shared use of the site that would be advantageous to both - as well as the public.

12. ***Affordable Housing in the Coastal Zone.*** Support efforts to re-establish affordable housing as a priority within the Coastal Zone.
13. ***Highway 101 Multi-Modal Corridor Projects.*** In coordination with the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM), seek additional funding for the “Marin-Sonoma Narrows” project, including bike, pedestrian, rail and/or other multi-modal project elements along the Highway 101 corridor. This project would alleviate congestion on the U.S. 101 corridor in Marin and Sonoma Counties from Highway 37 in Novato to Old Redwood Highway in Petaluma. Support the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) District in its efforts to seek federal funding for rail projects.
14. ***Highway 101 Greenbrae/Twin Cities Corridor Improvement Project.*** Support the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) in its efforts to advance multimodal transit and transportation improvements in the Highway 101 Greenbrae/Twin Cities Corridor.
15. ***Nonmotorized Transportation.*** Support efforts to demonstrate the extent to which bicycling and walking can carry a significant part of the transportation solution in Marin County, with significant environmental, mobility and health benefits. Support continued dedicated funding for bicycle, pedestrian, and Safe Routes to Schools programs at the same level or greater as was appropriated in Fiscal Year 2012.
16. ***AB 2121/Water Appropriation Rights.*** Seek an extension from the State Water Resources Control Board of the AB 2121 (2004) compliance grace period for agricultural growers, and in particular, affected growers who were not actively notified of the legislation’s new requirements for the protection of fish and aquatic populations, or directly invited to participate in planning or implementation discussions.
17. ***Public Records Act.*** Support maintaining the requirements of the California Public Records Act, including efforts to increase the availability of electronic records as well as efforts to assist the public in determining the availability of government records.
18. ***AB 32 ‘Cap and Trade’ Investment Plan.*** Support State funding in FY 2014-15 of the Investment Plan in general, but also to specifically include agricultural conservation practices that sequester carbon on farms and ranches, as well as for non-motorized transportation goals. The AB32 Cap and Trade program successfully completed its first year in 2012, generating approximately \$500 million in proceeds from the sales of carbon credits. Support revisions to the AB32 Scoping Plan that include the role that agriculture and rangeland practices have as solutions for greenhouse gas mitigation.
19. ***Coastal Commission Enforcement Authority.*** Explore and support efforts to give the California Coastal Commission the authority to levy fines on anyone found to be in violation of the Coastal Act. AB 976 (Atkins) would provide the same authority as various other state environmental protection agencies to impose administrative penalties on people found to be violating the Coastal Act after a public hearing before the Coastal Commission.

COUNTY OF MARIN 2014 LEGISLATIVE POLICY GUIDELINES

Attachment A represents the 2014 Legislative Policy Guidelines. These guidelines are designed to (a) provide standing authority to take action on pending legislative matters when time constraints preclude bringing such matters to the Board of Supervisors in advance, and (b) provide our lobbyists a better understanding of the Board's policy preferences regarding a variety of intergovernmental issues that might arise during the course of the year. The guidelines include updated items from previous years that remain a priority for the county, as well as several proposed policy additions.

A. GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. ***County Revenue Sources and Local Authority.*** Oppose attempts to decrease, restrict or eliminate county revenue sources, or to restrict local authority with respect to issues that affect local communities. In particular, monitor any efforts at the state level to retain additional vehicle license fee or local property tax funds for state purposes. Explore statutes for potential amendment which currently require that fee and fine revenues - for Marin County Open Space violations, for instance - be dedicated to Court Operations. Local agencies should receive a greater percentage of locally-generated infraction revenues to offset their cost of doing business.
2. ***State and Federal Mandates.*** Oppose state or federal mandates, or the transfer/realignment of state or federal programs to the county, unless adequate on-going revenues are provided. Support efforts to establish a date certain for the payment of deferred S.B. 90 reimbursements to counties, or efforts that would reform the current mandate reimbursement process to be more cost efficient, predictable and fair.
3. ***Workers' Compensation & Disability Retirement Reform.*** Support efforts to reform the state workers' compensation program and similar efforts regarding disability payments to control costs and to reduce potential abuse, including disability presumptions.
4. ***Privacy Rights.*** Support efforts to ensure the privacy rights of individuals, including the ability to maintain the confidentiality of personal records, including medical records. Support efforts to require that individuals must actively agree to any release of their records or confidential information.
5. ***State & Local Government Reform.*** Monitor and assess various efforts and proposals to reform the state's constitution, and/or efforts to change state/local government relationships and funding mechanisms, to determine whether any such efforts should be supported by the County.
6. ***SmartMeter Opt-Out Legislation.*** Support legislative efforts that would enable residents to opt-out from Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) deployment of SmartMeter grid infrastructure. Oppose efforts to charge customers substantial fees to opt-out of SmartMeter installation or have previously installed SmartMeters removed.
7. ***Shared Services Opportunities.*** Support efforts to allow counties to consider regionalization of key state/local functions or other shared services models in order to achieve more efficient and cost-effective services while balancing concerns regarding local control and authority.
8. ***U.S. Postal Service Reforms.*** Oppose reform efforts that do not continue the mandate for 6-day delivery service, do not protect door-to-door delivery as it currently exists, or do not provide additional oversight and transparency to the United States Postal Service's plan to close, relocate, or sell approximately 3,270 post offices nationwide.

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9. ***Federal Minimum Wage.*** Support efforts to increase the federal minimum wage. The State's minimum wage will gradually rise from \$8 to \$10 per hour by January 1, 2016. The federal minimum wage, however, is currently only \$7.25 per hour in 2013.

B. ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

1. ***California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC).*** Evaluate and support efforts by the California FPPC to revise regulations guiding conflicts of interest to incorporate overlay zoning elements such as Marin County's streamside conservation area, where an indirect interest with no material financial stake may qualify for an exception to recusal to ensure adequate public consideration and Board of Supervisor discourse regarding such issues.
2. ***State Elections Reimbursement.*** Support election reform efforts that do not result in costs for elections being passed on to local governments with no realistic method for reimbursement. Continue to work with CSAC to provide state reimbursement of S.B. 90 claims, and other reimbursements, for elections costs for which counties cannot adequately prepare or budget.
3. ***Reducing Elections Costs.*** Support efforts to provide permissive authority for local jurisdictions to explore ways of reducing the local costs of elections, including changes to the requirements governing polling place locations and/or vote-by-mail opportunities.
4. ***Property Tax Postponement Program.*** Support AB 1718 and/or other similar statewide legislation that would facilitate restoration of the State's property tax postponement program, which allowed seniors, blind and disabled owners to postpone the payment of property taxes until death or upon sale of their property under certain eligibility and income limits. Support an installment payment plan with a lower rate of interest (from the current 18% to 12% per year) on any unpaid balance, again with eligibility and income limits. Support legislation that would allow individual counties to enact similar programs on a voluntary basis.
5. ***Regulations Governing the Assessment of Renovated Property.*** Work with State Board of Equalization or other relevant agencies to ensure that the County can continue to appropriately assess remodeled or improved property.
6. ***Corporate Personhood.*** Monitor efforts at the federal level, including any proposed constitutional amendments that would eliminate corporate "personhood", a concept that permits certain rights and privileges to corporations as if they were persons.

C. TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC WORKS

1. ***Multi-modal Transportation.*** Support efforts to incent commuters to use modes of transportation alternative to single-occupancy vehicles, possibly to include employer-sponsored incentives, and potential exploration of a personal rapid transit system. Support efforts to strengthen bike and pedestrian safety standards. In concert with the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) and the Marin County Transit District, oppose efforts by the State to redirect funding from the Public Transportation Account (PTA) for non-transportation purposes, including the State Transit Assistance (STA) program that provides the sole source of state funding for local transit operations and capital purchases. Support efforts in concert with TAM, MTC, MCTD, SMART, the Golden Gate Transit District and others to give these funds constitutional protection.
2. ***FAA Environmental Assessment of "Metrolplex" Air Space for San Francisco Bay Area.*** Monitor efforts to relocate overland commercial air routes, which currently cross Marin County for departure and takeoff from major Bay Area airports, to offshore air space. An environmental assessment will be conducted by the FAA in 2014 to improve air traffic flow in 21 "metrolplexes"

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- geographic areas that include several commercial and general aviation airports in close proximity serving large metropolitan areas, including the San Francisco Bay Area.
3. **Public Transit Services.** Support development of a robust public transit system that provides access to recreation areas and within local communities throughout the County. Explore efforts to identify ongoing State and/or Federal operating and capital funding for public transit services to National and California State Parks, as well as rural transit services in West Marin. Support funding for programs that support and expand bus services to students and seniors throughout the County.
 4. **Local or Regional Transit Agency Consolidation.** Oppose regional efforts that would consolidate local or regional transportation and transit districts.
 5. **Design-Build Contracting.** Support efforts to extend the option for counties to employ design-build contracting and project delivery for applicable projects. Design-build, in which the owner contracts with a single entity to both design and construct a project, may for example allow for more cost-effective and timely development of an emergency operations facility on the Civic Center campus.
 6. **Local Road Funding.** Support efforts to preserve and enhance local road maintenance funding for counties. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission has determined that Marin County unincorporated area roadways face a \$90 million shortfall to be maintained in a state of good repair through 2040. Support 'safe routes to schools' initiatives, enhanced accessibility and mobility initiatives for persons with disabilities, and protection of gas tax revenue and Proposition 1B regional allocations. Support the allocation of the remaining Proposition 1B funding made available through the Public Transportation Modernization and Service Enhancement Account program for the purchase of rolling stock and capital projects. Support initiatives to provide additional funding for road maintenance, such as an increase in – or annual indexing of – state gas taxes, sales taxes, vehicle miles travelled fees, vehicle registration fees, or lowering the threshold for local transportation taxes from 2/3 to 55%. Support efforts to provide state funding to maintain local roads that provide primary access to state parks and other state facilities.
 7. **Commuter Benefit Programs to Promote Transportation Alternatives.** Support efforts to revise the federal Transportation Fringe Benefit Program to make permanent the equal treatment of parking, vanpooling, and public transit benefits that are eligible for exclusion from taxation up to \$200 per month. Support an increase in the bicycle benefit from \$20 to \$40 per month and allowing the bicycle benefit to be used in conjunction with other benefits.
 8. **Gnoss Field Airport Runway Extension.** Support efforts to identify federal funds for design and construction costs related to a 1,100-foot runway extension and safety improvements to the County airport.

D. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

1. **Health Care Reform.** Support revisions to the Affordable Care Act only as may be necessary to preserve the Act. Where feasible, support increased inclusion and maintenance of prevention, early intervention, treatment, and recovery support services in health care legislation including evidence-based prevention strategies such as those outlined in the National Prevention Strategy. Support efforts to increase the number of licensed health care providers and their scope of practice to ensure effective implementation of the Act in California, and support efforts to provide meaningful addiction and mental health benefits in the full continuum of health care services, improving coordination and integration of available mental health and addiction services, as well as interventions with demonstrated effectiveness that take a community health approach to

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prevention and wellness. Support efforts to maintain and enhance funding for additional psychiatric emergency beds within the region.

2. ***Continuum of Comprehensive Health Services.*** Support improving coordination and integration of available physical health, mental health and addiction services, including prevention, screening and early intervention, treatment and recovery. Work to secure additional funding from private, state and federal sources that support the integrated implementation of prevention, treatment and recovery services; especially primary prevention services and ancillary support services.
3. ***Medicaid Reimbursement.*** Work with CSAC and the Governor's Office to alter the federal formula for Medicaid matching dollars to become more equitable for California. Oppose efforts to cap Medicaid dollars to states, or to restructuring Medicaid such that it would result in reduced coverage or funding. Support efforts to include medical respite as a Medicaid-reimbursed treatment. Medical respite has been shown to reduce repeated ER/hospital stays, but there is currently no reimbursement to cover the medical costs of caring for the homeless after release from the hospital.
4. ***Medicare charges to recipients.*** Explore efforts to address problems associated with increasingly expensive Medicare co-payment requirements for prescription medications, particularly among low-income residents with multiple medication needs.
5. ***Private Insurance Reimbursement for Psychiatric Emergency Services and for Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services.*** Support efforts to require insurers to reimburse Counties for psychiatric emergency services, and/or require that insurers provide alcohol and drug treatment services. State and federal law require that insurers pay for emergency medical care; a similar provision should be adopted for emergency psychiatric services.
6. ***Long Term Care Funding.*** Support discussion of restructuring long term care programs, focusing on better addressing chronic health care problems and encouraging independence as long as possible. Support the protection of funding for the In-Home Supportive Services program. Support efforts to more flexibly define the Medicaid hospice benefit, allowing patients to remain beyond six months if the physician recertifies that the patient is terminally ill.
7. ***AIDS Funding.*** Support additional funding for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), which allows low-income people with HIV/AIDS who are uninsured or underinsured to purchase life-preserving medications. Oppose additional patient co-pays, the establishment of waiting lists, reductions to the existing formulary - or other mechanisms that would disrupt a patient's ability to receive medications through the program, including incarcerated patients. Support efforts to maintain federal allocations for Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act funding to the San Francisco Eligible Metropolitan Area, which includes Marin County.
8. ***Social Services Funding.*** Work to protect funding and to simplify eligibility and enrollment processes for social services programs including, but not limited to, Child Support, Child Welfare, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and Food Stamp programs. Support efforts to provide jobs training and other forms of workforce investment in order to develop economic opportunities for the unemployed and underemployed.
9. ***Child Care & Child Welfare.*** Seek to protect existing federal and state funding for day care, childcare facilities, and for the training and retention of child care workers. Support efforts to improve the child welfare system, including updating the baseline for workload standards; advocate for increased flexibility of funding sources to include early intervention and prevention strategies; and advocate for increased attention and resources for youth leaving foster care, including supports to help them make permanent connections to adults and successfully transition into adulthood. Support efforts to restore funding for Stage III childcare, which was reduced by gubernatorial veto as a component of the FY 2010-11 State Budget.

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10. **Older Adult Programs.** Support efforts to obtain more funding for senior programs – especially older adult transportation and housing, including volunteer driver programs and older driver education efforts – as Marin County has a large and growing number of older adults. Support efforts to better prevent senior/elder abuse and work to protect funding for the Adult Protective Services program.
11. **Collaborative Efforts to Reduce County Detention Medical Expenses.** Support efforts to seek federal and/or state reimbursement for local detention medical expenses.
12. **Drug and Alcohol Residential Rehabilitation.** Without discriminating against those seeking recovery, support efforts to require local notification/input with regard to converting residential homes, particularly multiple contiguous parcels, into drug and alcohol rehabilitation centers in residential areas. Currently, the State Department of Alcohol & Drug programs may permit development of contiguous residential parcels into a recovery complex or compound, which generate complaints about noise, parking, traffic and other problems in residentially-zoned areas.
13. **Strengthen and Promote the Reauthorization of the Federal Older Americans Act (OAA) and Older Californian’s Act (OCA).** Support efforts to strengthen the federal OAA and OCA by advocating for increased federal and state funding; by assuring that future funding is tied to growth of the population of older adults; by restoring funding for OCA community based services programs (Linkages, Alzheimer’s Day Care Resource Center, Brown Bag and Senior Companion); and by allowing flexibility and capability for local autonomy in providing services. As Marin’s older adult population is projected to increase substantially in coming decades, increased funding will be necessary to keep pace with anticipated service demands. Support vulnerable elder and dependent adults in order to keep them safely in their own homes.
14. **Community Based Treatment and Recovery Maintenance.** Support Medicaid Home and Community-based waivers that would apply to California and Marin County in a way that maximizes opportunities for Marin’s senior and disabled population to preserve their independence as long as possible and to receive community and/or home-based treatment wherever possible.
15. **Foster Children & Their Families.** Support legislation that promotes services to meet the needs of current and former foster children and their families/caregivers involved in the Child Welfare System, including proposals that allow for continued movement towards meeting State-mandated outcomes for foster children, accountability, and establishment of best practices.
16. **Preventive Healthcare:** Support efforts to maintain prevention as a part of the continuum of services across all County programs and services. Support the implementation of evidence-based strategies in all County prevention services contracts. Support the integration of prevention across all of the priorities of the National Prevention Strategy, including:
 - a. **Tobacco Free Living.** Support local, state and federal efforts to expand smoke-free business and residential environments. Explore efforts to restrict the use of menthol in tobacco products. Support the development and enforcement of policies that address the health, environmental and economic effects of tobacco litter.
 - b. **Promote Healthy Eating and Physical Activity across the Lifespan.** Support efforts to address overweight and obesity issues among children and adults wherever possible including through nutrition and physical activity education; standards and policies; safe routes to schools, healthy foods and beverages (including locally grown foods). Support efforts to increase promotion of healthy products.
 - c. **Promote Healthy Habits across the Lifespan for Adults.** Support efforts to promote healthy lifestyles, including policies that reduce or prevent harm; promotion of safe sex and sexual health; improved nutrition; and increased physical activity.

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- d. ***Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use.*** Support state efforts to reduce problems associated with youth alcohol and other drug use and related community problems.
 - e. ***Medical Marijuana.*** Monitor efforts to create a statewide framework for the regulation of medical marijuana, and/or the implementation of local conditions that affect medical marijuana dispensaries. Oppose federal actions that interfere with state's rights.
 - f. ***Promote Health Equity.*** Support efforts to address conditions that contribute to health disparities and inequities, including development of regional strategies that supplement and support local work, strategies that help change the organization and culture of government agencies to make work on health inequities part of their missions, and approaches that foster the conditions in which people are most likely to be healthy- up to and including efforts to reduce poverty statewide.
 - g. ***Injury and Violence Free Living.*** Support statewide efforts to develop prevention and early intervention strategies to prevent bullying, domestic violence, and/or family/interpersonal violence.
17. ***Family Planning, Access, Care and Treatment Program.*** Advocate for continued renewal of a federal waiver under which California operates its Family Planning, Access, Care and Treatment Program. The federal government has threatened non-renewal of this waiver because of the way the State administers eligibility standards, and federal concerns that federal money is being used for services to undocumented persons.
 18. ***Local EMS Governance.*** Current statutes regarding Emergency Medical Services vests authority for local EMS system planning, implementation and evaluation with the County. Oppose any statutory or regulatory change that restricts or overrules local determination made by elected officials regarding Marin's EMS system design, funding, policy development, medical control or governance.
 19. ***Environmental Toxins.*** Seek funding for studies on the health effects of exposure to environmental toxins, and support bio-monitoring efforts to monitor the presence of human exposure to natural and synthetic chemicals. Lack of labeling and information prevents customers from being informed about these chemicals in the household. Support legislation that would overhaul the Federal Toxic Substances Control Act to safeguard the public's health and well-being, as well as the environment.
 20. ***Reinstatement of Benefits to Jail Inmates.*** Support efforts to amend federal regulations to require the federal government to reinstate benefits for jail inmates. Inmates charged with a crime and incarcerated while awaiting trial currently lose eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid benefits, Social Security and other federal benefits. Suspension of these benefits often leaves counties to bear the full cost of providing medical services to these inmates. Support legislation that would allow local jails to bill third-party insurers for healthcare costs of insured inmates during periods of adjudication.
 21. ***California Cancer Research Act.*** Support the Act that will provide more than \$500 million per year to find new ways to detect, treat, prevent and cure cancer or other tobacco-related illnesses.
 22. ***Volunteer Corps.*** Support the expansion of volunteer organizations such as Citizen Volunteer Corps, AmeriCorps VISTA, Medical Reserve Corps, or other similar organizations engaged in community service.
 23. ***United States Department of Peace.*** Monitor efforts to establish a United States Department of Peace, the purpose of which would be to provide practical, non-violent assistance and solutions to the problems associated with domestic and international conflict.

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24. ***Eliminate Restriction on Medicaid (Medi-Cal) Coverage for Institutions of Mental Disease.*** Support efforts to eliminate federal provisions that disallow Medicaid coverage for hospital services to persons with mental illness if they are in an institution that provides only these services (Institutions for Mental Disease).
25. ***Eliminate Restrictions on Medicaid (Medi-Cal) Coverage for Services to Detained Adults.*** Consistent with recent court findings permitting Medicaid reimbursement for inpatient hospitalization of minors in juvenile detention facilities, support current efforts to extend same to detainees in adult detention facilities.
26. ***Support efforts to allow Counties to administer Drug Medi-Cal Services.*** Support legislative and/or regulatory efforts to shift the responsibility for certifying, contracting and reimbursing for Drug Medi-Cal services from the State to the counties so these services can be administered in conjunction with mental health services, and so that programs are appropriately developed and coordinated.
27. ***Incent Broader Support for Effective Vaccination Efforts.*** Support policies and practices that support vaccination according to established national guidelines as a safe and effective means of preventing potentially fatal communicable diseases.
28. ***Support Efforts to Reduce Harm Caused by Gun Violence.*** Support policies and practices that are designed to limit the harm caused by gun violence, including education in conflict resolution, enhanced capacity to enforce existing gun control regulations, further limiting the availability of semiautomatic weapons and increasing taxes on bullets.
29. ***Nutrition Programs.*** Support efforts to protect and strengthen the SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) education program, and WIC (Women Infants and Children supplemental nutrition assistance program), particularly efforts to increase Title V funding for health care services to women and children. Oppose any proposals to cap or reduce funding, restrict eligibility, reduce benefits, or make harmful structural changes.
30. ***Needle Exchange.*** Oppose the existing ban on federal support for needle exchange programs and support efforts to provide funding for needle-exchange programs. Studies have shown that comprehensive syringe-exchange programs help prevent the spread of disease and do not increase illegal drug use.

E. NATURAL RESOURCES & COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. ***Wetlands Restoration Projects.*** Support the California Coastal Conservancy in seeking additional federal appropriations to the ACOE for the Hamilton Wetlands Restoration Project, as well as to the Corte Madera Creek watershed and Bothin Marsh. Explore efforts to advance one large wetlands restoration area along the San Pablo Bay from Novato Creek to Gallinas Creek (including Hamilton Field south to China Camp) to protect property, repair and protect valuable riparian and aquatic habitat, and to improve water quality. Seek funding through WRDA 2007 Section 5053 and other state and federal sources to develop a Detailed Project Report for McInnis Wetland Restoration, to be prepared by the ACOE. Seek funding to support restoration of lower Novato Creek through WRDA 2007 Section 5053 and other State and Federal sources. Explore funding opportunities to support watershed-wide measures in the Miller Creek watershed to enhance riparian habitat and steelhead salmon populations, and pursue funding consistent with these goals.
2. ***Municipal Storm Water Discharge Permit.*** Support legislation that would provide local jurisdictions with more flexibility and options to fund storm water programs. Support legislation

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that would amend the California Constitution to exempt fees and charges for flood control, storm water, and urban runoff management from Proposition 218.

3. ***Sudden Oak Death.*** Explore opportunities to identify additional funding for federal, state, and local agencies dedicated to the research and management of the Sudden Oak Death problem in Marin and other coastal California counties. On-going funding is required to maintain federal, state, and local activities focused on regulatory enforcement; monitoring/early detection; and education, outreach and training. Investigate opportunities to redirect some federal funding to state and local governments to assist with costs relating to tree removal and disposal, fire protection, public education, and financial assistance to homeowners.
4. ***Mill Assessment Fee Reimbursements.*** Support amendments to Section 6393, or other relevant sections of the California Government Code, in order to ensure that agencies like Marin County who minimize the usage of pesticides are not unfairly penalized in the apportionment of Mill assessment fee reimbursements. The State of California assesses a fee on all pesticides at the point of sale, with a “mill” being equivalent to one-tenth of a cent.
5. ***Product Take-Back & Other Zero-Waste Policies and Practices.*** Support efforts to enhance and fund programs which advocate zero-waste practices, recycling and/or Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs among retailers and grocery stores for products which can be recycled, including pharmaceuticals. EPR is the extension of the responsibility of producers for environmental impacts of their products to the entire product life cycle - and especially for their take-back, recycling, and disposal. This added responsibility may incent more environmentally friendly means of production.
6. ***Water Conservation Efforts.*** Support water conservation efforts, including efforts to offset potable water demand by promoting water reuse for agriculture, urban and environmental uses. Support the development of uniform standards for the use of “gray” water – as well as native plant and low-water demonstration gardens and other efforts to cultivate water conservation in the community.
7. ***Endangered Species Act.*** Protect the Endangered Species Act from attempts to constrain the federal government’s ability to protect critical habitat for plants and animals; oppose efforts to require compensation for landowners if government blocks their development plans to protect certain species.
8. ***West Marin Emergency Services.*** Seek increased federal funding for providing emergency services for the visitors of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and southern and western Marin. The funding for this activity has remained unchanged at approximately \$90,000 since the program’s inception in the early 1970s, and is important especially during seasonal high-use periods. Also seek one-time funds to improve emergency radio communication coverage in these areas.
9. ***Protect Endangered Fish in Coastal Streams.*** Explore efforts with the State Water Resources Control Board and others to protect native fish in coastal streams within the Endangered Species Act while also balancing the needs of coastal agriculture. Seek greater and more consistent funding for fishery restoration, particularly for fish which live in the ocean but return to freshwater to spawn, such as salmon.
10. ***Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund.*** Work closely with other local government, water district and state officials to support funding Congressional reauthorization of the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund, and other measures which balance the needs of Coastal agriculture and environmental concerns/habitat preservation.

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11. ***State Funded Water Projects.*** Explore opportunities through the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Proposition 84 Grant Program for projects to protect communities from drought, protect and improve water quality, and improve local water security by reducing dependence on imported water.
12. ***San Francisco Bay and Delta Issues.*** Monitor legislative or regulatory efforts that may impact the Delta/Bay region.
13. ***North Bay Water Reuse Program.*** Support efforts to enable a Bureau of Reclamation partnership with the North Bay Water Reuse Authority, County of Marin as an associate member agency, and other regional partners to achieve water reuse, water supply, water quality, flood control and environmental restoration objectives, including efforts to advance one large wetlands restoration area along the San Pablo Bay from Novato Creek to Gallinas Creek (including Hamilton Field south to China Camp) to protect property, repair and protect valuable riparian and aquatic habitat, and to improve water quality.
14. ***Housing Authority Assistance to Remediate Home Health & Safety Code Violations.*** Continue efforts with the State Water Resources Control Board to establish a revolving loan fund which would accommodate grants or low interest loans in excess of \$25,000 to people of low income to address health and safety code violations in their homes. Funded projects could include the upgrade or conversion of failing or substandard on-site sewage systems.
15. ***Tomales Bay Water Quality Programs.*** Seek state assistance for infrastructure projects designed to improve water quality or the availability of potable water sources within the Tomales Bay watershed, including ongoing projects that would enable private property owners along Tomales Bay to upgrade failing and substandard on-site sewage disposal systems, or convert to small community waste treatment systems.
16. ***Coastal Commission.*** Support efforts to adequately fund the California Coastal Commission to facilitate more effective and timely partnership with coastal cities and counties regarding planning and regulatory issues affecting land and water in the coastal zone.
17. ***Acceleration of Project Delivery – Water Resource Agency Permits.*** Support amendments to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and other related statutes and procedures to reduce duplication and speed approvals for routine flood control maintenance activities such as the removal of sediment, debris and vegetation from channels and basins, and low impact transportation projects, while ensuring that environmental protections are not eroded.
18. ***Acceleration of Project Delivery – Environmental Compliance.*** Actively support efforts to reform the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act to reduce duplication, speed delivery, and facilitate efficient processing of applications, consistent with the environmental protection policies and goals contained in the Countywide Plan.
19. ***Restoration of San Francisco Bay.*** Support efforts to amend the Clean Water Act to provide funding to state and local agencies and other organizations for restoration projects and habitat improvement for fish, waterfowl, and wildlife that advance the goals and objectives of the comprehensive management plan for the San Francisco estuary or the Delta/Bay region. Support efforts of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority to restore, enhance, and protect wetlands, wildlife habitat and related public recreation and flood protection projects in the San Francisco Bay and along its shoreline. Ensure that each region has a fair and reasonable allocation of funds obtained through these efforts for this work.
20. ***Plastic Shopping Bags.*** Support legislation that would prohibit stores statewide from providing customers with plastic carryout shopping bags, including AB 158 (Levine), consistent with the County's own local ordinance. Support efforts to encourage the use of re-usable shopping bags.

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21. **Hydraulic Fracturing (“Fracking”).** Support efforts to ban or further regulate “fracking” in California given its threats to the environment, public health and safety.
22. **Genetically Modified Foods.** Support statewide legislation that would require explicit product labeling of genetically modified foods.
23. **Federal Farm Bill.** Monitor federal efforts to reauthorize the Farm Bill. Support the incorporation of sustainable agriculture principles within the bill, including, but not limited to, any programs or reforms that will support local food production.

F. LAW ENFORCEMENT & PUBLIC SAFETY

1. **Next Generation Communications System for the Marin Emergency Radio Authority (MERA).** Support efforts to identify approximately \$40 million in funds for implementation of a replacement mission critical system for Marin County's emergency response agencies. The current system is 14 years old, and is a 400 MHz T-band spectrum system. The new system is proposed to comply with Project 25 (P25) national interoperable communication standards. In addition to grants, support efforts where appropriate to share and consolidate proposed MERA system components with state agency needed communication system components, and support allocations in the state budget for the state share of any joint expenses.
2. **Disaster Prevention and Recovery.** Seek additional funding, and expand the definition of programs eligible for grant funding, for disaster recovery/prevention – including efforts to better prevent and respond to oil spills on and around Marin’s coastline, bay front and waterways. Support reform of California’s public health and safety net system to allow state and local governments to better plan and prepare for potential public health disasters; and to facilitate their availability to County and community-based organizations.
3. **Therapeutic Courts.** Support efforts to restore funding for therapeutic justice programs, such as the Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction (MIOCR) grant programs administered by the State Board of Corrections. Support the protection of funding for adult and juvenile drug courts, and expansion to pre-plea drug court programs.
4. **Domestic Violence Court Funding.** Seek state or federal funding to assist with the continuation of the Family/Domestic Violence Court, particularly the therapeutic treatment aspect of the court’s operation. The Domestic Violence Court is a comprehensive approach toward case resolution, increased offender accountability, victim safety, and integration of the delivery of social services.
5. **Court Funding.** Oppose any increase in Trial Court Funding Act county maintenance of effort levels above the agreement reached in A.B. 233 (1997-Escutia) and subsequent actions providing maintenance of effort relief. Support legislation to expand California Rule of Court 810 regarding Court operations to include all Court-related costs currently paid by counties. Support enactment of a court facilities bond that would allow counties to make needed renovations to local trial court facilities. Oppose efforts to restrict counties from recovering their costs for providing security services to Courts.
6. **Public Safety Funding.** Support continued federal funding for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program. Support continued state funding for the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act Funding. Support legislation and/or budget proposals that maintain or enhance funding for adult and juvenile probation services programs, as well as legislation that would fund local juvenile hall and jail construction or remodeling. Support efforts to change state law to allow an intercept on federal income tax returns so that adults on probation pay victim restitution, fines and fees for their criminal behavior; such authority already exists for state returns.

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7. **Jessica's Law.** Support efforts to identify funding for unfunded local requirements associated with enforcement of Jessica's Law, including costs associated with lifelong registration for sex offenders and GPS monitoring, and to defray local costs to defend persons arrested for violations. Voters approved Proposition 83 in November of 2006, increasing penalties for violent and habitual sex offenders and child molesters in California.
8. **State Crime Labs.** Support funding for local governments to contract out work needed to reduce DNA testing backlogs. Because of backlogs, many local governments outsource at their own cost to resolve cases; local governments should be reimbursed for these costs.
9. **State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP).** Monitor and advocate to preserve federal SCAAP payments to states and localities that incur correctional officer salary costs for incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens with specified criminal convictions.
10. **Standards and Training for Corrections.** Support continued Standards and Training for Corrections (STC) funding, which focuses on job classification requirements, as well as recruitment and training standards for probation officers, juvenile (Juvenile Hall) and jail correctional officers.
11. **Suicide Barrier on Golden Gate Bridge.** Support efforts to identify funding for construction of a suicide barrier on the Golden Gate Bridge.

G. HOUSING AND LAND USE

1. **Indian Gaming.** Support efforts to provide local government greater authority with respect to Indian gaming. Compacts with California tribes – including those for newly accepted or acquired lands for Indian gaming purposes – should include a mandate for judicially enforceable agreements between tribal and local governments, such that Indian gaming tribes comply with state environmental standards, and localities should have more authority to mitigate the significant adverse off-reservation impacts of Indian gaming. Ensure that the U.S. Secretary of the Interior has discretion to consider impacts to the local community before taking land into trust for gaming purposes. Support legislation which balances tribal, local, state and federal concerns while protecting or enhancing state and local government authority to mitigate off-reservation impacts.
Work with stakeholders and regional partners to ensure that any casinos proposed for development in Marin or in neighboring jurisdictions: 1) do not create significant local adverse off-reservation impacts, and/or 2) that Marin communities have a voice in such negotiations and are provided sufficient authority and funding to mitigate any such impacts.
2. **Sustainable Communities Strategies (SCS).** Continue to work with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to monitor and support SCS initiatives that balance the need to protect local government revenues with sound land use planning by local communities – i.e. incorporating new ideas in the areas of growth management, transportation, health, commerce, housing (including affordable housing), and open space to create more livable communities.
3. **Homelessness.** Work with regional stakeholders to develop regional solutions to homelessness in the Bay Area. Advocate for a more fair allocation of federal 'bonus' funding that does not disadvantage suburban or rural communities. Explore efforts to allocate mental health services funds towards new housing opportunities.
4. **Affordable Housing.** Support efforts to maintain or increase funding for Section 8 vouchers to strengthen and stabilize the system; simplify the rent-setting process; emphasize housing mobility and choice; encourage increased earned-income by residents; support affordable housing

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opportunities for veterans; and authorize new vouchers. Explore new statewide funding sources for affordable housing. Work to revise and expand 202 and 811 programs serving very low income seniors and people with disabilities. Support the implementation of AB 1103 (Huffman, 2011), and advocate for the re-designation of Marin County from “metropolitan” to “suburban” for the purposes of statewide affordable housing density requirements. Advocate for McKinney-Vento/HEARTH distribution formulas which are more equitable to affluent suburban areas with increasing homeless rates. Support efforts to provide new statewide funding sources for affordable housing, and support efforts to protect inclusionary zoning as a policy tool to tie the production of affordable homes to the production of new market-rate housing by providing incentives to encourage developers to reserve a share of units in new residential developments for low- or moderate-income households.

5. ***Predatory Banking Practices.*** Support legislation that would further protect consumers from predatory financial, banking or lending practices, including but not limited to: setting standards for assisting homeowners seeking loan modifications; or providing resources to victims of improper foreclosures, or other abuses.
6. ***Eminent Domain.*** Monitor potential legislation or any ballot measures regarding the use of eminent domain by public entities for private use. Eminent domain should be used for clearly public interest and benefit, such as to battle economic and physical blight, and to provide important public infrastructure. Work to ensure that efforts to protect private property do not compromise the use of eminent domain for legitimate public purposes, and do not compromise open space.
7. ***County Fees for Workforce Housing.*** Explore efforts to amend state legislation to authorize a county to charge a document or transfer fee with proceeds dedicated to a revolving fund that could finance affordable/workforce housing projects. A \$1 per-page document fee for county documents, for example, could generate approximately \$500,000 per year in additional revenues.
8. ***Housing, Land Use and CEQA.*** Work to ensure that any state efforts to develop housing and infrastructure appropriately balance affordable housing needs with environmental concerns, including appropriate CEQA review, and protect local regulation of housing and land use issues. Work to alter State Housing and Community Development (HCD) funding formulas to more fairly consider affordable housing needs in high-cost and non-urban areas of the state.
9. ***Affordable Housing Preservation/Rehabilitation/Development.*** Explore the possibility of increased funds for affordable housing preservation, rehabilitation and/or development, including costs associated with ADA compliance.
10. ***Long Term Care/Assisted Living Facility Opportunities.*** Seek funding for, or support efforts to facilitate, the construction of long-term care/assisted living facility opportunities for low and moderate income segments of Marin’s aging population.
11. ***Local Government Regulation of Housing & Land Use Issues.*** Oppose efforts to further restrict local governments’ ability to regulate housing and land use issues, including development of second unit housing and any attempt to preempt state and local authority regarding the siting of gasoline refineries. Local land use authority should remain local.
12. ***Brownfield Remediation.*** Support efforts, as appropriate, to identify and remediate abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities to assist developers and property owners interested in reusing the sites for new retail, commercial, residential and industrial purposes.
13. ***Portable Toilets at Seasonal Camps.*** Explore regulatory changes that would facilitate the use of portable toilets at seasonal camps. Current state-wide environmental health regulations do not authorize their use at such facilities.

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14. ***Fire Operations and Equipment.*** Support efforts to identify and apply for federal or state funds to augment County funds for fire station, fire engine or related equipment; master planning; or other fire safety/prevention efforts, including vegetation management and fuel reductions.

H. CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL

1. ***Transaction Based Reimbursement Program.*** Seek to enhance funding in the Transaction Based Reimbursement (TBR) Program in the state library budget. The TBR program permits the state library to reimburse local libraries for non-resident use of their materials to promote open library use.
2. ***Public Library Fund.*** Seek to restore funding in the Public Library Fund (PLF) in the state library budget. The PLF is a program to assist local library jurisdictions in maintaining library services for residents of California.
3. ***Library Bonding Capacity.*** Support efforts to amend state education code to permit the Marin County Free Library to issue General Obligation bonds for capital improvements.
4. ***State Funding for Public Library Construction or Renovation.*** Support efforts to place on the ballot a measure that would provide funds to construct new - or renovate existing - public library facilities in California.
5. ***Telecommunications – PEG Channels.*** Monitor federal legislation that would limit or restrict local government authority over telecommunications siting, zoning and placement within local jurisdictions. Support Federal bill H.R. 1746 The Community Access Preservation Act (the CAP Act), which removes the distinction between “capital” and “operating” in PEG (Public, Educational, and Government access) support fees; ensures local governments can secure funding for PEG channels in exchange for cable operators’ use of public rights-of-way, ensures local governments can have PEG channels; ensures cable operators transmit PEG channels without charge to local governments; and ensures PEG channels are available on basic tiers of service and available to all subscribers.
6. ***Telecommunications – Franchise Authority.*** Support federal legislation that would apply to telephone or other companies the same federal laws and regulations as are currently applied to cable television providers, and oppose any legislation that would restrict local franchising authority, including collection of franchise fees at the local level. All video providers using public rights of way, regardless of program content or delivery method, should be subject to the same statutory regulations and requirements. Providers should also be encouraged to invest in all communities and neighborhoods, and be required to pay a local franchise fee and PEG fee.
7. ***Volunteer Labor.*** Explore efforts to permit volunteer labor on public works projects or organic farms. Explore the viability of AB 2690 or similar legislation (Hancock; Chaptered 2004).
8. ***Education.*** Support legislative efforts to provide a sustainable early childhood, K-12 and higher education system as well as other efforts to promote quality, accessible, and affordable education for all members of society.