
COUNTY OF MARIN 2016 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. Some legislative items appear in both the federal and state programs 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 2016 Legislative Policy Guidelines, which are designed to (a) provide standing authority to direct 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 issues that may arise during the year.

2016 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 their climate change goals. Monitor federal legislative proposals on climate change and energy policy to ensure that any legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions nationally is structured to assist the region in achieving its greenhouse gas reduction goals. Support efforts to adapt to sea-level rise, including vulnerability assessment and adaptation strategies, wetlands restoration, levee construction or other similar structural resilience measures.
2. ***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.
3. ***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 and economic sustainability.
4. ***Internet Broadband Infrastructure.*** Support efforts to provide high-speed internet to seniors, rural communities, the San Rafael Canal areas and other underserved communities of Marin, including broadband infrastructure development for underserved areas, and for competition and redundancy – as well as for local franchise authority and public right-of-way management.

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 2012 and authorized federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety and transit. Reauthorized through December 2015, the County will continue to advocate that MAP-21 be fully funded, and for the following priorities:

1. ***Nonmotorized Transportation/Active Transportation Program.*** Continue to seek funds dedicated to nonmotorized transportation projects and programs included in the next federal transportation bill and any state transportation funding programs, including Safe Routes to Schools programs.

2. ***Highway 101 Multi-Modal Corridor Projects.*** In coordination with the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM), support strategies to close an estimated \$280 million funding gap 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 or maintain federal funding for its project, including extension to Larkspur. Support efforts to improve the San Rafael Transit Center to ensure safe and efficient multimodal operations for SMART, local and regional bus operations, pedestrians, and motor vehicles.
3. ***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. County Roads within or connecting to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the Point Reyes National Seashore), including projects such as the Pacific Way bridge replacement.
4. ***Surface Transportation.*** Support efforts to maintain a strong federal leadership role in providing a national surface transportation system, including reinstating guaranteed spending levels for local governments, flexible funding of surface transportation projects, balancing highway and transit investments, streamlining administrative and environmental process, and public participation.

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 (ACOE):

1. ***Corte Madera Creek Flood Control.*** Seek funding for improvements to the existing portion of Units 2 and 3, and completion of the final phase, of the ACOE Corte Madera Creek Flood Control Project to reduce the risk of flood events. 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 and the final phase is needed to make the entire project work.
2. ***Las Gallinas Creek Watershed/Santa Venetia Levee.*** Seek funding for levee improvements, dredging, watershed restoration and pump station replacement/maintenance.

D. OTHER PRIORITY FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2016 FUNDING REQUESTS

Congress instituted a ban on earmarks in Fiscal Year 2011, which severely constrained the ability of local governments to receive direct federal funding for local projects. Should opportunities arise for federal funding, the following represent the County’s highest priority federal requests for 2016 (Federal Fiscal Year 2017). 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. ***Muir Woods Transportation Management.*** Explore options to identify additional partnerships or revenue opportunities that could provide funds intended to offset the costs of transportation and watershed management associated with Muir Woods National Monument.
2. ***Tomales Bay Water Quality Programs.*** Seek federal assistance for infrastructure projects to improve water quality or the availability of potable water sources within the Tomales Bay watershed, including projects that would enable private property owners to upgrade failing and substandard on-site sewage disposal systems, or convert to small community waste treatment systems.
3. ***Bolinas Lagoon Ecosystem Restoration.*** Seek federal assistance for the costs associated with the Bolinas Lagoon Ecosystem Restoration locally preferred plan.

4. ***Next Generation Communications System for the Marin Emergency Radio Authority (MERA).***
Support efforts to identify federal or state funds to leverage a countywide parcel tax approved in November 2014 for the implementation of a replacement mission critical system for Marin County's emergency response agencies. The current system is 15 years old, and is a 400 MHz T-band spectrum system. The new system is proposed to comply with 700 MHz national interoperable communication standards.

2016 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

A. PRIORITY ISSUES

1. **Affordable Housing Preservation/Rehabilitation/Development.** 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 senior housing, assisted living units, housing cooperatives and second units/junior second units. Support state funding for the conversion of existing commercial and housing stock - and increasing funds, providing additional tax incentives, and exploring other mechanisms for affordable housing preservation, rehabilitation, development and/or conversion, including costs associated with ADA compliance. 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. Support efforts to re-establish affordable housing as a priority within the Coastal Zone.
2. **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.

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, subject to agreement with collective bargaining units.
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. Advocate for McKinney-Vento/HEARTH distribution formulas, which are more equitable to affluent suburban areas with increasing homeless rates.
4. **Clean/Renewable Energy, Climate Change Mitigation.** Support efforts to secure funding to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including, but not limited to: clean energy, energy efficiency improvements, Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), and electric vehicle infrastructure. 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 as a part of SB 375 implementation. Support efforts to create public/private partnerships, incentives, and investment for clean energy.
5. **Climate Change Adaptation.** Support efforts to secure funding to adapt to sea-level rise, including, as one example, efforts to improve the Highway 37 Corridor to address the threat of sea level rise, traffic congestion, transit options and recreational activities. Explore legislative efforts to ensure the sustainability of local communities susceptible to sea level rise, including efforts on behalf of the State Lands Commissions to ensure its obligation to obtain revenue for State Lands and to protect property interests affected by the impacts of global warming. Explore potential mitigations to current obligations to maintain public rights of way in the face of rising sea levels for concerns that failure to maintain county infrastructure may be considered a "taking" by state agencies; longer term, Coastal and Delta jurisdictions may have concerns with mandates to maintain current infrastructure that may be ineffective with rising sea levels.

6. ***AB 32 ‘Cap and Trade’ Investment Plan.*** Pursue funding for projects or programs eligible to receive carbon credits under California’s greenhouse gas cap-and-trade program, including agricultural projects. Oppose the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment methodology that does not include disadvantaged communities in Marin County. Support the dedication of, and increasing eligibility of, Cap and Trade revenues towards transportation investments for public transit operations and capital projects, including funding for the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) extension to Larkspur, road operations and maintenance, as well as for housing and nonmotorized transportation goals, with funding determinations made at the regional level. Support state funding in FY 2016-17 of the Investment Plan in general, but also to include agricultural conservation practices that sequester carbon on farms and ranches, as well as revisions to the AB32 Scoping Plan to include agriculture and rangeland practices as solutions for greenhouse gas mitigation.
7. ***Federal/State Minimum Wage.*** Support efforts to increase the state and/or federal minimum wage; the state minimum wage rises to \$10 per hour effective January 1, 2016.
8. ***Internet Broadband Infrastructure.*** Support efforts to provide high-speed internet to seniors, rural communities, the San Rafael Canal areas and other underserved communities of Marin, including broadband infrastructure development for underserved areas, and for competition and redundancy, as well as for local franchise authority and public right-of-way management.
9. ***Vote by Mail and Increasing Voter Turnout.*** Explore efforts to provide permissive authority for local jurisdictions to increase voter turnout and to reduce the local costs of elections, including changes to the requirements governing polling place locations and/or vote-by-mail opportunities, while balancing concerns that reduced polling places may inhibit voting rights, particularly for some voters with disabilities. Explore opportunities for change that may be available under proposed legislation, including SB 450, which presents a model including vote centers and voting by mail.
10. ***Watershed Management Efforts.*** Support water bond legislation funding opportunities for Marin County eligible projects. Monitor any statewide efforts to convey water from the San Francisco Bay/Delta to other parts of the state for environmental and water capacity concerns. Support funding for local 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 for projects.
11. ***Stormwater Funding.*** Support an amendment to the California Constitution that would provide alternative procedures and requirements for funding water service and sewer service, including stormwater and flood control services. Alternative approaches to provide funding flexibility are necessary to fund stormwater services similar to water districts and wastewater districts in light of increased concerns regarding drought and water conservation efforts.
12. ***State-Owned Bridge Improvements, San Rafael/Richmond Bridge Third Lane.*** Support efforts by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for legislation seeking authority for Bay Area voters to consider at a future election whether to raise tolls on state-owned bridges to fund transportation improvements in bridge corridors. Support efforts to open the third lane of the San Rafael/Richmond Bridge as soon as possible to ease traffic congestion.
13. ***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. Support efforts to maintain medical facilities in rural areas and also fund transportation programs to access medical services, resulting in better outcomes and lower costs.

COUNTY OF MARIN 2016 LEGISLATIVE POLICY GUIDELINES

Attachment A represents the 2016 Legislative Policy Guidelines. These guidelines are designed to (a) provide standing authority to direct 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.

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. Monitor any efforts at the state level to retain additional vehicle license fee or local property tax funds for state purposes. Monitor efforts to re-examine the state's tax laws, including proposals to reform property tax assessments for commercial/industrial properties. 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.
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 post-2004 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. ***Improved Access to Health Care.*** Support efforts to expand health care coverage to all populations. Seek opportunities for federal funding to strengthen partnerships between Public Health and Primary Care, especially in establishing information-sharing systems that describe the health of communities. 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. ***Privacy Rights.*** Support efforts to ensure the privacy rights of individuals, including the ability to maintain the confidentiality of personal records, such as medical records. Support efforts to require that individuals must actively agree to any release of their records or confidential information.
6. ***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.
7. ***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.
8. ***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.

9. **Property Tax Administration Program (PTAP).** Support efforts to receive revenues from the state PTAP program that would not impair the County's overall property tax collections.
10. **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. Seek federal funding to support flood control improvements in flood prone areas.
11. **Sustainable Agriculture on National and State Parklands.** Explore opportunities to support sustainable agricultural uses within existing agricultural areas in national and state parklands in Marin County to enhance local agricultural diversity and economic sustainability.

B. ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

1. **California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC).** 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. **Local Sales Tax Cap.** Monitor any regional or statewide efforts to change Section 7251.1 of State Revenue & Taxation Code, which may allow voters the option to consider an increased countywide sales tax for local priorities.
3. **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.
4. **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.
5. **Law Library Funding.** Support efforts for law libraries statewide to regain permissive legislative authority to seek fee increases from the Board of Supervisors without impairing the State Administrative Office of the Court's (AOC) financial position.

C. TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC WORKS

1. **Local Road Funding.** Support efforts to preserve and enhance local road maintenance funding for counties, including any state infrastructure bond proposals. Support 'safe routes to schools' initiatives, enhanced accessibility and mobility initiatives for persons with disabilities. Support initiatives to provide additional funding for road maintenance, such as an increase in – or annual indexing of – state and federal gas taxes, sales taxes, and vehicle miles travelled or road user charges, vehicle registration fees, or lowering the threshold for local transportation taxes from 67% to 55%. Support efforts to provide state funding to maintain local roads that provide primary access to state parks and other state facilities.
2. **Multi-modal Transportation.** Support efforts to incentivize commuters to use modes of transportation alternative to single-occupancy vehicles, possibly to include employer-sponsored incentives. 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, Marin Transit, SMART, the Golden Gate Bridge Highway & Transportation District and others to give Public Transportation Account funds constitutional protection. Support new proposals for state infrastructure bonds to establish a long-term funding source for transit capital projects.

3. **Clean Water Act Rule Changes.** Support legislation that would amend Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to provide a narrow exemption for needed maintenance activities involving the removal of sediment, debris, and vegetation from flood control channels and basins that still respects the environmental protections afforded by the Clean Water Act.
4. **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.
5. **Emissions Reductions Programs.** Support use of revenues from federal climate change legislation to expand public transit services to achieve increases in ridership needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector. Revenues from the auction of emissions allowances under a federal “cap-and-trade” or other market-based program should be used to supplement—not supplant—federal funding for public transit.
6. **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 allow for more cost-effective and timely development of projects. Explore efforts regarding potential design-build authority for the County’s new Marin Emergency Radio Authority (MERA) system replacement.
7. **Commuter Benefit Programs to Promote Transportation Alternatives.** Support efforts to revise the federal Transportation Fringe Benefit Program to provide parity between the pre-tax transportation fringe benefit allowed for public transit and vanpooling and that which is allowed for parking.
8. **FAA Environmental Assessment of “Metroplex” Air Space for San Francisco Bay Area.** Monitor efforts to relocate overland commercial air routes, which cross Marin County for departure and takeoff from major Bay Area airports, to offshore air space. An environmental assessment was completed by the FAA to improve air traffic flow in 21 “metroplexes” – geographic areas that include several commercial and general aviation airports in close proximity serving large metropolitan areas, including the San Francisco Bay Area – but has recently received critical attention as a result, particularly in South Bay communities.
9. **Drone Regulation.** Monitor legislative or regulatory efforts regarding drones for safety and privacy concerns.
10. **Gross Field Airport Runway Extension.** Support efforts to identify federal funds for design and construction costs related to 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 prevention and wellness. Support efforts to maintain and enhance funding for additional psychiatric emergency beds within the region.

2. ***Health Coverage for All California Residents.*** Support efforts with local agencies and funders to develop a long term solution that will provide health care coverage for all residents of California.
3. ***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.
4. ***Medicaid Funding.*** Support federal and state legislation and/or waivers that remove restrictions on Medicaid (Medi-Cal) funding currently imposed by the Federal Institutes of Mental Disease (IMD) Exclusion Rule. This rule prohibits Medicaid funding for IMD's, which include free-standing psychiatric hospitals, sub-acute long-term treatment facilities such as Mental Health Rehabilitation Centers (MHRC's), and some community residential programs that have more than 16 beds. The restrictions on this revenue stream results in millions of dollars in lost local funds.
5. ***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.
6. ***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.
7. ***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.
8. ***Long Term Care Funding.*** Support efforts aimed at restructuring long term care programs, focusing on improving chronic health care and promoting independence and aging in place for as long as possible. Support the protection and improvement of the In-Home Supportive Services program, as well as restoration of state funding for other long-term care programs like the Multipurpose Senior Services Program and Community Based Adult Services Program.
9. ***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.
10. ***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 Cal

Fresh programs. Oppose cuts to Social Security, including chaining the Consumer Price Index (CPI), and support restoration of a COLA to the SSI program. Support efforts to provide jobs training and other forms of workforce investment in order to develop economic opportunities for the unemployed and underemployed. Support programs that increase the availability of qualified caregiver workforce. Support the Senior Community Service Employment Program and other programs for older workers.

11. **Preschool, Child Care & Child Welfare.** Seek to protect or enhance federal and state funding for preschool, day care, childcare slots and 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, and increased childcare reimbursement rates. Monitor state efforts to deal with the influx of unaccompanied minor children to ensure timely immigration hearings with appropriate disposition while acknowledging the County's already strained foster care resources.
12. **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.
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. Support vulnerable elder and dependent adults in order to keep them safely in their own homes. Support efforts that modify funding mechanisms so that any restored funds are managed by local Area Agencies on Aging for local priorities. Restore funding to the California Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, which provides advocacy services to protect the health, safety, welfare and rights of residents in skilled nursing facilities and residential care facilities for the elderly. Support the California Elder Economic Security Initiative (Cal-EESI) including the use of the Elder Economic Index.
14. **Elder Justice.** Support efforts to better prevent elder and dependent adult abuse for people living in the community and in facilities and work to protect funding for the Adult Protective Services program and to fund the federal Elder Justice Act.
15. **Veterans Services.** Support efforts to fully fund the County Veterans Service Offices permanently. Support legislation that would require state agencies to coordinate with CALVET to improve state services provided to veterans.
16. **Collaborative Efforts to Reduce County Detention Medical Expenses.** Support efforts to seek federal and/or state reimbursement for local detention medical expenses.
17. **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, often leaving 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.
18. **Eliminate Restrictions on Medicaid (Medi-Cal) Coverage for Services to Detained Adults.** Consistent with court findings permitting Medicaid reimbursement for inpatient hospitalization

of minors in juvenile detention facilities, support current efforts to extend the same to detainees in adult detention facilities.

19. ***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.
20. ***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.
21. ***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; and healthy foods and beverages (including locally grown foods).
Support efforts to increase promotion of healthy products. Support food security for older adults.
 - c. ***Promote Healthy Habits across the Lifespan for Adults.*** Support efforts to promote healthy lifestyles, including policies that reduce or prevent harm; promote safe sex and sexual health; improve nutrition; and increase physical activity.
 - 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, including, but not limited to, prescription drug abuse and misuse.
 - 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.
 - h. ***Mental Health and Emotional Well-being.*** Support efforts addressing the care needed to support the mental health and emotional well-being of individuals as they age.
22. ***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.

23. **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.
24. **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.
25. **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).
26. **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; banning the sale of semiautomatic weapons and regulating the number of bullets available in gun clips; as well as providing more stringent background checks on gun purchases.
27. **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.
28. **New or Additional Taxes/Fees on Alcohol, Tobacco and Soda.** Support policies or new legislation levying taxes on alcohol, tobacco, and/or soda to reduce consumption and harm from these products and fund public health programs.
29. **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 (1996) Section 206, the Estuary Restoration Act, or other state and federal sources to develop and implement a plan to restore the wetlands on the east side of McInnis Park. Seek funding to support restoration of lower Novato Creek through WRDA 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. **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.

3. **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.
4. **State Funded Water Projects.** Explore opportunities through the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Proposition 84 Grant Program, now funded through Proposition 1 approved by voters in 2014, for projects to protect communities from drought, protect and improve water quality, and improve local water security by reducing dependence on imported water.
5. **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.
6. **San Francisco Bay and Delta Issues.** Monitor legislative or regulatory efforts that may impact the Delta/Bay region.
7. **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, including lower Novato Creek and lower 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.
8. **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.
9. **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.
10. **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.
11. **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, to ensure that unwanted and expired medication is safely and properly disposed.
12. **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.

13. **Hydraulic Fracturing (“Fracking”).** Support efforts to ban or further regulate “fracking” in California given its threats to the environment, public health and safety.
14. **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.
15. **Protect Endangered Fish in Coastal Streams.** Explore efforts with the State Water Resources Control Board and others to protect native fish in coastal streams while also balancing the needs of coastal agriculture. Seek greater and more consistent funding for fishery restoration, particularly for fish that live in the ocean but return to freshwater to spawn, such as salmon.
16. **Mill Assessment Fee Reimbursements.** Support amendments to California Government Code to ensure that agencies like Marin County that minimize the usage of pesticides are not unfairly penalized in the apportionment of Mill assessment fee reimbursements. California assesses a fee on all pesticides at the point of sale, with a “mill” being equivalent to one-tenth of a cent.
17. **State Organic Program Farmer Registration Fees.** Oppose any legislation that proposes to eliminate state organic program fees or activities carried out by state or county agencies responsible for enforcing organic state law.
18. **Genetically Modified Foods.** Support statewide legislation that would require explicit product labeling of genetically modified foods.
19. **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.
20. **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.

F. LAW ENFORCEMENT & PUBLIC SAFETY

1. **Next Generation Communications System for the Marin Emergency Radio Authority (MERA).** Support efforts to identify federal or state funds for implementation of a replacement mission critical system for Marin County’s emergency response agencies. The current system is 15 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 co-locate 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, as well as ensuring the needs of the elderly and disabled are included in disaster prevention and recovery planning. 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.*** Monitor any efforts to develop 'clean up' legislation regarding Proposition 47 (2014), which is anticipated to return more offenders to local jails vs. state prison. Protect Marin County's AB 109 Public Safety Realignment allocation. Support continued federal funding for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, and funding for the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act. 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.
7. ***State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP).*** Monitor and advocate to preserve federal SCAAAP payments to states and localities that incur correctional officer salary costs for incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens with specified criminal convictions.
8. ***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.
9. ***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.
10. ***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.

G. HOUSING & LAND USE

1. ***Affordable Housing.*** Support efforts to maintain or increase funding for Section 8 vouchers; simplify the rent-setting process; emphasize housing mobility and choice; encourage increased earned-income by residents; support affordable housing opportunities for veterans; and authorize new vouchers. Monitor efforts to regulate short-term rental housing, including Airbnb, for impacts to

already limited affordable housing opportunities. Work to revise and expand 202 and 811 programs serving very low income seniors and people with disabilities. Support efforts to provide new statewide funding sources for affordable housing, and support inclusionary zoning by allowing local policies to apply to rental housing development, by providing incentives to encourage developers to reserve new residential development units for low- or moderate-income households. Support affordable housing for older adults and individuals with disabilities, including assisted living, multigenerational cohabitation options, and flexible building coding that allows tenancy agreements in exchange for services.

2. ***Coastal Act Amendments.*** Explore amendments to the California Coastal Act to allow agricultural operations that are immediately adjacent to the shoreline to qualify for Categorical Exclusions by allowing a setback of 100 feet, thus allowing the properties to not be subject to costly and time consuming coastal permits for minor agriculturally-related activities.
3. ***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.
4. ***County Fees for Workforce Housing.*** Explore efforts to amend state legislation to authorize a county to charge a document or transfer fee with the 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.
5. ***USDA Farm Labor Housing Loans and Grants.*** Support efforts to expand and utilize USDA 514 and 516 program funds for agricultural worker housing. USDA Section 514 loans and Section 516 grants are provided to buy, build, improve, or repair housing for farm laborers.
6. ***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.
7. ***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.
8. ***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.
9. ***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.

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. **Portable Toilets at Seasonal Camps.** Explore regulatory changes that would facilitate the use of portable toilets at seasonal camps. Current statewide environmental health regulations do not authorize their use at such facilities.
12. **Fire Operations, Equipment, and Administration.** Support efforts to identify funds available to assist in vegetation management, tree mortality and efforts related to California's extended drought conditions, and efforts to fund wildland fire protection in and around communities as identified in the County's Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Support efforts to restore Capital Outlay funding to CAL-Fire Contract Counties; to fund confiscated firework disposal; and to fund fire station construction, fire equipment purchasing and other capital outlay to prevent and suppress fires.
13. **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines for Transportation Impact Analysis.** Support County Engineers Association of California (CEAC) efforts for additional study of proposals implementing SB 743 (2013), which changes from a traffic-delay framework to one focusing on vehicle miles travelled.

H. CULTURAL & EDUCATIONAL

1. **Library Funding.** 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. 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. Support efforts to amend state education code to permit the Marin County Free Library to issue General Obligation bonds for capital improvements. Support efforts to place on the ballot a measure that would provide funds to construct new - or renovate existing - public library facilities in California.
2. **Telecommunications – Franchise Authority and PEG Channels.** 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. Providers should also be encouraged to invest in all communities and neighborhoods, and be required to pay a local franchise fee and PEG fee. Monitor federal legislation that would limit or restrict local government authority over telecommunications siting, zoning and placement within local jurisdictions.
3. **Volunteer Labor.** Support expansion of older adult volunteer programs, which help reduce isolation for seniors and benefit the entire Marin community. Explore efforts to permit volunteer labor on public works projects or organic farms.
4. **Education.** Support legislative efforts to provide a sustainable, quality 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.