
COUNTY OF MARIN

2019 FEDERAL and STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMS AND 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 items appear in both programs because the focus of the program or amount of funding requested may differ depending on the legislative body targeted. In other cases, the Board may wish to sponsor legislation to affect a policy change specific to Marin County.

‘Attachment A’ represents the Legislative Policy Guidelines, which are designed to (a) provide standing authority for 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.

2019 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

A. POLICY

1. ***Affordable Care Act.*** Oppose efforts to repeal or further weaken the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA), which allowed 22 million Americans nationwide to obtain health care coverage, or efforts to turn over Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California) to the states or to convert Medicare to a voucher system with less funding. Marin County alone has over 30,000 residents on Medicaid under the program.
2. ***Climate Change and Resilience.*** Preserve and enhance efforts to mitigate climate change and support adaptation to sea-level rise, including support for restoration of U.S. participation in the Paris Climate Accord. Support infrastructure investment proposals that would assist in adaptation to sea-level rise, wetlands restoration, levee construction or other similar resilience measures.
3. ***Immigration.*** Support immigration policy that maintains a pathway to full and equal citizenship, including protection of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program; protects the rights of immigrants, including birthright citizenship; and keeps families together. Oppose efforts contrary to these principles, such as any mass deportation; onerous new “public charge” rules; or efforts to restrict federal revenue tied to sanctuary jurisdiction status.
4. ***Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME and Section 8 Programs.*** Protect federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) program funding, including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the Home Investment Partnerships Program, and Section 8 vouchers.
5. ***Sustainable Agriculture on National Parklands.*** Explore opportunities to maintain and support sustainable agricultural uses within existing agricultural areas in national parklands in Marin County to enhance local agricultural diversity and economic sustainability, including continued ranching and dairy in the Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area.
6. ***Infrastructure Investment.*** Support federal efforts to invest in infrastructure spending that would rebuild the nation’s infrastructure.
7. ***Telecommunications/5G Wireless Broadband.*** Oppose efforts that would restrict local authority over telecommunications siting, zoning and placement within local jurisdictions, including small cell installation in local communities and public rights-of-way (e.g. 5G wireless technology).

B. FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION REQUESTS

The following represent the County's highest priority federal transportation requests. The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act was enacted in 2015 and authorized federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety and transit. Authorized through Fiscal Year 2020, the County will continue to advocate that the FAST Act be fully funded, and for the following priorities:

1. ***Nonmotorized Transportation/Active Transportation Program.*** Seek funds dedicated to nonmotorized transportation projects and programs, including Safe Routes to Schools, in the next federal transportation bill and any state transportation funding programs.
2. ***Highway 101 Multi-Modal Corridor Projects.*** In coordination with the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM), support efforts to complete the "Marin-Sonoma Narrows" Project from Highway 37 to Petaluma. Support the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) District in efforts to seek or maintain funding for its project, including extension south to Larkspur, north to Cloverdale, and potential extension east to the Capital Corridor near Interstate 80. Support efforts to construct a new Bettini San Rafael Transit Center to ensure safe and efficient multimodal operations for SMART, local and regional bus operations, pedestrians and motor vehicles in coordination with San Rafael, SMART and the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District.
3. ***Offsets to Impacts from Federal Lands.*** Support continued funding to offset impacts to counties from federal lands such as the Federal Lands Transportation Program and Federal Lands Access Program (e.g., County Roads within or connecting to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the Point Reyes National Seashore). Seek funding for transit to parks to increase access and reduce congestion between Marin communities and federal/state/local public lands.

C. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (ACOE) FUNDING REQUESTS

The following is the County's priority flood control project managed through the United States Army Corps of Engineers:

1. ***Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Control.*** Seek funding for engineering design and construction for completion of Unit 4 (the final phase, of the ACOE Corte Madera Creek Flood Control Project) and necessary improvements to the existing portions of Units 2 and 3 to reduce the risk of flood events. Although 75% of the project has been constructed, it is less than 25% effective because the constructed portion has performed significantly below expectations and the final phase is required to make the entire project work.

D. OTHER PRIORITY FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2020 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, the following represent the County's highest priority federal requests for 2019 (Federal Fiscal Year 2020).

1. ***Fire Prevention/Suppression.*** Support efforts to enhance funding for fire prevention programs from an emergency preparedness, forest management and resiliency perspective, including funding for vegetation management, tree mortality and efforts related to California's extended drought conditions, as well as efforts to fund wildland fire protection in and around communities identified in the County's Community Wildfire Protection Plan.
2. ***Golden Gate Village Revitalization.*** Support the Marin Housing Authority's (MHA) strategy for the revitalization of Golden Gate Village, Marin's only family public housing serving approximately 700 residents in Marin City. HUD has failed to provide funds necessary for the upkeep of residences, resulting in significant issues with deferred maintenance.

MHA intends to seek a partnership with a developer for a revitalization plan that would attract capital via a public/private model to add new buildings, including both low-income and market-rate units. Public housing stock would be converted to low-income housing through a Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) conversion, in which units move to a site-based Section 8 platform with a long-term contract that, by law, must be renewed to ensure the units remain permanently affordable to low-income households.

3. ***San Rafael Canal Dredging.*** Coordinate with and support City of San Rafael efforts to identify non-local funding to dredge the San Rafael Canal in incorporated San Rafael.

2019 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

A. PRIORITY ISSUES

1. ***In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Funding.*** Work with CSAC to mitigate the 7% annual maintenance of effort applied to counties beginning FY 2019-20, which otherwise will significantly increase local costs of the IHSS program. Consistent with recent LAO recommendations, realigned state programs should follow certain core principles, including that 1) Counties' share of costs should reflect their ability to control costs in the program; 2) State realignment revenues should generally cover costs over time; 3) realigned programs should have flexibility to respond to changing needs and requirements; and 4) realignment funding should be transparent and understandable.
2. ***Emergency/Disaster Preparedness.*** Support efforts to improve coordination and funding for emergency and disaster preparedness given the devastating 2017 and 2018 North bay and California wildfires – including vegetation management, fire fuel reduction, increased capacity for emergency fire responsiveness, healthy forests, climate adaptation and resilience measures, and availability and adequacy of homeowners insurance coverage, particularly for victims of wildfires and other disasters.
3. ***Preschool, Child Care and Child Welfare.*** Seek to enhance 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. Support efforts to restore funding for Stage III childcare 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.
4. ***Pension Reform.*** In 2012, Governor Brown signed 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 cost-of-living adjustments for retirees within '37 Act systems; efforts to develop a voluntary hybrid defined-benefit/defined-contribution option for new employees, subject to agreement with collective bargaining units; and efforts to expand health care plan options for local governments.
5. ***Child Support Services Funding Allocations.*** Support efforts to improve the state allocation funding methodology in use since 2000 for child support services that would more fairly correct funding imbalances without harming existing funding levels for smaller counties. Marin County Child Support Services state funding has been frozen for 18 years.
6. ***Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Resiliency.*** Support efforts to secure and protect funding to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including: clean energy, energy efficiency, Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), and electric vehicle infrastructure – including electric bus/shuttle vehicles for public transportation, as well as maintaining tax credits for electric vehicles. Support efforts to create public/private partnerships, incentives and investment for clean energy and climate resiliency. Support efforts to secure funding to adapt to sea-level rise, and to ensure the sustainability of local communities susceptible to sea level rise. Support efforts to secure funding for climate resiliency work on Marin's public lands, including forest management and forest health to ensure fire protection and forest resiliency. Support agricultural and rangeland conservation and other practices that may contribute to greenhouse gas mitigation.

7. **Local Road and Transportation Funding.** Support efforts to preserve and enhance local road maintenance funding, as well as transit, ‘safe routes to schools’ initiatives and enhanced accessibility and mobility initiatives. Efforts could also include funding formulas based on vehicle miles traveled or road user charges, and/or lowering the threshold for local transportation taxes from 67% to 55%. Oppose efforts to tie transportation funding to affordable housing production. Regional Housing Need Allocations are intended to facilitate planning and zoning for affordable housing; local governments should not be mandated with actual production of housing development.
8. **Affordable Housing Preservation/Rehabilitation/Development.** 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. Explore funding opportunities per SB 2 (Atkins; 2017), the Building Homes and Jobs Act, which established a new \$75 recording fee on real estate transactions to create a permanent source of state funding for affordable housing. Support efforts to permit counties to collaborate with their cities to create more affordable housing opportunities, or to preserve existing affordable housing units, 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 tax incentives, and exploring other mechanisms for affordable housing preservation, rehabilitation, development and/or conversion, including ADA compliance.
9. **Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit Extension.** Support the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) District in efforts to seek funding, including extension south to Larkspur, north to Cloverdale, and potential extension east to the Capital Corridor near Interstate 80. Support potential transfer of the freight lease from the North Coast Railroad Authority to SMART, addressing maintenance issues including the Highway 37 crossing.
10. **Homelessness.** Work with state or regional stakeholders to develop regional solutions to homelessness across the age spectrum in the Bay Area. Advocate for a fairer allocation of federal ‘bonus’ funding that does not disadvantage suburban or rural communities. Advocate for McKinney-Vento/Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act distribution formulas, which are more equitable to affluent suburban areas with increasing homeless rates.
11. **No Place like Home Initiative.** Given passage of AB 1618 (the “No Place Like Home Initiative”) in 2016, which provides for a \$2 billion bond for the construction and rehabilitation of permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals with mental illness funded with existing Proposition 63 allocations, work to ensure that program guidelines acknowledge Marin’s unique challenges as it competes for statewide bond money allocations.
12. **State-Owned Bridge or Highway Improvements.** Support efforts by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) or others to advance funding to address the increasing prevalence of flooding on State Highway 37. Also support efforts by the state to secure funding to address current flooding along State Highway 1 at the Manzanita area junction with Highway 101 and future projected flooding due to sea level rise and between Stinson Beach and Bolinas. Support efforts to address maintenance and flooding issues at Highway 1 adjacent to Bolinas Lagoon and elsewhere.
13. **Internet Broadband.** Support efforts to provide high-speed internet to seniors, rural communities, the San Rafael Canal area, schools and other underserved communities of Marin, including infrastructure development for underserved areas, training for underserved populations, competition and redundancy, and local franchise authority and public right-of-way management.
14. **Vote by Mail and Increasing Voter Turnout.** Explore efforts to provide permissive authority for local jurisdictions to increase voter turnout and to reduce 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 accessibility for some voters with disabilities. Monitor implementation of SB 450 (Allen and Hertzberg; 2016), which allowed select pilot counties

to conduct elections by vote-by-mail (VBM) ballot while also providing regional Vote Centers to be open 10 days prior to Election Day through close of voting on Election Day.

COUNTY OF MARIN

2019 LEGISLATIVE POLICY GUIDELINES

Attachment A represents the 2019 Legislative Policy Guidelines, designed to (a) provide standing authority for action on pending legislative matters when time constraints preclude bringing such matters to the Board of Supervisors, 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 year.

A. GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. ***County Revenue Sources and Local Authority.*** Oppose attempts to decrease or restrict county revenue sources or local authority with respect to issues that affect local communities. Monitor efforts to re-examine tax laws or regulations, including any proposals to reform property tax assessment responsibilities fairly, accurately and timely. Oppose legislation which would restrict counties' discretion to contract for the provision of critical county services in the most effective manner – including for health care, social services, mental health and public safety services.
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 remaining post-2004 deferred SB 90 reimbursements to counties, or efforts that would reform the current mandate reimbursement process.
3. ***State and 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, funding mechanisms or authority, to determine whether any such efforts should be supported.
4. ***Shared Services, Planning & Investment Opportunities.*** Support efforts to allow counties to consider regionalization of key state/local functions or other shared services models, including with private and other non-traditional partners, to achieve more efficient and cost-effective services while balancing concerns regarding local control and authority.
5. ***Workers' Compensation and 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.
6. ***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.
7. ***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. Explore funding for Open Data efforts.
8. ***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.
9. ***Banking Reform and Predatory Lending.*** Support legislation to prevent predatory lending practices, set standards for assisting homeowners seeking loan modifications, and provide recourse to victims of improper foreclosures. Support banking reform efforts that protect consumers, make the financial system safer and stronger, and that mitigate the risk that led to the economic collapse of 2008 - including preservation of the 2010 Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. Support efforts and protections that mitigate financial abuse of older adults by financial providers, as well as measures that will strengthen mandatory reporting.

10. **Civil Rights.** Support, preserve and enhance efforts to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties that the Constitution and the laws of the United States guarantee everyone in this country.

B. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

1. **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.
2. **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.
3. **Campaign Finance Reform.** Support and preserve campaign finance reform efforts that would limit excessive political spending and that would ensure that the voice of the people is not overwhelmed by monied interests. Support efforts to overturn *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, which held that corporations have the same constitutional rights as human beings.

C. TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

1. **Surface Transportation.** Support efforts to maintain a strong 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.
2. **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.
3. **Multi-modal Transportation.** Support efforts to incentivize commuters to use modes of transportation alternative to single-occupancy vehicles, including employer-sponsored incentives. In concert with the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) and the Marin County Transit District, oppose state efforts to redirect funding from the Public Transportation Account for non-transportation purposes, including the State Transit Assistance (STA) program that provides funding for local transit operations and capital purchases. Support efforts in concert with TAM, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Marin Transit, SMART, the Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transportation District and others to give PTA funds constitutional protection. Support proposals for infrastructure bonds and to maintain recent increases in state fuel taxes and vehicle registration fees to establish a long-term funding source for public transportation.
4. **Flood Control and 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 Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP); and reduced matching requirements for projects. Explore efforts to modernize Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District authorizing statute, last amended in 1974, to be more consistent with that of other Bay Area and California county flood control districts.
5. **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance.** Support efforts to ensure that FEMA uses transparent processes and communicates 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.

6. **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.
7. **Public Transit Services.** Support development of transit that provides access to recreation areas and within local communities. Explore efforts to identify ongoing operating and capital funding for public transit services to national, state and regional parks, as well as rural transit services in West Marin. Support funding for programs that support and expand fixed route bus services and alternative transportation options for students, seniors and the disabled.
8. **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.
9. **Drone Regulation.** Monitor efforts regarding drones for safety and privacy concerns.
10. **Next Generation Communications System for the Marin Emergency Radio Authority (MERA).** Support efforts to identify federal or state funds to leverage the County’s 2014 parcel tax for the implementation of a replacement mission critical system for Marin County’s emergency response agencies. Support efforts where appropriate to share and co-locate proposed MERA system components with state communication system components, and support allocations in the state budget for the state share of any joint expenses.
11. **Gnoss 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 AND HUMAN SERVICES

1. **Improved Access to Health Care/Health Care Reform.** Support efforts to expand health care coverage to all populations, including revisions to preserve the Affordable Care Act or to expand health care coverage, and supporting access for women to quality, affordable sexual and reproductive health care. Support efforts to maintain medical facilities in rural areas and fund transportation programs to access medical services, resulting in better outcomes and lower costs. Seek funding opportunities to strengthen partnerships between Public Health and Primary Care. 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 measures to enhance access to mental health care services for those in need regardless of income, including protection of Mental Health Services Act funding for county services. Support mental health treatment options for older adults.
2. **Older Adults in Marin County.** Support efforts to protect and expand funding, services and protections for Marin County’s increasing older adult population. Support efforts to protect and expand funding for Marin County’s increasing older adult population, including efforts to assure that future Federal Older Americans Act (OAA) and Older Californian’s Act (OCA) funding is tied to growth of the population of older adults; restoring funding for OCA community-based services programs; and by allowing flexibility and capability for local autonomy in providing services. Support vulnerable elder and dependent adults to keep them safely in their own homes. Support 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 increased use of the Elder Economic Index in planning and program eligibility.
3. ***Reimbursement for Psychiatric Emergency Services and for Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services.*** Support efforts to require insurers to reimburse counties for psychiatric emergency services provided. State and federal law require that insurers pay for emergency medical care; a similar provision should be adopted for psychiatric emergency services. Support efforts to require that insurers provide an adequate network for alcohol/drug treatment services and/or pay counties to provide these services.
 4. ***Acute and Transitional Mental Health Care Services.*** Support efforts to maintain and enhance funding for additional psychiatric emergency beds within the region, as well as for increased infrastructure investment in acute mental health care and transitional mental health care facilities. Support efforts, like AB 1372 (Levine; 2017), to provide medically necessary crisis stabilization services to individuals beyond 24 hours where individual needs for inpatient psychiatric or outpatient care and inpatient psychiatric beds or outpatient services are not reasonably available.
 5. ***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.
 6. ***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 (e.g., Institutions for Mental Disease).
 7. ***Continuum of Comprehensive Health Services.*** Support improving coordination and integration of physical health, mental health and addiction services, including prevention, screening and early intervention, treatment and recovery. Explore efforts to enhance the sharing of information and data for more coordinated and effective behavioral health outcomes. Support the integrated implementation of prevention, treatment and recovery services, especially primary prevention services and ancillary support services.
 8. ***Opioid Prevention and Treatment.*** Support policies and strategies to address opioid misuse, abuse and overdose - including policies to promote safe prescribing practices, linking opioid dependent people into treatment, wider availability of the overdose reversal agent Naloxone, and convenient and safe locations for disposal of unused medications. Support efforts like H.R. 6082 (Mullin; 2018) – the Overdose Prevention and Patient Safety Act - to enhance the sharing of information and data for more coordinated and effective behavioral health outcomes.
 9. ***Drug Pricing.*** Support efforts to improve the regulation of drug pricing.
 10. ***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 needs. Support Medicare for All/single-payer health care reform.
 11. ***Long-Term Care/Assisted Living Funding.*** Support efforts aimed at restructuring long term care programs, focusing on improving chronic health care and promoting independence and aging in place as long as possible, 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, including Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly. Support efforts to facilitate construction of long-term care/assisted living facility opportunities for low/moderate-income segments of our aging population.

12. ***In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Funding.*** Support the protection and improvement of the In-Home Supportive Services program, including efforts to provide sustainable wages to IHSS workers and applicable training while ensuring the state contributes its share of costs to the program.
13. ***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.
14. ***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 CPI, and support the continued restoration of a cost-of-living adjustment to the SSI program, and raising the payroll tax cap for Social Security. Support efforts to require use of the CPI for the Elderly (CPI-E), and to raise the payroll tax cap to preserve the social security system. Support efforts to provide jobs training and other forms of workforce investment 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.
15. ***Foster Children and 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. ***Elder Justice.*** Support efforts to fund the Elder Justice Act signed into law as part of the Affordable Care Act, which provides federal resources to prevent, detect, treat, understand, intervene in and, where appropriate, prosecute elder abuse, neglect and exploitation. 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, and support efforts toward a quicker resolution for victims of elder abuse like the Elder Court system. Support efforts to aid and expedite services for victims of elder abuse both at the state level (California Victims Compensation Board) and the Federal Office of Crime Victims (VOCA).
17. ***Aging and Disability Resource Connection.*** Support funding to establish an Aging and Disability Resource Connection in Marin to provide long term support and assistance to seniors.
18. ***Veterans Services.*** Support efforts to fully fund the County Veterans Service Offices permanently. Support legislation that would require state agencies to coordinate with the California Department of Veterans Affairs to improve state services provided to veterans.
19. ***Detention Medical Expenses/Reinstatement of Benefits to Jail Inmates.*** Support efforts to seek federal and/or state reimbursement for local detention medical expenses. Support efforts to amend federal regulations to require the federal government to reinstate benefits for jail inmates across the age spectrum. Support legislation that would allow local jails to bill third-party insurers for healthcare costs of insured inmates during periods of adjudication. Consistent with court findings permitting Medicaid reimbursement for inpatient hospitalization of minors in juvenile detention facilities, support efforts to extend the same to detainees in adult detention facilities.
20. ***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.

21. **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.
22. **Preventive Healthcare.** Support efforts to maintain prevention as a part of the continuum of services across all County programs and services across the age spectrum. Support the implementation of culturally competent evidence-based strategies in all County prevention services contracts. Support the integration of prevention across all 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, including nutrition and physical activity education; standards and policies; safe routes to schools; Park Prescriptions; 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. Support efforts to develop new strategies to reduce falls in the community.
 - d. **Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use.** Support state efforts to reduce problems associated with alcohol and other drug use and related community problems, including prescription drug abuse and misuse.
 - e. **Medical Cannabis.** Monitor efforts to amend the statewide framework for the regulation of medical cannabis, including conditions that affect local medical cannabis 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 to support local work, strategies that help promote making work on health inequities part of agency missions, and approaches that foster the conditions in which people are most likely to be healthy - including efforts to reduce poverty.
 - 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, including emotional violence against older adults.
 - h. **Mental Health and Emotional Well-being.** Support efforts to address the care needed to support the mental health, cognitive functioning and emotional well-being of individuals as they age.
 - i. **Disease Prevention through Vaccination:** Support strategies and policies that strengthen community protection against vaccine preventable diseases.
23. **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 because of the way the state administers eligibility standards, and federal concerns that federal money is being used for services to undocumented persons. Ensure that issues affecting women and girls are considered in any legislative and policy proposals at the state, local or federal levels.
24. **Local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Governance.** Oppose any change that would restrict or overrule local determination made by elected officials regarding Marin’s EMS system design, funding, policy development, medical control or governance. Current statutes regarding EMS vests

authority for local EMS system planning, implementation and evaluation with the County. Support the expansion of EMS training to include dementia and fall prevention.

25. ***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.
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 Older American's Act Nutrition Programs, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and the Women Infants and Children (WIC) supplemental nutrition assistance program, particularly efforts to increase Title V funding for health care services to women and children. Support efforts to protect and strengthen Older American's Act Nutrition Programs including congregate meals and home-delivered meals. Support efforts to increase SNAP use by older adults, including broadening eligibility.
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.*** Support needle exchange programs, and efforts to provide additional funding. Studies have shown that comprehensive syringe-exchange programs help prevent the spread of disease and do not increase illegal drug use.

E. NATURAL RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. ***Las Gallinas Creek Watershed/Santa Venetia Levee.*** Explore funding for levee improvements, dredging, watershed restoration and pump station replacement/maintenance.
2. ***Park Infrastructure Funding.*** Support efforts that allocate funding toward capital improvements in local or regional parks; including but not limited to replacement of aging park infrastructure, visitor service facilities, irrigation and water conservation measures, bridges, piers, and hardscapes. Support state program language that prioritizes competitive capital funding opportunities that require agencies to present "shovel-ready" projects and local matching funds to qualify for state funding.
3. ***National Monument Protection.*** Oppose legislation which could limit protections for national monument designations, including Muir Woods National Monument, designated in 1908.
4. ***Wetlands Restoration Projects.*** Support additional federal appropriations to the Army Corp of Engineers for 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 to support restoration of lower Novato Creek through Water Resources Development Act and other state and federal sources. Seek federal assistance for costs associated with the Bolinas Lagoon Ecosystem Restoration locally preferred plan. 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. Support non-local funding to carry 30% design completion for McInnis Marsh restoration to construction and continue planning at Bolinas Lagoon North End and Bothin Marsh.

5. ***Climate Change Planning.*** Support efforts to facilitate local government planning and implementation measures to comply with SB 375 and related legislation, including health-related concerns and strategies as a part of its implementation. Explore potential mitigations to current obligations to maintain public rights of way in the face of rising sea levels.
6. ***Proposition 68 (California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018).*** Monitor project focus areas and draft state program grant guidelines that may support large parks, open space, and stormwater capital projects that would support county priority projects. Monitor Proposition 3 (California Water Infrastructure and Watershed Conservation Bond Initiative) similarly, pending voter approval in November 2018.
7. ***AB 32 Climate Change Investment Plan.*** Monitor development of the third investment plan for Fiscal Years 2019-20 through 2021-2022, including funding for priority projects related to transportation, housing, urban greening and forest management, watershed protection, recycling, and energy efficiency. Pursue funding for projects or programs eligible to receive carbon credits under California's greenhouse gas cap-and-trade program, including agricultural projects. Support the dedication of, and increasing eligibility of, Cap and Trade revenues towards transportation investments for public transit operations and capital projects, including Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) extension, road operations and maintenance, as well as for housing and nonmotorized transportation goals, with funding determinations made at the regional level.
8. ***Regional Conservation Investment Strategies.*** Monitor pilot conservation investment strategies arising from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife following the passage of AB 2087 (Levine; 2016). Support strategies that fund research findings that favor landscape-level agency partnerships, and shared priority conservation projects and programs described in the annual work plan of the Tamalpais Lands Collaborative.
9. ***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 conservation in the community. Monitor water conservation in landscaping legislation that may help address aging county irrigation infrastructure.
10. ***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.
11. ***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.
12. ***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.
13. ***Tomaes Bay Water Quality Programs.*** Seek assistance for projects designed 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.

14. ***Restoration of San Francisco Bay.*** Support efforts to provide funding for restoration projects and habitat improvement for fish, waterfowl and wildlife that advance the goals of the comprehensive management plan for the San Francisco estuary or the Delta/Bay region. Support HR 6752 (Speier; 2017-18) to fund 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 its shoreline. Oppose efforts to open the coast to new oil and gas development; to weaken regulations that protect marine ecosystems and restrict oil and gas companies from incidentally harming and killing marine mammals; or to retract the 2015 expansion of the Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallones national marine sanctuaries.
15. ***Product Take-Back and 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 safe and proper disposal. Support efforts to transition to biodegradable plastics.
16. ***Acceleration of Project Delivery – Environmental Compliance.*** 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 Resource Agency permit applications, consistent with environmental protection policies and goals in the Countywide Plan.
17. ***Hydraulic Fracturing (“Fracking”).*** Support efforts to ban or further regulate “fracking” in California given its threats to the environment, public health and safety – including any efforts offshore in the Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuaries.
18. ***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.
19. ***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.
20. ***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.
21. ***Genetically Modified Foods.*** Support statewide legislation that would require explicit product labeling of genetically modified foods.
22. ***Sudden Oak Death/Dead and Dying Trees.*** Explore opportunities to identify additional funds dedicated to the research and management of the Sudden Oak Death problem in Marin and other coastal California counties. Support state funding for forest management that helps land managers create or maintain resilient forests in areas that are transitioning due to the impacts of Sudden Oak Death. Support efforts to increase state contributions toward the removal of dead and dying trees that pose a hazard on public and private lands and rights-of-way, including fire hazards.
23. ***Sale of Invasive Plants.*** Support efforts to limit the use and sale of invasive plants that are known threats to Marin's public lands as recognized by the California Invasive Plant Council. Support efforts to regularly update and coordinate statewide lists of invasive plants based on the latest data generated by Marin's "early detection rapid response" invasive plant monitoring efforts.
24. ***Promotion of Integrated Pest Management Principles.*** Support statewide efforts that promote an Integrated Pest Management approach to addressing pests. Support any effort to fund expansion of state and local educational efforts to promote an Integrated Pest Management approach to determining the best method for addressing pests.

F. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY

1. ***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, response 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.
2. ***Bail Reform.*** Monitor implementation of SB 10 (2018-Hertzberg), which creates a risk-based non-monetary prearrestment and pretrial release system for people arrested for criminal offenses in lieu of posting a cash bail while awaiting trial. Support efforts to ensure that any local costs are offset.
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 Board of State and Community 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 AB 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.*** 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 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 SCAAP 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. ***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 AND LAND USE

1. ***Affordable Housing.*** Support a broad range of opportunities to provide additional affordable housing preservation, rehabilitation and development – including inclusionary zoning; support for very low-income seniors, rental housing for families, local workforce housing and people with disabilities; and improved opportunities for low or moderate-income households. Monitor efforts to regulate short-term rental housing, including Airbnb, for impacts to already limited affordable housing opportunities. Support efforts to re-establish affordable housing as a priority within the Coastal Zone. 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. 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. Support efforts to expand the property tax postponement program to include additional housing options, including floating, mobile, and manufactured homes. The original state program was suspended in 2009 due to budgetary constraints. In restarting the program, the legislature specifically exempted floating and mobile homes from its provisions for cost concerns.
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 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).*** Work to ensure that any state efforts to develop housing 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 funding formulas to more fairly consider affordable housing needs in high-cost/non-urban areas of the state.
4. ***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.
5. ***Local Government Regulation of Housing and Land Use Issues.*** Oppose efforts to further restrict local governments' ability to regulate housing and land use issues, including any efforts to remove from local municipalities existing rights to review development or housing proposals.
6. ***Indian Gaming.*** Support efforts to provide local government greater authority with respect to Indian gaming. Compacts with California tribes 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.
7. ***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, and open space to create more livable communities.

8. ***Fire Operations, Equipment, and Administration.*** 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 and other capital outlay to prevent and suppress fires.
9. ***CEQA Guidelines for Transportation Impact Analysis.*** Support County Engineers Association of California efforts for additional study of proposals implementing SB 743 (2013), which changes from a traffic-delay framework to one focusing on vehicle miles traveled, including efforts to ensure the new metric is applied in appropriate contexts and that funding and technical assistance are made available to local governments.

H. CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL

1. ***Library Funding.*** Seek to enhance funding in the Transaction Based Reimbursement (TBR) Program in the state library budget, which 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, which assists 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, as well as efforts like SCA 3 (Dodd) to lower the local vote threshold for library construction bond measures from the current two-thirds vote to 55%. Support efforts to maintain federal funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
2. ***Telecommunications/Franchise Authority and Public Education and Government Access Television (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.
3. ***Education.*** Support legislative efforts to provide a sustainable, quality early childhood, K-12 and higher education system to promote quality, accessible, and affordable education for all members of society and to help ensure an adequate workforce. Support efforts to reinstate community college for lifelong learning at no or low cost to older adults. Support expansion of California's transitional kindergarten program, including statewide expansion of Education Code section 48000(c) for children born September 2-December 2 to boost academic achievement and to make children more likely to start school ready, stay in school, and graduate.