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## COUNTY OF MARIN

### 2020 FEDERAL and STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMS AND POLICY GUIDELINES

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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 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 provide (a) standing authority for action on pending legislative matters when time constraints preclude bringing such matters to the Board of Supervisors in advance, and (b) a better understanding of the Board’s policy preferences regarding a variety of issues that may arise during the year.

### 2020 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

#### A. POLICY

1. ***Affordable Care Act.*** Oppose efforts to repeal or weaken the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA), or efforts to turn over Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California) to states, or convert Medicare to a voucher system with less funding. Marin 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 climate-related impacts, including wildfire risk and infrastructure that would assist in adaptation to sea-level rise, wetlands restoration, levee construction or other resilience measures. Support California’s efforts to oppose federal revocation of California’s Clean Air Act waiver.
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 any mass deportation; onerous new “public charge” rules; additional citizenship screening and requirements to access public resources; or efforts to restrict federal revenue tied to sanctuary jurisdiction status.
4. ***Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME, Continuum of Care, and Section 8 Program Vouchers.*** Protect federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) program funding, including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the Home Investment Partnerships Program, Continuum of Care 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. ***Support Efforts to Reduce Harm Caused by Gun Violence.*** Support efforts to limit the harm caused by gun violence, including education; enhanced capacity to enforce existing gun control regulations; banning the sale of semiautomatic weapons and regulating the number of bullets available in gun clips; and providing more stringent background checks on gun purchases.
7. ***Telecommunications/5G Wireless Broadband.*** Oppose efforts that would further restrict local authority over telecommunications siting or zoning within local jurisdictions, including small cell installation in local communities and public rights-of-way (e.g. 5G wireless technology). Support efforts to require telecommunications providers to enhance resiliency and ensure several days’ emergency backup power to cell tower sites for public safety, alert and warning notifications, and general communications needs.

## 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. **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 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.
2. **Nonmotorized Transportation/Active Transportation Program.** Seek funds dedicated to nonmotorized transportation projects and programs, including Safe Routes to Schools.
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. Previously managed through the United States Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), this Ross Valley project is transitioning to a locally managed project overseen by the Marin County Flood Control District (District). The project will utilize local Flood Zone 9 storm drainage fee and State Department of Water Resources grant funding to complete priority flood reduction measures.

1. **Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Control.** The District will use local funding for environmental review, engineering design and construction to reduce the risk of flood events. The original project was led by ACOE and included Units 2 and 3, which brought the project to 75 percent constructed. However, it is less than 25 percent effective because the constructed portion has performed significantly below expectations. The District will continue to work with ACOE to balance the financial cost share record and to obtain ACOE-required permitting.

## 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 2020 (Federal Fiscal Year 2021).

1. **Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) Reauthorization.** Support and/or initiate efforts to ensure the ACOE is more responsive to Sea Level Rise, including a pilot program to fund feasibility studies/construct flood control projects, the need for which has been exacerbated by sea level rise.
2. **Fire Prevention/Suppression.** Support efforts to enhance funding for fire prevention programs from an emergency preparedness, forest management and climate resiliency perspective, including funding for vegetation management, tree mortality and wildland fire protection.
3. **San Rafael Canal Dredging.** Coordinate with the City of San Rafael to identify non-local funding to dredge the San Rafael Canal. The lack of full dredging since 2002 has become a public safety issue for City of San Rafael Police and Fire, which are based in the channel and need access for bay patrols, rescues, and other public safety activity.

## 2020 State Legislative Program

### A. PRIORITY ISSUES

1. ***Emergency/Disaster Preparedness.*** Support efforts to improve coordination and funding for emergency and disaster preparedness – including vegetation management; emergency fire responsiveness; healthy forests, including efforts to address Sudden Oak Death; climate adaptation and resilience measures; availability of homeowner’s insurance coverage; and accessing telecommunication providers subscriber data for emergency alert purposes. Ensure the needs of the elderly and disabled are included in planning efforts. Support funding for buy-outs, easements and other managed retreat options to adapt shorelines to sea level rise. Support reform of California’s public health/safety net system to allow better planning and preparation for public health disasters.
2. ***Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Accountability.*** Support efforts to hold Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) accountable for local costs associated with preparing for and recovering from its PSPS deenergization events, including amendments to the Emergency Services Act to clarify that PSPS events qualify as an emergency for purposes of receiving funding and other resources. Hardening PG&E’s grid infrastructure, improving its redundancy and segmentation, and implementing effective vegetation management are critical to mitigate deenergization events and wildfire risk. Explore alternatives to the current investor-owned, private utility with more accountability, public input and consumer protection. Support efforts to require telecommunications providers to enhance resiliency and reliability overall, but particularly to ensure several days’ emergency backup power to cell tower sites for public safety, alert and warning notifications, and general communications needs. Support efforts to assist communities especially vulnerable to PSPS events including those on medical support equipment.
3. ***Whole Person Care/Homeless Services.*** Support Whole Person Care counties with funding as they transition case management services for their clients, and extend the December 2020 expiration of Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14184.60 to allow data sharing of client information to coordinate services among partner agencies. In addition to one-time state investments toward ending homelessness, counties need funding for services which allow the most vulnerable to stay housed successfully, with particular focus in Marin on the needs of rural and immigrant communities. Since Partnership Health Plan (Marin’s only Medi-Cal managed care plan) is not implementing the state’s Health Homes services, Marin’s 40,000 members are vulnerable to being left behind.
4. ***Affordable Housing Preservation/Rehabilitation/Development.*** Support efforts to incentivize and fund affordable housing opportunities at the local level. 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 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 accessory dwelling/junior accessory dwelling units. Support 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, and preserving tenancy for renters.
5. ***Local Government Regulation of Housing and Land Use Issues.*** Oppose efforts to restrict local governments’ ability to regulate housing and land use issues, including efforts to remove from local municipalities existing rights to review development or housing proposals.
6. ***Pension Reform.*** In 2012, Governor Brown signed AB 320 – the Public Employees’ Pension Reform Act (PEPRA) and AB 197, incorporating many elements of pension reform 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 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 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.

7. ***Disaster Mitigation and Local Levees.*** Explore consistent funding for disaster mitigation or response related to upgrades or repairs to local levee systems. In recent federally-declared disasters, the California Office of Emergency Services has supported outdated FEMA policy that defers all levee issues to the US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), though the ACOE will only assist a local agency with a levee if it is in their Levee Safety Program and meets stringent engineering standards. The Department of Water Resources' Local Levee Assistance Program (LLAP) is a good model for the state but is unfunded. A future program or renewal of LLAP is needed and should include funding for construction not just studies.
8. ***State-Owned Bridge/Highway Improvements.*** Support efforts by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Caltrans or others to advance funding to address the increasing prevalence of flooding on State Highway 37. Support efforts by the state to secure funding to address flooding along State Highway 1 at the Manzanita area junction with Highway 101, Lucky Drive and Highway 101 in Larkspur, and future projected flooding due to sea level rise. Support efforts to address flooding issues at Highway 1 adjacent to Bolinas Lagoon, between Stinson Beach and Bolinas, and elsewhere.
9. ***Richardson's Bay Mooring Program/Habitat Restoration.*** Support Richardson's Bay Regional Agency (RBRA) efforts for policy and funding support to establish a managed mooring program to alleviate habitat, clean water, public safety and access concerns caused by vessels anchored in Richardson's Bay. Controlling the location, condition, security, safety and impacts of vessels through a managed mooring program for liveaboard and transient vessels in the bay is of interest and concern to federal, state and local agencies but is beyond the available resources of local governments alone.
10. ***Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience.*** Support efforts to secure funding to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including clean energy, energy efficiency, Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), building decarbonization, transportation mode shifts and electric vehicle infrastructure (i.e. electric bus/shuttle vehicles for public transportation, and maintaining tax credits for electric vehicles). Support efforts to create public/private partnerships, incentives and investment for clean energy, clean transportation, 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 agricultural and rangeland conservation and practices that contribute to greenhouse gas mitigation/sequestration.

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## COUNTY OF MARIN

### 2020 LEGISLATIVE POLICY GUIDELINES

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Attachment A represents the 2020 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 restrict county revenue sources or local authority. Monitor efforts to re-examine tax laws or regulations, including any proposals to reform property tax assessment responsibilities fairly, accurately and timely. Oppose restriction of counties' discretion to contract for the provision of critical county services.
2. ***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/any amendments to SB 450 (Allen and Hertzberg; 2016), which allowed select pilot counties to conduct elections by vote-by-mail ballot while also providing regional Vote Centers to be open 10 days prior to Election Day through close of voting on Election Day.
3. ***State and Federal Mandates.*** Oppose state or federal mandates, or the transfer/realignment of state or federal programs to the county without adequate on-going revenue. Realigned state programs should follow certain core principles, including: 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.
4. ***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.
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.
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. Explore funding for Open Data efforts.
7. ***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 authority to seek fee increases from the Board of Supervisors without impairing the State Administrative Office of the Court's (AOC) financial position.

3. **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. Support efforts and protections that mitigate financial abuse of older adults by financial providers, as well as measures that will strengthen mandatory reporting.
4. **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. **2020 Faster Bay Area Bond.** Monitor a "Faster Bay Area" transportation bond for the November 2020 ballot, proposed to raise up to \$100 billion over 40 years among the nine Bay Area counties for transportation projects in the San Francisco Bay Area. The funding would be intended to create transit hubs to connect major cities around the region by rail, building public transit options in communities that are currently underserved, and expanding rail, bus and ferry networks.
2. **Infrastructure Investment.** Support federal efforts to invest in infrastructure spending that would rebuild the nation's infrastructure.
3. **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. Explore options to identify additional partnerships or revenue opportunities to offset the costs of transportation and watershed management associated with Muir Woods National Monument.
4. **Multi-modal Transportation.** Support modes of transportation alternative to single-occupancy vehicles, and enhanced electrification of transportation infrastructure – including additional charging stations for EVs. 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. Monitor trends in electric bicycle technology, use, and safety. Monitor policies that affect local transportation and recreational uses and control by local land managers to regulate use on paved and natural surfaces.
5. **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 percent to 55 percent. 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.
6. **Flood Control and Watershed Management Efforts.** Support water bond funding opportunities for Marin County eligible projects. 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 statutes to be more consistent with that of other Bay Area and California county flood control districts.

7. ***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.
8. ***Clean Water Act Rule Changes.*** Support amendment of 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.
9. ***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.
10. ***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.
11. ***Drone Regulation.*** Monitor efforts regarding drones for safety and privacy concerns. Monitor AB1190 (Irwin), a two-year bill that seeks to streamline the regulation of drone use under the FAA, including possibly mandating allowed use on public lands, for conflicts with current county and Marin County Open Space District codes and historical uses, and seek opportunities to provide input and participate in working groups.
12. ***Design-Build Contracting.*** Support efforts to expand allowable project types for which counties may employ the design-build project delivery method, and/or a lower dollar threshold for potential design-build authority. 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.
13. ***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.
14. ***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. ***Health Equity.*** Support policies that seek to identify and correct structural inequities in the provision of care and services to marginalized communities, particularly persons of color, in order to narrow gaps in outcomes and promote health and wellbeing for all in Marin; as outlined in the 2018 Marin County Department of Health and Human Services Strategic Plan.
2. ***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; protect Mental Health Services Act funding for county services.

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 childcare 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. ***Homelessness.*** Work with stakeholders to develop regional solutions to homelessness across the age spectrum in the Bay Area. Support centralization of homelessness funding in a single state agency to streamline funding applications and reporting requirements and to align priorities. Advocate for ongoing funding for supporting services, rental assistance and program operations. Monitor bills regarding mental health conservatorships, intended to provide individualized treatment, supervision and living arrangements for the seriously mentally ill while still protecting their individual rights.
5. ***Older Adults in Marin County.*** Monitor Governor Newsom's plans calling for the creation of a Master Plan for Aging to be developed by October 1, 2020, intended to serve as a blueprint that can be used by state government, local communities, private organizations and philanthropy to build environments that promote an age friendly California.

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 including the increased use of the Elder Economic Index in planning and program eligibility.

6. ***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.
7. ***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 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.
8. ***Federal Institutes of Mental Disease (IMD) Exclusion Rule.*** Support 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.

9. ***Federal Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Program.*** Support efforts to require the State Department of Developmental Disabilities (DDS) to reassess its conclusion that intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) residences with over six residents do not qualify for federal funding. The Federal HCBS Waiver Program, which funds half of the DDS budget with federal dollars, has been misinterpreted by DDS. Settings where individuals live and receive services should be about the nature and quality of the individuals' experiences, rather than the type of buildings where the services are delivered.
10. ***Continuum of Comprehensive Health Services.*** Support improving coordination and integration of physical health, mental health and alcohol/drug treatment services, including prevention, screening and early intervention, treatment and recovery. Support efforts to enhance the sharing of information and data for more coordinated and effective care between providers to improve health outcomes. Support the integrated implementation of prevention, treatment and recovery services, especially primary prevention services and ancillary support services.
11. ***Opioid Safety.*** Support policies and strategies to address opioid misuse, abuse and overdose - including policies to promote safe prescribing practices, increase access to treatment for opioid use disorder in hospitals, clinics and correctional facilities; widen the availability of the overdose reversal agent Naloxone, and convenient and safe locations for disposal of unused medications. Support efforts to enhance the sharing of information and data for more coordinated and effective behavioral health outcomes. Support efforts to ensure pending settlements against opioid manufacturers and fund opioid epidemic response strategies at the local level.
12. ***Drug Pricing.*** Support efforts to improve the regulation of drug pricing.
13. ***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.
14. ***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.
15. ***In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Funding.*** Support the protection and improvement of the IHSS 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.
16. ***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.
17. ***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

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Fresh programs. 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.

18. ***Social Security Benefits.*** Support policies to preserve, enhance and increase Social Security Benefits including raising the cap on the Social Security payroll contributions to secure future benefits for the rapidly increasing older adult population. Oppose efforts to reduce benefits by, for example, chaining the CPI or repurposing the Social Security Trust Fund by including it in a balanced budget measure.
19. ***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.
20. ***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.
21. ***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.
22. ***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.
23. ***Detention Medical Expenses/Reinstatement of Benefits to Jail Inmates.*** Support efforts to seek federal and/or state reimbursement for local detention medical and behavioral health 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.
24. ***Support efforts to allow Counties to administer Drug Medi-Cal Services.*** Support 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.
25. ***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.
26. ***Preventive Healthcare.*** Support efforts to maintain prevention of disease as a part of the continuum of services across County programs and services across the age spectrum. Support the implementation of culturally competent, evidence-based strategies in all County prevention services contracts, and integration of prevention across all priorities of the National Prevention Strategy, including:
  - a. ***Flavored tobacco and vaping products.*** Support efforts to protect residents, especially youth, from the harms of vaping which include nicotine addiction and exposure to lung-damaging compounds. Support prohibitions on the sale of flavored tobacco products, including menthol, which selectively target youth and communities of color.

- b. ***Tobacco Free Living.*** Support local, state and federal efforts to expand smoke-free business and residential environments. 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 support a healthy body weight and prevent obesity issues among children and adults, including nutrition and physical activity education; standards and policies; safe routes to schools; Park Prescriptions; and enhanced access to healthy foods and beverages. Support efforts to increase promotion of healthy products, and 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 and local efforts to reduce problem alcohol use and other drug use and related community problems, including prescription drug abuse and misuse.
  - e. ***Cannabis.*** Support evidence-based civic decision making in state and local action related to legalization of recreational cannabis. Support policy and educational efforts to limit access and use among underage residents.
  - f. ***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.
  - g. ***Disease Prevention through Vaccination:*** Support strategies and policies that strengthen community protection against vaccine preventable diseases.
27. ***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 proposals at the state, local or federal levels.
28. ***Local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Governance.*** Support and protect the ability for local elected officials to determine Marin’s EMS system design, funding, policy development, medical control or governance. Support the expansion of EMS training to include dementia and fall prevention. Support EMS policies and practices to engage frequent 911 callers, to find healthier alternatives to repeat Emergency Department transports for non-emergency conditions.
29. ***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 overhaul of the Federal Toxic Substances Control Act to safeguard the public’s health and well-being, as well as the environment.
30. ***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.
31. ***Taxes/Fees on Alcohol, Tobacco and Soda.*** Support taxes on alcohol, tobacco, and/or soda to reduce consumption and harm from these products and fund public health programs.

32. **Syringe Exchange.** Support syringe exchange programs, and efforts to provide additional funding, to help prevent the spread of disease.

## E. NATURAL RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. **2020 State Climate/Resiliency Bond.** Monitor a statewide resiliency bond for the November 2020 ballot – including wildfire/disaster preparedness, water/flood control, stormwater, agriculture, climate resilience, resource protection and recycling – and engage authors and the Bay Area Caucus regarding Marin’s most pressing climate investment needs.
2. **Las Gallinas Creek Watershed/Santa Venetia Levee.** Explore funding for levee improvements, dredging, watershed restoration and pump station replacement/maintenance.
3. **Park Infrastructure Funding.** Support efforts that allocate funding toward capital improvements in local or regional parks; including replacement of aging park infrastructure, visitor service facilities, irrigation and water conservation measures, bridges, piers, and hardscapes. Support use of the “underresourced community” definition, or another modified definition, in place of “disadvantaged community” or “CalEnviroScreen” to ensure state funding and policy fairly benefits Bay Area residents by taking into account the extreme cost of living differences in the Bay Area. 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. Support the Land and Water Conservation Fund and monitor Federal allocations to state and local programs.
4. **National Monument Protection.** Oppose efforts which could limit protections for national monument designations, including Muir Woods National Monument, designated in 1908.
5. **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 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 percent design completion for McInnis Marsh restoration to construction and continue planning at Bolinas Lagoon North End and Bothin Marsh.
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 grant guidelines that may support large parks, open space, and stormwater capital projects that would support county priority projects. Support wetlands and other nature-based projects to increase resilience to sea level rise.
7. **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.
8. **AB 32 Climate Change Investment Plan.** Monitor the third investment plan (Fiscal Years 2019-20 through 2021-2022), including funding for priority projects related to transportation, housing, urban greening, open space and park acquisition; 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. Monitor

future efforts to budget Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund revenues and seek to include more financial support for parks, natural, and working lands projects.

9. **Local Renewable Energy and Governance:** Support continuing development of local renewable energy resources and supply, including protection of local autonomy to administer energy efficiency and install and utilize integrated distributed energy resources. Support increased local control over the purchase and development of renewable energy resources to increase consumer access to renewable energy at stable, competitive rates, and decreasing statewide greenhouse gas emissions.
10. **Energy Efficiency and Consumer Protection:** Support transparency of energy procurement practices, stranded costs, and departing load charges. Support fair competition in statewide energy markets for CCAs and municipal or other publicly owned utilities. Support effective leveraging of energy efficiency programs tailored to address local needs and concerns.
11. **Decarbonization:** Support efforts to decarbonize the built environment, including all-electric new construction and funding for retrofitting gas appliances with high efficiency electric units.
12. **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.
13. **State Funded Water Projects.** Explore opportunities through the Integrated Regional Water Management 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.
14. **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.
15. **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.
16. **Tomales 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.
17. **Restoration of San Francisco Bay.** Support 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 efforts 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/gas development; to weaken regulations that protect marine ecosystems and restrict oil/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.
18. **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 reallocate CalRecycle Grant Funding to Zero Waste diversion projects that include grants or loans to support increased diversion of resources from the waste stream such as new or upgraded sorting facilities, machinery and related improvements.

19. ***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. Support clarifying CEQA categorical exemptions for habitat restoration, increasing/removing limits on size of habitat restoration projects, and greater state interagency permitting/funding coordination.
20. ***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.
21. ***Endangered Species.*** 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. Protect native fish in coastal streams while also balancing the needs of coastal agriculture. Seek more funding for fishery restoration, particularly for fish returning to freshwater from the ocean to spawn.
22. ***State Organic Program Farmer Registration Fees.*** Oppose any effort that would eliminate state organic program fees or activities carried out by state or county agencies responsible for enforcing organic state law. Support explicit product labeling of genetically modified foods
23. ***Sale of Invasive Plants and Animals.*** Support efforts to limit the use and sale of invasive plants and animals that are known threats to Marin's public lands as recognized by the California Invasive Plant Council and California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Invasive Species Program. 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 (IPM) approach to addressing pests, and expansion of state/local educational efforts to promote IPM.
25. ***Great Redwood Trail.*** Support efforts by Senator McGuire, the Northcoast Railroad Authority, and SMART to protect and preserve the continuous rail right of way connecting Larkspur to Blue Lake, California, for permanent public use and multiple resource and community benefits.

## **F. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

1. ***Bail Reform.*** Monitor implementation/any amendments to SB 10 (2018-Hertzberg), which created a risk-based non-monetary prearrest and pretrial release system for people arrested for criminal offenses in lieu of posting a cash bail while awaiting trial.
2. ***Therapeutic and Domestic Violence Courts.*** Support efforts to restore funding for therapeutic justice programs, such as Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction grant programs, and support funding for adult and juvenile drug courts, and expansion to pre-plea drug court programs. Seek funding to assist with Family/Domestic Violence Court, particularly its therapeutic treatment aspects.
3. ***Court Funding.*** Oppose any increase in Trial Court Funding Act county maintenance of effort levels above agreements reached to provide maintenance of effort relief. Support expansion of 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.

4. ***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
5. ***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, or fund local juvenile hall and jail construction or remodeling. Support efforts 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.
6. ***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.
7. ***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.
8. ***State Crime Labs.*** Support funding for local governments to contract out work needed to reduce DNA testing backlogs. Because of backlogs, many local governments outsource at their own cost to resolve cases; local governments should be reimbursed for these costs.

## **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.
2. ***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.
3. ***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.

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. **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.
6. **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.
7. **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.

## H. CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL

1. **Library Funding.** Seek to enhance state or federal funding to support library services for residents. Support efforts to amend state education code to permit General Obligation bonds for local library 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 to lower the local vote threshold for library construction bond measures from the current two-thirds vote to 55 percent. 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 efforts that would apply to telephone or other companies the same federal laws and regulations as are currently applied to cable television providers, and oppose efforts 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. **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. Renewal of CPUC grant opportunities would be particularly helpful for enhanced broadband in rural communities.
4. **Education.** Support efforts to provide a sustainable, quality early childhood, K-12 and higher education system to promote quality, accessible, and affordable education. Support reinstatement of community college for lifelong learning at no or low cost to older adults, as well as expansion of California's transitional kindergarten program.