COUNTY OF MARIN
2021 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 may appear in both programs because the focus may differ depending on the legislative body. In other cases, the Board may wish to sponsor legislation to affect a policy change specific to Marin County.

‘Attachment A’ represents 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.

2021 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

A. POLICY

1. COVID-19 Public Health Pandemic Emergency. Support efforts for a coordinated federal strategy to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases, as well as robust, direct and flexible support to counties on the front line of the response to care for the most vulnerable in the community.

2. Affordable Care Act. Oppose any 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 ACA.

3. 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. Oppose efforts to prevent or weaken the collection of scientific data relating to climate change.

4. Immigration. Support immigration policy that maintains a pathway to full and equal citizenship, including protection of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program; the rights of immigrants, including birthright citizenship; and keeps families together. Oppose mass deportation; additional citizenship screening or requirements to access public resources; or efforts to restrict federal revenue tied to sanctuary jurisdiction status. Oppose “public charge” rules, under which any immigrant who receives public benefits - including Medicaid, food stamps, or public housing vouchers – may be considered a “public charge” and therefore denied a green card.

5. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME, Continuum of Care, and Section 8 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.

6. Wildfire Protection on Federal Lands. Monitor federal legislation that could provide additional tools or funding to manage forests and reduce hazardous fuels. Of approximately 33 million acres of forest in California, federal agencies own and manage nearly 60 percent.

7. 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.
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. It expired September 30, 2020, however a one-year extension was approved to provide certainty to states and local governments under the strain of the COVID-19 pandemic. The County will continue to advocate that federal transportation law be maximally funded and advance the objective of 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 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, bus operations, pedestrians and motor vehicles.

   Several projects are slated to receive state funding from Regional Measure 3, passed by Bay Area voters in June 2018. Two lawsuits have delayed funding pending resolution, including $120 million for the Marin-Sonoma Narrows; $40 million for SMART extension; $30 million for the Bettini Transit Center; and $135 million for the NB US-101 to EB I-580 Direct Connector Project.

2. **Nonmotorized Transportation/Active Transportation Program.** Seek funds dedicated to nonmotorized transportation projects and programs, including Safe Routes to Schools.

3. **State Highway 37.** Support funding for sea level rise adaptation/resilience projects for Segment A in Marin County of the State Highway 37 Project.

4. **Transit Funding.** Support maintaining or increasing funding for transit operations and capital programs, including immediate pandemic-related relief funding.

5. **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

1. **Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Control.** Previously managed through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), this Ross Valley project has transitioned to a locally managed project overseen by the Marin County Flood Control District. The District will use Flood Zone 9 storm drainage fee and State Department of Water Resources grant 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, 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 2021 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 2021 (Federal Fiscal Year 2022).

1. **Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) Reauthorization.** Support efforts to ensure the ACOE is more responsive to Sea Level Rise, including a pilot program to fund feasibility studies and/or construct flood control projects, the need for which has been exacerbated by sea level rise.
2. **Infrastructure Investment/Green New Deal.** Support efforts to rebuild the nation’s infrastructure, including a “Green New Deal,” a set of policy directions to respond to the climate crisis and its intersection with other issues, including the economy, with a focus on removal and replacement of carbon-based fuels with non-carbon-based fuels, workforce development in climate adaption and response, and green infrastructure.

3. **San Rafael Canal Dredging.** Coordinate with the City of San Rafael to identify non-local funding to dredge the San Rafael Canal, which has not been fully dredged since 2002 and has become a public safety issue. San Rafael Police and Fire units are based in the channel and need access for bay patrols, rescues, and other public safety activity.
A. PRIORITY ISSUES

1. **Disaster/Pandemic Preparedness.** Support efforts to improve disaster preparedness – including pandemic preparedness; emergency fire responsiveness; healthy forests and vegetation management; climate adaptation and resilience; homeowner’s insurance coverage; and telecommunication provider subscriber data for emergency alerts. The state must be more prepared for pandemic emergencies with improved personal protective equipment (PPE), hospital bed capacity, ventilators and other equipment, and a safe vaccine distribution regime – while also providing additional support to communities suffering from high temperature heat events, rolling blackouts and PSPS events.

2. **Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Accountability.** Support efforts to hold PG&E accountable for local costs associated with preparing for and recovering from its PSPS deenergization events. Hardening its grid infrastructure, improving redundancy and segmentation, and effective vegetation management are crucial to mitigate PSPS events and wildfire risk. Explore alternatives to the current investor-owned, private utility with more accountability, public input and consumer protection. Support assistance to communities vulnerable to PSPS events.

3. **Telecommunications Redundancy/Backup.** Support efforts to require telecommunications providers to enhance communications resiliency and reliability, ensuring at least three days’ emergency backup power to cell tower sites, and alternative communications solutions in rural and other areas with poor cellular connections and lack of emergency communication alternatives.

4. **Economic Stimulus Efforts.** In the face of uncertainty regarding future stimulus efforts after December 31, 2020, support economic recovery efforts to small businesses and local governments for urgent targeted needs – including job training, revenue loss, housing, and structural support.

5. **Eviction/Forbearance Protections.** Support protections for tenants to shield them from evictions due to COVID-19 related back rent, while also extending anti-foreclosure protections to small landlords to mitigate the economic hardship caused by the pandemic. While COVID-19 has impacted everyone, some have borne more of the burden than others.

6. **Homeless Services.** In addition to one-time investments toward ending homelessness exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, support funding for wrap-around services to counties to allow the most vulnerable to stay housed successfully - with particular focus locally on rural and immigrant community needs and housing for anchor-outs on Richardson’s Bay. Support additional Project Homekey or related funding opportunities to purchase and rehabilitate housing for conversion into interim or permanent, long-term housing. Support Whole Person Care counties with funding as they transition case management services for their clients, and extend Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14184.60 to allow data sharing of client information to coordinate services among partner agencies.

7. **Affordable Housing Preservation/Rehabilitation/Development.** Support funding assistance 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. Oppose efforts to restrict local governments’ ability to regulate housing and land use issues, including efforts to remove existing rights to review development or housing proposals.

As the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the state Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) projects how much new housing will be needed to accommodate expected population and job growth, and assigns targets to each county and municipality, local jurisdictions are required to adjust their zoning laws to help make the creation of that amount of housing possible. While 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. Marin County may be assigned 14,000 housing units during the next eight year housing cycle (2023-2031).
8. **Pension Reform.** The Public Employees Pension Reform Act (AB 320 and AB 197; 2012) incorporated 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. Supports additional reforms, including 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.

9. **Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience.** Support efforts to secure funding, especially through any re-introduced Climate Resilience Bond for 2022, for investments to reduce climate risk through long-term investment in natural and built infrastructure; to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including clean energy, energy efficiency, Community Choice Aggregation, building decarbonization, transportation mode shifts - including active transportation capital projects, and electric vehicle fleet replacement, and infrastructure - including readying the power grid for increased EV usage. Support public/private partnerships, incentives and investment for clean energy, clean transportation, and climate resiliency. Support 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.

10. **Richardson's Bay Mooring Program/Habitat Restoration.** Support Richardson’s Bay Regional Agency (RBRA) efforts for policy and funding support to establish a program to alleviate habitat, clean water, public safety and access concerns caused by vessels anchored in Richardson’s Bay. Managing the location, condition, security, safety and impacts of liveaboard and transient vessels involving housing, restored eelgrass habitat, and enforcement is of interest to federal, state and local agencies but is beyond the available resources of local agencies alone – particularly in the face of a pandemic where anchorouts need housing and support services to transition from liveaboard vessels.
COUNTY OF MARIN
2021 LEGISLATIVE POLICY GUIDELINES

Attachment A represents the 2021 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 policy 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 authority, including proposals to reform property tax assessment responsibilities to ensure fairness, accuracy, and timeliness. Oppose restriction of counties’ discretion to contract for the provision of critical county services. Oppose state efforts to change excess educational revenue augmentation fund (ERAF) formulas to state benefit.

2. **State and Federal Mandates.** Oppose mandates or the realignment of state or federal programs to the county without adequate on-going revenue. Realigned programs should follow core principles, including the following: 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.

3. **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.** Support efforts to ensure an equity approach toward policy, legislation, and administration of public programs. All should be treated fairly and without discrimination regardless of race, color, gender, sexual orientation or other protected status – while acknowledging that we don’t all start from the same place due to systemic advantages and barriers. Public policy should seek to address imbalances to enhance inclusion and equity with meaningful analysis of impacts, including what constituencies are benefitted or burdened.

4. **Civil Rights.** Support, preserve and enhance efforts to defend the individual rights and liberties that the Constitution and the laws of the United States guarantee everyone in this country, including the right to vote without suppression or intimidation.

5. **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. Monitor implementation of SB 450 (Allen and Hertzberg; 2016), which allowed pilot counties to conduct elections by mail ballot with regional vote centers open up to 10 days prior to Election Day.

6. **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.

7. **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. Monitor efforts regarding drones for safety and privacy concerns.

8. **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.
B. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

1. **Law Library Funding.** Support efforts for law libraries to regain permissive authority to seek fee increases from Boards of Supervisors without impairing the State Administrative Office of the Court’s (AOC) financial position.

2. **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 risks that led to the financial collapse of 2008. Support protections that mitigate financial abuse of older adults by financial providers, as well as measures that will strengthen mandatory reporting.

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. **Disaster Mitigation and Local Levees.** Explore consistent funding for disaster mitigation or response related to upgrades or repairs to local levee systems. In recent 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 it 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 is a good model for the state, but is unfunded.

2. **State-Owned Bridge/Highway Improvements.** Support efforts by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Caltrans and/or others to advance funding to address the increasing prevalence of flooding, including on State Highway 37; State Highway 1 at the Manzanita area junction with Highway 101; Lucky Drive and Highway 101; Highway 1 adjacent to Bolinas Lagoon between Stinson Beach and Bolinas; and future projected flooding due to sea level rise.

3. **CPUC Rule 20A Program/Utility Undergrounding.** Support efforts to sustain the Rule 20A program. Slight modifications to the existing program could increase flexibility and provide incentives to implement improvements more expeditiously without phasing-out and ultimately eliminating the rule. CPUC staff are recommending its sunset, as well as additional proposals that would create more barriers for historically underserved communities in completing undergrounding projects.

4. **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.

5. **Multi-modal Transportation.** Support modes of transportation alternative to single-occupancy vehicles, and enhanced electrification of transportation infrastructure. Support multi-use path projects, including Tiburon Boulevard/State Route 131 to connect with the Tiburon Ferry Landing, and along Sir Francis Drake Boulevard between Remillard Park in Larkspur and Andersen Drive in San Rafael to connect with the Larkspur Ferry.

In concert with the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) and the Marin County Transit District, oppose efforts to redirect funding from the Public Transportation Account (PTA) for non-transportation purposes. Support efforts 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 sustainable funding. Monitor policies that affect transportation and recreational uses and control by local land managers to regulate use on paved and natural surfaces.

6. **Local Road and Transportation Funding.** Support efforts to preserve and enhance local road maintenance funding, as well as transit, ‘safe routes to schools’ initiatives, road safety, and enhanced accessibility and mobility initiatives. Explore 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.

7. **Flood Control and Watershed Management Efforts.** Support water bond funding opportunities. 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. Ensure that each region has a fair and reasonable allocation of state bond funds for this work, including for pump station replacement/maintenance; increased funding for the Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP); and reduced matching requirements. Explore efforts to modernize Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District authorizing statutes to be more consistent with other Bay Area county flood control districts. Support funding for buy-outs, easements and other managed retreat options to adapt shorelines to sea level rise.

8. **Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance.** Support efforts to ensure 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.

9. **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.

10. **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, and 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.

11. **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 federal “cap-and-trade” or other market-based programs should be used to supplement—not supplant—federal funding for public transit.

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 new 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.

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. **Oppose** policies that allow rationing of healthcare resources based on age or disability.

2. **Improved Access to Health Care/Health Care Reform.** Support efforts to expand health care coverage to all populations, including revisions to preserve and expand the Affordable Care Act, promote mental health parity, and support 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 for 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. 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. Support efforts to improve the regulation of drug pricing.

3. **CalAIM - California’s Behavioral Health Waiver.** Advocate for improved renewals of federal waivers under which California operates its county behavioral health carve-outs from Medi-Cal. Negotiate payment reform to maximize federal funding for services, reduce county disallowances, and eliminate unnecessary administrative burdens for county behavioral health providers.

4. **Preschool, Child Care and Child Welfare.** Seek to enhance state funding for preschool, day care, childcare slots and facilities, increased childcare reimbursement rates, and training and retention of childcare workers. Support efforts to improve the child welfare system, including strengthened collaboration with County Behavioral Health. 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.

5. **Homelessness.** Work with stakeholders to develop regional solutions to homelessness in the Bay Area. Support centralization of state homelessness funding to streamline funding applications and reporting requirements and to align priorities. Support ongoing funding for support services, rental assistance and program operations. Monitor bills regarding mental health conservatorships, which are intended to provide individualized treatment, supervision and living arrangements for the seriously mentally ill while still protecting their individual rights.

6. **Older Adults in Marin County.** Support efforts to protect and expand funding, services and protections for Marin County’s increasing older adult population. Support vulnerable elder and dependent adults to keep them safely in their own homes. Support funding to the California Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. Support the California Elder Economic Security Initiative, including more use of the Elder Economic Index in planning and program eligibility. Support funding to establish an Aging and Disability Resource Connection in Marin to provide long term support.

7. **Community Based Treatment and Recovery Maintenance.** Support Medicaid Home and Community-based waivers that would apply to California and Marin 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.

8. **Reimbursement for Psychiatric Emergency Services and for Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services.** Support efforts to require insurers to reimburse counties for psychiatric emergency services commensurate with state and federal law regarding emergency medical care. Support efforts to require that insurers provide an adequate network for alcohol/drug treatment services and/or pay counties to provide these services.

9. **Acute and Transitional Mental Health Care Services.** Support efforts to maintain and enhance funding for additional psychiatric emergency beds, 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 beyond 24 hours where needs for inpatient psychiatric or outpatient care and inpatient beds or outpatient services are not reasonably available.
10. **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, and support policies that prevent mental health facilities from being considered IMD's. 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. Restrictions on this revenue stream results in millions of dollars in lost local funds.

11. **Support Efforts to Reduce Harm Caused by Gun Violence.** Support efforts to limit the harm caused by gun violence, including education; capacity to enforce existing gun control regulations; banning the sale of semiautomatic weapons and regulating the number of bullets available in gun clips; and more stringent background checks on gun purchases.

12. **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 development 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. Support efforts to expand access to HCBS Waivers for Blind and Elderly.

13. **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.

14. **Opioid Safety.** Support policies and strategies to address opioid misuse, abuse and overdose - including safe prescribing practices, increased access to treatment for opioid use disorder in hospitals, clinics and correctional facilities; widening the availability of the overdose reversal agent Naloxone; convenient and safe locations for disposal of unused medications; and enhanced sharing of information and data for more coordinated and effective behavioral health outcomes. Support efforts to ensure pending settlements against opioid manufacturers remain at the local level.

15. **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 healthcare reform.

16. **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, and restoration of state funding for other long-term care programs like the Multipurpose Senior Services Program and Community Based Adult Services Program. Support efforts to facilitate construction of long-term care/assisted living facility opportunities for low/moderate-income segments of our aging population. Support funding policies that promote innovative designs in construction of long-term care facilities to mitigate spread of infectious agents.

17. **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.

18. **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. Support efforts to maintain federal allocations for Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act funding to the San Francisco Eligible Metropolitan Area.
19. **Social Services Funding.** Protect funding and simplify eligibility/enrollment for social services programs, including Child Support, Child Welfare, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and Cal Fresh programs.

20. **Workforce Development.** Support funding for workforce development opportunities that help residents secure employment and create career pathways for a talented and diverse workforce.

21. **Social Security Benefits.** Support policies to preserve, enhance and increase Social Security Benefits. Oppose efforts to reduce benefits by “chaining” the CPI or repurposing the Social Security Trust Fund by including it in a balanced budget measure.

22. **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.

23. **Elder Justice.** Support efforts to fund the Elder Justice Act as part of the Affordable Care Act. Support efforts to prevent elder and dependent adult abuse, and protect funding for the Adult Protective Services program and support efforts toward quicker resolution for victims of elder abuse.

24. **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.

25. **Detention Medical Expenses/Reinstatement of Benefits to Jail Inmates.** Support efforts to seek federal/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.

26. **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 counties so these services can be administered in conjunction with mental health services, and so that programs are appropriately developed and coordinated.

27. **Preventive Healthcare.** Support efforts to maintain prevention of disease as a part of the continuum of services across County programs. 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; 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 prevent harm; promote safe sex and sexual health; improve nutrition; increase physical activity; and new strategies to reduce falls.
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 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.

h. **Hazardous Air:** Support efforts to establish accessible cooling and filtered air shelters during excessive heat and unhealthy air events, including transport options for persons with limited mobility or access to transportation.

28. **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.

29. **Local Emergency Medical Services Governance.** Protect the ability of local elected officials to determine Marin’s EMS system design, funding, policy development, medical control and governance. Support the expansion of EMS training to include dementia and fall prevention.

30. **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. Support overhaul of the Federal Toxic Substances Control Act to safeguard the public’s health and well-being, as well as the environment.

31. **Nutrition Programs.** Support efforts to protect, strengthen and expand 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.

32. **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.

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

34. **Early Childhood Home Visiting.** Support evidence-based, quality home visiting services that lay the foundation for children’s growth and development and reduce the potential for more serious problems from occurring in youth and later in life. Support policies that strengthen families, promote healthy child development, and prevent child abuse and neglect.

### 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 increased funding and use of the “underresourced community” definition, or similar 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 federal allocations to state and local programs.

3. **National Monument Protection.** Oppose efforts which could limit protections for national monument designations, including Muir Woods National Monument.

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 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. Support funding to carry 30 percent design completion for McInnis Marsh restoration to construction; continue planning at Bolinas Lagoon North End and Bothin Marsh.

5. **Proposition 68 (California Drought, Water Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018).** Monitor application deadlines for the Regional Park Program, Rural Recreation and Tourism Program, and Recreation Infrastructure Revenue Enhancement Program. Monitor grant opportunities that fund wetlands and other nature-based projects to increase resilience to sea level rise.

6. **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. Explore potential mitigations to current obligations to maintain public rights of way in the face of rising sea levels. Monitor efforts for a statewide resiliency bond to include wildfire/disaster preparedness, water/flood control, stormwater, agriculture, climate resilience, resource protection and recycling for Marin’s most pressing climate investment needs.

7. **AB 32 Climate Change Investment Plan.** Monitor the third investment plan 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 and increasing eligibility of Cap and Trade revenues towards transportation investments for public transit operations and capital projects, including 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.

8. **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.

9. **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.

10. **Decarbonization:** Support efforts to decarbonize the built environment, including all-electric new construction and funding for retrofitting gas appliances with high efficiency electric units.
11. **Water Conservation Efforts.** Support water conservation efforts. Support the development of uniform standards for the use of “gray” water – as well as native plant/low-water demonstration gardens.

12. **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.

13. **Acceleration of Project Delivery – Water Resource Agency Permits.** Support amendments to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and related statutes and procedures to speed approvals for routine flood control maintenance activities while ensuring that environmental protections are preserved.

14. **North Bay Water Reuse Program.** Support efforts to enable a Bureau of Reclamation partnership with the North Bay Water Reuse Authority 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.

15. **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.

16. **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.

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. **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 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.

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. Support the California Natural Resources Agency’s Cutting the Green Tap Initiative.

20. **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.

21. **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.

22. **Promotion of Integrated Pest Management Principles.** Support efforts that promote an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to addressing pests, and expansion of IPM educational efforts.

23. **Great Redwood Trail.** Support efforts to protect and preserve the continuous rail right of way connecting Larkspur to Blue Lake for permanent public use and resource and community benefits.

### F. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY

1. **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, forest health and wildland fire protection.

2. **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.

3. **Bail Reform.** Monitor implementation/any amendments to SB 10 (2018-Hertzberg), which created a risk-based non-monetary prearraignment and pretrial release system for people arrested for criminal offenses in lieu of posting a cash bail while awaiting trial. Advocate for funding for any new or revised responsibilities to counties.

4. **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.

5. **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 any 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. Oppose any effort to alter criminal justice fines, fees, and/or penalties without a corresponding revenue back-fill to counties. 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, and applicable fines 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. 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. Support efforts to expand and utilize USDA 514 and 516 program funds for agricultural worker housing.

   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 preserve existing affordable housing units, including a broader range of options eligible to receive housing element credits, such as senior housing, assisted living units, housing cooperatives and accessory/junior accessory dwelling units.

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. **Indian Gaming.** Support efforts to provide local government greater authority with respect to 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.

5. **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 local government revenues with sound local land use planning.

### H. CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL

1. **Library Funding.** Seek to enhance state or federal funding to support library services. 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.

2. **Telecommunications/5G Wireless Broadband.** Oppose efforts that would further restrict local authority over telecommunications siting or zoning, including small cell installation in local communities and public rights-of-way (e.g. 5G wireless technology). Support efforts to require 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.

3. **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.

4. **Internet Broadband.** Support efforts to fund and provide high-speed internet, including Wi-Fi “hot spots” to seniors, rural communities, 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. Monitor implementation of Executive Order N-73-20 to increase broadband statewide and the development of the required State Broadband Action Plan.

5. **Education.** Support efforts to provide a sustainable, equitable, quality education system to promote accessible and affordable education, including community college lifelong learning at no/low cost to older adults, and expansion of California’s transitional kindergarten program. Support efforts to close the Digital Divide with devices and low-cost digital access to underserved populations, and mitigate loss of learning potentially caused by the lack of in-person instruction due to COVID-19.