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.

### 2023 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) to states or convert Medicare to a voucher system with less funding. Marin alone has over 44,000 residents on Medi-Cal.

2. **Climate Change and Resilience.** Support efforts to mitigate climate change and adaptation to climate-related impacts, including wildfire risk, adaptation to extreme heat, sea-level rise, wetlands restoration, levee construction or other nature-based resilience measures.

3. **Immigration.** Support 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 keeping families together. Support expanding eligibility of social services (Medi-Cal, food stamps, housing vouchers, etc.) to residents regardless of immigration status.

4. **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME, Continuum of Care, and Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers.** Protect/enhance federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) program funding, including the CDBG program, the Home Investment Partnerships Program, Continuum of Care and Section 8 Housing Choice vouchers. Support efforts to simplify rent-setting; enhance housing mobility and choice; and more opportunities for veterans, families, and those experiencing chronic homelessness. There are currently 2,000 households in Marin with Housing Choice Vouchers. While the Marin Housing Authority has been issued 210 new vouchers under the Biden Administration since January 2021, many more are needed. Work with our federal delegation and agencies for needed capital improvements and tenant protections to those living Marin’s public housing, including the approximately 300 units at Golden Gate Village in Marin City.

5. **National, State Park and Recreation lands.** Explore opportunities to maintain and support sustainable agricultural uses in Marin’s national parklands, including continued ranching and dairy in the Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Support investments in improving Indigenous access to parklands and use of federally managed lands, including signage and other communications that reflect a more accurate account of the history of people and places.

#### B. FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION REQUESTS

The following represent the County’s highest priority federal transportation requests.

1. **Highway 101 Multimodal Corridor Projects.** Support efforts to bring the “Marin-Sonoma Narrows” Project from Highway 37 to Petaluma to completion; the final leg broke ground this summer with completion anticipated in 2026. Support planning and construction of the northbound 101 to eastbound I-580 Multimodal Access Improvement Project. Support the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) District to seek or maintain funding for its project, including extension north to Cloverdale, completion of the multi-use pathway, 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.
Support further funding and expedited execution of major improvements to Highway 101 exits at Marin City to reduce flooding which renders local roads inaccessible during storm and tidal events.

2. **State Route 37 Multi-Modal, Multi-Benefit Sea Level Rise Adaptation.** Support accelerated planning and construction of a State Route 37 multi-modal, multi-benefit sea level rise adaptation project on a pile-supported causeway along its current alignment, including near-term measures to address congestion and flooding that minimize adverse environmental impacts, maximize environmental benefits, such as wetland restoration, and that align with the “ultimate” project to connect Marin, Sonoma, Napa, and Solano counties. Depending on the cost, adjacent public rail transit between Novato and the East Bay should also be considered.

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), including transit to parks to increase access and reduce congestion. Support federal funding to mitigate park visitor impacts to neighboring West Marin communities such as parking, refuse, restroom and septic infrastructure. Explore updated funding agreements with the federal government offsetting lost local school district and municipal revenue from conversion to National Parks Service lands.

4. **Transportation and Climate.** Support funding and programs to protect transportation assets from climate impacts such as sea level rise. Support conversion to electric/zero emission vehicles, including funding and policies for infrastructure and equity-focused programs, microgrids, solar and wind, and other mitigation strategies. Oppose legislation that would shield fossil fuel companies from liability for production of oil and gas, and/or other carbon-producing intensive business activities that create public harm.

5. **Funding for Public Transit Operations.** Support funding to maintain or improve transit operations in Marin and across county lines, as viable public transit is an essential component in local mobility and in mitigating any local traffic and/or emission impacts associated with new housing development. Explore opportunities to expand public transit in underserved areas, including rural West Marin.

6. **Federal Transportation Funding:** Monitor the ongoing rollout of state funding under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021, which authorized $1.2 trillion for transportation and infrastructure spending to states through both formulas and competitive grants. The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 also contains billions in new funding for the electrification of transportation infrastructure. Continue to work closely with partner agencies to identify new federal funding opportunities under these two historic pieces of legislation.

C. **U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE) FUNDING REQUESTS**

1. **Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Control.** The Marin County Flood Control District will use Flood Zone 9 storm drainage fees 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 USACE and included Units 2 and 3, which brought the project to 75 percent constructed. While the constructed portion has performed significantly below expectations, the District will continue working with USACE to balance the financial cost share record and to obtain required permitting.

2. **Advance flood control projects in Marin authorized by the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020.** WRDA 2020 included specific language authorizing the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to support flood protection and mitigation in the San Francisco Bay including protection against tidal flooding and sea level rise adaptation; and projects which support the local
economy, habitat restoration, stormwater runoff capacity, and lessen the erosion of beaches and coast. Continue to work with USACE on a comprehensive Eastern Marin Shoreline Study.

### 2023 State Legislative Program

#### A. PRIORITY ISSUES

1. **Comprehensive Homeless Strategy.** Support a comprehensive strategy to address homelessness statewide consistent with core principles, including: 1) coordination across policy areas that impact efforts to build housing and serve individuals in need; 2) create a comprehensive system that recognizes the role of all levels of government and community partners working together with clear responsibilities and accountability; 3) implement long-term, sustainable policies and funding that encourage housing/shelter production and operation in every community, especially near where most unsheltered and precariously-housed residents choose to live; and 4) sustainable, long-term and flexible funding to develop housing options with wraparound services needed to keep people housed.

2. **CARE (Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment) Court Funding.** Support funding to local governments for ongoing costs mandated by CARE Court, the new state framework to deliver mental health and substance use disorder services to the most severely impaired Californians under SB 1338 (Umberg, Eggman; 2022). Monitor implementation in Phase 1 counties for lessons learned to ensure successful Marin implementation in 2024. Support legislative “cleanup” efforts to ensure sufficient state guidance and resources for implementation, including liability concerns.

3. **Affordable Housing Preservation/Rehabilitation/Development.** Support assistance to finance affordable housing preservation, rehabilitation, development and/or conversion. Under the Regional Housing Need Allocations (RHNA) process, unincorporated Marin has been assigned 3,569 units, which represents 25% of the 14,405 units allocated to Marin including its 11 cities and towns. Support efforts to use surplus county, state, federal, and school district lands to create more affordable workforce housing for local school, healthcare, and municipal employees.

4. **Richardson’s Bay Habitat Restoration.** Support Richardson’s Bay Regional Agency (RBRA) efforts for policy and funding support to alleviate habitat, clean water, public safety and access concerns caused by vessels anchored in Richardson’s Bay. Funding for housing and supportive services should be prioritized to successfully restore the location’s critical eelgrass habitat.

5. **Water Conservation and Drought Relief.** Support efforts to reduce non-essential drinking water use; expand availability and affordability of reclaimed water for residential, commercial, and agricultural uses (e.g., “purple pipes”); additional storage and/or supply; and support to farmers and ranchers. Marin’s organic dairy ranchers have faced steep drought-induced increases in feed and other costs.

6. **Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS), Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS) Accountability.** Support efforts to hold PG&E accountable for costs associated with preparing for and recovering from deenergization events, including “fast-trip” (EPSS) shutoffs. Such events must be regulated to ensure a balance of utility risk mitigation with adequate notice to local governments, emergency managers and residents for protection of vulnerable customers and critical facilities, particularly in areas with poor cellular networks. Support efforts to require utility companies to strengthen the reliability and resiliency of the existing energy grid to be better prepared for extreme weather events.

7. **Telecommunications Redundancy/Backup.** Support efforts to establish resiliency plans for telecom providers to ensure that cellular service is maintained for at least 72 hours during electrical outages. Alternative solutions to ensure landline service is retained in areas with poor cell service remain necessary during outage events.
8. *Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience.* Support investments to reduce climate risk through long-term investment in natural and built infrastructure; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and that support transportation mode shifts. Support public/private partnerships, incentives and investment for clean energy, clean transportation, adaptation to sea-level rise, and agricultural conservation efforts including greenhouse gas mitigation/sequestration. Oppose revocation of California’s Clean Air Act waiver and efforts to prevent collection of scientific data relating to climate change.

9. *Foster Children and Families.* Support legislation that promotes services to meet the needs of foster children and their families/caregivers involved in the Child Welfare System. Support enhanced transition supports for children once they “age out” of the system to ensure they can stay in Marin if they choose. Support efforts to provide new funding for recruiting additional resource families and caregivers who can meet more complex needs of foster youth. Support efforts to improve Behavioral Health Services for children in foster care and prevention services under the Families First Prevention Services Act for children at risk of foster care.
COUNTY OF MARIN
2023 LEGISLATIVE POLICY GUIDELINES

Legislative Policy Guidelines 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.

A. GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Support efforts to ensure an equity approach toward policy, legislation, and administration of public programs that acknowledges community members affected by systemic racism built into government systems. Public policy should seek to address imbalances to enhance inclusion and race equity with meaningful analysis of impacts, including what constituencies are benefitted or burdened.

2. Cashless Transactions. Support legislation requiring businesses to accept cash payment to ensure those without bank accounts or access to technology, have access to the marketplace.

3. Civil Rights. Preserve and enhance efforts to defend the individual rights and liberties that the Constitution and the laws of the United States guarantee, including the right to vote without suppression or intimidation.

4. Pension Reform. The Public Employees Pension Reform Act (PEPRA) 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 talent; and adding flexibility to allow greater employee contributions for pension system costs subject to bargaining. Support 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 healthcare plan options.

5. County Revenue Sources and Local Authority. Oppose attempts to restrict county revenue sources or authority, including efforts to change excess educational revenue augmentation fund (ERAF) formulas shifting local property tax funding for state benefit. Oppose restriction of counties’ discretion to contract for the provision of critical county services.

6. State and Federal Mandates. Oppose mandates or the realignment of programs to counties without adequate on-going revenue. Realigned programs should follow core principles: 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.

7. Vote Centers. Support efforts to amend SB 450 (Allen, 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. Election data indicates high cost but low utilization of vote centers for initial days of required operations. Vote centers may be more cost-effective if fewer than 10 days were required to be staffed given initial usage data and recent approval of AB 37 (Berman; 2021), which now requires all county elections officials to mail a ballot to every registered voter.
8. **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.

9. **Privacy Rights.** Support efforts to ensure the privacy rights of individuals while also aligning HIPAA and 42 CFR, Part 2 to enhance the sharing of information and data for more coordinated and effective behavioral and physical health outcomes.

10. **Public Records, Transparency and Participation.** Support maintaining the requirements of the California Public Records Act, including efforts to increase the availability of electronic records. Support legislative amendments allowing advisory board and commission members to a board of supervisors to meet remotely for increased participation given child care, work and other considerations that may make onsite advisory meetings difficult for many to attend.

### B. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

1. **Small Businesses.** Support targeted needs of Marin’s small businesses with a focus on underserved businesses and communities. Monitor ongoing implementation of CERF (California Economic Resilience Fund) by the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and Go-Biz to ensure Marin’s low-income communities benefit from the $500 million in new statewide investments.

2. **Law Library Funding.** Support law library efforts to regain permissive authority for fee increases from Boards of Supervisors without impairing the State Administrative Office of the Court’s financial position.

3. **Campaign Finance Reform.** Support campaign finance reform efforts that limit excessive political spending and that ensure that the voice of the people is not overwhelmed by monied interests.

4. **Remote/Teleconference options at Public Meetings.** Monitor changes to the Brown Act to allow for more flexibility to hold teleconference/remote public meetings and allow remote participation.

### C. TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

1. **Local Road and Transportation Funding.** Support efforts to enhance local road maintenance funding, as well as transit, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, including ‘safe routes to schools’ initiatives and other mobility and walkability initiatives. Support avenues to maintain current levels of funding to municipalities for local streets and roads currently provided by the state gas tax, even as the uptake of electric vehicles increases. Explore revenue options based on vehicle miles traveled or road user charges, lowering the voter approval threshold for new local transportation taxes from 67 percent to 55 percent, and/or avenues to charge delivery companies equitable fees for their usage of local roads. Oppose efforts to tie transportation funding to affordable housing production.

2. **Flooding on State highways.** Support efforts to address flooding on State Route 37; Highway 101 exits at Marin City; State Highway 1 at the Manzanita 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. Support state funding for local bridge infrastructure – including a return of functional obsolescence as an evaluation criterion.

3. **Disaster Mitigation and Local Levee Concerns.** Explore funding opportunities for maintenance and improvements in localized flood zone districts, including consistent funding for disaster mitigation or response related to upgrades or repairs to local levee systems, dredging, watershed restoration and pump station replacement/maintenance.

4. **Stormwater Treatment Funding.** Seek dedicated funding sources to support improvements to public stormwater facilities to implement and comply with stormwater permits, integrate low impact
development and green infrastructure features and full trash capture facilities into the public storm drain system.

5. **Flood Control and Watershed Management Efforts.** Support funding for local urban stream, stormwater, flood management and watershed projects to reduce the frequency and impacts from floods and sea level rise in watersheds. 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 new funding for buy-outs, easements and other managed retreat options to adapt shorelines to sea level rise.

6. **Multimodal Transportation Infrastructure.** Support public transit and bicycle and pedestrian-oriented infrastructure, including efforts to complete the North-South Greenway to create a continuous off-road multiuse pathway network from each end of the County, including connecting users to transit along the route. Monitor transportation and recreational use policies to preserve control by local land managers to regulate use on paved and natural surfaces. Explore ways to enhance safety of all multiuse pathway and sidewalk users, including regulating speeds of electric bicycles and scooters.

7. **Public Transit Services.** Support development of transit that provides access to recreation areas and within local communities, especially serving vulnerable communities and high transit need populations. Explore efforts to identify ongoing operating and capital funding for public transit services to West Marin, Marin City and Santa Venetia. Support funding for programs that support and expand fixed route bus services, transit capital/maintenance needs, and alternative transportation options for students, seniors, and the disabled. Support solutions to reducing traffic congestion, such as TAM’s US 101 Part-Time Transit Lane Pilot program, which would enable the freeway shoulder to serve as a bus transit lane during peak commute times. Support continued transit pandemic relief opportunities including near-term relief from farebox recovery requirements. Support targeted funding to assist transit agencies transition to zero-emission bus, rail and ferry fleets.

8. **California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) Rule 20A Program/Utility Undergrounding.** Support efforts to sustain the Rule 20A program, which funds utility underground conversion projects, with slight modifications to increase flexibility and provide incentives for fast-tracking projects without phasing-out and 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. Monitor PG&E’s planned statewide undergrounding projects to ensure Marin receives a fair allocation of projects.

9. **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance.** Support efforts to ensure FEMA uses transparent processes and communicates with property owners 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.

10. **Clean Water Act Rule Changes.** Support amendment of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to speed approvals for a narrow exemption for routine flood control 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.

11. **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.

12. **Gnoss Field Airport.** 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. **CalAIM (California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal).** Monitor ongoing implementation of the statewide CalAIM initiative and the potential impacts on County Behavioral Health and Whole Person Care programs and funding. Advocate for improved renewal of federal waivers under which California operates its county behavioral health carveouts from Medi-Cal; also negotiate payment reform to maximize federal funding for services, reduce county disallowances, and eliminate unnecessary administrative burdens for county providers.

2. **Whole Person Care (WPC)/Homekey Ongoing Funding.** Support WPC counties like Marin with funding as they transition case management services and look to extend Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14184.60 to allow data sharing of client information to coordinate services among partner agencies. Homekey programs have brought much needed one-time capital funding for permanent supportive housing, but leave an ongoing fiscal cliff for counties for case management and supports necessary to keep people housed.

3. **COVID-19 Ongoing Response.** Support direct, flexible and ongoing public health funding to support the most vulnerable in our community as counties work to protect against COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.

4. **Health/Food Equity.** Support policies that seek to identify and correct structural inequities in the provision of care and services to marginalized communities to narrow gaps in outcomes and promote health and wellbeing for all. Support state and federal investments that match County funding for local priorities, including access to farmland for low-income communities and communities of color. Seek enhanced funding for mandated civil rights functions within Health and Human Services to monitor services, administration of benefits and effects of policy changes on protected classes.

5. **Improved Access to Health Care/Mental Health Parity.** Support efforts to expand health coverage to all populations, promote mental health parity among all populations regardless of income, 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 to strengthen partnerships between Public Health and Primary Care and increased inclusion of prevention, early intervention, treatment, and recovery support services in health care legislation. Support efforts to improve regulation of drug pricing. Support mental health training and support on the front lines of disasters, consistent with policy from the California Forest Management Task Force.

6. **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, and efforts to improve the child welfare system, including strengthened collaboration with County Behavioral Health. Monitor federal and state efforts to deal with the influx of unaccompanied minor children to ensure timely immigration hearings while acknowledging the County’s already strained foster care resources.

7. **Older Adults in Marin County.** Support efforts to protect and expand funding, services and protections for Marin County’s increasing older adult population, including 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 of its use in planning and program eligibility. Support funding to establish an Aging and Disability Resource Connection in Marin to provide long term support. Support programs for those falling into the “eligibility gap”.

8. **Family Planning, Reproductive Health Care.** Advocate for continued renewal of a federal waiver under which California operates its Family Planning, Access, Care and Treatment Program. Support
access for women to quality, affordable sexual and reproductive health care. Ensure issues affecting women and girls are considered in all policy proposals.

9. **Community Based Treatment and Recovery Maintenance.** Support Medicaid Home and Community-based waivers 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.

10. **Cost Recovery for Psychiatric Crisis Stabilization Services and for Substance Use Treatment Services.** Support efforts to require that healthcare insurers reimburse counties for services to patients at the County’s Crisis Stabilization Unit, as well as to provide an adequate network for substance use treatment services for privately insured residents.

11. **Acute and Transitional Behavioral Health Care Services.** Support efforts to maintain and enhance funding for additional psychiatric emergency beds, as well as for increased infrastructure investment in substance use residential facilities acute mental health care and transitional mental health care facilities. Support efforts to provide medically necessary crisis stabilization services beyond 24 hours when other inpatient or outpatient beds are not available.

12. **Reduce Harm Caused by Gun Violence.** Support efforts to limit the harm caused by gun violence, including education; enforcing 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.

13. **Federal Institutes of Mental Disease (IMD) Exclusion Rule.** Support legislation and/or waivers that removes restrictions on funding currently imposed by the Federal Institutes of Mental Disease (IMD) Exclusion Rule, which prohibits federal Medicaid reimbursement for patients receiving mental health or substance abuse care in a facility with more than 16 beds. Support policies that prevent mental health facilities from being considered IMD’s, a classification that can lead to a significant loss of funding at the local level.

14. **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 residences with over six residents do not qualify for federal funding under the Federal HCBS Waiver Program.

15. **Continuum of Comprehensive Health Services.** Support improving coordination and integration of physical health, mental health and substance use 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.

16. **Opioid Safety.** Support policies and strategies to address opioid misuse, including preventative programs, education and treatment. Support efforts to ensure funds from litigation settlements with opioid manufacturers, distributors and retailers remain at the local level.

17. **Medicare charges to recipients.** Explore efforts to address problems associated with expensive Medicare co-payment requirements for prescription medications, particularly among low-income residents with multiple needs. Support Medicare for All/Single-Payer healthcare reform.

18. **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, and restoration of state funding for other long-term care programs. Support efforts to facilitate construction of long-term care/assisted living facility opportunities for low/moderate-income segments of our aging population and that promote innovative designs in construction to mitigate the spread of infectious agents.
19. **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 and wage increases.

20. **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 co-pays, added waiting lists, reductions to the existing formulary, or other mechanisms that would disrupt a patient’s ability to receive medications.

21. **Social Services Funding.** Protect funding and simplify eligibility/enrollment for social services programs, in addition to maintaining and expanding Medi-Cal coverage for low-income residents. Support efforts to make permanent the higher levels of CalFresh benefits established during the pandemic public health emergency. An additional 3,000 households in Marin enrolled in CalFresh during the pandemic which continue to receive needed benefits into 2023. Explore opportunities to revise the CalFresh funding formula to allow for a more equitable distribution of benefits statewide.

22. **Workforce Development.** Support funding for workforce development opportunities that help residents secure local employment with sustainable wages and career ladders for advancement.

23. **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.

24. **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.

25. **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.

26. **Detention Medical Expenses/Reinstatement of Benefits to Jail Inmates.** Support efforts to seek federal/state reimbursement for local detention medical and behavioral health expenses, and 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.

27. **Support efforts to allow Counties to administer Drug Medi-Cal Services.** Support efforts to shift responsibility for certifying 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.

28. **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 County prevention services contracts, and integration of prevention across all priorities of the National Prevention Strategy, including:
   
   a. **Vaping products.** Support efforts to protect residents, especially youth and communities of color, from the harms of vaping.
   
   b. **Tobacco Free Living.** Support local, state and federal efforts to expand smoke-free business and residential environments and the development and enforcement of policies that address the health, environmental and economic effects of tobacco usage and litter.
   
   b. **Promote Healthy Eating and Physical Activity across the Lifespan.** Support efforts to address inequitable food access by promoting local food systems developed through leadership within impacted communities. Promote healthy consumption of food and
beverages through education, affordability, cultural relevancy, and accessibility, as well as 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 among older residents.

d. **Preventing Drug Misuse and Excessive Alcohol Use.** Support efforts to reduce problem alcohol use, drug use and related community problems, incl. prescription drug misuse.

e. **Cannabis.** Support evidence-based civic decision making in state and local action related to 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. **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.

h. **Disease Prevention through Vaccination.** Support strategies and policies that strengthen community protection against vaccine preventable diseases.

i. **Oral Health.** Support efforts to reduce oral health disparities, increase access to dental care resources, including full coverage under Medi-Cal, reduce incidence of dental decay through school-based initiatives, and provide accessible oral health education to all populations.

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. **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.

33. **Early Childhood Home Visiting.** Support policies that strengthen families, promote healthy child development, and prevent child abuse and neglect, including 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.

34. **School-Based Behavioral Health Services.** Support State funding to increase efforts to improve access to school-based Mental Health screenings, mobile crisis response and treatment and support services. Support additional prevention efforts to address the mental health and substance use needs of all children and youth—including Marin’s growing Newcomer student population.

35. **Alzheimer’s Research and Support.** Support programs to educate residents on dementia awareness, provide support to families dealing with Alzheimer’s and dementia, and fund related research.
E. NATURAL RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. **Disaster Preparedness.** Support efforts to improve disaster preparedness – including pandemic preparedness; preparation for extreme heat events; evacuation and emergency fire response; healthy forests and vegetation management; climate adaptation and resilience; and homeowner’s insurance reform. Support programs that identify and assist vulnerable populations with emergency readiness, evacuation planning, and shelter access; including older adults, persons with disabilities, and individuals experiencing homelessness.

2. **Wildfire Protection on State and Federal Lands.** Monitor legislation that could provide additional tools or funding to manage forests and reduce hazardous fuels on non-County lands.

3. **Small Off-Road Engines (SOre) Regulation.** Monitor efforts with the State Air Resources Board (ARB) to develop a plan and funding to implement AB1346 (Berman and Lorena Gonzalez; 2021), which requires all new “small off-road engines” produced after January 1, 2024 to be zero-emission.

4. **Park Infrastructure Funding.** Support increased funding and use of the “underresourced community” 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 its higher cost of living.

5. **Sustainable Recreation.** Monitor the California Sustainable Recreation working group of the Governor’s Forest Management Task Force to identify opportunities to improve cross-jurisdictional recreation monitoring and management.

6. **Wetlands Restoration Projects.** Support federal funding for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Corte Madera Creek and Coyote Creek watershed projects. Explore efforts to advance one large wetlands restoration area along the San Pablo Bay from Novato Creek to Gallinas Creek (including Hamilton Field south to China Camp) to protect property, repair and protect valuable riparian and aquatic habitat, and to improve water quality. Seek funding for the Bolinas Lagoon Ecosystem Restoration locally preferred plan. Support funding to complete design and environmental review to implement restoration at McInnis Marsh, Bolinas Lagoon, and Bothin Marsh.

7. **Climate Change Planning.** Support efforts to facilitate local government planning and implementation measures to comply with the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act. Explore ways to reconcile the County’s obligation to maintain public infrastructure in the path of rising sea levels. Monitor efforts for a statewide resiliency bond or increased state contributions supporting an increased need for wildfire and natural disaster preparedness, sea level-rise-related flood control, and natural resource protection.

8. **Updates to the California Air Resources Board Scoping Plan.** Monitor updates to the Board’s Scoping Plan, a planning document outlining how the state will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. Pursue funding made available under the Scoping Plan for projects or programs eligible to receive carbon credits under California’s greenhouse gas cap-and-trade program, including agricultural projects. Support the 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.

9. **Local Renewable Energy and Governance: Support continued development of local renewable energy resources and supply like solar and wind. Support more 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 emissions. Support efforts to expand current energy capacity and resiliency, including expanding energy storage and the use of microgrids.
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. **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.

13. **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 and the Delta/Bay region.

14. **Oil/Gas Development, Hydraulic Fracturing (“Fracking”)**: Oppose efforts to open the coast to new oil/gas development; that weaken regulations that protect marine ecosystems; that restrict oil/gas companies from incidentally harming and killing marine mammals; or that retract the 2015 expansion of the Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallon Islands national marine sanctuaries. Support efforts to regulate “fracking” in California given its threats to the environment, public health and safety.

15. **Product Take-Back and Other Zero-Waste Policies and Practices**: Support efforts to enhance and fund programs which advocate zero-waste practices, recycling and/or Extended Producer Responsibility programs among retailers and grocery stores for products which can be recycled, including pharmaceuticals, to ensure safe and proper disposal.

16. **Endangered Species**: Protect the Endangered Species Act from attempts to constrain the federal government’s ability to protect critical habitat for plants and animals. Protect and enhance habitats for native fish in coastal streams while also balancing the needs of coastal agriculture.

17. **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.

18. **Promotion of Sustainable Pest Management Principles**: Support efforts that promote a Sustainable Pest Management (SPM) approach to addressing pests, and expansion of related educational efforts.

19. **Great Redwood Trail**: Support the Great Redwood Trail Authority’s vision to complete additional segments of the Great Redwood Trail, including SMART’s efforts to complete Marin and Sonoma segments. Oppose efforts to use the rail right of way for transport of coal.

20. **Regional Frameworks**: Monitor efforts to establish regional planning and funding models that invest in the visions and work plans of the California State Coastal Conservancy, One Tam, Golden Gate Biosphere Network, the North Bay Baylands Regional Conservation Investment Strategy and other regional conservation and restoration initiatives. Support opportunities for public-private partnership funding to support regional work plan priorities.

**F. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

1. **Fire Prevention/Suppression**: Support efforts to enhance funding for fire prevention programs, forest management and climate resiliency, including vegetation management, tree mortality, forest health and wildland fire protection. Monitor legislation that could provide additional tools or funding to manage forests and reduce hazardous fuels on state and federal lands. Support funding for fireworks disposal; fire station construction, fire equipment and other capital outlay to prevent/suppress fires.
Seek state funding for Marin’s small, local and volunteer fire districts, whose critical local backstopping operations enable Marin County Fire to serve as one of six CAL FIRE “Contract Counties”, providing crucial firefighting support statewide.

2. **Therapeutic and Domestic Violence Courts.** Support efforts to restore funding for therapeutic justice programs, such as Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction grant programs, adult and juvenile drug courts, expansion to pre-plea drug court programs, and assist with Family/Domestic Violence Court.

3. **Court Funding.** Oppose any increase in Trial Court Funding Act county maintenance of effort levels above agreements reached, and protect counties’ ability to recover their costs including providing security services to Courts. Support enactment of a state court facilities bond that would allow counties to make needed renovations to local trial court facilities.

4. **Public Safety Funding.** Support continued federal funding for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act, and protect Marin’s AB 109 Public Safety Realignment allocation. Oppose state efforts to alter criminal justice fines, fees, or penalties without a corresponding revenue back-fill to counties.

5. **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.

### G. HOUSING AND LAND USE

1. **Housing Production.** Support efforts to permit counties to collaborate with their cities for the production of more housing units, including efforts to update building, planning and zoning requirements, and create a streamlined process for low-income, and very low-income housing. Support policies to enable the conversion of single-family homes to multi-family duplexes, triplexes, and to add Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU’s).

   Work to limit the amount and frequency of rent increases in Low Income Housing Tax Credit projects, and simplify the tax credit, voucher and renewal process. Support affordable housing for older adults and those with disabilities, and resolve “over-housing” issues by creating smaller, affordable units for seniors in the community to move into. Expand property tax postponement for low-income homeowners to include floating, mobile, and manufactured homes. Support funding to expand reclaimed water infrastructure for landscaping, in order to ensure drinking water supply is not a barrier to new housing production. Support more state funding for the infrastructure costs associated with new housing development; including new roads, utilities (including onsite septic improvements in rural areas) and expanded multimodal transportation.

2. **Housing Preservation.** Support efforts to preserve existing affordable housing units and prevent displacement and gentrification by allowing conversion of existing naturally occurring affordable housing to count towards the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) and the Annual Progress Report (APR) when a local government provides committed resources. Support efforts to regulate short-term rental housing and/or fractional home ownership, including Airbnb/VRBO and Pacaso, for impacts to the housing stock.

3. **Housing, Land Use and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).** Work to ensure that any state efforts to develop housing appropriately balances affordable housing needs with environmental concerns, including appropriate CEQA review. Protect local regulation of housing and land use issues. Work to alter State Housing and Community Development funding formulas to consider affordable housing needs more fairly in high cost/non-urban areas of the state.
4. **Indian Gaming.** Support legislation which respects the tribal right of self-governance to provide for tribal members and to preserve traditional tribal culture and heritage, balanced with local, state and federal concerns to protect or enhance authority to mitigate any off-reservation impacts of gaming.

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.

6. **Coastal Commission and Coastal Act Amendments.** Explore amendments to the California Coastal Act to 1) 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; and 2) work with the Coastal Commission agency to reconcile the Act with new Housing Element laws and requirements. Work to expand ways to encourage and facilitate housing for agricultural workers and those employed in visitor serving uses in the Coastal Zone.

### II. 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 and efforts to lower the local vote threshold for library construction bond measures from the current two-thirds vote to 55 percent.

2. **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.

### I. TECHNOLOGY

1. **Broadband.** Support efforts in alignment with the Digital Marin Strategic Plan to fund middle and last mile broadband infrastructure to provide affordable, reliable high-speed internet for older adults, low-income and rural communities, schools, school-age children in their homes, and other underserved communities and institutions, with a preference for wireline fiber-to-the-premises service. Support 100 Mbps download and 100 Mbps upload as the target minimum broadband speed standard, and monitor efforts to define high quality broadband as a public utility. Oppose efforts to limit local authority to finance, deploy, operate, maintain, or oversee broadband assets, challenge broadband service maps, establish quality of service requirements, or require open access architecture. Support efforts to require installation of open access broadband infrastructure during construction, renovation, or rehabilitation of subsidized and affordable housing.

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. **Telecommunications/5G.** 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. 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.
4. “Dig Once” Policy. Support efforts to implement dig once policies and regulations to coordinate installation of conduit when local government, utility, telecommunication, transportation, and other entities conduct excavations.