

2024

LEGISLATIVE SESSION PROGRAM



**SAN MATEO COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Warren Slocum, President & District 4

Dave Pine, District 1

Noelia Corzo, District 2

Ray Mueller, District 3

David Canepa, District 5

CONTACT

County Executive's Office

400 County Center, 1st Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063
Tel: (650) 363-4123 Fax: (650) 363-1916

Michael Callagy
County Executive

Iliana Rodriguez
Assistant County Executive

Justin Mates
Deputy County Executive

Adam Ely
Deputy County Executive

Robert Manchia
Chief Financial Officer

Connie Juarez-Diroll
Chief Legislative Officer

Michelle Durand
Chief Communications Officer

Shireen Malekafzali
Chief Equity Officer

Board of Supervisors

400 County Center, 1st Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

Warren Slocum, Board President

Fourth District
T: (650) 363-4569

Dave Pine
First District
T: (650) 363-4571

Noelia Corzo
Second District
T: (650) 363-4568

Ray Mueller
Third District
T: (650) 363-4569

David Canepa
Fifth District
T: (650) 363-4572



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contact.....	2
Introduction	5
County Profile	8
San Mateo County Legislative Delegations	14
State Legislative Priorities	17
County Legislative Policies.....	23
1. General Government.....	24
2. Agriculture/Weights and Measures	25
3. Child Support	27
4. Climate Change and Sustainability	28
5. Early Learning and Childcare	30
6. Equity and Social Justice.....	32
7. Elections and Voting.....	34
8. Emergency Response.....	35
9. Health and Hospitals.....	37
10. Housing	49
11. Human Resources.....	51
12. Homelessness	52
13. Human Services	53
14. Information Services.....	55
15. Libraries	56



16. Parks.....	57
17. Planning and Building	59
18. Probation.....	62
19. Public Safety Communications	65
20. Public Works	66
21. Reproductive Rights	67
22. Public Safety and Justice.....	68
23. Firearms Safety	71
24. State Budget	72
25. Tax and Finance	73
26. Transportation.....	75
27. Treasurer-Tax Collector.....	77
Federal Legislative Priorities	78

INTRODUCTION





INTRODUCTION

The Mission of the County of San Mateo is to protect and enhance the health, safety, welfare and natural resources of the community; and to provide quality services that benefit and enrich the lives of the residents of the County.

To be effective in this mission, San Mateo County reviews and establishes priorities and policy statements at the beginning of each two-year legislative cycle to help guide its advocacy activities at the state and federal levels. The 2023 Legislative Session Program outlines the County's priorities in the coming legislative session and details the County's legislative policies—providing general direction for advocacy.

Advocacy of the County's Interests

While this document attempts to cover the sum of all legislative issues that may have an impact on San Mateo County, it is not comprehensive, complete or final. Throughout the state and federal legislative sessions, the County will review and take positions on various policy and State Budget items. In consultation with the Board of Supervisors, departments and the County Attorney, the County Executive's Office (CEO) will provide recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on legislative and policy issues affecting County operations and programs. When a recommended position is consistent with existing County policy—as adopted in the County's Legislative Program—the CEO is authorized to prepare a County position letter for signature by the Board President.

If existing policy is not applicable to a particular legislative or State Budget item, the CEO will prepare an analysis, which includes a review of the fiscal, programmatic and service impact to County operations and services. The items and positions approved by the Board will be added to the County's Legislative Program in the subsequent revision.

Before pursuing legislation or taking positions on bills, including those sponsored or supported by professional associations, County departments must first seek and secure approval from the CEO. The CEO will review the legislation and determine whether the position sought is consistent with existing Board-approved policy.

All legislation on which the County has taken a position will be closely tracked by the CEO and reported to the Board of Supervisors and departments.

State and federal advocacy teams represent the County's interests based upon the policies contained in the Board-approved Legislative Session Program. In addition to County position letters, Board members and County staff may be asked to testify or meet with relevant legislators or members of the Executive branch to advocate on issues requiring heightened advocacy. If this is the case, County staff must first notify and/or confirm approval of the CEO to ensure that positions taken are consistent with the County's Board-approved Legislative Session Program.

San Mateo County CAREs

The County of San Mateo is committed to **Creating A Remarkable Experience** for our community and employees through:

- The highest standards of public service;
- A common vision of responsiveness;
- The highest standards of ethical conduct;
- Treating people with respect and dignity.

The vision is for County employees to serve the public to the best of their abilities while holding themselves accountable to the highest standards of government. San Mateo County government protects and enhances the health, safety, welfare and natural resources of the community; and provides quality services that benefit and enrich the lives of the people of this community.

A Vision for Equity in San Mateo County

All San Mateo County residents and staff must experience just and fair inclusion into a society in which all can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential. The County of San Mateo recognizes historical and current structural policies and practices that continue to harm people of color, LGBTQ+ communities, and those with disabilities. All people in the County are also harmed when one segment of the population is not able to fully participate.

Our aim is to create a strong, diverse, and equitable county where all people feel a deep sense of belonging and are empowered to voice their needs and manifest their aspirations.

To achieve equity, the County of San Mateo must work to create the conditions that allow all to reach their full potential.





COUNTY PROFILE

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

San Mateo County

San Mateo County is one of nine counties that comprise the San Francisco Bay Area, one of the most dynamic and diverse regions in the United States.

Established in 1856, the county occupies 455 square miles and contains 20 cities on a peninsula bounded by the City and County of San Francisco to the north and Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties to the south. San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean form the east and west boundaries, respectively.

Along the Bay, the county is home to San Francisco International Airport with access to global markets and destinations and both large and small companies that are leaders in biotechnology, computer science, social media, healthcare and research. Just a few miles away the western part of the county offers a rural atmosphere and some of California's most beautiful coastline.

How the County Works

Counties in California perform a dual role that differs from cities.

Cities generally provide services such as police and fire protection, recreation programs, libraries, water, wastewater, planning, street repair and building inspection. California's nearly 500 cities are generally overseen by a part-time elected council. Similarly, the County provides city-type services for residents who do not live within a city but live in the unincorporated area.

Additionally, counties are political and administrative subdivisions of the state and operate many of the state's programs for all residents. These include social services, public health protection, foster care, housing programs, alcohol and substance use disorder programs, adult protective services, child support services, birth and death records, elections and public safety, among many others.

The County is governed by a five-member full-time Board of Supervisors who are elected in nonpartisan contests to serve four-year terms.

The Board is responsible for passing ordinances, adopting the County's budget, and appointing a County Executive and numerous other positions. The County Executive appoints the non-elected directors of County departments.

In addition to the five Board members, voters also select six countywide elected officials: the Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder-Chief Elections Officer, Controller, Coroner, District Attorney, Sheriff and Treasurer-Tax Collector. The County Chief Probation Officer is appointed by the judiciary.



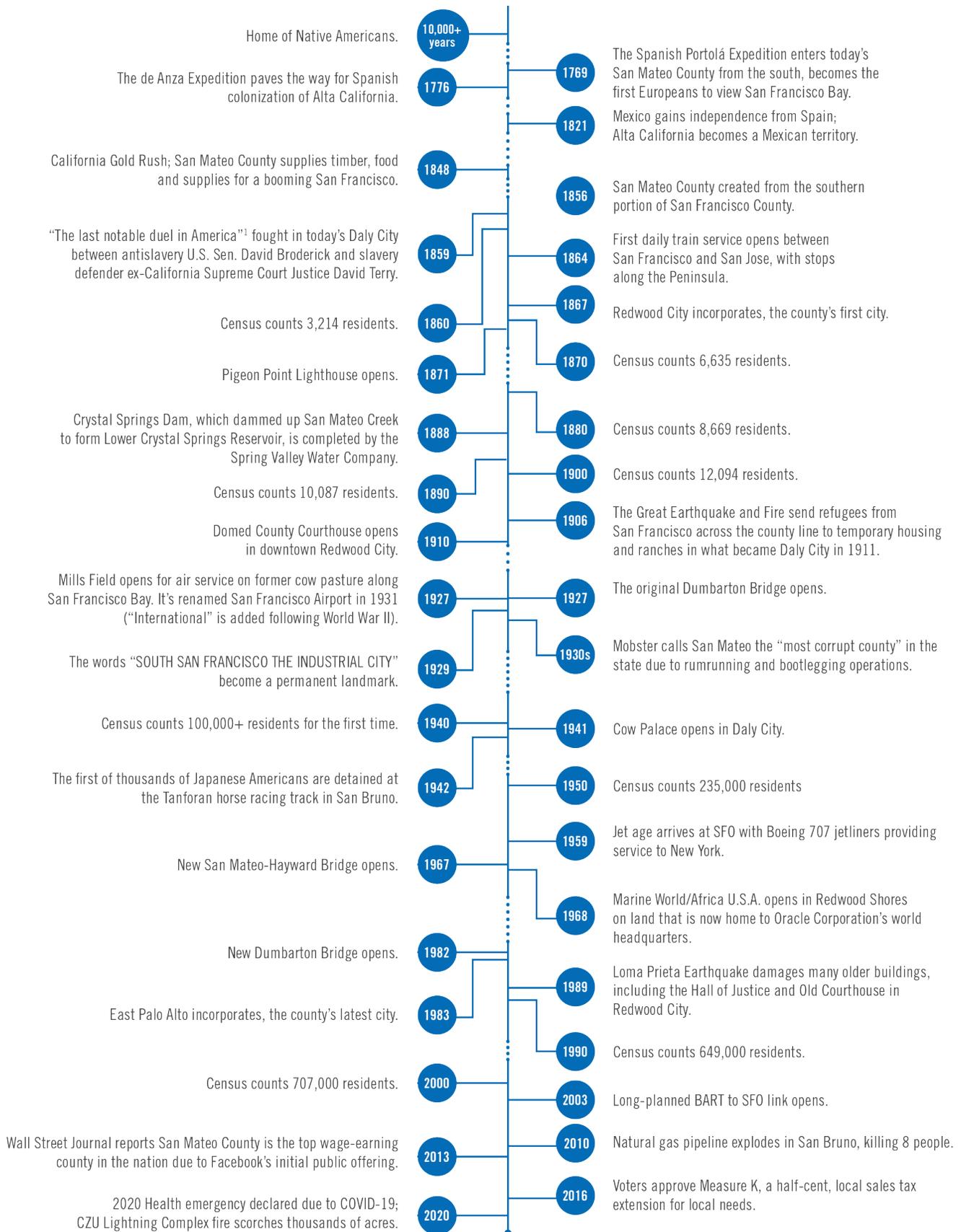
Our Mission

The County of San Mateo protects and enhances the health, safety, welfare and natural resources of the community, and provides quality services that benefit and enrich the lives of the people of this community.

We are committed to:

- The highest standards of public service;
- A common vision of responsiveness;
- The highest standards of ethical conduct;
- Treating people with respect and dignity.

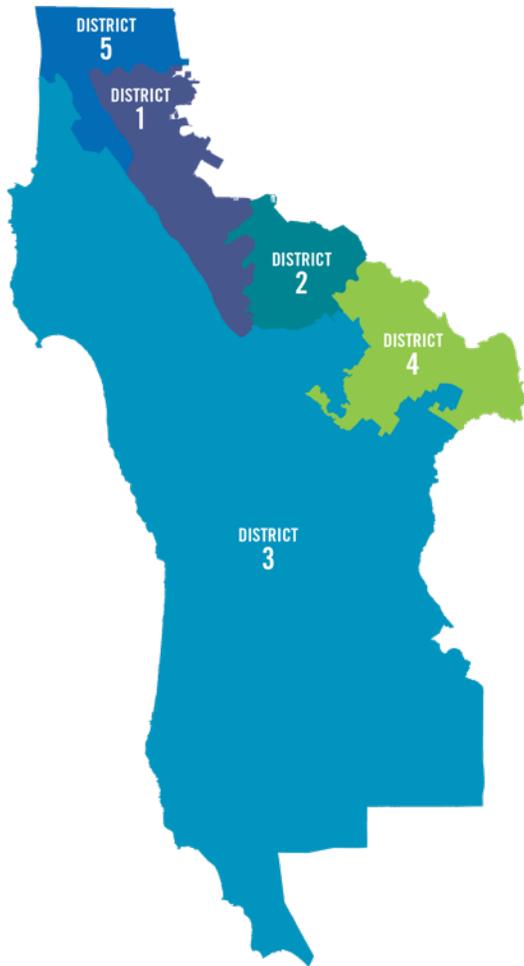
HISTORY



SAN MATEO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

San Mateo County is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors. Each supervisor must live in and represent one of five districts, which are roughly equal in population but vary greatly in size.

Supervisors are elected by voters within their districts to staggered four-year terms with a maximum of three terms in office. They appoint the County Executive to carry out the Board's policies and goals and oversee the efficient running of County government.



Dave Pine, 1st District

Cities of Burlingame, Hillsborough, Millbrae, San Bruno (everything east of Interstate 280 and areas west of 280 and south of Sneath Lane), and South San Francisco (east of Junipero Serra Boulevard and south of Hickey and Hillside Boulevards). Unincorporated Burlingame Hills, San Mateo Highlands, and San Francisco International Airport.



Noelia Corzo, 2nd District

Cities of San Mateo, Foster City, and most of Belmont (excluding southeast portion).



Ray Mueller, 3rd District

Cities of Atherton, southeast Belmont, Half Moon Bay, part of Menlo Park (west of El Camino Real), Pacifica, Portola Valley, San Carlos, and Woodside. Unincorporated Devonshire Canyon, El Granada, Emerald Lake Hills, Harbor Industrial Park, La Honda, Ladera, Loma Mar, Los Trancos Woods, Menlo Oaks, Miramar, Montara, Moss Beach, Palomar Park, Pescadero, Princeton By-The-Sea, San Gregorio, Skyline, Sequoia Tract, Skylonda, Stanford Lands, Vista Verde, and West Menlo Park.



Warren Slocum, 4th District

Cities of East Palo Alto, part of Menlo Park (east of El Camino Real), and Redwood City. Unincorporated North Fair Oaks.



David J. Canepa, 5th District

Cities of Brisbane, Colma, Daly City, San Bruno (north of Sneath Lane and west of Interstate 280), and South San Francisco (east of Junipero Serra Boulevard and north of Hickey and Hillside boulevards). Unincorporated Broadmoor Village.

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

April 19, 1856

Founded

455

Square Miles

20

Cities

766,573

Population
(2021)

Birth Decline Rate

The number of births continued a gradual decline in 2020, falling to 8,089 from 8,273 in 2019 and decade-high (2011-2020) of 9,067 in 2013.

14th Most Populous County

San Mateo County is the 14th most populous of California's 58 counties, between Ventura at 13 and San Joaquin at 15.

25,027

Veterans

6%

Persons in Poverty



The county is home to 20 cities that range from densely populated urban centers to semi-rural towns.

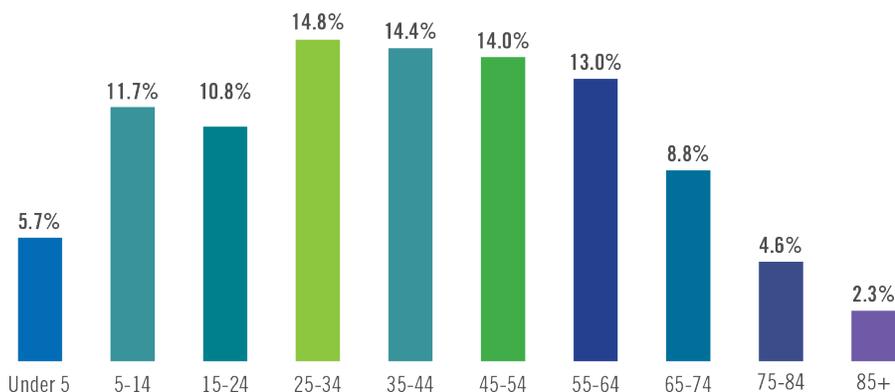
The largest city in terms of population, Daly City (106,677 residents), shares a border with the least populated city, Colma (1,302 residents).

766,573

San Mateo County Population

7,168 Atherton	27,097 Belmont
4,697 Brisbane	30,576 Burlingame
1,302 Colma	106,677 Daly City
29,593 East Palo Alto	33,997 Foster City
13,384 Half Moon Bay	11,447 Hillsborough
34,138 Menlo Park	22,625 Millbrae
38,984 Pacifica	4,592 Portola Valley
85,784 Redwood City	43,083 San Bruno
30,154 San Carlos	104,333 San Mateo
67,408 South San Francisco	64,542 Unincorporated
5,542 Woodside	

Age Distribution



San Mateo County is one of the most diverse counties in California and the United States.

45.7%

Of persons age 5 and older speak a language other than English at home.

34.8%

Of residents were born in another country.



Educational Attainment

89.6%

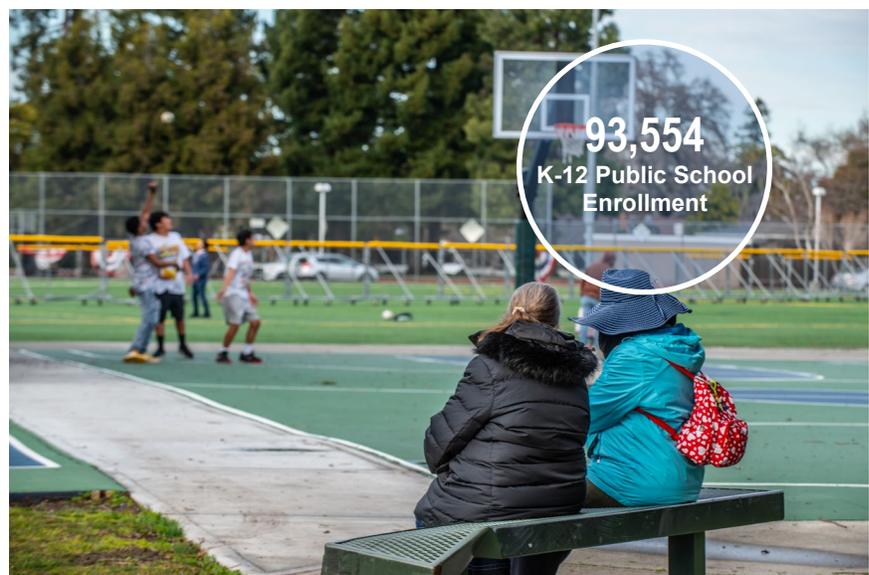
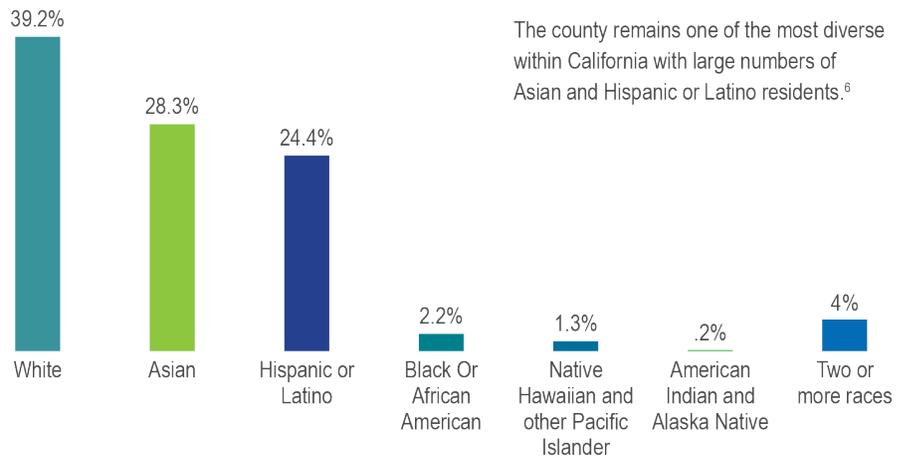
Of persons age 25 years and older graduate high school or higher

51.0%

Of persons age 25 years and older attain Bachelor's degree or higher

Diversity

The county remains one of the most diverse within California with large numbers of Asian and Hispanic or Latino residents.⁶



93,554
K-12 Public School Enrollment

SAN MATEO COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATIONS



SAN MATEO COUNTY STATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

San Mateo County is represented by two senators and three assembly members in the California State Legislature. The CEO and IGPA work closely with these elected representatives to ensure the State understands the needs of the County.



Senator Scott Wiener, Senate District 11

Includes: Broadmoor, Colma, Daly City, South San Francisco



Senator Josh Becker, Senate District 13

Includes: Atherton, Belmont, Brisbane, Burlingame, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Half Moon Bay, Hillsborough, Menlo Park, Millbrae, North Fair Oaks, Pacifica, Pescadero, Portola Valley, Redwood City, San Bruno, San Carlos, San Mateo, South San Francisco, Woodside



Assembly Member Phil Ting, Assembly District 19

Includes: Broadmoor, Colma, Daly City, South San Francisco



Assembly Member Marc Berman, Assembly District 23

Includes: Atherton, Half Moon Bay, Menlo Park, North Fair Oaks, Pacifica, Pescadero, Portola Valley, Woodside



Assembly Member Diane Papan, Assembly District 21

Includes: Belmont, Brisbane, Burlingame, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Hillsborough, Millbrae, Redwood City, San Bruno, San Carlos, San Mateo, South San Francisco

SAN MATEO COUNTY FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

San Mateo County is represented by two senators and two representatives in the United States Congress. The CEO and IGPA work closely with these elected representatives to ensure the State understands the needs of the County.



Senator Laphonza Butler



Senator Alex Padilla



**Representative Kevin Mullin,
Congressional District 15**

Includes: Belmont, Brisbane, Broadmoor, Burlingame, Colma, Daly City, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Hillsborough, Millbrae, North Fair Oaks, Redwood City, San Bruno, San Carlos, San Mateo, South San Francisco, West Menlo Park



**Representative Anna Eshoo,
Congressional District 16**

Includes: Atherton, Half Moon Bay, Menlo Park, Pacifica, Pescadero, Portola Valley, Woodside

STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The following are the top legislative priorities for the County of San Mateo in the first year of the 2023-2024 state legislative session.

Ending Homelessness



Homelessness is the top priority for the County. To this end, the County continues to dedicate significant resources (local, state, and federal) toward reaching functional zero homelessness, meaning that every County resident experiencing homelessness can be safely sheltered in an emergency shelter or temporary or permanent housing. Among the County's most notable actions are the purchase of six former motels/hotels throughout the County for conversion into permanent or temporary housing for individuals who

are unsheltered or at risk of becoming unsheltered; the building of a new 240-unit Navigation Center in Redwood City that will provide both temporary housing and intensive services for individuals and couples; and its focus on providing needed intensive services that address the root causes of an individual's or family's barriers to housing, and providing an array of temporary and permanent housing options.

Ongoing financial assistance from the state will be needed to reach this goal. Therefore, the County will actively seek state support for ongoing services to be provided at the new Navigation Center and support proposals that advance its efforts to combat homelessness, including additional funding for homeless prevention services and funding specifically dedicated to permanent housing and supportive/wrap-around services to help the unhoused achieve more permanent housing solutions. The County also supports ongoing, flexible funding for programs that have evidenced success in keeping individuals permanently housed, outreach programs to engage homeless individuals meaningfully, and focused efforts to reduce homelessness among adults over the age of 50 that address the needs of and recognize the particular causes of homelessness among this age cohort.

Further, the County believes combating homelessness requires a statewide, holistic, comprehensive strategy that provides sustained funding and clear levels of responsibility at all levels of government. Thus, it supports adopting a comprehensive system at the state level that includes ongoing flexible financing for the ongoing costs associated with providing services to unhoused residents and those at risk of homelessness and prioritizing the development of an adequate housing continuum accessible to all Californians.

The County will work towards implementing a wide range of state funding sources to ensure that it receives its fair share of funding and that the guidelines succeed in increasing housing opportunities and reducing homelessness. In addition, the County will advocate for proposals that fund initiatives that support planning; expand the availability of permanent supportive housing; and provide urban counties with the ability to maximize and leverage available federal, state, and local funds to provide services for at-risk and homeless families and single persons. The County supports simplifying and streamlining competing grant deadlines, complex application requirements, and overlapping or duplicative reports.

Finally, the County will advocate for advancing laws, policies, and funding to help persons with serious mental illness and addictions receive voluntary and involuntary treatment, supportive services, and housing.

Behavioral Health Funding & Implementation



As the County begins to implement provisions of the Behavioral Health Modernization Act (SB 326, 2023), Conservatorship Modernization (SB 43, 2023), and the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment Act (SB 1338, 2022), the County will advocate to ensure that appropriate resources, authority, and flexibility are provided to counties to maximize successes at the local level. The County will engage in stakeholder discussions on implementation and clean-up legislation to these proposals and

support adequate, flexible, and sustained funding to implement these programs successfully. Additionally, the County will continue to advocate for policies that allow counties to implement these programs in line with local needs, capacity, and programs offered by third-party providers.

Developing Affordable Housing



The County places a high priority on increasing the availability of affordable housing. Since the advent of the County's Affordable Housing Fund in 2013, it has invested millions of dollars in County funds to construct and preserve thousands of affordable housing units. To advance this mission, the County will advocate for policies, regulations, and funding opportunities that promote healthy, safe, accessible, service-enriched, and affordable housing for people at all income levels near jobs, transportation, and other

amenities that make counties like San Mateo a desirable place to live and result in higher development costs compared to other parts of the state.

Protecting In-Lieu VLF Revenue



The Vehicle License Fee (VLF) Swap was an integral part of the 2004 Budget compromise, where in exchange for local funding of the Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) III shift and a permanent reduction to the VLF rate (a critical funding source for counties and cities), the State agreed to pay them for the lost VLF revenue. The funding would come through the redirection of a portion of each county's local ERAF and, if necessary, the property taxes from non-basic aid school districts to counties and cities.

Schools do not suffer any revenue loss due to the VLF swap as the

State backfills its guaranteed funding levels.

Given that under current law, there is no statutory mechanism to fully reimburse counties and cities for lost VLF revenues when the funding sources identified in Revenue & Taxation Code § 97.70 are insufficient, the County supports and will seek State reimbursement in needed years to ensure full payment.

The County will seek the adoption of a permanent legislative fix to ensure it and its cities receive their complete in-lieu VLF payments on a timely basis. The County strongly opposes any efforts to pay the State's VLF obligation by utilizing the County's and cities' own property tax revenues (Excess ERAF) or other independent revenue sources.

Modernizing the Brown Act



The Ralph M. Brown Act (the Brown Act) facilitates public participation in local government decisions and imposes an “open meeting” requirement on local legislative bodies. The County is committed to ensuring the public’s right to access public meetings and supports efforts that maximize local control and flexibility. To this end, the County will support legislative efforts to allow counties to design local rules regarding the safe and efficient use of remote meeting options by elected and appointed officials, including members of our County’s 30+ Boards and Commissions, to promote increased participation, reduce travel barriers and increase equity and inclusion. The County will also support efforts to ensure public meetings are safe, accessible, and welcoming, where community members can peaceably assemble, and local legislative bodies can constructively accomplish the people’s business.

Building and Sustaining the County’s Critical Workforce and Existing Program Funding



Counties across California, including San Mateo County, are facing significant workforce challenges, especially in hard-to-fill positions. While workforce challenges are particularly acute for county health, human services, and public safety agencies, nearly all departments face recruitment and retention challenges. Therefore, the County will support increased investments to support the County workforce and innovative policies that can help the County more effectively recruit, hire, and retain qualified and talented workforces.

Building Resiliency for Wildfire, Flooding, Sea Level Rise and Other Climate Change Disasters



The County will continue to advocate for flexible funding at the local level to help prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters and build for climate readiness. It will also focus on seeking proactive, sustained investments from state and federal sources to match fire suppression funding and bring about investments that build lasting change to address wildfire.

The County will work closely with the countywide Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District, OneShoreline, to advocate for State and federal legislation and agency action that bring new funding and modify policies and regulations that enable the District to build solutions to climate change impacts of sea level rise, flooding, and coastal erosion, and to enhance the environment and recreational opportunity.

The County will advocate for funding and policies to support the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and adapting communities, both for the unincorporated County and in partnership with other jurisdictions. The County will support funding and policy opportunities to advance the development of new and existing housing and other infrastructure to be

climate resilient. The County will support ongoing funding streams, disaster aid, and planning funding to grapple with a multi-year drought.

In addition, as counties move into the implementation phase of SB 1383's organic waste regulations, the County will continue to advocate for ongoing funding and implementation support, regulatory streamlining, and common-sense approaches to waste reduction.

Lastly, the County will advocate for direct-to-county funding programs in any state climate resiliency bond and ensure that counties have the flexibility needed to direct funding based on local needs based on a broad range of categories including but not limited to wildfire, flooding, sea level rise, stormwater runoff, heat-mitigation, drought, and water delivery.

Farmworkers



In San Mateo County, farmworkers are an essential workforce supporting the County's \$100 million agricultural industry and ensuring an abundance of food is enjoyed by many. Yet these workers are denied many basic protections and privileges enjoyed by other County residents. These include safe, stable, affordable housing, health care, mental health support, livable wages, workplace protections, organizing and bargaining rights, and authorized immigration status.

The County will advocate for state and federal policies and funding that provide essential, needed services to the farmworker community, including but not limited to, expanded funding and streamlined requirements for the development of farmworker housing on the coast, increased mental health support, and improved working conditions and protections. Further, the County supports employment laws that protect agricultural workers against employment discrimination in minimum wages and overtime pay and legislation that would provide undocumented farmworkers and their family members with a path to legal immigration status and citizenship.

Artificial Intelligence



As Artificial Intelligence (AI) programs and systems continue to be developed and deployed, the County supports legislation that prevents the misrepresentation of government programs, policies, or principles in AI and provides accurate information and representation of County government and services. Additionally, the County supports policies that protect the County's intellectual property and protections for public systems and infrastructure from information security threats or other cyber-attacks created, initiated, or enhanced by AI.

Regional Legislation



As a global hub, the Bay Area continues to develop into a major hub for several sectors of the global economy. This growth has created significant pressures on the region's housing and transportation infrastructure. This significantly impacts lower-income households and forces residents into more expensive housing options or longer commutes. In response, the Bay Area's state delegation has advanced proposals around a regional housing measure for the 2024 ballot. Additionally, a regional transportation measure is currently under development for voter approval in 2026 and will advance through the state legislature in 2024.

In forming any regional proposal, the County will support principles that ensure funding is directed to programs, services, and projects that reflect San Mateo County's needs and priorities. In addition, the County will advocate for policies that ensure funds collected by any regional body are redistributed to counties to reflect each county's net contribution to the funding balance. Lastly, the County supports policies that maintain the governing autonomy and the effectiveness of transportation programs and services available to San Mateo County residents.



COUNTY LEGISLATIVE POLICIES



1. GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The County Supports:

- 1.1. Legislative proposals to create notice and cure provisions to remedy challenges with high frequency Public Records Act (PRA) litigants.
- 1.2. Legislative proposals to update the cost recovery provisions of the PRA to better enable agencies to recover PRA administration costs.
- 1.3. Legislative proposals to permit teleconference meetings of advisory-only commissions, committees, boards or other legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act.
- 1.4. Legislative action to oppose proposals that expand administrative and civil penalties on local government entities.



2. AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The County Supports:

- 2.1. State budget proposals that provide funding for long-term protection of agricultural lands and restoration of Williamson Act funding.
- 2.2. State budget proposals that provide funding to growers to develop innovative solutions to new industry challenges, including identification and testing of economically-viable alternative crops. The County also supports legislation that encourages new farmers to enter the industry.
- 2.3. Local access to fresh and healthy foods for the County's residents, specifically legislation and budget proposals that promote and/or support local agriculture, community and school gardens and farmer's markets.
- 2.4. State budget proposals that provide funding to growers for Climate-Smart agricultural practices that protect our agricultural communities and enable large-scale carbon sequestration on the County's working lands.
- 2.5. The continued use of additional agricultural off-highway use motor vehicle fuel funds at the local level for Agricultural Commissioners in carrying out agriculture code programs under the direction of the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA).
- 2.6. Funding of Invasive Species exclusion and management programs at the state level. Specific programs include: Pest Exclusion, Pest Detection Trapping and Survey Activities, Rapid Response, Pest Management and Eradication and public education outreach. The County also supports protecting existing revenue sources and enhancing state and federal funding of Pest Prevention Program activities. The County supports providing full cost recovery for new programs and maintaining or enhancing funding for current programs. The County supports all reasonable efforts by CDFA, County Agricultural Commissioners and the agriculture industry to acquire funding and to prevent the introduction and potential spread of invasive pest management and eradication activities. The County supports providing flexibility to enhance the abilities of Agricultural Commissioners to respond to pest emergencies and high priority local pest exclusion pathways. The County supports budgetary efforts to restore and maintain funding for agricultural border stations and supports research on invasive species pathways as well as funding mechanisms to close potential pathways.
- 2.7. The provision and protection of local authority for weights and measures device registration fees, and legislation that maintains, extends or eliminates the repeal date in Business and Professions Code Section 12246 pertaining to Weights and Measures Device Registration Fees.
- 2.8. Legislation that preserves and enhances funding resources for weights and measures programs at the state (Division of Measurement Standards, DMS) and local (Sealer) level for consumer protection, encouraging the use of state general funds for the DMS. The County supports legislation that assures clear labeling and accuracy of the net quantity of packaged products to promote value comparison and to ensure the consumer receives the correct

product and the quantity of product for which they pay. The County opposes legislation that would allow for industry self-certification of commercial weighing and measuring devices. The County also opposes legislation that would diminish or remove protections now afforded to consumers for transactions measured by weighing or measuring devices or computed by Point-of-Sale systems. The County supports legislation that establishes funding for quantity control and package inspection.

- 2.9. Proposals that provide long-term stable funding for county pesticide regulatory activities. The County supports legislative or budgetary proposals that maintain or increase funding to local Agricultural Commissioners through the pesticide mill fee that is sufficient for pesticide regulatory activities to protect the safety of workers, the public and the environment and provides funding for education, outreach and compliance assessment activities related to the safe use of pesticides. The County also supports the preemptive status of state pesticide laws and authority provided to the Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) and California Agricultural Commissioners.
- 2.10. State legislation and resources that would provide stable funding for Weed Management Area groups or programs for the control of harmful nonnative, invasive weed pests.
- 2.11. Opposes legislation creating local mandates or programs that do not clearly define and authorize roles for Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers and that do not provide full funding and resources for activities to be carried out by Agricultural Commissioners and/or Sealers.
- 2.12. The County supports full funding and resources for additional cannabis-related regulatory activities to be carried out by Agricultural Commissioners/Sealers. The County opposes legislation that creates local commercial cannabis or industrial hemp mandates or programs that do not fully fund additional regulatory activities to be carried out by Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers, impair local land use authority, fail to provide adequate security for commissioners/sealer staff and/or create interference between cannabis regulation and existing authorities granted to Commissioners/Sealers.
- 2.13. Legislation and proposals that enhance funding and resources to support an effective regulatory program for direct marketing: Certified Farmers Markets, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA's), community and school gardens at both state and local levels.
- 2.14. Opposes legislation that would end the State Organic Program (SOP) registration requirements and fee-based activities performed by the CDFA SOP and Agricultural Commissioners. The County opposes legislation that would eliminate the California Organic Products Advisory Committee (COPAC). The County opposes legislation that would end statewide enforcement of the SOP by CDFA and County Agricultural Commissioners and supports organic program funding, allowing agricultural commissioners the authority to verify that agricultural products represented as "organic" are indeed so.
- 2.15. Increased environmental review of new school site proposals to ensure similarity to other developments. The County supports legislation that supports the incorporation of buffers, setbacks and pick-up drop-off locations into new school footprints and designs to minimize interference with agricultural operations when schools must be sited in agricultural areas.
- 2.16. Stable funding for programs designed to improve conflict resolutions between humans and wildlife, such as programs designed to curb predator animals from preying on livestock.



3. CHILD SUPPORT

The County Supports:

- 3.1. Increased child support funding. The County supports legislative, administrative and budgetary efforts to fully fund the local child support services program cost of doing business, as well as adjustments to local child support agencies and funding allocations that account for cost differences among California counties providing services. Funding from the state has remained flat despite program cost increases.
- 3.2. Recognizing child support services as a vital safety net program.
- 3.3. Legislation and proposals to improve the collection of child support orders, including legislation to enable child support agencies to collect child support from non-traditional sources of income, such as gig workers; legislation that would provide local child support agencies greater flexibility to compromise interest on state owed arrears; legislation to change the rate of interest charged for unpaid support currently at 10 percent per year to reflect current loan market rates; and legislation to include the child support program as a debt collection entity to obtain winnings for owed support from any gaming and/or gambling revenue.
- 3.4. Increased flexibilities for the administration of Child Support, including employment support for unemployed and/or underemployed parents.
- 3.5. Legislative reforms and funding to streamline application processes that would improve accessibility and lower barriers for child support services, and reduce redundant requirements to improve the processing of cases and payments. Legislative reforms that increase access to child support services, despite the decrease in caseloads statewide, and that allow for automatic referrals for single-family households recipients of social and economic service supports.
- 3.6. Legislative reforms that increase access to services and flexibility for the administration of the Child Support Program. The County supports access to technology such as virtual court hearing platforms, e-applications, e-signatures, e-filing, digital court reporting, etc. The County supports the ability to share information across social services agencies that provides the public a one-stop approach to receiving critical help to maintain housing, food and basic economic needs.



4. CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

The County Supports:

- 4.1. Policies, funding and incentives that result in a net reduction of non-renewable energy use and global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through energy efficiency, energy conservation, carbon sequestration and carbon farming and increased production and use of renewable energy.
- 4.2. Strategies and funding to support the phasing out of natural gas service; zero net energy or zero net carbon new construction; decarbonization of new and existing homes and commercial, institutional and public buildings; increasing grid reliability, assuring energy affordability, increasing battery storage and microgrids and; activities identified in local government Climate Action Plans and that support local governments to coordinate long-range GHG reduction programs. The County supports programs to achieve equitable outcomes in building decarbonization.
- 4.3. Funding sources to implement local or state government programs that benefit the County's water quality and resources such as: watershed protection, restoration and flood mitigation; groundwater recharge and sustainability; green infrastructure; urban greening; nature-based climate solutions; water conservation; stormwater pollution prevention; litter abatement, National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) compliance; and Municipal Regional Permit regulatory requirements. The County supports funding to support watershed-level restoration and improvement of sediment management for salmonid habitat, water quality improvement efforts and reduction in coastal flooding impacts of County coastal communities. The County supports funding and policies that ensure equitable access to affordable, high-quality water.
- 4.4. Legislation and policies that support a safe transition from traditional municipal water supplies to on-site or wastewater treatment plant sources of recycled water, and use of grey water through building code or state standards deployment.
- 4.5. Policies that promote marketplace equity between Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) programs that offer electricity customers cleaner energy, increased choice, and local control, and investor operator owned utilities and other market actors.
- 4.6. Policies that create a favorable regulatory environment for CCA energy programs and their customers, including appropriate changes to the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) exit fee calculation.
- 4.7. Policies that support the successful operation and local control of CCA energy programs and support the ability of Peninsula Clean Energy Authority to achieve its mission to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by expanding access to sustainable and affordable energy solutions.

- 4.8. Policies, funding and incentives that support community resilience to the effects of climate change, including flooding, erosion, wildfire and wildfire smoke, extreme heat and extreme weather. The County supports funding of local adaptation and resilience planning, and community-informed solutions to advance community resiliency to climate impacts.
- 4.9. Funding to study and implement mitigation and adaptation strategies for climate change impacts on the natural and built environment, species and human health. The County supports funding to protect key government-owned and/or community-serving facilities and critical infrastructure through climate vulnerability assessments as well as development and implementation of climate adaptation strategies on a local and regional scale.
- 4.10. Prioritizing local government and school district projects that fund clean energy projects and ventilation efficiency, as well as energy conservation, electrification, electric vehicle charging, building and fleet electrification, renewable energy, battery storage and microgrid projects to improve disaster and climate resiliency of school buildings.
- 4.11. Programs and funding to support agricultural systems that promote the County's sustainability goals, including regenerative, carbon-sequestering and resource-conserving agricultural practices (including cattle grazing); and energy-efficient irrigation technologies that reduce GHG emissions and water use and support agricultural and ecosystem resilience in response to droughts and extreme storms.
- 4.12. Policies, funding and strategies to increase the diversion of waste from landfills through recycling and organics collection programs. The County supports policies, funding and strategies to reduce waste at the source, such as the reduced use of single-use plastics and packaging materials and efforts to reduce food waste. The County supports laws, regulations and funding of programs that advance extended producer responsibility for consumer products.



5. EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE

The County Supports:

- 5.1. Access to early learning and care opportunities that are accessible for all children regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, ability, language, economic status, immigration status and geographic location.
- 5.2. Increased, protected and stable funding for a comprehensive, high-quality childcare and early learning system serving children from birth to age 13 that supports:
 - 5.2.1. Developmentally appropriate curriculum; a culturally and linguistically responsive approach; inclusive environments conducive to learning and development for all children; robust and authentic family engagement; meaningful connections to comprehensive services and early identification and intervention processes; and effective evaluation, monitoring and support.
 - 5.2.2. Sustained quality improvement activities that are more accessible to all programs including center-based, family childcare and “family, friend and neighbor” providers.
 - 5.2.3. Safe and healthy environments in childcare and early learning settings.
 - 5.2.4. Equitably distributed funds to develop, finance and maintain new and existing high-quality childcare and early learning facilities.
- 5.3. Legislation, funding and policies that increase the availability, accessibility and affordability of high-quality childcare services, including equitably addressing the needs of unique populations of children and their families such as infants/toddlers, dual language learners, children at risk and/or with special developmental and healthcare needs, children experiencing homelessness, children under the supervision of the child welfare system, children and families who are undocumented, children and families experiencing domestic violence and children of teen parents.
- 5.4. Policies for affordable preschool that support a diverse delivery system with options that meet families’ various needs, and that advance the goals of the “Big Lift,” which aims to transform early learning by combining high-quality and connected learning experiences from preschool to third grade, with a focus on reducing chronic absence and summer learning loss, as well as engaging families and the broader community to support learning in school and at home.
- 5.5. Strong systems coordination between federal, state and local agencies that support childcare and early learning, physical and/or mental health, prevention/early intervention, TK-12 and higher education, community and economic development, family support, food/nutrition, social services and recreation services leading to streamlined and efficient administration and coordinated regulatory, contracting and reimbursement processes.

- 5.6. A system that supports a smooth transition for children and families from infant/toddler programs into the PreK-TK-12 system, with collaboration to align PreK and TK/K-3rd grade standards, curriculum, credentialing and assessment.
- 5.7. Improved data collection, data sharing and integration among programs and agencies that serve young children and families to provide opportunities to understand children's kindergarten readiness, the various needs of children and their families and the impact of various services on child development, school readiness and family self-sufficiency.
- 5.8. Programs, policies and funding that support recruitment and retention of a diverse, well-educated, well-compensated childcare and early learning workforce and that promote professional development and increased expertise to support vulnerable and unique populations of children and families.
- 5.9. Policies and funding that ensure pay equity for early learning, preschool, and childcare workforces.
- 5.10. Capacity-building within the childcare and early learning system/workforce to meet all of children's health and safety needs including: improving mental, physical and developmental health; responding to medical or situational crises; and ensuring safe routes to schools.
- 5.11. A robust emergency response system for childcare and early learning providers to ensure timely access to information and resources in the event of future disasters or emergencies.
- 5.12. A streamlined, single subsidy reimbursement system that reflects the actual, current cost of providing high-quality care that adequately compensates the workforce to achieve salary parity with the K-12 system.
- 5.13. Income eligibility thresholds for subsidized childcare and early learning services that reflect our region's cost of living.
- 5.14. Programs and funding for pediatricians, health-care providers and early childhood experts to screen for developmental delays, monitor children's development and provide linkages to community supports.
- 5.15. Opportunities to pilot new ideas and innovative services to improve outcomes for young children and their families in San Mateo County.



6. EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

The County Supports:

- 6.1. The elimination and reversal of policies, practices, attitudes and cultural messages that reinforce differential outcomes by race, sexuality, gender, religion, ability/disability or socioeconomic status, including the repeal of California's Constitution ban on the use of affirmative action by public agencies.
- 6.2. Funding, enforcement and expansion of antidiscrimination laws and regulations.
- 6.3. Funding and policies that address lingering adverse effects of government policies that provide acknowledgment, compensation, or protections to redress harms caused by actions or inactions of government when there was a duty to act. Policies that ensure access to and participation in all levels of government are accessible to all, regardless of physical or cognitive abilities.
- 6.4. Policies and programs that provide equitable participation and representation in local government to all, regardless of immigration status or citizenship.
- 6.5. Investment and technical support for local governments and community-based organizations to address racial inequity at the local level.
- 6.6. The dismantling of systemic racism throughout government.
- 6.7. Legislation and regulations that guarantee a living wage for all Californians, regardless of immigration status, race, gender or ability/disability.
- 6.8. Policies and programs designed to close the wealth gap and address widespread economic inequality.
- 6.9. Policies and programs to promote pay equity and close the gender and racial pay and wealth gaps.
- 6.10. Funding and policies that support the County's enactment of the San Mateo County Office of Labor Standards Enforcement.
- 6.11. Policies that acknowledge the cost and difficulty of developing affordable housing in densely populated, jobs- and amenity-rich counties like the County of San Mateo, relative to other parts of the State, and accordingly prioritize resources create and preserve affordable housing for low-income households in these areas.
- 6.12. Efforts to end discrimination of lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender queer, or questioning individuals.
- 6.13. Policies that enhance efforts to make San Mateo County a welcoming and safe environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender queer, or questioning individuals.
- 6.14. Development of program resources and support for transgender people.

- 6.15. Opposes efforts to impose a binary definition of “sex” or “gender” or to define “sex” or “gender” based on biology, sex assigned at birth or similarly restrictive and inaccurate criteria.



7. ELECTIONS AND VOTING

The County Supports:

- 7.1. Proposals to provide reimbursement to counties for the costs incurred in conducting special elections to fill vacancies in state and federal offices.
- 7.2. Proposals to allow for changes in precincts for Vote Center counties to increase efficiency in elections. Specifically, the County supports changes to the Election Code to allow for more precincts to be consolidated for the Voter's Choice Act (VCA) counties (EC §12241) and to allow increases in the maximum number of voters in a precinct (EC §12223).
- 7.3. Legislation that increases protections against interfering with the casting of ballots at Vote Centers or by mail, including increasing fines and/or penalties for practices that attempt to impede the voting process.
- 7.4. Legislation to improve and/or clarify the challenge process for Vote-By-Mail ballots and strengthen voter protections.
- 7.5. Proposals to allow for secure and effective use of new technologies available in the field of election administration.
- 7.6. Legislation to authorize the implementation of additional, expanded and alternative voting opportunities.
- 7.7. Legislation to assist counties in the effective implementation of state mandated changes in the elections process and administration.



8. EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The County Supports:

- 8.1. Broad county access to technology and infrastructure that offers effective and wide-ranging communications capabilities for alerting the public in emergency situations.
- 8.2. Full state funding for technology and infrastructure to meet State Department of Justice requirements that counties encrypt emergency radio transmissions.
- 8.3. Increased funding for reimbursement of emergency 911 dispatch equipment.
- 8.4. Policies that refer to 911 Emergency Calltakers and Dispatchers as First Responders, and that include emergency communicators in legislation impacting law enforcement, fire suppression and emergency medical response.
- 8.5. Promoting funding for counties to address the critical staffing shortages in 911 Communications Centers, through innovative recruitment, hiring and training solutions.
- 8.6. Passage of the Emergency Telephone Users Surcharge Act, AB 96 (Ting, 2019), or similar legislation.
- 8.7. Funding for technology and operational changes required to implement a statewide self-registration database system as intended by the Manny Alert Act, AB 911 (Rodriguez, Chapter 686, Statutes of 2019), should implementation be required by the State.
- 8.8. Advocating for improved coordination between state and local offices of emergency services and state and local departments with health and safety-related responsibilities (e.g. California Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Health Services, the Emergency Medical Services Authority and county offices of emergency services county health agencies and local emergency services agencies).
- 8.9. Full and flexible funding for on-going emergency preparedness and all hazard planning.
- 8.10. Grant processes, procedures and guidelines that allow full funding for personnel in order to carry out emergency management and homeland security mandates.
- 8.11. Efforts to reform the existing state and federal grant funding structure that result in a streamlined and flexible process for the protection of Californians' physical and fiscal health and wellbeing.
- 8.12. Full and flexible funding and policies for on-going emergency preparedness exercises, training, and planning focusing on an all hazards approach at all levels that accounts for the circumstances of local agencies.
- 8.13. Full and flexible funding for emergency communication system interoperability between all local government agencies and the State of California.
- 8.14. Efforts that would fund undergrounding utilities to remove a common source of ignition and to help prevent wildfires and loss of utility services during disasters.

- 8.15. All legislative and administrative efforts to maximize and expedite access to Federal and State resources to address both short-term and long-term recovery needs resulting from natural and catastrophic disasters, including acts of domestic terrorism, in the region.
- 8.16. Improved communication between local governments and investor-owned utilities regarding the timing and deployment of enforced power shutoffs.
- 8.17. Exploration of, funding for and deployment of alternative energy storage technologies to provide temporary power supply during enforced shutoffs.
- 8.18. The requirement that cellphone companies maintain battery backup during power shutoffs.
- 8.19. Efforts to bring insurance companies and the industry into mitigating the wildland fire problem.
- 8.20. A vibrant statewide fire response system. The County opposes any negative actions that may impede its operational effectiveness.



9. HEALTH AND HOSPITALS

The County Supports:

Health

- 9.1. Reducing costs, increasing revenue and providing flexibility in the use of state and federal funds for San Mateo County Health.
- 9.2. Providing stable funding for the local healthcare services and programs that will continue to be needed.
- 9.3. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that support affordable and culturally competent health services.
- 9.4. Policies that promote and permit the development of multidisciplinary teams in order to facilitate identification, assessment and coordination of services to vulnerable and at-risk populations served by counties to ensure continuity of care.
- 9.5. Laws that require Health Care Districts (HCDs) to fund healthcare for the remaining uninsured.
- 9.6. The County supports strong efforts to ensure the sustainability of county organized health systems and reasonable reimbursement rates and rate mechanism for local health plans and systems.
- 9.7. Legislation that would improve our efficacy in engaging, treating and housing unhoused residents who, as a result of their untreated serious mental illness and substance use disorders, deteriorate cognitively and/or physically to a point that threatens their continued survival.
- 9.8. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that promote equal access to health services for LGBTQ people, and training funds for county personnel to address LGBTQ concerns relating to health services.
- 9.9. Implementation of laws and regulations which require health as an equally shared consideration in all General Plan development.
- 9.10. Policies, campaigns and funding to expand civic participation across populations to improve community cohesion, social capital and self-efficacy to improve mental and physical health.
- 9.11. Policies, funding and regulations that improve the economic position of low-income people bearing the burden of the poorest health inequities, through enhancements to the Earned Income Tax Credit, wage policies, guaranteed income (GI) or universal basic income (UBI) and other efforts to raise the incomes of working poor families.
- 9.12. Policies that provide job and economic security for those experiencing health conditions. This includes improving equitable access and expansion of paid sick leave and paid family leave.
- 9.13. Policies, regulations and funding that improves healthy neighborhoods through increased affordable housing opportunities, integrated and complete urban planning and design, connection between new residential

development and transportation investment, community stability and increased community engagement in decision-making processes that shape their communities.

- 9.14. Policies that improve equitable and expanded access to physical activity and social connection opportunities.
- 9.15. Advancing policies and funding to implement and expand robust Restorative Justice Practices, school connectedness and other social emotional health within school culture to keep children and youth in school and to lower punitive disciplinary policies.
- 9.16. Policies and programming to advance a healthy, sustainable food system and healthy food access, including local food sourcing to institutions.
- 9.17. Implementation of laws and standards that provide paid leave for new biologic or adoptive parents.
- 9.18. Funding and programming that expands violence prevention initiatives.
- 9.19. Policies and programs to develop community economic capacity and jobs.
- 9.20. Legislation that creates intentional pathways for increasing leadership and workforce positions that represent the population diversity by race, culture, gender identity, sexual orientation and for persons with disabilities.
- 9.21. Legislation that protects immigrants, including undocumented workers and farmworkers, from wage theft, poor working conditions and immigration-related employer retaliation.
- 9.22. Advancing racial health equity through workforce development, data analysis, improved standards and policy advancements.
- 9.23. Policies and enforcement to end discrimination based on real or perceived immigration status and racial identity in workplaces, housing, health-care, social services and other public areas.
- 9.24. Modifying the Brown Act such that people with disabilities who are homebound can participate via technology.
- 9.25. Policies that advance racial and social equity in population-health outcomes by addressing the social determinants of health.
- 9.26. Funding to support the health and behavioral health needs of individuals experiencing homelessness through in-the-field services.
- 9.27. Regulation and policies that seek a balanced, patient-centered approach to address the 2016 CDC guidelines on prescribing opioids for chronic pain. While a response to combat the illicit use of opioids and subsequent overdose risk is imperative, the unintended consequences of undertreating chronic pain with this important tool has caused significant harm to patients.

Aging & Adult Services (AAS):

- 9.28. Proposals and funding that promote the coordination of services such as Older Americans Act Programs, In-Home Supportive Services, Caregiver Resource Centers, Community-Based Adult Services and Adult Protective Services into an integrated long-term care system.
- 9.29. Solutions and funding for the region's housing crisis that address the needs of lower to middle income older adults and at-risk populations, such people aging with disabilities and the elderly, including homeless LGBTQ individuals and formerly incarcerated older adults.
- 9.30. Solutions and funding to prevent the eviction of seniors and persons with disabilities (SPDs), who frequently live off fixed incomes or finite savings, from their residences in order to prevent SPDs from falling into homelessness.
- 9.31. Funding for programs to address food insecurity, as well as issues unique to SPDs such as social isolation and loneliness, placing them at higher risk for negative physical and mental health outcomes.

- 9.32. Continuing efforts to maximize collaboration and develop homelessness prevention programs that target highly vulnerable SPDs that are built on evidence-based rapid rehousing principles and coupled with short-term intensive case management services to keep SPDs housed in a setting of their choosing and connected to a medical home.
- 9.33. Proposals that advance the implementation of the State's Olmstead Plan, which prohibits unnecessary institutionalization of individuals with disabilities and ensures people with disabilities have a right to live in the community and receive services in their own homes.
- 9.34. Legislation that allows for enhanced confidentiality and suppression of DMV records for adult protective services social workers as a way of providing them with greater protections against threats and physical assaults by those they are investigating.
- 9.35. Proposals that expand Medi-Cal's Assisted Living Waiver program (ALW) to enable older adults and persons with disabilities to safely and healthily age in place in a community setting of their choosing.
- 9.36. Proposals that expand the federal poverty level eligibility limits for Medi-Cal and state portion of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits to increase middle income seniors' access to home- and community-based services and assisted living options that enable them to age in place in the least restrictive setting.
- 9.37. Legislation that identifies state funding for mandated county Public Guardian Probate conservatorships.
- 9.38. Legislation that would promote the expansion of health-related programs including nutrition (congregate and home delivered meals) and care coordination.
- 9.39. Legislation addressing the education, prevention, and specialized intervention and treatment of substance abuse (e.g.; polypharmacy) among older adults.
- 9.40. Implementing the County's *Age-Friendly Initiative* that promotes *Dementia Friendly* practices that will allow older adults to age in place and take a more active role in their communities.
- 9.41. Legislation or budgetary actions to provide a tax credit to individuals who provide in-home care.
- 9.42. Continuing and strengthening collaborative efforts with the San Francisco Veterans Administration to streamline In-Home Supportive Services and Public Authority processes to best serve newly housed homeless San Mateo County veterans at Colma Veteran's Village.
- 9.43. Legislation that would promote the continuance of virtual meeting for Boards, Committees and Commissions, specifically for members living with disabilities.

Behavioral Health & Recovery Services (BHRS)

- 9.44. Efforts to modernize the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), including revisiting the categorical spending percentages. The County opposes efforts that would redirect these dollars, which have become an integral part of the County's mental health system. The County supports using an outcomes-based model for distribution of MHSA funds, developed with county behavioral health departments, that reflect statewide and local priorities in place of current percentage distributions.
- 9.45. Policies that offer flexibility in regards to CalAIM payment reform, including flexible service rates.
- 9.46. Establishing supportive housing programs for justice-involved individuals who are living with mental illness and are either homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.
- 9.47. Advocating for flexibility to allow for the use of MHSA funding for services for homeless and criminal justice involved individuals with a primary or sole diagnosis of substance use disorder (SUD) to better target their medical needs.

- 9.48. Providing stable funding for and increased access to mental health and drug and alcohol services through full implementation of state and federal mental health and drug and alcohol parity laws.
- 9.49. Providing stable funding for children enrolled in special education programs that require mental health services as well as for alcohol and other substance abuse services.
- 9.50. Providing stable funding for locked long-term care and ancillary services for people with behavioral health problems, including Mental Health Rehabilitation Centers under 16 beds.
- 9.51. Promoting integration of mental health and alcohol/drug services with primary care services through opportunities presented by the state's Medicaid waivers and efforts to reform laws that prevent sharing of clinical information among providers and health plans serving the same person.
- 9.52. The pursuit of a new Serious Mental Illness/Serious Emotional Disturbance Institutions for Mental Disease (IMD) waiver to allow counties to secure additional federal funding under Medi-Cal for mental health inpatient and residential treatment stays and support maximum local control on how to reinvest savings to improve access to outpatient treatment and reduce the need for inpatient levels of care in the long term.
- 9.53. State support in establishing additional secure placement options for adults and juveniles who are conserved or involved in the local or state criminal justice systems, both with capital facility investments and by eliminating statutory and administrative barriers to create local flexibility, including juveniles. While existing provisions allow for competency restoration to occur in community settings or in locked sub-acute care facilities (IMDs, mental health rehabilitation centers) the lack of secure placement options across the state and the federal IMD exclusion from Medicaid limit options to provide treatment for individuals who are deemed incompetent to stand trial (IST). The County supports efforts to expand both funding and options to provide treatment and care, including but not limited to seeking a waiver for the IMD exclusion.
- 9.54. Advocating for access to early intervention and prevention services for youth and foster youths and a reduction in administrative barriers to mental health services, especially in rural or disadvantaged communities.
- 9.55. Increased funding for inmate management, programming, supervision, substance abuse treatment, mental health services and other inmate services.
- 9.56. Monitoring the implementation of CARE Courts to determine the impact on County programs and services.
- 9.57. The expansion of any Medi-Cal billable services.
- 9.58. Funding to promote long-term on-site supportive housing services to include health and behavioral health for formerly homeless individuals and those at risk of becoming homeless.
- 9.59. Funding and regulation to support the acquisition, citing and development of dedicated, supportive housing complexes for persons with behavioral health challenges and who are experiencing homelessness,
- 9.60. Legislation and funding for specialized unarmed response services for residents experiencing behavioral health or substance use-related crises as an alternative to mental health-related 911 calls, including mobile crisis response programs.
- 9.61. Legislation and policies that improve the ability of providers and others involved in the treatment of patients with substance use disorders to coordinate care, including legislation pertaining to the confidentiality of substance use disorder patient records with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).
- 9.62. Legislation, policies and funding to promote prevention and education on substance use disorders and mental health conditions, and to prevent suicide, overdoses and disparities in mortality for individuals with behavioral health conditions.

- 9.63. Legislation that would enable courts to consider relevant medical history during Lanterman-Petris-Short Act conservatorship proceedings.

Correctional Health Services (CHS)

- 9.64. Increasing options for adult mediation as a strategy for jail diversion including confidentiality protection similar to that provided for juveniles.
- 9.65. Efforts to overcome the barriers of money bail, mandatory fines and court fee surcharges that can exacerbate the financial security of low-income populations.
- 9.66. Efforts to end the use of criminal records to determine eligibility for critical aspects, such as housing and employment, that support effective reentry into society.
- 9.67. Providing support to local health-care services and programs that serve clients in the criminal justice system.
- 9.68. Providing financial relief for correctional health responsibilities, such as Medi-Cal-related cost containment/revenue generation methods.
- 9.69. Funding for structural modifications, personal protective equipment and sanitary supplies and other safety measures necessary to protect the health and safety of justice-involved individuals, as well as staff, from transmissible diseases.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

- 9.70. Modifications in statute that would allow paramedics to provide and be reimbursed for community paramedicine and triage/transport to alternative destination services which would allow them to deliver care at the scene and during transport to emergency departments, but in other healthcare settings when medically appropriate.
- 9.71. Legislation and regulatory measures that maintain or strengthen the authority and governing role of counties and their Local Emergency Medical Services Agencies (LEMSAs) to plan, implement, evaluate and regulate all aspects and components of the EMS system.
- 9.72. Measures that enhance the ability of the LEMSA medical director to maintain medical control of the local EMS system.
- 9.73. Measures that improve the quality and delivery of EMS and prehospital patient care.
- 9.74. Measures that maintain or enhance the operational authority of the LEMSA to assure equitable access and provision of prehospital medical care countywide, including to prevent fragmentation and ensure the financial viability of the local EMS system.
- 9.75. Measures that preclude cities and/or special districts from providing EMS independent of LEMSA administration and/or medical control.
- 9.76. Measures that protect the confidentiality of the quality improvement process and promote information sharing between providers, hospitals and LEMSAs.
- 9.77. Measures that encourage the participation of EMS system providers and hospitals in evidenced-based research.
- 9.78. Measures that provide for adequate and stable funding for LEMSAs and EMS systems components including but not limited to: EMS administration, trauma systems, specialty centers (e.g. trauma, pediatric, cardiac, stroke), ambulance transport, emergency and disaster preparedness and response, and uncompensated care by emergency department physicians and on-call specialists.

- 9.79. Efforts to ensure funding for crisis services which are not reimbursed through Medi-Cal, including services to individuals with private insurance.

Environmental Health Services (EHS)

- 9.80. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that support and improve public health protection, that support and improve the quality and scope of environmental health programs throughout the state and that promote uniformity in implementing such programs.
- 9.81. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that support the principles of Product Stewardship (also known as Extended Producer Responsibility), which directs all participants involved in the life cycle of a product to take shared responsibility for the environmental and human health impacts that result from the production, use and end of life handling of a product.
- 9.82. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that promote a philosophy of the Green Chemistry initiative to develop a consistent means for evaluating risk, reducing exposure, encouraging less toxic industrial processes, and identifying safer, non-chemical alternatives. A Green Chemistry initiative should ensure a comprehensive and collaborative approach to increase accountability and effectiveness of environmental programs across state and local government.
- 9.83. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that promote food safety and food worker rights to healthcare, paid sick leave and insurance.
- 9.84. Legislation and policies that support a safe transition from traditional municipal water supplies to on-site or wastewater treatment plant sources of recycled water for nonpotable uses, through building code or state standards deployment.

Health Administration (Safety Net Financing)

- 9.85. Legislation to allow the use of State capital improvement funds for County facility capital projects, including clinics and other public health facilities, while preserving the option to revise and/or expand a project's scope at the County's discretion.
- 9.86. Proposals to preserve the 1991 Realignment funding for counties and the County-specific funding formula established in AB 85 (Chapter 24, Statutes of 2013) to support indigent healthcare and other services.
- 9.87. Efforts to advocate at the federal level for reimbursement for undocumented beneficiaries covered through the expansion of Medi-Cal.

Family Health Services (FHS)

- 9.88. Providing stable funding for home visiting and other case management services for families at risk for poor health and social outcomes and reauthorizing and increasing funding for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program.
- 9.89. Efforts to ensure that changes implemented through CalAIM do not limit, compromise or negatively impact funding for the provision of evidence-based home visiting services currently provided by FHS and relying on Medicaid Title XIX matching funds.
- 9.90. Funding high-quality medical, dental and mental health supports to families, particularly families with small children. Supports should include health promotion and disease self-management programs in order to keep families healthy in the community.

- 9.91. Improving care for children with special healthcare needs through the Whole Child Model (WCM) program for Medi-Cal eligible California Children’s Services (CCS) program members in Medi-Cal managed care. WCM integrates Health Plan of San Mateo and CCS Administration program functions to improve continuity of care and facilitate effective and efficient program administration.
- 9.92. Efforts to promote breastfeeding accommodation and availability of space in all types of settings—employment, public accommodations, educational institutions—to facilitate maximum breastfeeding by nursing mothers.
- 9.93. Efforts to promote and support breastfeeding initiation programs to support new mothers and infants, particularly programs designed to provide culturally sensitive support to nursing mothers.
- 9.94. Establishing the California Fruit and Vegetable EBT Pilot Project, which requires the department, in consultation with the Department of Food and Agriculture and stakeholders with experience operating CalFresh nutrition incentive programs, to include within the EBT system a supplemental benefits mechanism that allows an authorized retailer, as defined, to deliver and redeem supplemental benefits. The County supports defining supplemental benefits to mean additional funds delivered to a CalFresh recipient’s EBT card upon purchase of California-grown fresh fruits and vegetables using CalFresh benefits, and to be redeemed only for purchases allowed under CalFresh at an authorized retailer.
- 9.95. Assuring that implementation of sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) data collection within programs targeting children are guided by appropriate clinical guidance on age-appropriate asking of questions and respect for youth’s confidentiality in addressing issues of gender transition or sexual identity.
- 9.96. Policies and programming to support and strengthen the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and other efforts to promote healthy eating by the Department of Agriculture.
- 9.97. Promoting appropriate information sharing between the state and local home visiting programs serving pregnant women enrolled in FFS Medi-Cal to streamline outreach and enrollment of these women into available programs.
- 9.98. Policies and funding to ensure an adequate supply of vaccines, equitable distribution of vaccines, and culturally-responsive community outreach and education, including support for programs that utilize trusted community messengers around the health and safety of vaccine science.
- 9.99. Ensuring support for the integrity of Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program legislation, implementation, staffing and funding, as well as low-income pregnant people with Medi-Cal coverage transition into Medi-Cal Managed Care plans by 2024.
- 9.100. Policies to support Targeted Case Management funding for virtual visits for home visiting program clients, allowing the flexibility to accommodate clients’ needs and reducing barriers to program participation.
- 9.101. WIC waivers that would continue to allow virtual/telephonic encounters that eliminate the physical presence requirements, allowing the flexibility to accommodate clients’ needs and reducing barriers to program participation.

Health Coverage Unit (HCU)

- 9.102. Policies that expand Medi-Cal/Medicaid eligibility, including for those who currently qualify with a Share of Cost.
- 9.103. Policies that enable continuous Medi-Cal/Medicaid eligibility.
- 9.104. Policies that adjust Medi-Cal Share of Cost thresholds to reflect changes in the cost of living.
- 9.105. Policies that extend the premium credits and cost-sharing subsidies included in the Inflation Reduction Act.
- 9.106. Policies that remove the restrictions on undocumented residents purchasing health coverage through Covered California.

- 9.107. Policies and funding to achieve streamlined and “no wrong door” processes for consumers to self-enroll or to be assisted with enrollment and retention of health insurance coverage in Medi-Cal and subsidized health coverage through Covered California.
- 9.108. Efforts that promote appropriate information sharing between government agencies involved in assisting customers obtain or retain public health coverage.
- 9.109. Modifying eligibility requirements so that those formerly incarcerated are eligible for Medi-Cal.
- 9.110. Improving opportunities for County specialty mental health plans, California Children's Services and In-Home Supportive Services programs to be able to securely receive information about clients' Medi-Cal coverage to reduce burdens on beneficiaries for retaining key health and social services supports.

Health Information Technology (HIT)

- 9.111. Promoting funding for technology and local capacity for outreach and enrollment and retention of healthcare coverage programs, including funding to support successful enrollments in Medi-Cal.
- 9.112. Promoting updated and efficient State information technology systems to allow for more efficient assessment of resident eligibility in Medi-Cal.
- 9.113. Promoting appropriate information sharing between recognized organizations (state, local and federal) that help boost the behavioral and social determinants of health (human services, housing, residential care/nursing homes, substance use recovery programs, full service partnerships, etc.) and organizations that address medical determinants of health (hospitals, doctors, clinics) to streamline administration of public health coverage programs, enhance continuity of care and solves the root cause(s) of poor health outcomes.
- 9.114. Promoting funding opportunities to support local providers to acquire or enhance their technology infrastructure and resource allocation to create or expand data sharing capabilities that will assist in coordination of care and services, to decrease inefficiencies, decrease delays in sending or waiting for information, and aid in preparing for future interoperability and data sharing requirements.
- 9.115. Promoting the collection of demographic data that includes voluntary self-identification of information on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity, as well as the appropriate information sharing among county departments and between state and local government entities and funding for efficient information sharing systems to address the significant disparities in health and welfare faced by youth, seniors, undocumented persons, communities of color, persons with disabilities and LGBTQ communities.
- 9.116. Promoting Health Information Technology literacy within communities, focusing on the disparate literacy and accessibility levels. Increased data-sharing expectations from the State, as well as the improvement in care facilitated by this data-sharing, will require communities to be comfortable with and approve of the sharing of their health data in secure ways.
- 9.117. Funding for resources to support and enhance population health data analysis and to further identify the impact of significant environmental events and public health emergencies on the health of our vulnerable populations in order to know what services are needed for quality health outcomes.
- 9.118. Expanding telehealth capabilities to create and support innovative care delivery through enhancing connectivity between health professionals and their patients. The County supports enhancing current telehealth technology infrastructure, capabilities, and features, including patient in-home monitoring that sends data and/alerts to providers. The County supports decreasing preventable/avoidable hospital/ER utilization by enabling providers to monitor and manage patients care/conditions on an outpatient basis.

- 9.119. Enhancing cybersecurity through investment in infrastructure and training improving data confidentiality, integrity, availability and patient safety.
- 9.120. Improving usability through designing and implementing electronic health records (EHRs) that are more intuitive and that more readily support clinical workflow, reducing documentation burden and making data more usable for clinical decision-making.
- 9.121. Innovating care delivery through enhancing connectivity between health professionals and their patients, improving quality of care without increasing spending.

Public Health, Policy & Planning (PHPP)

- 9.122. Implementation of laws, regulations and policies that recognize racism as a public health crisis and that support programs that address systemic racism and its impact on public health.
- 9.123. Funding for and implementation of laws and regulations to build equity throughout all communities.
- 9.124. Flexible funding and support for public health workforce and infrastructure.
- 9.125. Implementation of laws, regulations and policies that ensure the privacy and confidentiality of persons contacted by public health communicable disease control investigators, promote cultural and linguistic diversity of the disease investigation workforce, protect the health and safety of the contact tracing workforce and allocate funding for the strengthening of the disease control infrastructure to assure effective disease control and prevention work and ongoing preparedness for outbreak and pandemic response.
- 9.126. Funding for isolation/quarantine supports (lost income, rent, food, etc.) for people instructed by Public Health to isolate or quarantine as part of communicable disease control measures.
- 9.127. Implementation of laws, regulations and plans that educate residents about the risks of cannabis use and monitors the adverse impacts of cannabis.
- 9.128. Funding for medical research to evaluate the potential medical benefits of cannabis and cannabinoids.
- 9.129. Implementation of regulations, policies and plans that allocate resources to local health departments and/or funds chronic disease prevention strategies (e.g. sugar sweetened beverage and/or alcohol taxation) and integrates chronic disease programs that reduce health disparities and treats the root causes of health inequities.
- 9.130. Implementation of regulations and policies that strengthen local surveillance and data use for overdose prevention activities and expands access to high quality evidence-based drug treatment programs and harm reduction services.
- 9.131. Implementation of laws, regulations and plans that invest substantial resources to local health departments to combat and prevent communicable disease through immunizations, epidemiological surveillance, disease investigation and laboratory testing.
- 9.132. Legislation that advocates for maintaining adequate health realignment funding to support the delivery of local public health services and enhance communicable disease infrastructure.
- 9.133. Legislation, policies and entities (e.g. California Strategic Growth Council) that promote and fund a Health in All Policies approach in communities, neighborhoods, housing, schools, transportation, food systems, health equity, climate change, etc.
- 9.134. Legislation, regulations and policies that fund and increase funding for state and local public health laboratory infrastructure, workforce and new technology, including but not limited to advanced molecular detection, whole genome sequencing and communicable disease wastewater surveillance testing.

- 9.135. Legislation and policy that supports the improvement of vital records operations and the generation of statistics by improving data quality and services.
- 9.136. Implementation of laws, regulations and plans that authorize the Health Officer to require a person seeking import of a dog or cat into the state to have a health certificate by a licensed veterinarian within 10 days of travel and to have their animal vaccinated against rabies and DHPP/ FELV at least 21 days prior to travel.
- 9.137. Proposals that provide funding for sexually transmitted disease (STD) essential case management programs, contact investigations and partner testing and treatment for STDs.
- 9.138. Efforts to reduce consumption of sugar sweetened beverages.
- 9.139. Limiting the availability and access of particularly harmful forms of sugary products that are easily absorbed in the body and contribute significantly to a fatty liver, type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular risk.
- 9.140. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that promote the safe use and sale of produce from small community and school gardens in retail food facilities, farmer's markets and schools.
- 9.141. Funding and programming that expands access to free or affordable health-promoting, high-quality school (including pre-schools) meals.
- 9.142. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that would allow local jurisdictions to establish healthy food zones, allowing only businesses that offer for sale whole or lightly processed foods with no tobacco or alcohol sales.
- 9.143. Efforts to promote the strongest possible protection against the sale of powdered alcohol to residents of California, which could increase the risk of alcohol use by minors.
- 9.144. Efforts to strengthen the Smoke Free Workplace Act by closing specific loopholes in order to protect more employees.
- 9.145. Efforts to maintain the strongest possible protection against tobacco use by minors, such as changes to taxes, the eligibility age for purchasing cigarettes, application of smoke-free ordinances and classification of e-cigarettes as products subject to anti-smoking regulations.
- 9.146. Implementation of laws, regulations and policies that enhance the ability of County Animal Control and Licensing agencies to provide cost effective and humane animal control services.
- 9.147. Implementation of laws, regulations and plans that prevent injury, increase safety and improve active forms of transportation, such as Vision Zero, infrastructure improvements, affordable and accessible public transportation, safe active transportation planning and design standards and safety education and promotion programming.
- 9.148. Expanding support for trauma-informed approaches, including a focus on resources to implement early childhood intervention and prevention programming, including adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and other screenings, early.
- 9.149. Funding, policies and standards that enable strong alignment of the business needs of mission-driven institutions with their mission by improving access to institutional economic benefits through targeted workforce, procurement and investment opportunities.
- 9.150. Laws, regulations and programs that support the training and employment of peer support networks for navigating and providing health services in both adult and youth health and social services arenas.
- 9.151. Funding and policies to provide free and accessible menstrual products.

San Mateo Medical Center (SMMC)

- 9.152. Revisions to federally qualified health center and rural health clinic services reimbursement and scope change procedures, including support for two visits taking place on the same day at a single location, expansion of values-based payments and screenings, and simplification of the process for updating Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) rates.
- 9.153. Opposes proposals to reduce, repeal, alter or limit the Affordable Care Act (ACA) that impact Medi-Cal eligibility expansions or otherwise impact current subsidized segments of the healthcare system.
- 9.154. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that make permanent the telehealth flexibilities authorized during the COVID-19 public health emergency and allow the use of audio-only as well as audio-video modalities and provide equitable reimbursement to in-person visits.
- 9.155. Opposes Medicare and Medicaid payment policy changes with negative impacts, in particular policy changes impacting safety net hospitals, including changes to: Disproportionate Share Hospital payments, such as stopping impending Medicaid DSH allotment reductions, and freezing Medicare DSH cuts; or 340B drug pricing program, eligibility administrative or reporting requirements; or Medi-Cal managed care program design that impact supplemental rate range payments.
- 9.156. Securing funding to address the impact of COVID-19 that recognizes the disproportionate effects of COVID-19 on the population served by public SMMC, including the preservation of other financial and policy relief that supports the ability of SMMC to meet the needs of the safety net population it serves, such as enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage and Medi-Cal coverage of COVID-19 related services regardless of eligibility scope.
- 9.157. Implementation of laws, regulations and innovative programs that support access to affordable and culturally competent oral health services, including access to dentists, for all ages (pregnant women, children, adults, elderly), and particularly to those with special health-care needs and/or disabilities.
- 9.158. Actions to increase access to equitable care and support the use of non-discriminatory race, ethnicity, language preference and other sociodemographic data.
- 9.159. Programs and services to address social risk factors of the patients we serve, including, but not limited to, food insecurity, homelessness, housing instability and transportation access.
- 9.160. Modifications to the Medi-Cal program design to improve downstream effects on public health-care systems and the vulnerable patients it serves, including changes in health plan reimbursement, covered benefits, authorization and administration requirements. (CalAIM)
- 9.161. Funding mechanisms to permit adequate reimbursement of the Virtual Dental Home model to expand access to oral health services in non-traditional settings.
- 9.162. Adequate reimbursement for dental services under the Denti-Cal program to increase the number of participating Denti-Cal providers.
- 9.163. Providing forensic evaluations for victims of violence, including sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse, and ensuring timely and accurate processing of evidence, as well as state funding for associated services, including victim counseling centers, sexual assault counselors, and forensic medical evidentiary exams for victims of domestic violence. (Keller Center)
- 9.164. Resolving conflicting laws regarding adolescent sexual assault victim rights.
- 9.165. Utilizing a Child Advocacy Center model to evaluate concerns of child sexual abuse.
- 9.166. Incentives, policies and programs that support the retainment and recruitment of high quality staff at all levels, including loan programs to increase access to necessary education and trainings, regulatory changes to allow

properly trained immigrants to work in the health field, licensure reciprocity with other states, and scope of practice expansions which allow properly-trained personnel to contribute to our health system at their fullest capacities.



10. HOUSING

The County Supports:

- 10.1.** Policies, regulations and funding to address the housing needs of all persons, especially homeless households and lower-income residents, including persons receiving wrap-around services and case management from the County; people with disabilities; emancipated youth; transitional age youth; CalWORKs participants; farmworkers; the elderly; institutionalized persons who cannot be discharged due to lack of stable housing; former foster youth; homeless youth including homeless LGBTQ youth; homeless veterans, and; the formerly incarcerated.
- 10.2.** Increased ongoing investments for the development of affordable housing and supporting water and utility infrastructure, including but not limited to grants, loans, operating subsidies, and the expansion of low-income housing tax credits and tax-exempt bonds, together with policies and regulations that allow those funds to be used for maximum benefit in San Mateo County.
- 10.3.** Policies, regulations and funding that support the long-term preservation and oversight of existing affordable housing, both deed-restricted units and those which are rented at below-market rates outside of government regulation.
- 10.4.** Policies, legislation and regulations that recognize the higher costs of development in densely populated, job- and amenity-rich counties like the County of San Mateo and the importance of prioritizing affordable housing resources in such areas of high opportunity, from both (1) an equity perspective, to promote access to jobs, resources, and amenities for low-income households, and (2) an environmental perspective, to prevent long commutes faced by lower-income workers who cannot afford market-rate housing in high-cost areas.
- 10.5.** The County also supports policies and funding supporting housing solutions that target moderate income households, typically earning between 80%-120% of the area median income. This is to ensure that middle-income families that may no longer qualify for housing subsidies are still able to access economic mobility in a County with one of the highest costs of living in the country.
- 10.6.** Policies and legislation that promote anti-displacement efforts in lower-income communities of color facing rapid increase in rents. Efforts may include funding the preservation of existing affordable housing, the creation of new affordable housing developments, providing rental and legal assistance to tenants, and continued investment in community benefits in gentrifying neighborhoods.
- 10.7.** Programs, policies, and expenditures that raise bond and tax revenue for affordable housing initiatives. This includes efforts to raise new revenue by the Bay Area Housing Finance Agency for the protection, preservation and production of housing.
- 10.8.** The advocacy work of non-profit organizations that advance the work of affordable housing development/preservation on a regional and state level as consistent with the Board's standing policies.

- 10.9. Legislation and policies that streamline, simplify and expedite processes for accessing state, regional and federal affordable housing funding.
- 10.10. Transparent and equitable methods of prioritizing where state and federal funds are allocated.
- 10.11. Policies, legislation and funding that support the development of affordable housing on non-residential areas including but not limited to lands owned by school districts and faith-based organizations.
- 10.12. Policies, legislation, and funding that support the development of adaptive reuse projects.
- 10.13. Programs, funding and legislation that promote the use of public-owned land to accelerate the development of affordable housing.
- 10.14. Programs, policies, legislation that decrease the jobs to housing imbalance, ensuring that housing stock is increased to catch up with the number of jobs in the County.
- 10.15. Programs, funding, and legislation that support climate-friendly affordable housing development.
- 10.16. Efforts to repeal Article 34 of the California Constitution, which, subject to various exceptions, requires majority approval by the voters for the development, construction or acquisition of a “low rent” public housing projects within the scope of the law.
- 10.17. Programs, policies, and legislation that address delays caused by critical utility companies in the development of new housing.



11. HUMAN RESOURCES

The County Supports:

- 11.1. Legislation that provides a local option to implement employee compensation or benefit changes, as directed by the Board of Supervisors.
- 11.2. Flexibility and local control of pension systems and reform by the local agency, especially in the case of county pension systems subject to the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937.
- 11.3. Efforts to prevent unreasonable increases in workers' compensation costs and changes that will mitigate increasing medical costs and provide fair and reasonable indemnity benefits.
- 11.4. Efforts that limit new presumptions related to injuries, illnesses, diseases or physical conditions and that can be claimed as job related for workers' compensation or service-connected disability retirement.
- 11.5. Legislation that continues current requirements that employees demonstrate on-the-job exposure in order to qualify for workers' compensation or service-connected disability retirement benefits.
- 11.6. Efforts to expand reimbursement for the work of all public employees serving in their capacity as Disaster Service Workers.
- 11.7. Legislation modifying the Fair Labor Standards Act to permit adjustable work schedules to meet the needs of both management and labor.
- 11.8. Efforts that expand the County's ability to exercise its managerial rights and flexibility in addressing changing conditions.
- 11.9. Proposals that limit the Public Safety Officers Bill of Rights or similar provisions to peace officer employees.
- 11.10. Legislation that would continue employers' access to information on its own devices, servers and other sources of information.
- 11.11. The creation and implementation of education, training, internship, recruitment and retention programs for public sector workers.
- 11.12. Legislation that addresses and combats discrimination based on age, disability, disease status, gender identity, language, immigration status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or other protected characteristics.
- 11.13. Proposals which permit the full implementation of the County's Living Wage Ordinance.



12. HOMELESSNESS

The County Supports:

- 12.1. Policies, regulations and funding to address the housing needs of all persons, especially homeless households and lower-income residents, including persons receiving wrap-around services and case management from the County; persons with disabilities; emancipated youth; transitional age youth; CalWORKs participants; farmworkers; the elderly; institutionalized persons who cannot be discharged due to lack of stable housing; former foster youth; homeless youth, including homeless LGBTQ youth; homeless veterans; and the formerly incarcerated.
- 12.2. Additional funding for supportive services and operations of affordable housing to enable the County to target more affordable units for homeless persons with high service needs and extremely low-incomes, especially platforms structured as ongoing annual support rather than one-time payments.
- 12.3. Funding to increase the number of housing vouchers available to support people who are experiencing or are at risk of homelessness to move into stable housing.
- 12.4. Funding and policies that enhance the County's ability to construct homeless shelters, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals and families.
- 12.5. Dedicated and ongoing funding for homelessness prevention programs and homeless services and operations.
- 12.6. Funding to address the human waste, litter, hazardous materials and other harmful debris associated with homeless encampments.
- 12.7. Policies, programs and funding to prevent the eviction of seniors and persons with disabilities (SPDs), who frequently live on fixed incomes or finite savings, from their residences in order to prevent SPDs from falling into homelessness.
- 12.8. Continuing efforts to maximize collaboration and develop homelessness prevention programs that target highly vulnerable SPDs that are built on evidence-based, rapid rehousing principles and coupled with short-term intensive case management services to keep SPDs housed in a setting of their choosing and connected to a medical home.
- 12.9. Continuing and strengthening collaborative efforts with the San Francisco Veterans Administration to streamline In-Home Supportive Services and Public Authority processes to best serve newly housed (formerly homeless) San Mateo County veterans at Colma Veteran's Village.
- 12.10. Legislation to allow for the flexible use of MHSA funding for services for homeless and criminal justice-involved individuals with a primary or sole diagnosis of substance use disorder (SUD) to better target their medical needs.
- 12.11. Establishing supportive housing programs for justice-involved individuals who are living with mental illness and are either homeless or at risk of homelessness.



13. HUMAN SERVICES

The County Supports:

- 13.1. Preservation and increased funding for human service programs realigned to counties and advocating for an appropriate level of funding during the new Medi-Cal funding methodology negotiations with the state.
- 13.2. Adjustments to county human service fund allocations that account for the higher cost of living/operation differences among California counties in providing services.
- 13.3. Legislation that increases gross income limits and maximum rent reductions for CalFresh recipients.
- 13.4. Increased funding for resource family recruitment and retention and greater funding flexibility for foster care services, which are critical to adequately protect children in need.
- 13.5. Policies, programs and funding that increase the number of placement options with adequate services for foster youth with complex needs.
- 13.6. Implementation of policies, programs and services to assist and improve outcomes for all foster youth including LGBTQ foster youth, transitional age youth and immigrant youth in foster care.
- 13.7. Programs and funding that support foster youth access to extracurricular and enrichment activities.
- 13.8. Policies, programs and funding to support the self-sufficiency needs of former foster youth and foster youth aging out of care.
- 13.9. Strategies and accountability measures to provide awareness and guidance to resource families on how to support LGBTQ youth to ensure that the youth feel safe, welcomed and affirmed in foster care placements.
- 13.10. Ensuring ongoing funding to support victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) and policies that protect foster youth who have suffered from sexual exploitation.
- 13.11. Implementation of policies that secure housing opportunities, including transitional housing support, for current and former foster youth, CalWORKs families and veterans.
- 13.12. Early intervention and prevention services for foster youth, reductions in administrative barriers and increased funding to support access to culturally responsive mental health services.
- 13.13. Flexibility in the definition and provision of services for non-related legal guardianships in support of the implementation of the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) to place foster youth in home settings.
- 13.14. Policies to improve CalFresh benefits access to former foster youth, AB 12 Non-Minor dependents and college students.
- 13.15. Elimination of reductions to penalties related to the failure to meet the work participation rate in CalWORKs.

- 13.16. Allowing for County flexibility in the work component and permissible activities that contribute to work participation rates in CalWORKs.
- 13.17. Policies and funding that improve the economic position of low-income individuals and families through enhancements of the Earned Income Tax Credit, wage policies, guaranteed or universal basic income and other efforts to raise the income levels of low-income individuals and families in high cost of living counties.
- 13.18. Policies and funding that expand program eligibility and services to refugees and immigrants, both documented and undocumented.
- 13.19. Ensuring counties have the financial, personnel and information technology support system to implement the new CalSAWS single statewide eligibility determination system.
- 13.20. Preventing the loss of affordable healthcare and other public assistance for residents who are impacted by increases to local and state minimum wage increases.
- 13.21. Policies and funding that will increase the available childcare slots, especially for infant and toddler aged children.
- 13.22. Promoting programs and services that assist and recognize the role of fathers in the development and well-being of their child(ren).
- 13.23. Continuing programs and services to veterans.
- 13.24. Funding to support human services care and shelter responsibilities related to disaster response and emergency preparation.
- 13.25. Funding for training and capacity-building of county personnel to advance racial equity and address LGBTQ, immigrant and disability related concerns in human services.
- 13.26. Policies and funding that would provide support and services to victims of domestic violence and their families, including legal services, outreach, screening, counseling, case management, financial assistance, housing, and job training and placement.
- 13.27. Policies that foster coordination and collaboration between governmental and nongovernmental agencies that would enhance services and data collection.
- 13.28. Advocacy efforts that promote domestic violence prevention and intervention through public awareness, education, counseling, increased data collection and research, and through comprehensive approaches to violence prevention.



14. INFORMATION SERVICES

The County Supports:

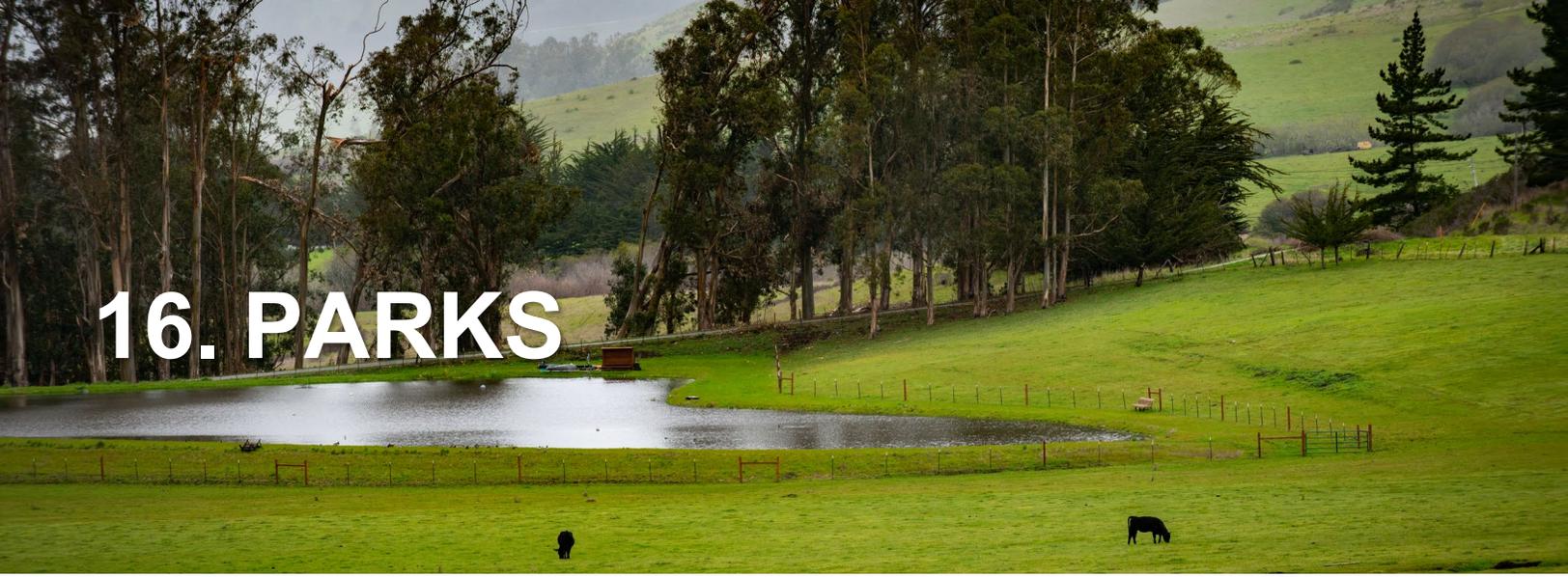
- 14.1. Statewide policies that ensure permanent support and funding for the construction, expansion, operation and maintenance of public internet and public safety radio projects.
- 14.2. Balanced approaches to address the need for equitable, reliable high-speed internet connectivity for residents, businesses, and underserved communities that utilize private companies (such as Comcast, Verizon, AT&T, etc.) and are augmented by free or reduced cost programs to enable those who cannot afford, or access, commercial services for internet access.
- 14.3. Program reforms and funding to close the digital divide as quickly and completely as possible.
- 14.4. The expansion of broadband to all parts of the State and County to drive economic development and job opportunities, support county service delivery and improve health, education and public safety outcomes for residents.
- 14.5. Coordination of projects, policies and funding locally between the County, School Districts and Cities to enhance the community-wide approach to digital equity.
- 14.6. Permanent authority to use bond funds, tax measure funds, and Public, Educational, and Governmental Access (PEG) funds to reduce the digital divide and increase digital equity.
- 14.7. State and local policies that require all public housing providers to offer free broadband or resources on internet options to residents.
- 14.8. State and local policies that enable digital literacy and access to free or low-cost equipment.
- 14.9. Policies that enable the use of infrastructure, such as traffic signals, street lights, public right-of-way, public buildings, cellular towers, and commercially developed building rooftops, as locations for placing public broadband equipment and public safety radio equipment via a coordinated and streamlined policy approach and approval process.
- 14.10. Continued statewide policies that support the funding of critical cybersecurity initiatives with local governments or through regional associations.



15. LIBRARIES

The County Supports:

- 15.1. Restoration of the California Library Services Act which provided funding for libraries to support resource sharing of electronic and physical items among all libraries.
- 15.2. Restoration of funding to support Lunch at the Library programs, which provide meals to children during the summer months when schools are closed.
- 15.3. Restoration of funding to support the Career Online High School programs which helps adults complete their high school diploma online.
- 15.4. Funding for infrastructure needs such as building improvements, generators, air filters, air conditioners, PPE etc., and the vital role libraries play in supporting communities during times of crisis.
- 15.5. Increased lifelong learning support for early education, afterschool programming, student success cards, adult and youth literacy, career support and economic development, veterans' services and assistance to vulnerable populations.
- 15.6. Legislation that supports broadband access for communities including public WiFi, lendable hotspots and library broadband improvements to support education, workforce development and community well-being.
- 15.7. Legislation that would allow construction bonds and special taxes for libraries to pass with a lower vote threshold (from current two-thirds to 55%).



16. PARKS

The County Supports:

- 16.1. Increased funding opportunities for the restoration and preservation of redwood forests, mixed evergreen forests, grasslands, coastal scrub, oak woodlands, watersheds, wetlands and riparian corridors.
- 16.2. Increased funding opportunities for local and/or state government programs that benefit natural resources, including, but not limited to: watershed protection; landscape restoration of forests, grasslands, coastal scrub and riparian corridors; introduction/reintroduction of endangered species to native habitat; and eradication of non-native and invasive species.
- 16.3. Increased funding opportunities to complete regional trail networks, including, but not limited to, the San Francisco Bay Trail, California Coastal Trail, Crystal Springs Regional Trail, Bay-to-Sea Trail and Ohlone-Portola Heritage Trail.
- 16.4. Increased funding opportunities for projects that reduce barriers to access to greenspace and support equitable access to parks and open space for all communities.
- 16.5. Increased funding opportunities for programs (staff and program elements) that connect members of disadvantaged communities with local and regional parks and open spaces.
- 16.6. Increased funding opportunities for the planning, permitting, implementation and maintenance of wildfire fuel and hazard reduction projects in County parks and open space.
- 16.7. Use of Cap and Trade and/or other climate related funding for forest management, active stewardship and wildfire fuel reduction.
- 16.8. Modification of grant program requirements to reflect regional differences in median household income and more equitable distribution of grant funding throughout the state.
- 16.9. Efforts to work with regional partners to protect, conserve, restore and preserve the sustainability and diversity of natural resources throughout the County, including its coasts, forests, wetlands and riparian corridors for habitat and beneficial use by current residents, visitors and future generations.
- 16.10. Efforts to ensure ecosystem resiliency through the implementation of landscape restoration projects that reestablish and rebuild altered natural systems.
- 16.11. Efforts to create efficiencies and streamline permitting and regulatory compliance for environmentally beneficial projects and to allow state agencies to maintain fidelity to statutory requirements while more easily permitting efforts to build resilience projects.
- 16.12. Efforts to create efficiencies in permitting and regulatory compliance for projects that reduce wildfire fuel loads and mitigate catastrophic wildfire risk to communities.

- 16.13. Restoration projects that provide carbon sequestration benefits, including restoration and preservation of redwood forests, mixed evergreen forests, watersheds and grasslands.
- 16.14. Cattle grazing for natural resources objectives (i.e., butterfly habitat on San Bruno Mountain).



17. PLANNING AND BUILDING

The County Supports:

- 17.1.** Policies, regulations and funding that encourage Second Units (a.k.a. “Accessory Dwelling Units” or “ADUs”) including banning local owner occupancy requirements for properties with Second Units and allowing existing unpermitted Second Units to be inhabited unless correcting code violations is necessary to protect health and safety.
- 17.2.** Legislation, policies and entities (e.g. California Strategic Growth Council) that promote and fund healthy, thriving and resilient communities for all, including increased affordable housing opportunities, missing middle housing, integrated and complete urban planning and design, connection between new residential development and transportation investment, climate adaptive housing, community stability and increased community engagement in decision-making processes that shape their communities.
- 17.3.** Climate adaptive housing efforts and other land use decisions including the facilitation of appropriate residential and mixed-use developments along efficient public transportation corridors.
- 17.4.** Examination of current rules and standards that benefit lower density development (over high-density development) and automobile-oriented development (over transit and pedestrian and bicycle movements and safety). This includes setback minimums, Floor Area Ratio (FAR) requirements and parking requirements that favor low-density development.
- 17.5.** Preserving land use authority of local governments by allowing jurisdictions that have adopted inclusionary zoning ordinances, such as San Mateo County, to take the intended and predictable effect of the ordinance into account when calculating the availability of adequate zoned capacity to meet their Regional Housing Needs Allocation.
- 17.6.** Policies that allow for the development of regional strategies to meet obligations under the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA).
- 17.7.** Legislation and policies to increase the production of market-rate housing, particularly multi-family housing.
- 17.8.** Legislation and policies that expedite the timeline for building affordable housing and market-rate development. This includes extending and expanding existing streamlining tools for affordable housing development such as SB 35 (Wiener, Chapter 366, Statutes of 2017) and AB 2162 (Chiu, Chapter 753, Statutes of 2018).
- 17.9.** Policies, legislation, and funding that promote healthy housing including efforts to mitigate lead, asbestos, mold and other hazards.
- 17.10.** Policies, legislation, regulations and funding that support the work of the Plan Bay Area’s 2050 regional long-range plan adopted by MTC and ABAG, connecting elements of housing, economy, transportation and the environment to

make the Bay Area more equitable for all residents in a manner that is transparent to and coordinated with local governments and that addresses the needs of rural areas and actively invests in the preservation and management of Priority Conservation Areas.

- 17.11. Policies, legislation, regulations and funding that support the reuse and repurposing of existing buildings (e.g. commercial buildings) for residential use.
- 17.12. Policies, legislation and funding to support the development of and streamline the timelines for farm labor housing.
- 17.13. Programs and funding that facilitate meaningful public participation in policy development and implementation by all stakeholders.
- 17.14. Legislation that promotes infill housing production while reducing vehicle miles traveled, in line with local and state policies on coastal zones, historic resources and wildfire risk mitigation.
- 17.15. Programs and funding that support the ability of County Service Areas to provide the services and infrastructure needed to support growing unincorporated areas.
- 17.16. Protection of the County's authority to require land and/or in-lieu fees to provide public facilities in the amount needed to serve new development.
- 17.17. Legislation and guidelines that simplify the CEQA process and requirements.
- 17.18. Programs and funding that enhance the County's ability to preserve and provide access to the coast.
- 17.19. Efforts to streamline and improve coastal development permit and local coastal planning processes, including Local Coastal Program amendment procedures.
- 17.20. Funding for local open space acquisition programs, such as the subvention funds formerly provided by the Williamson Act.
- 17.21. Programs and funding to support local efforts to preserve agricultural and working lands and limit their conversion to residential or other uses.
- 17.22. Programs and funding that support the protection and conservation of open space and natural resource areas, and that make them accessible.
- 17.23. Programs and funding that support local efforts to prevent and minimize pollution and emission impacts.
- 17.24. Programs and funding for local outreach programs to educate communities on how to integrate sustainable and water efficiency elements into development and renovation projects.
- 17.25. Timber preserve zones and timber harvesting rules that enhance protection of forest resources.
- 17.26. Programs and funding that promote active living by providing recreational facilities, implementing bicycle- and pedestrian-oriented designs and establishing mixed-use walkable communities, among other ways.
- 17.27. Policies, legislation and funding to support the achievement of Vision Zero and development of complete streets within local roadway networks and on state roads and highways, and that minimize the burden on local governments to make improvements on state roads and highways including State Route 1.
- 17.28. Legislation and policies that eliminate or reduce parking minimums/off street parking requirements; reduce development costs; maximize efficient use of land for valuable uses, including housing; and reduce auto-oriented development.
- 17.29. Incentives for builders and developers to incorporate Universal Design/Visitability features that ensure safe, easy access into all housing, including new or converted dwellings or multi-family units for all persons, regardless of age or physical disability.

17.30. Policies and programs that ensure environmental justice by providing information, raising awareness, and addressing environmental issues that can have a disproportionate impact on underserved communities, such as air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, water quality, noise and heavy industrial uses.



The County Supports:

- 18.1. Constitutional protections that provide guaranteed and adequate state funding for counties' new responsibilities related to 2011 Public Safety Realignment. The County opposes any efforts that transfer additional program responsibilities to counties without adequate funding, constitutional protections and consideration of safety needs of the local system.
- 18.2. The development of a permanent and equitable Public Safety Realignment funding formula that rewards strategies to reduce recidivism.
- 18.3. Full funding for local public safety programs that have historically been supported by fines and fees within the criminal justice system. AB 1869 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 92, Statutes of 2020) repealed the County's authority to collect various fines and fees and appropriated monies for five years to backfill a portion of the revenue loss.
- 18.4. Preservation of funding for local public safety efforts, including rehabilitative programming for youth in secured facilities and in the community, prevention and intervention resources and programs for at-risk youth, mental health and drug and alcohol programs and reentry programming and case management services.
- 18.5. Increased funding and regulation for domestic violence prevention and rehabilitation programs and new prohibited person's compliance firearms programs.
- 18.6. Continued review of the alignment of Chief Probation Officer selection, appointment and retention authority with funding. The County also supports cautious review of any potential separation of adult and juvenile probation activities.
- 18.7. Corrections reforms established within the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) that are developed through collaboration of state and local governments and criminal justice agencies that are adequately funded to operate safe and secure jails and build upon successful, existing programs. The County also supports full state funding for any new requirements imposed on the CCP.
- 18.8. The implementation and increased funding for rehabilitative support services for youth and transitional aged youth both in secured facilities and in the community, as well as prevention and intervention programs for those that are deemed at-risk.
- 18.9. A juvenile justice system that reflects its community and increased state and federal funding support for local evidence-based and/or promising practice programs.
- 18.10. State funding and support to modernize youth facilities and effectively implement state standards.
- 18.11. Enhanced funding for alternatives to youth incarceration, including programs that promote community partnerships.
- 18.12. Local discretion for developing programs for juveniles, with a focus on treatment, rehabilitation and reentry.

- 18.13. Creation of more diversion programs for individuals with lower-level offenses and providing adequate supports to their families through appropriate community-based programs.
- 18.14. Policies that release juveniles on their own recognizance pending the outcome of trial proceedings. The County opposes policies that require juveniles to utilize bail unless they are transferred to adult court.
- 18.15. To the greatest extent possible, determinations regarding the fitness of juveniles who have committed serious offenses should be made by the juvenile court on a case-by-case basis.
- 18.16. The County opposes policies that require juvenile cases to be heard in a jury trial, even if they have committed a serious offense unless they have been transferred to an adult court.
- 18.17. Further investment in multiagency programs authorized under SB 618 (Speier, Chapter 603, Statutes of 2005), which are built on proven, evidence-based strategies including comprehensive pre-sentence assessments, in-custody treatment, targeted case management and the development of an individualized life plan.
- 18.18. Adequate funding and local flexibility to develop partnerships between counties to adequately serve youth, especially those with higher-level treatment needs; and appropriate oversight and accountability that is commensurate to the responsibility and liability being realigned. Additionally, oversight and accountability measures associated with the most complex youth cases that were last to be realigned should not disrupt the success counties have proven with existing juvenile programs and funding streams.
- 18.19. Funding that recognizes the unique position, needs and conditions of each county, as well as their juvenile facilities, and includes a growth factor so that future funding keeps pace with growing programmatic costs. To the extent the State does not provide adequate funding for counties to be successful with the realigned population, responsibility for the care and custody of the most complex juvenile cases should return to the State.
- 18.20. Evidence-based efforts to protect against unnecessary transfers of juveniles to the adult system. However, these efforts should not reduce local flexibility or create unfunded costs for counties to build new, or retrofit existing, facilities.
- 18.21. Policies based on the notion that youth may be more appropriately served in the human services system. As counties are responsible for the entirety of the juvenile justice population, these decisions should be left to counties based on individual case factors, local needs and available treatment and resources. Given the growing research on the cognitive development of youth and their decision making, juvenile placement decisions should be reviewed more closely under this light.
- 18.22. Promoting funding for training of county personnel to address LGBTQ concerns relating to public safety, community corrections and policies relating to LGBTQ concerns.
- 18.23. Increased funding to provide continued and updated law enforcement training on implicit bias. This training will allow law enforcement officers the ability to impact their perceptions and behaviors, while managing bias. Continued training on this perishable skill will enhance our ability and legitimacy with the diverse communities we serve.
- 18.24. Evidence-based programs and services that not only provide rehabilitative supports for juveniles and adults on probation, but also lowers recidivism rates.
- 18.25. Funding to enhance data collection and research to track and predictably analyze recidivism and program effectiveness at the local county level.
- 18.26. Collaboration and partnerships on measures that impose a reduction in probation officer caseloads without adequate funding.
- 18.27. Proposals that would fund and/or support programs to track the recidivism rates of justice-involved individuals at the county level.

- 18.28. Funding for adult probation services to counties for Probation Department training programs.
- 18.29. Legislation to fund alternatives to incarceration such as continuous electronic monitoring programs, GPS and pretrial services for probationers.
- 18.30. Legislation to restore the ability of the Board of Supervisors to order the distribution of court-ordered installment payments.
- 18.31. Funding for adult probation, Post-Release Community Supervision and court-ordered mandatory probation, to reduce recidivism in the local and State criminal justice system.
- 18.32. Legislation to require the State to provide full funding for the treatment and programming needs of its parolees in the community.
- 18.33. Proposals that would provide additional funding for programs, services and facilities that provide a continuum of services to adult probation populations, including health, mental health and substance use disorder screenings and treatment services.
- 18.34. Increased State funding for housing programs for justice involved youth.
- 18.35. Proposals to provide funding for prevention and intervention programs for youth at risk of becoming involved or who are currently involved in the juvenile justice system.
- 18.36. Proposals to provide funding for information technology initiatives that assist juvenile justice agencies to integrate, upgrade and maintain justice systems.
- 18.37. Proposals to provide full funding of the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act and strengthen provisions and funding structures to ensure effective delinquency prevention.
- 18.38. Legislation to address concerns related to juvenile justice reforms including adequate funding for new population and services.
- 18.39. Legislation for additional funding for Juvenile Court Community Schools which could include adopting an alternative to the average daily attendance formula.
- 18.40. Proposals for new funding to increase access to quality childcare and develop programs that strengthen parenting skills and promote optimal child development for pregnant and parenting system involved youth.
- 18.41. Proposals to provide resources to enhance the juvenile mental health competency process, including shortening the timeline for formal competence proceedings and providing adequate funding for mental health and supportive services to juveniles detained pending their competency proceedings or remediation.
- 18.42. Proposals that provide funding or support for programs, services and facilities for arts instruction for youth in detention facilities.
- 18.43. Measures that would ensure that indigent children and youth that rely on public healthcare services have the same protections and privileges as that of persons who receive private health services.



19. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

The County Supports:

- 19.1. Funding and legislation to educate, train and support public safety dispatchers, public safety telecom and emergency response communications employees about post-traumatic stress disorder.
- 19.2. Increased funding to provide continued and updated training to public safety dispatchers on implicit bias, diversity, inclusion and equity, in order to better serve the community.
- 19.3. Increased funding for the implementation of NexGen 9-1-1.
- 19.4. Increased funding for backup 9-1-1 centers.
- 19.5. Funding, policies and programs that enhance the wellbeing of public safety dispatchers.
- 19.6. Efforts to protect the privacy of the health information and other personally identifiable information of 9-1-1 callers.



20. PUBLIC WORKS

The County Supports:

- 20.1. Statewide policies that ensure construction expansion, rehabilitation, operation and maintenance of local infrastructure as priorities.
- 20.2. Balanced with the need for environmental protection, the streamlining and coordination of regulatory requirements so that routine projects can be processed without delay, expectation for routine work can be established and the costs of both initial construction and ongoing operations and maintenance of local infrastructure can be effectively reduced.
- 20.3. Policies and funding that would support the development and deployment of electrification modernization in rural and coastal areas in San Mateo County.
- 20.4. Funding for implementing programs and regulations on storm water management required by the State Regional Water Quality Control Board in order to fund activities consistent with municipal storm water permit requirements.
- 20.5. Coordinating regulatory agency permitting requirements for maintenance and capital improvement projects to avoid conflicting requirements from state agencies and streamlining delivery of projects.
- 20.6. Funding to support implementation of California Air Resource Board regulatory mandates relating to diesel powered construction equipment.
- 20.7. Permanent authority to use the Design-Build and Construction Manager At Risk project delivery methods.
- 20.8. Flexibility for alternative project delivery methods on infrastructure projects.
- 20.9. Opposes linking certain transportation funding with housing production.



21. REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

The County Supports:

- 21.1. Legislation and policies that protect the right to reproductive freedom, including a right to an abortion and to choose or refuse contraceptives.
- 21.2. The establishment and preservations of civil and criminal protections for patients seeking or receiving reproductive healthcare services, as well as reproductive healthcare service providers, in California.
- 21.3. The establishment and preservation of privacy protections for medical records related to abortion care against disclosures to law enforcement and out-of-state third parties seeking to enforce abortion bans in other states.
- 21.4. Funding of providers who provide uncompensated care to patients, regardless of state residency, with low incomes and those who face financial barriers to accessing abortion and contraception.
- 21.5. Funding to provide financial support for practical and logistical assistance to patients accessing abortion care, including but not limited to childcare, travel costs, food and lodging.
- 21.6. The creation and continued maintenance of a state-supported website with comprehensive information regarding abortion care, services and resources available in California.
- 21.7. Funding to conduct medically accurate and culturally competent outreach and education on sexual health and reproductive health issues.
- 21.8. Funding and policies to assist reproductive healthcare facilities in securing their physical and information technology infrastructure and to enhance facility security.
- 21.9. Funding and policies to increase the reproductive healthcare workforce.
- 21.10. Funding to research the unmet needs for access to reproductive healthcare services.



22. PUBLIC SAFETY AND JUSTICE

The County Supports:

- 22.1. Constitutional protections that provide guaranteed and adequate state funding for counties' new responsibilities related to 2011 Public Safety Realignment. The County opposes any efforts that transfer additional program responsibilities to counties without adequate funding, constitutional protections and consideration of safety needs of the local system.
- 22.2. The development of a permanent and equitable Public Safety Realignment funding formula that rewards strategies to reduce recidivism.
- 22.3. Full funding for local public safety programs that have historically been supported by fines and fees within the criminal justice system. AB 1869 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 92, Statutes of 2020) repealed the County's authority to collect various fines and fees and appropriated monies for five year to backfill a portion of the revenue loss.
- 22.4. Preservation of funding for local public safety efforts, including inmate housing, security, programming, health, mental health and drug and alcohol programs.
- 22.5. Continuing efforts to maximize opportunity for reimbursement for inmate medical care, including options available under the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA), as well as pursuing funding for increased needs resulting from realignment. The County also supports mitigating liabilities in areas such as health, mental health, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other areas of legal concern.
- 22.6. Preservation of funding and, in the future, seeking additional funding for an expanded, more robust and comprehensive drug court.
- 22.7. Full state funding for court security costs provided by the County.
- 22.8. Full funding for the cost of booking and processing of persons arrested by public entities in the County as authorized in Government Code 29553(b).
- 22.9. Increased funding for local law enforcement to enhance community engagement efforts as well as technology that supports further information sharing between law enforcement and the community to prevent and reduce crime.
- 22.10. Increased funding and regulation for domestic violence and new prohibited person's compliance firearms programs.
- 22.11. Ensuring continued state funding for adult criminal justice facilities that will meet the needs created by realignment, i.e., programming space, substance abuse and mental health treatment, etc.
- 22.12. Policies that help the County better implement Proposition 47, as well as mitigate local criminal justice impacts.

- 22.13.** Increased funding for inmate management, programming, supervision, and substance abuse treatment, mental health services and other inmate services.
- 22.14.** Efforts to ensure that counties that did not provide in-person visitation under the Board of State and Community Corrections rules prior to 2016 will be reimbursed or funded for the mandate to reconfigure existing facilities.
- 22.15.** Legislation that allows for the consolidation and contracting out of police services and opposes efforts to amend PERS regulations to dis-incentivize these practices.
- 22.16.** Efforts to align law library costs, including facilities maintenance, with trial courts rather than the County.
- 22.17.** Corrections reforms established within the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) that are developed through collaboration of state and local governments and criminal justice agencies that are adequately funded to operate safe and secure jails and build upon successful, existing programs. The County also supports full state funding for any new requirements imposed on the CCP.
- 22.18.** State funding for local jail construction projects, which recognize the importance of inmate programs and services such as educational, vocational and treatment services and provides flexibility that meets the unique characteristics of each county.
- 22.19.** Alternatives to incarceration for people with mental illness and/or substance use disorders.
- 22.20.** Promoting funding for training of county personnel to address LGBTQ concerns relating to public safety and policies relating to LGBTQ concerns.
- 22.21.** Efforts to guide the youth of San Mateo County towards their full potential through impactful programs, which foster relationships between the Sheriff's Office and the community.
- 22.22.** Promoting an environment that encourages continuous improvement and innovation. We strive to be leaders in modern policing, acting on input and feedback from our communities and colleagues, constantly implementing best-practices and exploring alternative solutions to current issues.
- 22.23.** Efforts to enhance services to victims of human trafficking incidents, raise awareness of human trafficking within the community and foster greater collaborative efforts among all who fight modern-day slavery.
- 22.24.** Increased funding to provide continuous de-escalation training to comply with SB 230 Caballero, Chapter 285, Statutes of 2019). The Sheriff's Office has developed an ECIT (Enhanced Crisis Intervention Training) program that will train Deputies in the best tactically and legally sound de-escalation tactics to use on persons who suffer from mental illness and are in crisis. ECIT allows us to maintain compliance with SB 230.
- 22.25.** Increased funding to provide continued and updated law enforcement training on implicit bias. This training will allow law enforcement officers the ability to impact their perceptions and behaviors, while managing bias. Continued training on this perishable skill will enhance our ability and legitimacy with the diverse communities we serve.
- 22.26.** Legislation and funding to support the creation of a state-wide hot line for reporting hate crimes.
- 22.27.** Policies that condemn and combat hate crimes.
- 22.28.** Funding for the construction, renovation and operation of locally-operated forensic crime laboratories.
- 22.29.** Additional State funding to expand the use of DNA collection and analysis to be used in criminal investigations and prosecutions.
- 22.30.** Legislation to fund staffing, training, and the purchase of rapid response emergency equipment for first-responder teams including police/sheriff, firefighters, emergency medical services, medical, public health, coroner, hospital emergency staff, emergency management and other medical professionals.

- 22.31. Legislation to maintain the privacy of individuals after death by protecting medical examiner/coroner records from public disclosure.
- 22.32. Support policies consistent with the County's established Independent Civilian Advisory Commission for the Sheriff's Office that increase community safety and foster trust.



23. FIREARMS SAFETY

The County supports:

- 23.1. Funding to support local firearm relinquishment programs to remove firearms from prohibited persons and otherwise dangerous individuals. San Mateo County has developed a cutting-edge local gun relinquishment program and supports efforts by the state and other local governments to replicate our model across the state.
- 23.2. Legislation to require safe gun storage for all gun owners, regardless of whether minors are present. San Mateo County has passed an ordinance requiring safe storage of firearms in the unincorporated County that fills gaps in State law and encourages other local jurisdictions to do the same.
- 23.3. Legislation to prohibit guns in sensitive areas, such as government buildings or parks, which have been addressed by the County, as well as areas like those contemplated by the Legislature in SB 918 (Portantino, 2022).
- 23.4. Legislation to rigorously and consistently regulate gun dealers Statewide in a manner consistent with the County efforts as reflected by Chapter 3.51 of the Ordinance Code.
- 23.5. Strengthening legislation that regulates ghost guns.
- 23.6. Legislation and policies to hold the gun industry accountable for the harm gun violence has caused to our communities.
- 23.7. Permanent funding for violence intervention programs, including the California Violence Intervention and Prevention (CalVIP) program.
- 23.8. Increased funding and legislation to support local gun buyback programs and other gun violence prevention programs.



24. STATE BUDGET

The County Supports:

- 24.1.** Timely and full funding for state-mandated and partnership programs, particularly repayment of post-2004 debts and suspended mandates. The County will oppose efforts to eliminate mandate reimbursements from existing law.
- 24.2.** Increased flexibility in program and service implementation and the elimination of programs not properly funded by state and/or federal funds.
- 24.3.** The principle that reliable, predictable and equitable funding should be provided to local governments, including schools, cities, special districts and counties. This support includes the proper allocation of existing tax revenues.
- 24.4.** In concept, the reduction in funding for various programs and activities only when the concomitant requirement to provide such programs and activities is relieved. The Board has not considered what specific programs would be acceptable for reductions in funding and expressly reserves its ability to take a position on this issue should it arise during the current legislative session and any pertinent special sessions.
- 24.5.** Restoration of historic reductions in local government funding and increased flexibility in implementing and administering services.
- 24.6.** The existing 1991 realignment funding allocation formula.
- 24.7.** Improvements to the Senate Bill 90 (Chapter 1406, Statutes of 1972) mandate reimbursement process that simplify the claiming requirements, expedite the process, and provide sufficient reimbursement to counties. The County also opposes the practice of mandate suspension as a state budget solution. Local governments should be provided the opportunity to comment on proposals to suspend mandates and then be provided adequate time to end program services.
- 24.8.** Increases in alcohol taxes as well as changes in state government's business practices that lead to greater economies and improved program outcomes, should timely and full funding for programs not be maintained.
- 24.9.** Performance-based budgeting at the state level.
- 24.10.** Legislation to ensure a mechanism to enable the state to fully fund required vehicle license fees (VLF) payments to local governments. The County needs a permanent solution to the problem that arises when there are insufficient funds to cover VLF payments to local governments.



25. TAX AND FINANCE

The County Supports:

- 25.1.** Preservation of existing revenues and revenue authority. The County opposes efforts to expand Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements, as MOEs tend to penalize more progressive counties that implement programs before the statewide program.
- 25.2.** Maintenance of property tax revenues directed to local government. The County opposes efforts to direct property tax revenues away from local government.
- 25.3.** The existing property tax allocation laws, which return surplus Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) dollars to local taxing entities. The County strongly opposes legislative actions, which would utilize ERAF for payment of state program/service obligations.
- 25.4.** Appropriate flexibility and sufficient resources to implement Proposition 19, a property tax reform measure approved by voters in November 2020.
- 25.5.** A lower voter threshold for special taxes to 55 percent.
- 25.6.** The issuance or sale of revenue bonds by the state for projects that are financed, owned, operated, or managed by the state or any joint agency that exceed \$2 billion dollars without voter approval.
- 25.7.** Efforts to allocate funding through block grants, which allow for maximum flexibility in the use of funding within designated programs.
- 25.8.** Federal funding mechanisms that allow funding to flow directly to local governments rather than through state government.
- 25.9.** Increased ability to utilize state or local matching funds to draw down additional federal funds.
- 25.10.** Economic development efforts that grow the California and local economy in a sustainable (environmental and economic) fashion.
- 25.11.** Increased funding for county infrastructure needs, should such funds be available.
- 25.12.** Collaboration with other local government entities operating in San Mateo County to allow for a countywide perspective of proposed legislation impacting the allocation/distribution of local property taxes. Local governments in San Mateo County should work together to ensure the protection of local property taxes.
- 25.13.** Continued assessment of computer programs where such programs are integral to taxable business property and are necessary for the proper functioning of that property for the purpose for which it was designed.

25.14. Utilization of a valuation methodology consistent with other business personal property for assessment of commercial aircraft.



26. TRANSPORTATION

The County Supports:

- 26.1. Allocation of formulas that ensure the County receives its fair share of infrastructure bond funding by reflecting, in part, the variation in the cost of living and doing business among the state's diverse communities.
- 26.2. Allocation of formulas that ensures San Mateo County transit agencies receive a fair share of proceeds from any new regional funding sources for operations or transit infrastructure investment.
- 26.3. Legislation that does not alter local control, governance or funding for San Mateo County Transit agencies without the express consent of the affected San Mateo County Transit agency boards of directors.
- 26.4. The protection from diversion or borrowing of the federal or state gas tax.
- 26.5. Prohibitions on the delayed pass-through of state transportation funding (HUTA) to counties caused by state budget delays.
- 26.6. Protection of dedicated statewide ongoing revenue sources, including recently approved Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (RMRA) funding sources that support local operations and maintenance of existing and future infrastructure needs.
- 26.7. Updating, adjusting and/or indexing the current gas tax. Pursuing alternative funding strategies including vehicle miles traveled (VMT).
- 26.8. The Legislative Analyst's Office recommendation to require a statewide transportation needs assessment every five years, if the assessment has no fiscal impact on County funds or revenues.
- 26.9. The implementation and funding for affordable transportation for low-income youth and families.
- 26.10. Policies and funding that facilitate countywide coordination on public transportation planning, active transportation planning (i.e. bike highways), parking and electric vehicle charging infrastructure planning. The County supports funding for bicycling and pedestrian transportation improvements in the unincorporated County. The County supports funding to be tied to miles traveled by all vehicles, rather than on fuel sales. The County supports significant and regionally coordinated investments in public transportation, including transit systems that reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMTs).
- 26.11. Policies and funding that support improvements to streets and roads that encourage active transportation, such as walking and bicycling, transit, and other carbon-reducing road improvements, and promote urban densification and the concentration of services and housing near centers of transit.
- 26.12. Funding for electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
- 26.13. Funding to promote and implement micro-mobility strategies and other emerging transportation trends.

26.14. Improved safety measures for active transportation and improved transit access to reduce congestion and air pollution.

26.15. Funding for adaptation of transportation systems to climate change impacts.



27. TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR

The County Supports:

- 27.1. Legislation and policies that enable the efficient collection of taxes and fees.
- 27.2. Modernization of state laws governing the operations of the County Treasurer/Tax-Collector.
- 27.3. Local control and discretion over the management, investment and protection of the County's financial assets.
- 27.4. Legislation that would require all taxing jurisdictions that share in property tax revenues to pay their fair share of the costs incurred by the Assessor, Auditor and Tax-Collector in administering the property tax system.
- 27.5. Legislation that enables the Treasurer-Tax Collector to provide flexibility and support to taxpayers, especially in unexpected situations and times of distress.

A large inflatable orca kite is the central focus, suspended in the air by thin lines. The orca is dark blue on top and white on the bottom, with characteristic white patches on its side. In the background, other kites are visible, including a white and black striped one, a red one, and a blue one. The scene is set in a grassy field under a clear blue sky. In the distance, there are trees, power lines, and a few people. A white van is parked on the left side of the field. The overall atmosphere is festive and outdoorsy.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

These are the top federal legislative policies for San Mateo County in the second session of the 118th Congress.

Overview

The 118th Congress will continue to see a “divided government” with the House of Representatives under a very narrow Republican majority and the Senate under an equally narrow Democrat majority, while President Biden is entering the final year of his term. The first session of the 118th Congress saw leadership changes in the House of Representatives as negotiations around annual appropriations stalled despite looming government shutdowns. While Congress ultimately passed several short-term stopgap spending bills to avert a shutdown, Congress has yet to approve any of the Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) appropriations bills. The major challenge facing Congress will be finding enough consensus to pass the FY24 annual appropriations bills rather than relying on short-term extensions or year-long extensions. Moreover, Congress will need to complete work on the FY 25 funding bills before the end of the calendar year.

The Following is a List of Priority Areas for the County:

COVID-19/County Fiscal Stability. The County supported the passage of American Rescue Plan Act and is actively investing its Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) in the community as it continues to recover from the pandemic. The County opposes legislation to rescind these funds and supports future initiatives to prepare the nation and County for future public health emergencies. The County supports federal funding in the following areas to help it respond to the COVID-19 pandemic: testing, contact tracing, vaccinations and vaccination-related activities, surveillance, containment and mitigation, and electronic health data systems, among other pandemic health support activities.

Reproductive Rights. On June 24, 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court reversed 50 years of precedent by overturning *Roe v. Wade* in the case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*. The decision was deeply troubling as many states have passed, or are set to enact, laws that restrict, prohibit, and even criminalize abortion. The immediate impact of these new state laws leaves women in those states, particularly women of color and low-income women, unable to access abortion and other healthcare services safely. The County supports:

- Codifying the legal protections embedded in the *Roe v. Wade* decision, including support for the Women’s Health Protection Act.
- Protecting and expanding access to abortion care, including FDA-approved medications.
- Protecting and expanding access to contraception.
- Ensuring all patients have access to the full rights and protections of emergency medical care.
- Protecting consumer privacy when seeking information about and provision of reproductive healthcare services.
- Opposing bans on interstate travel to block a patient from seeking abortion care.
- Ensuring the safety of patients, providers and third parties that are providing, receiving, dispensing or delivering reproductive healthcare services.
- Conducting outreach and public education efforts.
- Funding reproductive healthcare providers and clinics.

Healthcare Reform Implementation. The County supports the continued implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and full funding for its administration and programs, specifically comprehensive primary care, mental health and

substance abuse treatment, among others, and opposes its repeal. The County supports the continual improvement of the ACA by addressing unresolved issues such as the “kid glitch” and regional/cost-of-living adjustments for cost-sharing and premium support.

The County continues to monitor the challenges patients face as they navigate the health care system, including the issue of unexpectedly high medical bills. In response to national attention and the impacts on patients and families, the No Surprises Act was signed into law to address surprise medical billing. The County will continue to monitor the implementation and results of this new law.

County Health opposes future federal policy changes that would erode the Medi-Cal program or otherwise impose cost-shifts on the County. The program’s expansion and related waivers have allowed County Health to make major strides in providing high quality and comprehensive health-care to the most vulnerable residents in our community. Repeal of or changes that reduce the ACA could lead to increases in the County’s uninsured population, thereby increasing the number of persons on the County-funded Access for Everyone (ACE) Program. It has been shown that if people lose healthcare coverage, they tend to seek care only under emergency circumstances. This approach to medical care would erode years of work by the County, whose mission has been to expand access to primary preventative care to reduce emergency room visits. With California having received the federal authority necessary to implement the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), a framework that encompasses a broad-based delivery system and program, as well as payment reform across the Medi-Cal program, the County supports proposals that: 1) protect and expand Medi-Cal funding, eligibility, and covered services, including through the CalAIM initiative; and 2) educate and promote access to available healthcare services for immigrant families and children, such as Medi-Cal and the Children’s Health Insurance Program.

Further, the County supports federal reimbursement for undocumented beneficiaries covered through the expansion of Medi-Cal.

Medicaid. As one of the big three federal entitlement programs, the Medicaid program provides the critical funding for the healthcare safety net, which reimburses providers and hospitals for what would otherwise be unreimbursed medical care. Any cuts to Medicaid would reduce patient access to services and decrease funding to San Mateo County health programs. Additionally, Medicaid funding reductions would undercut local efforts to transform ACA outreach efforts and the care it provides.

The County opposes federal efforts to cut Medicaid through changes to funding methods, which include implementation of a block grant, or institution of a blended Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rate and the provision of per-capita payments based on states’ historical Medicaid spending patterns in return for increased administrative flexibility in designing and administering the program. The County supports the extension of federal Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) allotments (delay cuts) to protect funding for uncompensated uninsured costs. California continues to be one of the lowest Medicaid spending states based on a per-capita basis, potentially locking the State into a very low federal allotment. Moreover, to the extent that State administrative and benefit costs exceed what is covered by the block grant, counties are at risk of assuming the financial liability for those costs.

Overall, the County supports assuring that actions to address the federal budget deficit do not erode the strength of Medicaid or Social Security.

Health Services. The County supports the advancement of preventative healthcare demonstrations to improve wellness across multiple areas through nutrition, schools, transportation and other infrastructure, conservation, housing and the built environment. This includes federal proposals and initiatives to update and advance:

- State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIPP)

- Older Americans Act
- Second Chance Act
- Safe and Complete Streets Act
- Livable Communities Act
- Local Farms, Food and Jobs Act
- Clean Air Act
- Clean Water Act
- Women Infants and Children’s Program and other efforts to promote healthy eating by the Department of Agriculture.

Specifically, the County supports establishing inflation and caseload adjustments for the federal Older Americans Act so this funding stream can keep pace with increases in cost and demand.

Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP). CHIP is currently funded through FY 2027. The County supports full funding of CHIP and continuing the percentage point boost in the federal contribution over the normal 65 percent federal match for CHIP.

Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy. The County supports efforts to maximize opportunities for reimbursement for inmate medical care, including options available under the ACA, such as the Medi-Cal Inmate Claiming Program.

42 CFR Part 2. Through the CARES Act, Congress amended 42 U.S.C. § 290dd-2, the statute underlying 42 CFR Part 2, to align more closely with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The County supports the swift issuance of a rule by HHS to ensure changes initiated by the CARES Act are realized without delay. The County supports SAMHSA’s regulations mirroring HIPAA to balance patient privacy with provider access to comprehensive medical information.

The County also supports changes to federal laws pertaining to the confidentiality of substance use disorder patient records that improve the ability of providers and others involved in the treatment of patients with substance use disorders to coordinate care. The County supports aligning laws pertaining to the confidentiality of substance use disorder patient records with HIPAA.

Child Welfare Services. The County supports increased funding for services and income support needed by parents seeking to reunify with children who are in foster care. The County also supports increased financial support for programs that assist foster youth in the transition to self-sufficiency, including post-emancipation assistance such as secondary education, job training, and access to healthcare.

In addition, the County supports retaining the entitlement nature of the Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance programs and eliminating outdated rules that base the child’s eligibility for funds on parental income and circumstances. Finally, the County supports federal funding to address the service needs of youth who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

SNAP Funding. The County opposes any further reductions in funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), or CalFresh, which provides food subsidies to some of the neediest residents in the County. The County will also advocate for program improvement efforts to block the granting of SNAP waivers to the state.

Firearm Reform: The County of San Mateo supports federal action to curb gun violence in our communities. The County supports the passage of federal laws to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, to promote responsibility around firearm ownership, to hold the firearm industry accountable and to prohibit dangerous hardware. Specifically, the County supports requiring universal background checks on all firearm sales, prohibiting people with dangerous histories or dangerous

mental illnesses from buying or possessing firearms, passage of strong firearm trafficking laws and improved data sharing between all levels of law enforcement. The County supports comprehensive firearm dealer reforms and requiring purchasers of firearms to undergo safety training. The County supports banning assault weapons, bump stocks and high-capacity magazines, as well as regulating the sale of ammunition. Further, the County supports outlawing the manufacturing of ghost guns and 3-D-printed firearms. The County supports repealing the firearm industry's broad immunity from legal accountability. Lastly, the County supports Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Assistance Funding, which can be used to support services for victims and survivors of gun violence.

LGBTQ Rights. The County strongly supports full human rights for LGBTQ people. The County supports the promotion of equal access to health services for LGBTQ people. Additionally, the County supports the promotion of funding for training of county personnel to address LGBTQ concerns relating to human services.

Housing and Economic Development. The County supports increased funding levels for affordable housing programs, including the Community Development Block Grant (CBDG), the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solution Grants (ESG), Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) and Sustainable Communities, among others. The County is also very supportive of efforts to preserve and expand the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC), as it is the largest source of affordable housing construction funding and must be included in any comprehensive tax reform legislation that unfolds under the new Congressional leadership. Due to the oversubscription of tax-exempt Private Activity Bonds (tax-exempt bonds) in the State, there is a backlog of affordable housing developments that are waiting for an allocation of tax-exempt bonds to begin construction. To build more housing to meet the affordable housing shortage in our County, the County supports removing inefficiencies and limitations of the program, such as the 50% test. Reducing the amount of tax-exempt bonds required for each project from 50% to 25% will allow a greater number of affordable housing developments to access tax-exempt bonds, stretching the dollars to increase overall housing production for lower-income households. The County also supports federal housing solutions that target moderate income households, typically earning between 80%-120% of the area median income. This is to ensure that middle-income families are still able to access economic mobility in a County with one of the highest costs of living in the country.

The County will continue to support increased funding and unit count allocations for all federal rental or operating assistance programs including Section 8, Mainstream, Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), the Family Unification Program (FUP), Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (VASH) and Section 202.

The County will continue monitoring and advocating for federal housing programs that offer increased investment for local efforts within the Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as the Department of Commerce, the Economic Development Administration, the Small Business Administration, the Department of Transportation and the White House. Additionally, the County will advocate for legislation, policies, and regulations that streamline, expedite, and improve federal funding processes, that would allow the County to best meet the local needs of our community. Finally, the County aims to minimize the negative impacts from potential changes to the Housing Choice Voucher program on households with one or more members who lack citizenship status (i.e. Mixed Status Households), which may result in the termination of federal housing subsidy for the entire family.

Homelessness. The County supports expanded, dedicated and ongoing funding for homelessness prevention programs and homeless services and operations.

State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP). The County supports the protection and enhancement of SCAAP funding, a key source of federal funding. The County will oppose efforts to restrict statutory language that would authorize the U.S. Department of Justice to transfer a significant percentage of SCAAP funding to other justice accounts and support its long-term reauthorization.

Victims of Crime Act Funding (VOCA). The County supports continued and increased funding for VOCA, which is allocated to counties through competitive grants administered by Cal OES. These funds help support domestic violence shelters, services for victims of human trafficking and other services for victims of violent crimes.

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The County supports continued funding for VAWA grants, which fund direct services to women who are the victims of violent crime. Counties depend on VAWA funds for CBOs that provide services, including housing, treatment, and other direct-victim services.

Cannabis, Tobacco, and Hemp. With the passage of Proposition 64 in November 2016, California has joined seven other states that have legalized cannabis for recreational purposes. As this change in law is not consistent with federal policy on cannabis, there will be several issues, primarily in the areas of banking, finance and taxation that will need to be addressed. Additionally, the County supports legislation that mitigates the harmful effects of tobacco and vaping, including youth exposure and access, tobacco concentrations in vaping products, and unregulated products that contain THC from hemp. The County will work through the state and its associations in to seek guidance in addressing this ongoing issue.

Property Assessed Clean Energy Program (PACE). The County supports legislative and administrative remedies that would help improve residential PACE programs to incorporate protections for low-income homeowners and provide unbiased evaluations.

Energy & Environment. The County supports federal legislation, funding and other regulations to advance its environmental and sustainability goals. This includes activities to support clean air, clean energy, and clean water programs, emerging technologies development, green entrepreneurship and green workforce training and development, environmental justice and equity programs, building and transportation electrification, climate-resilient infrastructure, and programs to improve and sustain the built environment for business, residential and recreational areas within the County. The County supports funding for programs and activities that promote waste reduction, recycling and composting. This includes the expansion of edible food recovery programs, and extended supplier and producer responsibility, and the development of recycling and composting infrastructure and facilities. The County supports nature-based solutions to protect shoreline communities and natural areas from coastal flooding due to sea level rise. The County will oppose actions to defund science programs that provide critical information on climate change and will continue its participation in the global effort.

Infrastructure. The County supports dedicated federal funding for the nation's transportation needs, including local bridges, both on- and off-system, interstates, primary roads and public transportation; freight and pipeline safety; and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. The County also supports funding for transportation improvements for evacuation routes, especially for communities that have limited evacuation options. Funding should support disability access ramps, curb cuts and other modifications to ensure people with disabilities can evacuate safely. In addition, the County supports further streamlining of the regulatory and project delivery processes, promoting programs that increase safety on the existing transportation system, and initiatives that protect previous and future investments via system maintenance and preservation. The County also supports funding for incentives for electric vehicles, electric bikes, and micromobility options, and for adding electric vehicle charging to existing gas stations. The County supports funding for microgrids to increase the reliability and capacity of the electric grid. The County also supports funding and policies that support targeted electrification of buildings within geographic areas and corresponding decommissioning of natural gas infrastructure in those areas. The County supports investment, funding and legislative support for groundwater quality and supply and watershed health initiatives.

Pest Prevention Programs. The County will advocate for increased funding for invasive pest exclusion and pest prevention programs, an issue of interest to the County's Agriculture, Weights and Measures Commissioner. The County supports integrated pest management and reduced use of pesticides to improve environment and water quality and to support County Municipal Regional Stormwater permit requirements.

Weed and Invasive Plant Management. The County will support federal legislation and resources that would provide stable funding for Weed Management Area groups or programs for the control of harmful nonnative, invasive weed pests.

Parcel Inspection at USPS and Private Parcel Carriers. The County will support legislation or rulemaking actions that authorize county agricultural inspectors to conduct parcel inspection of “first class,” “priority,” or “Express” mail packages containing plant material profiled by pest detection canines.

Jet Fuel. The County will continue to monitor the Federal Aviation Administration’s “Final Policy Amendment” to its “Policy and Procedures Concerning the Use of Airport Revenue,” first published 23 years ago in the Federal Register at 64 Fed. Reg. 7696, February 16, 1999 (“Revenue Use Policy”). The Amendment formally adopts FAA’s interpretation of the Federal requirements for use of revenue derived from taxes including sales taxes on aviation fuel imposed by both airport sponsors and governmental agencies, local and State, that are non-airport operators. The rule restricts the use of local sales taxes to certain aviation-related purposes only, and its implementation is being negotiated with assistance from the state. The County will support legislation that would reverse the FAA’s jet fuel tax revenue rule and support legislative efforts designed to clarify that local voter approved sales tax revenues derived from the sale of aviation fuel are not subject to provisions of federal law that require the proceeds of certain taxes to be spent on airport capital and operating costs. As reauthorization of the federal aviation programs will be required by the end of March 2018, the County will closely follow its development regarding the jet fuel revenue rule.

Taxes. Under the Biden Administration, there is discussion to repeal the portion of the Tax Reform Act that limits personal deductions to \$10,000 on state & local taxes, as well as on real property. The County will monitor this issue closely. The County supports federal remote sales tax policies that allow state and local governments to secure tax collection and remittance from remote sellers.

Municipal Bonds. The County supports preserving the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds that provide critical funding for public facilities, infrastructure and development. Provisions like the tax exemption for municipal bond interest have been part of the federal tax code for over 100 years, helping to efficiently and safely finance trillions of dollars in public works projects, and were continued in the tax reform law passed at the end of 2017.

Immigration Reform. The County of San Mateo recognizes, values, and will continue to work to protect the rights of all San Mateo County residents, regardless of their ethnic or national origin, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or immigration status. Further, the County will continue to promote and enhance the community’s health, safety and welfare and provide and ensure access to quality services that benefit and enrich the lives of all County residents. Specifically, the County supports positive health conditions and due process rights for immigrants detained in detention centers. The County will oppose efforts to require it to use its resources to enforce civil federal immigration law as it believes that enforcement of federal civil immigration law is the federal government’s responsibility. The County urges Congress to continue to work towards a comprehensive immigration reform bill that creates a path to citizenship and protects DREAMERS—minors brought into the country by undocumented adults—from deportation. In addition, the County supports federal legislation that provides undocumented farmworkers and their family members with a path to legal immigration status and citizenship.

The County supports providing legal aid to immigrant and refugee communities under threat.

Veterans. The County will advocate for administrative changes to the VA to increase the processing rate of veterans’ benefits such as disability compensation, pension and survivor benefits. The County will continue to support and seek increases in federal discretionary programs to assist its veterans with social service needs such as housing, workforce training and health-care for prevention, substance abuse and mental health.

Education & Workforce Training. The County will continue its proactive outreach to support federal funding for its early childhood education programs, especially The Big Lift. The County will continue its support of federal efforts that provide ongoing and new opportunities for funding of its current initiatives in early childhood, elementary and secondary

education, and will continue advocacy for public education improvements. It will also seek further workforce support for teens, high school dropouts, underemployed young adults, adults with a history of incarceration who are low-income, and/or who have had less opportunity for high-road jobs.

Internet Connectivity. The County continues all efforts to increase internet access, especially for low income and/or rural residents. These efforts include applying for BIL and other federal funding to support the construction, operations, and maintenance of reliable, high-speed broadband infrastructure; providing subsidized or free access to broadband infrastructure; creating digital literacy and education programs; and providing access to reliable equipment for residents and small businesses.

Net Neutrality. The County supports net neutrality—the principle that all online traffic should be treated equally—and supports laws and policies that restore all net neutrality protections.

Elections. The County supports a consistent, predictable and dedicated federal funding stream to assist counties with meeting the significant federal requirements already imposed on local governments administering elections. The County also supports federal efforts to combat cybersecurity threats in a way that is inclusive of county election and technology officials.

Resilience. The County will advocate for federal assistance and pre-disaster mitigation funding to help counties prepare for and recover from the aftermath of devastating events. While Congress approved a major disaster reform bill in 2018, FEMA has yet to implement several major provisions of the law, including one that would provide assistance to state and local governments for building code implementation and enforcement. The agency also has yet to define the terms “resilient” and “resiliency.”

The County supports federal programs that provide funds and resources to adapt and strengthen resilience to extreme heat and improve air quality, including resources for establishing cooling and clean air centers, resilience hubs, incorporating measures that mitigate heat into home weatherization programs, green infrastructure and nature-based solutions to reduce extreme temperatures and heat exposure, emergency preparedness and heat education campaigns and targeted solutions for disadvantaged and vulnerable communities.

Disaster Preparedness. The County supports increased federal resources to counties for disaster planning, mitigation and recovery. Counties often serve as the nation’s first line of defense before and after disasters strike; thus, the County supports increased federal investment and support of local emergency management capabilities that improve public safety and environmental stewardship, along with social and economic security. The County also supports the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s efforts to integrate equity in hazard mitigation and disaster preparedness and response. Finally, the County supports rapid federal reimbursement of local costs associated with major disasters and encourages the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to administer policies and regulations in a consistent manner during any presidentially declared disaster or emergency throughout the country.

National Flood Insurance Program. The County supports a long-term reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), as the current NFIP program was last authorized by Congress in 2012 and has been extended on an annual basis each year since 2018. The County would oppose any provisions in an NFIP reauthorization that would impose residual risk requirements.

Public Health Laboratories. The County supports continued funding to expand technological readiness to swiftly tackle future emerging diseases, ensuring a resilient and proactive defense against future health crises. Public Health Laboratories (PHL) are crucial for safeguarding community health post-pandemic as it was during the pandemic. They serve as a vital early warning system in detecting, containing, and responding to emerging diseases through cutting-edge testing methods like wastewater analysis, outbreak investigations, and disease sequencing. PHLs provide essential data to monitor, detect, and respond to outbreaks, guiding public policy, resource allocation, and epidemiological research.



A publication of the Intergovernmental and Public Affairs Unit

Connie Juárez-Diroll, Chief Legislative Officer, (650) 599-1341

Kevin Hefner, Management Analyst