



LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

December 19, 2019

10:30 A.M.

****Note Room: 651 Pine Street, Room 108,
Martinez**

Supervisor Diane Burgis, Chair
Supervisor Karen Mitchoff, Vice Chair

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| Agenda Items: | Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee |
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1. Introductions
2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes).
3. **APPROVE the Record of Action for the October 3, 2019 meeting of the Legislation Committee, with any necessary corrections.**
4. **REVIEW the Draft 2020 State Legislative Platform, provide direction to staff, and recommend the adoption of a Proposed 2020 State Legislative Platform by the Board of Supervisors.**
5. **REVIEW the Draft 2020 Federal Legislative Platform, provide direction to staff, and recommend the adoption of a Proposed 2020 Federal Legislative Platform by the Board of Supervisors.**
6. **PROVIDE direction to staff on the protocol and procedures for state and federal advocacy.**
7. Adjourn

The Legislation Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend Legislation Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting.

Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Legislation Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 651 Pine Street, 10th floor, during normal business hours.

Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact:

Lara DeLaney, Committee Staff
Phone (925) 335-1097, Fax (925) 646-1353
lara.delaney@cao.cccounty.us



Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

3.

Meeting Date: 12/19/2019
Subject: Record of Action for Legislation Committee Meeting
Submitted For: LEGISLATION COMMITTEE,
Department: County Administrator
Referral No.: 2019-30
Referral Name: Record of Action
Presenter: L. DeLaney **Contact:** L. DeLaney, 925-335-1097

Referral History:

County Ordinance (Better Government Ordinance 95-6, Article 25-205, [d]) requires that each County Body keep a record of its meetings. Though the record need not be verbatim, it must accurately reflect the agenda and the decisions made in the meeting.

Referral Update:

Attached for the Committee's consideration is the Draft Record of Action for its October 3, 2019 meeting. (Attachment A)

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

APPROVE the Record of Action with any necessary corrections.

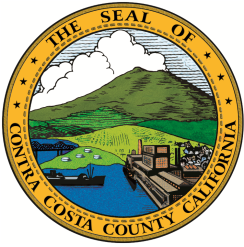
Fiscal Impact (if any):

None.

Attachments

Attachment A: Draft Record of Action

DRAFT



LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

RECORD OF ACTION FOR
October 3, 2019

Supervisor Diane Burgis, Chair
Supervisor Karen Mitchoff, Vice Chair

1. Introductions

Chair Burgis called the meeting to order at 10:30 and invited, staff present and the County's state and federal advocates, on the conference line, to introduce themselves.

2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes).

No one requested to speak during the public comment period.

3. APPROVE the Record of Action with any necessary corrections.

The Committee accepted the Record of Action as presented.

4. PROVIDE input and direction to staff related to a contract for state legislative advocacy services for the period beginning January 1 2020.

The Committee members discussed their meetings with Nielsen Merksamer and indicated they were willing to recommend a continuation of the advocacy services contract through June 30, 2022 (according to the RFP). Committee members directed staff to ensure that contract deliverables included regular written quarterly reports, on-going training for County staff on the legislative process, and an action plan for implementing the priorities of the Platform.

5. PROVIDE direction to staff on the development of the 2020 State and Federal Legislative Platforms.

The Committee provided direction to staff on the development of the 2020 Legislative Platforms, indicating they did not want a combined Federal/State Platform; they were in favor of the development of a 2-year Platform to commence on the next legislative cycle; they supported the idea of including the protocols for advocacy position development in the Platform; and they supported the idea of staff working with a Workgroup to continue soliciting input on the Platforms and transforming the policy-specific statements in the documents to principles.

6. The next meeting is currently scheduled for November 11, 2019 but will be rescheduled owing to the Veterans' Day Holiday.

The November meeting of the Legislation Committee was subsequently cancelled.

7. Adjourn

Chair Burgis adjourned the meeting.

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lara.delaney@cao.cccounty.us



Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

4.

Meeting Date: 12/19/2019

Subject: Draft 2020 State Legislative Platform

Submitted For: LEGISLATION COMMITTEE,

Department: County Administrator

Referral No.: 2019-31

Referral Name: 2020 Legislative Platforms

Presenter: L. DeLaney and Nielsen Merksamer
Team

Contact: L. DeLaney,
925-335-1097

Referral History:

The Legislation Committee annually reviews and considers the draft State and Federal Legislative Platforms prior to their proposal to the Board of Supervisors. Staff aims to have the Platforms to the Committee for their consideration in November and/or December of each year. The adopted Platforms of the Board of Supervisors are available here:

<https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/2859/Legislation>

Referral Update:

Each year in January, the Board of Supervisors adopts a State Legislative Platform that establishes priorities and policy positions with regard to potential State legislation and regulation. The State Legislative Platform includes County-sponsored bill proposals, legislative or regulatory advocacy priorities for the year, and policies that provide direction and guidance for identification of and advocacy on bills which would affect the services, programs or finances of Contra Costa County. Every January, the Board of Supervisors also adopts a Federal Legislative Platform that establishes federal funding needs and policy positions with regard to potential federal legislation and regulation. These documents are utilized by the County's state and federal advocates and staff as the basis for advocacy efforts.

The State and Federal Legislative Platforms are prepared each year by staff of the County Administrator's Office in collaboration with County department heads, other key staff, the County state and federal advocates, and with input from the Board's commissions/committees and the public. CAO staff generally conducts outreach in the fall of year year regarding the Platform process and invites input so that draft documents can be considered by the Legislation Committee in November and/or December of each year. Elements of the Platforms related to the subject matter of the Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee are also reviewed by that committee prior to the Proposed Platforms being presented to the Board of Supervisors in January for adoption.

With direction from the Board of Supervisors for the 2020 Platforms to be more streamlined,

concise and provide greater prioritization, staff of the CAO's office has conducted 2020 Platform input meetings on multiple occasions, convening a "2020 Platform Workgroup" to solicit input on Platform structural/formatting changes. Conference calls with the federal advocates from Alcalde & Fay and state advocates from Nielsen Merksamer were also conducted as part of this process.

With assistance from the Platform Workshop, CAO staff gathered the legislative platforms of 10 urban counties (including Contra Costa County) and analyzed their structure and content. Of note:

- Several counties combine their federal and state advocacy agendas into one document.
- Some counties adopt 2-year platforms to coincide with the two-year legislative cycle.
- Most platforms contain information about the County; a map of the County and its Supervisorial districts; the members of the Board of Supervisors (congressional delegation members were also occasionally included); and demographic and financial information were also sometimes included.
- Orange County developed additional 1-page documents specifically to identify their state and federal priorities.
- Sacramento County included its procedures and protocols for expedited positions and consideration of statewide ballot measures.
- Many platforms also included the County's mission, vision, values, and principles.

The consensus of the staff comprising the Platform Workgroup was to recommend that the County maintain separate Federal and State platforms. However, the Workgroup recommended that the County move toward a two-year document to coincide with the next legislative cycle. The Workgroup also recommended that the documents be modified to include 1-2 pages of introductory and demographics information about the County, similar to what other county platforms provide, and that the County's mission, vision and values be incorporated as well. In order to reduce the size of the Platforms, moving away from specific policy based platforms to principle based platforms could be implemented. However, staff recommended retaining or incorporating the existing 2019 Platform as an appendix to the document or a reference in the document so that existing policies could be retained until amended by the Board of Supervisors.

At its October 3, 2019 meeting, the Legislation Committee provided direction to staff on the development of the Platforms, largely consistent with the recommendations of the Platform Workgroup. CAO staff continued soliciting input from Departments and advocates on the development of the 2020 Platforms consistent with the direction from Legislation Committee related to structural/format changes. Departments had an opportunity to provide further input at a Legislative Training and Platform Input session conducted on October 9, 2019, and several preliminary drafts were provided to the Platform Workgroup and CAO staff.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED STATE PLATFORM CHANGES

Additions to the Draft 2020 Platform:

- County Profile
- Demographic Highlights
- Governance
- Legislative Platform Purpose (*including Attachments A & B*)
- Mission, Vision, Values statement
- To **Priorities**: Added Climate Change, Housing and Homelessness (previously

Homelessness), and Transportation for Seniors/Persons with Disabilities

- Re-framed the Priority related to Health to include Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder

- **Sponsored Bill proposals:** Three new proposals have been included. Bill Proposal #1 related to legislation to increase the cap for a countywide general sales tax measure has not been authorized as yet by the Board of Supervisors. Bill Proposal #2 is a carry-over from the 2019 Platform. Bill Proposal #3 is a request from the Department of Conservation and Development. Bill Proposal #4 is a request from the Employment and Human Services Department.

- Included all Department input on text changes, when provided.

Substantive text changes were made to the sections related to:

- Climate Change
- The Delta
- Emergency Preparedness, Emergency Response
- Flood Control
- Health Care
- Homeless Services
- Human Services
- Justice Systems
- Land Use/Community Development (added "Natural Resources")
- Transportation
- Waste Management

Eliminated:

- All explanatory comments (including for **Priorities**)
- Removed State Budget and Realignment Implementation from Priorities
- Eminent Domain
- Indian Gaming
- Levees
- Pipeline Safety

Note that the Draft 2020 Platform includes the statement that "Until the 2021-2022 Platform is adopted, the 2019 Adopted Platform policies are considered a component of this Platform." This note was included (p. 5) as a recognition of the direction to move to a two-year Platform that is principle-based while recognizing that the 2020 Platform does not fully achieve that goal and, therefore, maintains (carries over) the adopted 2019 policies during this year.

In addition, the Legislation Committee will note that the Draft 2020 Platform does not contain the referenced Attachments A and B. Attachment A is intended to be the County's protocol for position development, which will be addressed in a subsequent agenda item. Attachment B is the County's adopted Delta Platform, which may be provided via an electronic link instead, if so directed by the Committee.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

PROVIDE direction to staff on the development of the 2020 Proposed State Platform and recommend its adoption by the Board of Supervisors at its meeting on January 21, 2020.



2020 Draft State Platform

Contra Costa County

Website: www.contracosta.ca.gov



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INTRODUCTION

County Profile

Contra Costa County is home to more than one million residents and was one of the original 27 counties established in California in 1850. It is the ninth most populous county in the state. Contra Costa is large - over 733 square miles and extends from the northeastern shore of the San Francisco Bay easterly about 50 miles to San Joaquin County. The County is bordered on the south and west by Alameda County and on the north by the Suisun and San Pablo Bays.

The western and northern shorelines are highly industrialized, while the interior sections are suburban/residential, commercial and light industrial. About 40 percent of the county is under the jurisdiction of 19 incorporated cities and towns, and large portions of the remaining unincorporated area are part of public park systems. Contra Costa County is also very diverse, with communities that range from small agricultural towns like Byron, with a population density of about 200 people per square mile, to urban population centers like Contra Costa Centre, a bustling transit village with a population density of 8,400 people per square mile.



Demographic Highlights

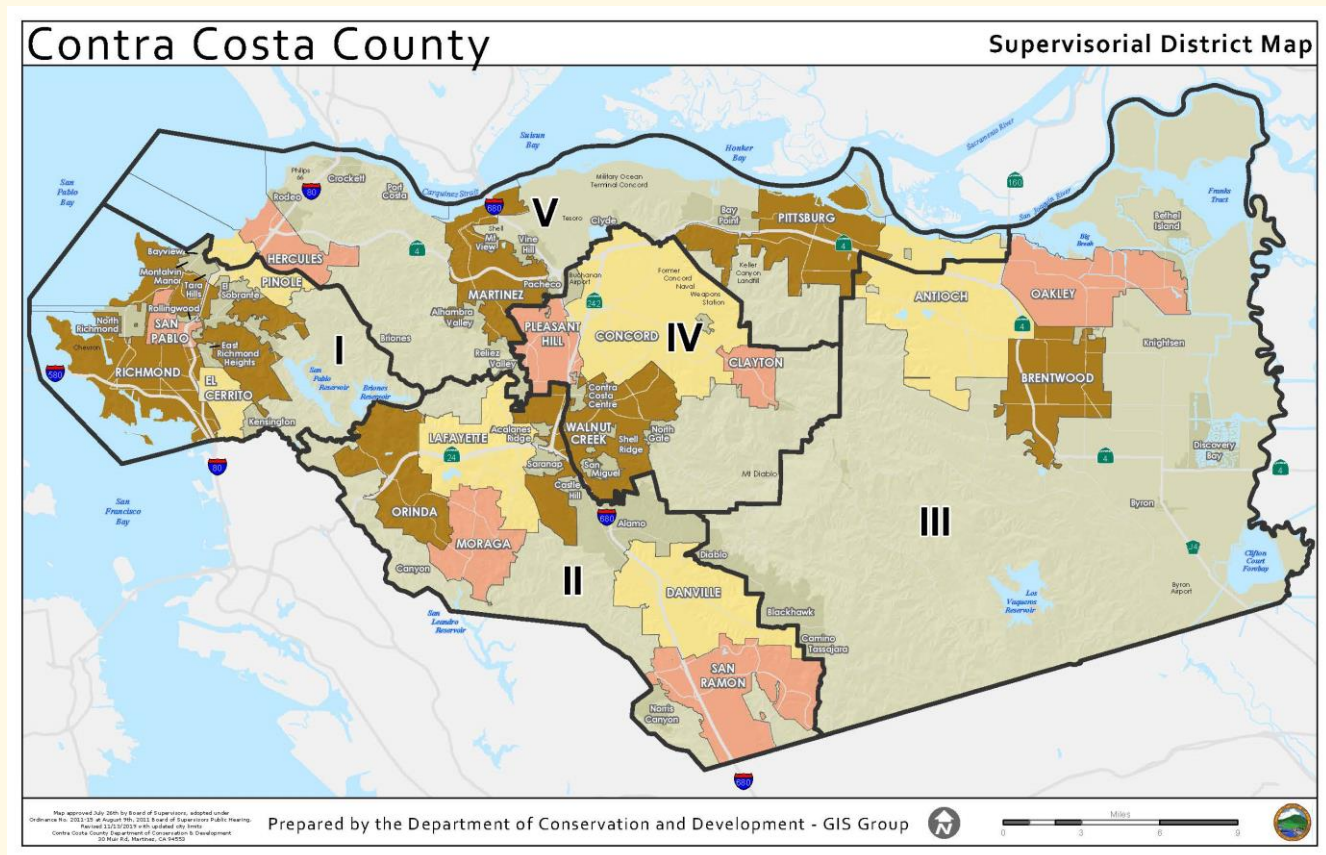
Approximately 1.1 million people live throughout Contra Costa County, but only 15 percent of those, or about 172,080 people, reside in the unincorporated areas of the county. Most of the population is consolidated along the major transportation corridors, including Interstates 80 and 680, Highways 4 and 24, and the BART lines. The median age of County residents is 39 years old. Since 2010, the fastest-growing age group has been seniors 65 or older, as the baby boom generation ages. The majority (57 percent) of County residents are white, with significant proportions of Asian (17 percent) and African American (8 percent) people. The Census tracks Latinx ethnicity separately from other populations; in total, the Hispanic/Latino population makes up approximately one-quarter of the total population.

Governance

A five-member Board of Supervisors, each elected to four-year terms, serves as the legislative body of the County, which has a general law form of government. Also elected are the County Assessor, Auditor-Controller, Clerk-Recorder, District Attorney, Sheriff-Coroner and Treasurer-Tax Collector. The County Administrator, David Twa, is appointed by the Board and is responsible for running the day-to-day business of the County.

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors:

- District 1: John M. Gioia
- District II: Candace Andersen
- District III: Diane Burgis
- District IV: Karen Mitchoff
- District V: Federal D. Glover




Legislative Platform Purpose

The Legislative Platform establishes the priorities, principles, and policy statements of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and establishes the basis for its advocacy efforts, alerting our legislative partners of the greatest needs of our residents and where we need additional help¹. The Platform provides general direction to County departments and agencies, legislative advocates, delegation members, and the public on our positions on key policy matters that would impact the way the County does business. The Platform also includes new bill requests for which legislation is sought from Contra Costa County. The County's protocol for position development is *Attachment A*.

Contra Costa County has also adopted a *Delta Water Platform* to identify and promote activities and policy positions that support the creation of a healthy Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Contra Costa County uses this Delta Water Platform to guide its actions and advocacy regarding the future of the Delta. The Delta Water Platform is *Attachment B*.

Mission, Vision, and Values

Contra Costa County has adopted the following Mission, Vision and Values statement:



The graphic features the Contra Costa County seal at the top left. The title "Contra Costa County" is prominently displayed in a large, white, serif font. Below the title, the text "Mission", "Vision", and "Values" are arranged in three columns. The "Mission" section states that the county is dedicated to providing public services that improve the quality of life for residents and businesses. The "Vision" section states that the county is recognized as a world-class service organization where innovation and partnerships merge to enable residents to enjoy a safe, healthy, and prosperous life. The "Values" section states that the county serves people, businesses, and communities, and lists six core values: Clients and communities, Partnerships, Quality Services, Accountability, Fiscal prudence, and Organizational excellence. At the bottom of the graphic is a large, diverse group of people, including a firefighter, a woman holding a dog, a construction worker, a man holding a keyboard, a woman holding books, a woman holding a child, a nurse, a police officer, and a man holding a tool.

Mission
Contra Costa County is dedicated to providing public services which improve the **quality of life** of our residents and the economic viability of our businesses.

Vision
Contra Costa County is recognized as a **world-class service organization** where innovation and partnerships merge to enable our residents to enjoy a safe, healthy and prosperous life.

Values
Contra Costa County **serves people,** businesses and communities. Our organization and each one of our employees value:

- Clients and communities
- Partnerships
- Quality Services
- Accountability
- Fiscal prudence
- Organizational excellence

¹ Note that until the 2021-2022 Platform is adopted, the 2019 Adopted Platform policies are considered a component of this Platform.

SPONSORED BILLS AND LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Sponsored bill proposal #1: Legislation to increase the cap for a countywide general sales tax measure to be placed on the November 2020 ballot.

Sponsored bill proposal #2: Legislation, in conjunction with Alameda County and other partners, that establishes statewide hauler permitting requirements and associated penalties as well as increases penalties allowed by State law for illegal dumping.

Sponsored bill proposal #3: Legislation to dedicate net proceeds from State Lands Commission lease revenues for public benefit in the County in which they are generated with a focus on increasing public access to and enjoyment of the waterfront.

Sponsored bill proposal #4: Legislation to allow telephonic annual In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) reassessments when a client meets criteria consistent with variable assessment guidelines.



Legislative and/or Regulatory Advocacy Priorities

- ✓ Climate Change
- ✓ Health Care (including Behavioral Health, Substance Use Disorder (SUD))
- ✓ Housing and Homelessness
- ✓ Justice Reform
- ✓ The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta/Water and Levees
- ✓ Transportation for Seniors/Persons with Disabilities

PRINCIPLES AND POLICY STATEMENTS

Agriculture

- SUPPORT efforts to ensure sufficient state funding for pest and disease control and eradication efforts to protect both agriculture and the native environment; high risk pest exclusion activities; pesticide regulatory and law enforcement activities; and noxious weed pest management.
- SUPPORT funding for agricultural land conservation programs and agricultural enterprise programs, and support revisions to State school siting policies, to protect and enhance the viability of local agriculture.
- SUPPORT legislation to establish legal authority where needed to facilitate the efforts by the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the Department of Boating and Waterways to survey and treat all infestations in the Delta of invasive aquatic species through integrated pest management methods.
- SUPPORT legislative changes that preserve the integrity of the Williamson Act, eliminate abuses resulting in unjustified and premature conversions of contracted land for development, and to fully restore Williamson Act subventions.

Animal Services

- SUPPORT efforts to protect local revenue sources designated for use by the Animal Services Department; i.e., animal licensing, fines and fees.
- SUPPORT efforts to protect or increase local control and flexibility over the scope and level of animal services.
- SUPPORT efforts to protect against unfunded mandates in animal services or mandates that are not accompanied by specific revenue sources which completely offset the costs of the new mandates, both when adopted and in future years.
- SUPPORT efforts to ensure full funding of State animal services mandates.
- SUPPORT efforts to protect and/or increase County flexibility to provide animal services consistent with local needs and priorities.
- SUPPORT efforts to preserve the integrity of existing County policy relating to Animal Services (e.g., the Animal Control Ordinance and land use requirements).

Child Support Services

- SUPPORT the establishment of a statewide electronic registry for the creation and release/satisfaction of real property liens to collect delinquent child support payments.
- SUPPORT amendment of current code to clarify that county recorders may not charge a fee or tax to record any child support agency document.
- SUPPORT efforts that require the Department of Child Support Services to provide documents, forms, and letters in digitized format and distribute by any means that the department determines is feasible, including email, website and SMS texting.
- SUPPORT efforts that create new child support enforcement methods or enhance existing child support enforcement methods. OPPOSE efforts that eliminate or restrict existing child support enforcement methods.
- SUPPORT efforts to ensure that any reduction in funding for the department of Child Support Services at the state level is not passed down as a reduction to the local child support agency.
- SUPPORT efforts to increase funding for the child support program. OPPOSE efforts to reduce funding for the child support program.
- OPPOSE efforts that restrict the child support agency from access to customer data.

Climate Change

- SUPPORT legislative and administrative efforts that: address the impacts of climate change; support climate adaptation and resilience efforts; address the disproportionate impacts that some communities bear because they are located near large industrial facilities; reduce exposure to toxic air pollutants and greenhouse gases; and study and recognize the health impacts of global and regional climate change.
- SUPPORT efforts to ensure that the implementation of AB 32 and successor bills results in harmony between the greenhouse gas reduction target created by the Air Resources Board for each regional/local agency, the housing needs numbers provided by the state Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to housing element law, and the Sustainable Communities Strategy developed through the Regional Transportation Plan processes.
- SUPPORT efforts that favor allocation of funding and infrastructure from the California Climate Investments Program to jurisdictions within whose boundaries are the largest emitters of greenhouse gas, have vulnerable and/or disadvantaged communities that are disproportionately affected by climate change and environmental pollution, have Natural

Community Conservation Plans or similar land conservation efforts that will address climate change and have demonstrated a local commitment to climate protection (e.g. established emissions reduction targets, prepared Climate Action Plans, etc.).

- SUPPORT revisions to the Public Resources Code and the Air Resources Board's Investment Plans to provide California Climate Investments funding for the conservation of natural lands, parks and open space through fee title acquisition as well as easements.
- SUPPORT efforts to expand eligible expenditures of the Climate Investments to investments in accessible transit/transportation systems (serving seniors, disabled, veterans) which result in more efficient service and corresponding reductions in greenhouse gas production, and in investments in infrastructure and programs to promote active transportation, particularly bicycling and walking.
- OPPOSE changes to the California Environmental Protection Agency's protocols for designating disadvantaged communities which result in a reduction in the number or size of disadvantaged communities in Contra Costa County prioritized for receipt of California Climate Investment funds.
- SUPPORT efforts to ensure life-cycle costs are considered when planning new projects in the state.
- SUPPORT policies that support the autonomy of community choice aggregators (CCAs) in policymaking and decision-making. OPPOSE legislation and regulatory policies that unfairly disadvantage CCAs or CCA customers or reduce or undermine local decision-making autonomy by the CCA or its governing board.
- SUPPORT continuing development of local renewable energy resources and supply, including protection of local autonomy to administer energy efficiency programs and install and utilize integrated distributed energy resources, and SUPPORT effective leveraging of energy efficiency programs tailored to address local needs and concerns.
- SUPPORT complete transparency of all energy procurement practices, stranded costs, and departing load charges; fair competition in statewide energy markets for community choice aggregators (CCAs) and municipal or other publicly owned utilities; legislation and regulatory policies that protect CCA customers from improper cost allocation; and OPPOSE legislation that conflicts with or diminishes CCA procurement autonomy.
- SUPPORT requirements for investor-owned and public energy utilities to provide local governments with energy usage data for all facilities - residential, commercial, and industrial - in their jurisdictions for purposes of allowing the local governments to develop inventories of greenhouse gas emissions within their boundaries.

- SUPPORT legislation and programs that provide technical, financial, and governance resources for local governments to use in addressing current and anticipated impacts of rising water levels caused by a warming climate.

The Delta

- PROTECTION and RESTORATION of a healthy sustainable Delta ecosystem including adequate water quality, inflow and outflow, and water supply, to support fisheries, wildlife and habitat in perpetuity and managing or eradicating invasive species.
- RESPECT and SAFEGUARD Delta Counties' responsibilities related to land use, water resources, flood management, tax revenues, public health and safety, economic development, agricultural stability, recreation, and environmental protection in any projects, policies, or operations.
- SUPPORT rehabilitation, improvement, and maintenance of levees throughout the Delta.
- SUPPORT the Delta pool concept, in which the common resource provides quality freshwater supply to all Delta users, requiring mutual responsibility to maintain, restore, and protect the common resource.
- REPRESENT and include local government in any governance structures for the Delta.
- OPPOSE isolated conveyance.

Economic Development

- ADVOCATE for jobs-oriented incentive programs for jurisdictions that have met their Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) numbers. State legislators will continue to advance bills that make it easier to build housing, but it would also benefit the county to have those streamlining measures apply to jobs-oriented development like office and advanced manufacturing as well.
- SUPPORT an amendment to the California Competes Tax Credit program guidelines to consider qualifying low-income census tracts within unincorporated areas of a county in the enhanced scoring category.

Elections

- SUPPORT full state reimbursement for state mandates imposed upon local registrars by the Secretary of State, including special state elections.

Emergency Preparedness, Emergency Response

- ADVOCATE for disaster recovery funding that addresses tax backfills, debris removal, resiliency, forest health, and economic assistance. SUPPORT legislation that will improve forest management and emergency communications systems.
- SUPPORT legislation that would give local agencies more authority to train volunteers, provide funding for Community Emergency Response Training (CERT), and help clean-up oil spills without taking on additional legal liability.
- SUPPORT funding for defensible space inspections, community wildfire risk mitigation, and for hardening of existing homes from wildfire exposure.
- SUPPORT legislation that would provide a sales tax exemption for public safety related apparatus and/or equipment over a certain value (e.g., \$250,000).
- SUPPORT exemptions from CEQA for wildfire risk mitigation projects and Essential Services Facilities (ESF) such as fire stations, and exemptions from fees and air quality limitations for emergency generators at fire stations.
- SUPPORT measures that evaluate and implement changes to EMS regulations that hinder the transport of patients to alternate destinations, provide community paramedicine programs, and engage in other programs that alter or enhance the delivery of 911 emergency ambulance transport.
- SUPPORT a permanent resolution to the reimbursement for air ambulance providers.
- ENSURE that development impact fees provide adequate funding for public safety facilities and ongoing operations.
- SUPPORT legislation to improve telephone (cellular and voice over internet protocol) access or back-up during emergencies.

Flood Control and Clean Water

- SUPPORT legislation that would improve integration of planning between member agencies of an Integrated Regional Water Management Planning group, thereby increasing multi-benefit projects.
- SUPPORT legislation that would require Metropolitan Planning Organizations to integrate local and regional stormwater needs into their regional transportation planning process.

General Revenues/Finance

- SUPPORT the State's effort to balance its budget through actions that do not adversely affect County revenues, services or ability to carry out its governmental responsibilities.
- OPPOSE any state-imposed redistribution, reduction or use restriction on general purpose revenue, sales taxes or property taxes unless financially beneficial to the County.
- OPPOSE efforts to limit local authority over transient occupancy taxes (TOT).
- OPPOSE any efforts to increase the County's share-of-cost, maintenance-of-effort requirements or other financing responsibility for state-mandated programs, absent new revenues sufficient to meet current and future program needs.
- SUPPORT efforts to ensure that Contra Costa County receives its fair share of state allocations.
- SUPPORT efforts to receive reimbursement for local tax revenues lost pursuant to sales and property tax exemptions approved by the Legislature and the State Board of Equalization.
- SUPPORT continued efforts to reform the state/local relationship in a way that makes both fiscal and programmatic sense for local government and conforms to the adopted 2010 CSAC Realignment Principles, with an emphasis on maximum flexibility for counties to manage the existing and realigned discretionary programs.
- SUPPORT a reduction in the 2/3rd vote requirement to 55% voter approval for locally-approved special taxes that fund health, education, economic, stormwater services, library, transportation and/or public safety programs and services.
- SUPPORT efforts to authorize counties to impose forfeitures for violations of ordinances, as currently authorized for cities.
- SUPPORT efforts to redefine the circumstances under which commercial and industrial property is reassessed to reduce the growing imbalance between the share of overall property tax paid by residential property owners versus commercial/industrial owners.
- SUPPORT efforts to reduce County costs for Workers' Compensation, including the ability to control excessive medical utilization and litigation.
- SUPPORT state actions that maximize federal and state revenues for county-run services and programs.

- SUPPORT legislative compliance with both the intent and language of Proposition 1A.
- OPPOSE efforts of the state to avoid state mandate claims through the practice of repealing the statutes, then re-enacting them. SUPPORT timely, full payments to counties by the state for programs operated on their behalf or by mandate.
- SUPPORT full state participation in funding the County's retiree and retiree health care unfunded liability.
- OPPOSE the establishment of specific or stricter standards for the use of personal services contracts by counties that would make contracting with community-based organizations more difficult for counties.

Health Care

- SUPPORT state action to increase health care access and affordability.
- SUPPORT Medi-Cal reimbursement rate increases to incentivize providers to participate in the program.
- SUPPORT Medi-Cal reimbursement rate increases through Proposition 56 funding to provide quality reproductive health care services.
- SUPPORT reimbursement for a maximum of 2 visits taking place on the same day at one location if the patient suffers illness/ injury requiring additional diagnosis/ treatment, or if the patient has a medical visit and mental health or dental visit.
- SUPPORT actions that address provider shortages (including physicians, particularly specialists, and nurses). Innovative programs, such as loan forgiveness programs, should be expanded.
- SUPPORT efforts that implement comprehensive systems of care, including case management, for frequent users of emergency care and those with chronic diseases and/or dual (or multiple) diagnoses.
- SUPPORT efforts that provide sufficient time for detailed data gathering of current safety net funding in the system and the impact of any redirection of funds on remaining county responsibilities.
- SUPPORT measures that maximize federal reimbursement from Medicaid and S-CHIP.

- SUPPORT state action to implement a Medi-Cal waiver in a manner that maximizes the drawdown of federal funds for services and facilities, provides flexibility, and ensures that counties receive their fair share of funding.
- SUPPORT efforts to extend Drug Medi-Cal and Minor Consent Medi-Cal Coverage to incarcerated youths, many of whom are in custody due to drug related crimes.
- SUPPORT funding and policy changes to support coverage of medically necessary alcohol and substance use related disorder treatment at the same level as other medical conditions.
- SUPPORT legislation that extends the restrictions and prohibitions against the smoking of, and exposure to, tobacco products; and the promotion of cessation among young people and adults.

SUPPORT legislation and administrative actions that further align a statewide regulatory framework for the commercial cannabis industry and that continue to authorize local jurisdictions to adopt more restrictive measures to protect the health, safety and welfare of their residents. OPPOSE legislation and state regulation that seeks to weaken or eliminate local control over the commercial cannabis industry.

- SUPPORT funding and policy changes to support population-based chronic disease prevention efforts such as the creation and funding of a State Wellness Trust.
- SUPPORT funding and policy changes to support developing a workforce with gerontological expertise to manage the exponential growth in the chronically ill aging population.
- SUPPORT efforts that would advance a Health-In-All-Policies approach to policy work done across the County. This implies consideration of how health is influenced by the built environment and a connection with land use planning and development.
- SUPPORT ongoing study of the health impacts of global and regional climate change and ongoing countywide mitigation and adaptation efforts.
- SUPPORT efforts that would preserve the nature and quality and continuity of care associated with safety net services historically provided at the local level, such as the California Children's Services (CCS) and Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) programs, which are being transitioned into managed care at the state level.
- SUPPORT efforts that promote aging in place through the utilization of long-term supports and services and caregiver support services.

- SUPPORT increasing the level of funding for Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) and Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) to meet the increase in cost to provide services and to meet the tremendous increase in the aging population.
- SUPPORT maintaining level or enhanced funding, streamlined processes and greater flexibility for use of state and federal funding to respond to Public Health Emergency Preparedness initiatives including Pandemic Influenza, emerging diseases, and continued funding for all categories related to Public Health Preparedness.
- SUPPORT increased funding and policy changes for Tuberculosis (TB) prevention and treatment, to reflect the increased risk of transmission faced across the Bay Area.
- SUPPORT increased funding for the public health infrastructure, capacity and prevention services as outlined in the public health components of the Affordable Care Act and the National Prevention and Public Health Fund.
- SUPPORT recognition of Local Public Health Departments as an authorized provider for direct billing reimbursement related to the provision of Immunization, Family Planning, HIV, STD and TB services.
- SUPPORT the reversal of the pre-emption language regarding local Menu-Labeling that is included in the Affordable Care Act.
- SUPPORT enhanced funding and capacity for public health programs.
- SUPPORT efforts to strengthen needle exchange programs as part of an overall program to combat the spread of HIV and other diseases.
- SUPPORT legislative efforts to reduce or eliminate lead and toxic substances in consumer products, particularly those used by infants and children.
- SUPPORT funding, policy and programs dedicated to suicide, injury and violence prevention.
- SUPPORT funding and policy changes to support program development aimed at reducing the misuse of prescription drugs, most especially opioids, and increase prevention and treatment of opioid disorders to eliminate overdoses and combat the opioid epidemic.
- SUPPORT funding and legislation to restrict the sale and use of powdered alcohol and other similar products marketed to youth; restrictions on advertising of marijuana products targeting youth and near places frequented by youth or alcohol and other drug treatment facilities.

- SUPPORT necessary County infrastructure and adequate funding related to education, regulatory, testing and enforcement functions associated with cannabis regulatory controls.
- SUPPORT legislation to tax certain beverages that contain added sugars.
- SUPPORT legislation and efforts that support healthy meals, adequate meal time, and increased physical activity/education for school-age children.
- SUPPORT efforts to dedicate funding that sustains and expands non-infrastructure *Safe Routes to School* programs that educate students, parents, and school staff about safe walking and bicycling to school.
- SUPPORT efforts to address the underlying determinants of health and health equity, such as housing and prevention of displacement, educational attainment and livable wage jobs, and accessible transportation.
- SUPPORT legislation that extends the restrictions and prohibitions against the smoking of, and exposure to, marijuana products in various places, including, but not limited to, places of employment, school campuses, public buildings, day care facilities, multi-family housing, health facilities, alcohol and other drug treatment facilities, and homeless shelters.
- SUPPORT efforts to seek a state ban on electronic devices that deliver flavored e-liquids as well as the e-juice itself.

Homeless Services

- SUPPORT the continuation and expansion of funding for affordable housing, homelessness assistance and prevention programs, and strategic local and regional responses to homelessness, including resources that support the County's compliance with federal and state anti-homelessness and anti-poverty initiatives and requirements.
- SUPPORT increasing and maintaining affordable housing stock and housing stability by way of supporting funding, policy, or regulations that promote housing for the most vulnerable low, very low, and extremely low-income households, including the production and preservation of various housing types and the protection of stable housing for vulnerable persons experiencing homelessness.
- SUPPORT removal of barriers in planning processes, regulatory frameworks, funding programs, healthcare access, and policy to promote increased innovation and data-driven approaches to addressing homelessness, and housing affordability, with the goal of eliminating discrimination or arbitrary treatment of individuals based on housing status, income, or other household characteristics.

- SUPPORT wide variety of housing types and formats, for all persons regardless of personal characteristic or status, and the equitable distribution and access to affordable units and holistic services, particularly for vulnerable individuals, in line with evidence-based practices

Human Services

Older Adults

- SUPPORT efforts that promote individual choice by easing access to In Home Supportive Services (IHSS).
- SUPPORT efforts to allow counties to use alternative IHSS reassessment approaches including, but not limited to, telephonic reassessments.
- SUPPORT fully funding the administration of IHSS.
- SUPPORT the creation of funding opportunities and policies which promote the development of aging-friendly communities.
- SUPPORT efforts that strengthen the capacity and funding of Adult Protective Services (APS) to address all forms of abuse and neglect.
- SUPPORT efforts to provide respite for caregivers.
- SUPPORT continued and improved funding to expand services for older adults and people with disabilities.
- SUPPORT efforts to promote safety of social workers.

Safety Net Programs

- OPPOSE legislative and budgetary actions that result in reduced level of services to families, children, adults and seniors, or that lead to preemption of local control.
- SUPPORT continuous investment in safety net programs, including the California Earned Income Tax Credit (Cal EITC) and the Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) Program.
- SUPPORT fully funding administrative costs for administering programs.

- SUPPORT efforts to improve and expand access to food, including emergency food assistance networks (e.g. local food banks, and food pantries), increasing the amount and flexibility of CalFresh, and other local assistance programs.
- SUPPORT efforts to streamline benefit applications, align verifications between programs, and have the same appointment for multiple applications.
- SUPPORT efforts that would ease data sharing and coordination of care across safety net programs, including those administered by the Health Department, such as WIC.
- SUPPORT efforts to ease access to Medi-Cal and services provided through the program.
- SUPPORT actions which would expand eligibility to CalWORKS.
- SUPPORT efforts to increase access to employment training programs and subsidized work programs for vulnerable populations, including access to community colleges.
- SUPPORT establishing a General Assistance Program with a state share of funding.
- SUPPORT efforts to create whole family care through a more comprehensive safety net of services that enable families to be stable and have economic opportunities.
- SUPPORT research that describes and assesses local service needs and gaps.

Child Welfare Services

- SUPPORT continued and improved funding for services that stabilize children and families in the foster care system.
- SUPPORT full funding of efforts to support the Continuum of Care Reform.
- SUPPORT initiatives which would expand benefits and support for reunified families.

Early Childhood Development

- SUPPORT legislation to expand early childcare, education, and other holistic approaches.
- SUPPORT increased funding for preschool and early learning.

Violence Prevention

- SUPPORT efforts that seek to address the impact of gun violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, elder abuse and child abuse.

- SUPPORT efforts that seek to prevent the underlying causes of all forms of violence and invest in upstream strategies.
- SUPPORT efforts to increase cross-agency and cross-system collaboration on interpersonal violence cases, including the sharing of confidential or protected information in multidisciplinary team settings.

Immigration

- SUPPORT the expansion of benefits and services for immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. SUPPORT efforts to amend Medi-Cal expansion to include Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) youth and state efforts to support DACA youth.
- SUPPORT efforts to increase language access and culturally responsive social services for all immigrants.
- OPPOSE any changes that may penalize immigrants for using vital public benefits they are legally allowed to access.

Justice Systems

- SUPPORT legislation to restore pretrial detainee access to federal health benefits.
- SUPPORT legislation raising the maximum age limit for juvenile court jurisdiction, allowing youths to remain on juvenile probation supervision through age 24, as opposed to the current age limit of 21, with an elevated focus on rehabilitation and restorative justice.
- SUPPORT legislation that provides local flexibility and funding to implement justice diversion programs.
- SUPPORT legislation that seeks to curb metal theft by making it easier for law enforcement agencies to track stolen metals sold to scrap dealers.
- SUPPORT legislation that provides a practical and efficient solution to addressing the problem of abandoned and trespassing vessels and ground tackle.
- OPPOSE legislation that would shift the responsibility of parolees from the state to the counties without adequate notification, documentation and funding.
- SUPPORT legislation that will help counties implement 2011 Public Safety Realignment as long as the proposal would: provide for county flexibility, eliminate redundant or unnecessary reporting, and would not transfer more responsibility without funding.

- SUPPORT legislation that will combat the negative impact that human trafficking has on victims in our communities, including the impact that this activity has on a range of County services and supports, and support efforts to provide additional tools, resources and funding to help counties address this growing problem.
- SUPPORT legislative reform of current bail provisions that will replace reliance on money bail with a system that incorporates a pretrial risk assessment tool and evidence-based pretrial release decisions. ADVOCATE for funding for any new or revised responsibilities, including the assessment and supervision of people charged with crimes.

Land Use/Community Development/Natural Resources

- ASSIST in the development and preservation of low and moderate income housing through support of programs that: 1) provide access to federal, state and local financing, 2) ensure timely review of residential projects, 3) provide financial and/or regulatory incentives where feasible and appropriate to offset or reduce the costs of affordable housing development, and 4) promote the re-use of existing publicly-owned assets.
- MAINTAIN local agency land use authority.
- SUPPORT ways to streamline overall compliance with State legislation, while opposing efforts to expedite a particular development project.
- ENSURE Contra Costa residents of all income categories have access to adequate housing.
- GROW more jobs countywide, particularly in those parts of the County with the longest commutes and most acute jobs-housing imbalance.
- SUPPORT historically under-invested communities in their equitable economic growth.
- IDENTIFY new or enhanced revenue to support residents' quality of life.
- ESTABLISH, fund and support locally-controlled resource permitting to streamline economic development activities and conserve and recover species and the habitats upon which they depend, natural resources, watersheds and open space.

Library

- SUPPORT State financial assistance in the operation of public libraries, including full funding of the Public Library Fund (PLF) and the California Research and Education Network (CalREN).

- SUPPORT State bonds for public library construction.
- SUPPORT continued funding for the California Library Literacy and English Acquisition Services Program, which provides matching funds for public library adult literacy programs that offer free, confidential, one-on-one basic literacy instruction to English-speaking adults who want to improve their reading, writing, and spelling skills.

Telecommunications and Broadband

- SUPPORT preservation of local government ownership and control of the local public rights-of-way and ensure reasonable compensation for their use.
- SUPPORT continued funding for Public, Educational and Government Access (PEG) channels to provide local community access and benefits, and increase flexibility in the use of PEG funds.
- ENSURE nondiscriminatory treatment of Public, Educational and Government Access Channels by Cable System Operators.
- SUPPORT the expansion of broadband (high speed internet service) to drive economic development and job opportunities, support county service delivery, and improve health, education and public safety outcomes for residents.

Transportation

- PROVIDE an integrated, multi-modal transportation system that safely and efficiently meets the transportation needs of all economic and social segments of the County and provides for the transport of goods and services throughout Contra Costa County.
- EMPHASIZE the efficient use of the existing transportation system and cost-effective enhancements to this system. New and emerging policy direction includes an increase in the support for active transportation modes, support for the development of aging-friendly communities, and a decreasing emphasis on automotive capacity expanding projects which increase greenhouse gas production.
- SUPPORT the provision of a safe, reliable, efficient, and accessible transportation system that balances social, environmental, and economic needs of the County.
- SUPPORT increased flexibility in the use of transportation funds.
- Increased regional coordination, while reflecting local input, is necessary for public transit (paratransit and fixed route), roads, trails, advanced mobility technology, and greenhouse gas reduction related projects.

- ENSURE complete life-cycle costs, including an emphasis on environmentally friendly construction resources, are considered during state and local project development.
- SUPPORT improvements in safety throughout the transportation system, specifically for vulnerable users of the system (children, pedestrians, cyclists, etc.).
- PROMOTE the streamlining of transportation safety projects.
- SUPPORT efforts to put in place local planning coordination mechanisms and requirements for state funded or regulated facilities such as schools, roads, courts, jails, and OPPOSE efforts to compromise the County's road authority and the ability to protect public health, safety, and welfare.
- SUPPORT regional, coordinated aviation transportation planning efforts to improve service delivery and to provide options to the surface transportation system for people and goods movement.
- SUPPORT efforts to increase waterborne transport of goods, in particular relative to the San Francisco to Stockton Ship Channel.
- SUPPORT measures to enhance rail safety with an emphasis on; increased state oversight of railroad bridges, funding for first responder training, funding to improve rail safety and prevent rail trespass fatalities, improved regulations for tank car safety standards, and data sharing requirements between state emergency managers, local responders, and rail operators.
- OPPOSE linking transportation funding to housing production.
- OPPOSE reducing or eliminating development impact fees (without secured backfill) in an effort to increase housing production.
- INCREASE requirements for coordination between transportation agencies and utilities.
- SUPPORT funding increases for active transportation projects and planning with an emphasis on facilities and investments that increase the likelihood of a mode shift away from automobiles.
- PROVIDE resources to facilitate the deployment of electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging infrastructure, including funding for vehicles, chargers, and facility upgrades, and improvements to the electric distribution and transmission grids to safely accommodate increased load.

Veterans

- SUPPORT legislation and budget actions that will continue the state's annual local assistance for County Veterans Service Offices at a minimum of the \$5.6 million level.
- SUPPORT legislation and funding that will provide veterans organizations with resources to make necessary repairs to, or replacement of, their meeting halls and facilities.
- SUPPORT legislation that will improve the timeliness and quality of both VA benefits claim decisions and VA healthcare services.

Waste Management

- MAINTAIN the County's existing discretionary authority over matters pertaining to waste management, recovery and disposal. ENSURE new or expanded responsibilities are not imposed on the County, either directly or indirectly, without providing statutory authority to guarantee funding to implement actions necessary to adequately enforce or comply.
- SEEK more robust local regulatory and enforcement authority relative to the storage, transport, processing, recovery and disposal of waste within our jurisdictional boundaries.
- SUPPORT efforts to improve recycling markets.
- ENSURE manufacturers are held accountable for proper disposal of non-recyclable products they produce to foster more environmentally sustainable product design.
- SUPPORT statewide regulation and enforcement to limit production or sale of non-recyclable single-use items that negatively impact the environment.

Workforce Development

- SUPPORT efforts to increase the flexibility of Workforce Development Board spending and ability to partner with community agencies and other county bureaus to increase supportive services and respond to local workforce needs.
- SUPPORT increased teacher training and education, including funding to support employees to obtain a teaching credential.
- SUPPORT efforts that promote training, capacity building and deeper understanding for students, educators and county staff on trauma informed care, interpersonal violence, adverse childhood experiences, and healthy workplaces and schools.



Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

5.

Meeting Date: 12/19/2019

Subject: Draft 2020 Federal Legislative Platform

Submitted For: LEGISLATION COMMITTEE,

Department: County Administrator

Referral No.: 2019-32

Referral Name: Draft 2020 Federal Platform

Presenter: L. DeLaney and Alcalde & Fay Team **Contact:** L. DeLaney, 925-335-1097

Referral History:

The Legislation Committee annually reviews and considers the draft State and Federal Legislative Platforms prior to their proposal to the Board of Supervisors. Staff aims to have to the Platforms to the Committee for their consideration in November and/or December of each year. The adopted Platforms of the Board of Supervisors are available here:

<https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/2859/Legislation>

Referral Update:

Every January, the Board of Supervisors adopts a Federal Legislative Platform that establishes federal funding needs and policy positions with regard to potential federal legislation and regulation. These documents are utilized by the County's federal advocates and staff as the basis for advocacy efforts.

The State and Federal Legislative Platforms are prepared each year by staff of the County Administrator's Office in collaboration with County department heads, other key staff, the County state and federal advocates, and with input from the Board's commissions/committees and the public. CAO staff generally conducts outreach in the fall of year year regarding the Platform process and invites input so that draft documents can be considered by the Legislation Committee in November and/or December of each year. Elements of the Platforms related to the subject matter of the Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee are also reviewed by that committee prior to the Proposed Platforms being presented to the Board of Supervisors in January for adoption.

With direction from the Board of Supervisors for the 2020 Platforms to be more streamlined, concise and provide greater prioritization, staff of the CAO's office has conducted 2020 Platform input meetings on multiple occasions, convening a "2020 Platform Workgroup" to solicit input on Platform structural/formatting changes. Conference calls with the federal advocates from Alcalde & Fay and state advocates from Nielsen Merksamer were also conducted as part of this process.

At its October 3, 2019 meeting, the Legislation Committee provided direction to staff on the

development of the Platforms, largely consistent with the recommendations of the Platform Workgroup. CAO staff continued soliciting input from Departments and advocates on the development of the 2020 Platforms consistent with the direction from Legislation Committee related to structural/format changes. Departments had an opportunity to provide further input at a Legislative Training and Platform Input session conducted on October 9, 2019, and several preliminary drafts were provided to the Platform Workgroup and CAO staff.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED FEDERAL PLATFORM CHANGES

Additions to the Draft 2020 Platform:

- County Profile
- Demographic Highlights
- Governance
- Legislative Platform Purpose (*including Attachments A & B*)
- Mission, Vision, Values statement
- Federal Funding Needs: Project Specific (consolidation of prior identified projects and inclusion of Airports)
- Federal Funding Needs: Program Specific

Substantive text changes were made to the sections related to:

- Climate Change
- Criminal Justice and Mental Health
- The Delta
- Health Care
- Homeless Services
- Human Services
- Natural Resources/Permit Streamlining (new)
- Telecommunications and Broadband
- Transportation/Mobility Management and Coordination

Eliminated:

- Appropriations and Grants--Support Positions

Policy Positions have been refashioned as "**Priority Policy Statements**," to focus federal advocacy efforts on specific subject matters.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

PROVIDE direction to staff on the development of the 2020 Proposed Federal Platform and recommend its adoption by the Board of Supervisors at its meeting on January 21, 2020.

Attachments

Draft 2020 Federal Legislative Platform



2020 Draft Federal Platform

Contra Costa County

Website: www.contracosta.ca.gov



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INTRODUCTION

County Profile

Contra Costa County is home to more than one million residents and was one of the original 27 counties established in California in 1850. It is the ninth most populous county in the state. Contra Costa is large - over 733 square miles and extends from the northeastern shore of the San Francisco Bay easterly about 50 miles to San Joaquin County. The County is bordered on the south and west by Alameda County and on the north by the Suisun and San Pablo Bays.

The western and northern shorelines are highly industrialized, while the interior sections are suburban/residential, commercial and light industrial. About 40 percent of the county is under the jurisdiction of 19 incorporated cities and towns, and large portions of the remaining unincorporated area are part of public park systems. Contra Costa County is also very diverse, with communities that range from small agricultural towns like Byron, with a population density of about 200 people per square mile, to urban population centers like Contra Costa Centre, a bustling transit village with a population density of 8,400 people per square mile.



Demographic Highlights

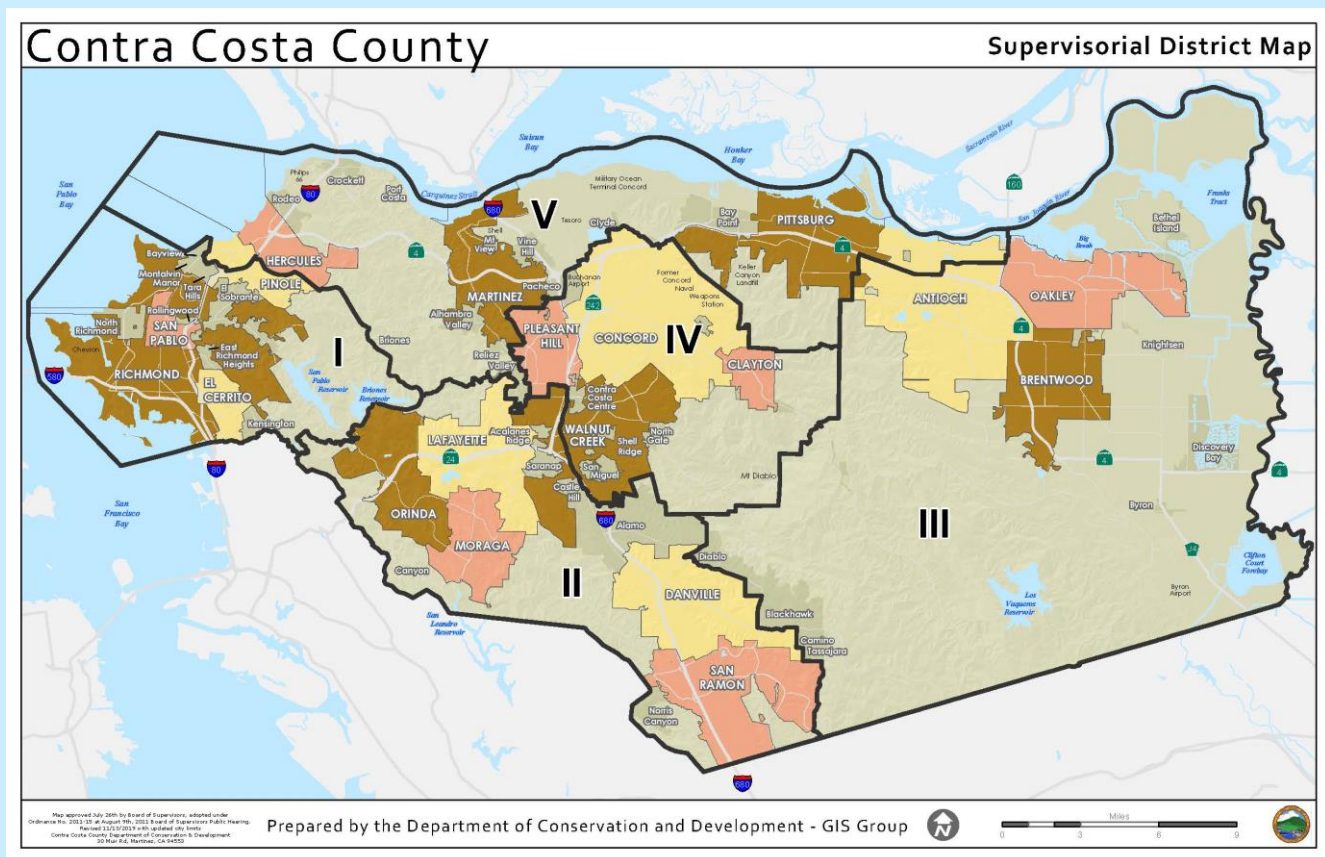
Approximately 1.1 million people live throughout Contra Costa County, but only 15 percent of those, or about 172,080 people, reside in the unincorporated areas of the county. Most of the population is consolidated along the major transportation corridors, including Interstates 80 and 680, Highways 4 and 24, and the BART lines. The median age of Contra Costa County residents is 39 years old. Since 2010, the fastest-growing age group has been seniors 65 or older, as the baby boom generation ages. The majority (57 percent) of County residents are white, with significant proportions of Asian (17 percent) and African American (8 percent) people. The Census tracks Latinx ethnicity separately from other populations; in total, the Hispanic/Latino population makes up approximately one-quarter of the total population.

Governance

A five-member Board of Supervisors, each elected to four-year terms, serves as the legislative body of the County, which has a general law form of government. Also elected are the County Assessor, Auditor-Controller, Clerk-Recorder, District Attorney, Sheriff-Coroner and Treasurer-Tax Collector. The County Administrator, David Twa, is appointed by the Board and is responsible for running the day-to-day business of the County.

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors:

- District 1: John M. Gioia
- District II: Candace Andersen
- District III: Diane Burgis
- District IV: Karen Mitchoff
- District V: Federal D. Glover



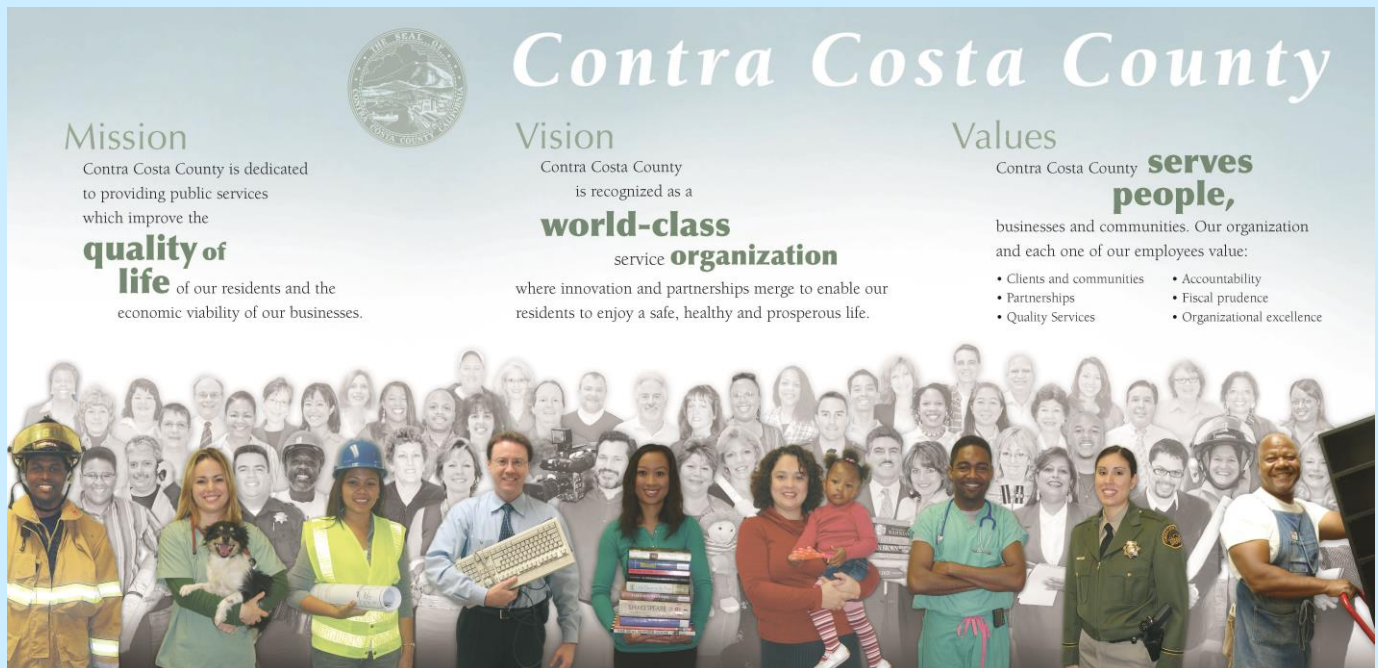
Legislative Platform Purpose

The Legislative Platform establishes the priorities, principles, and policy statements of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and establishes the basis for its advocacy efforts, alerting our legislative partners of the greatest needs of our residents and where we need additional help¹. The Platform also provides general direction to County departments and agencies, legislative advocates, delegation members, and the public on our positions on key policy matters that would impact the way the County does business. The County's protocol for position development is *Attachment A*.

Contra Costa County has also adopted a *Delta Water Platform* to identify and promote activities and policy positions that support the creation of a healthy Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Contra Costa County uses this Delta Water Platform to guide its actions and advocacy regarding the future of the Delta. The Delta Water Platform is *Attachment B*.

Mission, Vision, and Values

Contra Costa County has adopted the following Mission, Vision and Values statement:



The graphic features the Contra Costa County seal at the top left. The title "Contra Costa County" is prominently displayed in a large, serif font. Below the title, the three pillars of the county's platform are outlined: Mission, Vision, and Values. The Mission statement focuses on providing public services to improve the quality of life for residents and businesses. The Vision statement describes the county as a world-class service organization where innovation and partnerships merge to enable a safe, healthy, and prosperous life. The Values statement lists six core values: Clients and communities, Accountability, Partnerships, Fiscal prudence, Quality Services, and Organizational excellence. At the bottom of the graphic is a large, diverse group of people, including a firefighter, a nurse, a construction worker, a teacher, a parent with a child, and various other professionals, representing the community the county serves.

Mission
Contra Costa County is dedicated to providing public services which improve the **quality of life** of our residents and the economic viability of our businesses.

Vision
Contra Costa County is recognized as a **world-class service organization** where innovation and partnerships merge to enable our residents to enjoy a safe, healthy and prosperous life.

Values
Contra Costa County **serves people,** businesses and communities. Our organization and each one of our employees value:

- Clients and communities
- Accountability
- Partnerships
- Fiscal prudence
- Quality Services
- Organizational excellence

¹ Note that until the 2021-2022 Platform is adopted, the 2019 Adopted Platform policies are considered a component of this Platform.

FEDERAL FUNDING NEEDS: **PROJECT SPECIFIC**

1. Secure funding for the Army Corps' annual maintenance dredging of the federal channels along the County's borders that maintain the ship channel to the authorized depth of -35 feet.
2. Advocate for and support the *San Francisco to Stockton Navigation Improvement Project* that proposes to deepen the ship channel to realize transportation efficiencies.
3. *Mount Diablo Mercury Mine*. Support legislation in the Water Resources Development Act that would give authority to the Army Corps of Engineers to build remediation projects in the Remediation of Abandoned Mine Sites program.
4. *Buchanan Field and Byron Airports*: Secure funding for Master Plan/Business Plan Implementation.





Surface Transportation Funding Needs

- ✓ Vasco Road Safety Improvements: Project components (barriers, shoulders, passing facilities) will eliminate cross median collisions, wildlife undercrossing/overcrossing will preserve migration patterns.
- ✓ North Richmond Community Supportive Transportation Improvements: Alternate truck route/regulations, trail/school access improvements to address community safety, public health and livability needs, and general transportation improvements to support job growth and priority development area access.
- ✓ Eastern Contra Costa Multi-use Trail Network: Active mode access improvements for planned and existing mass transit stations, schools, and activity centers.
- ✓ Brentwood Intermodal Transit Center: Multimodal station access improvements and the extension of mass transit from the Antioch BART station.

- ✓ Iron Horse Corridor Enhancement Program: Improvements to trail access (to/from activity center and other regional trails), additional facilities for different active modes, overcrossings, at grade intersection improvements.
- ✓ State Route 4 / Old River Bridge Study: The existing structure is narrow, improvements would address safety and traffic flow.
- ✓ West Contra Costa High Capacity Transit: Implementation of the WCCTAC High Capacity Transit Study.
- ✓ Kirker Pass Truck Climbing Lane (southbound) and Turn Channelization: Needed for improved traffic flow and safety.
- ✓ Vasco Road - Byron Highway Connector: Connection between two major arterials improving connectivity while removing through/truck traffic from the Byron community.



FEDERAL FUNDING NEEDS: **PROGRAM SPECIFIC**

1. Housing: Support funding for economic development and affordable housing for local agencies engaged in building stronger, more economically viable communities.
2. Local Cost Share. Support legislation that would give the Army Corps of Engineers the authority to reduce the project cost share in disadvantaged communities to 10% local match.
3. Multimodal National Freight Network: Support increases in funding for National Freight Strategic Plan implementation specifically to fulfill the goals of the Northern Waterfront initiative and to address congestion in the I-680 Corridor.
4. Rail Safety: Support initiatives to increase safety by addressing trespass fatalities and relative to rail service to oil refineries.
5. Rural Road Funding Program: Support the creation of a new program to modernize rural roads consistent with emerging safety, complete streets, active mode policies.
6. Stormwater Program Funding: Support additional funding through the EPA to enable compliance with the Clean Water Act.
7. Surface Transportation Program/Increases in Highway (road/rail) Bridge Funding: Regulation changes are needed that allow for direct funding to qualified local jurisdictions to expedite economic benefits, increase purchasing power, and bolster travel, business and economic growth.
8. Transportation Funding for Disabled, Low-income, and Elderly Persons: Support increased capital and operations funding, in addition to funding and policy changes that would address local, state, and federally identified needs for coordination improvements.

PRIORITY POLICY STATEMENTS

Climate Change

- SUPPORT legislative and administrative efforts that: address the impacts of climate change; support climate adaptation and resilience efforts; address the disproportionate impacts that some communities bear because they are located near large industrial facilities; reduce exposure to toxic air pollutants and reduce greenhouse gases; and study and recognize the health impacts of global and regional climate change.
- SUPPORT the concept of establishing a national price on carbon-based fuels to address the costs to society of emissions from those fuels.

Criminal Justice and Mental Health

- SUPPORT policies and approaches that would enhance the ability of county officials and our partners to prevent and treat mental health and substance use disorders, both in the community and within the confines of the criminal justice system.
- SUPPORT policies and programs that divert non-violent individuals struggling with mental illness and/or substance use disorders from local jails into more appropriate treatment programs.
- SUPPORT legislation and regulations that would amend the federal Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy (MIEP) and allow non-convicted individuals to have continued access to necessary treatment through federal health benefits such as Medicaid, Medicare, CHIP and VA health benefits.

The Delta

- SUPPORT protection and restoration of a healthy sustainable Delta ecosystem including adequate water quality, inflow and outflow, and water supply, to support fisheries, wildlife and habitat in perpetuity and managing or eradicating invasive species.
- SAFEGUARD Delta Counties' responsibilities related to land use, water resources, flood management, tax revenues, public health and safety, economic development, agricultural stability, recreation, and environmental protection in any projects, policies, or operations.
- SUPPORT rehabilitation, improvement, and maintenance of levees throughout the Delta.
- SUPPORT the Delta pool concept, in which the common resource provides quality freshwater supply to all Delta users, requiring mutual responsibility to maintain, restore, and protect the common resource.

- REPRESENT and include local government in any governance structures for the Delta.
- OPPOSE isolated conveyance.

Health Care

- SUPPORT full funding of the Federal Medicaid program. OPPOSE federal efforts to reduce Medicaid funding or restrict access to Medicaid benefits and services.
- OPPOSE federal legislation and administrative efforts to privatize Medicaid and/or to impose work requirements as a condition of Medicaid (Medi-Cal) eligibility.

OPPOSE efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act or to replace it with any proposals that represent significant, permanent structural alterations to current subsidized segments of the health care system.

- OPPOSE new block-granting proposals, harsh cuts, or proposals that will significantly and/or permanently shift the structure of health and human service funding and programming that would lead to the restriction or elimination of safety-net programs.
- OPPOSE efforts to eliminate or reduce funding for essential public health services, inclusive of funding for immunization, HIV/Ryan White, Communicable Disease and Tuberculosis Control, Hansen's Disease, Teen Pregnancy, Public Health Preparedness and Maternal Child Health Funding.
- OPPOSE changes to Title X Family Planning Program, enacted in 1970, dedicated solely to providing individuals with comprehensive family planning and related preventive health services.
- OPPOSE efforts to impose work requirement as a condition of Medicaid (Medi-Cal) eligibility.
- SUPPORT Medicaid (Medi-Cal) funding for same day mental health appointments
- SUPPORT reauthorization of funding for HIV/Ryan White Care, Maternal Child Health Funding including Maternal Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV), and CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program).
- SUPPORT legislation and administrative changes that will enhance counties' ability to provide comprehensive Behavioral Health Services.
- PROTECT funding for core local public health and prevention efforts.

Homeless Services

- PROTECT SUPPORT the continuation and expansion of funding for affordable housing, homelessness assistance and prevention programs, and strategic local and regional responses to homelessness, including resources that support the County's compliance with federal and state anti-homelessness and anti-poverty initiatives and requirements.
- SUPPORT increasing and maintaining affordable housing stock and housing stability by way of supporting funding, policy, or regulations that promote housing for the most vulnerable low, very low, and extremely low-income households, including the production and preservation of various housing types and the protection of stable housing for vulnerable persons experiencing homelessness.
- SUPPORT removal of barriers in planning processes, regulatory frameworks, funding programs, healthcare access, and policy to promote increased innovation and data-driven approaches to addressing homelessness and housing affordability, with the goal of eliminating discrimination or arbitrary treatment of individuals based on housing status, income, or other household characteristics.
- SUPPORT wide variety of housing types and formats, for all persons regardless of personal characteristic or status, and the equitable distribution and access to affordable units and holistic services, particularly for vulnerable individuals, in line with evidence-based practices.

Human Services

Older Adults and Aging

- OPPOSE elimination or cuts to funding for older adult programs and services. SUPPORT funding for programs that support older adults, veterans, disabled individuals, the homeless, and low-income individuals.
- SUPPORT funding and policies to provide older adults with holistic services that support well-being, health, and mental health.

Safety Net Programs

- SUPPORT funding for entitlement programs that help low-income families reach self-sufficiency.
- OPPOSE actions that would result in cost shifts on federal entitlement programs to state and localities or which would result in greater dependency on county-funded programs.

- SUPPORT efforts to increase SNAP benefit amounts to better meet recipients' nutritional needs, adjust SNAP eligibility requirements to include populations with significant need, and remove current federal barriers that prevent some nutrition programs from employing EBT technology.
- OPPOSE efforts to eliminate states' flexibility in taking high cost of living into eligibility determinations; OPPOSE restoration of asset tests for SNAP.
- OPPOSE funding cuts or block granting benefit programs, including SNAP and Medicaid.
- SUPPORT efforts that allow people to apply for benefits while incarcerated. OPPOSE efforts to limit eligibility for individuals with certain criminal records or to impose work requirements on them for benefit programs, including SNAP and Medicaid.
- SUPPORT efforts to create reasonable time limits for TANF recipients and provide families who are working with modest cash assistance grants to supplement low earnings.
- SUPPORT reauthorization and increase the TANF Block Grant. OPPOSE changes to TANF that will require counties to invest new funds to administer the program.
- OPPOSE efforts to restrict allowable state maintenance-of-effort expenditures and end federal efforts to impose a national TANF error rate.
- SUPPORT federal and state financial assistance to aid county and local government efforts to meet unfunded federal mandates.
- OPPOSE elimination and reduction in funding for programs that help low-income families pay their heating bills and reduce energy bills by making homes more energy efficient.

Child Welfare Services

- SUPPORT legislation that increases and protects the safety and well-being of children at risk of abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- OPPOSE the elimination or cuts to funding streams for child welfare programs.
- SUPPORT increasing prevention dollars to help children who are victims of abuse, neglect and exploitation remain safely in their own homes or family-based settings and provide support to their caregivers.
- SUPPORT efforts to provide states with financial incentives, as opposed to monetary penalties, and minimize the significant administrative burden associated with child welfare review processes.

Early Childhood Development

- SUPPORT efforts that ensure all children have access to quality care by expanding high quality learning opportunities for children, expanding subsidized childcare and tax credits, increasing new childcare slots, increasing access to home visiting programs, and making funding available for First 5 commissions, increasing wages and supporting infrastructure of ECE programs.
- SUPPORT policies that increase or align eligibility guidelines to ensure more access of services for low income working families to programs such as Head Start.
- OPPOSE actions that would reduce funding for early childhood education, including Head Start and Early Head Start programs.

Immigration

- OPPOSE actions to repeal DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) as well as legislation and administrative efforts that negatively target immigrants.
- OPPOSE actions which discourage or prevent immigrant populations from accessing public benefits and housing, including proposed changes to the Public Charge rule.
- OPPOSE any efforts that would restrict a full Census count.
- SUPPORT efforts to fully canvas hard-to-count communities.

Violence Prevention

- SUPPORT efforts to prevent, interrupt and end child abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse and human trafficking.
- OPPOSE any elimination and cuts to grant programs for violence prevention, human/labor trafficking, victim services, and federal grants related to the Violence Against Women Act.
- SUPPORT efforts that increase access to cultural responsiveness and language support for victims of crime;
- SUPPORT efforts to protect housing access and employment rights for victims of harassment and survivors of interpersonal violence.
- SUPPORT programs and actions that address suicide, injury and violence prevention.

- SUPPORT efforts aimed at reducing health disparities and inequities associated with violence against women, communities of color, and the LGBT community.

Workforce Development

- SUPPORT policies that meet the needs of serving businesses, workers, job seekers, and youth under the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) that preserve local decision-making relative to spending, direction of work, and other functions of local workforce boards.
- SUPPORT additional funding for WIOA programs and activities including education, training, apprenticeships, job seeker support, and job placements.
- SUPPORT policies that increase access to training and education for social workers and staff in Aging, including programs that assist students in obtaining a social work degree.

Library Services

- SUPPORT funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the primary source of federal support for the nation's approximately 120,000 libraries and 35,000 museums and related organizations.
- SUPPORT the reauthorization and funding for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) including the Museum and Library Services Act.

Natural Resources/Permit Streamlining

- SUPPORT locally-controlled resource permitting to streamline economic development activities and conserve and recover species and the habitats upon which they depend, natural resources, watersheds and open space.

Telecommunications and Broadband

- SUPPORT the expansion of broadband (high speed internet service) and the deployment of emergency technologies, such as small cell 5G, to drive economic development and job opportunities, support county service delivery, and improve health, education and public safety outcomes for residents.
- SUPPORT the restoration of net neutrality to ensure open and nondiscriminatory access to online information.

- SUPPORT preservation of local government ownership and control of the local public rights-of-way and ensure reasonable compensation for their use.
- OPPOSE Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rulemaking that would reduce franchise fee obligations which fund community television operations and the General Fund.
- ENSURE nondiscriminatory treatment of Public, Educational and Government (PEG) channels by cable system operators. SUPPORT continued funding for PEG channels.
- SUPPORT local decision-making and accountability of local elected officials and OPPOSE any actions that would preempt or limit the zoning and siting authority of local governments.

Transportation/Mobility Management and Coordination

- SUPPORT and seek opportunities to streamline the regulatory process as well as encourage the development of regulations that are appropriate and flexible
- SUPPORT policies, programs and funding increases that enable new technologies, practices, and services to improve mobility to vulnerable populations.

Veterans

- SUPPORT legislation to increase availability, accessibility, and utilization of Veterans Benefits.
- SUPPORT legislation to provide America's veterans organizations with resources to make necessary repairs to or replacement of their meeting halls and facilities.



Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

6.

Meeting Date: 12/19/2019
Subject: County Protocol on State and Federal Advocacy Efforts
Submitted For: LEGISLATION COMMITTEE,
Department: County Administrator
Referral No.: 2019-33
Referral Name: Protocol on Advocacy Efforts
Presenter: L. DeLaney **Contact:** L. DeLaney, 925-335-1097

Referral History:

The Contra Costa County protocol and procedures on advocacy state and federal advocacy efforts was developed by the Legislation Committee in 2008 and has not been updated since that time.

Referral Update:

During the development of the Draft 2020 Platforms, staff reviewed the legislative platforms of several urban counties in California. One county, Sacramento County, includes in its adopted "Federal and State Legislative Priorities," their "Procedures for Expedited Positions and Comments on Federal and State Legislation and Regulatory Matters," as well as their "Procedures for Board of Supervisors' Consideration of Statewide Ballot Measures." At their October 3, 2019 meeting, the Contra Costa County Legislation Committee expressed an interest in including the Contra Costa County protocol/procedures related to legislative advocacy as an attachment to the draft 2020 Platforms.

Contra Costa County's procedures for legislative advocacy were developed by the Legislation Committee (Chair Piepho, Vice Chair Bonilla) in 2008. (*Attachment A*) While the process may have evolved over the last decade, the protocol has not been updated to reflect current practices. The Legislation Committee may wish to consider updates to the protocol to include such things as the consideration of statewide ballot measures and comments on federal rulemakings.

The Sacramento County procedures are as follows:

Procedures for Expedited Positions and Comments on Federal and State Legislation and Rulemakings

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, the County Executive or his designee shall direct the Governmental Relations and Legislative Officer on the appropriate position or comments that should be taken or made on pending state and federal legislation, budget items or regulatory rulemakings when:

- A majority of the Board has taken a position as members of another local legislative body and affected county department(s) agree(s) with the position; or
- The proposal is technical, non-controversial or the policy impacts to the county are minor and there is no existing legislative policy; or
- Action is needed immediately to ensure that the county's interests are protected; or
- Action is needed to prevent modification or termination of an existing county program or policy; and
- The Board of Supervisors will be informed of the actions taken on their behalf.

Procedures for Board of Supervisors' Consideration of Statewide Ballot Measures

- Only those ballot measures that qualify for the statewide ballot will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for consideration. The Board will not be asked to take positions on petition initiatives while they are still being circulated for signatures.
- Constitutional amendments and bond measures upon which the county may have previously taken a position while it was pending in the state legislature may also be presented, if qualified for the statewide ballot.
- The Board of Supervisors will only consider ballot measures whose subject area relates to county policies or programs. If there is no relevant adopted legislative policy that applies, a new policy must be developed and submitted to the Board at the same time as the ballot measure.
- All ballot measures must be reviewed and an impartial analysis provided by the Governmental Relations and Legislative Officer prior to presentation to the Board. A decision to present a ballot measure to the Board, regardless of the recommending party, shall reflect a consensus about impacts to county interests.
- The Board report shall include a copy of the ballot measure or a link to it; sufficient information to understand the impacts to the county; a list of known support or opposition; and identification of existing county policy or policies that justify the recommended position or the new policy.
- The Board report shall be scheduled for action sufficiently in advance of the election to enable the Board's action to be relevant, and to the extent possible, to enable the Board to postpone and reconsider the measure at a later Board hearing.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

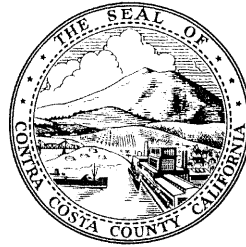
REVIEW the adopted Contra Costa County protocol and procedures on state and federal advocacy and provide direction to staff.

Attachments

Attachment A: Board Orders on Advocacy Protocols

Attachment

SUBJECT: Position on Bills 



Contra Costa County

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April 22, 2008

2. Protocol for Recommendations to Board of Supervisors

a. *Content Experts (Department staff, CSAC staff)*

County departments are often in the best position to provide detailed impact analyses of proposed bills and issues affecting the County. Impact analyses include both programmatic as well as fiscal impacts. With the responsibility of providing services to Contra Costa County residents, County departments have the greatest interest in ensuring that legislative matters impact their service delivery in the most positive way. However, County departments, each with their own interests, can have differing and possibly conflicting positions. As a result, policy positions should be coordinated through the CAO's office.


To protect their and the County's interests, County departments should do the following:

- Identify, monitor, and analyze legislative issues of concern to the department. The department should provide the analysis to the CAO's office (or Transportation Planning staff) at the earliest practical time. These analyses should briefly describe the issue and consider both programmatic and fiscal impacts to service delivery as well as impacts on those served.
- Should the CAO's office (or Transportation Planning staff) determine the issue conforms with a pre-existing policy position in the adopted Platform, the CAO's office and the department will work collaboratively to draft a Board Order with a position recommendation and a letter for signature by the Chair of the Board. Should the CAO's office (or Transportation Planning staff) determine the issue does not conform to a pre-existing policy, the issue will be placed on the following Legislative Committee, TWIC, or Board of Supervisors agenda.
- If a bill potentially affects more than one department, the CAO's staff (or Transportation Planning staff) will work to achieve a consensus position among those impacted before presenting the item for Board consideration.
- Once the Board of Supervisors has adopted a relevant policy and/or bill position, the CAO's office (or Transportation Planning staff) will collaborate to develop a position letter and coordinate advocacy efforts.
- While elected heads of County departments are not required to comply with the above guidelines, they are encouraged to do so with the common goal of best serving our County community.

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) also provides a wealth of information and analyses about issues and bills that affect County operations and services. CSAC adopts and publishes annual Legislative Priorities and Platforms; a Legislative Bulletin is circulated generally twice a month; Budget Action Bulletins are developed as needed; a legislative tracking service is provided on their website; and CSAC staff are available for further discussion and insights on important issues and bills. County department staff are encouraged to review the analyses prepared by CSAC staff, respond to data and information inquiries, and consult with CSAC staff as appropriate.

b. *Political Reality Checks (Lobbyists, Associations)*

The County's Legislative Advocates (lobbyists) identify issues of possible concern to the County, assess the likelihood of satisfying the County's interests, advise the County on legislative affairs and represent the County's interests on the state and federal levels to legislators, the Governor's office and executive agencies. The federal and state advocates will coordinate advocacy activities with the CAO's staff and Transportation Planning staff.

 For federal matters, the County currently retains the firms of Alcade & Fay, represented by Paul Schlesinger and Charlotte Hrcir; for state matters, Nielsen, Merksamer, Parrinello, Mueller & Naylor, LLP, represented by Cathy Christian, Alan Fernandes, and Jim Gross; and for transportation matters, California Strategies and Advocacy, represented by Mark Watts.

The roles and responsibilities of the County Legislative Advocates include:

- Communicating the County's general and specific concerns to legislators, the Governor, agencies, and other interested parties and relevant staff through meetings, hearing testimony and conversations where appropriate.
- Suggesting strategies and approaches to best satisfy the County's interests.
- Regularly reporting, through in-person meetings, conference calls and memoranda, on actions taken on behalf of the County, as well as other information of interest to the County. This includes the Year-End Reports.

The Board of Supervisors and Department Staff involvement and engagement in associations is another means for assessing the impacts of legislation and budget proposals on Contra Costa County finances, operations and services. The Board of Supervisors regularly participates on the boards and committees of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), Urban Counties Caucus (UCC), the Bay Area Caucus, and the National Association of Counties (NACo). The publications and communications from these associations are regularly provided to County departments.

Many County departments also participate in professional organizations and associations. Examples include the California Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) and the California Association of Public Hospitals (CAPH). County departments are encouraged to participate in such organizations to affect pending legislation and other relevant issues when such advocacy is consistent with the Board's policies and positions. County departments are encouraged to communicate the positions of the professional organization or association to the CAO's office. When the position of the professional organization or association differs from that of the Board of Supervisors, the department should notify the CAO's office.

If the organization or association requests a letter of support/opposition for the organization's position, the department shall:

- contact the CAO's staff to discuss the requested action;
- determine whether there is existing County policy on the issue;
- verify that it does not adversely impact other County operations; and
- submit the item for the Board's consideration and action.

3. Board Order Format and Content


When a department, Board committee or advisory board/commission wishes to recommend a position on a bill to the Board of Supervisors, the submittal of the Board Order is handled by the legislative coordinator in the CAO's office. The CAO's staff works collaboratively with department staff on the analysis of the bill's impact on County operations and prepares the Board Order and position letter.

The Board Order follows the standard County format which includes a recommendation, a fiscal impact statement, background material, and attachments. In general, the attachments should include the actual bill text and any relevant analyses.

Position recommendations can include:

- Support
- Support and amend
- Support if amended
- Watch
- Oppose
- Oppose unless amended
- No position

4. Urgency Action Protocol

In cases of extreme urgency,  when the Board of Supervisors has an adopted policy position on an issue or bill, there is an established policy whereby the Chair of the Board of Supervisors may communicate a position on the matter prior to the Board taking action.

In such cases, department staff must alert the CAO's office who will advise the Board Chair on a position recommendation prior to Board action. Board policy allows the Board Chair to send a letter under his/her personal letterhead (or County letterhead, indicating the position is that of the Chair)

provided that all Board members are immediately alerted of the action and that an official Board position is considered at the next Board meeting.

In cases of extreme urgency when the Board of Supervisors does not have an adopted policy position that relates directly to an issue or bill, the Legislative Committee recommends the following:

- The Chair of the Board is authorized to communicate a position prior to the Board action under his/her own personal letterhead (or County letterhead), indicating the position is that of the Chair of the Board, provided that the Board take action at its next meeting.

5. Role of Board Committees, Advisory Boards and Commissions, and Community Based Organizations

a. Board Committees

The Board has established the following standing committees: Internal Operations (IO), Family and Human Services (FHS), Finance, Public Protection, Transportation, Water, and Infrastructure (TW&I), and Legislation. Capital Facilities meets as needed. The purpose of the standing committees is three-fold: (1) to study issues in more depth than is usually practical at a regular meeting of the Board; (2) to study issues in the context of a functional system of programs and services; and (3) to provide more opportunity for the public and other interested parties to have insight and input into the analytical and deliberative process that leads to formal recommendations.

The current standing committees cover the functional areas of County services. As such, the issues, policies, and bills relevant to the functional areas addressed by the standing committees should be directed to those committees for recommendation on action by the Board of Supervisors.

b. County Advisory Boards and Commissions

Like County departments, County Advisory Board and Commission members possess a high level of knowledge and expertise and can provide detailed impact analyses of issues affecting the County. As advisors, board and commission members are encouraged to alert the Board of Supervisors of relevant issues and bills. To that end, County Advisory Board and Commission members are encouraged to:

- Identify and analyze legislative issues of concern to board/commission subject areas. For issues of importance, the staff person to the board/commission should alert any relevant County department and the CAO's staff (or Transportation Planning staff) about the issue and provide an analysis. Public opinion and/or advocacy about the issue should not proceed without Board of Supervisors action on the issue.
- The analyses should briefly describe the issue and consider both programmatic and fiscal impacts to service delivery as well as impacts on those served. Should the CAO's office (or Transportation Planning staff) determine that the issue conforms with a pre-existing Board policy position, the CAO's staff and the board/commission staff will work collaboratively to draft a Board Order and position letter for signature by the Chair of the Board. Should the CAO's staff determine that the issue does not align with a pre-existing policy, the issue will be placed on the next Legislative Committee, standing committee, or Board agenda, as needed.

c. Community Based Organizations

Community based organizations (CBOs) can be effective partners in advocating for issues of mutual interest and should be engaged in position development and advocacy efforts as needed and as appropriate. CBOs are encouraged to alert the CAO legislative staff to bills and issues of mutual interest and communicate their positions on those matters. In addition, CAO staff will seek input from CBOs for the preparation of analyses and position formation, as appropriate.

6. Communication of Positions

It is the primary responsibility of the CAO's legislative staff and Transportation Planning staff, in coordination with the federal and state advocates, to advance the official County position on bills as they progress through the legislative process. However, this advocacy may require and include the participation of Board members, the CAO, Department heads, and other designated County staff as appropriate.



Advocacy activities and communication of official County positions may include direct interaction with members of the Legislature and their staff; Legislative Committees and their staff; State and federal agencies and administrations; statewide organizations; local or regional governmental bodies; and community organizations.

A Department or Advisory Board/Commission may not take any action that would imply the County's support or opposition to any pending legislation in the absence of, or inconsistent with, adopted Board positions.

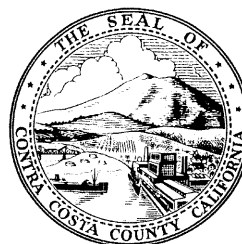
Any time a County employee appears before a state, federal or local body to express a personal opinion or make a public comment, that individual must state for the record that they are speaking as a private citizen and not as an employee of the County or a representative of the Department for which they work. Further, written personal opinions shall not appear on County or department stationery/letterhead.

These procedures do not apply to elected officials who have been independently elected to represent the County and its residents. However, elected Department heads are encouraged to continue the past practice of open communication with the CAO and CAO's staff on important state and federal issues. In addition, the support of our elected officials on behalf of County policy positions can be a persuasive factor when dealing with state and federal representatives, and efforts to maintain this cooperative spirit will be given high priority by the CAO and CAO's staff.

With regard to written correspondence:

- Following action by the Board of Supervisors on legislative matters, the CAO's staff (or Transportation Planning staff) shall coordinate with the Board Chair and federal/state advocates to forward copies of such action to appropriate state and federal representatives, committees, and agencies.
- Letters of support or opposition to legislation will be prepared and coordinated with departments by the CAO's staff in accordance with Board-adopted positions.
- Written correspondence on behalf of the County  elected officials at the federal, state, or local level shall be transmitted over the signature of the Board Chair.
- Only the Board of Supervisors can send position letters on a particular  piece of legislation. Of course individual Board members and other elected officials have the right to express their positions on bills on behalf of themselves (but not the County).

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FROM: LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
Supervisor Mary N. Piepho, Chair
Supervisor Susan A. Bonilla

Contra Costa County

DATE: October 14, 2008

SUBJECT: **Legislative Advocacy by Mandated Advisory Bodies**

SPECIFIC REQUEST(S) OR RECOMMENDATION(S) & BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE an amendment to the Board-adopted policy on the role of advisory boards and commissions in legislation position development and advocacy to provide for legislative advocacy by mandated advisory bodies in adherence to a specified protocol, as recommended by the Legislation Committee of the Board of Supervisors.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impacts associated with this action.

BACKGROUND:

At its February 25, 2008 meeting, the Legislation Committee considered and discussed the County's policies and procedures with regard to "Positions on Bills." These policies and procedures were then adopted by the Board of Supervisors on April 22, 2008 as the County's protocol for bill position development, recommendation, adoption, and advocacy.

Subsequent to the adoption of these policies and procedures, staff was advised of advocacy activity by various advisory boards and commissions that may have been inconsistent with the protocol. The protocol includes the following excerpt with respect to the role of advisory boards and commissions and the communication of County positions. (Areas of concern have been highlighted and italicized for the purposes of this report.)

5. Role of Board Committees and Advisory Boards and Commissions**b. County Advisory Boards and Commissions**

Like County departments, County Advisory Board and Commission members possess a high level of knowledge and expertise and can provide detailed impact analyses of issues affecting the County. As advisors, board and commission members are encouraged to alert the Board of Supervisors of relevant issues and bills. To that end, County Advisory Board and Commission members are encouraged to:

CONTINUED ON ATTACHMENT: YES

SIGNATURE:

| | | | |
|---------------|--|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| <u> </u> | RECOMMENDATION OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR | <u> X </u> | RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEE |
| <u> </u> | APPROVE | <u> </u> | OTHER |

SIGNATURE(S):

ACTION OF BOARD ON

APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED

 X OTHER

VOTE OF SUPERVISORS

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <u> X </u> | UNANIMOUS (ABSENT <u> IV </u>) |
| AYES: <u> </u> | NOES: <u> </u> |
| ABSENT: <u> </u> | ABSTAIN: <u> </u> |

Contact:

L. DeLaney 5-1097

Cc:

Legislation Committee (Supvs. Piepho & Bonilla)

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF AN ACTION TAKEN AND ENTERED ON MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON THE DATE SHOWN.

ATTESTED

DAVID TWA, CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY:

, DEPUTY

- Identify and analyze legislative issues of concern to board/commission subject areas. For those issues of importance, the staff person to the board/commission should alert any relevant County department and the CAO's staff (or Transportation Planning staff) about the issue and provide an analysis. **Public opinion and/or advocacy about the issue should not proceed without Board of Supervisors action on the issue.**
- The analyses should briefly describe the issue and consider both programmatic and fiscal impacts to service delivery as well as impacts on those served. Should the CAO's office (or Transportation Planning staff) determine that the issue conforms with a pre-existing Board policy position, the CAO's staff and the board/commission staff will work collaboratively to draft a Board Order and position letter for signature by the Chair of the Board. Should the CAO's staff determine that the issue does not conform with a pre-existing policy, the issue will be placed on the next Legislative Committee, standing committee, or Board agenda, as needed.

6. Communication of position to legislative delegation and legislative committee members

It is the primary responsibility of the CAO's legislative staff and Transportation Planning staff, in coordination with the federal and state advocates, to advance the official County position on bills as they progress through the legislative process. However, this advocacy may require and include the participation of Board members, the CAO, Department heads, and other designated County staff as appropriate.

Advocacy activities and communication of official County positions may include direct interaction with members of the Legislature and their staff; Legislative Committees and their staff; the Administration and State and federal agencies; statewide organizations, as well as local or regional governmental bodies.

A Department or Advisory Board/Commission may not take any action that would imply the County's support or opposition to any pending legislation in the absence of, or inconsistent with, adopted Board positions.

Any time a County employee appears before a state, federal or local body to express a personal opinion or make a public comment, that individual must state for the record that they are speaking as a private citizen and not as an employee of the County or a representative of the Department for which they work. Further, written personal opinions shall not appear on County or department stationery/letterhead.

These procedures do not apply to elected officials who have been independently elected to represent the County and its residents. However, elected Department heads are encouraged to continue the best practice of open communication with the Board of Supervisors, CAO and CAO staff on important state and federal issues. In addition, the support of our elected officials on behalf of County policy positions can be a persuasive factor when dealing with state and federal representatives, and efforts to maintain this cooperative spirit will be given high priority by the CAO and CAO's staff.

With regard to written correspondence:

- Following action by the Board of Supervisors on legislative matters, the CAO's staff (or Transportation Planning staff) shall coordinate with the Board Chair and federal/state advocates to forward copies of such action to appropriate state and federal representatives, committees, and agencies.
- Letters of support or opposition to legislation will be prepared and coordinated with departments by the CAO's staff in accordance with Board-adopted positions.
- ***Written correspondence on behalf of the County to elected officials at the federal, state, or local level shall be transmitted over the signature of the Board Chair.***
- ***Only the Board of Supervisors can send position letters on a particular piece of legislation.*** Of course individual Board members and other elected officials have the right to express their positions on bills on behalf of themselves (but not the County).

DISCUSSION:

The amendment would clarify that state or federally mandated advisory boards or commissions may engage in legislation position development and advocacy according to the following protocol:

- **Positions may be taken only insofar as they are not inconsistent with Board-adopted policies or positions; Staff of the mandated advisory body must review the position recommendation for consistency with the Board-adopted State/Federal Platforms and advise the board/commission if an inconsistency exists; and**
- **Positions must be consistent with an adopted advisory body platform that is included in the Board-adopted State and Federal legislative platforms; and**
- **Positions must be communicated in a manner that clearly states through the use of a disclaimer/disclosure on any stationery and in the body of the letter that the advisory board or commission is advisory to the Board of Supervisors and that any comments, recommendations, opinions, and positions made by the board or commission or its individual members do not represent the official position of the County or any of its officers; and**
- **Position letters must be distributed by the CAO’s staff, who will include in its distribution the Board of Supervisors and any relevant Board committee.**

With this amendment to the Board-adopted protocol on position development and advocacy for advisory boards or commissions that are state or federally mandated, these boards or commissions can continue to perform their advocacy efforts in a manner that is consistent with the positions and priorities of the Board of Supervisors and not purporting to represent the positions of the Board of Supervisors or its members.

The state and/or federally mandated advisory bodies to which this protocol would apply include:

| | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Advisory Council on Aging, Contra Costa County |
| 2 | Airport Land Use Commission |
| 3 | Assessment Appeals Board |
| 4 | CCC Law Library Board of Trustees |
| 5 | Economic Opportunity Council |
| 6 | First 5 Contra Costa Children & Families Commission |
| 7 | In-Home Supportive Services Authority Advisory Committee |
| 8 | Local Child Care & Development Planning Council |
| 9 | Mental Health Commission, Contra Costa County |
| 10 | Merit Board |
| 11 | Relocation Appeals Board of Contra Costa County |
| 12 | Workforce Development Board |

With regard to the County’s requirements in state law for reporting lobbying or advocacy activities of advisory body members or staff to those advisory bodies/commissions, staff reviewed the matter with its state lobbyist, Nielsen Merksamer. An attorney for the firm provided the following information:

California Government Code 86116 provides that “Every person described in Section 86115 shall file periodic reports containing the following information: . . .

(h) (1) Except as set forth in paragraph (2), the total of all other payments to influence legislative or administrative action including overhead expenses and **all payments to employees who spend 10 percent or more of their compensated time in any one month in activities related to influencing legislative or administrative action.”**

FPPC Regulation 18616 provides further: "(f) Other Payments to Influence Legislative or Administrative Action. All persons who file periodic reports under Government Code section 86116 shall report the total of all other payments to influence legislative or administrative action made by the filer during the reporting period. The total amount reported shall include the following: (1) Compensation of Employees Other Than Lobbyists. This shall include a **proportionate share of the compensation paid to employees other than lobbyists who are engaged for 10 percent or more of their compensated time in a calendar month in or in connection with the activities described in subdivision (a)(4) of this regulation.** Such employees include those providing research services and those preparing materials to be used by a lobbyist or to be used in direct communication or in soliciting or urging others to engage in direct communication for the primary purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action. Compensation includes gross wages paid plus any benefits which are in lieu of wages such as the granting of stock options or the purchase of annuities. It does not include, however, routine fringe benefits, such as the employer's contribution to health plans, retirement plans, etc., which are made on behalf of all employees nor does it include the payment of the employer's payroll taxes."

Because staff who support the mandated advisory bodies/commissions are not expected to spend 10% or more of their compensated time in any one month in activities related to influencing legislative or administrative action, it is unlikely that there will be reportable expenditures for these advisory body advocacy activities. However, staff will be requested to provide the information if there are reportable expenditures.

Staff also discussed with its lobbyists whether Contra Costa County would be required to report matters lobbied by unpaid volunteer advisory board members on its quarterly lobby report (Form 635). It was not clear from the statute, regulations, or FPPC material, so we called FPPC Technical Assistance, who confirmed the answer was "yes." Therefore, in order for the matters to be reported correctly, the position letters must be distributed through the CAO's office, which coordinates the preparation of the quarterly lobby reports.