

MEASURE X COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD April 13, 2021 3:00 P.M.

VIRTUAL MEETING

The Public may observe and participate in the Virtual Zoom Meeting by using this link: https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/87983148415

Meeting ID: 879 8314 8415 Or by dialing (888) 278-0254 Conference Code: 468751

To be determined, Chair

To be determined, Vice Chair

Initial meeting will be facilitated by County Administration Staff

Agenda Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Board and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes)
- 4. REVIEW Housekeeping Items:
 Use of alternates
 Publishing email addresses
 Notice of meeting recordings
- 5. REVIEW Training Requirements
- 6. REVIEW Bylaws, Purpose Statement, and Needs Assessment
- 7. ELECTION of Chair and Vice Chair
- 8. SCHEDULE fixed future meetings (please have your calendars available)
- 9. Adjourn

The Measure X Community Advisory Board will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend Measure X 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 Measure X Community Advsory Board less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 1025 Escobar St., 4th Floor, Martinez, 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:

Lisa Driscoll, Committee Staff
Phone (925) 655-2047
lisa.driscoll@cao.cccounty.us



Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

MEASURE X COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Date: 04/13/2021

Subject: Measure X Community Advisory Board Training Resources

Submitted For: Monica Nino, County Administrator

Department: County Administrator

Referral No.: 2/2/21 D.4

Referral Name: Community Advisory Committee for Measure X

Presenter: Lisa Driscoll, County Finance **Contact:** Lisa Driscoll (925)

Director 655-2047

Referral History:

Measure X Community Advisory Board members and alternates were appointed by the Board of Supervisors on April 6, 2021. Appointed members of County advisory and independent bodies must comply with County policies.

Referral Update:

County policies require members to complete two trainings within 60 days of appointment.

- 1. <u>Brown Act & Better Government Ordinance Training Video</u> Full packet of <u>Materials from the Training (PDF)</u>
- 2. Ethics for Local Government Officials, offered by the Fair Political Practices Commission

Members should complete training and the $\frac{\text{Training Certification Form (PDF)}}{\text{Training Certification Form (PDF)}}$ and return the signed form to the body's staff person.

For more information, please contact the Clerk of the Board: **Address:** 1025 Escobar Street, 1st Floor, Martinez, CA 94553

Phone: (925) 655-2000 Fax: (925) 655-2006 Email Clerk of the Board

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

Complete required training and submit the Training Certification Form by June 5, 2021.

Attachments

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Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

MEASURE X COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Date: 04/13/2021

Subject: Measure X Community Advisory Board Bylaws, Purpose Statement,

and Needs Assessment

Submitted For: Monica Nino, County Administrator

Department: County Administrator

Referral No.: 2/2/21 D.4

Referral Name: Community Advisory Committee for Measure X

Presenter: Lisa Driscoll, County Finance **Contact:** Lisa Driscoll (925)

Director 655-2047

Referral History:

The Board of Supervisors adopted the Measure X Community Advisory Board Bylaws on April 6, 2021 (attached).

Referral Update:

As stated in Article I of the Bylaws, the Measure X Community Advisory Board was established by the Board of Supervisors on February 2, 2021 to advise the Board of Supervisors on the use of Measure X transactions and use tax funds. The main responsibilities of the Advisory Board are:

- 1. Overseeing an annual assessment of community needs, focusing primarily on the priority areas identified in the Needs Assessment, including emergency response (fire/medical), health care, safety net services, preventative care, affordable housing, and supports for early childhood, youth, families, and seniors.
- 2. Creating detailed priority lists of the top ten service gaps (county- and community-provided) based on the results from the needs assessment.
- 3. Using the assessment to make general funding priority recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on 95% of the revenue generated by Measure X.
- 4. Providing an annual report on the outcomes and impact of allocated funds.
- 5. The Advisory Board committee shall initially meet as needed and thereafter shall meet quarterly.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

Review current Needs Assessment prepared by the Sales Tax Working Group.

MXCAB Bylaws

Needs Assessment



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY MEASURE X COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

BYLAWS

(adopted by the Board of Supervisors on April 6, 2021)

Article I – Purpose

- A. The Measure X Community Advisory Board (the "Advisory Board") was established by the Board of Supervisors on February 2, 2021 to advise the Board of Supervisors on the use of Measure X transactions and use tax funds. The main responsibilities of the Advisory Board are:
 - 1. Overseeing an annual assessment of community needs, focusing primarily on the priority areas identified in the Needs Assessment, including emergency response (fire/medical), health care, safety net services, preventative care, affordable housing, and supports for early childhood, youth, families, and seniors.
 - 2. Creating detailed priority lists of the top ten service gaps (county- and community-provided) based on the results from the needs assessment.
 - 3. Using the assessment to make general funding priority recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on 95% of the revenue generated by Measure X.
 - 4. Providing an annual report on the outcomes and impact of allocated funds.
 - 5. The Advisory Board committee shall initially meet as needed and thereafter shall meet quarterly.

Article II - Membership

A. Composition:

- 1. The Advisory Board shall consist of 17 members, composed of 10 Supervisorial District appointees (2 per Supervisorial District) and seven (7) At-Large appointees.
- 2. The Advisory Board shall include ten (10) alternates. Alternate members have made a commitment to attend the meetings and gain the understanding of the issues and each other's viewpoints needed to reach agreement on recommendations. Alternate members are expected to attend all regular Advisory Board meetings and may participate fully, except that they may not vote unless substituting for an absent member as described below. Alternate members may not serve as elected officers but may serve on ad hoc or standing committees of the Advisory Board.
 - a) One (1) alternate shall serve on the Advisory Board for each Supervisorial District Appointment for a total of five (5) District alternates. The role of District alternate is fully interchangeable with that of regular District appointed Advisory Board members. A District alternate may not vote unless substituting for the respective absent District appointed members.
 - b) Five (5) alternates shall serve on the Advisory Board as At-Large alternates. The role of At-Large alternate is fully interchangeable with that of regular At-Large Advisory Board members. At-Large alternates may fully participate and voice opinions but may not vote unless substituting for an absent At-Large member.

B. Eligibility:

- General: The Advisory Board shall be composed of members representing broad and diverse voices, perspectives and expertise, including but not exclusive to: budget justice advocacy, children's services, community health, consumer advocacy, faith leadership, senior services, fire and public safety protection, housing and homelessness, labor union representation, legal advocacy, local businesses, mental health services, non-partisan civic organizations, policy organizations, public health, racial justice and equity, safety net services, senior services, substance use services, taxpayers, and youth services.
- 2. <u>Live/Work Requirement</u>: Committee members shall either live or work in Contra Costa County, with a majority being residents of the County. There is no requirement for Supervisorial District seat appointees to live or work within a specific Supervisorial District.
- 3. <u>No Public Officials</u>: Public officials, including both elected and appointed, are not eligible to serve on the Advisory Board.

C. Terms of Office:

- 1. <u>Appointments</u>: The members of the Advisory Board and alternates shall serve staggered terms of two or three years.
 - a) <u>Supervisorial District Appointments</u>: Each of the two (2) Supervisorial District seats and alternates identified in Article II(A) for each Supervisorial District, shall serve a term of two (2) years.
 - b) <u>At-Large Appointments:</u> Each of the seven (7) At-Large seats and alternates identified in Article II(A), shall serve a term of three (3) years.
- 2. Term Limits: Each member is limited to serving, consecutively, for a maximum of six years.

D. Appointment Process:

1. <u>Initial Appointments</u>:

- a) The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors will solicit applications to fill the 17-member Advisory Board through a single recruitment process.
- b) Applications shall be referred to each County Supervisor to select three nominees to serve on the Advisory Board (two nominees plus one stand-by nominee).
- c) Supervisorial District nominees will be transmitted to the Finance Committee of the Board of Supervisors (the "Finance Committee") along with all remaining applications for appointment.
- d) The Finance Committee shall review the Supervisorial District nominations and select nominees for the remaining seven (7) At-Large seats taking into account the goals identified in Article II(B)(1).
- e) In the case where the same nominee is selected for a Supervisorial District appointment by multiple Supervisors, the Finance Committee shall take into consideration the stand-by nominees recommended by those Supervisors in resolving the conflict and making a final recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.
- f) The Finance Committee shall ultimately make every effort to ensure that there is representation from the broadest cross-section of stakeholders as described in Article II(B)(1) as well as geographic, racial and ethnic representation reflecting the County's diversity.

2. <u>Subsequent Appointments</u>: The County shall use the process outlined in Article II(C)(1) above to fill scheduled vacancies.

3. Unscheduled Vacancies:

- a) <u>General</u>: Should an unscheduled vacancy occur during a member's term of office, either by death, resignation or otherwise, the Board of Supervisors shall be notified of the vacancy and shall direct the Clerk of the Board to announce the vacancy and collect applications for appointment.
- b) <u>Supervisorial District Vacancy</u>: If the unscheduled vacancy is in a Supervisorial District seat, then the applications seeking appointment will be transmitted by the Clerk of the Board to the Supervisorial District responsible for making nominations for appointment to that seat. The Supervisorial District will then transmit the nomination for appointment to the Board of Supervisors for consideration.
- c) At-Large Vacancy: If the unscheduled vacancy is in an At-Large seat, then the applications seeking appointment will be transmitted by the Clerk of the Board to the Finance Committee to consider making nominations for appointment to the vacant seat. The Finance Committee will then transmit the nomination for consideration and appointment to the Board of Supervisors for consideration.
- d) <u>Resignation:</u> Any appointed member may resign by giving written notice to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

Article III. – Advisory Board Structure & Meetings

- A. <u>Officers:</u> The Advisory Board shall select a Chair and Vice Chair for purposes of officiating meetings, who shall each serve for a term of one (1) year. Alternate members may not serve as officers.
- B. <u>Regular Meetings:</u> Regular meetings of the Advisory Board shall be held at least quarterly based on a schedule adopted by the Advisory Board and that schedule may be changed or augmented as needed. In addition, regularly scheduled meetings may be canceled by a majority vote of the Advisory Board or, for lack of business or a quorum, by the Chair.
- C. <u>Special Meetings:</u> Special meetings of the Advisory Board or any other committees may be called by the Chair at any time. Such meetings shall be called in accordance with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act and the Contra Costa County Better Government Ordinance regarding member and public notice.
- D. Quorum: A quorum of the Advisory Board shall occur when a majority of the membership are present. A majority of the membership is defined as a majority of filled seats on the Advisory Board at any given time. For example, if only 13 seats are filled and four (4) are vacant, then a majority for purposes of establishing a quorum would require seven (7) members be present at the meeting. Similarly, if all 17 seats are filled, a majority for purposes of establishing a quorum would require nine (9) members be present at the meeting. No action shall be taken by the Advisory Board unless a majority of the members are present as defined above. An Alternate Advisory Board member substituting for a member may be included in determining a quorum.
- E. <u>Voting:</u> Each member of the Advisory Board or the member's alternate has one vote and a minimum of nine (9) votes of the members present are required to pass a motion.
- F. <u>Conflict of Interest:</u> As a general rule, no member shall participate as a member in any discussion or voting if doing so would constitute a conflict of interest.
- G. <u>Meeting Procedure:</u> The Chair will preside at all meetings and proceed with the business of the Advisory Board in a manner prescribed in these bylaws. The Chair will also decide questions of procedure as needed.

- H. Order of Business: The regular order of business of the Advisory Board shall be at least the following:
 - 1. Call to order
 - Roll call to determine voting eligibility of At-Large alternates. At the start of each meeting, the five At-Large alternates shall be randomly ordered by staff to replace absent At-Large members for purposes of voting.
 - a. Public comment on items not on the agenda
 - b. Approve Record of Action from prior meeting
 - c. Consideration and action on agenda items
 - d. Adjournment
- I. <u>Public Access:</u> All meetings of the Advisory Board shall be open and accessible to the general public in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and the Contra Costa County Better Government Ordinance. Opportunity for public comment will be included in each agendaitem. In the interest of facilitating the business of the Advisory Board, the Chair may set in advance of public comment reasonable time limits for oral presentation.

Article IV. – Administration

The Advisory Board shall obtain staff support from the County Administrator's Office. The staff will be responsible for the compilation and distribution of Advisory Board meeting notices, agenda packets and records of action.

Article V. - Compensation

Members of the Advisory Board shall serve without compensation and shall not receive reimbursement for any expenses incurred while conducting official business.

Article VI. – Changes to Bylaws

The provisions of these Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed within the limitations imposed by the Brown Act, the Contra Costa County Better Government Ordinance and the policies of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors. No such alteration, amendment or repeal shall be effective unless and until the change has been approved by the Board of Supervisors, after consideration and recommendation by the Finance Committee.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

In March, a local emergency was declared in Contra Costa County in response to Covid-19.¹ Such poignant examples of how interconnected our health and wellness is have not been felt since the Great Depression. To date, over 30 million jobless claims have been filed. Contra Costa County is feeling the impacts as more individuals and families are finding new ways to stay housed, keep food on the table, and receive necessary medical care.

Even before the recent Covid-19 pandemic, Contra Costa County faced extreme public health risks arising from shortages in county budgeting and spending. With over 150 eligibility worker vacancies, Contra Costa County's most vulnerable residents struggle to obtain life-saving and stabilizing services. A \$32 million budget gap at the County Hospital may result in the closure of invaluable health programs and staff redundancies. Coupled with a lack of funding for necessary medical practitioners at community-based health resources, it is clear that the emergency preparedness for the county and residents must be addressed.

As funding dries up and vital public and nonprofit services become less accessible, residents are experiencing increased wait times for health and safety-net services. County first responders are reporting an uptick in non-emergency call-outs as residents are lacking options on where and how to obtain the care they need.

As the adage goes, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. To shore up access to medical and behavioral health services, and bolster county safety-net programs, the Board of Supervisors has charged us with assessing the needs of our county residents in proposing a **0.5% sales tax increase**.

Findings

- As many cities within, and the County overall, are struggling with budget deficits, the COVID-19 response has exposed the need for new revenue streams to support county residents during unprecedented emergencies.
- Under-investment in preventative and safety-net services is creating an increase in costs to taxpayers and county coffers.
- Without the financial resources to fund resident health, safety-net, affordable housing and early childcare services, inexorably taxpayers are spending more to address bigger problems arising from shortfalls in the accessibility and availability of early interventions.
- Targeted investments would save the county money by reducing emergency service expenditures.
- As part of County emergency medical preparedness, it is imperative that the County Hospital, medical clinics and community-based health resources remain accessible and available for residents.
- By creating a new revenue source, the county can reduce the dependence on money from the general fund in addressing county public health and safety-net needs.

https://www.mercurynews.com/2020/03/12/coronavirus-number-of-confirmed-cases-in-contra-costa-county-is-up-to-16/

Voices from the Community

"Before being enrolled in CARES, managing my diabetes was more difficult. I often missed work when my blood sugar was too high. With CARES, I don't have to worry about the cost of the appointment or lab tests. And Brookside keeps me on track by calling me when it's time for my next appointment. Having access to medicine has helped stabilize my health."

- County Resident

"During a regular check-up, I saw a child who exhibited behavioral problems and other signs of urgent mental health challenges. I initially referred the family to a mental health service provider in the same clinic, but due to restrictions the clinic was unable to treat the child without a diagnosis. I then referred them to a non-profit service provider, but their waiting list was too long. Finally, I reached out to a mental health provider that I know personally in hopes that my young patient could be seen. However, a few months later at my patient's next check-up, the child was still awaiting diagnosis as the parent had not heard from any of the providers which I attempted to refer them to."

- Local Pediatrician

"Since the Family Justice Center began tracking interpersonal violence data in 2015, we have observed an uptick in domestic violence, violence against children and elders, sexual assault, and human trafficking in Contra Costa County. By removing barriers to services, victims have found it easier to seek the interventions they need to change their lived experience. As we enter week 7 of the regional shelter-in-place order, we are witnessing an alarming increase in police reports of domestic abuse, and anecdotal stories of child and elder abuse. But the fact that formal child abuse reports have declined by 50% and elder abuse by 30% since shelter-in-place began makes all of us worried. In times of county emergency and prosperity, reliable public funding is critical to protect the vulnerable in our community and break cycles of abuse."

- Susun Kim
Executive Director

Needs Assessment: Health

Domestic Violence Screening Calls



County health services require a new funding source to keep facilities open and preserve the accessibility of medical care so that any patient – regardless of income or background – can receive the treatment they need to maintain their wellness. The County's ability to respond to medical emergencies and provide crisis funding for both emergency services and medical facilities has been accentuated during COVID-19.

Due to a \$32 million budget shortfall, residents are facing the closure of the county's only public hospital and medical clinics which provide life-saving care within our community. Already Contra Costa Regional Medical Center has seen a hiring freeze that has impacted hiring and forced the clinics to cut hours.

In addition to the county hospital, community-based health care clinics, like La Clínica de la Raza, are integral to providing quality care to vulnerable populations in Contra Costa County. More than ever, it is critical to ensure that these clinics have the funds that they need to employ appropriate numbers of healthcare professionals to meet the cultural and geographic needs of county residents.

Determinants of wellness extend beyond physical and mental health care. Additional factors pertaining to overall county wellness, including food security, income and workforce support, interpersonal violence protection, and legal advocacy, are further described in the safetynet section of this report. To ensure a complete picture of community health, each aspect must be met.

The needs of public and community health facilities include:

- Backfill funding for the current hospital deficit
- Adequate medical provider staffing to deliver appropriate levels of care, maintain accessible treatment hours and reflect cultural and geographic diversity
- Maintaining emergency response services

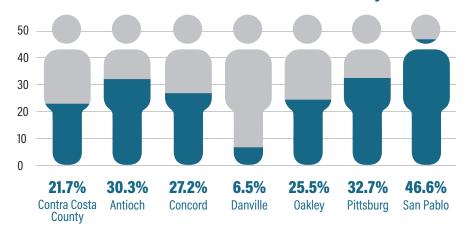
Needs Assessment: Safety Net Programs

Across Contra Costa County in 2017, 21.7%² of county residents fell below 200 percent of the poverty level, with the worst levels (46.6%) in San Pablo. In the current pandemic, an April 2020 report from the Economic Roundtable indicated that 40% of county workers face a high risk of unemployment, with 84% deemed "not essential," 62% unable to work from home, and 40% who are not salaried employees³.

Since 2016, Contra Costa County has lacked a combined 178 county social workers and eligibility workers who are instrumental in assisting county residents experiencing poverty and homelessness access state and federally funded programs to help meet



Residents Below 200% of Federal Poverty Level



their needs. To comprehensively manage community needs during this medical emergency, and in times of prosperity, our food banks must have sustainable inventories, legal advocacy and community outreach require adequate staffing and funding to help residents obtain full government benefits, prevent eviction, and link residents with healthcare benefits, interpersonal violence protection, emergency housing and job training and re-entry programs as we're able to reopen our economies.

As income disparity grows in Contra Costa County, safety-net programs reduce economic inequities. By adding public and nonprofit **critical wraparound** services for county residents- including child and elder abuse protection, behavioral health, alcohol or substance abuse treatment programs, legal advocacy for low-income and undocumented residents, and social service and workforce development for residents re-entering society, we begin to level the playing field and navigate pathways toward holistic wellness.

County Needs for Safety Net Programs Include

- Ninety-seven percent of the funding for safety-net eligibility workers is provided by state and federal dollars already paid by our county taxpayers. A small, but targeted investment by the county would fill these vacancies to help our most vulnerable residents access the services to meet their needs.
- ❷ Bolster county funding for safety-net providers e.g. alcohol and substance abuse treatment, interpersonal violence prevention, and legal advocacy– struggling to operate in Contra Costa County with rising day-to-day costs.
- Increasing the availability and accessibility of county's safety-net programs will prevent vulnerable individuals from needing to rely on county fire and emergency services for lower level of care needs.

² http://www.vitalsigns.mtc.ca.gov/poverty

³In Harms Way, Daniel Flaming and Patrick Burns, April 2020

Needs Assessment: Housing

California has a serious housing crisis and Contra Costa County is experiencing more than its share of the crisis. The California Housing Partnership found that Contra Costa needs 32,000 affordable rental homes to meet demand from very-low-income and extremely-low-income residents⁴. This low-income housing scarcity, and the resulting dramatic rise in rents, is a leading cause of homelessness, with 2,295 people experiencing homelessness – more than 70% of them unsheltered – in the 2019 point-in-time count – a 43% increase since 2017.⁵

Solving our housing crisis is beyond the scope of the revenue to be generated by the proposed sales tax, but these revenues could be used as County matching funds to leverage new State funding for affordable housing production and preservation, and to alleviate homelessness.

Some of the proven programs to meet our housing needs that could be implemented or supplemented with new revenue include:

- ✓ Greater investment in homelessness prevention cost-effective, one-time or short-term assistance to keep people at risk of homelessness in their homes. This strategy is used effectively by Contra Costa's homelessness Continuum of Care and should be supplemented.
- **Develop of community land trusts** or similar housing trusts for pre-development investment in land acquisition.
- Funding for rent subsidies, such as existing Rapid Rehousing programs, to stem the tide of displacement and help meet the housing needs of low-income residents.

In a very real sense, housing is healthcare. Unsheltered homeless people make an average of five emergency-room visits each year and providing them with housing has been shown to significantly reduce emergency-room visits and their overall healthcare costs. Numerous studies have shown that housing can be provided at less cost than the additional use of emergency-room and related healthcare and additional law-enforcement interactions that come from living on the streets.

Needs Assessment: Early Childcare

Children and Infants are one of Contra Costa County's most vulnerable populations. Research shows that **a child's brain develops most dramatically during the first five years of life**, yet far too many children in Contra Costa County do not get the high-quality early health and childcare they need.

Studies show that every dollar invested in early education saves seventeen dollars in reduced costs for remedial education, incarceration and social support.⁶

Childcare

17,900 children ages 0-5 years who are eligible for subsidized childcare cannot access it due to low supply. Childcare shortages are caused in part by low wages of childcare workers, approximately half of whom are eligible for public assistance despite working.

Mental Health

7,000-10,000 children have unserved mental health needs according to reports by Health Providers in the county.



⁴ Contra Costa County's Housing Emergency Update, May 2019, Danielle M. Mazella and Lindsay Rosenfeld, California Housing Partnership ⁵ 2019 Point in Time factsheet, Contra Costa Health Services

⁶ https://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/new-research-early-education-as-economic-investme.aspx

Early Education

Only 44% of children in Contra Costa County met the definition of "fully ready" for kindergarten; 35% were partially ready; and 22% were not ready to start school. Antioch, Pittsburg and west Contra Costa have the highest concentrations of poverty and the lowest rates of children "fully ready."

With the widespread closure of child care services, during the current Shelter-in-Place order, child care services are utilizing home visiting and parent education programs to improve child outcomes and prevent child abuse during these unprecedented times.



The needs for this community include:

- Improve ECE workforce pay to improve early learning program quality
- Expand parenting support and early childhood development services
- Expand a coordinated early ID and intervention system to improve service delivery for children up to age 5

Sales Tax Working Group

Co-chaired by Mariana Moore, of Ensuring Opportunity Campaign, and Joshua Anijar, of Contra Costa Central Labor Council, the Sales Tax Measure Ad Hoc Committee Working Group represents stakeholders from public health and safety-net providers including:

- ACCE
- Budget Justice Coalition
- California Nursing Association
- Central Labor Council
- Community Clinic Consortium
- East Bay Leadership Council*
- Ensuring Opportunity
- Firedoll Foundation
- First 5/Family Economic Security Partnership
- Healthy & Active Before 5
- Hospital Council*
- IFTPE Local 21, AFL-CIO
- Lift Up Contra Costa
- Multi-Faith Action Coalition
- Public Defenders Association
- SEIU 1021
- Supervisor Karen Mitchoff's Office
- Teamsters IBT 856
- United Professional Firefighters of Contra Costa County
- United Way Bay Area

Through regular public meetings we have built a coalition of public health, nonprofit and labor entities across Contra Costa County. Our common goal was to understand how budget shortfalls are impacting individual and systemic public health in our county, housing needs, safety-net programs and early childcare concerns.

Proposed Solutions

Based on needs assessment discussions and county voter polling, levying a 1/2 cent sales tax in Contra Costa County can create a new revenue source that directly addresses accessibility to and availability of health resources including the County Hospital and community-based health resources, maintains county emergency services, adds capacity for eligibility workers - with minimal financial investment from the county - to link our most vulnerable residents with the resources they need to stabilize and improve their lives, establishes leveraging opportunities to improve housing security, prevents interpersonal violence against residents of all ages, and ensures that the children of Contra Costa County have access to necessary health resources and enriching learning opportunities which are both accessible and affordable.

Sales Tax Working Group Co-Chairs

Mariana Moore, Senior Director

Ensuring Opportunity Campaign to End Poverty in Contra Costa mmoore@richmondcf.org

510-234-1200 ext. 311

Joshua Anijar, Executive Director Contra Costa Labor Council, AFL-CIO josh@cclabor.net 602-770-9307