



**2020**

**LEGISLATIVE SESSION PROGRAM**

**SAN MATEO COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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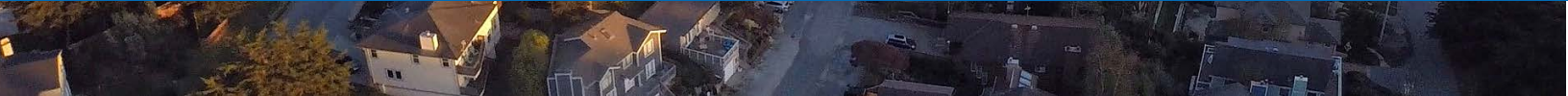
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## INTRODUCTION

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





**To be effective in this mission, San Mateo County reviews and establishes priorities and policy statements at the beginning of each legislative year to help guide its advocacy activities at the state and federal levels. The 2020 Legislative Session Program outlines the County’s priorities in the coming year and details the County’s legislative policies—providing general direction for advocacy. The 2020 Legislative Session Program reflects the County’s commitment to our Shared Vision 2025 of a healthy, livable, environmentally conscious and collaborative community**

## **ADVOCACY OF THE COUNTY’S INTERESTS**

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

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

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

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

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



## **STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

**THESE ARE THE TOP COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR  
SAN MATEO COUNTY IN THE SECOND YEAR OF-  
THE 2019-20 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION.**



## STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

### PANDEMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY



Counties are on the front lines of the COVID-19 state response providing direct services to the community across various sectors, including: emergency response through the activation of Emergency Operations Centers (EOC); county hospitals caring for patients, testing, and preparing for surge; social workers assisting residents newly eligible for social service programs, caring for the homebound and securing facilities to house the homeless; local public health officials evaluate data, conduct disease track and tracing; and assess next steps to protect public health; local public safety works to ensure the community is safe despite new

responsibilities and court protocols. Because counties have expended considerable resources due to the pandemic to provide these critical services and because it is anticipated that the need for County services will increase at a time of potentially deep recession, the County will focus on maximizing local resources and securing relief (at both the state and federal levels) to assure continued delivery of critical services, including the following actions:

- Work with the state to develop an array of county budget stabilization measures to mitigate significant shortfalls and ensure the County can continue to provide essential services to the community.
- Partner with the state to develop potential solutions to shore up local resources—with a particular focus on 1991 and 2011 Realignments.

### HOMELESSNESS



Homelessness is a top priority for the County. To this end, the County has dedicated significant resources towards executing strategies from the County's 2016 Strategic Plan on homelessness to create a Housing Crisis Resolution System to rapidly house people experiencing homeless, including implementation of a coordinated entry system, implementation of prevention and diversion programs, expanded emergency shelter capacity, additional rapid re-housing programs, Homeless Outreach Teams (HOT), and planning for a new expanded Maple Street emergency homeless

shelter. Given the growing depth of the crisis, the County will advocate for state assistance and proposals that advance its efforts to combat homelessness, including additional funding for homeless prevention services and funding specifically dedicated to permanent housing and services to help the unhoused achieve more permanent housing solutions. The County also supports ongoing, flexible funding for programs that have evidenced success in keeping individuals permanently housed, outreach programs to meaningfully engage homeless individuals and focused efforts to reduce homelessness among adults over the age of 50 that address the needs of and recognize the particularized causes of homelessness among this age cohort. The County will advocate for enhanced flexibility with respect to existing housing funding sources, including but not limited to No Place Like Home, as well as the use of public facilities for shelter or other homelessness services. Finally, the County will actively seek state support for the construction of the new Maple Street Shelter.

The County will work towards the implementation of a wide range of state funding sources to ensure that it receives its fair share of funding and that the guidelines succeed in increasing housing opportunities and reducing homelessness in the County. In addition, the County will advocate for proposals that fund initiatives that support planning; expand the availability of permanent supportive housing; and provide urban counties with the ability to maximize and leverage available federal, state and local funds to provide services for at-risk and homeless families and single persons. The County will also advocate for the allocation of consistent, ongoing behavioral health and mental health funding to help formerly homeless residents move toward self-sufficiency.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING



The County places a high priority on increasing the availability of affordable housing. Since 2013, it has invested \$154.5 million in County funds towards the construction of approximately 3,161 units (in predevelopment, construction or completed). The County will advocate for policies, regulations and funding opportunities that promote healthy, safe, accessible, service-enriched and affordable housing for people at all income levels. The County will also continue to advocate for more and ongoing state funded tax credits for the development of affordable housing and a more expedited process by the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for the release of NOFAs and awards.

The County will support proposals that provide needed revision of prior housing legislation that would make implementation reasonable and workable for the County, including clean-up legislation for the implementation of SB 13 (Wieckowski, Chapter 653, Statutes of 2018), AB 68 (Ting, Chapter 655, Statutes of 2018) and AB 881 (Bloom, Chapter 659, Statutes of 2018), which update state regulation of Second Units (a.k.a. “Accessory Dwelling Units” or “ADUs”). The County will support passage of AB 69 or other efforts to create small home building standards.

The County will support ACA 1, or a similar measure, to amend the California Constitution, subject to approval by voters at a statewide election, to allow a city, county, or special district, with 55% voter approval, to incur bonded indebtedness or impose specified special taxes to fund certain public infrastructure and housing projects. The County will also support SCA 1, a constitutional amendment to repeal Article 34 of the California Constitution, which requires majority approval by the voters of a city or county for the development, construction, or acquisition of a publicly funded affordable housing project.

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT



The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), approved by California voters in November 2004, has provided dedicated funding for mental health services by imposing a 1 percent tax on personal income over one million dollars—translating to about \$29.7 million average for San Mateo County annually in the last five years through FY 2018-19. MHSA monies are used by Behavioral Health and Recovery Services to fund a variety of County mental health programs in the areas of community services and supports, prevention and early intervention and innovation targeting children, young adults (including transitional age youth), adults, and older adults. However, MHSA’s rigid funding formulas prevent counties from using these funds to address emerging challenges, including the homelessness

epidemic and legislative efforts are underway that seek to redirect funding. In response, the County supports efforts to modernize MHSA but opposes efforts that would redirect these dollars which have become an integral part of the County’s mental health system. The County will advocate for flexibility to allow for the use of MHSA funding for services for homeless and criminal justice involved individuals with a primary or sole diagnosis of substance use disorder (SUD) to better target their medical needs. In addition, the County will support the use of an outcomes-based model for distribution of MHSA funds developed with county behavioral health departments that reflect statewide and local priorities in place of current percentage distributions.



## FEDERAL SUPPORTS FOR COUNTY HEALTH SYSTEM



In the fall of 2018, the Newsom Administration unveiled a comprehensive, multi-year approach to improving Medi-Cal: CalAIM. CalAIM was intended to be the framework for California's approach to the renewal of the Section 1115 and 1915(b) federal waivers, both of which expire in at the end of 2020. However, on April 10, the Newsom Administration announced that implementation of CalAIM has been delayed due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. In the meantime, The County will continue with related advocacy efforts to sustain the county's health system by advocating for:

- Support the Newsom Administration's efforts to extend federal Section 1115 and 1915B waivers for one year.
- Support additional federal funding for county hospitals, clinics and health systems to address revenue losses due to COVID-19.
- Support federal efforts to delay implementation of the Medicaid Federal Accountability Rule.

## PUBLIC SAFETY/CRIMINAL FINES AND FEES



The Legislature is continuing its efforts to eliminate fines and fees within the criminal justice system which counties use to support a wide array of public safety programs. Because numerous and diverse programs and reforms in probation, the Sheriff's Office and the Courts have been enacted by the state and are directly tied to an associated fee or fine as a funding source, the County will work with its state associations to ensure that it has the funding necessary to support these local programs.

## CLIMATE & RESILIENCY



The Legislature will continue to focus on a variety of topics related to improving statewide resiliency to disasters and adapting to the impacts of climate change, including measures that help fund resiliency work at the local level. The County will continue to advocate for flexible funding at the local level to help prepare, respond and recover from disasters.

The state's investor-owned electric utilities (IOUs) are more frequently utilizing de-energization policies and shutting off electric power, referred to as Public Safety Power Shut-offs (PSPS), to protect against wildfire ignition and to enhance public safety as permitted under California law. These PSPS events have a significant impact on our communities and local economies, oftentimes leaving large segments of the population without power for days at a time. The County will work in collaboration with its associations to engage the IOUs and stakeholder groups to work towards better coordination during PSPS events and ensure for adequate resources and communication to sensitive populations.

The discussion of utility liability continues to re-emerge as PG&E faces additional liability year after year for igniting wildfires in California. The utility has openly lobbied in bankruptcy court for changes to inverse condemnation law, and despite constitutional protections of local governments' legal standing, this will continue to be an issue as the IOU emerges from bankruptcy. The County will work with its associations to protect the rights of victims and local governments, while holding utilities accountable for their actions.

## SAN MATEO COUNTY FLOOD AND SEA LEVEL RISE RESILIENCY DISTRICT BOND FUNDING



Assembly Bill 825 (Chapter 292, Statutes of 2019) created the County's new Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District (FSLRRD) tasked with addressing sea level rise, flooding, coastal erosion, and large-scale storm water infrastructure improvements through integrated regional planning, design, permitting, project implementation, and long-term operations and maintenance with the goal of creating a resilient "one shoreline" in San Mateo County by 2100. The County will advocate for funding to assist the FSLRRD in its mission through any climate resiliency bond legislation that emerges from the Legislature and/or the Administration in 2020 and that would need to be approved by the state's voters in November 2020.

## THE BIG LIFT INSPIRING SUMMERS



San Mateo County is one of the most affluent counties in the nation, yet in 2014 only half of third graders were reading proficiently. To address this problem, the County launched The Big Lift—a bold social venture that gives children the evidence-based boosts they need to read and succeed: two years of high quality preschool, four years of inspiring summer experiences, family engagement and community collaboratives that support literacy and builds school attendance. Over the six-year pilot period, the County has invested over \$30 million in Measure K half-cent sales tax revenue to the program as a statement of commitment to the goal of reaching third grade reading proficiency across the County.

In 2020, the County of San Mateo will seek \$2.83 million in state funding for The Big Lift Inspiring Summers, a pillar of The Big Lift that demonstrates average reading gains of 1.5-months year-over-year and aims to increase children's success through an evidence-based model that ensures kids are Kindergarten-ready and reading proficiently by third grade.



## COUNTY LEGISLATIVE POLICIES

THESE ARE THE TOP LEGISLATIVE POLICIES FOR  
SAN MATEO COUNTY IN THE SECOND YEAR OF  
THE 2019-20 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION.



## 1. AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS AND MEASURES THE COUNTY SUPPORTS:



- 1.1 **State budget proposals** that provide funding for long-term protection of agricultural lands and restoration of Williamson Act funding.
- 1.2 **State budget proposals** that provide funding to growers to develop innovative solutions to new industry challenges, including identification and testing of economically viable alternative crops. The County also supports legislation that encourages new farmers to enter the industry.
- 1.3 **Local access** to fresh and healthy foods for the County's residents, specifically legislation and budget proposals that promote and/or support local agriculture, community and school gardens and farmer's markets.
- 1.4 **Leveraging** private funds through Restore CA to fund climate-smart farming practices that protect our agricultural communities and enable large-scale carbon sequestration on the County's working lands.
- 1.5 **The continued use** of additional agricultural off-highway use motor vehicle fuel funds at the local level for Agricultural Commissioners in carrying out agriculture code programs under the direction of the Secretary of Food and Agriculture.
- 1.6 **Funding** of Invasive Species exclusion and management programs at the state level. Specific programs include: Pest Exclusion, Pest Detection Trapping and Survey Activities, Rapid Response, Pest Management and Eradication, and public education outreach. The County also supports protecting existing revenue sources and enhancing state and federal funding of Pest Prevention Program activities. The County supports providing full cost recovery for new programs and maintaining or enhancing funding for current programs. The County supports all reasonable efforts by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), County Agricultural Commissioners, and the agriculture industry to acquire funding and to prevent the introduction and potential spread of invasive pest management and eradication activities. The County supports providing flexibility to enhance the abilities of Agricultural Commissioners to respond to pest emergencies and high priority local pest exclusion pathways. The County supports

budgetary efforts to restore and maintain funding for agricultural border stations and supports research on invasive species pathways as well as funding mechanisms to close potential pathways.

- 1.7 **The provision and protection** of local authority for weights and measures device registration fees, and legislation that maintains, extends or eliminates the repeal date in Business and Professions Code Section 12246 pertaining to Weights and Measures Device Registration Fees.
- 1.8 **Legislation that preserves** and enhances funding resources for weights and measures programs at the state (Division of Measurement Standards, DMS) and local (Sealer) level for consumer protection, encouraging the use of state general funds for the DMS. The County supports legislation which assures clear labeling and accuracy of the net quantity of packaged products to promote value comparison and to ensure the consumer receives the correct product and the quantity of product for which they pay. The County opposes legislation that would allow for industry self-certification of commercial weighing and measuring devices. The County also opposes legislation that would diminish or remove protections now afforded to consumers for transactions measured by weighing or measuring devices or computed by Point-of-Sale systems. The County supports legislation that establishes funding for quantity control and package inspection.
- 1.9 **Proposals that provide** long-term stable funding for county pesticide regulatory activities, such as that established in Senate Bill 1049 (Chapter 741, Statutes of 2003) for county agricultural commissioners, but which were never funded by the state. The County supports legislative or budgetary proposals that maintain or increase funding through the pesticide mill fee that is sufficient for pesticide regulatory activities to protect the safety of workers, the public and the environment and provides funding for education, outreach and compliance assessment activities related to the safe use of pesticides. The County also supports the preemptive status of state pesticide laws and authority provided to the Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) and California Agricultural Commissioners.
- 1.10 **State legislation and resources** that would provide stable funding for Weed Management Area groups or

programs for the control of harmful nonnative, invasive weed pests.

- 1.11 **Opposes legislation** creating local mandates or programs that do not clearly define and authorize roles for Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers and that do not provide full funding and resources for activities to be carried out by Agricultural Commissioners and/or Sealers.
- 1.12 **Opposes legislation** that creates local mandates or programs that do not fully fund additional regulatory activities to be carried out by Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers, impair local land use authority, fail to provide adequate security for commissioners/sealer staff, and/or create interference between cannabis regulation and existing authorities granted to Commissioners/Sealers. The County supports full funding and resources for additional regulatory activities to be carried out by Agricultural Commissioners/Sealers.
- 1.13 **Legislation and proposals** that enhance funding and resources to support an effective regulatory program for direct marketing. Certified Farmers Markets, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA's), community and school gardens at both state and local levels.
- 1.14 **Opposes legislation** that would end the State Organic Program (SOP) registration requirements and fee-based activities performed by the CDFA SOP and Agricultural Commissioners. The County opposes legislation that would eliminate the California Organic Products Advisory Committee (COPAC). The County opposes legislation that would end statewide enforcement of the SOP by CDFA and County Agricultural Commissioners and supports organic program funding allowing agricultural commissioners the authority to verify that agricultural products represented as "organic" are indeed so.
- 1.15 **Increased** environmental review of new school site proposals to ensure similarity to other developments. The County supports legislation that supports the incorporation of buffers, setbacks and pick-up drop off locations into new school footprints and designs to minimize interference with agricultural operations when schools must be sited in agricultural areas.

## 2. CHILD SUPPORT THE COUNTY SUPPORTS:



- 2.1 **Preservation** of funding to Local Child Support Agencies. The County supports adjustments to local child support agencies and funding allocations that account for cost differences among California counties providing services. Funding from the state has remained flat despite program cost increases.
- 2.2 **Changing** the rate of interest charged for unpaid child support. Currently, California charges 10 percent per year on a simple basis on any unpaid child support, which is high in today's loan market.
- 2.3 **Increased** flexibilities for the administration of Child Support. Flexibility in the Child Support program should include employment support for unemployed and/or underemployed parents.
- 2.4 **Legislative** reforms that increase access to child support services, despite the decrease in caseloads statewide, and that allow for automatic referrals for single family households recipients of social and economic service supports.

### 3. ELECTIONS AND VOTING THE COUNTY SUPPORTS:



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

## 4. ENVIRONMENT

### THE COUNTY SUPPORTS:



- 4.1 **Enhancement and maintenance** of its open space and park lands network through increased funding for coordinated improvements for habitat and public access, including strategic use of nature-based techniques to improve parks' natural and built infrastructure resources resilience for extreme weather and climate change.
- 4.2 **Efforts** to work with regional partners to protect, conserve, restore, and enhance the sustainability of the diverse environmental resources of the County, including its coasts, forests, wetlands, and adjacent waters for habitat and beneficial use by current residents, visitors and future generations.
- 4.3 **Changes** in policies and practices that result in a net reduction of non-renewable energy use and global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through energy efficiency, conservation and prioritizes fuel switching from natural gas and liquid fuels such as gasoline to electricity; efforts that help to reduce the per capita and overall energy use of the state; increase production and use of renewable energies to grow the "market share" of the state's energy consumption profile; and only when absolutely necessary, nonrenewable energy development that meets environmental reviews, and maintains or exceeds current environmental and/or emission controls, and that best protects our natural environments and offshore areas.
- 4.4 **Implementation of Assembly Bill 32** (Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006), the Global Warming Solutions Act Executive Order B-30-15 and Senate Bill 32 (Chapter 249, Statutes of 2016), which requires the state to slash GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. The County supports local funding needs identified in City and County Climate Action Plans including: funding for mitigation efforts/incentives for government departments and cities.
- 4.5 **Changes** in policies and practices that result in easier access by local government to resource use data, including: energy, water, fuels, DMV data such as vehicles miles traveled (VMT) by vehicle type and location, and disposed and diverted waste, to enhance the effectiveness of local resource conservation and GHG reduction programs.
- 4.6 **Exploration of new funding sources** to implement local or state government programs that benefit the



environment such as: watershed protection; groundwater recharge and sustainability; water conservation; GHGs reduction, energy efficiency; climate adaptation; National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) compliance; Areas of Special Biological Significance compliance; Commute Alternatives programs; and development of alternative energy sources. In addition, new funding sources for compliance with stormwater pollution prevention in general and Municipal Regional Permits (MRP) Mercury and controls to meet MRP load reductions requirements.

4.7 **State funding and policy proposals** that support the development of an effective and comprehensive countywide and especially regional and statewide measure to adapt to sea level rise, community resilience, extreme weather (e.g., atmospheric rivers, flooding, excessive heat) and other effects of climate change. State funding to study the impacts of climate change on the natural environment, groundwater, species adaptation and human health impacts, and migration.

4.8 **Funding and technical assistance** to support the Legislative Analyst's Office recommendations from "Preparing for Rising Seas: How the State Can Help Support Local Coastal Adaptation Efforts," which include funding regional collaboratives and adaptation plans, local adaptation planning and projects, standardized methodology for use of climate science in project implementation, streamlined permitting policies, and support for public campaigns.

4.9 **Funding** to support local adaptation plans and planning updates, including embedding climate change adaptation into Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, General Plans, Capitol Improvement Plans, Local Coastal Program updates, Climate Action Plans, and zoning and ordinances.

4.10 **Funding and technical assistance** to develop and implement best practices for climate resilient housing developments and transportation, which include GHG reduction and increased resiliency to climate impacts.

4.11 **Funding** to support implementation of AB 2800 (Chapter 580, Statutes of 2016) at the local level, which would include climate vulnerability assessment of key government owned and/or

community serving facilities, development of adaptation strategies and implementation of strategies at a regional scale. Actions could support high priority sites such as landfills, properties at extreme risk of coastal erosion, voluntary property buy outs for low income residents, wastewater treatment plants, and other critical infrastructure.

4.12 **Funding** to support implementation of actions recommended in the AB 691 (Chapter 592, Statutes of 2013) State Lands Commission Sea Level Rise Adaptation reports.

4.13 **Policies and funding** targeted at supporting disadvantaged communities to plan for climate change, reducing impacts to disadvantaged communities from climate impacts, ensuring efforts are culturally appropriate, including community involvement, and reducing any unintended consequences and/or increased energy costs for these populations. Examples include funding for Resilience Hubs such as investments in adaptive infrastructure, such as cooling centers, industrial scale energy storage, and micro-grid technology to enable community members to better deal with climate crisis. Other examples include efforts to enable low-income people to access electric vehicles (EVs) or low carbon vehicles and/or electric bicycles and could include buy backs of polluting vehicles with application of the funds to purchase used EVs, used hybrids, or transit support.

4.14 **Funding and technical assistance** to support regional climate collaboratives of agencies, community leaders and businesses, aimed at reaching carbon neutrality and implementing climate resistance strategies, including capacity building programs and technical support for grant proposal development.

4.15 **When allocating state funding** to disadvantaged communities, support changing the definition of disadvantaged communities to the Under-Resource Communities definition used in PRC 71130(g). The definition appropriate to the region is: Underrepresented communities (URCs) are defined as groups that do not meet the state definition of a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) or Economically Distressed Area (EDA) but yet are below the median household income for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. URCs are also defined as groups that

have a history of disproportionately less representation in water policy and/or projects and include, but are not limited to, African-Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Native Americans, California Indian Tribes, Hispanic, Middle-Eastern, LGBTQ, homeless, new immigrant, youth and elderly populations, unincorporated communities, and small, independent organizations.

4.16 **Implementation of Assembly Bill 184** (Chapter 338, Statutes of 2017), the Planning for Sea Level Rise Database. The County also supports guidance or information related to implementation of Senate Bill 379 (Chapter 608, Statutes of 2015) related to the inclusion of climate adaptation and resiliency strategies in the safety elements of county/city general plans.

4.17 **Implementation of Proposition 39 (2012)**, the Income Tax Increase for Multistate Businesses. The County also supports prioritizing local governments and additional rounds of funding for local government of school district projects to receive funds for installation of green energy projects. The County supports time extension, as needed, to support implementation of the current round of Proposition 39 funding. The County also supports prioritizing additional rounds of funding for school districts and local government support for projects for energy conservation, renewable energy, and microgrid-type projects, to improve disaster resiliency of school buildings.

4.18 **Policies** and coalitions of local governments that work to enhance funding to local governments from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)-administered Public Goods Funds and reduce local government program evaluation based on a Total Resource Cost (TRC) test model, and which recognize the vital role the state places on local governments to coordinate long-range GHG reduction programs.

4.19 **Diversions** of waste from landfills and mandatory recycling through implementation of Assembly Bill 939 (Chapter 809, Statutes of 1989), and Assembly Bill 341 (Chapter 476, Statutes of 2011), and Assembly Bill 1826 (Chapter 727, Statutes of 2014).

4.20 **Exploring additional funding sources**, or the broadening use of existing funding, for continued implementation of the Countywide Integrated Waste

Management Plan. The current funding (Assembly Bill 939, Chapter 1095 and Statutes of 1989) is generated from fees imposed per ton of solid waste disposed in the County. As disposal of solid waste decreases and materials recycled or composted increases, assessment of fees on recycled or composted materials should be reconsidered. The County supports development of additional funding mechanisms for local governments for the continued implementation of integrated waste management plans beyond fees assessed on disposal of solid waste.

4.21 **Funding** for local jurisdictions to comply with the Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling (MORE) program created by Assembly Bill 1826 (Chapter 727, Statutes of 2014), Assembly Bill 341 (Chapter 476, Statutes of 2011) and the Mandatory Commercial Recycling (MCR) program created by Assembly Bill 341 (Chapter 476, Statutes of 2011).

4.22 **Efforts** to streamline and facilitate the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and regional permitting processes while maintaining authority at the local level, as well as seeking opportunities to coordinate restoration project permitting.

4.23 **Continued funding** for the California Green Business Network, the state arm of the local San Mateo County and state California Green Business Program, including flexible or ongoing funding sources, such as Cap and Trade that will support similar programs that holistically address energy, water, solid waste, storm water, pollution prevention and transportation alternatives.

4.24 **Implementation of laws, regulations and programs** that provide a uniform approach to the phase out of polystyrene, plastics and packaging of consumer products.

4.25 **New and/or expanded funding for:**

4.25.1 **Efforts** to prioritize significant and regionally coordinated investments in public transportation. Enhancement of existing and deployment of new public transit systems that reduce VMTs to 20% by 2030.

4.25.2 **Improvements** to streets and roads that encourage active transportation, such as walking

and bicycling, transit, and other carbon-reducing road improvements.

- 4.25.3 **Capital investments** that expand reuse and recycling market management infrastructure with a priority in disadvantaged communities.
- 4.25.4 **Investment** in new or expanded clean composting, anaerobic digestion, fiber, plastic, and glass facilities necessary to divert more materials from landfills as these programs reduce GHG emissions and support the state's 75 percent solid waste recycling goal.
- 4.25.5 **Wetland restoration projects** that provide carbon sequestration benefits, including habitat restoration projects within the California EcoRestore program to support the long-term wealth of the Delta's native fish and wildlife species.
- 4.25.6 **Wetland projects** along the San Francisco Bay and along the San Mateo County coast that will support adaptation to climate change impacts and community resilience.
- 4.25.7 **Incentives** to agricultural operations to invest in energy efficient irrigation technologies that reduce GHG emissions and water use, and that support agricultural and ecosystem resilience in response to changes in droughts and extreme storms.
- 4.25.8 **To complete and maintain** regional trails along the bay, coast and linking bay to the sea for the County area of the Santa Cruz Mountains.
- 4.25.9 **The restoration and improvement** of the County's historic buildings and trails such as the Sanchez Adobe and the Ohlone-Portolá Heritage Trail.
- 4.25.10 **Playgrounds and pocket parks** that enhance the quality of life for the community.
- 4.25.11 **Local agencies** that manage State Parks lands, such as San Bruno Mountain.
- 4.26 **Use of Cap and Trade** and/or other climate related funding for forest management, stewardship and wildfire fuel reduction, carbon

sequestration on agricultural working lands, and blue carbon in wetlands and marshes.

- 4.27 **Funding and planning tools** for reduction of fire hazards on County lands to reduce fire hazards, particularly at the urban interface.
- 4.28 **Cattle grazing** for natural resources objectives (i.e., butterfly habitat on San Bruno Mountain).
- 4.29 **Obtaining state funding** to develop a comprehensive Restoration Plan for Pescadero Marsh, building off of the effective partnerships State Parks and the San Mateo Resource Conservation District have fostered to implement the Butano Channel Resilience fish passage and coastal flooding project in Butano Creek at Pescadero Creek Road, or funding to address costly implementation of the Pescadero/Butano Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).
- 4.30 **Procurement of state funding** to plan and implement watershed level restoration and improvement of sediment management for salmonid habitat, water quality, and reduction in coastal flooding impacts to the community of Pescadero.
- 4.31 **Sustainable** forest management in previously clear-cut or timber harvested uplands to restore forest habitat to late seral stage forest conditions, address sources of sediment associated with old logging roads and legal creek crossings, and restore floodplain connectivity to trap sediment upstream for a more naturally functioning ecological system in the Pescadero and Butano watersheds.
- 4.32 **Support for policy and funding** that leads to reduced risk for fire from utility infrastructure assets, or that requires land owners to provide access to easements for fire-prevention maintenance, and technologies that circuit break electricity supply the instant an anomaly is sensed.
- 4.33 **Legislation and policy** that support a safe transition from traditional municipal water supplies to on-site or wastewater treatment plant sources of recycled water, through building code or state standards deployment.

## 5. HEALTH AND HOSPITALS THE COUNTY SUPPORTS:



### 5.1 Aging & Adult Services (AAS):

#### 5.1.1 Continuing the Coordinated Care

Initiative/Partners for Independence activities with the Health Plan of San Mateo, which gives San Mateo County the flexibility to spend money on long-term services and support services in ways that most benefit the client.

5.1.2 **Continuing and strengthening** collaborative efforts with the San Francisco Veterans Administration to streamline In-Home Supportive Services and Public Authority processes to best serve newly housed homeless San Mateo County veterans at Colma Veteran's Village.

5.1.3 **Continuing** efforts to maximize collaboration and develop homelessness prevention programs that target highly vulnerable seniors and persons with disabilities (SPDs) that are built on evidence-based rapid rehousing principles and coupled with short-term intensive case management services to keep SPDs housed in a setting of their choosing and connected to a medical home.

5.1.4 **Proposals** that advance the implementation of the State's Olmstead Plan, which prohibits unnecessary institutionalization of individuals with disabilities and ensures people with disabilities have a right to live in the community and receive services in their own homes.

5.1.5 **Legislation** that allows for enhanced confidentiality and suppression of DMV records for adult protective services social workers as a way of providing them with greater protections against threats and physical assaults by those they are investigating.

5.1.6 **Solutions and funding** for the region's housing crisis that address the needs of lower to middle income older adults, at-risk populations such as people aging with disabilities, the elderly, including homeless LGBTQ and formerly incarcerated older adults.

5.1.7 **Proposals** that expand Medi-Cal's Assisted Living Waiver program (ALW) to enable older adults and

persons with disabilities to safely and healthily age in place in a community setting of their choosing.

- 5.1.8 **Proposals** that expand the federal poverty level eligibility limits for Medi-Cal and state portion of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits to increase middle income seniors' access to home- and community-based services and assisted living options that enable them to age in place in the least restrictive setting.
- 5.1.9 **Legislation** that identifies state funding for mandated county Public Guardian Probate conservatorships.
- 5.1.10 **Legislation** that would promote the expansion of health-related programs including nutrition (congregate and home delivered meals).
- 5.1.11 **Legislation** addressing the education, prevention, and specialized intervention and treatment of substance abuse (e.g.; polypharmacy) among older adults.
- 5.1.12 **Implement** the County's *Age-Friendly Initiative* that that promotes *Dementia Friendly* practices that will allow older adults to age in place and take a more active role in their communities.
- 5.1.13 **Proposals and funding** that promote the coordination of services such as Older Americans Act Programs, In-Home Supportive Services, Caregiver Resource Centers, Community-Based Adult Services, Multipurpose Senior Services Program and Adult Protective Services into an integrated long-term care system.
- 5.1.14 **Legislation or budgetary actions** to provide a tax credit to individuals who provide in-home care.
- 5.2 **Behavioral Health & Recovery Systems (BHRS)**
  - 5.2.1 **Providing stable funding and increased access** for mental health and drug and alcohol services through full implementation of state and federal mental health and drug and alcohol parity laws.
  - 5.2.2 **Providing stable funding** for children enrolled in special education programs that require mental health services as well as for alcohol and other drug services.
  - 5.2.3 **Providing stable funding** for locked long-term care and ancillary services for people with

behavioral health problems, including Mental Health Rehabilitation Centers under 16 beds.

- 5.2.4 **Promoting integration** of mental health and alcohol/drug services with primary care services through opportunities presented by the state's Medicaid waivers and efforts to reform laws that prevent sharing of clinical information among providers and health plans serving the same person.
- 5.2.5 **Eliminating** of the Institute for Mental Disease Exclusion from Medi-Cal and Medicaid.
- 5.2.6 **Advocating** for access for early intervention and prevention services for foster youth and a reduction in administrative barriers to mental health services.
- 5.2.7 **Increased funding** for inmate management, programming, supervision, and substance abuse treatment, mental health services, and other inmate services.
- 5.2.8 **Establishing** supportive housing programs for justice-involved individuals who are living with mental illness and are either homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- 5.3 **Correctional Health Services (CHS)**
  - 5.3.1 **Providing financial relief** for correctional health responsibilities, such as Medi-Cal-related cost containment/revenue generation methods.
  - 5.3.2 **Increasing options** for adult mediation as a strategy for jail diversion including confidentiality protection similar to that provided for juveniles.
  - 5.3.3 **Efforts to overcome** the barriers of money bail, mandatory fines, and court fee surcharges that can exacerbate the financial security of low-income populations.
  - 5.3.4 **Efforts to end** the use of criminal records to determine eligibility for critical aspects such as housing and employment that support effective reentry into society.
  - 5.3.5 **Providing support** to local healthcare services and programs that serve clients in the criminal justice system.

#### 5.4 **Emergency Medical Services (EMS)**

5.4.1 **Modifications in statute** that would allow paramedics to be used and reimbursed for their services in alternative health care settings and would allow them to be involved not only in evaluating and transporting patients to emergency departments, but in the provision of care or transportation to the most appropriate destination, including alternate destinations when medically appropriate.

5.4.2 **Legislation and regulatory measures** that maintain or strengthen the authority and governing role of Counties and their Local Emergency Medical Services Agencies, or LEMSA's, to plan, implement and evaluate aspects and components of the EMS system.

5.4.3 **Measures** that enhance the ability of each LEMSA medical director to maintain medical control of the local EMS system.

5.4.4 **Measures** that improve the quality and delivery of EMS and prehospital patient care.

5.4.5 **Measures** that protect the confidentiality of the quality improvement process and promote information sharing between providers, hospitals, and LEMSAs.

5.4.6 **Measures** that encourage the participation of EMS system providers and hospitals in evidenced based research.

5.4.7 **Measures** that provide for adequate and stable funding for LEMSAs and EMS systems components including but not limited to: EMS administration, trauma systems, specialty centers (e.g. trauma, pediatric, cardiac, stroke), ambulance transport, and uncompensated care by emergency department physicians and on call specialists.

#### 5.5 **Environmental Health Services (EHS)**

5.5.1 **Implementation of laws, regulations and programs** that support and improve public health protection, improve the quality and scope of environmental health programs through the state and promote uniformity in implementing such programs.

5.5.2 **Implementation of laws, regulations and programs** that support the principles of Product Stewardship (also known as Extended Producer Responsibility) that directs all participants involved in the life cycle of a product to take shared responsibility for the environmental and human health impacts that result from the production, use and end of life handling of a product.

5.5.3 **Implementation of laws, regulations and programs** that promote a philosophy of a Green Chemistry initiative to develop a consistent means for evaluating risk, reducing exposure, encouraging less toxic industrial processes, and identifying safer, non-chemical alternatives. A Green Chemistry initiative should ensure a comprehensive and collaborative approach to increase accountability and effectiveness of environmental programs across state and local government.

5.5.4 **Implementation of laws, regulations and programs** that promote food safety and food worker rights to health care, paid sick leave and insurance.

#### 5.6 **Health Administration (Safety Net Financing)**

5.6.1 **Legislation** to allow the use of State capital improvement funds for County facility capital projects, including clinics and other public health facilities, while preserving the option to revise and/or expand a project's scope at the County's discretion.

5.6.2 **Proposals** to preserve the 1991 Realignment funding for counties and the County-specific funding formula established in AB 85 (Chapter 24, Statutes of 2013) to support indigent health care and other services.

#### 5.7 **Family Health Services (FHS)**

5.7.1 **Providing stable funding** for home visiting and other case management services for families at risk for poor health and social outcomes and reauthorizing and increasing funding for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program.

- 5.7.2 **Funding** high-quality medical, dental and mental health supports to families, particularly families with small children. Supports should include health promotion and disease self-management programs in order to keep families healthy in the community.
- 5.7.3 **Improving care** for children with special health care needs through the Whole Child Model (WCM) program for Medi-Cal eligible California Children's Services (CCS) program members in Medi-Cal managed care. WCM integrates Health Plan of San Mateo and CCS Administration program functions to improve continuity of care and facilitate effective and efficient program administration.
- 5.7.4 **Efforts to promote** breastfeeding accommodation and availability of space in all types of settings—employment, public accommodations, educational institutions—to facilitate maximum breastfeeding by nursing mothers.
- 5.7.5 **Establishing** the California Fruit and Vegetable EBT Pilot Project, which requires the department, in consultation with the Dept. of Food and Agriculture and stakeholders with experience operating CalFresh nutrition incentive programs, to include within the EBT system a supplemental benefits mechanism that allows an authorized retailer, as defined, to deliver and redeem supplemental benefits. The County supports defining supplemental benefits to mean additional funds delivered to a CalFresh recipient's EBT card upon purchase of California-grown fresh fruits and vegetables using CalFresh benefits, and to be redeemed only for purchases allowed under CalFresh at an authorized retailer.
- 5.7.6 **Assuring that implementation** of sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) data collection within programs targeting children are guided by appropriate clinical guidance on age-appropriate asking of questions and respect for youth's confidentiality in addressing issues of gender transition or sexual identity.
- 5.7.7 **Women Infants and Children's Program** and other efforts to promote healthy eating by the Department of Agriculture.
- 5.7.8 **Promoting** appropriate information sharing between the state and local home visiting programs serving pregnant women enrolled in FFS Medi-Cal to streamline outreach and enrollment of these women into available programs.
- 5.8 **Health Coverage Unit (HCU)**
- 5.8.1 **Implementation of laws or regulations** that promote streamlined and “no wrong door” processes for consumers to be screened and enrolled in public benefits programs such as Medi-Cal and subsidized health coverage through Covered California to maximize coverage and reduce reliance on scarce safety net healthcare resources.
- 5.8.2 **Modifying eligibility requirements** so that those formerly incarcerated on drug charges are eligible for Medi-Cal, food stamps and other public benefits.
- 5.8.3 **Promoting funding** for technology and local capacity for outreach and enrollment and retention of health care coverage programs, including funding to support successful enrollments in Medi-Cal.
- 5.8.4 **Promoting appropriate information sharing** between state and local government entities to streamline administration of public health coverage programs, such as facilitating information sharing among Covered California, the Department of Health Care Services and Counties that offer locally supported health coverage programs for those ineligible for Federal/State programs. The County supports enabling staff or community partners that assist in Administration of Medi-Cal to access the minimally necessary information required to assist residents in obtaining or keeping Medi-Cal coverage. The County also supports exploring opportunities for a Certified Enrollment Assistor Portal in the new CalSAWS system.
- 5.8.5 **Improving opportunities** for County specialty mental health plans, California Children's Services and In-Home Supportive Services programs to be able to securely receive information about clients' Medi-Cal coverage to reduce burdens on beneficiaries for retaining key health and social services supports.
- 5.8.6 **Addressing** the high cost of living in the cost-sharing and premium tax credit calculations that are based on federal or state-wide standards to more

accurately reflect the financial realities for residents of San Mateo County

5.8.7 **Medi-Cal coverage expansion** for vulnerable, low-income residents who rely on local indigent coverage and/or Medi-Cal with a Share of Cost. Continue to prioritize the expansion of coverage for vulnerable older adults as well as undocumented parents of children to support overall family well-being.

5.8.8 **Adjusting** Medi-Cal Share of Cost thresholds to reflect changes in cost of living.

## 5.9 **Health Information Technology (HIT)**

5.9.1 **Promoting funding** for technology and local capacity for outreach and enrollment and retention of health care coverage programs, including funding to support successful enrollments in Medi-Cal.

5.9.2 **Promoting appropriate information sharing** between recognized organizations (state, local and federal) that help boost the behavioral and social determinants of health (human services, housing, residential care/nursing homes, substance use recovery programs, full service partnerships, etc.) and organizations that address medical determinants of health (hospitals, doctors, clinics) to streamline administration of public health coverage programs, enhance continuity of care, and solves the root cause(s) of poor health outcomes.

5.9.3 **Promoting the collection** of demographic data that includes voluntary self-identification of information on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity, as well as the appropriate information sharing among county departments and between state and local government entities to address the significant disparities in health and welfare faced by youth, seniors, undocumented persons, communities of color, persons with disabilities and LGBTQ communities.

5.9.4 **Promoting appropriate information sharing** between the state and local home visiting programs serving pregnant women enrolled in FFS Medi-Cal to streamline outreach and enrollment of these women into available programs.

5.9.5 **Enhancing cybersecurity** through investment in infrastructure and training improving data confidentiality, integrity, availability, and patient safety.

5.9.6 **Improving usability** through designing and implementing EHRs that are more intuitive and that more readily support clinical workflow, reducing documentation burden and making data more usable for clinical decision-making

5.9.7 **Innovating care delivery** through enhancing connectivity between health professionals and their patients, improving quality of care without increasing spending

## 5.10 **Public Health, Policy & Planning (PHPP)**

5.10.1 **Implementation of laws, regulations and plans** that educate residents about the risks of Cannabis use and *monitors* the adverse impacts of cannabis.

5.10.2 **Implementation of regulations, policies and plans** that allocate resources to local health departments and/or funds chronic disease prevention strategies (e.g. sugar sweetened beverage and/or alcohol taxation) and integrates chronic disease programs that reduce health disparities and treats the root causes of health inequities.

5.10.3 **Implementation of regulations and policy** that strengthen local surveillance and data use for overdose prevention activities and expands access to high quality evidence-based drug treatment programs and harm reduction services.

5.10.4 **Implementation of laws, regulations and plans** that invest substantial resources to local health departments to combat and prevent communicable disease through immunizations, epidemiological surveillance, disease investigation and laboratory testing.

5.10.5 **Legislation** that advocates for maintaining adequate health realignment funding to support the delivery of local public health services and enhance communicable disease infrastructure.

5.10.6 **Legislation, policy and entities** (e.g. California Strategic Growth Council) that promote and fund a Health in All Policies approach in communities,



neighborhoods, housing, schools, transportation, food systems, health equity, climate change, etc.

- 5.10.7 **Legislation, regulations and policy** that funds and increases state and local public health laboratory infrastructure, workforce and new technology including but not limited to advanced molecular detection and whole genome sequencing.
- 5.10.8 **Legislation and policy** that supports the improvement of vital records operations and the generation of statistics by improving data quality and services
- 5.10.9 **Implementation of laws, regulations and plans** that authorize the Health Officer to require a person seeking import of a dog or cat into the state to have a health certificate by a licensed veterinarian within 10 days of travel and have their animal vaccinated against rabies, and or DHPP/ FELV at least 21 days prior to travel.
- 5.10.10 **Proposals** that provide funding for sexually transmitted disease (STD) essential case management programs, contact investigations, and partner testing and treatment for STDs.
- 5.10.11 **Efforts** to reduce consumption of sugar sweetened beverages.
- 5.10.12 **Limiting** the availability and access of particularly harmful forms of sugary products that are easily absorbed in the body and contribute significantly to a fatty liver, type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular risk.
- 5.10.13 **Implementation of laws, regulations and programs** that promote the safe use and sale of produce from small community and school gardens in retail food facilities, farmer's markets and schools.
- 5.10.14 **Funding and programming** that expands access to free or affordable health-promoting, high-quality school (including pre-schools) meals.
- 5.10.15 **Implementation of laws, regulations and programs** that would allow local jurisdictions to establish healthy food zones, allowing in only businesses that offer for sale whole or lightly processed foods with no tobacco or alcohol sales.
- 5.10.16 **Efforts to promote** the strongest possible protection against the sale of powdered alcohol to residents of California, which could increase the risk of alcohol use by minors.
- 5.10.17 **Efforts to strengthen** the Smoke Free Workplace Act by closing specific loopholes in order to protect more employees.
- 5.10.18 **Efforts to maintain** the strongest possible protection against tobacco use by minors, such as changes to taxes, the eligibility age for purchasing cigarettes, application of smoke-free ordinances and classification of e-cigarettes as products subject to anti-smoking regulations.
- 5.10.19 **Expansion** of affordable preschool and other early learning options for all families.
- 5.10.20 **Implementation of laws, regulations and policies** that enhance the ability of County Animal Control and Licensing agencies to provide cost effective and human animal control services.
- 5.10.21 **Implementation of laws, regulations and plans** that prevent injury, increase safety and improve active forms of transportation, such as Vision Zero, infrastructure improvements, affordable and accessible public transportation, safe active transportation planning and design standards, and safety education and promotion programming.
- 5.10.22 **Expanding** support for trauma-informed approaches, including a focus on resources to implement early childhood intervention and prevention programming, including ACES and other screenings early.
- 5.10.23 **Funding, policies and standards** that enable strong alignment of the business needs of mission-driven institutions with their mission by improving access to institutional economic benefits through targeted workforce, procurement, and investment opportunities.
- 5.10.24 **Laws, regulations and programs** that support the training and employment of peer support networks for navigating and providing health services in both adult and youth health and social services arenas.

## 5.11 **San Mateo Medical Center (SMMC)**

- 5.11.1 **Monitoring proposals** to reduce, repeal, alter or limit the ACA that impact Medi-Cal eligibility expansions or otherwise impact current subsidized segments of the health care system.
- 5.11.2 **Implementation of laws, regulations and innovative programs** that support access to affordable and culturally competent oral health services, including access to dentists, for all ages (pregnant women, children, adults, elderly), and particularly to those with special healthcare needs and/or disabilities.
- 5.11.3 **Funding mechanisms** to permit adequate reimbursement of the Virtual Dental Home model to expand access to oral health services in non-traditional settings.
- 5.11.4 **Adequate reimbursement** for dental services under the Denti-Cal program to increase the number of participating Denti-Cal providers.
- 5.11.5 **Monitoring revisions** to federally qualified health center and rural health clinic services reimbursement, including support for two visits taking place on the same day at a single location.
- 5.11.6 **Providing** forensic evaluations for victims of violence, including sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse. (Keller Center)
- 5.11.7 **Resolving conflicting laws** regarding adolescent sexual assault victim rights.
- 5.11.8 **Utilizing** a Child Advocacy Center model to evaluate concerns of child sexual abuse.

## 5.12 **Policy Statements – Health**

- 5.12.1 **Reducing** costs, increasing revenue and providing flexibility in the use of state and federal funds for San Mateo County Health.
- 5.12.2 **Providing stable funding** for the local healthcare services and programs that will continue to be needed.
- 5.12.3 **Implementation of laws, regulations and programs** that support affordable and culturally competent health services.

- 5.12.4 **Policies and enforcement** to end discrimination based on real or perceived immigration status and racial identity in workplaces, housing, healthcare, social services and other public areas.
- 5.12.5 **Policies** that promote and permit the development of multidisciplinary teams in order to facilitate identification, assessment and coordination of services to vulnerable and at-risk populations served by counties to ensure continuity of care.
- 5.12.6 **Laws** that require Health Care Districts (HCDs) to fund health care to the remaining uninsured.
- 5.12.7 **Implementation of laws, regulations and programs** that promote equal access to health services for LGBTQ people, and training funds for county personnel to address LGBTQ concerns relating to health services.
- 5.12.8 **Implementation of laws and regulations** which require health as an equally shared consideration in all General Plan development.
- 5.12.9 **Policies, campaigns, and funding** to expand civic participation across populations to improve community cohesion, social capital, and self-efficacy to increase mental and physical health.
- 5.12.10 **Policies, funding and regulations** that improve the economic position of low-income people baring the burden of the poorest health inequities, through enhancements to the Earned Income Tax Credit, wage policies, and other efforts to raise the incomes of working poor families.
- 5.12.11 **Policies, regulations and funding** that improves healthy neighborhoods through increased affordable housing opportunities, integrated and complete urban planning and design, connection between new residential development and transportation investment, community stability, and increased community engagement in decision-making processes that shape their communities.
- 5.12.12 **Advancing policies and funding** to implement and expand robust Restorative Justice Practices, school connectedness and other social emotional health within school culture to keep children and

youth in school and lower punitive disciplinary policies.

- 5.12.13 **Policies and programming** to advance a healthy, sustainable food system and healthy food access, including local food sourcing to institutions.
- 5.12.14 **Policies, campaigns, and funding** to expand civic participation across populations to improve community cohesion, social capital, and self-efficacy to increase mental and physical health.
- 5.12.15 **Policies, regulations and funding** that improves healthy neighborhoods through increased affordable housing opportunities, integrated and complete urban planning and design, connection between new residential development and transportation investment, community stability, and increased community engagement in decision-making processes that shape their communities.
- 5.12.16 **Policies and programming** to advance a healthy, sustainable food system and healthy food access, including local food sourcing to institutions.
- 5.12.17 **Implementation of laws and standards** that provide paid leave for new biologic or adoptive parents.
- 5.12.18 **Funding and programming** that expands violence prevention initiatives.

### 5.13 Policy Statements – County

- 5.13.1 **Implementation of laws and standards** that promote a living wage.
- 5.13.2 **Policies and programs** to develop community economic capacity and jobs.
- 5.13.3 **Legislation** that creates intentional pathways for increasing leadership and workforce positions that represent the population diversity by race, culture, **gender** identity and sexual orientation.
- 5.13.4 **Legislation** that protects immigrant and undocumented workers from wage theft, poor working conditions, and immigration related employer retaliation.
- 5.13.5 **Modifying** the Brown Act such that people with disabilities who are homebound can participate via technology.
- 5.13.6 **Advancing** racial health equity through workforce development, data analysis, improved standards, and policy advancements.
- 5.13.7 **Increasing** free/affordable childcare and early childhood development options and reduce barriers to the creation of childcare sites.
- 5.13.8 **Increasing** overall funding for California’s early childhood education system to improve quality and access.

## 6. HOUSING

### THE COUNTY SUPPORTS:

- 6.1 **Policies, regulations and funding** to address the housing needs of all persons, including homeless, lower-income residents, emancipated youth, transitional age youth, CalWORKs participants and at-risk populations including the housing needs of farmworkers, people with disabilities, the elderly, former foster youth, homeless youth, including homeless LGBTQ youth, and the formerly incarcerated.
- 6.2 **Policies, regulations and funding** that encourage Second Units (a.k.a. “Accessory Dwelling Units” or “ADUs”) including banning local owner occupancy requirements for properties with Second Units and allowing existing unpermitted Second Units to be inhabited unless correcting code violations is necessary to protect health and safety.
- 6.3 **Additional funding** for affordable housing and related infrastructure, including grants, together with policies and regulations that allow those funds to be used for maximum benefit in San Mateo County.
- 6.4 **Legislation, policies and entities** (e.g. California Strategic Growth Council) that promote and fund healthy, thriving, and resilient communities for all, including increased affordable housing opportunities including missing middle housing, integrated and complete urban planning and design, connection between new residential development and transportation investment, community stability, and increased community engagement in decision-making processes that shape their communities.
- 6.5 **Smart Growth** efforts and other land use decisions including the facilitation of appropriate mixed-use developments along efficient public transportation corridors.
- 6.6 **Examination** of current rules and standards that benefit lower density development (over high-density development) and automobile-oriented development (over transit and pedestrian and bicycle movements and safety).
- 6.7 **Preserving** land use authority of local governments by allowing jurisdictions that have adopted inclusionary zoning ordinances, such as San Mateo County, to take the intended and predictable effect of the ordinance into account when calculating availability of adequate zoned capacity to meet their Regional Housing Needs Allocation.
- 6.8 **Policies** that allow for the development of regional strategies to meet obligations under the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA).

## 7. HUMAN SERVICES THE COUNTY SUPPORTS:



- 7.1 **Preservation** and increased funding for human service programs realigned to counties and advocate for an appropriate level of funding during the new Medi-Cal funding methodology negotiations with the state.
- 7.2 **Adjustments** to county human service fund allocations that account for the higher cost of living/operation differences among California counties in providing services.
- 7.3 **Increased funding** for foster parent recruitment and retention and greater funding flexibility for foster care services, which are critical to adequately protect children in need and to continue the implementation of Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP).
- 7.4 **Implementation** of policies, programs and services to assist and improve outcomes for LGBTQ foster youth, and transitional age youth and immigrant youth in foster care.
- 7.5 **Ensuring** ongoing funding to support victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) and policies that protect foster youth who have suffered from sexual exploitation.
- 7.6 **Implementation** of policies that secure housing opportunities for emancipated foster youth, CalWORKs families and veterans.
- 7.7 **Advocating** for access for early intervention and prevention services for foster youth and a reduction in administrative barriers to mental health services.

- 7.8 **Flexibility** in the definition for non-related legal guardianships in support of the implementation of the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) to place foster youth in home settings.
- 7.9 **Policies** to improve CalFresh benefits access to former foster youth, AB 12 Non-Minor dependents, and college students.
- 7.10 **Elimination** of reductions to penalties related to the failure to meet the work participation rate in CalWORKs.
- 7.11 **Allowing** for County flexibility in the work component and permissible activities that contribute to work participation rates in CalWORKs.
- 7.12 **Advocating** for policies to enhance or increase the Earned Income Tax Credit for low income individuals and families in high cost of living counties.
- 7.13 **Ensuring** counties have the financial, personnel and information technology support system to implement the new CalSAWS single statewide eligibility determination system.
- 7.14 **Preventing** the loss of affordable healthcare and other public assistance for residents who are impacted by increases to local and state minimum wage increases.
- 7.15 **Policies** that will increase the available child care slots, especially for infant and toddler aged children.
- 7.16 **Policies** for affordable preschool and to advance the goals of the “Big Lift,” which aims to transform early learning by combining high-quality and connected learning experiences from preschool to third grade, with a focus on reducing chronic absence and summer learning loss, as well as engaging families and the broader community to support learning in school and at home.
- 7.17 **Promoting** programs and services that assist and recognize the role of fathers in the development and well-being of their child(ren).
- 7.18 **Promoting** funding for training of county personnel to address LGBTQ concerns relating to human services.
- 7.19 **Advocating** and supporting funding opportunities to construct homeless shelters and/or transitional housing for homeless individuals and families.
- 7.20 **Advocating** for dedicated and ongoing state/federal funding for homeless prevention programs and homeless services.
- 7.21 **Continuing** to advocate and support programs and services to veterans.

## 8. PUBLIC SAFETY AND JUSTICE THE COUNTY SUPPORTS:



- 8.1 **Constitutional protections** that provide guaranteed and adequate state funding for counties' new responsibilities related to 2011 Public Safety Realignment, and will oppose any efforts that transfer additional program responsibilities to counties without adequate funding, constitutional protections, and safety needs of the local system.
- 8.2 **The development** of a permanent and equitable Public Safety Realignment funding formula that rewards strategies to reduce recidivism.
- 8.3 **Preservation** of funding for local public safety efforts, including inmate housing, security, programming, health, juvenile probation and prevention programs, mental health and drug and alcohol programs.
- 8.4 **Continuing efforts** to maximize opportunity for reimbursement for inmate medical care, including option available under the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA), as well as pursuing funding for increased needs resulting from realignment. The County also supports mitigating liabilities in areas such as health, mental health, American with Disabilities (ADA) and other areas of legal concern.
- 8.5 **Preservation** of funding and, in the future, seeking additional funding for an expanded, more robust and comprehensive drug court.
- 8.6 **Full state funding** for court security costs provided by the County.
- 8.7 **Full funding** for the cost of booking and processing of persons arrested by public entities in the County as authorized in Government Code 29553(b).
- 8.8 **Increased funding** for local law enforcement to enhance community engagement efforts as well as technology that supports further information sharing between law enforcement and the community to prevent and reduce crime.
- 8.9 **Increased funding** and regulation for domestic violence and new prohibited person's compliance firearms programs.
- 8.10 **Ensuring** continued state funding for adult criminal justice facilities that will meet the needs created by

realignment, i.e., programming space, substance abuse and mental health treatment, etc.

- 8.11 **Policies that help** the County better implement Proposition 47, as well as mitigate local criminal justice impacts.
- 8.12 **Increased funding** for inmate management, programming, supervision, and substance abuse treatment, mental health services, and other inmate services.
- 8.13 **Efforts** to ensure that counties that did not provide in-person visitation under the Board of State and Community Corrections rules prior to 2016 will be reimbursed or funded for the mandate to reconfigure existing facilities.
- 8.14 **Legislation** that allows for the consolidation and contracting out of police services and opposes efforts to amend PERS regulations to dis-incentivize these practices.
- 8.15 **Continued review** of the alignment of Chief Probation Officer selection, appointment and retention authority with funding. The County also supports cautious review of any potential separation of adult and juvenile probation activities.
- 8.16 **Efforts** to align law library costs, including facilities maintenance, with trial courts rather than the County.
- 8.17 **Corrections** reforms established within the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) that are developed through collaboration of state and local governments and criminal justice agencies that are adequately funded to operate safe and secure jails and build upon successful, existing programs. The County also supports full state funding for any new

requirements imposed on the Community Corrections Partnership.

- 8.18 **State funding** for local jail construction projects, which recognize the importance of inmate programs and services such as educational, vocational and treatment services and provides flexibility that meets the unique characteristics of each county.
- 8.19 **The implementation** and increased funding for support services for juvenile probation and prevention programs, such as tattoo removals and job training.
- 8.20 **Alternatives** to youth incarceration, such as restorative justice programs.
- 8.21 **Alternatives** to incarceration for people with mental illness and/or substance use disorders.
- 8.22 **Promoting** funding for training of county personnel to address LGBTQ concerns relating to public safety and policies relating to LGBTQ concerns.
- 8.23 **Efforts** to guide the youth of San Mateo County towards their full potential through impactful programs, which foster relationships between the Sheriff's Office and the community.
- 8.24 **Promoting** an environment that encourages continuous improvement and innovation. We strive to be leaders in modern policing, acting on input and feedback from our communities and colleagues, constantly implementing best-practices and exploring alternative solutions to current issues.
- 8.25 **Efforts** to enhance services to victims of human trafficking incidents, raise awareness of human trafficking within the community and foster greater collaborative efforts among all who fight modern-day slavery.



## 9. PUBLIC WORKS THE COUNTY SUPPORTS:



- 9.1 **Statewide policies** that ensure construction expansion, rehabilitation, operation and maintenance of local infrastructure as priorities.
- 9.2 **Balanced** with the need for environmental protection, the streamlining and coordination of regulatory requirements so that routine projects can be processed without delay, expectation for routine work can be established and the costs of both initial construction and ongoing operations and maintenance of local infrastructure can be effectively reduced.
- 9.3 **Funding** for implementing programs and regulations on storm water management required by the State Regional Water Quality Control Board in order to fund activities consistent with municipal storm water permit requirements.
- 9.4 **Coordinating** regulatory agency permitting requirements for maintenance and capital improvement projects to avoid conflicting requirements from state agencies and streamlining delivery of projects.
- 9.5 **Funding** to support implementation of California Air Resource Board regulatory mandates relating to diesel powered construction equipment.
- 9.6 **Permanent authority** to use the Design-Build and Construction Manager (CM) At Risk project delivery methods.
- 9.7 **Flexibility** for alternative project delivery methods on infrastructure projects.
- 9.8 **Policies** that promote marketplace equity between Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) programs that offer electricity customers cleaner energy, increased choice, and local control, and investor operator owned utilities and other market actors.
- 9.9 **Policies** that create a favorable regulatory environment for CCA energy programs and their customers, including appropriate changes to the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) exit fee calculation.
- 9.10 **Policies** that support the successful operation and local control of CCA energy programs.
- 9.11 **Opposes** linking certain transportation funding with housing production. The recently approved SB 1 is intended to allocate much needed funding to address deferred maintenance of the transportation system that has occurred due to past revenues not meeting demonstrated maintenance needs. There is no nexus between maintenance of our transportation system and housing production. Withholding transportation funding to encourage housing production would have a devastating effect.

## 10. STATE BUDGET THE COUNTY SUPPORTS:



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

## 11. TAX AND FINANCE

### THE COUNTY SUPPORTS:



- 11.1 **Preservation** of existing revenues and revenue authority. The County opposes efforts to expand Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements, as MOEs tend to penalize more progressive counties that implement programs before the statewide program.
- 11.2 **Maintenance** of property tax revenues directed to local government. The County opposes efforts to direct property tax revenues away from local government.
- 11.3 **The existing** property tax allocation laws, which return surplus Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) dollars to local taxing entities. The County strongly opposes legislative actions, which would utilize ERAF for payment of state program/service obligations.
- 11.4 **A lower** voter threshold for special taxes to 55 percent.
- 11.5 **The issuance or sale** of revenue bonds by the state for projects that are financed, owned, operated, or managed by the state or any joint agency that exceed \$2 billion dollars without voter approval.
- 11.6 **Efforts** to allocate funding through block grants, which allow for maximum flexibility in the use of funding within designated programs.
- 11.7 **Federal funding** mechanisms that allow funding to flow directly to local governments rather than through state government.
- 11.8 **Increased ability** to utilize state or local matching funds to draw down additional federal funds.
- 11.9 **Economic development** efforts that grow the California and local economy in a sustainable (environmental and economic) fashion.
- 11.10 **Increased funding** for county infrastructure needs, should such funds be available.
- 11.11 **Collaboration** with other local government entities operating in San Mateo County to allow for a countywide perspective of proposed legislation impacting the allocation/distribution of local property taxes. Local governments in San Mateo County should work together to ensure the protection of local property taxes.

## 12. TRANSPORTATION

### The County Supports:

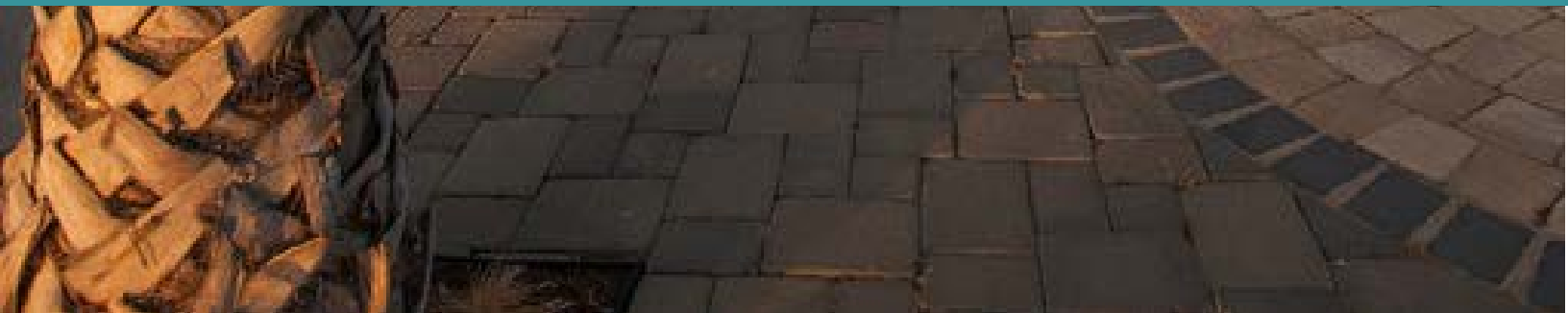


- 12.1 **Allocation** of formulas that ensure the County receives its fair share of infrastructure bond funding by reflecting, in part, the variation in the cost of living and doing business among the state's diverse communities
- 12.2 **The protection** from diversion or borrowing of the federal or state gas tax.
- 12.3 **Prohibitions** on the delayed pass-through of state transportation funding (HUTA) to counties caused by state budget delays.
- 12.4 **Protection** of dedicated statewide ongoing revenue sources, including recently approved Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (RMRA) funding sources that support local operations and maintenance of existing and future infrastructure needs.
- 12.5 **Updating**, adjusting and/or indexing the current gas tax. Pursuing alternative funding strategies including vehicle miles traveled (VMT).
- 12.6 **The Legislative Analyst's Office** recommendation to require a statewide transportation needs assessment every five years, if the assessment has no fiscal impact on County funds or revenues.
- 12.7 **The implementation** and funding for affordable transportation for low-income youth and families.
- 12.8 **Funding** for active transportation infrastructure, education and encouragement programs, as well as bike/pedestrian improvements.
- 12.9 **Improved** safety measures for active transportation and improved transit access to reduce congestion and air pollution.
- 12.10 **Funding** for adaptation of transportation systems to climate change impacts.



## **2020 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

**THESE ARE THE TOP FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE POLICIES FOR  
SAN MATEO COUNTY IN THE 116<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS SECOND SESSION.**



## OVERVIEW



The first session of the 116th Congress saw the Democrats take control of the House while Republicans maintained a majority in the Senate. Nancy Pelosi was elected Speaker for the second time and Kentucky Senator Mitch McConnell was reelected Majority Leader. The stage was set for a divided and contentious congress. Two issues defined this polarization – the alleged “quid-pro-quo” that the President requested from Ukraine in return for military aid and subsequent impeachment of Donald Trump.

Congress began 2020 the same way it wrapped up 2019: with the Senate waiting for the House to send over the articles of impeachment for President Donald Trump that the chamber passed at the end of the year — and with House leaders saying their Senate counterparts need to release more information about a possible trial on those charges before they do.

Having spent most of its time on political Issues, Congress expended little energy confronting issues that plagued it in the first session. These issues will reemerge in the second session. They include: 1) Health Care Reform; 2) Immigration; 3) Infrastructure; 4) Climate Change; 5) Data Privacy and; 6) Gun Reform.

In addition to the aforementioned, San Mateo County will remain focused on federal policy relevant to the health, economic development, education, environment, and public safety, and infrastructure needs of its residents.

## THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF PRIORITY AREAS FOR THE COUNTY:

**Health Care Reform Implementation.** The County supports the continued implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and full funding for its administration and programs, specifically comprehensive primary care, mental health and substance abuse treatment, among others and opposes the ACA's repeal.

The Health System's main concern with policy changes at the federal level are changes that erode the Medi-Cal program. The program's expansion and related Waivers have allowed the Health System to make major strides in providing high quality and comprehensive healthcare to the most vulnerable residents in our community. Repeal and/or changes that reduce ACA could lead to increases in the County's uninsured population, thereby, increasing the number of persons on the County's Access for Everyone (ACE) Program. It is also believed that if people lose coverage, they may only seek care under emergency circumstances, which would erode years of work to encourage access primary preventative care and result in increased emergency room visits.

The County supports continual improvement of the ACA by addressing unresolved issues such as the "kid glitch" and regional/cost-of-living adjustments for cost-sharing and premium support.

Of the many problem areas that patients face as they navigate the health care system, the issue of unexpectedly high medical bills has been gaining more attention as more patients and their families are impacted. The practice of "surprise medical billing" by the health care industry can be as devastating to many American families as the injury or illness. The County will vigilantly monitor legislative proposals aimed at fixing surprise medical billing, such as direct-pay methods.

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



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

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

**Health Services.** The County will advocate for the advancement of preventative health care demonstrations to support wellness across multiple areas such as nutrition, schools, transportation and other infrastructure, conservation, housing, and the built environment. This includes federal proposals and initiatives to update and advance:

- State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIPP)
- Older Americans Act
- Second Chance Act
- Safe and Complete Streets Act
- Livable Communities Act

- Local Farms, Food and Jobs Act
- Clean Air Act
- Women Infants and Children’s Program and other efforts to promote healthy eating by the Department of Agriculture.

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

**Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).** CHIP is funded for five more years through 2024 with approval of the third Continuing Resolution for federal programs on January 22, 2018. The County supports full funding of CHIP and continuing the 23 percentage point boost in the federal contribution over the normal 65 percent federal match for CHIP



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

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

In addition, the County supports retaining the entitlement nature of the Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance programs and elimination of outdated rules that base the child’s eligibility for funds on parental

income and circumstances. Finally, the County supports federal funding to address the service needs of youth who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation

**SNAP Funding.** The County will advocate for no further reductions in funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or CalFresh, which provides food subsidies to some of the neediest residents in the County. The County will also advocate for program improvements efforts to block the granting of SNAP waivers to the state.

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

**Housing and Economic Development.** The County supports increased funding levels for affordable housing programs, including the Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG), Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA), and Sustainable Communities among others. The County is also very supportive of efforts to preserve the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) as it is the largest source of affordable housing construction funding and must be included in any comprehensive tax reform that unfolds under the new Congressional leadership.

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

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



other justice accounts and supports its long-term reauthorization.

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

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

**Cannabis Policy.** With the passage of Proposition 64 in November 2016, California has joined seven other states that have legalized marijuana for recreational purposes. As this change in law is not consistent with federal policy on marijuana, there will be several issues, primarily in the areas of banking, finance and taxation that will need to be addressed. It is also remains unclear how the Trump administration will translate opposition to legalization efforts in federal enforcement activities and justice program and regulations, such as the “Cole Memo” that outlines how the federal government prioritizes enforcement of the Controlled Substance Act. The County will work through the state and its associations in seeking guidance on how to address this ongoing issue.

**Property Assessed Clean Energy Program.** The County supports legislative and administrative remedies that would help expand residential PACE programs.

**Energy & Environment.** The County will continue efforts to seek federal funding from the Environmental Protection Agency, the US Army Corps of Engineers, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Commerce, Energy, Interior, Health and Human Services and Transportation to advance its environmental goals. This will include activities to support implementation of federal clean air and clean water programs, emerging technologies development, entrepreneurship and workforce training, as well as programs to improve and sustain the built environment for business, residential and recreational areas within the County. The County will oppose actions to defund science programs that provide critical information on

climate change and will continue its participation within the global effort, despite the dismissal and disengagement of the Trump Administration at the federal level. These include NASA satellite data on sea level changes, carbon dioxide emissions in the atmosphere, research on climate impacts to our ecosystems, oceans, and communities collected by the National Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey, among others. As San Mateo County continues the work of mapping its sea level rise erosion and shoreline change, as well as plans for continued analysis of the changing bay and coast side, it is critically important that these data sources be sustained.

**Infrastructure.** The highway reauthorization bill, America’s Transportation Infrastructure Act of 2019, was advanced by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee in July. The \$287 billion bill, which would fund the repair and maintenance of roads and bridges over five years, would increase spending by 27% over the current authorization and has the support of President Donald Trump. The Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) ensured solvency of the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) through 2020. However, the federal gas tax has lost its purchasing power much like the state gas tax since it was last increased in 1991. Thus, the County supports a dedicated federal funding for the nation’s transportation needs, including local bridges, both on- and off-system, interstates, primary roads and public transportation as well as freight and pipeline safety. In addition, the County supports further streamlining of the regulatory and project delivery processes; promoting programs that increase safety on the existing transportation system; and initiatives that protect previous and future investments via system maintenance and preservation.

The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) is also due for reauthorization in 2020. Importantly, the WRDA helps make funding available for disaster funding and construction projects on water-related infrastructure like dams and levees, some which were damaged as far back as hurricanes Harvey and Maria in 2017.

The County will continue to review the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant program, the largest discretionary program within the Department of Transportation, to identify potential

regional collaborations that might be able to compete effectively for funding.

**Pest Prevention Programs.** The County will advocate for increased funding for invasive pest exclusion and pest prevention programs, an issue of interest to the County's Agriculture, Weights and Measures Commissioner.

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

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

**Jet Fuel.** The County will continue to monitor the Federal Aviation Administration "Final Policy Amendment" to its "Policy and Procedures Concerning the Use of Airport Revenue," first published 15 years ago in the Federal Register at 64 Fed. Reg. 7696, February 16, 1999 ("Revenue Use Policy"). The Amendment formally adopts FAA's interpretation of the Federal requirements for use of revenue derived from taxes including sales taxes on aviation fuel imposed by both airport sponsors and governmental agencies, local and State, that are non-airport operators. The rule restricts the use of local sales taxes to certain aviation-related purposes only, and its implementation is being negotiated with assistance from the state. The County will support legislation that would reverse the FAA's jet fuel tax revenue rule and support legislative efforts designed to clarify that local voter approved sales tax revenues derived from the sale of aviation fuel are not subject to provisions of federal law that require the proceeds of certain taxes to be spent on airport capital and operating costs. As reauthorization of the federal aviation programs will be required by the end of March 2018, the County will closely follow its development regarding the jet fuel revenue rule.

**Taxes.** There is discussion to repeal that portion of the Tax Reform Act that limits personal deductions to \$10,000 on state & local taxes, as well as on real property. The County will monitor this issue closely. The County will continue to support federal remote sales tax legislation

and other proposals that would authorize state and local governments to secure tax collection and remittance



from remote sellers as local governments are losing billions of dollars in uncollected sales tax revenues under the current system. The Marketplace Fairness Act remains in limbo in Congress.

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

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

The County supports providing legal aid to immigrant and refugee communities under threat. Additionally, the County aims to minimize the negative impact from changes to the Public Charge rules on immigrant residents and their families obtaining Medicaid/Medi-Cal, public health, food and housing and other benefits for which they are eligible.

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

**Education & Workforce Training.** The County will continue its proactive outreach to support federal funding of its early childhood education programs, especially The Big Lift. The County will continue its support of federal efforts that provide ongoing and new opportunities for funding of its current initiatives in early childhood, elementary and secondary education, and will continue advocacy for public education improvements. It will also seek further workforce support for teens, high school drop outs and underemployed young adults.

**Public Wi-Fi.** The County continues all efforts to increase public Wi-Fi, especially for low income and/or rural residents. For this reason, the County continues its efforts with a nationwide initiative coordinated by the National Institute of Standards & Technology and the National Telecommunications & Information Administration, both of which are part of the U.S. Department of Commerce. To advance goals in this arena, the County helps lead the NIST/NTIA Public Wi-Fi Cluster as part of the leadership team, which is comprised of federal, state, private sector and non-profit organizations. As the only County government member of the leadership team, the County will be at the forefront of devising national policy to increase public private partnerships and advance public Wi-Fi access for all residents.

**Net Neutrality.** The County supports efforts opposing the recent FCC decision repealing net neutrality—the principle that all online traffic should be treated equally—and that paves the way for internet service providers to charge website fees for faster internet speeds and to slow down or block other sites. The federal government



will also no longer regulate high-speed internet delivery as if it were a utility, like phone service. The action reversed the agency's 2015 decision, during the Obama Administration, to have stronger oversight over broadband providers as Americans have migrated to the internet for most communications. It reflected the view of the Trump Administration and the new FCC Chairman that unregulated business will eventually yield innovation and help the economy. Currently, the attorneys general of more than 20 states filed a lawsuit to stop the FCC's decision to repeal Obama-era net neutrality protections.

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

**Disaster Preparedness.** The County supports increased federal resources to counties for disaster planning, mitigation and recovery. Counties often serve as the nation's first line of defense before and after

disasters strike, thus the County supports increased federal investment in support of local emergency management capabilities that improve public safety and environmental stewardship, along with social and economic security. Finally, the County supports rapid federal reimbursement of local costs associated with major disasters and encourages the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to administer policies and regulations on a consistent manner during any presidentially declared disaster or emergency throughout the country.

**2020**  
**LEGISLATIVE**  
**SESSION PROGRAM**

