

LEGISLATIVE SESSION PROGRAM

2017



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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 2017 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 2017 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 its 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 will 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, including fiscal, programmatic, and service impact to County operations and services, of the proposal for Board action. 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 takes 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.



The following are the top legislative priorities for San Mateo County in the first year of the 2017-18 state legislative session:

PRESERVATION OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT. The federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), approved on March 23, 2010, greatly expanded health care coverage to millions of residents throughout the state. The passage of the ACA established more generous eligibility rules and federal funding for the state Medicaid (Med-Cal) program, including the creation of new health exchanges through which health insurance may be purchased with federal subsidies for low-income families and individuals, and expanded Medicaid coverage for non-disabled persons below 65 years of age with incomes under 133 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, including childless adults previously ineligible for Medicaid. In addition, it gave state a new option to expand the Medicaid eligibility to persons with incomes between 133 percent and 200 percent of the FPL at an enhanced federal match rate of 100 percent from 2014 through 2016, phasing down to a 90 percent federal match by 2020.

The coverage expansions alone led to 20 million newly insured individuals nationally, including over 5 million Californians. In California, 3.5 million people are now receiving health care coverage under the Medi-Cal expansion, including approximately 160,000 San Mateo County residents.

President Trump and the Republican leadership of the 115th Congress have announced their intentions to repeal and replace the ACA. Such actions would result in the loss of billions of dollars in federal funding to the state. It would also unravel the safety net which provides essential health care coverage for millions of families, adults, and children in California and shift the cost of indigent health care back to the County. Therefore, the County will work closely with the Governor's Office, the State Legislature, statewide organizations, and stakeholders to pursue efforts to maintain critical federal funding for health care programs and oppose any proposals that repeal or replace the ACA or shift the allocation of federal Medicaid funds from an open-ended entitlement to a block grant or capped allocation.

COORDINATED CARE INITIATIVE (CCI) AND THE IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (MOE). The County supports the continued implementation of the CCI, or Cal MediConnect, and the current 2012 IHSS MOE. Despite the increased costs of the IHSS program at the state level due to increased hours, wages and benefits, growth in beneficiaries,

and compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act for overtime, locally, the program has demonstrated financial and client benefits, including reduced long term care costs. The County will work closely with the Health Plan of San Mateo, its associations and stakeholders to propose program policy alternatives that will help maintain elements of the program locally and that continue to align incentives of both the health plan and County for keeping disabled and older adults out of hospitals and institutions and at home. Finally, the County will oppose any efforts at the state level to return this program to the County with significant unfunded local liability.

DATA SHARING. The County will support policies that aim to make enrollment into public benefits such as the Women Infants and Children (WIC) program as simple as possible for those who qualify for other public benefits programs, such as Medi-Cal or CalFRESH.

TRANSPORTATION. The County will continue to support an adequate and permanent funding source for local streets, roads, and state highway maintenance and rehabilitation, as well as the adoption of new sources of funding, including alternatives to the Gas Tax.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING. The County will continue to support the creation of a permanent statewide source of funding for the construction of affordable housing as a substitute to redevelopment agencies, as well as measures that provide additional funding resources such as the state's affordable housing tax credits, and flexibility to address the affordable housing needs of counties. In addition, the County will support and advocate for proposals that provide incentives for counties to approve housing, preserve existing affordable housing, and expedite the production of new affordable housing developments.

HOMELESSNESS. The County will support proposals that prevent and reduce homelessness; expand the availability of permanent supportive housing; and provide the County with the ability to maximize and leverage available federal, state and local funds to provide services for at-risk, vulnerable and homeless families and single persons. The County will also support proposals that allow data and information sharing between local government agencies that provide homeless services to facilitate the identification, assessment, and linkage of homeless persons to housing and supportive services.

MARIJUANA REGULATIONS. The County will continue working with its state associations on clean-up legislation and upcoming regulations related to Medical Marijuana due to passage of the three-bill package in 2015.

PUBLIC SAFETY REALIGNMENT/REHABILITATION, AND DIVERSION PROGRAMS AND INFRASTRUCTURE. The County will continue to work closely with the Administration, the State Legislature, and local stakeholders to pursue funding and programs to support the County's justice system, including assisting the County with correctional treatment facility infrastructure needs, expanding diversion and treatment programs, and establishing collaborative rehabilitation programs between the state and local justice systems.

IN-PERSON VISITATION. The County will support 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.



AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The County Supports:

- 1 Preservation of the County’s prime agricultural lands through State Budget proposals that provide funding for long-term protection of these lands and restoration of Williamson Act funding.
- 2 The economic viability of the County’s agricultural industry through 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.
- 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.
- 4 Continued funding of Pest Prevention Program activities at the state level and support of legislation or budgetary proposals to restore pest prevention funding to California’s Department of Food and Agriculture. Specific programs include, Pest Exclusion, Pest Detection Trapping and Survey Activities, Rapid Response, Pest Management and Eradication, and public education outreach.
- 5 Research on invasive species pathways as well as funding mechanisms to close potential pathways.
- 6 Support through federal legislation or rulemaking actions that authorizes county agricultural inspectors and/or dog teams to conduct parcel inspection of “first class” or “priority” mail packages containing plant material to ensure they are clean and free from destructive pests.
- 7 Legislative and budgetary proposals that provide long-term stable funding for county agriculture and/or weights and measures programs.

- 8 Legislation that supports marketplace equity, consumer protection, and weights and measures programs' statewide integrity.
- 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 never funded by the state.
- 10 Legislation or proposals concerning the siting of schools on agricultural lands and evaluation of whether such use would be considered a compatible use.
- 11 Mechanisms to provide for cost recovery of regulatory activities in those jurisdictions where cannabis is legal.



CHILD SUPPORT
The County Supports:

- 1 Preservation of funding to Local Child Support Agencies.
- 2 Adjustments to local child support agencies and funding allocations that account for cost differences among California counties providing services as funding from the state has remains flat despite program cost increases.
- 3 Changing the rate of interest charged on 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.
- 4 Increased flexibilities for the administration of Child Support. Flexibility in the Child Support program should include employment support for unemployed and/or underemployed parents.



ELECTIONS AND VOTING

The County Supports:

- 1 Proposals to provide County reimbursement for the costs incurred in conducting special elections to fill vacancies in state and federal offices.
- 2 All vote-by-mail systems.
- 3 Legislation that increases protections against interfering with the casting of ballots at polling places or by mail, including increasing fines and/or penalties for practices that attempt to impede the voting process.
- 4 Legislation to improve and/or clarify the challenge process for Vote-By-Mail ballots and strengthen voter protections.
- 5 Proposals to allow for secure and effective use of new technologies available in the field of election administration.
- 6 Legislation to authorize the implementation of additional, expanded and alternative voting opportunities.
- 7 Legislation to assist counties in the effective implementation of state mandated changes in the elections process and administration.



ENVIRONMENT

The County Supports:

- 1 Maintenance of adequate open space/park lands through increased funding for development easements, needed restoration and rehabilitation activities.
- 2 Efforts to protect, conserve, restore, and enhance the environmental resources of the County, its coast and adjacent waters for environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations.
- 3 Changes in policies and practices that result in a net reduction in global greenhouse gas emissions; increased energy efficiency and conservation efforts that reduce the state's per capita need for energy including electric and fossil fuel; increased production and use of renewable energies that grows the renewable energies "market share" of the state's energy consumption profile; and when necessary, nonrenewable energy development that meets environmental reviews, that maintains or exceeds current environmental and/or emission controls, and that best protects our natural environments and offshore areas.
- 4 Implementation of Assembly Bill 32 (Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006), the Global Warming Solutions Act that establishes the goal of reducing, by 2020, the state's emission of greenhouse gases (GHGs) to 1990 levels. Implementation of Executive Order B-30-15 establishing a GHG emission reduction target for the state of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030.
- 5 Changes in policies and practices that result in easier access to individual and business resource data use, such as energy consumption, water use, vehicles traveled and vehicle type, to help track and plan programs to address GHG emissions.
- 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, 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 Municipal Regional Permit 2.0 Mercury and PCBs to implement sufficient controls to meet permit load reductions.

- 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, and other effects of climate change. State funding to study the impacts of climate change on the natural environment, species adaptation and human health impacts, and migration.
- 8 Implementation of Proposition 39, 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.
- 9 Diversion 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).
- 10 Exploring and support of 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 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 considered.
- 11 Funding for local jurisdictions to comply with the Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling (MORe) program created by Assembly Bill 1826 (Chapter 727, Statutes of 2014) and Assembly Bill 341 (Chapter 476, Statutes of 2011).
- 12 Efforts to improve the CEQA and regional permitting processes while maintaining authority at the local level.
- 13 Continued funding for the California Green Business Program, including flexible 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.
- 14 New and/or expanded funding for:
 - Improvements to streets and roads that encourage active transportation, such as walking and bicycling, transit, and other carbon-reducing road improvements.
 - Capital investments that expand reuse and recycling market management infrastructure with a priority in disadvantaged communities.
 - 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.
 - 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.

Incentives to agricultural operations to invest in energy efficient irrigation technologies that reduce GHG emissions and water use.

Forest health programs that reduce GHG emissions through fuel reduction

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



HEALTH AND HOSPITALS

The County Supports:

- 1 Implementation of climate changes laws, policies and programs at the federal, state and regional levels that incentivize or require physical changes that promote active transportation, such as walking, biking, and public transit, over more sedentary and less environmentally-friendly forms of transportation. This includes aggressive greenhouse gas emissions targets, performance-based policy standards in funding allocation, as well as regional approaches to implementation, and adaptation to all effects of climate change, including but not limited to sea level rise planning. Special attention will be paid to the challenges of the most vulnerable low income communities of color and the strategies needed in those communities to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change.
- 2 Implementation of economic development strategies and funding to provide affordable housing with special focus on people with low and very low income.
- 3 Efforts to strengthen the Smoke Free Workplace Act by closing specific loopholes in order to protect more employees.
 - 3.1 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.

- 3.2 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.
- 4 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.
 - 4.1 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 Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that improve the quality and scope of environmental health programs through the state and promote uniformity in implementing such programs.
- 6 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.
- 7 Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that promote food safety and food worker rights to health care, paid sick leave and insurance.
- 8 Implementation of laws and standards that promote a living wage.
- 9 Implementation of laws and standards that provide paid leave for new biologic or adoptive parents (female and male).
- 10 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.
- 11 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.
- 12 Implement laws and regulations which require health as an equally shared consideration in all General Plan development.
- 13 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.

- 14 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.
- 15 Reducing costs, increasing revenue and providing flexibility in the use of state and federal funds for the Health System.
- 16 Improving care for elderly and disabled residents by:
 - Implementing the Coordinated Care Initiative by giving San Mateo the flexibility to spend money on long-term support services in ways that most benefit the client.
 - Continuing the Nursing Home Diversion Program. This grant program has helped older Americans and veterans remain independent and to support people with Alzheimer’s disease to remain in their homes and communities.
- 17 Establishing inflation and caseload adjustments for the federal Older Americans Act so this funding stream can keep pace with increases in cost and demand.
- 18 Modifying laws and regulations so that people with sex offender labels who are no longer a threat to the community can be placed in appropriate care facilities.
- 19 Improving care for children with special health care needs by unifying California Children’s Services (CCS) Administration program with the Health Plan of San Mateo using a CCS waiver for pilot programs—and continued improvements to enable more effective and efficient administration of the program.
- 20 Modifying eligibility requirements so that those formerly incarcerated on drug charges are eligible for Medi-Cal, food stamps and other public benefits.
- 21 Providing financial relief for correctional health responsibilities, such as Medi-Cal-related cost containment/revenue generation methods.
- 22 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.
- 23 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 in-eligible for Federal/State programs.
- 24 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, and LGBTQ communities.
- 25 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.
- 26 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.
 - 27 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.
 - 28 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.
 - 29 Providing stable funding for children enrolled in special education programs that require mental health services as well as for alcohol and other drug services.
 - 30 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.
 - 31 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.
 - 32 Providing stable funding for the local healthcare services and programs that will continue to be needed even after health care reform is fully implemented.
 - 33 Laws that require Health Care Districts (HCDs) to provide health care to the remaining uninsured.
 - 34 Providing support to local healthcare services and programs that serve clients in the criminal justice system.
 - 35 Providing stable funding for alcohol and other drug services through California alcohol and other drug services through a California alcohol tax.
 - 36 Providing stable funding for healthcare, tobacco use prevention, research, and law enforcement initiatives through an increased statewide cigarette tax.
 - 37 Providing regulatory protection for the confidentiality of After Action Reports developed in response to an emergency incident to ensure reports are honest and comprehensive without fear of public retaliation or law suits.
 - 38 Increasing options for adult mediation as a strategy for jail diversion including confidentiality protection similar to that provided for juveniles.
 - 39 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.

- 40 Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that support affordable and culturally competent health services.
- 41 Modification in the Brown Act such that people with disabilities who are homebound can participate via technology.
- 42 Elimination of the Institute for Mental Disease Exclusion from Medi-Cal and Medicaid.
- 43 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.
- 44 Funding mechanisms to permit adequate reimbursement of the Virtual Dental Home model to expand access to oral health services in non-traditional settings.



HOUSING

The County Supports:

- 1 Solutions and funding for the region’s housing crisis that address the needs of 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.
- 2 Efforts to preserve affordable and accessible housing and the development of new affordable and accessible housing, such as tiny homes, through additional funding for local housing trust funds, funding of the state housing trust funds, and efforts to expand the use of Cap and

- Trade funds for smart housing developments in coastal counties.
- 3 Smart Growth efforts and other land use decisions that facilitate appropriate mixed-use developments along efficient public transportation corridors.
 - 4 Examination of current rules and standards that benefit lower density development (over high density development) and vehicular movement at the expense of pedestrian traffic and safety. While the County supports development incentives for Smart Growth related activities, the County opposes efforts to divert or restrict funding usage to specific programs.
 - 5 Preserving land use authority of local governments by allowing jurisdictions that have adopted inclusionary zoning ordinances, such as San Mateo County, to take the intended and predictable effect of the ordinance into account when calculating availability of adequate zoned capacity to meet their Regional Housing Needs Allocation.
 - 6 Adopting legislation that would expressly authorize cities and counties to establish inclusionary requirements as a condition of housing development.
 - 7 Expansion of the California Assisted Living Waiver Pilot Project so that senior low-income residents of the County may use Medi-Cal benefits to pay for affordable assisted living services in a residential setting.
 - 8 Consideration of an amendment to the definition of “source income” in the state’s law forbidding non-discrimination in housing rentals to also include specific federal, state or local housing assistance or subsidies paid either to the tenant or directly to the landlord on behalf of the tenant.
 - 9 Legislation to help preserve housing rental units for CalWORKs families.



HUMAN SERVICES

The County Supports:

- 1 Preservation and increased funding for human service programs realigned to counties in 1991.
- 2 Adjustments to county human service fund allocations that account for the cost differences among California counties in providing services.
- 3 Preservation of children's protective services, participation and funding.
- 4 Maximum flexibility to institute innovative practices in child welfare and foster care such as "wrap around" services and multi-discipline service approaches.
- 5 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.
- 6 Implementation of policies, programs and services to assist and improve outcomes for LGBTQ foster youth and transitional age youth.
- 7 Ensure ongoing funding to support victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) and to support policies that protect foster youth who have suffered from sexual exploitation.
- 8 Elimination of reductions to penalties related to the failure to meet the work participation rate in CalWORKs.
- 9 Increased flexibilities for the administration of CalWORKs. Flexibility in the CalWORKs program should include income eligibility standards for childcare and flexibility with the 24 Month Time Clock for Welfare-to-Work clients.
- 10 Allowing for county flexibility in the work component and permissible activities that contribute to work participation rates in CalWORKS.

- 11 Policies that embrace a “dual generational” approach to addressing intergenerational poverty, including those that provide tax relief to working families, such as an increased California Earned Income Tax Credit, and the creation and strengthening of childcare and workforce development funding opportunities to support working families and student parents.
- 12 Ensure counties have the financial, personnel and information technology system support that is required to maintain ongoing mandate of the Affordable Care Act.
- 13 Preventing the loss of affordable healthcare and other public assistance for residents who are impacted by increases to local and state minimum wage increases.
- 14 Advocating for homeless prevention programs for CalWORKs clients, such as increasing the temporary shelter daily payment rate.
- 15 Preschool for all funding efforts at the state level that will 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.
- 16 Programs and services that assist and recognize the role of fathers in the development and well-being of their child(ren).
- 17 Promoting funding for training of county personnel to address LGBTQ concerns relating to human services.



PUBLIC SAFETY AND JUSTICE

The County Supports:

- 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
- 2 The development of a permanent and equitable Public Safety Realignment funding formula that rewards strategies to reduce recidivism.
- 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.
- 4 Continue 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. Mitigate liabilities in areas such as health, mental health, American with Disabilities (ADA) and other areas of legal concern.
- 5 Preservation of funding and, in the future, seek additional funding for an expanded, more robust and comprehensive drug court.
- 6 Full state funding for court security costs provided by the County.
- 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 Increased funding and regulation for domestic violence and prohibited persons compliance firearms programs.
- 9 Ensure 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.

- 10 Policies that help it better it implement Proposition 47, as well as mitigate local criminal justice impacts.
- 11 Efforts to protect the County’s autonomy to operate an inmate phone system that allows for increased Inmate Welfare Fund revenue and continues its ability to protect the safety of jail staff, the inmate population and the public.
- 12 Increased funding for inmate management, programming, supervision, and substance abuse treatment, mental health services, and other inmate services.
- 13 Legislation to amend PERS regulations that dis-incentivize consolidation and contracting out of police services.
- 14 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.
- 15 Efforts to align law library costs, including facilities maintenance, with trial courts rather than the County.
- 16 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 build upon successful, existing programs. Full state funding for any new requirements imposed on the Community Corrections Partnership.
- 17 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.
- 18 The implementation and increased funding for support services for juvenile probation and prevention programs, such as tattoo removals and job training.
- 19 Alternatives to youth incarceration, such as restorative justice programs.
- 20 Alternatives to incarceration for people with mental illness and/or substance use disorders.
- 21 Promoting funding for training of county personnel to address LGBTQ concerns relating to public safety and policies relating to LGBTQ concerns.



PUBLIC WORKS

The County Supports:

- 1 Statewide policies that ensure construction expansion, rehabilitation, operation and maintenance of local infrastructure as priorities.
- 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.
- 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.
- 4 Coordinating regulatory agency permitting requirements for maintenance and capital improvement projects to avoid conflicting requirements from state agencies and streamlining delivery of projects.
- 5 Funding to support implementation of California Air Resource Board regulatory mandates relating to diesel powered construction equipment.
- 6 Permanent authority to use the Design-Build and Construction Manager (CM) At Risk project delivery methods.
- 7 Flexibility for alternative project delivery methods on infrastructure projects.
- 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.
- 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.

- 10 Successful operation and local control of CCA energy programs.



STATE BUDGET

The County Supports:

- 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.
- 2 Increased flexibility in program and service implementation and the elimination of programs not properly funded by state and/or federal funds.
- 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.
- 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.
- 5 Restoration of historic reductions in local government funding and increased flexibility in implementing and administering services.
- 6 The existing 1991 realignment funding allocation formula.
- 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.

- 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.
- 9 Performance based budgeting at the state level.



TAX AND FINANCE
The County Supports:

- 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.
- 2 Maintenance of property tax revenues directed to local government. The County opposes efforts to direct property tax revenues away from local government.
- 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.
- 4 A lower voter threshold for special taxes to 55 percent.
- 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.
- 5 Efforts to allocate funding through block grants, which allow for maximum flexibility in the use of funding within designated programs.
- 6 Federal funding mechanisms that allow funding to flow directly to local governments rather than through state government.

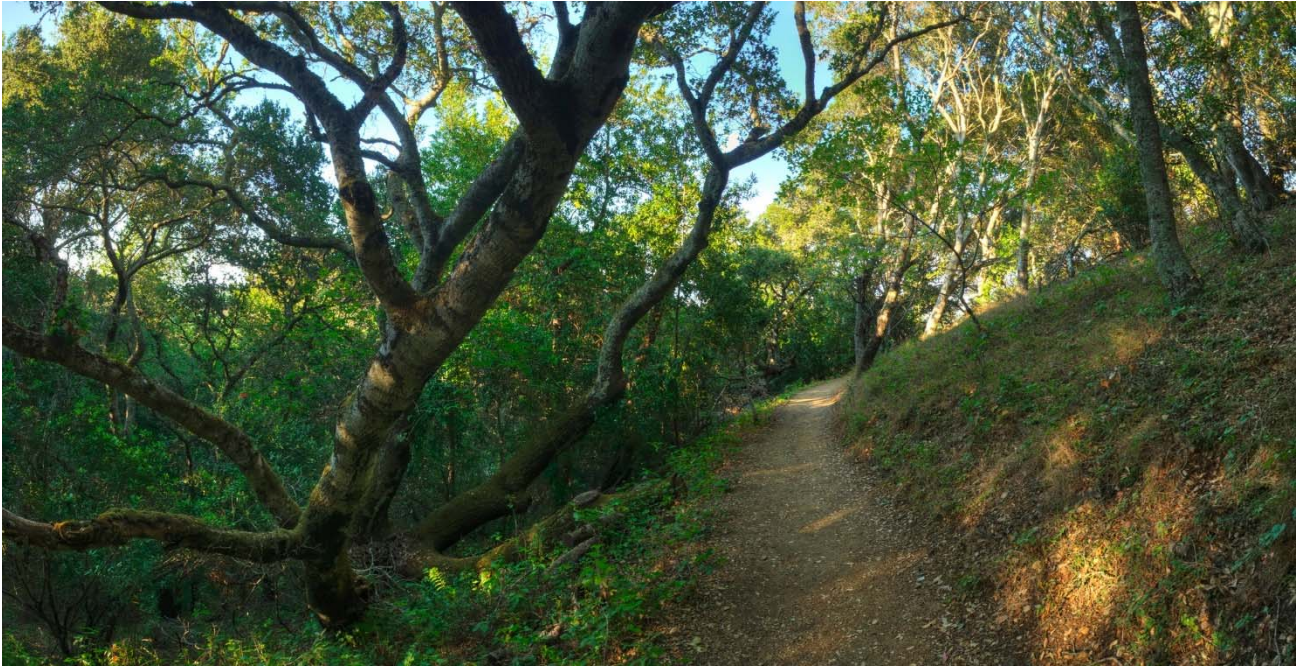
- 7 Increased ability to utilize state or local matching funds to draw down additional federal funds.
- 8 Economic development efforts that grow the California and local economy in a sustainable (environmental and economic) fashion.
- 9 Increased funding for county infrastructure needs, should such funds be available.



TRANSPORTATION

The County Supports:

- 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
- 2 The protection from diversion or borrowing of the federal or state gas tax.
- 3 Prohibitions on the delayed pass-through of state transportation funding (HUTA) to counties caused by state budget delays.
- 4 Consideration of additional and/or dedicated statewide ongoing revenue sources that support local operations and maintenance of existing and future infrastructure needs.
- 5 Updating, adjusting and/or indexing the current gas tax. Pursuing alternative funding strategies including vehicle miles traveled (VMT).
- 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.
- 7 The implementation and funding for affordable transportation for low-income youth and families



The following are the top federal legislative priorities for San Mateo County in the 115th Congress, First Session:

OVERVIEW: The election of billionaire real estate developer Donald J. Trump as the country's 45th President, and the re-election of a Republican controlled House and Senate promise to usher in sweeping conservative change to the nation's current policy course. It is anticipated that the first session of the new Congress could be marked by a year-long drive for enactment of significant infrastructure spending, tax reform, health care reform, and immigration reform. But it will also likely bring with it renewed partisan clashes over government spending and the need to further increase the Treasury Department's borrowing authority when the current suspension of the nation's debt ceiling ends on March 15, 2017. In the absence of reforms, the Congressional Budget Office recently estimated that the debt held by the public will increase by more than \$8 trillion dollars over the next decade.

In 2017, San Mateo County will remain focused on federal policy relevant to the health, economic development, education, environment, 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. California draws down about \$16 billion in federal funds—including a large proportion of dollars associated with the ACA—within a total Medi-Cal budget of \$19.1 billion. Further, counties between \$1.5 and \$2 billion annually on medical services for the medically indigent before the ACA expanded Medicaid eligibility—a portion of which has been transferred to the state due to county savings as a result of this population transferring to Medi-Cal.

As of January 2016, the County had 158,541 persons enrolled in the Medi-Cal program—about 20.7 percent of its population. Forty thousand persons have been enrolled in the Medi-Cal program in the County under the federal and state expansion. The Health System's main concern with policy changes at the federal level are the potential impacts of coverage to undocumented persons. The County currently covers 21,046 undocumented adults and 2,773 children under expanded Medi-Cal. The program's expansion and related Waivers have allowed the Health System to make major strides in providing preventative care to this vulnerable population. 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.

While the new administration has yet to outline exactly how it plans to repeal the ACA or what will replace it, one proposal that has been mentioned is the creation of block grants to the states for Medicaid. The adoption of such a proposal could mean the loss of approximately \$20 million in supplemental funding for the hospital to provide care for Medi-Cal beneficiaries, and \$30 million in funding for care to the uninsured.



The County's response will depend on how President Trump and the new Congress proceed in potentially repealing the ACA in its entirety, or retain parts of it, or develop additional proposals to replace it.

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 Affordable Care Act. The County will oppose efforts to cut Medicaid, including implementation of a block grant, and institution of a blended 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. 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.

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.



CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (CHIP). Current funding for CHIP expires at the end of fiscal year 2016 (September 30, 2017). 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. In addition, the County supports action on CHIP early in 2017 to allow the state and counties to budget for the upcoming state fiscal year.

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

TANF REAUTHORIZATION. The County will continue to promote provisions in the reauthorization of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program to restore state and county flexibility in a way that provides matching up, stabilization activities with families' individual needs, and to advocate for long term reauthorization of the program.

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.



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. Finally, 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.

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.

MARIJUANA 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 unclear how the new administration will respond to legalization efforts, and if there will be attempts to amend or rescind guidance issued by the Department of Justice, known 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 emerging 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 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. 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 of 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 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 County will continue to monitor ongoing implementation of FAST—Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act—to ensure current authorized funding is maintained and increased, as the Trump Administration develops its reported \$1 trillion infrastructure plan. The County will continue to review the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) 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.

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.

TAXES. 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.

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.

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. 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.

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. Although nationally, the rate of the backlog has decreased by 84 percent since 2013, there are still too many cases pending. 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 WIFI. The County continues all efforts to increase public WiFi, especially for low income and/or rural residents. For this reason, the County was selected to join 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 joined NIST/NTIA Public WiFi Cluster 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 WiFi access for all residents.