

County of Monterey Federal Bill/Issues Track 2024 (118th Congress, Session 2)

| Measure | Sponsor(s) | Topic | Title | Position | Notes |
|--|---|----------------|--|----------------------|---|
| H.R. 2891 S. 1323 | Joyce (OH) Merkley | Cannabis | SAFE Banking Act - establishes a safe harbor for financial institutions that provide services to cannabis businesses | Support | 5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation |
| H.R. 953 S. 388 | Sherrill Warren | Education | Child Care for Every Community Act | Support | 5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation |
| H.R. 433 | Panetta | Environment | California Central Coast Conservation Act- To establish a moratorium on oil and gas leasing on public land on the Central Coast of California | Support | 5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation |
| H.R. 470 S. 22 | Huffman/ Panetta Feinstein/ Padilla/ Butler | Environment | West Coast Ocean Protection Act of 2023 - To amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the outer Continental Shelf off the coast of California, Oregon, and Washington | Recommend Support | 3/11/24 LC Support 3/11/24 Letters to congressional delegation |
| S. 24 H.R. 516 | Feinstein/ Padilla/ Butler Lieu | Housing | Fighting Homelessness Through Services and Housing Act | Recommend Support | 3/11/24 LC Support 3/11/24 Letters to congressional delegation |
| H.R. 1065 S. 448 | Barragan Padilla | Infrastructure | Outdoors for All Act | Support | 5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation |
| H.R. 715 S. 494 | Fitzpatrick Murphy | Judiciary | Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2023 | Support | 5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation |
| H.R. 2403 | Clyburn | Judiciary | Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2023 | Support | 5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation |
| S. 188 | Feinstein | Public Lands | Wildfire Emergency Act | Support | 5/15/23 LC Support |

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| H.R. 3439 | Panetta | | | | 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation *5/17/23 - Panetta introduced H.R. 3439 |
| H.R. 1083 S. 414 | Hayes Tester | Veterans | Caring for Survivors Act | Support | 5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation |
| H.R. 1097 S. 633 | Panetta Padilla | Veterans | Everett Alvarez, Jr. Congressional Gold Medal Act | Support | 3/13/23 Letters to Rep. Panetta & Sen. Padilla |
| H.R. 2400 S. 1165 | Tonko Baldwin | Judiciary/ BOP | The Reentry Act | Support | 9/11/23 LC Support 9/14/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation |
| H.R. 3074 S. 971 | Trone Cassidy | Judiciary/ BOP | The Due Process Continuity of Care Act | Support | 9/11/23 LC Support 9/14/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation |
| H.R. 1511 S. 2606 | Lofgren/ Panetta Padilla/ Feinstein/ Butler | Immigration | Renewing Immigration Provisions of the Immigration Act of 1929 | Support | 9/11/23 LC Support 9/14/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation |
| S. 2202 | Feinstein/ Padilla | Infrastructure | Restore Aging Infrastructure Now (RAIN) Act | Support | 9/11/23 LC Support 9/14/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation |
| H.R. 4127 S. 2704 | Panetta /Lofgren Padilla | Agriculture | Fair Access to Agriculture Disaster Programs Act | Support | 9/11/23 LC Support 9/14/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation |
| H.R. 3372 | Johnson (SD) | Transportation | To amend title 23, United States Code, to establish a safety data collection program for certain 6-axle vehicles, and for other purposes | Oppose | 9/11/23 LC Oppose 9/12/23 Signed coalition letter |
| S. Res. 400 | Padilla/ Butler | Commemorative | A resolution honoring the life and legacy of Dianne Feinstein, the late Senator for the | Support | 12/11/23 LC Support 12/21/23 Letter sent to congressional |

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| | | | State of California | | delegation |
| S. 3565 | Welch | Infrastructure/ Communication | Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act of 2024 | Support | 1/25/24 LC Support 1/29/24 Letter sent to congressional delegation |
| H.R. 6929 | Clarke | | | | |
| H.R. 6944 | Schiff/ Lofgren | Financial Services | Incorporating National Support for Unprecedented Risks and Emergencies (INSURE) Act | Support | 3/11/24 LC Support 3/11/24 Letters to Rep. Lofgren & Rep. Panetta |
| S. 3830 | Padilla | Water | Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program | Support | 2/1/24 Letter to Sen. Padilla |
| H.R. 4319 | Lofgren/ Panetta | Agriculture | Farm Workforce Modernization Act of 2023 | Recommend Support | |

| <i>Other Issues</i> | <i>Brief Summary</i> | <i>Action Taken</i> |
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| Winter Storms – Federal Response | Since the levee breach on the Pajaro River on March 10, 2023, Pajaro has suffered devastating damages. The subsequent winter storms have compounded the impact on the area, and county officials and representatives have been working around the clock to secure assistance for county residents and businesses. From a federal perspective, Senator Padilla, Senator Feinstein, Congressman Panetta, and Congresswoman Lofgren have all been highly engaged with me, and have rendered assistance in securing a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration for nine California counties, including Monterey County. Gov. Gavin Newsom sent the request on March 28, 2023. President Biden signed the declaration on April 3, 2023, and it paved the way for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide federal aid to local governments and individuals impacted by storms in February and March. | Active and continued communication and engagement with the federal delegation to ensure that Monterey’s interests and needs are shared and considered in any federal decision-making Advocated with Reps. Panetta and Lofgren to ask them to intervene with USACE on the county’s behalf regarding the levee repair; they subsequently sent a joint letter in December 2023 to FEMA Administrator Criswell. |
| FEMA Denial of Non-Congregate Shelter | Following the Pajaro Levee breach in March, over 500 residents were sheltering at the Santa Cruz Fairgrounds shelter in Watsonville, along with other temporary housing options. Monterey County conducted assessments to review alternatives and determined that initiating NCS was in the best interest of the survivors and taxpayers. Prior to the initiation of non- | Close coordination with Rep. Lofgren’s office regarding conflicting guidance the County has received in relation to the FEMA non-congregate shelter (NCS) for displaced Pajaro residents. Rep. Lofgren’s office will continue to work with the county and advocate on our |

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| | <p>congregate sheltering, the County had exhausted all local resources to continue congregate sheltering.</p> <p>FEMA provides Public Assistance funding to local government applicants for costs related to emergency sheltering of survivors. The County has received conflicting guidance regarding eligibility to reimbursement of expenses related to NCS pursuant to Public Assistance funding.</p> | <p>behalf with FEMA.</p> <p>I have also requested a meeting with Rep. Panetta's office, which has been agreed to and is currently pending scheduling.</p> |
| FEMA - Roomkey Reimbursement | The California Association of County Executives (CACE) informed the County that Congressman Garcia (CD-42) is circulating a letter on Roomkey reimbursement from FEMA to reverse the 20-day cap. The impact to the County is \$500,000 and the City of Salinas \$2.1M. Request that Rep. Lofgren and Rep. Panetta sign on to the letter by the 3/11/24 deadline. | March 2024 – Reached out to Rep. Panetta requesting he sign on to the letter (Rep. Lofgren was already on the letter) |
| 2024 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) | On behalf of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWWP) advocate that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a feasibility study in the future for Salinas River flood prevention. | 1/16/24 Letter from Rep. Lofgren confirming her commitment to submit a Congressional request for authorization for such a feasibility study in the 2024 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). |
| FY24 Community Project Funding Requests | <p>In March 2024 the County submitted the following funding requests:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Family Justice Center (FJC) \$500,000 (submitted by Sen. Padilla and Rep. Lofgren) 2. Porter Vallejo Mansion (Pajaro Library) \$500,000 (submitted by Sen. Padilla) 3. Salinas Skate Park & BMX Pump Track \$500,000 – n/a 4. Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project (CSIP) well rehabilitation/replacement \$3M (submitted by Sen. Padilla) 5. Fort Ord Blight Removal \$650,000 (submitted by Sen. Padilla) 6. Pajaro Park Artificial Turf Replacement \$1M – n/a 7. Pajaro County Sanitation District (PCSD) Sewer System Improvements \$1.5M (submitted by Sen. Padilla) 8. Carmel River FREE Project \$3M (submitted by Sen. Padilla and Rep. Panetta) 9. San Lucas Drinking Water \$2M (submitted by Sen. Feinstein, Sen. Padilla, and Rep. Lofgren) | <p>March 2024 – Funding for four of the projects was included in the FY24 minibus appropriations bill signed into law.</p> <p>\$500,000 Family Justice Center (King City)</p> <p>\$1.5M Pajaro County Sanitation District (PCSD) Sewer System Improvements</p> <p>\$3M Carmel River FREE</p> <p>\$959,752 San Lucas Drinking Water</p> |
| FY25 Community Project Funding Requests | 1/23/24 Board of Supervisors authorized submission of the following projects: | March 2024 – Eight projects submitted to Senate (Padilla and Butler) |

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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Broadway Family Connection 2. Carmel River FREE Project 3. Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project (CSIP) 4. Family Justice Center – Seaside location 5. Fort Ord Blight Removal 6. Pajaro County Sanitation District (PCSD) Sewer System Improvements 7. San Lucas Drinking Water 8. Salinas Skate Park & BMX Pump Track <p>An additional project was submitted at the request of the Salinas Regional Sports Authority on 5/6/24 (pending Board approval on 5/14/24)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Salinas Regional Soccer Complex | April/May 2024 – Nine projects submitted to House (Panetta and Lofgren) |
| 2020 Dolan Fire and 2021 Winter Storm | On behalf of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP) advocate for funding for the USFS to repave Nacimiento-Fergusson Road (subsequent to FHWA denial) | Meeting scheduled for 5/9/24 with Rep. Panetta’s office to discuss this and other highways and roads projects |
| 2017 Winter Storms/ Damage to Palo Colorado Road | Support Public Works, Facilities, and Parks to explore federal funding through the Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects (NSFLTP) Program. | Meeting scheduled for 5/9/24 with Rep. Panetta’s office to discuss this and other highways and roads projects |
| Grant application for the Jolon Road Safety Improvement Project | On behalf of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP) obtain letters of support for their Department of Defense, Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) grant application | Reached out to Rep. Lofgren and Rep. Panetta requesting they provide a letter of support. |
| Grant application for Davis Road Bridge Replacement and Road Widening Project | On behalf of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP) obtain letters of support for their U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant application. | 1/29/24 Support letter from Rep. Panetta 2/23/24 Support letter from Rep. Lofgren 3/8/24 Support letter from Sen. Padilla |
| Grant application for Nacimiento Dam Spillway Plunge Pool Erosion Project | On behalf of Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) obtain support for the Department of Energy (DOE) grant application for the Nacimiento Dam Spillway Plunge Pool Erosion Project. | Support from Sen Padilla’s office with letter pending |
| Grant application for Davis Road Bridge Replacement and Road Widening Project | On behalf of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP) obtain letters of support for their Department of Transportation’s (DOT) Rural Surface Transportation Grant program (Rural) | 4/23/24 Support letter from Rep. Panetta |

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| Grant for Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement (CRFREE) Project | The County has been awarded a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant in the amount of \$29.6M for the CRFREE Project pending completion of environmental analysis. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and Historic Property Treatment Plan (HPTP) between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) must be complete before the FEMA award can move forward. Delays jeopardize the project timeline and other funding sources for the project. | Dec. 2023 to present: Coordinate with County Housing & Community Development (HCD), District 5, Big Sur Land Trust (BSLT) and Congressman Panetta's office. 2/22/24 Letter from Rep. Panetta to USACE and SHPO urging expeditious completion of MOA and HPTP so FEMA can release grant award and project work can commence. |