

# **Public Works, Facilities and Parks**

## **Preliminary response to Board Referral 2026.10**

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Review and recommend updates to Board Policy G-146 related to ceremonial display of the Pride Flag to establish a consistent approach for recognizing Pride Month through flag display practices at County facilities and parks.

# Recommendation:

- a. Receive a preliminary analysis report in response to Board Referral 2026.10 and;
- b. Direct that staff:
  - i. Continue review and recommended updates to Board Policy G-146 related to ceremonial display of the Pride Flag to establish a consistent approach for recognizing Pride Month through flag display practices at County facilities and parks;
  - ii. Proceed with completion of referral based on modifications by the Board.
- c. Rescind referral.
- d. Provide further direction, as appropriate.

# Flag Policy: Board Policy G-146

**Policy Adopted** - August 13, 2024 (Res 24-284)

**Policy Purpose** - Guide departments in properly and respectfully displaying the flag of the United States and other flags.

**Section H of the County Flag Policy G-146 states:**

- *“Flags other than the flags of the United States, the State of California, and the County of Monterey may be displayed when approved by the Board of Supervisors. If such approval is given by the Board of Supervisors, the Board shall specify where the other flag is to be displayed and for what period of time.”*

**Examples:** *Ukrainian Flag, Pride Flag*

# Current Pride Flag Procedures and Practice



Multiple resolutions directing staff to raise a flag during the month of June in recognition of Pride month.



Per Board Resolution 21-150, Pride Flag consistently raised at 168 Government Center since June 2021.



PWFP manages Pride Flags raised at multi-use County buildings and parks.



Flag raising at Single Use Facilities managed by individual departments.



Need for administrative guidance and consistent practices across County facilities.



Current average cost for new Pride Flag: \$65 per flag depending on size and quality.

# Proposed Updates to Procedures and Practice

Codifying the expectation that the Pride Flag be raised annually during the month of June at County multi-use facilities and County parks where flag poles are present and operational.

Encouraging County departments with flag poles under their direct control to similarly participate in Pride Month recognition through ceremonial display of the Pride Flag.

Establishing administrative guidance regarding duration of display, appropriate flag placement and etiquette consistent with protocols outlined in the existing Flag Policy, including guidance related to departmental coordination responsibilities.

Providing operational flexibility regarding the specific Pride Flag design utilized, recognizing that Pride symbols continue to evolve while maintaining the intent of LGBTQ+ community recognition and inclusion.

Clarifying that ceremonial display of the Pride Flag is intended to recognize and affirm LGBTQ+ community members, employees, families, and visitors within Monterey County.

# Proposed New Subsection-Board Policy G-146

**Add new subsection substantially similar to the following language suggested by Supervisor Root Askew under Section II of Board Policy G-146 :**

“ The County of Monterey recognizes Pride Month during the month of June. During Pride Month, the Pride Flag shall be ceremonially displayed at County multi-use facilities and County parks where operational flag poles are present, in accordance with applicable federal and state flag protocols and any administrative guidance established by the County. County departments with flag poles under their direct control are encouraged to participate in this annual recognition. ”

# Next Steps



Work with the following departments to update the existing Board Flag Policy in accordance with Board Direction:

County Administrative Office  
Civil Rights Office  
Military and Veterans Affairs Office  
Office of the County Counsel



Return to BOS to adopt new Flag Policy by Fall of 2026

# Recommendations

- a. Receive a preliminary analysis report in response to Board Referral 2026.10 and;
- b. Direct that staff:
  - i. Continue review and recommended updates to Board Policy G-146 related to ceremonial display of the Pride Flag to establish a consistent approach for recognizing Pride Month through flag display practices at County facilities and parks;
  - ii. Proceed with completion of referral based on modifications by the Board.
- c. Rescind referral.
- d. Provide further direction, as appropriate.

# Feedback | Discussion