Monterey County Board of Supervisors
Referral Submittal Form

Referral No. 2026.10
Assignment Date: 5/19/26
(Completed by CAO's Office)

SUBMITTAL - Completed by referring Board office and returned to CAO no later than noon on Wednesday prior to Board meeting:

Date: 5/14/2026	**Submitted By:** Supervisor Wendy Root Askew	**District #:** 4

Referral Title: G-146 Flag Policy Amendment – Pride Flag

Referral Purpose: Request 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.

Brief Referral Description (attach additional sheet as required):
Annually, since at least 2021, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors has adopted resolutions recognizing and celebrating Pride Month in Monterey County. Multiple resolutions have included direction to raise the Rainbow Flag throughout the month of June at the Government Center located at 168 West Alisal Street in Salinas. In 2022, through Resolution 22-113, the BOS directed the flag be raised annually at this location in every year.

Over time, operational practice has also included raising the Rainbow Flag at additional County multi-use facilities; in some years, County parks; and other County facilities, as requested. Most recently, Resolution CR25-095 directed that "the Rainbow Flag, a symbol of pride for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer community, and LGBTQ+ social movements will be raised at all county facilities' flagpoles for the month of June 2025."

This referral seeks to reconcile the direction contained in Resolution 22-113 and Resolution CR25-095, and informal practice, to establish a clear, consistent, and administratively workable Countywide expectation for implementation moving forward through updates to Board Policy G-146 (Flag Policy). The referral also seeks to modernize policy terminology by referencing the broader "Pride Flag," recognizing that symbols associated with LGBTQ+ pride and inclusion continue to evolve over time.

The proposed policy update should consider:

- 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.

- Returning to the Board with any recommended policy language and associated operational considerations necessary for implementation.

Suggested policy language for consideration could include a new subsection under Section II (Policy), substantially similar to the following:

> "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."

Classification - Implication	**Mode of Response**
☐ Ministerial / Minor ☐ **Land Use Policy** **X Social Policy** ☐ **Budget Policy** **X Other: Facilities Use Policy**	☐ Memo ☐ **Board Report** ☐ **Presentation** **Requested Response Timeline** ☐ 2 weeks ☐ 1 month ☐ 6 weeks ☐ Status reports until completed ☐ Other: ☐ Specific Date:

ASSIGNMENT – Provided by CAO at Board Meeting. Copied to Board Offices and Department Head(s) Completed by CAO's Office:

Department(s): PWFP	Referral Lead: Randy Ishii	Board Date: 05/19/26

REASSIGNMENT – Provided by CAO. Copied to Board Offices and Department Head(s). Completed by CAO's Office:

Department(s):	Referral Lead:	Date:

ANALYSIS - Completed by Department and copied to Board Offices and CAO:

Department analysis of resources required/impact on existing department priorities to complete referral:	
Analysis Completed By: _____ Date: _____	**Department's Recommended Response Timeline** ☐ By requested date ☐ 2 weeks ☐ 1 month ☐ 6 weeks ☐ 6 months ☐ 1 year ☐ Other/Specific Date: _____

REFERRAL RESPONSE/COMPLETION - Provided by Department to Board Offices and CAO:

Referral Response Date:	Board Item No.:	Referrals List Deletion:

Note: Please cc Claudia Escalante and Karina Bokanovich on all CAO correspondence relating to referrals.