

# **County of Monterey**

Board of Supervisors Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901



## **Meeting Agenda - Final**

### **Special Meeting**

**Tuesday, January 17, 2023**

**9:30 AM**

**<https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747>**

### **Board of Supervisors**

*Chair Supervisor Luis A. Alejo - District 1*

*Vice Chair Supervisor Glenn Church - District 2*

*Supervisor Chris Lopez - District 3*

*Supervisor Wendy Root Askew - District 4*

*Supervisor Mary L. Adams - District 5*

**Important Notice Regarding COVID 19**

**Based on AB361 and recommendation of the Monterey County Health Officer, in order to minimize the spread of the COVID 19 virus, please do the following:**

**1. While the Board chambers remain open, you are strongly encouraged to observe the live stream of the Board of Supervisors meetings at <https://monterey.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>, <http://www.mgtvonline.com/>, [www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV](http://www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV) or <https://www.facebook.com/MontereyCoInfo/>**

**If you attend the Board of Supervisors meeting in person, it is recommended to maintain appropriate social distancing, i.e., maintain a 6-foot distance between yourself and other individuals.**

**2. If you choose not to attend the Board of Supervisors meeting but desire to make general public comment, or comment on a specific item on the agenda, you may do so in two ways:**

**a. submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the Board meeting. Please submit your comment to the Clerk of the Board at [cob@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:cob@co.monterey.ca.us). In an effort to assist the Clerk in identifying the agenda item relating to your public comment please indicate in the Subject Line, the meeting body (i.e. Board of Supervisors Agenda) and item number (i.e. Item No. 10). Your comment will be placed into the record at the Board meeting.**

**b. you may participate through ZOOM. For ZOOM participation please join by computer audio at: <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747>**

**OR to participate by phone call any of these numbers below:**

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)  
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)  
+1 253 215 8782 US  
+1 301 715 8592 US

**Enter this Meeting ID number: 224397747 when prompted. Please note there is no Participant Code, you will just hit # again after the recording prompts you.**

**You will be placed in the meeting as an attendee; when you are ready to make a public comment if joined by computer audio please Raise your Hand; and by phone please push \*9 on your keypad.**

**Aviso importante sobre COVID 19**

Según AB361 y la recomendación del Oficial de Salud del Condado de Monterey, para minimizar la propagación del virus COVID 19, haga lo siguiente:

1. Mientras las cámaras de la Junta permanezcan abiertas, se le recomienda encarecidamente que observe la transmisión en vivo de las reuniones de la Junta de Supervisores en <https://monterey.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>, <http://www.mgtvonline.com/>, [www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV](http://www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV) o <https://www.facebook.com/MontereyCoInfo/>

Si asiste a la reunión de la Junta de Supervisores en persona, se recomienda mantener un distanciamiento social adecuado, es decir, mantener una distancia de 6 pies entre usted y otras personas.

2. Si elige no asistir a la reunión de la Junta de Supervisores pero desea hacer comentarios del público en general, o comentar sobre un tema específico de la agenda, puede hacerlo de dos maneras:

Envíe su comentario por correo electrónico antes de las 5:00 p.m. el lunes anterior a la reunión de la Junta. Envíe su comentario al Secretario de la Junta a [cob@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:cob@co.monterey.ca.us). En un esfuerzo por ayudar al Secretario a identificar el ítem de la agenda relacionado con su comentario público, por favor indique en la Línea de Asunto, el cuerpo de la reunión (es decir, la Agenda de la Junta de Supervisores) y el número del ítem (es decir, el Ítem No. 10). Su comentario se colocará en el registro en la reunión de la Junta.

B. puede participar a través de ZOOM. Para participar en ZOOM, únase por audio de computadora en: <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747>

O para participar por teléfono llame a cualquiera de los siguientes números:

+1669900 6833 EE. UU. (San José)

+ 1346248 7799 EE. UU. (Houston)

+1312626 6799 EE. UU. (Chicago)

+1929205 6099 EE. UU. (Nueva York)

+1 253215 8782 EE. UU.

+1 301 715 8592 EE. UU.

Ingrese este número de identificación de la reunión: 224397747 cuando se le solicite. Tenga en

**cuenta que no hay un código de participante, simplemente presionará # nuevamente después de que la grabación le indique.**

**Se le colocará en la reunión como asistente; cuando esté listo para hacer un comentario público si se le une el audio de la computadora, levante la mano; y por teléfono, presione \* 9 en su teclado.**

The Board of Supervisors welcomes you to its meetings, which are regularly scheduled each Tuesday. Your interest is encouraged and appreciated. Meetings are held in the Board Chambers located on the first floor of the Monterey County Government Center, 168 W. Alisal St., Salinas, CA 93901.

As a courtesy to others, please turn off all cell phones and pagers prior to entering the Board Chambers.

**ALTERNATE AGENDA FORMATS:** If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individuals with a disability requiring a modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meeting may make these requests to the Clerk of the Board Office.

**CEREMONIAL/APPOINTMENTS/OTHER BOARD MATTERS:** These items may include significant financial and administrative actions, and items of special interest, usually approved by majority vote for each program. The regular calendar also includes "Scheduled Items," which are noticed hearings and public hearings.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** These matters include routine financial and administrative actions, appear in the supplemental section by program areas, and are usually approved by majority vote.

**TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON A MATTER ON THE AGENDA:** Walk to the podium and wait for recognition by the Chair. In order that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, please be brief and limit your comments to the specific subject under discussion. Time limitations shall be at the discretion of the Chair, with equal time allocated to opposing sides of an issue insofar as possible. Allocated time may not be reserved or granted to others, except as permitted by the Chair. On matters for which a public hearing is required, please note that a court challenge to the Board's action may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing or in correspondence delivered to the Board at or before the public hearing.

**TO ADDRESS THE BOARD DURING PUBLIC COMMENT:** Members of the public may address comments to the Board concerning each agenda item and may comment when the Chair calls for general public comment for items that are not on the day's agenda. The timing of public comment shall be at the discretion of the Chair.

**DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION:** Documents related to agenda items that are distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting shall be available for public inspection at the Clerk of the Board Office, 168 W. Alisal Street, 1st Floor, Salinas, CA. Documents distributed to the Board at the meeting by County staff will be available at the meeting; documents distributed to the Board by members of the public shall be made available after the meeting.

**INTERPRETATION SERVICE POLICY:** The Monterey County Board of Supervisors invites and encourages the participation of Monterey County residents at its meetings. If you require the assistance of an interpreter, please contact the Clerk of the Board located in the Monterey County Government Center, 168 W. Alisal St., Salinas - or by phone at (831) 755-5066. The Clerk will make every effort to accommodate requests for interpreter assistance. Requests should be made as soon as possible, and at a minimum 24 hours in advance of any meeting of the Board of Supervisors.



La Cámara de Supervisores del Condado de Monterey invita y apoya la participación de los residentes del Condado de Monterey en sus reuniones. Si usted requiere la asistencia de un interprete, por favor comuníquese con la oficina de la Asistente de la Cámara de Supervisores localizada en el Centro de Gobierno del Condado de Monterey, (Monterey County Government Center), 168 W. Alisal, Salinas – o por teléfono al (831) 755-5066. La Asistente hará el esfuerzo para acomodar los pedidos de asistencia de un interprete. Los pedidos se deberán hacer lo mas pronto posible, y a lo mínimo 24 horas de anticipo de cualquier reunión de la Cámara de Supervisores.

All documents submitted by the public must have no less than ten (10) copies.

The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors must receive all materials for the agenda packet by noon on the Tuesday one week prior to the Tuesday Board meeting.

Any agenda related writings or documents distributed to members of the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors regarding any open session item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the Clerk of the Board's Office located at 168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor, Salinas, California. during normal business hours and in the Board Chambers on the day of the Board Meeting, pursuant to Government Code §54957.5

#### HELPFUL INFORMATION/INFORMACION UTIL

Sign Up For Alerts on items you may be interested in to keep informed and up to date on the Monterey County Board of Supervisors

To create an Alert please Sign Up and follow the User Guide to create alerts for calendars, meeting details, agenda items and item details at the following link:

<https://monterey.legistar.com/Default.aspx>

If assistance is needed please contact our office at the following email: [cob@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:cob@co.monterey.ca.us)

Regístrese para recibir alertas sobre artículos que le pueden interesar para mantenerse informado y actualizado sobre la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Monterey

Para crear una alerta, regístrese y siga la Guía del usuario para crear alertas para calendarios, detalles de reuniones, elementos de agenda y detalles de elementos en el siguiente enlace:

<https://monterey.legistar.com/Default.aspx>

Si necesita ayuda, comuníquese con nuestra oficina al siguiente correo electrónico: [cob@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:cob@co.monterey.ca.us)

**NOTE: All agenda titles related to numbered agenda items are live web links. Click on the title to be directed to the corresponding Board Report.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: Members of the public may address comments to the Board concerning each agenda item. The timing of public comment shall be at the discretion of the Chair.**

**Pursuant to AB361 some or all Supervisors may participate in the meeting by telephone or video conference.**

**9:30 A.M. - Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

**Additions and Corrections for Closed Session by County Counsel**

**Closed Session**

1. Closed Session under Government Code section 54950, relating to the following items:
  - a. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding one matter of significant exposure to litigation.
  - b. Pursuant to Government Code section 54957(b)(1), the Board will provide a performance evaluation for the County Counsel.
  - c. Pursuant to Government Code sections 54956.9(d)(2) and 54956.9(d)(4), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding one matter of significant exposure to litigation and/or potential initiation of litigation.
  - d. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.8, the Board will confer with real property negotiators:  
(1) Property: Sidewalk on private property - Tembladera Street, Castroville (APN 030-156-002)  
Agency Negotiator(s): Randell Y. Ishii, Director of Public Works Facilities and Parks  
Negotiating Parties: Castroville Self Storage, LLC  
Under negotiation: Price and terms
  - e. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(4), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding one matter of potential initiation of litigation.

**Public Comments for Closed Session**

**The Board Recesses for Closed Session Agenda Items****10:30 A.M. - Reconvene on Public Agenda Items****Roll Call****Additions and Corrections by Clerk****The Colors by the County of Monterey Sheriff's Office Honor Guard****National Anthem****Pledge of Allegiance****Swearing In Ceremony**

2. Swearing in ceremony for District 2 Supervisor Elect, Glenn Church and District 3 Supervisor Elect, Chris Lopez:
  - a. Comments by both Supervisors sworn in
  - b. Comments by other Supervisors
3. Presentation of plaque to outgoing Chair Mary L. Adams:
  - a. Comments by outgoing Chair
  - b. Comments by other Supervisors
  - c. Comments by incoming Chair
  - d. Comments by other Supervisors

**Opening Comments by the new County Administrative Officer**

4. County Administrative Officer Comments

**Ceremony for New County Leaders****Appointments**

5. Appoint Bonnie Adcox to the East Garrison Community Services District to fill an unexpired term ending on January 31, 2025. (Nominated By District 4, Supervisor Askew)

**Attachments:**     [Notification to Clerk of Appt - Bonnie Adcox](#)  
                             [Experience - Bonnie Adcox](#)

6. Reappoint Javier Zamora to the Pajaro Water Management Agency with a term ending on December 1, 2024. (Nominated By District 2)

**Attachments:**     [Notification to Clerk of Appt - Javier Zamora](#)

7. Appoint Casey Van Den Heuvel to the Monterey County Workforce Development Board as Business Organization Representative to fill an unexpired term ending on September 1, 2025. (Nominated By Monterey County Workforce Development Board)

**Attachments:**     [Notification to Clerk of Appt - Casey Van Den Heuvel](#)  
                              [Bio - Casey Van Den Heuvel](#)

8. Appoint Efrain Aguilera to the Monterey County Workforce Development as a Business Organization Representative with a term ending on January 10, 2026. (Nominated By Monterey County Workforce Development)

**Attachments:**     [Notification to Clerk of Appt - Efrain Aguilera](#)  
                              [Bio - Efrain Aguilera](#)

9. Appoint Allen King to the South Monterey County Fire Protection District as a Primary Representative to fill an unexpired term ending on December 31, 2025. (Nominated By District 3, Supervisor Lopez)

**Attachments:**     [Notification to Clerk of Appt - King Allen](#)  
                              [Resume - Allen King](#)  
                              [Letter of Interest Fire Board - King Allen](#)

**12:00 P.M. - Recess to reception in Government Center lobby to honor sworn in Elected Officials**

**1:30 P.M. - Reconvene**

**Roll Call**

**Scheduled Matters**

10. a. Receive a report regarding AB 2449 and the future of teleconferencing and remote meetings; and,  
b. Provide direction to staff as appropriate.

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)

11. a. Consider adoption of the 2023-24 Legislative Program;  
b. Consider adoption of the 2023 Legislative Workshop Agenda;  
c. Consider adoption of the 2023 Strategic Grant Services Program;  
d. Receive an annual report from Ballard Spahr LLP, the County's federal legislative advocate;  
e. Receive an annual report from Nossaman LLP, the County's state legislative advocate;  
f. Receive an annual report from Nossaman LLP, the County's grant consultant; and  
g. Provide direction to staff.

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)  
                         [Exhibit A - 2023-24 Legislative Program](#)  
                         [Exhibit B - Summary of Changes/Redline Version of 2023-24  
Legislative Program](#)  
                         [Exhibit C - 2023 Legislative Workshop Agenda](#)  
                         [Exhibit D - 2023 Strategic Grant Services Program](#)  
                         [Exhibit E - 2022 Federal Legislative Report \(Brent Heberlee,  
Ballard Spahr, LLP\)](#)  
                         [Exhibit F - Annual State Legislative Report \(Ashley Walker,  
Nossaman, LLP\)](#)  
                         [Exhibit G - 2022 Strategic Grants Services Program Annual Report  
\(Ashley Walker, Nossaman, LLP\)](#)

12. Consider approval of the proposed Board of Supervisors Standing Committee Rotation Schedule and Appointments for 2023; Consider staff recommendations regarding continuation, creation and dissolution of certain Board of Supervisors Ad Hoc Committees and Consider proposed appointments to various Non-County Entities for calendar year 2023 as recommended by the Chair of the Board of Supervisors.

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)  
                         [Exhibit A - Proposed Standing Committee Rotation Schedule](#)  
                         [Exhibit B - Consolidated list of Standing Committee, Non-County  
Entity, and Ad hoc Committee](#)  
                         [Exhibit C - Ad Hoc Committee Descriptions](#)  
                         [Exhibit D - Board Policy G-10](#)

13. Winter Storm Update: Flood

### **Other Board Matters**

#### **Referral Responses**

14. Receive a preliminary analysis report in response to ***Board Referral No. 2022.26*** seeking to devise a comprehensive program utilizing the opioid settlement dollars designated for all Monterey County local governments for providing treatment and other services to local communities.

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)  
                         [Board Referral No. 2022.26](#)

15. Consider:
- a. Response to Board Referral No. 2022.21 requesting the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors office to augment their budget to cover all expenses for framed Board resolutions; and

- b. Selecting an updated ceremonial resolution template.

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)  
                         [Board Referral No. 2022.21 - Alejo](#)  
                         [Attachment A - New Ceremonial Resolution template](#)  
                         [Attachment B - New Ceremonial Resolution template](#)  
                         [Attachment C - New Ceremonial Resolution template](#)  
                         [Attachment D - Quote for the new Ceremonial templates for](#)  
                         [Attachment A and B](#)  
                         [Attachment E - Quote for the new Ceremonial template for](#)  
                         [Attachment C](#)  
                         [Attachment F - Current Ceremonial Resolution template](#)

- 16.** Receive a preliminary analysis report in response to ***Board Referral No. 2022.23*** seeking to request a County funding contribution for Fiscal Year 2023 and develop a long-range funding source for the Pajaro Park.

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)  
                         [Attachment A – Board Referral No. #2022.23](#)  
                         [Attachment B – Oper. and Maint. Agreement](#)  
                         [Attachment C – Acquisition and Transfer Agreement](#)  
                         [Attachment D – MOU for Oper.and Maint. Funding](#)  
                         [Attachment E – Deed Restriction](#)

#### **Board Comments**

- 17.** Board Comments

#### **Read Out from Closed Session by County Counsel**

#### **Adjournment**



# County of Monterey

## Item No.1

### Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: CS 23-002

January 17, 2023

**Introduced:** 1/9/2023

**Current Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Matter Type:** Closed Session

Closed Session under Government Code section 54950, relating to the following items:

a. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding one matter of significant exposure to litigation.

b. Pursuant to Government Code section 54957(b)(1), the Board will provide a performance evaluation for the County Counsel.

c. Pursuant to Government Code sections 54956.9(d)(2) and 54956.9(d)(4), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding one matter of significant exposure to litigation and/or potential initiation of litigation.

d. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.8, the Board will confer with real property negotiators:

(1) Property: Sidewalk on private property - Tembladera Street, Castroville (APN 030-156-002)

Agency Negotiator(s): Randell Y. Ishii, Director of Public Works Facilities and Parks

Negotiating Parties: Castroville Self Storage, LLC

Under negotiation: Price and terms

e. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(4), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding one matter of potential initiation of litigation.



# County of Monterey

## Item No.2

### Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

**Legistar File Number: 23-052**

**January 17, 2023**

**Introduced:** 1/12/2023

**Current Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Matter Type:** General Agenda Item

Swearing in ceremony for District 2 Supervisor Elect, Glenn Church and District 3 Supervisor Elect, Chris Lopez:

- a. Comments by both Supervisors sworn in
- b. Comments by other Supervisors





# County of Monterey

## Item No.3

### Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

**Legistar File Number: 23-053**

**January 17, 2023**

**Introduced:** 1/12/2023

**Current Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Matter Type:** General Agenda Item

Presentation of plaque to outgoing Chair Mary L. Adams:

- a. Comments by outgoing Chair
- b. Comments by other Supervisors
- c. Comments by incoming Chair
- d. Comments by other Supervisors



# County of Monterey

## Item No.4

### Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: OBM 23-003

January 24, 2023

**Introduced:** 1/10/2023

**Current Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Matter Type:** Other Board Matters

County Administrative Officer Comments



# County of Monterey

Item No.5

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: APP 23-016

January 17, 2023

Introduced: 1/11/2023

Current Status: Appointment

Version: 1

Matter Type: Appointment

Appoint Bonnie Adcox to the East Garrison Community Services District to fill an unexpired term ending on January 31, 2025. (Nominated By District 4, Supervisor Askew)

(FOR CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY)

(FOR COUNTY CLERK USE ONLY)

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT      FILE ID NO.

[LEGISTAR ID NO.]

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

STATE OF CALIFORNIA      } ss.

I, VALERIE RALPH, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California,

do hereby certify that at a regular session of said Board held in and for said County of Monterey, on [DATE], [NAME] was duly appointed to the {NAME OF BOARD, COMMISSIONS OR COMMITTEE]

with a term ending on [TERM DATE ENDING] in and for Monterey County, State of California, as appears by the Official Records of said Board in my office.

**Bonnie A. Adcox**  
**East Garrison, CA**

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**Qualification**

Resident of East Garrison, CA since August 2020

**Professional Expertise**

- Certified Public Accountant, licensed to practice in California.
- Registered tax preparer in Monterey, CA.

**Volunteer Experience**

Alternate Member, East Garrison Community Services District Advisory Board  
January 2021 - Present



# County of Monterey

## Item No.6

### Board Report

Legistar File Number: APP 23-017

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

January 17, 2023

Introduced: 1/11/2023

Version: 1

Current Status: Appointment

Matter Type: Appointment

Reappoint Javier Zamora to the Pajaro Water Management Agency with a term ending on December 1, 2024. (Nominated By District 2)

(FOR CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY)

(FOR COUNTY CLERK USE ONLY)

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT      **FILE ID NO.**

[LEGISTAR ID NO.]

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

STATE OF CALIFORNIA      } ss.

I, VALERIE RALPH, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California,

do hereby certify that at a regular session of said Board held in and for said County of Monterey, on

[DATE], [NAME] was duly appointed to the {NAME OF BOARD, COMMISSIONS OR COMMITTEE]

with a term ending on [TERM DATE ENDING] in and for Monterey County, State of California, as appears by the Official Records of said Board in my office.



# County of Monterey

Item No.7

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: APP 23-018

January 17, 2023

Introduced: 1/11/2023

Current Status: Appointment

Version: 1

Matter Type: Appointment

Appoint Casey Van Den Heuvel to the Monterey County Workforce Development Board as Business Organization Representative to fill an unexpired term ending on September 1, 2025. (Nominated By Monterey County Workforce Development Board)

(FOR CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY)

(FOR COUNTY CLERK USE ONLY)

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT      **FILE ID NO.**

[LEGISTAR ID NO.]

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

STATE OF CALIFORNIA      } ss.

I, VALERIE RALPH, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California,

do hereby certify that at a regular session of said Board held in and for said County of Monterey, on

[DATE], [NAME] was duly appointed to the {NAME OF BOARD, COMMISSIONS OR COMMITTEE]

with a term ending on [TERM DATE ENDING] in and for Monterey County, State of California, as appears by the Official Records of said Board in my office.

# CASEY VAN DEN HEUVEL

## BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE

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### SMART

SHEET METAL | AIR | RAIL | TRANSPORTATION

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My Name is Casey Van Den Heuvel. I am a proud third (3<sup>rd</sup>) generation Union Sheet Metal Worker, with over 80 plus years of my family serving the Sheet Metal Workers 104 union. As Business Representative, I represent all memberships in Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Benito counties. I am also a Trustee for SMW 104 on Healthcare and the Training Trusts.

I am honored to serve as the President of the Monterey/Santa Cruz Building and Construction Trades Council. As President, I promote the growth and development of all building and construction trades unions and foster and develop the organization of building and construction tradespersons and traditional trade or craft lines.



# County of Monterey

Item No.8

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: APP 23-019

January 17, 2023

Introduced: 1/11/2023

Current Status: Appointment

Version: 1

Matter Type: Appointment

Appoint Efrain Aguilera to the Monterey County Workforce Development as a Business Organization Representative with a term ending on January 10, 2026. (Nominated By Monterey County Workforce Development)

(FOR CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY)

(FOR COUNTY CLERK USE ONLY)

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT      FILE ID NO.

[LEGISTAR ID NO.]

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

STATE OF CALIFORNIA      } ss.

I, VALERIE RALPH, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California,

do hereby certify that at a regular session of said Board held in and for said County of Monterey, on [DATE], [NAME] was duly appointed to the {NAME OF BOARD, COMMISSIONS OR COMMITTEE]

with a term ending on [TERM DATE ENDING] in and for Monterey County, State of California, as appears by the Official Records of said Board in my office.



# EFRAIN AGUILERA

UNITED FOOD & COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION,  
LOCAL 5  
REPRESENTATIVE



Efrain Aguilera was born in Michoacán, Mexico. He came to the United States in January 1995 he got to this country without knowing a word of English, going to school was a challenge for him, he graduated from Salinas High School in 1997 and he wanted to continue with his education but because of his father getting sick and unable to support the family Efrain had no choice but to quit school and start working luckily he got a union job and with that he supported his family during those hard times. Efrain got married with its beautiful wife Norma in 2003 and has three sons: Efrain Jr. (17 years old), Eduardo (15 years old) and David (7 years old).

Efrain Aguilera is a Union Representative for UFCW Local 5, Agricultural Division. UFCW Local 5 members work primarily in retail grocery and meat and in department stores, retail drug stores, candy stores, jewelry stores, agriculture and food processing, wholesale meat, seafood processing, financial services, education and the cannabis industry among others.

Efrain got active in the labor movement in 1998 when he first started working at Fresh Express Salad Packing Facility in Salinas, California, where he worked as general labor. Because he had a union contract that allowed him to use his seniority to apply for better jobs, he went from general labor, packer, palletizer, forklift rotator to forklift loader. Efrain was elected Union Steward representing over 60 workers in the loading crew at Fresh Express Shipping Department as a Union Steward, he participated in several Collective Bargaining Negotiations between Fresh Express and UFCW 5. In 2003, his Union requested a leave of absences for Mr. Aguilera to conduct Union business for 24 months. Where he received training in Organizing workers under the Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB) and the National Labors Relations Board (NLRB). Efrain worked on different industries, organizing campaigns like dairies, grape & packing sheds workers in the Area of San Joaquin Valley.

In 2010 Efrain returned to the Salinas Valley and has been the Union Representative for workers at Fresh Express, Rate Aid Pharmacies, and other grocery stores like Safeway and Lucky/SaveMart. and currently continue helping on the Organizing Department focusing on organizing the Cannabis Industry within the UFCW Local 5's jurisdiction that extends from Crescent City on California's North Coast east to Vacaville and to King City at the foot of the Salinas Valley. In Agriculture the Union has California and Arizona as its jurisdiction.



# County of Monterey

Item No.9

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: APP 23-020

January 17, 2023

Introduced: 1/11/2023

Current Status: Appointment

Version: 1

Matter Type: Appointment

Appoint Allen King to the South Monterey County Fire Protection District as a Primary Representative to fill an unexpired term ending on December 31, 2025. (Nominated By District 3, Supervisor Lopez)

(FOR CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY)

(FOR COUNTY CLERK USE ONLY)

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT      **FILE ID NO.**

[LEGISTAR ID NO.]

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

STATE OF CALIFORNIA      } ss.

I, VALERIE RALPH, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California,

do hereby certify that at a regular session of said Board held in and for said County of Monterey, on

[DATE], [NAME] was duly appointed to the {NAME OF BOARD, COMMISSIONS OR COMMITTEE]

with a term ending on [TERM DATE ENDING] in and for Monterey County, State of California, as appears by the Official Records of said Board in my office.

# Allen L King

---

## Employment

### Correctional Lieutenant

June 2011 – April 2021

California Department of Correction and  
Rehabilitation, Soledad, CA  
Correctional Training Facility

- Assigned as the Health Care Access Lieutenant where I managed 8 Correctional Sergeants in different Clinics. Attend different level of meetings on a daily basis, managed reports.
- Currently assigned as Strategic Offender Management System (SOMS) Coordinator. From June 2011 thru October 2011, I was responsible to ensure that the Correctional Training Facility was ready for statewide deployment of statewide Computer Base Application that manage all aspects of Inmate.

### Correctional Sergeant

November 2005 – June 2011

California Department of Correction and  
Rehabilitation, Soledad, CA  
Correctional Training Facility

- Was assigned as the Assistant Training Manager (Correctional Sergeant) responsibilities are to coordinate and training of all staff at the institution. Worked with the Office of Training and Professional Development to ensure the institution was using the most updated training material. Was the Assistant Training Manager schedule staff and instructors to various classes
- Was assigned as the Institution Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Coordinator and the Peer Support Program (PSP) Coordinator.
- Was assigned as Strategic Offender Management System (SOMS) Coordinator.

### Correctional Officer

June 1994 – November 2005

California Department of Correction and  
Rehabilitation, Soledad, CA  
Correctional Training Facility

- Was the Investigative Officer for Correctional Training Facility where I was responsible for all Fingerprint, Palm prints, and DNA per PC 296, Inmate Investigation, and Mandatory Inmate Urinalysis, and other task that arise?
- Part time In-service Training Instructor
- While assigned to CTF-Soledad I have held various positions to include Housing Officer, Kitchen Officer, Inmate Property Officer, Watch Office S&E, Inmate Assignment Officer, Family Visiting Officer, and Watch Sergeant in acting assignment.

## Peer Support Program

June 1998 – April 2019

## Negotiation Management Team / Employee Post Trauma Program

June 1998 – October 2004

### Education

June 1990	King City High School King City, CA
Continuous	Hartnell College Salinas, CA

### Summary of qualifications

April 2017	Lean White Belt Training
June 2016	Lieutenants Academy
May 2014	EEO Coordinator / Counselor Training
April 2014	Advance Supervision Training
September 2013	Peer Support Program Training
March 2013	EEO Counselor Training
November 2011	Senior Hearing Officer Certified
July 2011	SOMS R1A Training for Trainer
Jan 2011	EEO Coordinator/Counselor Annual Certification
April 2010	SOMS – ERMS T4T
April 2010	BIS – Training & Events
June 2009	Effective Communication/Health Care Appliances T4T
June 2009	Armstrong v. California Training for Trainer
June 2009	Clark v. California Training for Trainer
August 2007	Sergeants' Academy
May 2007	Advance Training for Trainers
May 2006	Basic Supervision
August 2006	SEMS/MIMS/ICS Train the Trainer
February 2006	Prison Rape Elimination Act, Training for Trainers
May 2005	Narcotic Enforcement & Influence (H&S 11550)
May 2005	Monadnock Expandable Baton Training for Trainers
April 2005	CDC Basic Investigator's Training
December 2004	Ethics/Code of Silence Master Trainer Certification
October 2004	Employee Assistance Program Training for Trainers
July 2004	EEO Coordinator/Counselor Annual Certification
April 2004	Crisis Response Team Basic Negotiator Certification
August 2003	Bloodborne Pathogens Training for Trainers
January 2003	EEO & Sexual Harassment Training for Trainers
January 2003	EEO & Sexual Harassment for Supervisors & Managers Training for Trainer
December 2003	CPR/First Aid Instructor
August 2001	Use of Force Training for Trainers
November 2000	Sexual Harassment Prevention Training for Trainers
September 2000	Advance Officer Sexual Assault Investigation
October 1999	Classroom Presentation Skill
November 1998	Employee Post Trauma Program
October 1998	Conflict Management Training
October 1998	Negotiation Management Team Basic Academy

**Volunteer  
experience**

September 2000 to present

**King City Lions Club**

Currently I'm the Club Vice President and the District Governor. The Lions Club is a nonprofit organization that raises monies and gives assistance for the vision impaired.

- 2020-2021 Presidential Medal
- April 2021 Certified Guiding Lions Training
- 2021 District Governor Elect Seminar Program
- 2020-2021 International President Certificate of Appreciation
- 2019 MD4 Lion of Year
- 2017-2018 District 4-C6 Lion of the Year
- 2016-2017 MD4 Excellence Award
- 2014-2015 International President Certificate of Appreciation
- August 2013 Certified Guiding Lion Training

June 1986 to July 2011

**South Monterey County  
Fire Protection District**

Where I as Volunteer Fire Fighter for the department; I'm responsible for all day to day operation and Emergency Response to Incidents, Inventory of all equipment, Purchaser of new equipment, and facilitate all required training. Have served as a fire Chief for 7 years.

**Allen King**

February 12, 2021

Supervisor Chris Lopez- District #

This letter is to formally announce my interest in the position on the South Monterey County Fire District Board.

I feel I have the qualification as I have served with South Monterey County Fire District – Pine Canyon Station for 25 years, and of 7 years of that serving as the Volunteer Fire Chief. I was present when the Pine Canyon Station was built, and we moved into the current building.

As you are all aware, I have worked for the California Department of Correction and Rehabilitation (CDCR) for the last 27 years, most recently as a Correctional Lieutenant. While working for CDCR I held many different types of assignment.

Should be noted I devote a lot of my time to Lions International, as Immediate Past District Governor for our District. Also serve as Vice-President of King City Lions Club. Active Member and Board Member for Silver Kings and Queens.

It is my personal commitment to always conduct myself in a manner that reflects favorably on our organization. Additionally, I am confident that I have the qualifications to be appointed to the Board.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 831-206-3039.

Thanks

Allen King  
First Vice District Governor, 4-C6  
King City Lions Club, President





# County of Monterey

Item No.10

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: 23-050

January 17, 2023

Introduced: 1/11/2023

Current Status: Scheduled PM

Version: 1

Matter Type: General Agenda Item

- a. Receive a report regarding AB 2449 and the future of teleconferencing and remote meetings; and,
- b. Provide direction to staff as appropriate.

### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive a report regarding AB 2449 and the future of teleconferencing and remote meetings;
- b) Provide direction to staff as appropriate.

### SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

As the Board knows, during the COVID emergency legislative bodies have the ability to meet remotely, first pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order, and subsequently pursuant to AB 361. The Governor has indicated he intends to terminate his proclamation of emergency for the pandemic at the end of February, unless conditions require otherwise. While AB 361 will remain effective until the end of 2023, meeting remotely pursuant to it requires a continued proclamation of emergency by the Governor.

Recently, the legislature adopted, and the Governor signed into law, AB 2449, effective January 1, 2023. That legislation incorporates the provisions of AB 361 but also incorporates the old Brown Act provisions for teleconferencing by legislative body members and adds new provisions that allow limited remote participation.

County Counsel will make a presentation in open session discussing the provisions of AB 2449 and the ability to have remote meetings beginning when or if the Governor terminates his proclamation of emergency. Direction may be given as appropriate to staff to continue remote participation by the public or staff.

### OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None.

### FINANCING:

There is no fiscal impact with receipt of the presentation; however, there may be fiscal impacts with a return to in-person meetings or continuance of remote meetings as allowed.

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

The recommended action addresses the Board of Supervisors' Administration Strategic Initiative and

demonstrates the County's commitment to meeting the Board's initiatives by addressing public participation in the legislative process.

Mark a check to the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives

☐ Economic Development  
☒ Administration  
☐ Health & Human Services  
☐ Infrastructure  
☐ Public Safety

Prepared and Approved by:

Leslie J. Girard, County Counsel

Attachments:  
Board Report





# County of Monterey

Item No.

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: 23-050

January 17, 2023

Introduced: 1/11/2023

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: General Agenda Item

- a. Receive a report regarding AB 2449 and the future of teleconferencing and remote meetings; and,
- b. Provide direction to staff as appropriate.

### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive a report regarding AB 2449 and the future of teleconferencing and remote meetings;
- b) Provide direction to staff as appropriate.

### SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

As the Board knows, during the COVID emergency legislative bodies have the ability to meet remotely, first pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order, and subsequently pursuant to AB 361. The Governor has indicated he intends to terminate his proclamation of emergency for the pandemic at the end of February, unless conditions require otherwise. While AB 361 will remain effective until the end of 2023, meeting remotely pursuant to it requires a continued proclamation of emergency by the Governor.

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County Counsel will make a presentation in open session discussing the provisions of AB 2449 and the ability to have remote meetings beginning when or if the Governor terminates his proclamation of emergency. Direction may be given as appropriate to staff to continue remote participation by the public or staff.

### OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None.

### FINANCING:

There is no fiscal impact with receipt of the presentation; however, there may be fiscal impacts with a return to in-person meetings or continuance of remote meetings as allowed.

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:


The recommended action addresses the Board of Supervisors' Administration Strategic Initiative and

demonstrates the County's commitment to meeting the Board's initiatives by addressing public participation in the legislative process.

Mark a check to the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives

☐ Economic Development  
☒ Administration  
☐ Health & Human Services  
☐ Infrastructure  
☐ Public Safety

Prepared and Approved by:

  
Leslie J. Girard, County Counsel

Attachments:  
Board Report



# County of Monterey

## Item No.11

### Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: 23-044

January 17, 2023

Introduced: 1/10/2023

Current Status: Scheduled PM

Version: 1

Matter Type: General Agenda Item

- a. Consider adoption of the 2023-24 Legislative Program;
- b. Consider adoption of the 2023 Legislative Workshop Agenda;
- c. Consider adoption of the 2023 Strategic Grant Services Program;
- d. Receive an annual report from Ballard Spahr LLP, the County's federal legislative advocate;
- e. Receive an annual report from Nossaman LLP, the County's state legislative advocate;
- f. Receive an annual report from Nossaman LLP, the County's grant consultant; and
- g. Provide direction to staff.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Consider adoption of the 2023-24 Legislative Program;
- b. Consider adoption of the 2023 Legislative Workshop Agenda;
- c. Consider adoption of the 2023 Strategic Grant Services Program;
- d. Receive an annual report from Ballard Spahr LLP, the County's federal legislative advocate;
- e. Receive an annual report from Nossaman LLP, the County's state legislative advocate;
- f. Receive an annual report from Nossaman LLP, the County's grant consultant; and
- g. Provide direction to staff.

#### **SUMMARY**

Under the direction of the Legislative Committee, staff has prepared the 2023-24 Legislative Program, 2023 Legislative Workshop Agenda, and 2023 Strategic Grant Services Program. These documents are updated annually and once adopted by the Board guide the County's legislative and funding advocacy efforts throughout the year. Additionally, the Board will receive annual reports from the County's state and federal legislative and funding advocates on 2022 activities and a report on potential major issues in 2023.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The County Administrative Office - Intergovernmental & Legislative Affairs (IGLA) Division is charged with the development and execution of the County's Legislative Program and Strategic Grant Services Program. Each year, IGLA staff works with the Board, County departments, and the County's state and federal legislative and funding advocates, under the direction of the Legislative Committee to craft the programs. The programs are designed to support the Board's Strategic Initiatives, reflect the Board's interests and priorities, and work together to advocate for funding through state and federal programs which translate into local grant funding opportunities.

### **2023-2024 Legislative Program**

Every other year the Board adopts a two-year legislative program which aligns with the two-year cycles of the State Legislature and Congress. Monterey County maintains a long-standing and successful Legislative Program, ensuring that the interests of the County are well represented in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. The program provides the County a voice in State/Federal funding and policy decision-making and ensures that County leaders are apprised of evolving initiatives impacting the County and its residents. Once adopted, the Legislative Program provides authority to advocate in support or defense of issues, enabling actions to be taken quickly to protect or defend the County's interests.

The Legislative Program addresses a multitude of County priorities related to economic development, administration, health and human services, infrastructure, and public safety. County policy concerns are most often centered on resources to carry out state and local service responsibilities, the authority to carry out those responsibilities in local communities, and partnerships with the State and Federal governments. The Program also highlights several top legislative and funding priorities to focus on in 2023. The 2023-24 Legislative Program is attached as **Exhibit A**. A redline version of the program and summary of major changes is attached as **Exhibit B**.

### **2023 Legislative Workshop Agenda**

On an annual basis, the Board of Supervisors hosts a Legislative Workshop (a special meeting) with the County's state and federal legislative representatives to discuss the County's priority issues for the next year. The Legislative Workshop is scheduled on Friday, January 20, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and will be conducted both in person at the Board of Supervisors' Chambers (Monterey County Government Center, 168 W. Alisal St., Salinas, CA) and via Zoom.

Legislative Workshop participants will include the Board of Supervisors, appropriate County department heads to make the County presentations, and the following elected officials and/or their staff representatives: Senator Dianne Feinstein; Senator Alex Padilla; Congressman Jimmy Panetta; Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren; Senator Anna Caballero; Senator John Laird; Assemblymember Robert Rivas; and Assemblymember Dawn Addis.

The proposed Legislative Workshop agenda focuses on: 1) presentations on the County's 2023 Legislative Priorities by County departments; 2) remarks from each state/federal legislator or their staff representative of their priorities for 2023; and 3) remarks from each member of the Board of Supervisors on County priorities. A draft Legislative Workshop Agenda for Board approval and related information on Monterey County's 2023 Legislative Priorities is attached as **Exhibit C**.

### **2023 Strategic Grant Services Program**

The Strategic Grants Service Program assists in funding efforts on some of the County's high priority projects. Working with County departments, the program coordinates, facilitates and provides strategic expertise from the identification of grant funding opportunities through application submittal.

Priority projects must align with the Board's Strategic Initiatives and Legislative Program goals and meet all grant requirements to submit a strong and competitive application.

The 2023 Strategic Grant Services Program is resourced to work on 10-15 grants per year, varying depending on their complexity. Once adopted by the Board, the Legislative Committee provides routine program guidance and direction. The Program consists of a 12-month Work Plan and a Grant Needs Inventory to guide research for potential funding opportunities. The 2023 Strategic Grant Services Program is included as **Exhibit D**.

### **Annual Reports**

The annual reports provided by the County's federal and state legislative advocates and grant consultant highlight activities undertaken on behalf of the County during 2022, and their oral presentations will focus on anticipated major issues or projects for 2023. Reports will be provided by:

- Brent R. Heberlee, Ballard Spahr LLP - Federal Legislative Advocate - **Exhibit E**
- Ashley Walker, Nossaman LLP - State Legislative Advocate - **Exhibit F**
- Ashley Walker, Nossaman LLP - Grant Consultant - **Exhibit G**

### **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT**

The County Administrative Office - Intergovernmental & Legislative Affairs Division prepared this report. Significant contributions to the development of the programs were made by the Legislative Committee, County department heads/staff, and the County's state and federal legislative advocates and grant consultant.

### **FINANCING**

The Legislative Program and Strategic Grant Services Programs are funded by the County Administrative Office (Department 1050) - Intergovernmental & Legislative Affairs Division (Unit 8054). Approval of the recommendations contained in this report will not result in additional General Fund contributions.

### **STRATEGIC INITIATIVES**

The Legislative Program and Strategic Grants Services Program work to advance all categories of the Board's Strategic Initiatives.

- ☒ Economic Development
- ☒ Administration
- ☒ Health & Human Services
- ☒ Infrastructure
- ☒ Public Safety

Prepared by: Annette D'Adamo, Management Analyst III

Approved by: Nicholas E. Chiulos, Assistant County Administrative Officer

Date: December 19, 2022

**Attachments:**

- Exhibit A - 2023-24 Legislative Program
- Exhibit B - Summary of Changes/Redline Version of 2023-24 Legislative Program
- Exhibit C - 2023 Legislative Workshop Agenda
- Exhibit D - 2023 Strategic Grant Services Program
- Exhibit E - 2022 Federal Legislative Report (Brent Heberlee, Ballard Spahr, LLP)
- Exhibit F - 2022 State Legislative Report (Ashley Walker, Nossaman, LLP)
- Exhibit G - 2022 Strategic Grant Services Program Annual Report (Ashley Walker, Nossaman, LLP)



# County of Monterey

**Item No.**

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

**Legistar File Number: 23-044**

**January 17, 2023**

**Introduced:** 1/10/2023

**Current Status:** Scheduled PM

**Version:** 1

**Matter Type:** General Agenda Item

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- g. Provide direction to staff.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

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### OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

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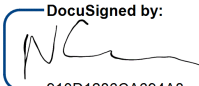
### FINANCING

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### STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

The Legislative Program and Strategic Grants Services Program work to advance all categories of the Board's Strategic Initiatives.

- ☒ Economic Development
- ☒ Administration
- ☒ Health & Human Services
- ☒ Infrastructure
- ☒ Public Safety

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1/12/2023 | 11:28 AM PST

Prepared by: Annette D'Adamo, Management Analyst III

Approved by: Nicholas E. Chiulos, Assistant County Administrative Officer

*Legistar File Number: 23-044*

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Date: December 19, 2022

**Attachments:**

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# MONTEREY COUNTY

## LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM



# 2023-24

*DRAFT for Consideration by the Board of Supervisors on January 10, 2023*

## Contacts

### **2023 Board of Supervisors**

**Luis A. Alejo – District 1**

168 W. Alisal Street

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**Chris Lopez – District 3**

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**Wendy Root Askew – District 4**

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831-755-5044

[District4@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:District4@co.monterey.ca.us)

**Mary Adams – District 5**

1200 Aguajito Road, Suite 1

Monterey, CA 93940

831-755-5055

[District5@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:District5@co.monterey.ca.us)



### **County Administrative Office**

168 W. Alisal Street

Salinas, CA 93901

**Sonia De La Rosa**

County Administrative Officer

831-755-5115

[xxx@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:xxx@co.monterey.ca.us)

**Nicholas E. Chiulos**

Assistant County Administrative Officer

831-755-5145

[ChiulosN@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:ChiulosN@co.monterey.ca.us)

**Annette D'Adamo**

Legislative Coordinator

831-796-3045

[DadamoA@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:DadamoA@co.monterey.ca.us)

### **State Legislative Advocate**

**Nossaman LLP**

621 Capitol Mall, Suite 2500

Sacramento, CA 95814

**Ashley Walker, Senior Policy Advisor**

916-442-8888

[AWalker@Nossaman.com](mailto:AWalker@Nossaman.com)

### **Federal Legislative Advocate**

**Ballard Spahr LLP**

1909 K Street, NW, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor

Washington D.C. 20006

**Brent R. Heberlee, Of Counsel**

202-661-2249

[HeberleeB@ballardspahr.com](mailto:HeberleeB@ballardspahr.com)

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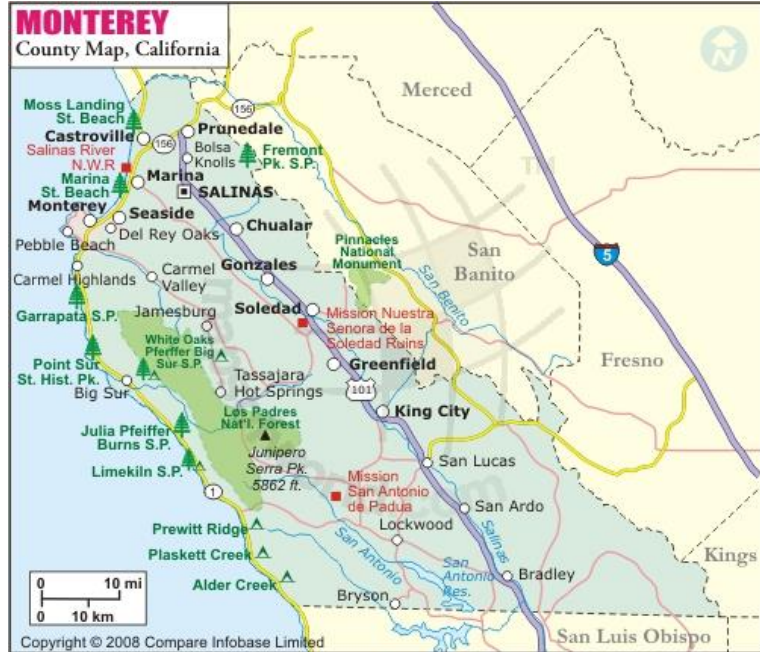
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## About Monterey County

The County of Monterey is located on the beautiful Pacific Coast of California, south of San Francisco and north of Los Angeles. The County is comprised of 3,771 square miles and includes twelve incorporated cities and sixteen unincorporated areas. The County seat and largest municipality is Salinas.

**Demographics.** In 2021 the U.S. Census Bureau listed the County's population at 437,325: 60% Hispanic, 28% White, 7% Asian, 3% Black, and 3% other. The County population is relatively young with a median age of 34.4. At 21.7%, Monterey County has the highest percent of noncitizens of any California County (*2020 Census Research by the Public Policy Institute of California*).

There are 209,045 registered voters in Monterey County (*as of 10/24/22*)



**Labor Force.** The California Employment Development Department lists the County labor force at 219,500, with 4% unemployment (September 2022 report). The County of Monterey is the largest employer with 5,737 full-time employees and a \$1.85 billion budget (Fiscal Year 2022-23).

**Economy.** Monterey County's economy is primarily based on agriculture in the Salinas Valley and tourism in the coastal regions. It is home to an extensive array of education, research, and military institutions. The health care, non-profit, and government sectors are also among the County's largest economic drivers.

**Agriculture.** Monterey County is one of the nation's top agricultural producers. Agriculture is the County's largest economic and employment sector generating \$11.7 billion annually and providing 63,921 jobs (*Economic Contributions of Monterey County Agriculture, 2018*). Unlike most agricultural crops across the United States that are machine harvested, the crops grown in Monterey County are dependent upon a highly skilled labor force. The vast majority of companies based in the County are family-owned and operated.

**Hospitality.** Monterey County has long been a tourist destination attracting 3.9 million overnight visitors annually and generating \$2.54 billion in spending which supports 21,500 jobs ([Monterey County Travel Impact Report 2021 - Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)). With a worldwide reputation, visitors delight in destinations such as the Monterey Bay Aquarium, the National Steinbeck Center, 17-Mile Drive, Cannery Row, Fisherman's Wharf, Pinnacles National Park, and the Monterey Wine Country. Visitors enjoy a wide range of recreational activities and nearly 300 annual special events.

**Higher Education & Research.** The Monterey Bay region has a diverse concentration of higher education and research institutions. The area boasts nine institutions of higher learning, five wildlife and/or marine-related reserves, and seven government agencies, each one contributing to an extensive research environment. In addition, six language programs ranging from community college to graduate level are



available in the region, as are several graduate business programs, a law school, and a public policy institute. The County is also home to one of the greatest collections of foreign language assets in the world. In 2014, the Library of Congress approved a trademark for Monterey County as “*Language Capital of the World®*.” Together these institutions have operating budgets of \$1.7 billion, including more than \$410 million in research and grant funding annually. Approximately 14,000 faculty, staff and researchers are directly employed, and 79,000 students are enrolled annually ([Monterey Bay Economic Partnership](#)).

**Military Institutions.** Monterey County has a long and proud military history and through its direct and indirect effects touches all major industries in the private sector. The County is home to ten military missions, providing significant local economic benefits. In FY 2020, Monterey County had about 3,000 national security employees and received \$165.9 million in national security investment, generating about: \$3.7 billion in economic activity, 17,000 full-time equivalent jobs, \$527.9 million in local, state and federal tax revenue ([2021 California Statewide National Security Economic Impacts Study](#)). Per the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the veteran population in Monterey County was approximately 20,000 in FY 2021, providing a total VA benefit contribution of nearly \$25 million per year (*FY21 VA National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics*).

## Legislative Program

### ***Legislative Program***

Monterey County maintains a long-standing and successful Legislative Program, ensuring that the interests of the County are well represented in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. The Program provides the County a voice in funding and policy decision-making in the state and national capitals and ensures that County leaders are fully apprised of evolving state and federal initiatives impacting the County and its residents. The Legislative Program is managed in accordance with a series of legislative principles and priorities which are designed in support of the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Initiatives. The Strategic Initiatives lay out a forward-looking vision for planning and management of County resources across programs to secure maximum return and benefit for County residents.

### ***Board of Supervisors – Legislative Committee***

The Board of Supervisors has a two-member Legislative Committee, staffed by the County Administrative Office – Intergovernmental & Legislative Affairs Division. The Committee meets regularly to review and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding legislative, budgetary, and regulatory issues that could impact Monterey County, and to direct the efforts of the Strategic Grant Services Program. On an annual basis, the Legislative Committee recommends a Legislative Program and Strategic Grant Services Program Work Plan to the Board of Supervisors. The Legislative Committee also directs the legislative activities of the Committee staff, County departments, and the County's state and federal legislative advocates and grant consultants.

### ***Legislative Policies***

The Board of Supervisors has adopted policies pertaining to the legislative activities of the Board, department heads, County staff, the County's state and federal legislative advocates, and County advisory boards and commissions. ([Policies Governing Legislative Activities rev.1/26/21](#))

### ***Strategic Grant Services Program***

The Board of Supervisors created the Strategic Grants Services Program to concentrate funding efforts on the County's highest priority needs, and projects which require a high level of collaboration among County departments and community partners. The Strategic Grant Services Program works in alignment with the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Initiatives and in close collaboration with the Legislative Program to advocate for maximum funding through competitive state and federal grant programs.

### ***Community Priorities***

In 2018, the Board of Supervisors hosted a community engagement process to identify local priorities. The process included telephone and online surveys as well as five community forums to understand how potential cannabis tax revenues could help meet community needs. The top funding priorities across the County were: 1) education (especially early education and preschool); 2) quality health and mental health services; 3) homeless services; 4) crime and violence prevention and reduction; and 5) affordable housing and displacement prevention. Additional concerns included preservation of existing services, equitable and culturally relevant programs, reparations and expungement, library funding, and animal shelter funding. These results were largely consistent with previous studies (e.g., Impact Monterey County). These community identified priorities have been used to help shape this Legislative Program.

## ***COVID-19 Disparate Impacts Legislative Advocacy Priorities***

In August 2020, the Board of Supervisors received the [COVID-19 Pandemic Disparate Impact Report](#). The report identified the underlying conditions that contributed to the racial disparities present in the data and statistics of those most impacted by the pandemic in Monterey County, and proposed strategies to address these disparate impacts. Many of the legislative advocacy priorities detailed in the report are still relevant and have been incorporated into this Legislative Program.

The COVID-19 pandemic has a disparate impact on communities of color, especially in low-income communities. The County's state legislative advocacy efforts have been focused on ensuring those impacts are addressed with equity and inclusion. There has been a very broad range of issues the County has advocated for at the State level, including, but not limited to: unvaccinated youth, emergency rental assistance, vaccine data and equity metrics, vaccine availability and locations, agriculture workers and impacts, Housing for the Harvest and Project Homekey, K-12 education, digital divide, economic impacts and recovery, elections and public access to government, PPE availability and disbursement, and several funding streams through the state budget process that are tied to recovery from the pandemic. While several of these issues have been addressed in some way by the Legislature and Administration, the work required to address and recover from the pandemic is far from complete.

The County will continue to work to secure resources, flexibility, and the workforce necessary to maintain local ongoing coronavirus response efforts, including outreach to underserved populations and collaboration with schools and businesses. This includes negotiating a sustainable state investment in local public health activities while obtaining short-term funding and/or statutory flexibility for urgent needs.

## Monterey County 2023 Policy Priorities

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### ***Monterey County Veterans Home***

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One of the County's top priorities is the development of a Veterans Home in Monterey County to serve aged and disabled veterans, eligible spouses, domestic partners, and homeless veterans. There are over 50,000 veterans in Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Benito, and San Luis Obispo Counties alone. CalVet operates eight Veterans Homes in California, providing a range of services from independent living to skilled nursing and memory care. Four of the homes offer combined skilled nursing and memory care. The demand for these services far exceeds the current availability of beds, which has resulted in 2-5+ year wait times. The closest Veterans Home is over two hours away from Monterey County. The County strongly believes that our Veterans should not have to leave their families, friends, and the community they call home to access these services.

The County intends to pursue State legislation to authorize the development of a State Veterans Home in Monterey County, potentially located on or near other Veterans' services at the former Fort Ord. The County will work with its state and federal delegations, CalVet, and the Veterans Administration to ensure the project meets regulatory requirements for financial assistance through CalVet and the VA's State Veterans Home Construction Grant Program, which can provide up to 65% of construction costs. If constructed, the facility would be available to all California veterans.

**Key Objectives:** Support efforts to establish a CalVet Veterans Home in Monterey County to serve the needs of our growing veterans' population and support the veteran's community's contributions to our local economy.

### ***Homeless Funding Formulas***

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The County of Monterey is committed to efforts that address homelessness so that it is rare, brief, and non-recurring. Part of that commitment is fighting for resources to support the homelessness response network. However, federal and state funding formulas make that difficult to achieve when allocations rely on population, poverty, and the biennial Point in Time (PIT) census. This means communities who are actively reducing their PIT counts are inadvertently penalized when funding is reduced, and programs established to serve people experiencing homelessness are at risk of closure. Therefore, the County supports alternative funding formulas that reward communities who set and achieve their goals of reducing homelessness.

**Key Objectives:** Support efforts by State and Federal partners to identify a different means to assess community needs when allocating funds to address homelessness. While there is no simple way to decide how funding should be determined, at minimum other factors should be considered in determining allocations like cost of living, housing stock, area median income, fair market rate, and long-term stabilization of programs in communities that are successfully reducing homelessness.

### ***Nacimiento and San Antonio Dam Safety/High Priority Capital Asset Management***

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Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) owns and operates the Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams and Reservoirs which provide flood control, water supply, groundwater recharge, recreation, and other benefits. MCWRA's highest priority capital and maintenance projects, identified in the High Priority

Capital Asset Management Program, have not been performed due to a lack of financial resources. Completion of these projects will allow MCWRA to fully operate Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams, meet federal and state regulatory compliance including the rigorous requirements of the California Division of Dam Safety, and assure the safety of Monterey County residents.

**Key Objectives:** Secure funding for a set of subprojects for Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoir and Dam facilities to fulfill Federal and State regulatory requirements and provide flood protection and a sustainable water supply.

### ***Interlake Tunnel and San Antonio Spillway Modification Project***

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MCWRA has done extensive early planning and design for the Interlake Tunnel Project between both Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs and for the potential raising of the spillway at San Antonio to increase water storage capacity. In 2016, the State of California provided a \$10 million grant for the Interlake Tunnel Project and MCWRA has an agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for an additional \$17 million to install a Fish Exclusion System during the construction. In August 2020, early water projections for the Interlake Tunnel Project and Raised Spillway were estimated at 54,000 new acre feet of water and another 36,000-acre feet for conservation releases and groundwater recharge. Significant additional funding is needed to complete this project. It is important to note that Monterey County does not receive any imported water from state or federal projects and upwards of 95% of the water used comes from local groundwater supplies. Reservoir operations provide a buffer against drought conditions to Salinas Valley water users. The MCWRA has been able to make releases to provide groundwater recharge, despite very limited minimal inflows in the last two years. However, in 2021 operations were curtailed two months earlier than normal. Without significant inflows, there will be little opportunity for operations next season and in future years due to the current severe drought. It is therefore imperative to pursue State and/or Federal funding for this project to help ensure a sustainable water supply for the critically important Salinas Valley region for generations to come.

**Key Objectives:** Secure funding for a tunnel to connect existing facilities at Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs on the Central Coast of California will increase water storage capacity and achieve environmental and water conservation release efficiencies.

### ***San Lucas Clean Drinking Water***

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San Lucas is a small, disadvantaged farming community located in unincorporated Monterey County approximately eight miles from King City. The community water system (approximately 100 connections) is owned and operated by the San Lucas County Water District. The San Lucas Water Supply Project would address ongoing water quality problems at the existing District water source which have occurred since 2006. The Project would construct a new pipeline to tie into the Cal Water system on the east side of King City and deliver water directly to the District water distribution tank. The pipeline is anticipated to be approximately 7.8 miles long and run along the eastern side of Highway 101 and the railroad line. Funding is needed for the project's design, environmental assessment, engineering, and construction work to provide a clean, long-term, reliable source of drinking water to meet the community's current and future needs.

**Key Objectives:** Secure funding for a long-term project that provides a reliable source of clean drinking water to the small, disadvantaged community of San Lucas.

## ***Old Monterey County Jail***

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The Old Monterey County Jail located in Salinas, California, was built in 1931 in the Gothic Revival architectural style during the Art Deco period. It served as the County's primary jail until a new jail was completed in 1977. In 2004, the building was listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places reflecting its architectural significance and for areas where Cesar Chavez was imprisoned during the 1970 Salinas Lettuce Boycott – raising national attention of farmworker working conditions. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this historic moment in labor and civil rights history took place in 2020. After extensive evaluation of multiple alternatives, the Board of Supervisors selected three preferred alternative redevelopment and/or rehabilitation projects. The County needs funding to implement a capital project and repurpose the historic jail and site. Most recently it has been considered as a potential site for a Family Justice Center which would provide wrap around services to victims of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and elder abuse.

***Key Objectives:*** Support efforts to secure local, state and/or federal funding for a capital project to repurpose the Old Monterey County Jail.

## ***Marina Health Clinic***

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The Monterey County Health Department (MCHD) Clinic at Marina (Marina Clinic) is located at 355 De Forest Road, Marina, California. The Marina Clinic is a 4-exam room, 1790 square foot facility and currently staffed by two (2) physicians and seven (7) support staff. The Marina Clinic provides comprehensive primary and preventive care and is the only full-time safety net clinic in the City of Marina. To better meet the needs of the city of Marina residents and surrounding areas, Monterey County needs to construct a new-10,000 square foot clinic with 12 exam rooms, and office space to deliver expanded general family practice, obstetrics and gynecology, and mental health integration services to better support the Medi-Cal and uninsured population in this community. A final site has not been selected for this project but there may be an opportunity to expand the facility at the existing location if funding is secured.

***Key Objectives:*** Secure funding to construct a 10,000 square foot primary care clinic with expanded general family practice, pediatric, obstetrics/gynecology, dental, and mental health services for Medi-Cal and uninsured residents.

## ***Immigration Reform / Farm Bill Reauthorization***

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Current immigration policies make it increasingly difficult to meet the workforce needs of the local agricultural industry that is highly dependent on an adequate supply of immigrant labor. The County is becoming increasingly concerned with labor shortages affecting the agricultural industry that threaten the economic vitality of the region. In California alone, the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates losses attributed to labor shortages has cost farmers millions of dollars per year as fruit and other crops are left to rot in the field because of a lack of farmworkers to bring in the harvest. The County believes the Farm Workforce Modernization Act strikes the right balance between the needs of workers and employers, as evidenced by the support it has garnered from over 300 agricultural groups, including the United Farm Workers and California Farm Bureau Federation.

The Farm Bill is a package of legislation passed roughly once every five years that has a tremendous impact on farming livelihoods, how food is grown, and what kinds of foods are grown. Covering programs ranging from crop insurance for farmers to healthy food access for low-income families, from beginning farmer training to support for sustainable farming practices, the farm bill sets the stage for our food and farm

systems. The current Farm Bill expires in September 2023. The County supports reauthorization of the Farm Bill to support the local agricultural industry, consumers, and for the natural environment. Taken together, these two policy proposals are critically important to the economic health of the Monterey County.

**Key Objectives:** Support reauthorization of the Farm Bill, including agricultural reforms that will improve health and protect the environment of all County residents through significantly strengthening federal nutrition programs, improving access to healthy food, promoting environmental stewardship and conservation, protecting our food supply, and robustly funding rural development initiatives based on best practices in coordination with local officials.

Support the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, which would establish a program for agricultural workers in the United States to earn legal status through continued agricultural employment and contribution to the U.S. agricultural economy; reform the H-2A program to provide more flexibility for employers, while ensuring critical protections for workers; and establish a nationwide E-Verify system through which agricultural employers would electronically verify the employment eligibility of their workers.

## ***FEMA Reimbursements***

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The County of Monterey Office of Emergency Services continues to work with the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to recover costs related to emergency work for the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, 2020 Wildfires, and 2021 Winter Storms. Monterey County has experienced several major disaster events and is concerned that FEMA may reduce disaster related reimbursement funding and/or change the way disaster events qualify for reimbursement. The County has submitted millions of dollars in FEMA Public Assistance grant requests to recover costs related to the declared COVID-19 emergency as well as the declared wildfires of 2020. The amount of time for these grant applications to be reviewed by FEMA has been considerable. In some cases, the County has waited two years to recover approved and expended costs for its disaster response and recovery efforts.

**Key Objectives:** Support efforts to improve the FEMA Public Assistance Program and expedite the grant award process to ensure the County is reimbursed for eligible costs as quickly as possible. Support streamlining disaster debris removal programs to ensure equity and applicability to the needs of disaster victims.



## Strategic Collaboration

In matters where legislative pursuits align or are consistent with the interests of Monterey County, support other agencies' efforts. Collaborate with neighboring cities, counties, and other agencies on large-scale projects and regional planning efforts. Maintain effective relationships with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) and National Association of Counties (NACo).



### ***California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Policy Priorities for 2023***

**Homelessness.** Counties are at the forefront of responding to California's growing homelessness crisis. Although state and local governments have made significant investments in housing and homelessness programs over the last few years, California still lacks a comprehensive, holistic strategy that provides sustained funding and clear levels of responsibility for all levels of government. CSAC is embarking on a major policy initiative through the newly created Homelessness Policy Solutions Group to develop policy solutions that map out a comprehensive system to address homelessness. Working with guidance from the CSAC Homelessness Action Team and CSAC Board-adopted Homelessness Principles, CSAC will also continue our advocacy on policies that address the causes of homelessness, calling for ongoing and flexible funding for the ongoing costs associated with providing services to unhoused residents and those at risk of homelessness, and prioritizing the development of an adequate housing continuum accessible to all Californians.

**CalAIM Implementation.** California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) is a multi-year initiative to enhance care coordination and improve health outcomes through state and federal proposals to simplify the Medi-Cal program. CalAIM has significant implications for many county health and human services functions, including behavioral health services, social services eligibility, county public hospitals, and cross-sector initiatives for foster youth and those who are homeless or justice-involved. CSAC will continue to focus on the federal, state, and local finance implications, as well as the impacts on county operations, programs, and the people served. Additionally, CSAC will continue to advocate for prioritization and funding of counties to provide services that leverage counties' existing expertise, and for the state to consult with counties in formulating and implementing all changes of this initiative.

**Behavioral Health.** The state is making significant investments in behavioral health housing, children's behavioral health services, and CalAIM. To successfully harness these investments to make transformative change requires addressing underlying county mental health plan funding shortfalls, and the expanding set of roles and responsibilities on these agencies continues to create challenges for successful progress. CSAC will advocate for behavioral health workforce assistance and adequate, sustained funding to match new services and administration expectations.

**Workforce Challenges.** Counties are facing significant workforce challenges, even as California has regained most of the nonfarm jobs lost due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While the workforce challenges are particularly acute for county health and human services and public safety agencies, nearly all county departments face recruitment and retention challenges. CSAC will engage on opportunities for increased investments to support the county workforce, as well as policies that can help counties more effectively recruit, hire, and retain qualified and talented workers.

**Drought.** As California continues to experience extreme drought, the need for state and federal investments has become more important than ever. CSAC will support counties through advocacy for



diversified regional water investments, continued watershed restoration and improved management of local water supplies. CSAC will emphasize core county roles including groundwater management, dry well monitoring and support, and water projects with co-benefits. This includes dam retrofits, flood and water-recharge investments, and support for low-income communities. CSAC will support efforts to bring options to areas with lower water availability through funding and actions with state agencies.

**Wildfire.** Hand in hand with drought comes extreme fire. CSAC will continue efforts to reduce wildfire risk through active participation in partnerships such as the Forest Management Task Force and land stewardship actions. CSAC will support efforts to increase prescribed burning with best available practices, appropriate insurance risk, and training. In addition, it is critical to invest in programs that have co-benefits of reduced community wildfire risk and watershed conservation, advocate for regional wildfire and watershed program actions, community wildfire insurance, and wildland fire risk reduction through public and private working lands.

**Cannabis.** Throughout 2022, CSAC worked to update the County Platform to better reflect the everchanging world of cannabis. CSAC will use the newly approved language to further our advocacy. The state must invest in resources to combat illegal cannabis and give counties the tools to ensure that they are able to appropriately address the fallout from unlicensed activity. However, cannabis is a major economic driver for many counties and CSAC's advocacy will go beyond enforcement to support the licensed market in new and creative ways.

**Easing Administration of the Public Records Act (PRA).** Counties and other local governments have faced an enormous increase in the number and size of PRA requests over the past few years. The intensive work required to review records and redact the material that is exempt or prohibited from disclosure has grown exponentially. Further compounding this problem is that counties must make tough judgment calls on whether to release some records, especially when doing so is specifically prohibited, for example because doing so would violate privacy laws or employee confidentiality. Counties have also seen an increase in vexatious litigants using the PRA to grind government work to a halt. CSAC will develop proposals that seek to reduce the impact of these growing issues.

**Available, Accessible & Affordable Housing.** The need for increased production of permanent housing in the state continues to be an issue of great importance. Addressing California's housing production challenges is also now broadly recognized as an important component of the state's efforts to address the rising rates of homeless and housing vulnerable families and individuals. In recent years, the state has created a variety of programs and allocated funding to improve the housing availability and affordability. Unfortunately, many of these programs often have narrow eligibility standards and cumbersome administrative processes for counties to access and administer. CSAC will continue efforts to find reasonable modifications to these programs that address local needs, as well as additional resources to assist counties in their efforts to address the housing challenges they face.

**Protecting Local Revenues.** The Legislature, for a variety of reasons, has for the past few years been reexamining some aspects of who should bear the costs of funding government. CSAC will advocate for decisions about local revenues to be made by local agencies, not the state, and will oppose legislation that would reallocate revenues away from counties or would reduce county revenues.

**CARE Court Funding/Implementation.** SB 1338, the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act, includes a requirement that the state consult with county stakeholders in developing a state allocation to counties to implement the CARE Act process. CSAC will advocate to secure adequate, flexible, and sustained funding across all impacted local agencies to support counties' efforts in this new statewide

initiative. Additionally, CSAC will advocate for any necessary changes related to implementation as planning efforts progress for all counties.

**Aging Programs.** As implementation of California’s Master Plan for Aging moves forward, CSAC will continue to engage directly on opportunities to strengthen and enhance services for older adults. One key area of focus remains the local leadership structure for aging services. The state’s newly formed CA 2030 Steering Committee includes two CSAC representatives, and is charged with examining local governance, geography, funding formulas, core services, and performance measures. CSAC will advocate for county priorities throughout this process and engage on other aging initiatives, legislation, and budget investments to help better serve the growing and more diverse aging population in our state.

**Broadband Implementation.** CSAC will continue to focus its advocacy on successful implementation of historic state investments in broadband, to ensure Californians across the state can access, adopt, and meaningfully use broadband service.

**Juvenile Justice Realignment.** Implementing juvenile justice realignment will remain a priority for years to come. Ongoing funding will be critical for the outcome of our youth and overall county success. This includes building off the \$100 million secured in last year’s budget to address treatment and secure residential capacity, as well as modernizing county-operated juvenile facilities with an emphasis on creating environments that support trauma-informed care, restorative justice, and rehabilitative programming. CSAC will continue advocating for funding, so counties are able to implement infrastructure plans that meet the short-term and long-term, individualized needs of youth. Further, CSAC will remain involved with efforts of the County Probation Consortium, designed to tackle the most complex challenges of the realigned population through direct inter-county collaboration.

## **Federal Priorities**

**Resilience.** Counties continue to prepare for and respond to increasing numbers of extreme weather events and natural disasters. CSAC will continue to work with federal agencies to implement key programs under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act, and to work closely with the California congressional delegation to pursue additional investments and reforms to various disaster preparedness, mitigation, and response programs.

**Housing and Homelessness.** California’s affordable housing and homelessness crises continue to impact counties statewide. CSAC will continue to work with key members of the California congressional delegation, several of whom have championed a series of association-supported housing and homelessness initiatives. CSAC also will work to protect and enhance funding for key housing and homelessness programs administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Protecting and Strengthening the Social Safety Net.** Entitlement reform and potential discretionary budget cuts are expected to be hot-button issues during the 2023 legislative session and beyond. As lawmakers consider the possibility of a wide-ranging budget and debt-ceiling package, CSAC will work with allies to protect key county-administered safety net programs.

**Rural Development and Public Lands.** With the current farm bill set to expire at the end of fiscal year 2023, Congress will focus on reauthorizing the law. CSAC will advocate for a robust rural development title and will seek to maintain and expand funding and eligibility for key nutrition programs, including SNAP/CalFresh. In addition, and as Congress considers modifying federal forest management policy, CSAC will support efforts to enhance wildfire protection, preparedness, and forest resiliency. Finally, CSAC will advocate for a long-term reauthorization of both the Payments in Lieu of Taxes program and the Secure Rural Schools program, including support for the National Center for Public Lands Counties.



## ***Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) 2023-24 Policy Principles***

The RCRC Board of Directors regularly adopts a set of Policy Principles that guide legislative and regulatory advocacy efforts for the organization. These Policy Principles guide the organization's priorities on broad categories and specific issues and allow RCRC staff to take formal positions on individual pieces of legislation and regulatory proposals each year. A link to the full document can be found here: [Principles](#). Per RCRC staff, some of the major policy issues the organization expects to focus on in 2023 include:

- Continued engagement on energy issues.
- Work on interstate agreements involving cannabis.
- Vigilance on water rights and water supply reliability.
- CARE Court implementation.
- Ensuring disbursement of broadband funding.
- Land Use planning as it relates to housing, homelessness, and building in the wildland urban interface (WUI).
- Forest stewardship, including vegetation management.



## ***National Association of Counties (NACo) 2023 Policy Priorities***

The American County Platform is NACo's permanent policy document, which is updated each year at the annual meeting. It's divided into substantive policy areas covered by ten policy steering committees; the platform reflects the philosophy and broad objectives of NACo's membership. Additionally, NACo sets forth policy priorities on an annual basis. For 2023, the NACo Policy Priorities include:

- Counties play an instrumental role in the overall public administration and governance of federal, state, and local policies, programs, and services.
- Restore the Balance of Federalism and Optimize Intergovernmental Partnerships
- Seize Legislative Opportunities to Improve the Implementation of the American Rescue Plan Act's Fiscal Recovery Funds
- Successful Implementation of the County-Related Provisions of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Inflation Reduction Act & the CHIPS and Science Act
- Promote Health Equity by Reforming the Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy, Passage of Mental Health, Substance Use Treatment Legislation, and Consideration of Other Criminal Justice Reforms
- Secure the Inclusion of County Priorities in 2023 Farm Bill Reauthorization
- Boost Advanced Broadband Deployment and Accessibility While Preserving Local Decision-Making
- Support Full Funding for Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) Program
- Promote County Priorities and Local Decision-Making in Future U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Other Federal Rulemaking
- Maintain Election Integrity and Strengthen Election Worker Safety
- Enhance Community Resilience through Regional and Local Disaster Preparedness
- Promote Workforce and Housing Opportunities and Supportive Services for County Residents to Support Economic Recovery

## Economic Development

### ***Legislative Principles – Economic Development***

#### **General**

Support the County's ability to enhance the quality of life, well-being, prosperity, health, safety, livelihood, art, libraries, culture, recreation, housing, and education (e.g., early childhood development, cradle to career initiative) of Monterey County residents. Support policies and programs that protect consumers. Advocate for resources and policies that help families achieve self-sufficiency (i.e., providing critical support services such as child care, providing student debt relief, etc.). Child care plays a key role in the ability for parents to return to the workforce and/or retrain for the current labor market demands. Support job training, and public or private efforts, to stabilize and enhance jobs and economic growth. Support efforts to protect communities of color who are over-represented in essential jobs that increase their exposure to communicable diseases. Support efforts to address high rates of poverty and low wages which create greater risks of economic disruption. Support policies and programs that promote health, equity, and neighborhood sustainability, safeguard the preservation of prime agricultural lands and natural open spaces, and improve the environment and protect environmentally sensitive areas in order to ensure a diversified and healthy economy. Support funding, policies, and programs that remove barriers to local industries reaching their full economic potential and acting as regional economic generators.

#### **Agriculture**

Support efforts to protect and promote agriculture, farm worker health and safety, the protection of public health and the environment, and the assurance of a fair marketplace. Support efforts to provide agricultural research and education activities. Support efforts to protect and preserve prime agricultural lands (e.g., Williamson Act funding). Support pest detection and pest management programs and invasive weed prevention programs. Support efforts to ensure the success of the local cannabis and industrial hemp industries, while addressing the tax, regulatory, policy, enforcement, education, health, environment, and safety of our communities as related to both cannabis and hemp.

#### **Housing & Homelessness**

Support efforts that incentivize affordable housing and fund the creation of housing, especially affordable housing and affordable rental housing for extremely low, very low, and low-income county residents and those with special needs (e.g., farm workers, veterans, seniors, the disabled, families with children, and people experiencing homelessness). Work to streamline processes which create barriers or delays to the development of affordable housing projects and fair access to housing. Support efforts to address the unique needs of individuals and families experiencing or at-risk of homelessness, and equitably allocate funding to address the homeless and housing crises.

#### **Military Installations**

Monterey County has a long and proud military history and is honored to support the ten military missions located here which provide many local jobs. Safeguarding and strengthening local military missions is critical to our national security and local economic strength. Support efforts to assist in military base reuse, especially the redevelopment and blight removal of lands on the former Fort Ord, and to replace jobs lost because of the base closure. Support efforts to enhance, grow and protect national security assets in the Monterey Bay Area (i.e., Monterey Bay Defense Alliance), and oppose Base Realignment and

Closure (BRAC) and similar Department of Defense proposals, which would diminish local missions, negatively impacting the regional economy.

### **Sustainable Job Growth**

Support efforts to fund development of regional countywide economic development plans that balance environmental and economic considerations in furtherance of jobs key to the pillar industries of economic development in the County: agriculture, tourism, small business, higher education, and marine research. Support efforts to promote a strong state and county economy, and provide a healthy environment to retain, expand, and attract business and economic development. Support efforts to expand broadband infrastructure to provide high-speed internet to underserved areas of the County, and to retain local authority to assess fees and control placement of new wireless facilities. Support legislative, policy or regulatory efforts that provide local governments with economic and community development tools (e.g., opportunity zones) and encourage compliance with state-mandated regional planning strategies. Support efforts that promote ecotourism and wellness, Edu-tourism, Blue Economy research and development, emerging technologies (drone automation and robotics technology), and Agri-Technology that further economic and employment growth.

### **Workforce Development and Working Families**

Support efforts to fund workforce development initiatives (e.g., youth and veterans' employment and leadership programs) to ensure the continuity of employment, and training programs to stimulate economic growth through the creation of a trained and skilled workforce. Ensure public investments in roads, transit, sewers, and other community infrastructure are made in ways that create job opportunities for people residing in Monterey County who are underemployed and unemployed. Support efforts to prepare youth for future self-sufficiency and prevent youth violence and crime. Support working family initiatives that balance work and care-giving obligations such as: workplace flexibility and access to paid leave; affordable, quality child/elder care; and equal pay.

## ***Legislative Priorities – Economic Development***

### **Agriculture**

Agriculture is the cornerstone of prosperity in Monterey County. Support for agriculture is critical to the economic vitality of the region, State, and nation. The Salinas Valley is known as the “salad bowl” of the world and produces diverse vegetable crops, strawberries, and is a major producer of high-quality varietal wine grapes. Adequate transportation system maintenance and capacity, along with the security of County water supplies (e.g., water rights, storage, reuse, and financing) is critical to the health of the local agricultural economy.

The Farm Bill is a package of legislation passed roughly once every five years that has a tremendous impact on farming livelihoods, how food is grown, and what kinds of foods are grown. Covering programs ranging from crop insurance for farmers to healthy food access for low-income families, from beginning farmer training to support for sustainable farming practices, the farm bill sets the stage for our food and farm systems. The current Farm Bill expires in September 2023. The County supports reauthorization of the Farm Bill to support the local agricultural industry, consumers, and for the natural environment.

## Key Objectives:

Support efforts to secure and enhance Monterey County's water resources for agriculture (e.g., water rights, storage, reuse, financing); secure funding for transportation infrastructure that supports the agricultural industry; protect prime agricultural lands (i.e., Williamson Act, conservation easements); and promote agriculture and agritourism.

Support reauthorization of the Farm Bill, including agricultural reforms that will improve health and protect the environment of all County residents through significantly strengthening federal nutrition programs, improving access to healthy food, promoting environmental stewardship and conservation, protecting our food supply, and robustly funding rural development initiatives based on best practices in coordination with local officials.

## ➤ Cannabis

Monterey County is ranked fourth in California cannabis cultivation by license count by the Department of Cannabis Control (DCC). Since July 2021, California's cannabis industry has been in crisis due to an oversupply of product. A growing number of operators cannot pay their local and state taxes and have requested to defer their tax liabilities so that they may fund other pressing needs, such as payroll and expenses related to meeting local and state licensing requirements. Monterey County has seen 35 cannabis business closures since 2016, including 9 in the last year. On an annual basis these closures collectively represent losses of approximately \$1.3 million in local cultivation tax revenue and 500 jobs, which represents approximately 20% of the cannabis workforce at its peak in July 2021.

The Monterey County Cannabis Program provides a local framework for the management of licensed commercial cannabis activities in coordination with state agencies to address taxation, regulation, enforcement, education, and the protection of the health, environment, and safety of our communities. Outstanding issues that need to be addressed for the Program to be successful as follows:

**Federal Legalization:** Californians voted to allow for the recreational cultivation, sale, and use of cannabis, however the federal government's ban poses serious roadblocks and risks. State and local control must be respected on the regulation and enforcement of these issues. The federal government should declassify cannabis as a Schedule I drug and remove all conflicts under federal law; allow banking services for the cannabis industry to reduce the public safety issues posed by a cash-based industry; and adopt national standards for the cannabis industry to facilitate trade.

**Stabilize the Cannabis Industry:** Legislative action is needed to aid in stabilizing the cannabis industry, which has been heavily impacted by a market downturn that began in July 2021. State tax reform could provide additional relief via a reduced cannabis excise tax rate, as could implementation of SB 1326 – which authorizes the Governor to enter into agreements with other states that have also legalized commercial cannabis business to be licensed, allowing transportation of cannabis goods between licensed operators across state lines. Monterey County was awarded \$1.7 million through the Local Jurisdiction Assistance Grant Program offered by the DCC, which is primarily being utilized to assist operators in meeting local requirements. The County supports any legislation that would result in additional funding and/or flexibility for operators to convert from provisional to annual state licenses and requiring the DCC to cap the number of cultivation licenses approved.

**Enforcement:** The State should fully enforce cannabis regulations and provide direct resources to local law enforcement agencies for cannabis related enforcement activities. Combatting unlicensed cannabis is a key public safety issue and there should be dedicated resources for the active enforcement of such activities on public lands.

**Local Access to Metrc (Track-n-Trace) System:** The County supports DCC's continued efforts allow local jurisdictions to access to Metrc the track-n-trace system that all licensees are required to enter seed to sale information into. The County depends on cannabis tax revenue to support regulatory schemes and enforcement. Allowing local access would enable the validation of transactions to ensure that cannabis goods are moving appropriately through the supply chain and that taxes are being appropriately assessed.

**War on Drugs:** The County supports policies, particularly those with grant funding opportunities, that address harms caused by the War on Drugs to local residents. The County was awarded a Cannabis Equity Grant to work on implementation of the *Growing Equity Together Program*.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to: reform banking regulations for cannabis-related businesses; legalize cannabis at the Federal level; provide funding for cannabis-related enforcement; fund and implement cannabis equity programs; reduce state cannabis excise tax; gain access to Metrc for local jurisdictions; implement interstate agreements (SB 1326); and stabilize the cannabis industry.

## **➤ Industrial Hemp**

The California Industrial Hemp Act became effective on January 1, 2017, and made the cultivation of industrial hemp for fiber, seed, and extracts legal at the federal and state levels. Industrial hemp production includes cultivation of cannabis sativa plants, the same species of plant cultivated for the cannabis market. What differentiates legally between industrial hemp and cannabis varieties is the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) present in the flowering tops - under 0.3% THC is defined as hemp, and greater than 0.3% THC is defined as cannabis.

In 2019, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 5314 establishing a pilot program for the cultivation and processing of industrial hemp in the inland unincorporated areas of the County. This ordinance added Chapter 21.49 to Title 21 (non-coastal zoning) of the designation (HMP district) establishing industrial hemp cultivation as an allowed use subject to certain restrictions under the pilot program and development of new industrial hemp processing plants with a use permit. The ordinance requires approval of registration by the Monterey County Agricultural Commissioner, limits the number of industrial hemp cultivation registrations that may be issued (not to exceed 30), provides for a maximum cultivated area of 100 acres per registration, and requires a three-mile setback from existing legal commercial cannabis cultivation sites unless the setback is reduced or waived by mutual consent of the industrial hemp cultivator and the cannabis cultivator.

In May 2020, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors updated the ordinance with the passage and adoption of Ordinance No. 5327, which re-opened registration for qualified operations; extended the length of the Industrial Hemp Pilot Program for a three-year period ending on December 31, 2022, allowed for split-parcel zoning – potentially allowing previously excluded portions of parcels to be included in the HMP District, and banned the use of artificial lights.

**Funding for Enforcement:** The County is under contract with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to perform work under the CDFA Industrial Hemp Cultivation Program. Maximum



funding under the contract is \$49,250. CDFA recognizes this funding level will not cover all costs incurred by counties for enforcement activities. The County may consider establishment of a fee for Industrial Hemp cultivation pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code Section 81005. (c) which provides that: “The board of supervisors of a county may establish a reasonable fee, in an amount necessary to cover the actual costs of the commissioner and the county of implementing, administering, and enforcing the provisions of this division, except for costs that are otherwise reimbursed pursuant to subdivision (b), to be charged and collected by the commissioner upon registrations or renewals required pursuant to Section 81003 or 81004 and retained by the commissioner or the county, as appropriate. *(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 838, Sec. 9. (SB 153) Effective January 1, 2020.)*”

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to increase funding for enforcement activities. Support efforts to develop uniform pesticide and other contaminant standards. Support efforts to fund local research of industrial hemp cultivation especially research of pollen travel and contamination.

## **Arts & Culture**

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Strengthening arts and cultural assets is vital to community development and can significantly contribute to economic development. Assets include those related to entertainment (e.g., theaters, performing groups), personal development (e.g., community centers, libraries, bookstores), education (e.g., schools, museums), and communities (e.g., cultural events/festivals). A flourishing arts and culture sector can affect where workers want to live and as such is important for workforce recruitment and retention. Arts and cultural activities also promote economic development by attracting visitors and increasing the length of time and money they spend.

**Libraries:** The Monterey County Free Library (MCFL) operates sixteen branch libraries, three bookmobiles, a library by mail program, deposit collections in local schools, and several special programs, including a literacy program which serves adult literacy, family literacy, and English as a Second Language literacy along with completion of high school, and career development. Free library services are provided to all residents of Monterey County.

MCFL serves as a community physical and digital hub, equipped to serve evolving and diverse community needs in such areas as: literacy; education; lifelong learning; health information; workforce development and career support; economic and business development; digital literacy; critical thinking; financial literacy; new and emerging technologies; after-school-programming; veterans services; connections to other agencies; and assistance to vulnerable populations. Libraries have been drivers for equity and inclusion during the COVID-19 pandemic, as they are every day, and services continue to evolve based on community needs.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts that expand, strengthen, and support art and cultural activities and facilities, which improve the education, health, and well-being of both visitors and those who live in our communities. Support efforts to equip and empower public libraries to act as cultural hubs of understanding and inclusion in public programming including materials, programs, and services to meet equity, diversity, and inclusion goals. Programs and services should include funding for art displays, cultural programming, access to meeting rooms for community groups, and expert logistical support. Support use of public libraries as community anchor institutions for digital inclusion, including provision of high-speed and



accessible broadband access, ongoing digital literacy education, and community connection to other agencies and resources. Support addition and enhancement of public libraries as flexible community services locations, including for use by community groups, in disasters, and for arts and culture opportunities throughout the County of Monterey.

## **Broadband & Telecommunication Services**

Historic investments by the federal and state governments in last-mile and middle-mile broadband infrastructure lay the foundation for community resilience, economic and educational opportunity. Digital access and digital literacy are linked with social equity, the ability to connect with essential services, and democratic participation – and are important factors in the social determinants of health.

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the critical utility of broadband infrastructure and shed national light on the benchmark definition versus the reality of existing reliable and affordable services in the rural and urban communities such as Monterey County. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) standard for broadband speed is 25 megabits per second (Mbps) download and 3 Mbps upload. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) defines unserved and underserved households and businesses as those not currently meeting the FCC standards. Under this standard, large regions of Monterey County remain unserved or underserved including areas in Big Sur, Cachagua, North County (Aromas, Los Lomas, North County canyons) and South County.

The FCC has developed a Broadband Map which displays where Internet services are available across the United States, as reported by Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to the FCC. The map will be updated continuously to improve its accuracy through a combination of FCC verification efforts, new data from Internet providers, updates to the location data, and—importantly—information from the public. The map contains discrepancies related to coverage within Monterey County and outreach efforts are needed to encourage residents to test their broadband connectivity so that essential and accurate crowd-sourced broadband connectivity data can be provided to the FCC database.

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more. According to the California Emergency Technology Fund (CETF) ACP enrollment tracker, as of November 2022, Monterey County has 61,142 eligible households (47% of total households) that qualify for ACP, however, only 11,833, or 19% of eligible households, have enrolled. Outreach efforts are needed to promote adoption and leverage community service partners that share the same population of focus and have access to services that complement digital literacy. One such example is the [Digital Navigators program](#) through participating libraries.

Telecommunication services, which are usually integrated with broadband services by providers, are extremely limited or non-existent in some parts of Monterey County, with cellular network strengths varying depending on the topology, time of day, weather, and location. A more robust network is needed, especially in remote, highly trafficked tourist destinations like Big Sur. It has yet to be economically and environmentally feasible for providers to expand services into many areas. However, recent wildfires and other emergencies highlight the need for dependable communications for residents, visitors, and first responders.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to expand access to broadband and telecommunication services to unserved and underserved areas of Monterey County (e.g., County, or other agency's grant proposals, public-private

partnerships, state universal broadband bond, etc.) and increase internet speeds. Support efforts to address affordability (e.g., California LifeLine Program, Affordable Connectivity Program). Support efforts to reform existing state programs to expand internet access, generate needed revenue, and make it easier for local governments to obtain funding to move local projects forward. Support efforts to regulate broadband/internet access as a utility by the Federal Communications Commission and California Public Utilities Commission. Support efforts to regulate access fairly and equitably to telecommunications services, removing barriers and providing adaptations for all unserved and underserved rural and urban regions. Support expedited construction of the middle-mile in Monterey County that enables providers to submit last-mile proposals. Support FCC Broadband Map accuracy outreach efforts.

## Housing

In 2021, Monterey County partnered with the local continuum of care to release a housing market analysis, where it was revealed that for every household below 30% Area Median Income (AMI), only 16 units were affordable; for every household below 50% AMI, there were only 28 units available. The need for increased production of permanent housing in the state continues to be an issue of great importance. Addressing California's housing production challenges is also now broadly recognized as an important component of the state's efforts to address the rising rates of homeless and housing vulnerable families and individuals. In recent years, the state has created a variety of programs and allocated funding to improve the housing availability and affordability. Unfortunately, many of these programs have narrow eligibility standards and often have a cumbersome administrative process for counties to access and administer. Monterey County supports efforts to find reasonable modifications to these programs and address state efforts that hinder housing production, as well as additional resources to assist in efforts to address housing challenges.

Available and affordable housing is integral to the health and well-being of County residents and an important element for social and racial equity, environmental justice, and economic development. It is critical that people have the option to live near their workplace, particularly those workers most essential to the local economy (e.g., farmworkers, teachers, emergency service workers, nurses, child care providers), many of whom find that housing is priced beyond their reach. When people can afford to live close to their jobs, entire communities reap the benefits. Commute times and traffic congestion ease, neighborhoods are more diverse and provide the opportunity for families to live and grow in one place, and economies strengthen by helping employers attract and retain essential workers. Therefore, Monterey County supports policies, funding, and programs that support additional multi-family, farmworker, disabled, senior, veterans, homeless, and workforce housing opportunities to assure an adequate supply of low-cost and affordable housing stock are needed.

**HUD – CDBG & HOME Programs:** State and Federal programs are important sources of funding to help local communities develop affordable housing. Currently Monterey County receives \$1.2 million annually in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) which supports community development and infrastructure needs ancillary to housing development, and services for low-income and moderate-income persons. Increasing CDBG funding and expanding the program to allow funding to be used for new housing construction would be a powerful tool for local governments. HUD also offers the HOME Investment Partnership Program which funds new housing construction. An increase in HOME funding is needed for the County, as part of a consortium, to consider participating. New permanent financing sources are needed to address housing needs at all income levels and to provide adequate housing subsidies for households.

**Project Homekey:** Project Homekey allows local governments to develop a broad range of housing types based on local community needs, including but not limited to hotels, motels, hostels, single-family homes, multifamily apartments, adult residential facilities, and manufactured housing, and to convert commercial properties and other existing buildings to permanent or interim housing. The County supports the ongoing funding and resources to continue this program. In addition, the County supports any initiatives that increase State and federal coordination to address inconsistent or conflicting policies, as experienced with the first round of Homekey funding. Federal requirements surrounding environmental reviews conflicted with the State's implementation/expenditure timeline requirements and CEQA waivers which caused the project to experience severe setbacks and halts in construction. Such inconsistencies may lead to non-compliance.

**Housing Vouchers:** In order to build more affordable housing and assist residents in need of subsidized housing opportunities, increased access to public housing, and vouchers programs is needed. Voucher programs need to meet the high cost of rent in Monterey County and the area's Fair Market Rents (FMR) as demonstrated in the 2022 fair market rate study that led to a 36% increase – the highest in the nation.

**Flexible Housing Subsidy Programs:** The State can assist communities to implement flexible housing subsidy programs, intended to provide housing stability to those at risk of experiencing homelessness. Subsidy pools centralize the management of housing resources under a single operator to match resources to eligible households, provide housing navigation and placement services, and provide flexibility in funding that can be utilized in several ways to close the funding gaps that serve as barriers to securing housing. **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit:** Increasing access to the Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program is needed to provide funding opportunities to developers. Currently, the LIHTC Program can take developers several rounds and years of delays to fund low-income multi-family housing developments.

**Barriers to Housing Production:** Some of the biggest barriers to affordable and market rate housing construction are the development of necessary infrastructure, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and development impact fees, and the threat of litigation over CEQA and land use issues. Major infrastructure is needed for the development of housing (e.g., sewer, water, roads, transit, and other infrastructure). Supporting the expansion of CEQA exemptions for affordable housing infill projects and policies which provide protections for affordable housing and market rate developers (e.g., litigation) would help alleviate these concerns. Supporting policies that remove barriers to housing developments related to State Minimum Fire Safe Regulations.

**Local Housing Trust Fund:** Increasingly, local communities are creating housing trust funds as a means to find local solutions to California's affordable housing crisis. The Board of Supervisors has historically expressed an interest in supporting the formation of a local housing trust fund to finance construction of affordable housing within the County. Housing funding opportunities are critical to get developers the funding they need to kick start local projects. The County of Monterey will establish the Monterey County Housing Trust Fund (MCHTF), which is an important step towards providing a local source of financing. Establishing the MCHTF will allow the County to invest in housing projects to house those experiencing homelessness, farm workers, and other disadvantaged populations.

**RHNA Credit Allocation:** State law requires cities and counties to meet housing production goals as defined by the Housing Elements Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) or to face penalties. New state housing funding (e.g., Healthy Homes California, No Place Like Home) is geared to incentivize housing production and collaboration as the funds can be spent anywhere countywide. However, if the housing is built within city's boundaries – not the urban county unincorporated area – the city receives the full RHNA credit, while the county which put extensive effort into the development of the project, receives no direct

RHNA credit. Monterey County is supportive of policy changes that allow for RHNA credits to be allocated through a regional approach that truly reflects collaborative housing development efforts.

**Farmworker Housing:** The 2018 Farmworker Housing Study and Action Plan for Salinas Valley and Pajaro Valley, prepared by the California Institute for Rural Studies, estimated that in 2016 the number of workers in the region employed in agriculture was 91,433, and stated that farmworker housing in the region is severely overcrowded. Based on the data, 45,560 additional units of farmworker housing are needed to alleviate critical overcrowding in farmworker households. Additionally, state funding programs and resources (e.g., Joe Serna, Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Program) are needed to build affordable farmworker housing. Infrastructure funding opportunities are needed to ensure farmworker housing is built in locations that are close to communities and existing transit and other opportunities.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts and funding to increase the supply of affordable and accessible housing production to meet County needs, especially rental housing, and housing for special need populations, with a preference for infill projects. Support funding resources to address homelessness issues locally. Support efforts to fund infrastructure (e.g., water, sewer) to support affordable housing development. Support the expansion of CEQA exemptions for affordable housing infill projects with infrastructure. Support policies which provide protections for affordable housing developers (e.g., litigation). Support permanent status of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit. Support funding for programs that help get people into affordable housing and avoid displacement or homelessness (e.g., Project Homekey and the Flexible Housing Subsidy Program). Support reform of housing element laws, and changes to eliminate or reduce school impact fees for employer sponsored housing projects. Support the development of tools that assist in affordable housing production (e.g., Local Housing Trust Fund); and affordable housing preservation (e.g., Community Land Trust). Support regional approaches to affordable development which allow cities/county to share in Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) credits. Support an appropriate balance between statewide goals for housing production and affordability while maintaining appropriate discretion for Counties in implementing these policies through locally driven plans.

## **Immigration**

The County strives to support and defend the civil and human rights of all residents, including those that are foreign-born. Immigrants comprise over 30% of the total population, and at 21.7% Monterey County has the highest percentage of non-citizens of any California county. The County's immigrant population, including undocumented immigrants, is a critical component of the local labor force, especially for the County's two largest industries – agriculture and hospitality. The contributions of immigrants to the economic, cultural, and social well-being of our community are a source of pride for the County, and the County recognizes the importance of maintaining an environment of trust and safety for immigrants who choose to make Monterey County their home.

The Board of Supervisors has proudly supported the County's immigrant community by supporting comprehensive immigration reform which includes a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants; removing Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) from the County jail and declaring Monterey County a "Welcoming County"; supporting reinstatement of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and becoming the first "Dreamers County" in the nation; supporting the Farm Workforce Modernization Act; and opposing policies that seek to discriminate against individuals based on their immigration status.

**Key Objectives:**

Support policies that provide permanent legal status and a path to citizenship for Dreamers. Support policies that extend Temporary Protected Status for qualifying individuals. Support policies that establish effective nonimmigrant visa programs that address the workforce needs of the agriculture and hospitality industries. Oppose legislative and executive actions that seek to punish local governments for failure to assist with federal immigration enforcement actions. Oppose legislative and executive actions that unlawfully discriminate against immigrants based on their country of origin. Oppose legislative and executive actions that restrict public benefits to immigrants. Support comprehensive immigration reform legislation that addresses the County's labor force needs and provides a path to citizenship for the nation's undocumented immigrant population. Support efforts to increase language access, ensure access to health care, facilitate naturalization, extend voting rights, and build leadership development pipelines for immigrants.

**Labor Force**

The availability of skilled and unskilled labor is critical to economic development activities across all sectors. Monterey County's economy is primarily based on agriculture and tourism, both of which are highly dependent on an adequate labor supply. An aging worker population and current immigration policies make it increasingly difficult to meet these workforce needs.

The lack of agricultural workers is one of the largest challenges facing our local industry today. However, industry sources report that they are increasingly affected by labor shortages that jeopardize the local economy, the hospitality industry, and the availability of agricultural goods for national and international shipment. The California Farm Bureau reports that over half of the farmers in California are experiencing labor shortages and that fewer potential employees are applying for seasonal harvest jobs despite increased recruiting efforts, higher wages offered and other incentives.

Like many employers, Monterey County is facing significant workforce challenges as public and private sector employers compete for a diminishing number of qualified employees. While the need for skilled and licensed professionals is particularly acute, the tight labor supply is impacting many industries across skill levels, including entry-level positions. All entities within county health and human services agencies, including public health, behavioral health, human services, aging services, and child care are dealing with these obstacles.

**Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to implement comprehensive federal immigration reform to ensure that Monterey County has an adequate labor supply for all economic sectors. Oppose efforts to implement restrictive immigration policies that threaten the economic well-being of Monterey County residents. Support policies that promote a greater investment in higher education, training and retaining health care professionals, social workers, and child care workers to meet local workforce needs. Support policies that help counties more effectively recruit, hire, and retain qualified and talented workers.

## Rising Fuel Costs

Rising oil and gas prices have and continue to cause economic burdens on County constituents by its chain-sequence effect on the economy. Fuel prices affect the cost of growing produce and manufacturing goods, as well as increasing the cost of transporting goods. Increased costs are passed down to consumers, who all the while, are paying inflated prices for fuel to drive to their workplace or other destination. In addition, the increase in fuel costs directly and negatively impacts construction costs of critical County projects. The Governor and Legislature have introduced a plan to address rising fuel costs and the impacts to Californians.

### Key Objectives:

Support efforts by the Governor and State Legislature to address rising fuel prices in California.

## Tourism

In 2021, tourism spending in Monterey County was \$2.54billion and remained the top industry on the Monterey Peninsula and the second largest industry in Monterey County. Tourism supports more than 21,000 jobs and generates \$146 million in local tax revenues (e.g., sales tax, transient occupancy tax). This revenue provides communities with vital tax resources needed to invest in infrastructure improvements, programs and projects that benefit residents. While travel in Monterey County during 2021 continued to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, it significantly recovered from the low in 2020.

Monterey County has an abundance of open or undeveloped space and unique natural environments which lend themselves to tourism, eco-tourism, sustainable-tourism, and cultural-heritage tourism (e.g., Pinnacles National Park, Fort Ord National Monument, and numerous State, Regional and County parks). With proper marketing these assets can attract visitors for longer stays and more frequent visits, which benefit the local economy through increased visitor spending on lodging, food, retail, and other services. The attraction of recreational enthusiasts encourages the establishment of manufacturing, retail and service businesses which cater to the recreational equipment needs of visitors and residents. Tourism benefits can also be gained by collaborating with the Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau and national organizations such as Brand USA and the State of California Travel Program. Traffic congestion acts as a deterrent to tourist, exacerbating the need to support transportation and infrastructure projects which improve public safety, enhance roadway capacity, provide for more public transportation, and improve coastal and trail access for residents and visitors.

### Key Objectives:

Support efforts that promote tourism, eco-tourism, sustainable-tourism, and cultural-heritage tourism, including support for federal, state, and local conservation and recreation areas; partner with other agencies to leverage the benefits of tourism to increase economic growth, create jobs, generate tax revenue, and boost U.S. exports; fund infrastructure improvements and capital projects that support visitor travel and tourism.



## Workforce Development

The Workforce Development Board coordinates and leverages local workforce strategies with education and economic development stakeholders to ensure that workforce development and job training programs meet the needs of employers. Investments in workforce development create a comprehensive system to provide our community with a highly skilled workforce that competes in the local, regional, and global economy. Monterey County receives funding through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) to manage programs to assist with local workforce investment needs.

### Key Objectives:

Support reauthorization of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), including expanded funding for a business-led Workforce Development Board governed and supported by local leaders. Support the America's Job Center of California's centers in Monterey County, which focus on the needs of job seekers and businesses to ensure workers have access to critical employment programs, services, and training opportunities. Support funding for personal financial management education services. Support funding for career pathways for existing local and potential new industries, including securing resources and developing additional workforce of licensed mental health professionals due to the extreme shortage in the California labor market and increasing demand for mental health services.

## Youth Employment

Youth employment programs are nationally recognized for preventing youth violence and bringing hope and opportunity to communities. Such programs are highlighted as one of the five strategies in the Office for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Comprehensive Gang Prevention Model. In Monterey County gang issues, violence and crime steal the futures of all too many young people. Providing local youths with employment opportunities goes a long way toward ending youth violence and criminal gang involvement and is a priority for the County and its many city and community partners. A cradle to career initiative (Bright Futures) is developing connections across the County to support children, youth, and adults to attain their educational goals and find gainful local employment. Summer and year-round youth employment and leadership programs prepare youth for future self-sufficiency, prevent youth violence and crime, and support businesses and organizations. The Monterey County Workforce Development Board has several job training and youth leadership programs for young adults between the ages of 18-24, that are focused on low-income, homeless and justice involved youth, with the end goal of getting young adults into, jobs, or post-secondary education.

### Key Objectives:

Support efforts to enhance funding for summer youth employment and training programs and expand funding for year-round programs to better prepare youth for future self-sufficiency and prevent youth violence and crime. Support programs such as the CaliforniasForAll Youth Job Corps programs that provide out of school youth aged 16-30 the opportunity for job training programs, summer employment, and community service, while meeting critical needs of climate change and food insecurity in Monterey County.

## Administration

### ***Legislative Principles – Administration***

#### **General**

Support legislative and regulatory efforts that protect and enhance local governments' revenues, maximize County access to state and federal funding sources and increase local funding flexibility. Support efforts to increase local authority and control over revenues, governance, and service delivery – as well as protect the County against federal and state mandates that constrict its ability to manage its own affairs. Support efforts to provide funding or reimbursement at the actual cost of doing business for County administered programs, projects, and responsibilities. Support efforts to recruit and retain a highly skilled and professional county workforce, provide staff opportunities for professional development, and promote the recognition of employees as professionals in their fields. Protect the attorney-client privilege. Support full funding for mandated programs and oppose unfunded mandates and the imposition of unreasonable or unnecessary legislative, administrative, or regulatory burdens that add costs or risks to County and local operations. Support efforts to provide increased training opportunities to County staff to ensure public health and safety.

#### **Government Efficiency & Privacy**

Support efforts to modernize the governance structure of County divisions and agencies or enter into strategic partnerships to improve the efficient delivery of government services. Support efforts to streamline operations, enhance access and use of digital and other information technologies, and add flexibility and discretion for counties to manage programs in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible. Support policies that promote net neutrality and open access to information in any format. Support efforts to increase data privacy and cybersecurity, limit third party access to data, safeguard against data breaches, and guard against election interference.

#### **Local Revenue Generation**

Support efforts that preserve the County's autonomy as the fiscal manager, administrator, and policy-making entity related to County funds. Support expanded authority to generate voter approved revenues at the local level. Protect the County's revenue sources, especially property, sales, commercial cannabis business and transient occupancy taxes. Oppose efforts to restrict, limit or eliminate local taxing authority and policies that have the effect of reducing revenues to state and local government (e.g., the tax-exempt status of municipal bond interest, and the deduction for state and local taxes). Support the County's authority to engage in public-private partnerships and other alternative financing mechanisms for infrastructure development.

#### **Civil Rights & Civic Engagement**

Support efforts that respect civil rights, provide equal opportunity for all, and pursue equity in all operations by developing a culture of diversity and inclusion. Support efforts to improve services to Limited English Proficiency (LEP) persons by providing services in the language spoken by our residents, including indigenous languages and American Sign Language. Support efforts to increase access to County services by virtual means and to increase virtual participation in government by the public and persons with disabilities using adaptive or assistive devices. Support efforts to improve the California Civil Rights Department's (CRD) discrimination, harassment, and retaliation investigative process. Support efforts to increase diversity and inclusion in government boards, commissions, and committees. Support efforts to



continue the ability for public bodies subject to the Brown Act to hold public meetings remotely to support greater participation by those elected/appointed to serve on those bodies and local residents. Support efforts to designate State funding for stipends for those elected/appointed to serve on local government Brown Act commissions. Support efforts to designate State funding to local governments for translation and interpretation services to support participation in government by County residents. Support efforts to defend and protect reproductive freedom, including the right to access safe, legal abortion services. Support legislation to codify the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade*. Support efforts to defend and protect marriage equality, including the Respect for Marriage Act, which would grant protections to same-sex and interracial couples. Support efforts to protect the constitutional rights and voting rights of County residents, the integrity of the election process, and equitable access to voter registration and voting. Support efforts to reform the election process and fund election administration to ensure reform efforts can be implemented. Support policies that create efficiencies and reduce costs in elections administration.

## ***Legislative Priorities – Administration***

### **Brown Act**

The Ralph M. Brown Act (the Brown Act) is intended to facilitate public participation in local government decisions and imposes an “open meeting” requirement on local legislative bodies. Among its many provisions, the Brown Act ensures that public decisions are deliberated on and made in public, at noticed meetings, in which the public can participate. Counties are committed to ensuring the public’s right to access public meetings and scrutinize the decisions of public officials. Recognizing the clear benefits of open meetings, Monterey County supports efforts that maximize local control and flexibility while maintaining transparency and accountability under the following framework.

- The people must retain “the right of access to information concerning the conduct of the people’s business, and, therefore, the meetings of public bodies and the writings of public officials and agencies shall be open to public scrutiny,” as granted by the state constitution.
- State law should allow counties to design local rules regarding the safe and efficient use of remote meeting options by elected and appointed officials and members of the public in order to promote greater participation, reduce travel barriers, and increase equity and inclusion. Remote participation might require different rules or limitations than in-person participation.
- Local legislative bodies should be able under the law to effectively manage meetings so that they can constructively accomplish the people’s business while meeting the intent of the state’s open meeting laws.
- Public meetings should be safe, accessible, and welcoming environments where community members can peaceably assemble and attend the people’s business without being threatened, harassed, or subjected to unacceptably disruptive behavior.
- The requirements of the Brown Act for local open meetings should not be more stringent than the requirements of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act for the state’s open meetings.

### **Public Records Act**

The California Public Records Act (CPRA) is intended to ensure that governmental records are disclosed to the public, upon request, unless there is a specific reason not to do so. Counties and other local

governments have faced an enormous increase in the number and size of requests over the past few years. The intensive work required to review records and redact the material that is exempt or prohibited from disclosure (e.g., confidential attorney-client correspondence, social security numbers, criminal history, trade secrets, medical records, etc.) has grown exponentially. Further compounding this problem is that counties must make tough judgment calls on whether to release some records, especially when doing so is specifically prohibited, for example because doing so would violate privacy laws or employee confidentiality. The dilemma for counties is also financial, since they are liable for court costs and reasonable attorney fees should the requester prevail in litigation filed under the CPRA. Counties have seen an increase in vexatious litigants using the CPRA to grind government work to a halt. Monterey County supports proposals that seek to reduce the impact of these growing issues.

## **Workers' Compensation**

Continued legislative efforts in expanding injuries or conditions for which a connection with employment is presumed but not proven threaten the equilibrium of the workers' compensation system. Additionally, efforts have recently included substantially modifying certain workers' compensation system segments that will unfairly penalize employers and counties while detrimentally impacting the overall quality of care delivered. Instead, counties should champion data-driven decisions or reform to the entirety of the system to find the appropriate balance between employers and employees. This legislative interest continues to be heightened in an era of the COVID-19 pandemic, wildfires, and police reform. By granting superfluous, costly benefits to workers for injuries that may not be job-related, the financial solvency of the system will be detrimentally impacted. For the system to function correctly, it relies on the contributions of employers and employees to roughly equal the amount paid out for injuries suffered on the job. To protect county employers, Monterey County will oppose efforts to create new presumptions and to expand existing presumptions without data-driven evidence that the current system is unjust.

## **Local Government Funding and Authority**

It is essential that the County work to protect and enhance local government revenues, maximize access to State and Federal funding sources and increase local funding flexibility. Local authority and control over revenues, governance, and service delivery – as well as protection against mandates that constrict the County's ability to manage its own affairs is essential. Efforts must be supported which provide funding or reimbursement at the actual cost of doing business for County administered programs, projects and responsibilities and vigilantly oppose efforts to reallocate revenues away from counties, reduce county revenues, of impose unfunded mandates and the imposition of unreasonable or unnecessary legislative or regulatory burdens that add costs or risks to operations.

**Federal and State Aid:** Monterey County receives funding from the Federal and State government to administer health, welfare, and public safety programs, and much of this funding is based on federal census data. The County also receives revenue from competitive grant programs. Total Federal and State aid to the General Fund for Fiscal Year 2021-22 is estimated at 33.5% of total financing. Social service and health programs rely heavily upon and are the largest recipients of this aid. However, funding to counties to deliver required services has not kept pace with costs.

**Discretionary Revenues:** The County's primary discretionary revenue sources are property, sales, commercial cannabis business taxes and transient occupancy taxes. These revenues support most County

services and basic functions (e.g., public safety, criminal justice, health, public assistance, land use, recreation, environment, administration).

**Targeted Federal and State Advocacy:** The County's state and federal legislative advocacy efforts work to support or defend legislative, regulatory, or budget actions that impact resource, operation, revenue or funding opportunities for County projects and programs. The Board of Supervisors has a Legislative Program and Strategic Grant Services Program to aid County departments in legislative efforts and priority project grant applications. These programs work in close collaboration to advocate for maximum state and federal program funding which translates into locally available funding opportunities. The County's lobbyists and grant consultants are key to these efforts, working with state and federal agency staff to shape rulemakings and guidance for programs that impact County finances and operations.

**Local Authority:** The County must have adequate authority, operational flexibility, and resources to meet its role as an agent of the State and local service provider. The County supports efforts to ensure local discretionary control over governance issues and the delivery of services. The County opposes the transfer of programs from the State to counties unless program control and flexibility are also shifted, and adequate State funding is guaranteed.

**Transparency:** The County supports transparency in its operations and business decisions, open government, and freedom of information as it executes its responsibilities. The County believes that the transparency of public spending strengthens democracy, promotes fiscal responsibility, and bolsters public confidence.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to secure and enhance State and Federal revenues and funding for local government operations and programs; preserve the County's autonomy and local authority as the fiscal manager, administrator, and policy-making entity related to County funds; and to expand authority to generate voter approved revenues at the local level. Support efforts to increase transparency in the way the County conducts its business, modernize the governance structure of County divisions and agencies, and enter into strategic partnerships to improve the efficient delivery of government services. Support efforts to enhance and equitably distribute constitutionally guaranteed funds to counties for realigned public safety, health, and human services programs. Support the reduction or elimination of regressive fees and fines that disproportionately affect low-income residents. Oppose administrative and regulatory burdens which unnecessarily add risks or costs to County business activities. Oppose federal efforts to eliminate or limit local taxing authority, the state and local tax deduction, the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds, and other tax policies that have the effect of reducing revenues for state and local governments. Support legislative and administrative policies that ensure the accuracy and completeness of collected census data that reflects the total resident population in each state, including noncitizens.

## **Social, Health, and Racial Equity**

Monterey County supports policies and practices that promote equity and reduce disparities based on race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, and socioeconomic status. Policies should address all forms of racism, particularly institutional and structural racism, which have historically played a central role in creating and perpetuating persistent social and health inequities. Despite progress in addressing explicit discrimination in these policy areas, inequities continue across the nation. These inequities exist across all indicators for success, including education, criminal justice, jobs, housing, public infrastructure, and health, regardless of region.

Identifying and addressing the root causes of these inequities is needed to understand the unintended consequences of policies, systems and institutional biases which may further marginalize certain communities, particularly communities of color.

Monterey County has developed a Governing for Racial Equity Action Plan that will move a theory of change into action to achieve a collective vision of equity, work to center community voice, and drive institutional and structural change across the County organization.

**Key Objective:**

Support efforts, policies and practices that eliminate disparities based on race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, and socioeconomic status, to ensure equitable opportunities and better futures are available to all Monterey County residents. Support efforts to fund and implement proven Governing for Racial Equity practices across County departments, including policies and programs to help combat racism and inequity and resolve inherent biases and institutional processes that result in systemic racism and inequity, and establishing and funding equity infrastructure (i.e., equity offices in key County departments with decision-making power) to sustain ongoing efforts. Support efforts to work in partnership with indigenous peoples and racialized communities to collect intersectional demographic data, such as age, gender identity and ethnic origin. This will help break down barriers and better identify interconnected issues, such as economic status, employment, and outcomes in health care.

## Health & Human Services

### ***Legislative Principles – Health & Human Services***

#### **General**

Assure adequate protections are in place to provide equitable opportunities for all individuals to realize their full unique potential and provide for needed public health, safety, and social service programs. Support state and federal actions that promote the health and welfare of the County's most vulnerable residents. Support efforts to fund, expand, coordinate, and improve the County's health care safety net system, including COVID or other emergency response funding. Support efforts to protect and preserve the health care systems that serve Monterey County residents where our interests align, especially in serving the most vulnerable. Support America's Essential Hospitals (AEH) initiatives for federal support of Public Safety Net Systems, including an official designation which recognizes the importance of the safety net role and mission to care for all people, including the uninsured, low-income patients and other marginalized groups. This includes a proposed request for \$7 billion in funding. Also support AEH initiatives that develop throughout the year.

Support reforms to fully fund comprehensive health care programs, providers, and facilities for every resident, without adversely affecting the local economy and business community. Oppose funding cuts to critically important health and human service programs, such as Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California), Medicare, and Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) funding, and efforts that reduce local flexibility in the implementation of such programs. Support initiatives that eliminate or indefinitely delay implementation of DSH cuts. Support AEH's and the California Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems (CAPH) request to fix the Medicaid dual calculation so not to penalize hospital systems in the DSH calculation.

Oppose policies that limit access to private health insurance. Support state efforts to implement CalAIM with the federal government as part of providing expanded Medicaid (Medi-Cal) funding to California counties. Support CAPH's initiatives for state support of Public Health Care Systems, including reform of Medi-Cal payments and working with the California Hospital Association coalition of providers for immediate general fund relief necessary to address inadequate Medi-Cal payment rates. Also support other CAPH initiatives that develop throughout the year. Target initiatives and programs that support the infrastructure, staffing and funding of public health care systems, including Natividad and the Health Department. Support funding that is health system centered instead of heal plan centered.

Support funding for, and policies that, assure parity for mental health and substance use disorder prevention and treatment. Support programs that promote increasing and improving workforce development to assist with public health and healthcare staffing shortages. Support efforts to fund electronic health records integration and implementation so health information exchange efforts can expand. Support changes in federal substance use confidentiality rules to allow for streamlined information sharing.

#### **Public Health**

Support policies and funding that preserve and expand primary prevention and essential public health staffing infrastructure and functions. Support efforts that foster social equity in the areas of community

health, health care access, education, and disease prevention. Support efforts to create safe neighborhoods and invest in affordable housing to assure the environment is supportive of making healthy choices that lead to healthy lifestyles, with a focus on early childhood development, prevention of childhood obesity, promotion of maternal and child health, and youth violence prevention. Support efforts to create climate resilient communities. Support efforts and policies that promote environmental health regulations that require businesses and individuals to follow public health principles that protect people and the environment. Support efforts to allow streamlined information sharing across multi-sector entities to improve coordination of care and client outcomes.

Support efforts to address staffing shortages in public health, behavioral health, human services, aging services, child welfare, and child care which become exacerbated when new public health crises emerge. Support state and federal funding and technical assistance in a timely manner to ensure adequate planning, medical supplies, access to laboratory testing services, workforce, and alternative care capacity to appropriately respond to any local, state, or global health emergency.

## **Healthy Communities**

Built and social environments significantly impact the health of communities. Support public policies and programs that aid in development of healthy communities including food and beverage policies that increase access to healthier food in both county-operated and non-county-operated no/low-cost food programs (e.g., USDA Summer Lunch, inmate programs, and senior meals) or concession and vending operations. The County further supports the concept of joint use of facilities and partnerships, mixed-use developments, and walkable and safe developments, to promote healthy community events and activities.

Support efforts and funding to develop climate change mitigation and resiliency strategies, including but not limited to bolstering infrastructure, to help protect against and address potential impacts on human health such as increased respiratory and cardiovascular disease, injuries and premature deaths related to extreme weather events, including catastrophic wildfires, changes in the prevalence and geographic distribution of food- and water-borne illnesses and other infectious diseases, and threats to mental health, particularly for disadvantaged communities that are the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

## **Healthcare for All**

Support, deepen, and expand efforts to create equity and eliminate racial disparities by expanding access to health care through community access supports, universal coverage, and other steps to improve the access to quality and affordability of health care (e.g., Medi-Cal expansion to undocumented adults and seniors). Support efforts to ensure employers help H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers apply for health insurance through Covered California. Support policies and funding that preserve and expand primary prevention, essential public health functions, and that foster social/racial equity in the areas of community health, health care access (including telehealth), education, and disease prevention.

## **Social Services**

Support efforts to preserve and advance social services by providing the authority and resources required to promote the social and economic self-reliance of individuals and families, and for the protection of children, elders, and dependent adults. Support efforts to restore funding and clarify state/county responsibilities for county provided social services. Encourage and support the State's efforts to secure

funding and federal waivers resulting in additional resources for counties and community-based social service providers. Support efforts to provide funding and policies to address the unique needs of veterans and their families.

## ***Legislative Priorities – Health & Human Services***

### **Public Health, Health Care Coverage, Access & Integration**

Access to timely and high-quality healthcare is a fundamental human right. California counties play a critical role in serving those most in need through the provision of public health, communicable disease control, behavioral health, social services, and a strong public safety net health care system. Funding cuts during the great recession left significant underfunded infrastructure needs for public health and communicable disease control. While public health investments during the COVID-19 pandemic were appreciated, we continue to be concerned about the lack of ongoing funding, including the lack of flexibility in the amount of funding, planning efforts, and sustained support for the critical public health infrastructure needed for a comprehensive infectious disease control system in California to combat emerging and reemerging diseases.

In addition, access to comprehensive health insurance supports healthcare as a basic human right. While Medi-Cal in California has expanded to those 50 and older regardless of documentation status, for those 138% or less of the Federal Poverty Level, many still find health insurance unaffordable or find they cannot maintain their insurance due to seasonal employment or other reasons. Universal affordable health insurance would contribute to reducing health inequities.

Additionally, the reduction of health inequities is a critical need that can be accomplished through intentional systems change to improve the social determinants of health and increasing the proportion of County residents covered by health insurance. System changes include fostering the promotion of health and prevention strategies, developing multi-sector coalitions using collective impact to address complex issues, expanding health care coverage, and partnering health care delivery with public health. These efforts are an intentional move up-stream from the treatment of illness associated with communicable and chronic disease to advance a policy, systems, and organizational change approach to address the underlying environmental factors and conditions that influence health and health behaviors.

Monterey County faces numerous health-related issues (e.g., childhood obesity, youth violence, and adult-onset diabetes). The County has adopted a strategy of “Health in All Policies” as part of its efforts to eliminate social, racial, economic, and environmental inequities that impede the attainment and maintenance of good physical and mental health, including health care access. The County supports a broad system-wide and public health prevention approach to reduce risk factors that exacerbate health inequities, maintain, and strengthen the County’s role in health care reform, and the health of the public safety net health care system.

The safety net health care system and access to it provides residents with opportunities for routine care. Those opportunities include comprehensive health care insurance coverage, continued support for those with pre-existing conditions, reimbursement mechanisms that cover the costs of providing health care, and support for California’s new Section 1115 Medicaid waiver through December 31, 2026.

**CalAIM Implementation.** California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) is an ambitious multi-year initiative seeking to enhance care coordination and improve health outcomes through state and

federal proposals to simplify and streamline the Medi-Cal program. CalAIM has significant implications for many county health and human services functions, including behavioral health services, social services eligibility, county public hospitals, and cross-sector initiatives for foster youth and those who are homeless or justice-involved. The County will continue to focus on the federal, state, and local finance implications, as well as the impacts on county operations, successful programs, and the people and families served. The County will continue to advocate for prioritization and funding of counties to provide services that leverage counties' existing expertise and for the state to consult with counties in formulating and implementing all policy, operational and technological changes of this initiative.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts that reduce health inequities, improve health care access for all (e.g., increase Medi-Cal eligibility standards to 200% or less of Federal Poverty Level; Esperanza Care), promote primary public health prevention, fund interventions to prevent emerging and reemerging communicable diseases, and strengthen communities (e.g., social support networks, community design, clean energy, public transportation, access to education, employment practices, alternatives to incarceration, restorative justice, etc.). Support state level policy that documents be produced in the language of our California residents. Support funding and policy changes to support population-based chronic disease prevention efforts such as the creation of funding of a State Wellness Trust with allocations to counties and other key partners to implement programs, policies, and strategies to prevent chronic illness.

Support efforts to preserve, promote, expand, and fund primary prevention efforts, essential public health functions, efforts that foster social and racial equity to reduce health inequities, address Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), behavioral health, communicable and chronic disease, positively impact current and future health outcomes, promotes the integration of cognitive and physical health, mental health, behavioral health, and other types of preventive services and healthcare in unified service delivery models.

Support efforts to fully fund Health Department enhanced case management services to managed care Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Support efforts to improve the design and care of built and natural environments to be culturally supportive of healthy living throughout the county. Support increased information and resources to empower community members to choose healthy eating, active living, and drug free lives.

Oppose efforts to repeal or diminish funding or services under the Affordable Care Act, or to limit the scope of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Oppose efforts that reduce funding for public health, shifts costs to local health departments, or create unfunded mandates. Oppose legislative and executive actions such as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) proposed rule or Medicaid Fiscal Accountability Rule (MFAR) that could limit Medicaid supplementation payments and other financing arrangements which would limit the County's funding sources for federal government programs. Support efforts to stabilize and strengthen public safety net health care systems and pharmacy benefits. Support efforts to provide higher Medi-Cal and Medicare reimbursement levels for inpatient and outpatient services, and substance abuse disorders. Support expansion of coverage for low-income individuals, families and seniors through Medi-Cal and Medicare programs, regardless of legal status. Support the continued implementation of CalAIM for California and its public health care systems to lead the nation towards care for low-income and vulnerable patients that emphasizes preventative and patient-centered care in the right place at the right time. Support policies that expand sick leave and family leave to support workers and their families, regardless of immigration status or employment type (i.e., gig-workers).



## Behavioral Health

Counties provide specialty mental health and substance use disorder services on behalf of the state through county-run mental health plans. The various and complicated funding streams that support behavioral health services include such sources as the 1991 and 2011 Realignments, the Mental Health Services Act, and new homeless funding. The Affordable Care Act has improved behavioral health service delivery, but additional funding and reforms are needed. The development of an integrated and comprehensive system of care that includes supports for behavioral health prevention and treatment programs will lead to reduced costs, improved equity for behavioral health care, enhanced patient outcomes, reduced mental health stigma, and reduced treatment delays and safety issues.

**Behavioral Health Funding.** The state is making significant investments in behavioral health housing, children's behavioral health services, and CalAIM. To successfully harness these investments to make transformative change requires addressing underlying county mental health plan funding shortfalls, and the expanding set of roles and responsibilities on these agencies continues to create challenges for successful progress. The County will advocate for behavioral health workforce assistance and adequate, sustained funding to match new responsibilities included in initiatives such as the CARE Act and the multi-year effort to develop a comprehensive statewide 988 system.

**CARE Act Funding and Implementation.** The Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act creates a new pathway to deliver mental health and substance use disorder services to the most severely impaired Californians who too often suffer in homelessness or incarceration without treatment. The CARE Act moves care and support upstream, providing the most vulnerable Californians with access to critical behavioral health services, housing, and support. The CARE Act includes a statutory commitment that the Act will become operative only upon consultation with county stakeholders and the development of an allocation to provide state financial assistance to counties to implement the CARE Act process. Secure adequate, flexible, and sustained funding across all impacted local agencies to support counties' efforts in this new statewide initiative is needed. Additional advocacy is also necessary for changes related to implementation as planning efforts progress for county implementation.

The County needs expanded mental health beds and program space in its adult detention and mental health facilities. Due to the limitations of the detention facility, inmates experiencing a mental illness are housed in a variety of locations which creates challenges and security issues. Funding is needed for the construction of dedicated mental health beds for adults and juveniles, individual and group mental health therapy and program space, safety cells, and in and out of custody offender programming needs.

The County's only locked 5150 adult mental health facility is located at the County hospital. There has been a significant increase in the demand for inpatient mental health beds. Funds are needed to expand beds and program space to better serve the adult and juvenile population, and to engage in behavioral health community outreach and education.

The County would like to repurpose dormitory style jail housing units and utilize those areas for a locked mental health treatment facility. Secure housing is necessary to treat some offenders while they receive a combination of counseling, therapy, and medication to stabilize their condition. Housing and treatment should be expanded to include misdemeanor inmates and those misdemeanor offenders deemed incompetent to stand trial. The County will need funding to renovate and staff a locked treatment facility.

The pandemic has had a significant impact on family mental health, adding to long-term stressors such as Adverse Childhood Experiences including systemic racism and poverty. Social-emotional development and

wellness are fundamental in the earliest years of childhood for long-term health and well-being. The County supports whole child/whole family systemic approaches to mental health, including shifting the societal conditions that create toxic stress and triggering events, as well as holistic services in all of the settings most comfortable to families, including (but not limited to): dyadic care models in pediatric clinics, particularly for families enrolled in Medi-Cal; early childhood mental health consultation and related services in subsidized child care programs; and attachment and maternal mental health supports through home visiting.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to enhance the comprehensive behavioral health system, including broader support to expand transitional and permanent housing for the homeless and disabled. Support local control over spending priorities for the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)/Proposition 63 funds, inclusive of the innovation component for funds. Support efforts to prohibit the funds currently allocated to counties from being re-directed by the State for other purposes. Support efforts to require coverage and increase reimbursements for mental health and substance use disorder services; give counties flexibility to blend mental health, alcohol and drug treatment funds and direct funds to areas of greatest need; and increase availability of services to the uninsured. Support efforts to secure funding to construct mental health beds, residential placement facilities, and program space for residents of all ages. Support efforts to enhance behavioral health workforce assistance and adequate, sustained funding to match new responsibilities included in initiatives such as the CARE Act and the multi-year effort to develop a comprehensive statewide 988 system.

### **Public Guardians, Administrators and Conservators**

Public Administrators, Public Guardians and Public Conservators act under the authority of the California Supreme Court but are solely a county function and mostly funded with County General Funds and some fees collected through the conservatees' estates. These funding sources have not kept pace with the increasing demand for services and there has been a rise in interest in conservatorships as vehicles to help manage criminally involved and homeless populations.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts that would provide adequate and sustainable funding for public guardians, conservators, and administrators to ensure quality safety-net services including securing and safeguarding financial assets for all who qualify. Oppose additional duties, mandates, and requirements for public guardians without the provision of adequate funding to carry out these services. Support efforts to enhance placement capacity for public guardians, as California severely lacks safe and secure housing for the majority of residents under conservatorship.

Support efforts to create a suitable designation for persons with traumatic brain injury, dementia, or co-occurring mental illness and dementia; and extend Medi-Cal Managed Care or private insurance coverage to provide appropriate coverage, placement, and treatment options for these individuals.

Support efforts that minimize impact on public conservators for individuals not successful under the CARE Court Act without additional dedicated State funding.

## Public Health and Prevention Policies: Cannabis and Tobacco

Legalization of recreational cannabis may exacerbate existing health disparities such as low birth weight, poor mental health outcomes, or lower high school graduation rates for children and youth. Increased cannabis use may lead to cannabis dependency and attendant health and social harms. While tobacco use has declined in Monterey County for the past few decades, lung cancer is the number one cause of cancer deaths, the use of electronic smoking devices and other smokeless tobacco products has been on the rise, and smoking rates among youth are increasing. The proliferation of tobacco product categories, flavored products, and the evolution in tobacco marketing appear to be fueling teens switching from traditional cigarettes to a new generation of tobacco products. And the use of electronic smoking devices is linked with cannabis as well as tobacco.

### Key Objectives:

Support efforts that increase funding for cannabis and tobacco substance use prevention and education programs and to study the impacts of cannabis use and legalization on public health. Oppose efforts to exempt electronic nicotine delivery systems, such as e-cigarettes, from tobacco control laws and regulations. Support legislation regulating the sale and marketing of smokeless tobacco products, restrict sale of flavored nicotine-containing products, prevent youth-focused marketing strategies, limit cannabis product THC content, require stocking of lower THC products, and standardized 5 mg THC doses of concentrates. Continue to support implementation of the use of a specialized business model for retailers (no food or other product sales).

## Early Childhood Development

There are a total of 34,970 children ages 0-5 in Monterey County, accounting for 8% of the population. Using measures that supplement federal poverty data (e.g., cost of living), Monterey County (combined with San Benito County) has the highest child poverty rate in the state, at 31%, with 25.5% of children being food insecure. Monterey County has one of the highest rates of children living in overcrowded housing in the state, at 36.3%.

Research shows the importance of policies that advance whole child, whole family approaches, increase racial equity, build integrated systems, and focus on prevention to enhance critical services for children and families. For children to thrive they need good health and quality early learning experiences that unfold within strong family environments. Without early intervention children for whom these statistics are a reality are likely to experience adverse consequences into adulthood - resulting in higher health care costs, a poorly educated workforce, and lifelong dependence on public assistance. Targeted interventions to improve conditions during early childhood offer a greater return on investment than interventions later in life. With a strong investment in early childhood development, all children will be able to contribute to the local economy through increased human productivity.

The County understands the years between conception and age three are uniquely important for the positive development of the child and family; and they are the most likely time frame for a child to enter the child welfare system. Home visiting is a critical lever during that window to build buffering supports and connect families to a holistic range of systems and services, including the social safety net, public health, and family strengthening, to improve outcomes for families and children down the road.

Additionally, the County believes that early identification and intervention play a key role in successful early childhood care. Silos within systems of care prevent children and families from accessing the care, supports, and services they are eligible to receive, particularly for children with developmental delays and concerns. Infant-family mental health services are also crucial to healthy development. The formation of neural structures in the brain that lead to positive well-being in children. A child's early development is tied to their lifelong outcomes and should be nurtured in the community and across systems, and at all levels of ability.

These several years have highlighted how many employees are parents and need quality child care in order to stay in our workforce. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, evidence suggests that child care's effect on workforce participation, productivity, and businesses' bottom line is more significant than previously recognized. Ensuring healthy child development, therefore, is an investment in the County's current and future workforce along with the capacity to thrive economically as a society.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to ensure that parents and primary caregivers are well-informed and capable of supporting their children physically, emotionally, mentally, intellectually, and financially (e.g., preschool for all, increase opportunities and access to culturally relevant, trauma informed care, education, and services, along with timely and appropriate information to support families). Support efforts to strengthen families' equitable access to quality early childhood services that meet a variety of family needs (e.g., early childhood workforce development, improved access to quality, affordable and developmentally appropriate early care, increase number of quality child care providers, improved reimbursement rates for licensed child care providers) with an emphasis on families with children ages birth-three. Support efforts to ensure children are physically, mentally, socially, and emotionally healthy (e.g., increased availability and equitable access to social determinants of health: healthy food, affordable housing, trauma and special needs services, minimize harmful environmental health risk factors, child friendly workplaces). Support efforts to ensure that the early childhood development system is comprehensive, cohesive, and navigable (e.g., increase coordination, collection and sharing of data and best practices, increase coordination of whole family services and support for children and families, increased early childhood investments,

#### **Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Development Initiative: Framework & Strategy Priorities**

- ☆ An equitable system that supports all children and families.
- ☆ Families surrounded by support: implement an integrated, holistic, family-centered support system of screening, care coordination referrals and services; scale up home visiting programs for families with young children; expand paid family leave, protect and support breastfeeding, and implement other family-friendly business practices
- ☆ Empowered and Resilient Families: improve support for parent's and caregiver's mental health; expand access to parent-child play groups.
- ☆ Caregivers support children's growth and learning: embed parenting and child development supports in health and other public services; establish capacity support for family, friend and neighbor caregivers; scale up effective parenting programs.
- ☆ Transform early care and education systems to increase access and improve quality.
- ☆ Design coherent public policies that will improve the lives of children and families.
- ☆ Cross-cutting strategies: generate sustainable funding for early childhood services; engage families with young children in shaping local and regional policies, budgets and services; capacity development and awareness raising.

immigration reform that benefits children and families, quality infrastructure development or improvement). Support efforts to increase funding for early childhood development systems, programs, facilities, and First 5 Monterey County.

## **Promote Child Well-Being and Prevention of Child Abuse**

Monterey County continues to pride itself in having a strong child welfare system that invests substantial local discretionary funds into child abuse prevention and early intervention programs. The County has one of the lowest foster care entry rates in the state, further reflecting our prevention efforts. With the statewide implementation of Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) the County is putting an ever-increasing emphasis on keeping children with kin whenever possible, to include a formal foster care setting. This includes doing an extensive search for family and supporting kin caregivers as formal resource families. Monterey County continues to struggle with challenging community demographics ranging from overcrowded and unstable housing to co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders, along with youth and family violence. Additionally, lingering economic challenges and social impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic have placed additional stress on already strained family units.

In 2016, the Monterey County Department of Social Services began a community dialogue to develop a Roadmap to Child Well-Being. The dialogue was facilitated by the American Public Human Services Association (APHS) with the support of the staff to the National Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities, and included national, state, and local stakeholders. In 2018, the formalized work was complete and next steps were outlined by the team. This has included a comprehensive review and update of our local mandated reporter training, collaborating to bring forth evidence-based Nurse Family partnership with the Health Department, and work on providing more grass root supports for the community by those in the community.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support policies that expand funding for child abuse prevention services to meet collaborative next steps outlined through the work with APHS. For children and youth who enter foster care, locate kin to be trained and supported as caregivers along with recruiting and preserving Community Resource Families (formally known as foster families). Support policies to improve the integration of data among youth serving agencies, including child welfare, public assistance, behavioral health, physical health, education, and public safety. Support funding to assist with housing for children, families and emancipating foster youth. Support funding for social work workforce development and education programs. Support funding to sustain and expand primary prevention efforts such as the Nurse Family Partnership and relative support programs. Support the gathering of community through Child and Family Teams as best practice to get the individual needs of the family met. Support funding and programs for parenting education, domestic violence prevention, and child care training for family, friends and neighbors who provide unlicensed care. Support resources to expand life skill training for pre-teens and teens. Support staff and community coaching around the Child Welfare Core Practice Model to best serve those who are in need of services. Support funding for the recruitment foster parents for probation foster youth and children-family teams.

## **Child Support Services**

Monterey County Department of Child Support Services (CSS) enhances the well-being of children and the self-sufficiency of families by providing professional services to locate parents, establish paternity and

establish and enforce orders for financial and medical support. County CSS consistently collects more for families than other counties in the State that have similar sized caseloads and is ranked tenth in the State for cost effectiveness. In FY 2020-21 CSS collected \$46.7 million and currently serves approximately 13,000 children locally.

Strengthening the child safety net, reducing poverty, and increasing access to justice is vital. Without adequate funding, Local Child Support Agencies (LCSA's) cannot expand service capacity to sufficiently address local needs. Child Support is the third largest Safety Net program for children and plays a direct role in lifting children out of poverty. Child Support payments enable parents to provide food, clothing and shelter for children who would otherwise not have access to these basic necessities. Additional funding to LCSAs is needed to increase outreach and engagement efforts to unserved and underserved communities, particularly communities of color, who are disproportionately impacted by child poverty issues; increase the use of technology to simplify access to program services; and ensure that programs are appropriately staffed to manage increasingly complex child support program needs, while meeting new programmatic mandates and requirements.

**Key objectives:**

Support efforts to increase funding to LCSAs to help maintain the social safety net, reach unserved families, decrease child poverty, and facilitate positive, equitable outcomes for all children.

## **Sustain and Strengthen Safety Net & Employment Support Resources**

Safety net services are a critical element of community well-being that help struggling families and individuals survive and thrive. According to the 2021 American Community Survey 11.5% of all Monterey County residents have incomes below the federal poverty level (FPL) and 14.2% of children. When the high cost of living in Monterey County is taken into consideration – the effective poverty rate climbs. The FPL represents a bare minimum threshold. A better standard is the self-sufficiency standard budget which considers average costs for various household budget items (housing, food, child care, etc.). Using this standard, 59% of households with children in Monterey County have annual incomes below the self-sufficiency standard.

**Key Objectives:**

Support funding for basic assistance to individuals who work in lower wage jobs, are underemployed or are unemployed through CalFresh and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), CalWORKs Employment and Training Services, the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program, child care programs, Community Action programs and the CalWORKs/Temporary Assistance to Needy Family (TANF) programs. Support efforts that ensure a living wage for all Monterey County residents. Support funding for programs that help prevent homelessness and rapidly secure housing (HUD Homeless Assistance, CalWORKs Housing Support). Support improvements to the TANF program to modify work participation requirements to better match individual family needs and local economic circumstances, the need for wrap around services for families struggling through crises, and to recognize additional costs to communities as a result of ongoing funding stagnation and high unemployment caused by job loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Support expansion of wage subsidy programs for households served by both CalFresh/SNAP and CalWORKs/TANF, and CalWORKs Employment Training Services – these programs have proven to be effective local resources for promoting self-sufficiency and establishing a positive work history.



## Homelessness

California's poverty and homeless rates remain among the highest in the nation, affecting all Californians including children, adults, veterans, seniors, and families. The deepening homelessness crisis not only takes a toll on those who live without adequate shelter or housing, but it also diminishes the community as a whole.

**State Efforts to Address Homelessness:** Although state and local governments have made significant investments in housing and homelessness programs over the last few years, California still lacks a comprehensive, holistic strategy that provides long-term, sustainable funding and clear levels of responsibility for all levels of government. The County supports policies that address the root causes of homelessness, flexible funding for emergency and supportive housing interventions, and strategies that ensure that homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring.

The State has invested significant resources to address homelessness and homelessness prevention, including resources for local governments to house the homeless population during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Governor's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors created a Comprehensive Crisis Response Strategy that outlines proposed next steps to further California's homeless related public policy goals aimed at: dramatically reducing street homelessness; breaking down barriers to accessing mental health and substance abuse services; reducing the cost and increasing the supply of housing options; and preventing people from becoming homeless. In addition to focusing on implementing and funding these next steps, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic the Governor and Legislature adopted an Action Plan for preventing and ending homelessness in California in March of 2021 and in July of 2021 signed a historic housing and homeless funding package as part of the \$100 billion California Comeback Plan. The initial package included \$10.3 billion for affordable housing and \$12 billion over two years towards services. However, both the Plan and the budget was updated in 2022 to include a \$3 billion increase and clear strategies that address the homelessness crisis head-on. The goal of this program is to provide non-congregate shelter options for people experiencing homelessness, to protect human life, and minimize strain on the health care system.

**Homelessness in Monterey County:** The 2022 Monterey County Homeless Point-In-Time Census and Survey identified 2,047 individuals experiencing homelessness, 66% of which were unsheltered. Since 2017, Monterey County has experienced a total reduction in homelessness of 28%, largely attributed to the wave of funding from both the State and federal governments through both COVID and non-COVID related funding streams coupled with increased collaboration and coordination between the public and private sector.

According to the California Department of Education, 9.6% of K-12 students met the broader definition of homeless used by education. This staggering figure is matched by data from the American Community Survey which states that 39.8% of children live in crowded housing. The McKinney-Vento Act, which provides states with funding for the education of homeless students, defines homeless children and youth as those who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Under this definition, Monterey County's student homeless population is approximately 9,900. Rapid response to the unsheltered homeless and public encampments is necessary, as are midterm strategies such as establishing low-barrier transitional housing and bridge communities. The long-term goal is to provide safe, healthy, accessible, affordable housing for all.

**Funding Formula Allocations:** The County of Monterey is committed to efforts that address homelessness so that it is rare, brief, and non-recurring. Part of that commitment is fighting for resources

to support the homelessness response network. However, federal and state funding formulas make that difficult to achieve when allocations rely on population, poverty, and the biennial Point in Time (PIT) census. This means communities who are actively reducing their PIT counts are inadvertently penalized when funding is reduced, and programs established to serve people experiencing homelessness are at risk of closure. Therefore, the County supports alternative funding formulas that reward communities who set and achieve their goals of reducing homelessness.

**Lead me Home Plan Update – 5-Year Plan to end Homelessness in Monterey and San Benito Counties:**

In November 2021, the County adopted the [Lead me Home Plan Update](#) which provides a five-year roadmap for the Monterey and San Benito County Continuum of Care (CoC) and its partners to achieve the vision that all people in the region live in decent, safe, and affordable housing from which they can access services and supports that stabilize their lives. The Plan sets out the ambitious goal of reducing the total population of people experiencing homelessness in Monterey and San Benito Counties by 50% by June 2026.

**Addressing Homeless Encampments:** Without an adequate supply of housing, too many people living with very low incomes or who are escaping domestic violence have no local housing options other than living unsheltered. To address this reality of insufficient housing and shelter options, service providers (public, non-profit, faith-based, and voluntary) offer resources that aid in survival and address critical health and quality of life issues for those living unsheltered and in encampments. Encampments can pose public health and safety hazards to individuals and the environment which may require their removal. Additional resources are needed for both service providers and the cost of cleanup of encampment areas.

**Key Objectives:**

Support the fair and equitable calculation and distribution of State and Federal funds to counties to provide services to all homeless populations. Support the proposed goals of the Governor’s Council of Regional Homeless Advisors aimed at: reducing homelessness; increasing access to mental health and substance abuse services; reducing the cost and increasing the supply of housing options; and homeless prevention. Support resources for local government to house the at-risk homeless population. Support efforts to provide on-going funding to support services and operations that assist homeless individuals and families navigate the continuum of care. Strengthen “by right” permitting or CEQA streamlining for safe parking programs. Support efforts that address the homelessness crisis in all California communities, ensuring that counties are at the forefront of all solutions addressing homelessness. Support efforts to expand housing subsidies to prevent loss of housing and provide long-term assistance to sustain housing. Support efforts that encourage and facilitate the production of housing that is attainable to households at or below 30% of area median income. Support innovative approaches to increase affordable housing availability (e.g., rent control, facilitating construction of accessory dwelling units). Support additional resources for local shelter, transitional, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing programs. Support efforts to prevent homelessness and to assist the current homeless population with coordinated services, health services, health access, and other health supports. Support an increase in funding to address students experiencing homelessness as defined under the McKinney-Vento Act. Support funding to provide services and address the environmental cleanup of homeless encampments.

## **Strengthen Resources for Seniors and People Living with Disability**

Long-term services and supports help all individuals live successfully while maintaining dignity and independence in their homes and communities. Years of funding erosion has taken a toll on service



capacity and strains the ability of local agencies to provide financial, health and social supports to older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers. It is increasingly difficult for the aging and disability services network to maintain existing safety net services. Reports to Adult Protective Services continue to increase, and demand for services is rising as families struggle to support and care for older relatives. The number of older adults who struggle to make ends meet, face food insecurities, and homelessness continues to increase. Out of pocket medical expenses, lack of sufficient assets, dramatically rising housing costs and fixed budgets are major causes of economic insecurity. Without additional resources to address these growing needs, local communities are unprepared to adequately respond to the needs of this growing population. According to 2021 Census data, Monterey County has an estimated 86,220 residents 60 years old or older, approximately 12.4% of whom live below the federal poverty level.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support funding for programs and services that promote the ability of older adults and people with disabilities to live safely and with dignity in an environment of their choice where they can eat well, stay healthy, and avoid unnecessary and costly institutional care. Key legislation supporting these efforts are the Elder Justice Act, Older Americans Act, and the Older Californians Act. Such legislation provides funding for food programs, legal services, caregiver and family supports, and ombudsman initiatives. County programs requiring additional support include Adult Protective Services, In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), Public Authority, SSI Advocacy, and the Aging and Disability Resources Connection (ADRC). The ADRC model is one that combines the efforts of the aging and disability networks to create a streamlined, “no wrong door” approach to the provision of person-centered resources.

Support funding to minimize health care costs at end of life, avoid spending end of life in institutional settings and create livable communities for all ages. Support funding to ensure an adequate number of social workers are available to meet the needs of the growing number of older adults and people with disabilities in our community. Support efforts to implement California’s Master Plan on Aging to strengthen and enhance services for older adults. Support efforts to enable all County agencies, services, and facilities to offer access and options tailored to the needs of this growing County demographic.

## **Honor our Veterans**

Monterey County is home to more than 20,000 veterans and an estimated 25,000 spouses and dependents whom the Monterey County Military & Veterans Affairs Office (MVAO) is in place to assist in obtaining a variety of state and federal benefits. MVAO provides free-of-charge assistance in filing claims with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for the benefits they have earned by their service in defense of our nation, as well as information and referrals to other federal, state, and local programs. Currently only 31.8% of Monterey County’s veterans are accessing VA Compensation and Pension Benefits.

Veterans and members of the military have made tremendous sacrifices, and some have paid the ultimate sacrifice for the protection of our country and the well-being of people facing tragedy and injustice around the world. Expanded federal, state, and local resources are needed to assist our veterans and their families with successful reintegration into civilian life (e.g., family reintegration, employment, housing, education, child care, and services to address a multitude of disabilities including post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury).

**Federal Benefits:** The County supports improved access and service expansion for: health benefits (e.g., dental); local facilities (e.g., Veterans Drop-In Center; Major General Gourley VA-DoD Outpatient Clinic

(e.g., pharmacy services); Veterans Stand Down events and other outreach efforts; Veterans' Treatment Courts; and Veterans' Justice Outreach programs. The veteran community can also benefit from increased funding for County Veterans Service Officers (CVSOs), specifically funding to increase outreach and claims processing for the 66% of Monterey County Veterans not currently receiving VA benefits. The County also supports efforts to increase compensation to disabled veterans and their surviving spouses.

**State Benefits:** The County supports efforts to obtain increased County Subvention Program funding from the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet). This program funds a group of programs mandated by the Legislature to reimburse counties for a portion of the costs of "presenting and pursuing any claim the veteran may have against the VA and in establishing the veteran's right to any privilege, preference, care, or compensation provided for by the laws of the United States or of this state" (California Military and Veterans Code § 971). The County supports efforts to expand and improve the Disabled Veterans' Property Tax Exemption, which reduces the property tax liability on the principal place of residence of qualified veterans who, due to a service-connected injury or disease, have been rated 100% disabled or are being compensated at the 100% rate due to unemployability. The County supports efforts to eliminate or reduce the state tax obligation on military retirement pay as California is the sole remaining state that does not provide a tax benefit for military retirement pay.

**State Veterans Home:** One of the County's top priorities is the development of a Veterans Home in Monterey County to serve aged and disabled veterans, eligible spouses, domestic partners, and homeless veterans. There are over 50,000 veterans in Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Benito, and San Luis Obispo Counties alone. CalVet operates eight Veterans Homes in the California providing a range of services from independent living to skilled nursing and memory care. Four of the homes offer combined skilled nursing and memory care, however demand for these services far exceeds the current supply of available beds which results in 2-5+ year wait times. The closest of Veterans Home is over two hours away from Monterey County. The County strongly believes that our veterans should not have to leave their families, friends, and the community they call home to access these services.

The County intends to pursue State legislation to authorize the development of a State Veterans Home in Monterey County, potentially located on or near other veterans' services at the former Fort Ord. The County will work with its state and federal delegations and the Veterans Administration to ensure the project meets regulatory requirements for assistance through CalVet and the VA's State Veterans Home Construction Grant Program, which can provide up to 65% of construction costs. If constructed the facility would be available to all California veterans.

**Pharmacy at the Major General William H. Gourley VA-DoD Outpatient Clinic in Marina:** The County continues to support establishment of a pharmacy at the MG Gourley VA-DoD Outpatient Clinic in Marina. The brand-new clinic was opened in 2017 and includes an area designed and purpose-built to serve as a pharmacy, however due to changes in federal VA priorities, only mail-order pharmaceutical services are offered. Without a pharmacy, many disabled veterans are forced to make multiple trips for essential medications. Many of our veterans live in rural communities which make it difficult to access health care services. A pharmacy nearby, would reduce unnecessary transportation requirements for veterans and families of active-duty military on the Central Coast.

**Central Coast Veterans Cemetery:** The County also supports efforts to obtain continued state funding to maintain the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery in Seaside, California at the former Fort Ord and continued further development with regard to in-ground burial.

**Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to establish a CalVet Veterans Home in Monterey County to serve the needs of our growing veterans' population and support the veteran's community's contributions to our local economy. Support efforts which provide tax relief to veterans. Support efforts to improve and expand benefits to veterans and their surviving spouses, access to VA and CalVet benefits. Support local assistance outreach efforts to discharging military members, reservist and National Guard members, veterans, surviving spouses and eligible dependents. Support increased subvention funding from CalVet. Support the growth and expansion of the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery. Support the addition of a pharmacy at the MG Gourley VA-DoD Outpatient Clinic. Support efforts to honor and recognize the contributions and sacrifices of veterans (e.g., Veterans Service Recognition Act).

## Infrastructure

### ***Legislative Principles – Infrastructure***

#### **General**

Support efforts to identify and secure funds for local transportation, water, energy, technology, government facility, housing, and community infrastructure projects, in particular where such improvements contribute to clean energy and green building. Support funding efforts to repair, upgrade or modernize transportation, wastewater collection and disposal systems, and other infrastructure projects or systems, particularly in areas where the associated infrastructure is aging and there is insufficient financial capacity to fund necessary improvements. Support efforts to protect and advance local flexibility in the delivery of public works projects.

#### **Environmental Review**

Support efforts to reform environmental processes such as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to retain environmental protections while reforming the legal process to reduce abuses. Support efforts to align state and federal requirements, and to streamline and coordinate state and federal permit processes for public infrastructure and safety projects.

#### **Water Resources**

Support efforts to fund, manage and protect the County's water quality, water supply, groundwater sustainability, storm water and flood protection, and mediate the effects of climate change (e.g., drought, sea level rise). Support efforts to protect the Monterey County Water Resources Agency's water rights.

#### **Energy**

Monitor the potential Federal lease of lands for oil and gas exploration and the potential effects of these activities on water quality and dam safety. Support efforts to ensure appropriate oversight and funding for State regulation and monitoring of energy extraction activities (e.g., hydraulic fracturing). Support efforts to allow the County to manage an adequate renewable energy program (e.g., fees on oil, commercial solar).

#### **Land Preservation**

Support efforts to sustainably fund, protect and preserve the federal, state, county, and regional parks within Monterey County, including the promotion of park designations and the preservation of resources of historical or cultural significance. Support efforts to manage County open space lands (e.g., Fort Ord, Odello East, Hatton Canyon, Jack's Peak) including partnerships with or transfers to Monterey Peninsula Regional Parks District, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), or other public land management agencies. Maintain and protect rural resources, coastal areas, biodiversity, park facilities and recreation features.

## ***Legislative Priorities – Infrastructure***

### **Resilient and Sustainable Communities**

Monterey County is experiencing the negative consequences of climate change with increasing regularity; catastrophic wildfire and flooding, prolonged drought, and sea level rise are the new normal. Climate change will not affect all equally, with particular communities that already experience greater health inequities predicted to have great climate change impacts. Monterey County is planning for long term resiliency and sustainability of County infrastructure to support all our communities, the economy, natural resources, clean air, and transportation options. The County supports the development of renewable energy generation and energy efficiency efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, mitigate the impacts of climate change, and increase energy security throughout the region. The County supports policies and programs that increase clean commute opportunities and vehicle trip reduction including those that increase walking and biking mobility and safety for all users, promote traffic calming, promote mass transit, and improve regional transportation demand management. The County supports the development and expansion of electric vehicle deployment and charging infrastructure, vehicle to grid technology, and stationary battery storage. The County further supports electric vehicle (EV) deployment and has adopted an EV replacement policy that provides a framework to consider purchase of EVs prior to fuel-powered vehicles. The County is working on several complete street and active transportation projects that provide access for all users regardless of age, ability, or transportation mode through development of bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian amenities, and public transit systems and facilities. The County supports actions that prioritize the preservation and restoration of our climate and natural environment to help ensure the long-term health, social well-being, and economic vitality of the communities we serve while improving the quality of life for all.

#### **Key objectives:**

Support efforts that advance policies to reverse and plan for the impacts of climate change while building resilient and sustainable communities (e.g., energy, water, and resource efficiency; clean energy; pollution control and toxics reduction; wildfire mitigation; and climate protection). Support efforts to increase California's waste management infrastructure, ensure the County's ability to comply with recycling and waste management goals, and support the development of domestic market solutions. Support efforts by the County's Sustainability Program to promote greenhouse gas emissions mitigation, resources conservation, climate adaptation, and pollution reduction including but not limited to developing programs to transition away from fossil fuels including the deployment of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations and all electric buildings, build and support capacity for regenerative agricultural practices, evaluating energy alternatives such as microgrids with battery storage and solar for County facilities. Support housing, transportation, land-use, and community development policies and projects that create diverse neighborhoods, promote healthy and greener lifestyles, develop green jobs, and protect local and global ecosystems. Support efforts to protect, conserve, and maintain healthy coastal, ocean and forest ecosystems and the thriving economy they support in the County. Support efforts to act as stewards and provide sustainable management of ocean and coastal resources in the areas of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture; sea-level rise adaptation and coastal resilience; coastal sediment management; marine pollution; and marine renewable energy. Support resources and policies that advance wildfire mitigation efforts, forest conservation, and habitat restoration. Support policies that bring environmental justice to all, and keep our citizens safe from the physical, economic, and the health effects of environmental degradation, including through bolstering infrastructure to help protect against and address potential

impacts on human health (such as increased respiratory and cardiovascular disease, injuries and premature deaths related to extreme weather events, including catastrophic wildfires, changes in the prevalence and geographic distribution of food- and water-borne illnesses and other infectious diseases, and threats to mental health) particularly for disadvantaged communities that are the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change and while creating pathways to economic prosperity and strong local economies. Support redundancy and resiliency in County facilities and enable facilities to act as community hubs in a disaster, emergency, or utility disruption.

## Transportation

The transportation infrastructure is the backbone of all economic activity and is in vital need of funding for capital, maintenance, safety, and operations of local roads, bridges, pedestrian and bike facilities, transit, and rail. Transportation systems should meet industry and societal needs, provide users choices, be integrated with planned land use, be compatible with the environment by considering air quality, noise pollution, aesthetics, ecological factors, cost benefit analyses, and energy consumption measures.

Monterey County owns and operates a significant portion of the local transportation infrastructure and supports funding to local governments for system preservation, capacity improvement, and safety needs - using regional partnerships and collaborations on system planning and investment. The County's transportation infrastructure has many needs including pavement maintenance, adequate facilities for pedestrian and bike travel, transit, and rail services, and for improvements such as shoulder additions, adding vehicle lanes to roadways, repair and replacement of aging bridges, and other safety improvements.

**Maintenance Improvements:** The County maintains 1,260+ road miles and 175 bridges. Even with the addition of Measure X and SB 1, additional funding is needed to provide an acceptable maintenance program. Deferred road maintenance results in rapid deterioration and compromise of roadway structural integrity and exponentially increases repair costs. The current maintenance backlog is over \$750 million for roads, \$300 million for bridges, and \$500 million in road appurtenances and growing. The State's announcement of eliminating gas powered vehicle sales in the year 2035 places uncertainty on the existing funding sources of the Highway Users Tax Account (HUTA) and SB 1 in the future. A replacement for this long-standing funding source needs to be developed.

**Capacity Improvements:** Traffic congestion and inadequate roadway capacity can negatively impact the local economy through impacts to tourism, agricultural product delivery to market, and increased unproductive travel time. Efforts to increase capacity and/or movement should be supported (e.g., State Route 156, Blackie Road extension, Davis Road widening and bridge, Rossi Street extension, or public transportation options) to increase road safety and capacity to accommodate user needs.

**Safety Improvements:** Roadway safety is a top priority, and improvement efforts should be evaluated for the overall benefits provided. Recently the County was part of a public-private partnership to construct a roundabout at Holman Highway. Roundabouts have certain advantages over signalized intersections, such as safety, air quality and reduced maintenance costs of signals. Additionally, Monterey County, the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC), and Caltrans collaborated on the G-12 Pajaro to Prunedale Corridor Study, a regional safety study for that set of roads – and the County successfully acquired grant funding for two of the six project segments. The County is also in the design phase of a roundabout for the intersection of Carmel Valley Road and Laureles Grade. Additionally, the County, TAMC, and Caltrans have been working on the US 101 South of Salinas Corridor Study; with anticipated

outcomes being more safety projects. The County has developed a multi-year program cycle to maintain roadway striping and signage. In addition, the County is working with fire fuel reduction programs to help manage and reduce vegetation along roadways.

**Rail Expansion:** Expansion of rail service to Monterey County provides many benefits, including improved access and connections for local, regional, and interregional travel; decreased highway congestion; enhanced goods movement; and environmentally sound transportation serving a variety of travel markets and transportation needs. Rail expansion also promotes mixed-use, transit-oriented development, affordable housing, livable and walkable communities, and economic growth around rail stations.

**Active Transportation Program & Safe Routes to Schools Program:** Active Transportation and Safe Routes to Schools programs promote safe and convenient opportunities for physically active travel for daily trips to and from work and schools – and addresses health, physical activity, and traffic safety issues while tackling air pollution and climate change. Investment also focuses on infrastructure to increase the comfort of the on-road experience (e.g., for cycling) to improve the appeal of active modes to all people.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to develop and fund the capital, maintenance, safety, capacity, and operation of County transportation infrastructure: local roads, bridges, pedestrian facilities, bike facilities and trails, transit (e.g., Marina-Salinas Multimodal Corridor), and expanded public transit and rail access (e.g., Salinas Rail Extension, Coast Daylight, and Monterey Branch Line projects). Support efforts to increase funding for Active Transportation and Safe Routes to School projects, as well as Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) projects. Support efforts to streamline the regulatory process to repair and maintain public infrastructure, which reduces costs. Support proactive efforts to streamline permitting and reduce fees (e.g., take permits) for multiple pre-and post-storm maintenance activities, to allow for timely response while protecting the environment. Support efforts to streamline disbursement of federal infrastructure funds to local agencies for project implementation. Support efforts to transition to a road mileage charge program or alternate means of revenue generation to replace expected long term decline in gas tax revenue associated with the increased adoption of electric vehicles.

## **Water Resources Sustainability**

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (WRA) manages, protects, stores, and conserves water resources in Monterey County for all beneficial uses, while minimizing damage from flooding to create a safe and sustainable water supply for present and future generations. WRA operates Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs for flood management and water supply (groundwater recharge) purposes, and also leases land around the reservoirs to the County for park use that can benefit from sustained water levels. Additionally, WRA operates a distribution system that delivers roughly 23,000 acre-feet of river, well, and recycled water to approximately 12,000 acres of agricultural land in the northern Salinas Valley.

An estimated 95% of all water used in Monterey County is derived from groundwater wells. With nearly 350,000 acres of land under cultivation in the Salinas Valley, agricultural pumping averages 495,000 acre-feet per year. Combined with urban and other uses, total water pumped in an average year from the Salinas Valley is about 520,000 acre-feet. Assuring that there are sufficient quantities of good quality groundwater is the most important aspect of managing water resources in Monterey County today. Major water resource management issues in the County include the preservation of water rights, protection of existing and the development of new surface and groundwater supplies for agricultural and municipal users (particularly disadvantaged communities), combating water quality issues (e.g., seawater intrusion,



chromium, nitrate, and arsenic contamination), and enhancing flood protection and threatened and endangered species habitat especially along the Salinas, Carmel, and Pajaro Rivers.

The WRA, acting as the County's Flood Control Authority, works to ensure continued protection from flooding and to protect natural resources. The County supports efforts to increase funding for restoration projects, and the development of adaptive strategies to climate change and sea level rise. Regulatory complexities continue to hinder the effective and timely delivery of flood control projects. The multiple and redundant approval processes and long timeframes often delay delivery of projects, including environmental clearance and mitigation, design approval, right of way certification, and project financing. To this end, the County supports efforts to streamline regulatory burdens while advocating for funding support to adequate staffing at the local, state, and federal regulatory agencies.

Monterey County is also a member of the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGS) which was established in 2017 under California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. The SVBGS is tasked with the ambitious goal of implementing groundwater sustainability plans for each of the Salinas Basin's seven (7) subbasins to achieve basin sustainability by 2040.

## **Preserve and Enhance Water Supply**

The sustainability of Monterey County's water resources depends on minimizing threats to supplies, enhancing existing or developing new resources and fostering a regional approach to water supply solutions. County residents and businesses rely upon multiple sources of water (groundwater, surface water, recycled water, and desalinated water), but are most dependent on groundwater. The County is completely dependent upon local water sources and derives no help or benefit from the State or Federal water projects. The main challenges which the County faces related to supply are contamination due to seawater intrusion or contaminants; environmental requirements from regulatory agencies/ environmentally challenging issues; sufficient supplies and distribution during periods of drought; development of additional supplies; and the preservation of County water rights. A top priority of the County is the preservation of a surface water permit the Monterey County Water Resources Agency holds on the Salinas River basin, Permit #11043, which would authorize the diversion of up to 135,000 acre-feet of water per year for projects intended to halt seawater intrusion into the groundwater basin, as well as provide flood control.

Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) is a collaborative effort to plan and implement water management solutions on a regional basis. The County participates in IRWM planning to take a regional approach to finding solutions that will improve water quality and supply reliability to support and meet the community's public health, agricultural, industrial and environmental water goals and needs. Regional water solutions are an efficient model for water supply and management planning. Continued regional water efforts will assist the County in providing a path forward to address many of the water challenges facing our communities.

The Monterey County Health Department Environmental Health Bureau regulates approximately 1,300 water systems with 2-199 connections through inspection, monitoring, and consultation. Drinking water contamination is a widespread problem, as is adequate source capacity for many residents especially in disadvantaged communities. Primary drinking water standards for nitrates, arsenic, or fluoride in 235 of these systems exceeds primary drinking water standards and requires the use of bottled water as an interim emergency measure.



Resolving a contaminated water system is costly and residents and communities often lack the economic means to do so. Typical solutions include consolidation with a water system that meets standards, drilling a new well, or installing treatment. Consolidation is preferred, but many systems are not adjacent to other water systems with adequate supply, capacity, quality, or willingness to consolidate - or the cost of the necessary infrastructure is a barrier. A solution could be to drill a new well, but sufficient groundwater may not be available or may be contaminated. Treatment is an option, but treatment maintenance is costly and time consuming and generates waste products that may present challenges for proper disposal.

Despite the history of proactive water policies at the state level, Monterey County residents still face formidable water challenges. Disadvantaged communities disproportionately bear the health and financial impacts of contaminated water or inadequate access to safe water.

In 2022, the Governor released the “California Water Supply Strategy” that outlines priority actions and investments focused on adapting and protecting water supplies in efforts to mitigate climate change impacts. Monterey County aims to partner with the State on implementing these actions through the development of the County’s sustainable water supply projects.

**Human Right to Water:** In 2018, Monterey County became the first county in the nation to recognize the human right to safe and clean drinking water. The County adopted a resolution that requires County departments to consider this right when implementing policies and regulations pertinent to the uses of water for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. Support efforts to create a low-income water rate assistance program that provides financial relief to ratepayers using funding in the State’s General Fund, or by allocating cap-and-trade funding.

#### ***Potential Projects to Preserve and Enhance Water Supply***

- ***Interlake Tunnel:*** A tunnel to connect existing facilities at San Antonio and Nacimiento Reservoirs to increase water storage capacity and achieve environmental and water conservation release efficiencies. The project needs additional funding and may require legislative or regulatory actions for completion.
- ***San Antonio and Lake Nacimiento Dams and Reservoirs Infrastructure Projects:*** These multi-use facilities provide flood control, water supply, groundwater recharge, recreation, and other benefits. High priority capital asset projects for these facilities have been identified, but capital resources do not exist to complete them. Completion of these projects will allow full operation of Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams, meet federal and state regulatory compliance, and assure the safety of Monterey County residents.
- ***Salinas Valley Water Project, Phase II:*** This project would use the water allocated by Permit #11043. The project configuration is under development, but it could consist of two distinct pipelines pinpointing water deliveries to specific areas of the Salinas Valley to augment water supplies and combat seawater intrusion.
- ***Expansion of Existing Recycled Water Project:*** This project builds upon the success of existing recycled water usage near the coast in the Salinas Valley by expanding infrastructure to additional acreage.
- ***Destruction of Abandoned Wells:*** With the implementation of a recycled water source, wells that are in seawater intruded areas need to be destroyed so the well casings do not become conduits for seawater to move from upper to lower aquifers.

- **Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project:** A project to construct a desalination plant to provide water to the Monterey Peninsula. Sizing of the desalination plant will be determined by the implementation of the Pure Water Monterey (PWM) project.
- **Safety and Security of Water Supply Facilities:** Projects to ensure adequate security for key dam facilities and structures against credible threats and appropriate protective measures including surveillance, site access restriction and failure warning systems.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support adequate funding for efforts aimed at agricultural water supply and sustainability, safe drinking water for all County residents (especially those in disadvantaged communities), local regulation and support for large and small drinking water systems and domestic wells (especially those that do not meet drinking water standards), and sufficient funding for the California Drinking Water Program. Support efforts to secure legislative, funding, and regulatory approvals to advance Monterey County water supply projects, and to protect and preserve Permit #11043 water rights. Supports a sustainable funding source for dam and spillway infrastructure repairs and rehabilitation, and funding for dam infrastructure in any legislative water and/or climate related bond measure.

## **Protect Water Resources and the Environment**

The sustainability of the County's water resources depends on protection from natural disasters and environmental hazards and threats. Monterey County has three major river systems, the Salinas, Carmel and Pajaro that are prone to flooding. In 1995, all three river systems flooded causing over 11,000 evacuations, damaging 1,500 homes and 150 businesses, and creating millions of dollars in economic damage throughout the region both in terms of agricultural production and impact to tourism. Each river has unique characteristics that make flood management complicated, especially with the need to protect species listed as threatened or endangered. On the flip side, California is experiencing a historic drought and is currently in another drought emergency which threatens the security of local water supplies, highlighting the need for the development of drought contingency plans and additional water sources. In the area of stormwater, the County must comply with state and federal stormwater regulations which require monitoring and abatement of stormwater entering the Monterey and Carmel Bays, which have been designated as Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS).

Challenges associated with protecting water resources and the environment often relate to the unpredictability and severity of uncontrollable events such as droughts or floods. Another major challenge is the lack of funding available, both locally and at the State, for appropriate resource planning and management. Currently, State funding for water related projects is tied to compliance with various State programs. To enhance funding opportunities, the County is participating in the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) program. The County, along with the Water Resources Agency, County of Santa Cruz, the Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and the City of Watsonville have formed the Pajaro Regional Flood Management Authority, a joint powers authority, to implement projects on the lower Pajaro River for flood control purposes. Efforts are underway to raise funds to implement those projects.

#### **Potential Projects to Protect Water Resources and the Environment**

- **Salinas River Management Program and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP):** This program provides a more holistic approach to river management which incorporates watershed management principles,

water delivery scenarios, and maintenance of the water course, providing increased flood and habitat protection.

- **Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program:** A coordinated approach led by the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County in conjunction with WRA and the Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program River Management Unit Association to manage vegetation and sediment in specific Maintenance Areas along the river to maximize flood flow capacity, minimize bank erosion, and minimize environmental effects.
- **Salinas River Lagoon and Old Salinas River:** Project to reduce flooding, enhance steelhead migration and promote environmental and habitat protection.
- **Lower Carmel River & Lagoon:** Multiple projects which aim to protect infrastructure, reduce flooding, and promote environmental and habitat protection.
  - Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement (CRFREE) Project
  - Scenic Road Protection Structure Project / Carmel Lagoon Ecosystem Protective Barrier
  - County Service Area 50 (CSA-50-1) Flood and Drainage Improvement Projects
- **Pajaro River Flood Risk Management Project:** Structural improvements to the lower Pajaro River, Salsipuedes and Corralitos Creeks to reduce flood risk in Watsonville and Pajaro - developed by the U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers in partnership with Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species: Quagga and Zebra Mussel Prevention Program:** Vessel inspection and education program aimed at preventing an infestation of Lake Nacimiento and Lake San Antonio from aquatic invasive species (e.g., Quagga or Zebra mussels). Funding for the development and ongoing operation of a statewide vessel tracking database is important in this infestation prevention effort.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support legislative and funding efforts and necessary regulatory approvals to advance Monterey County projects that protect water resources and the environment. Support efforts to provide for appropriate planning efforts (e.g., Salinas River Management Program HCP, Groundwater Sustainability). Support regional wastewater collection and recycling efforts, and the disposition of County sanitation districts to public utility purveyors.

## Public Safety

### ***Legislative Principles – Public Safety***

#### **General**

Support efforts to protect life and property through the delivery of emergency response, law enforcement, custody, and rehabilitation services that provide a high level of safety to residents and visitors. Support funding for programs that assist the County with efforts aimed at reducing crime, enhancing public safety through community partnerships and multi-jurisdictional efforts, providing alternatives to incarceration, increasing access to justice by providing the community with adequate and accessible facilities (e.g., proposed South County court facilities, Family Justice Center), and to provide court security services. Support justice policy reforms that advance racially equitable public safety. Support efforts to fund public safety facilities, equipment, training and programs. Support funding for programs that assist the County with broad based Emergency Management (response, mitigation, prevention, and recovery), emergency, disaster, and homeland security preparedness, including efforts at achieving communications interoperability for field response and 911 communications. Support collaborative efforts to maintain and increase public safety, prevent and reduce the frequency, severity, and impact of fire and other natural or man caused disasters.

#### **Violence Prevention**

Support collaborative efforts to maintain and increase public safety, prevent and reduce the frequency, severity, and impact of criminal behavior on the community, and the long-term effects of violence, especially youth violence, and trauma. Support federal gun control actions to prevent death and injury. Support evidence-based approaches and services for the rehabilitation and community re-entry of juvenile and adult offenders, and strategies to deter criminal behavior and promote law-abiding lifestyle choices, and a healthy family environment. Support efforts to recognize and protect victim's rights and the restoration of justice (e.g., work of the Restorative Justice Commission) while promoting healing. Support efforts to fund County and collaborative efforts aimed at preventing and reducing violence (e.g., gang violence, domestic violence) and other law offenders (e.g., human exploitation/trafficking), recognizing a public health approach to the prevention of violence and in support of the strategies outlined in the *Building Safe & Thriving Communities Action Plan (2015)*.

### ***Legislative Priorities – Public Safety***

#### **Emergency Communications**

The COVID-19 pandemic and projections for more frequent and severe extreme weather events demonstrate the need to ensure the County is prepared and has a coordinated system in place to respond to disasters while maintaining continuity of operations. Regional planning must take place to develop technology and communication systems that are functional in a mutual aid response situation. Funding is needed to support needed technologies for operation continuity such as alternate 911 dispatch centers, next generation 911, and enhancement of existing communications and information management systems by leveraging cloud-based technology.

Enhancing communication with respect to public safety is paramount to assisting in emergencies. This includes radio communication, Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), interoperability with neighboring agencies, and the coordination of various data points that are used to manage the Internet of Things (IoT). Next Generation 911 (NG911) technology is currently being implemented throughout the state. This process will take time and there may be additional funding and support required as technology changes along with public demands and expectations. Text to 911 was implemented statewide in 2021, the County of Monterey has been accepting text since 2017. This feature of communicating assists with those that are unable to make voice calls.

As of July 16, 2022, there is an alternate three-digit number for suicide prevention and mental health crisis, 988. By legislative mandate in California, 911 centers and public safety will need to modify existing responses to transition to a fully implemented 988 system by January 1, 2030.

The COVID19 pandemic has identified new needs to increase social distancing between staff in the Emergency Communications Center. Also, it has become necessary to consider web-based emergency communications systems that can be accessed remotely to ensure continuity of emergency coordination from the 911 center.

Monterey County Emergency Communications Department and the Office of Emergency Services are designated as the Alerting Authority for the Monterey County Operational Area and its political subdivisions. As the designated authority, these agencies are charged with the responsibility to alert and warn the public when there is an impending natural or human-made disaster, threat, or dangerous or missing person. Alerting Authorities may have a range of unique alerting and dissemination technology at their disposal to alert the public of an emergency. These systems could include, but are not limited to, emergency telephone networks, sirens, or digital road signs.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support funding for expanded dispatch and web-based communication systems to allow the Emergency Communications Department to operate from multiple locations in case of disaster, pandemic, or other unforeseen circumstances. Support efforts to modernize and expand Alert and Warning Systems; support efforts to integrate Alert and Warning Systems with Evacuation Notification systems across jurisdictional boundaries, including county to county.

### **FEMA Disaster Assistance Cost Recovery**

The Monterey County Office of Emergency Services (OES) continues to work with the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to recover costs related to emergency work for the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, 2020 Wildfires, and 2021 Winter Storms. Monterey County has experienced several major disaster events and is concerned that FEMA may reduce disaster related reimbursement funding and/or change the manner in which disaster events qualify for reimbursement.

The County has submitted millions of dollars in FEMA Public Assistance grants related to the declared COVID-19 emergency as well as the declared wildfires of 2020. The amount of time for these grant applications to be reviewed by FEMA has been considerable. In some cases, the County is required to wait two years to recover approved and expended costs for its disaster response and recovery efforts.

With the County recovering from multiple significant events over the past two years, OES is working to increase staff capacity to meet the time consuming, complex, and cumbersome process of ensuring

documentation and projects are submitted to CalOES and FEMA in an efficient and effective manner so as to recover as many costs as possible.

The County participated in the Government Sponsored Private Property Debris Removal Program managed by CalOES and CalRecycle after the 2020 Wildfires. Debris removal was completed in August 2021. The County has not received a Memorandum of Understanding from CalOES outlining the responsibilities of the County to collect insurance monies from participating property owners; nor has the County received invoices or receipts per parcel. Until such time, the County cannot move forward with ensuring there have not been a duplication of benefits per 44 C.F.R. §§ 206.252(c) and 253(a).

Monterey County OES recommends CalOES and FEMA evaluate policies in the FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide to address Private Property Debris Removal Program eligibility for structures with multiple standing walls, communities with gates, and communities with home owner associations to make them more equitable, efficient, and streamlined.

After the 2020 Wildfires, the River Fire Burn Scar has created regular debris, mud, and flood flows for residents downslope. The most notable event was the 2021 Winter Storms, in which 25 residential properties were damaged or destroyed. Due to the scale of the damage, residents have been unable to access any disaster relief services. Most notably is the complex challenges surrounding mud and flood flows from County, State, and Federal wildland into residential areas, impacting private roads. Some of these private residential roads impacted are not owned by any one person or group of individuals and therefore the cost and responsibility of mud and debris removal on these roads is unknown.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support continued FEMA reimbursement to Public Assistance grants at the highest level possible. Support streamlining the timeline for the FEMA Public Assistance grant program and disbursement of funds. Support streamlining disaster debris removal programs to ensure equity and applicability to the needs of disaster victims.

## **Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery**

Monterey County is vulnerable to a wide range of natural and manmade hazards that threaten the life and safety of residents and visitors and has the potential to damage or destroy both public and private property and disrupt the local economy and overall quality of life. The COVID-19 pandemic and projections for more frequent and severe extreme weather events demonstrate the need to ensure the County is prepared and has a coordinated system in place to respond to disasters while maintaining continuity of operations. Regional planning must take place to develop technology and communication systems that are functional in a mutual aid response situation.

The Monterey County Office of Emergency Services (OES) 2022-25 Strategic Plan is currently being implemented to increase the County's capacity to manage emergencies of any size or type, planned or unexpected, through the four phases of emergency management: preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery – improving the County's ability to manage emergencies, leading to increased resilience. The Plan prioritizes standardizing the County Emergency Management Program; ensuring the County's readiness to respond; train the emergency management workforce of the future; and encourage a paradigm shift through engagement.

The limited availability, frequency, and location of California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI) hosted courses is problematic – and available course are outdated and slow to meet changing industry standards.

Additionally, funding for emergency management training to be hosted by the Operational Area is limited and very competitive. The County supports increasing appropriations for CSTI and Operational Area hosted courses.

To effectively manage the Operational Area Grant program and increase revenue from state, federal, non-profit, and private grant programs for public safety goods and services, Monterey County OES will be re-evaluating and improving internal policies, procedures, workflows, and controls of all grants. Local and federal procurement policies and program requirements are complex, and the staff time required is significant and often costs double the amount of management and administration award. The County supports increasing the percentage of management and administration costs allowed for preparedness grants, specifically in the Homeland Security Grant Program.

In 2021, Monterey County OES wrote a grant for the federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for home hardening and defensible space on private residential property. Due to the complexities of federal procurement policies, program requirements, and inequity of the benefit-cost analysis tool the County withdrew the application. The County supports changes to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to better support projects directly impacting private residential property, and reevaluation of the benefit-cost analysis tool for socio-economic inequities - prioritizing vulnerable and disenfranchised communities. The County further supports more wildfire specific eligible projects within the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and reevaluation of the exclusion of projects that are currently considered “response” projects but are also very feasibly “mitigation” projects (i.e., development or improvement of roads to increase capacity during mass evacuations).

The demand for emergency management staff has increased significantly to meet the demands of new and emerging threats, cascading impacts, rising disaster costs, degrading community lifelines, a changing operating environment, and increased community needs. Funding for local agencies through FEMA’s Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) is insufficient to meet the increased staffing needs. Since Fiscal Year 2016, EMPG funds have increased by only \$49 million nationwide, while the frequency and severity of emergencies have doubled. The County supports State and Federal increased appropriations for local agencies through the EMPG program and establishing additional grant programs for which local agencies can apply.

**Community Disaster Resilience.** In 2021, the Board of Supervisors adopted the Monterey County Community Resilience Plan. The Plan outlines six strategies for increasing resilience: Build Social Capital, Enhance Emergency Services Infrastructure, Move Toward Sustainability, Create Healthy Communities, Encourage Resilient Households, and Empower Social Mobility. Cumulatively these strategies result in 61 initiatives that are intended to be implemented over the next several years.

**Medical Reimagine Public Libraries as Disaster Hubs.** There are 21 libraries in the County, 16 of which are Monterey County Free Libraries that offer free tutoring, free Wi-Fi and computer access, and educational programs for County residents. These libraries are a key source of social capital for the community, as they are trusted and familiar places for residents when searching for resources; thus, libraries are a valuable resource for disseminating pre- and post- disaster information.

Recent disaster events have highlighted the important and expanded role public libraries play in enhancing community resiliency and post-disaster recovery efforts. Libraries serve as vital information hubs to connect residents to disaster resources and services, providing free access to technology and essential information. The role libraries play can be greatly expanded with investments in independent/redundant power and connectivity, flexible facilities that are ADA compliant, and staff education and training (e.g., disaster protocols, first aid, CPR, AED, FEMA, etc.).



**Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator:** The Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) is a role with a set of duties defined by the California Health and Safety Code Section 1797.153. These regulations task the MHOAC with responsibility for seventeen essential functions related to health and medical needs. During normal operations, the MHOAC is responsible for collaborating with local and regional emergency planners to develop and maintain medical and health disaster plans. In Monterey County, the EMS Agency staffs the MHOAC position and maintains a 24-hour-per-day, 365-days-per-year single point of contact for the program.

When the local Office of Emergency Services (OES) activates the EOC due to a declared emergency, the MHOAC role becomes one of heightened significance. In the event of a local, state, or federal declaration of emergency, the MHOAC performs essential functions within the Operations Branch of the Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and becomes a primary point of contact for the coordination of medical and health resources between local, regional, and state authorities. Largely concerned with the procurement and distribution of necessary resources during emergencies and disasters, the MHOAC becomes increasingly vital to an effective emergency response the longer an emergency persists. The EMS Agency has worked to expand the development of processes and technical resources available to assist with this mission. The EMS Agency has expanded staffing and personnel capabilities to fulfill this role.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts that assist the County with disaster prevention, preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery; medical and health disaster planning; coordination, response and mitigation including infrastructure and emergency response personnel, homeland security needs, and communications service expansion and interoperability. Support efforts to fund FEMA and oppose changes that would reduce or make it more difficult for counties to qualify for FEMA reimbursements. Support efforts to provide financial assistance to local governments and private property owners to efficiently repair homes, businesses, infrastructure, and the natural environment after disaster events. Advocate for additional funding for emergency operations planning, exercises to validate the planning process, trainings, and equipment; seek funding for emergency planning specifically addressing the safety of seniors and those with disabilities; and increase access to funding for local jurisdictions for disaster-related damages. Support emergency management education and preparedness to underserved populations. Support efforts to fund wildfire prevention efforts (e.g., fuel management) and to provide adequate resources to local governments and communication to sensitive populations to mitigate the impacts of investor-owned utilities power shut off events.

Support funding for expanded dispatch and web-based communication systems to allow the Emergency Communications Department to operate from multiple locations in case of disaster, pandemic, or other unforeseen circumstances. Support the Office of Emergency Services in seeking funding and resources to implement Community Resilience Initiatives, including efforts to expand and fund public libraries' expanding role in community disaster response and recovery.

## **Wildfires**

As the threat of wildfires has increased so has the County's need arisen to focus on fire fuel management measures and the ability to respond to Community Power Resiliency (formerly Public Safety Power Shut-off (PSPS)) events – which have significant impacts on our community and local economy, often leaving large segments of the population without power for days at a time.



**Community Power Resiliency.** Monterey County received grants funds through the Community Power Resiliency and Public Safety Power Shutoff programs to increase resilience throughout the community. These grants have been extremely beneficial in immediately impacting the community by providing the necessary infrastructure for uninterrupted power and respite from extreme weather.

**Vegetation Management Program.** The CAL FIRE Vegetation Management Program has been extremely effective in the Monterey County Operational Area. The County is extremely grateful to Governor for committing resources and reducing “red tape” to efficiently and effectively conduct these projects to protect life and property.

**Homeowners Insurance in High Fire Risk Areas.** . An estimated 10 million Californians live in wildland-urban interface (WUI) areas, leaving them especially vulnerable to the spread of wildfire. It’s estimated that over 11,000 residences in Monterey County are in high or extreme fire risk zones. California has encountered unprecedented wildfire activity over the past decade. The last major fires in Monterey County were the 2016 Soberanes Fire which over 82 days burned 57 homes, 11 outbuildings, and consumed 132,000 acres along the Big Sur coast, and the Carmel River, and Dolan fires in 2020 that consumed 179,719 acres and damaged or destroyed 130 structures.

As a result of the record claims paid out in recent years, insurers that operate in the state have been reevaluating their exposure in fire hazard areas. Insurance rates have been raised dramatically in certain areas and insurers are increasingly declining to write new policies and refusing to renew insurance even for longtime customers.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support continued funding for Community Power Resiliency and Vegetation Management programs benefiting Monterey County. Support a collaborative approach between the state, insurance providers and policyholders to develop a comprehensive program encouraging insurers to write policies in high wildfire risk areas where community wildfire risk mitigation programs meet agreed upon standards. Support policies that require insurers to offer rate reductions to homeowners that implement specified home hardening and defensible space mitigations to improve the wildfire resilience of their homes. Support state-funded programs to aid socially vulnerable homeowners with home retrofits and defensible space efforts in order to mitigate individual and community wildfire risk, including mitigation efforts necessary to meet state or federal programs designed to increase insurance affordability and availability.

## **Lithium-Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems Facilities**

The Moss Landing Lithium-Ion Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), the world’s largest BESS, was connected to California’s power grid and began operating in December 2020. The project is located at the retired Moss Landing gas-fired power plant, which was built by PG&E near Moss Landing Harbor, Monterey County, California, US. This facility houses large quantities of LG and Tesla lithium-ion battery packs managed by Vistra and PG&E respectively. Since 2021, there have been several incidents at the site resulting in a response from the local fire protection district, regional HAZMAT team, and law enforcement; on one occasion resulting a shelter-in-place issued to the surrounding residential community.

**Key Objectives:**

Monterey County Office of Emergency Services would like the State to increase regulations around safety requirements and community emergency planning for Lithium-Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems, a new technology, similarly to requirements placed on refineries.

**County Control of Emergency Medical Services**

In 1980, the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Act empowered counties to establish local EMS agencies (LEMSAs) to develop and implement EMS systems. LEMSAs oversee and coordinate a systems approach to the delivery of EMS services by both public and private providers, hospitals, and tertiary resources.

The Monterey County Emergency Medical Services Agency is a Bureau within the Monterey County Health Department and is designated by the Board of Supervisors as the LEMSA that oversees the delivery of EMS within Monterey County. A high performing EMS System consists of multiple agencies with a variety of functions working together to provide high-quality, patient-centered care to those suffering from a medical emergency.

The Monterey County EMS System is comprised of ground and air ambulance providers, dispatch/communications centers, fire and rescue service providers, hospital emergency departments, specialty care centers for trauma, stroke, and heart attack patients, and the Monterey County EMS Agency. The EMS Agency is responsible for managing and coordinating these agencies to ensure that the community receives a coordinated and appropriate EMS response when calling 911 and, ultimately, the best possible care. However, the EMS Agency's responsibilities do not stop when a patient reaches the doors of the hospital. The EMS Agency is also responsible for ensuring that our local hospitals are able to appropriately receive patients from EMS and, when needed, provide online medical direction to EMS providers in the field. Additionally, the EMS Agency has the responsibility for designation and oversight of specialty care centers for the treatment of trauma, stroke, and ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) patients in Monterey County.

The EMS Agency also takes the lead in ensuring that EMS service provider agencies are prepared to respond to disasters and mass casualty incidents (MCIs) involving multiple patients. Advance preparations include building a robust system of mutual aid partners, regulating medical supply inventories, participation in training and exercise opportunities, and drafting and editing various disaster-related plans.

Any attempts to limit the authority or move control of local EMS systems from the counties would cause significant disruption to the coordinated care that is provided in EMS systems.

**Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to maintain the authority and governing role of counties and their local emergency medical services agencies to plan, implement, and evaluate all aspects and components of the emergency medical services system. Support efforts to maintain the administration and medical control of emergency medical services, pre-hospital emergency medical care, and ambulance services at the county level. Support efforts to adequately fund EMS systems.

## Juvenile Justice

SB 823 (2020) realigned the entirety of the juvenile justice system to counties. The success of youth, and those with the most serious risk factors and highest needs, are at the forefront of our considerations in this endeavor. The support, structure, and resources necessary for successful implementation by county probation and partners requires significant as well as ongoing investment and resources from the state. Additionally, continued implementation must account for the following tenets: 1) policies must not destabilize the system or harm local efforts where we safely supervise and treat 90 percent of the youth in the community; 2) policies must allow flexibility for probation to tailor programs, services, capacity, and delivery methods to the needs of the youth; 3) additional investments are needed to redesign and transform our existing physical spaces into more therapeutic home-like environments that is reflective of the trauma-informed work probation does with youth; and 4) funding must be stable, secure, and ongoing.

### Key Objectives

Support efforts and policies that provide resources, flexibility, and innovation for addressing the needs of youth in secure settings as well as probation's ability to transition and serve youth in least restrictive settings. Promote training and skill development that assist probation's well-trained staff to serve youth and their families.

Support policies to ensure that courts have confidence to serve youth in the juvenile system avoiding transfers to adult court. Support funding and programs to assist youth in their reentry including housing, workforce development, and education among others.

Additionally, investments in planning and modernization of county juvenile facilities are critical to ensure facilities reflect the types of environments which foster evidence-based programming and support youth in age appropriate and trauma informed ways as well as the safety of the youth and probation staff. Support policies that allow probation departments and counties to develop local responses to address the needs of secure track youth and provide necessary funding to support critical services and programs for youth.

## Adult Pretrial Services

Probation departments are working throughout the State to support the courts in their constitutional duties. Probation serves the court as a neutral party, accountable to the courts and the public, to provide information to judicial officers prior to arraignment to maximize the safe release of defendants and provide a level of accountability for the accused to return to court. Probation's role as both a county department and as an arm of the court enables accountable, transparent, and efficient connection to the services a specific client may need to enhance safety.

### Key Objectives

Support a state pretrial system that mitigates justice by geography through a state framework that connects the court system to county services and monitoring. Pretrial services must be connected to the courts and provide confidence to courts to make safe release decisions based on informed factors. State funding for comprehensive pretrial services is necessary to provide courts with options to encourage appropriate and safe releases and should cover the full costs of enacted policies at a level that does not require county supplementation.

## Violence Prevention and Reduction

Monterey County recognizes the devastating societal impacts of gang violence – not only on the victims of gang-related crimes, but also the lives of gang members and their families and has identified gang violence prevention and reduction as a top priority. The County is committed to working with law enforcement, allied agencies, municipalities, and community-based organizations to prevent and reduce violence, especially gang violence, and promote healthy and safe communities.

**County Violence Prevention and Reduction Initiatives:** Monterey County has a full array of County-led initiatives designed to prevent and reduce gang violence utilizing a public health approach to address its underlying causes – including prevention, intervention, enforcement, and reentry initiatives (e.g., Building Safe and Thriving Communities Action Plan; Silver Star Resource Center; Striving to Reduce Youth Violence Everywhere (STRYVE); and Truancy Abatement). Monterey County hosts an annual Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Conference (My Life Story) geared towards youth-serving organizations and hosts youth, adult and parent panelists who share of their lived experience as a result of being impacted by gangs, violence, and system involvement. Each of these areas would benefit greatly from additional federal and state support.

**County Collaborative Efforts:** The County is also involved in other countywide collaborative efforts such as the Community Alliance for Safety and Peace (CASP) in Salinas, Seaside Youth Violence Prevention Task Force, Building Healthy Communities in East Salinas, the North Monterey County Community Alliance in Castroville, Impact Monterey County, Moms Demand Action Be SMART Monterey County Chapter, and the California Cities Violence Prevention Network.

**Federal Assistance for Public Safety:** Monterey County's federal advocacy program related to violence prevention is focused on supporting U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) programs that provide critical support to county courts and corrections, juvenile justice, and law enforcement agencies. These programs include, but are not limited to, the Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant Program, which helps counties across nation test emerging and evidence-based approaches to the public safety challenges facing their jurisdictions, and the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP), which reimburses counties for costs associated with the incarceration of undocumented immigrants. These DOJ programs provide critical support to the County's efforts to safely lower jail populations, fight recidivism and combat drug trafficking while providing treatment and alternatives to incarceration.

**Gun Violence:** Monterey County residents are adversely impacted by gun violence that results in an average of fifty deaths every year, half of whom are youth homicide victims aged 10-24 years old, and over a hundred life threatening gunshot injuries that require trauma-level hospital care. The County is committed to supporting efforts to close gaps in the current patchwork of regulation, including those gaps that enable felons, people convicted of domestic violence, children, those found to be a danger to themselves or others, and other prohibited persons to access firearms and ammunition, and those that allow the trafficking of illegal guns.

### Key Objectives:

Support federal and state efforts to fund violence prevention and reduction efforts and local law enforcement programs designed to reduce violence, especially gang violence; support a public health approach for violence prevention and community-wide collaborative efforts, including school-based violence prevention efforts; support continued participation in the California Cities Violence Prevention Network. Support efforts that increase supports for community promotion of peace and equity. Support efforts that promote community programs that prevent childhood trauma and intergenerational violence,

such as parenting education programs. Support efforts to enhance data-sharing between County departments and local jurisdictions. Support federal efforts to adopt stricter controls governing the sale, transfer, possession, manufacturing, and distribution of all firearms, dangerous weapons, and ammunition; support repeal of the Dickey Amendment, which complicates public health research into the causes and consequences of gun violence by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

## **Family Violence Prevention**

Violence adversely impacts all Californians, particularly those in disadvantaged communities, at disproportionate rates, and that these impacts have long-term and wide-ranging health and economic consequences for these individuals, families, communities, and state as a whole. The effects of violence in the family environment, particularly on children as victims or witnesses, both short and long-term, are well documented by research.

The existing efforts to provide services to children of parents on probation for domestic violence have been on-going for years through several County operated and supported programs. The Child Advocate Program (CAP) operated by the Probation Department is funded by a First 5 grant and serves children aged 0 – 5 and their families. Mental health and emergency safe house shelter services to victims of domestic violence are coordinated by the District Attorney's Office Victim Witness Program in partnership with County Behavioral Health and community-based organizations. Due to the number of domestic violence cases, the need to identify and intervene as soon as possible, focus a wider age range, additional resources are required to manage and limit the negative impact of domestic violence on children, victims, and the community at large. An expansion of CAP, mental health services and support of emergency and transitional shelters would assist in addressing these unmet needs.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to build safe communities, use data-informed approaches, pursue trauma-informed care, and work with key partners to implement violence prevention strategies. Support efforts aimed at reducing multi-generational violence, including in the family and home environment, mitigating the long-term effects of violence-induced trauma, and promoting efforts and services to stabilize families, increase their self-sufficiency, and provide a healthy environment for child development.

## **Post-Sentence Relief and Reintegration to Reduce Recidivism**

Monterey County provides attorney services to assist persons convicted of crimes with reintegration back into our community, including services to persons seeking to obtain post-conviction dismissals of their cases under Penal Code section 1203.4, charge and sentence reductions under Proposition 47, certificates of rehabilitation, and gubernatorial pardons. These services greatly expand the social and financial opportunities of people who may have received a criminal conviction and correspondingly decrease the probability they may reoffend. Due to the large volume of people seeking this assistance, the County would benefit greatly from additional federal and state support.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to reduce reliance on incarceration without compromising public safety (e.g., bail reform efforts that address current socioeconomic inequities). Support efforts to reform the cash-bail system while ensuring that counties have the funding necessary for planning, pre-trial assessments, and

supervision. Support funding for re-entry teams comprised of jail civilian program specialists, social workers, and eligibility workers to identify and alleviate barriers to successful reintegration into the community after release from jail. Re-entry planning would include but not be limited to obtaining housing, driver license, Medi-Cal, cash aid, and employment prior to release from county jail.

## Offenders with Mental Health Conditions

Many defendants in the criminal justice system suffer from mental health conditions. In the justice system, there currently is no distinction between offenders diagnosed with a mental illness and the general population. Monterey County supports funding and programs designed to divert offenders diagnosed with mental illness by connecting them with treatment as opposed to incarceration. Monterey County supports adequate funding be made available for housing and delivering comprehensive services needed to better support these offenders to address the underlying mental health condition that manifests in criminal violations.

Monterey County supports collaborative efforts between state and local mental health practitioners and corrections officials to host Jail Based Competency Treatment (JBCT) programs and other measures to increase capacity for incompetent to stand trial (IST) treatment in local jails. There is a long felony IST waitlist, and the County supports solutions to resolve waitlist issues. Given the pressing need to significantly shorten days individuals spend on the waitlist, the state included provisions in a budget trailer bill that would authorize the suspension of county LPS patient intake at state hospitals if IST solutions are insufficient; a requirement to return existing LPS patients back to counties would follow. The County opposes the state utilizing this LPS “trigger/backstop” and supports efforts to develop alternative IST solutions, as well as ensuring the necessary resources and infrastructure align with any change to the division of state and county responsibilities.

In 2020, the County entered into a contract with the California Department of State Hospitals and began operating a JBCT Program in the Monterey County Jail. The County’s JBCT is a regional model and serves inmates from Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties.

**Incompetent to Stand Trial.** County Public Guardians have the authority under current law to conduct conservatorship investigations and are mindful of the potential costs and ramifications of additional mandates or duties in this area. Collaboration is necessary among the California Department of State Hospitals (DSH), County Public Guardians, Behavioral Health Departments, and County Sheriffs to find secure placements for individuals originating from DSH facilities, county jails, or who are under conservatorship. A shared funding and service model is needed for complex placements, such as the Enhanced Treatment Program. Efforts must be opposed to shift financial and other liability and risk for state DSH responsibilities to counties, and instead support partnering with the state in ensuring that diversion and community-based restoration services are adequately resourced and supported while retaining access to state hospitals for the most high-risk individuals. State support is needed to establish additional secure placement options for adults and juveniles who are conserved or involved in the local or state criminal justice systems, both with capital facility investments and by eliminating statutory and administrative barriers to create local flexibility. While existing provisions allow for competency restoration to occur in community settings or in locked sub-acute care facilities (IMDs, mental health rehabilitation centers) the lack of secure placement options across the state and the federal IMD exclusion from Medicaid limit options to provide treatment for IST individuals.

**Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to fund programs that assist the County in addressing the needs of offenders with mental health conditions, including funding to deploy behavioral health specialists with law enforcement personnel in the community. Oppose utilizing the LPS “trigger/backstop.” Support alternative IST waitlist solutions. Support efforts to fund provision of restoration services to those with pending misdemeanor charges deemed IST. Support efforts to expand funding and options to provide treatment and care, including but not limited to seeking a waiver for the IMD exclusion.

**Summary of Changes and  
Redline Version of 2023-24 Legislative Program**

This document is a redline version of the 2023-24 Legislative Program, and shows all changes made within the document from the Board's previously adopted Legislative Program. A summary of major changes is included below.

PAGE #	SUMMARY OF CHANGE(S)
<b>LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM</b>	
11-19	COVID-19 Pandemic Disparate Impacts Legislative Advocacy Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rewritten: The section has been summarized and relevant remaining COVID-19 priorities have been incorporated elsewhere in the document.</li> </ul>
20-23	Monterey County 2023 Legislative Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Summary of 2023 legislative priorities. These will become part of the agenda for the Board's 2023 Legislative Workshop.</li> </ul>
24-27	Strategic Collaboration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Added CSAC, RCRC and NACo legislative and policy priorities for 2023.</li> </ul>
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>	
28	General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Support for student debt relief.</li> </ul>
29-31	Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Support for Farm Bill reauthorization</li> <li>REWRITTEN: Cannabis section</li> </ul>
32-33	Arts & Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Support for libraries as community hubs, especially in disaster events.</li> </ul>
33-34	Broadband & Telecommunications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>REWRITTEN: Broadband and Telecommunications section</li> </ul>
34-35	Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Update on current situation in Monterey County.</li> <li>Add: Local Housing Trust Fund section.</li> </ul>
37	Labor Force <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Information on workforce challenges.</li> </ul>
38	Rising Fuel Costs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Language to address possible legislative proposals related to the Governor's special session on gas prices.</li> </ul>
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	
41-42	Civil Rights & Civic Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Support for public bodies subject to the Brown Act to meet remotely and support for State funding to provide stipends for those elected/appointed to serve on local boards/commissions subject to the Brown Act.</li> <li>Add: Support for State funding to provide translation services.</li> <li>Add: Support for efforts to protect and defend marriage equality and reproductive freedoms.</li> </ul>
42	The Ralph M. Brown Act <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Support for expansion of the ability for remote Board participation at public meetings</li> </ul>
42-43	Public Records Act



PAGE #	SUMMARY OF CHANGE(S)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Support for easing the administrative burdens of complying with Public Record Act requests.</li> </ul>
43	<p>Workers Compensation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Oppose the expansion of workers' compensation presumptions and changes to individual elements of the overall system.</li> </ul>

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	
46	<p>General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Support America's Essential Hospitals (AEH) initiatives to support the public health safety net system.</li> <li>Add: Support California Association of Public Hospitals (CAPH) efforts to fix the Medicaid calculation to not penalize hospital systems in the DSH calculation.</li> <li>Add: Support CAPH efforts that support, reform, protect and improve the public health care system.</li> </ul>
47	<p>Public Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Information on local staffing shortages.</li> </ul>
47	<p>Healthy Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Support policies that bolster healthy communities (i.e., built and social environments, climate change mitigation and resiliency, etc.)</li> </ul>
47	<p>Healthcare for All</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Support and expand efforts to address access to healthcare for all.</li> </ul>
48-49	<p>Public health, Health Care Coverage, Access &amp; Integration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Support for universal health insurance.</li> <li>Add: Support CalAIM implementation.</li> </ul>
50	<p>Behavioral Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Support for behavioral health funding and CARE Act funding and implementation.</li> </ul>
55	<p>Child Support Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Support funding for local child support agencies.</li> </ul>
56-57	<p>Homelessness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: State efforts to address homelessness.</li> <li>Add: Data on homelessness in Monterey County</li> <li>Add: Support reevaluation of funding formula allocations for homelessness.</li> </ul>
59-60	<p>Honor Our Veterans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Support the establishment of a pharmacy at the VA clinic in Marina.</li> <li>Add: Support efforts to honor and recognize County veterans</li> </ul>
	INFRASTRUCTURE
62	<p>Resilient &amp; Sustainable Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Support for electric vehicle deployment and charging stations.</li> <li>Add: Support infrastructure improvements that address health and environmental concerns.</li> </ul>
63	<p>Transportation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Support revenue generation replacement to address long term decline in gas tax revenue associated with increased adoption of electric vehicles.</li> </ul>
66	<p>Preserve and Enhance Water Supply</p>

PAGE #	SUMMARY OF CHANGE(S)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: California Water Supply Strategy</li> </ul>
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	
70	Emergency Communications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Section on Emergency Communications</li> <li>Add: 988 system implementation.</li> </ul>
70-71	FEMA Disaster Assistance Recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Support efforts to improve the FEMA reimbursement process.</li> </ul>
71-73	Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rewritten: Entire section.</li> <li>Add: Community Disaster Resilience Plan.</li> <li>Add: Reimagine public libraries as disaster hubs.</li> <li>Add: Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator.</li> </ul>
74-75	Wildfires <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Community power resiliency section.</li> <li>New: Vegetation management section.</li> <li>Rewritten: Wildfire Insurance section.</li> </ul>
75	Lithium-Ion Battery Storage System Facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Support safety regulations related to battery storage facilities.</li> </ul>
75-76	County Control of Emergency Medical Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rewritten: entire section.</li> </ul>
76	Juvenile Justice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Support funding and policies that strengthen the juvenile justice system.</li> </ul>
77	Adult Pretrial Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New: Support a state pretrial system.</li> </ul>
79-80	Access to Justice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delete section</li> </ul>
80-81	Offenders with Mental Health Conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add: Incompetent to Stand Trial</li> </ul>

# **MONTEREY COUNTY**

## **LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**



# **2023-24**

***DRAFT for Consideration by the Board of Supervisors on January 10, 2023***

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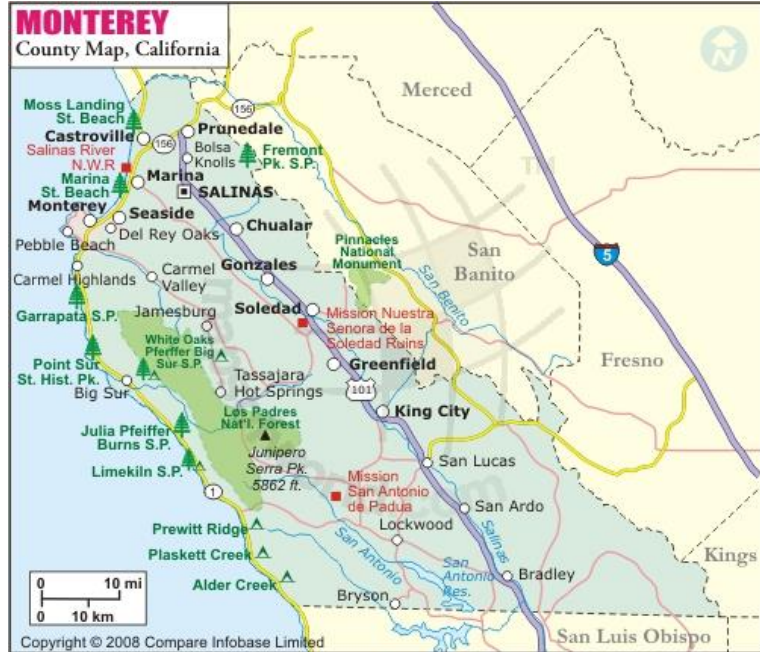
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## About Monterey County

The County of Monterey is located on the beautiful Pacific Coast of California, south of San Francisco and north of Los Angeles. The County is comprised of 3,771 square miles and includes twelve incorporated cities and sixteen unincorporated areas. The County seat and largest municipality is Salinas.

**Demographics.** In 2021 the U.S. Census Bureau listed the County's population at 437,325: 60% Hispanic, 28% White, 7% Asian, 3% Black, and 3% other. The County population is relatively young with a median age of 34.4. At 21.7%, Monterey County has the highest percent of noncitizens of any California County (*2020 Census Research by the Public Policy Institute of California*).

There are 209,045 registered voters in Monterey County (*as of 10/24/22*)



**Labor Force.** The California Employment Development Department lists the County labor force at 219,500, with 4% unemployment (September 2022 report). The County of Monterey is the largest employer with 5,737 full-time employees and a \$1.85 billion budget (Fiscal Year 2022-23).

**Economy.** Monterey County's economy is primarily based on agriculture in the Salinas Valley and tourism in the coastal regions. It is home to an extensive array of education, research, and military institutions. The health care, non-profit, and government sectors are also among the County's largest economic drivers.

**Agriculture.** Monterey County is one of the nation's top agricultural producers. Agriculture is the County's largest economic and employment sector generating \$11.7 billion annually and providing 63,921 jobs (*Economic Contributions of Monterey County Agriculture, 2018*). Unlike most agricultural crops across the United States that are machine harvested, the crops grown in Monterey County are dependent upon a highly skilled labor force. The vast majority of companies based in the County are family-owned and operated.

**Hospitality.** Monterey County has long been a tourist destination attracting 3.9 million overnight visitors annually and generating \$2.54 billion in spending which supports 21,500 jobs ([Monterey County Travel Impact Report 2021 - Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)). With a worldwide reputation, visitors delight in destinations such as the Monterey Bay Aquarium, the National Steinbeck Center, 17-Mile Drive, Cannery Row, Fisherman's Wharf, Pinnacles National Park, and the Monterey Wine Country. Visitors enjoy a wide range of recreational activities and nearly 300 annual special events.

**Higher Education & Research.** The Monterey Bay region has a diverse concentration of higher education and research institutions. The area boasts nine institutions of higher learning, five wildlife and/or marine-related reserves, and seven government agencies, each one contributing to an extensive research environment. In addition, six language programs ranging from community college to graduate level are



available in the region, as are several graduate business programs, a law school, and a public policy institute. The County is also home to one of the greatest collections of foreign language assets in the world. In 2014, the Library of Congress approved a trademark for Monterey County as “*Language Capital of the World®*.” Together these institutions have operating budgets of \$1.7 billion, including more than \$410 million in research and grant funding annually. Approximately 14,000 faculty, staff and researchers are directly employed, and 79,000 students are enrolled annually ([Monterey Bay Economic Partnership](#)).

**Military Institutions.** Monterey County has a long and proud military history and through its direct and indirect effects touches all major industries in the private sector. The County is home to ten military missions, providing significant local economic benefits. In FY 2020, Monterey County had about 3,000 national security employees and received \$165.9 million in national security investment, generating about: \$3.7 billion in economic activity, 17,000 full-time equivalent jobs, \$527.9 million in local, state and federal tax revenue ([2021 California Statewide National Security Economic Impacts Study](#)). Per the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the veteran population in Monterey County was approximately 20,000 in FY 2021, providing a total VA benefit contribution of nearly \$25 million per year (*FY21 VA National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics*).

## **Legislative Program**

### ***Legislative Program***

Monterey County maintains a long-standing and successful Legislative Program, ensuring that the interests of the County are well represented in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. The Program provides the County a voice in funding and policy decision-making in the state and national capitals and ensures that County leaders are fully apprised of evolving state and federal initiatives impacting the County and its residents. The Legislative Program is managed in accordance with a series of legislative principles and priorities which are designed in support of the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Initiatives. The Strategic Initiatives lay out a forward-looking vision for planning and management of County resources across programs to secure maximum return and benefit for County residents.

### ***Board of Supervisors – Legislative Committee***

The Board of Supervisors has a two-member Legislative Committee, staffed by the County Administrative Office – Intergovernmental & Legislative Affairs Division. The Committee meets regularly to review and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding legislative, budgetary, and regulatory issues that could impact Monterey County, and to direct the efforts of the Strategic Grant Services Program. On an annual basis, the Legislative Committee recommends a Legislative Program and Strategic Grant Services Program Work Plan to the Board of Supervisors. The Legislative Committee also directs the legislative activities of the Committee staff, County departments, and the County's state and federal legislative advocates and grant consultants.

### ***Legislative Policies***

The Board of Supervisors has adopted policies pertaining to the legislative activities of the Board, department heads, County staff, the County's state and federal legislative advocates, and County advisory boards and commissions. ([Policies Governing Legislative Activities rev.1/26/21](#))

### ***Strategic Grant Services Program***

The Board of Supervisors created the Strategic Grants Services Program to concentrate funding efforts on the County's highest priority needs, and projects which require a high level of collaboration among County departments and community partners. The Strategic Grant Services Program works in alignment with the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Initiatives and in close collaboration with the Legislative Program to advocate for maximum funding through competitive state and federal grant programs.

### ***Community Priorities***

In 2018, the Board of Supervisors hosted a community engagement process to identify local priorities. The process included telephone and online surveys as well as five community forums to understand how potential cannabis tax revenues could help meet community needs. The top funding priorities across the County were: 1) education (especially early education and preschool); 2) quality health and mental health services; 3) homeless services; 4) crime and violence prevention and reduction; and 5) affordable housing and displacement prevention. Additional concerns included preservation of existing services, equitable and culturally relevant programs, reparations and expungement, library funding, and animal shelter funding. These results were largely consistent with previous studies (e.g., Impact Monterey County). These community identified priorities have been used to help shape this Legislative Program.

## **COVID-19 Disparate Impacts Legislative Advocacy Priorities**

In August 2020, the Board of Supervisors received the [COVID-19 PANDEMIC DISPARATE IMPACT REPORT: Strategies for Addressing the Disparate Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Communities of Color in Monterey County](#). The report identified~~s~~ the underlying conditions that ~~have~~ contributed to the racial disparities present in the data and statistics of those most impacted by the pandemic in Monterey County, and proposed~~s~~ strategies to address these disparate impacts. [Many of the legislative advocacy priorities detailed in the report are still relevant and have been incorporated into this Legislative Program.](#)

~~Even before the pandemic, Monterey County's Legislative Program focused on numerous legislative priorities in the areas of health, human services, economic development and public safety. The County has adopted a strategy of "Health in All Policies" as part of its efforts to eliminate social, racial, economic, and environmental inequities that impede the attainment and maintenance of good health, including health care access.~~

~~Since March 2020, Congress has enacted six major pieces of legislation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic that have authorized a total of \$4.6 trillion in spending and created a host of new federal programs to assist individuals, businesses, and state and local governments. Much of this assistance is targeted to communities that are suffering disproportionately from the negative health and economic effects caused by the pandemic. Through the CARES Act and American Rescue Plan Act, Monterey County has been allocated over \$128 million in COVID-19 relief funds for pandemic response programs and revenue replacement. The County has used much of this funding, in addition to over \$10 million in competitive grant funding awarded to the Monterey County Health Department, to support COVID-19 mitigation measures in racial and ethnic minority populations. Funding has been used to support the VIDA Project and expand COVID-19 vaccination, testing, and treatment for vulnerable populations; deliver needed preventive and primary health care services to those at higher risk for COVID-19; and expand health centers' operational capacity during the pandemic and beyond.~~

The COVID-19 pandemic has a disparate impact on communities of color, especially in low-income communities. The County's state legislative advocacy efforts have been focused on ensuring those impacts are addressed with equity and inclusion. There has been a very broad range of issues the County has advocated for at the State level, including, but not limited to: unvaccinated youth, emergency rental assistance, vaccine data and equity metrics, vaccine availability and locations, agriculture workers and impacts, Housing for the Harvest and Project Homekey, K-12 education, digital divide, economic impacts and recovery, elections and public access to government, PPE availability and disbursement, and several funding streams through the state budget process that are tied to recovery from the pandemic. While several of these issues have been addressed in some way by the Legislature and Administration, the work required to address and recover from the pandemic is far from complete.

The County will continue to work to secure resources, flexibility, and the workforce necessary to maintain local ongoing coronavirus response efforts, including outreach to underserved populations and collaboration with schools and businesses. This includes negotiating a sustainable state investment in local public health activities while obtaining short-term funding and/or statutory flexibility for urgent needs.

## Increased State and Federal Support and Investment

Despite recent investments, counties cannot continue to meet the unprecedented demands in public health, emergency response, and other vital services without additional state and federal support. Declining local revenues, coupled with the increasing demands on county delivered safety net services makes our situation unsustainable, and puts the health and security of the public, especially communities of color, at risk.

<b>State and Federal Investment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support additional direct fiscal relief to counties.</li> <li>Support maximum flexibility in the usage of federal funds allocated to counties to mitigate direct and indirect COVID-19 costs, revenue losses, and temporary expansion of benefits.</li> </ul>
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## Health

Access to quality healthcare is a fundamental human right. Communities of color have higher rates of underlying health conditions (e.g., diabetes, heart disease, lung disease, etc.) linked to more severe cases of COVID-19. Communities of color also often have less access to quality health care and are disproportionately represented in essential frontline jobs that cannot be done from home, increasing their exposure to the virus.

<b>Health Care for All</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support, deepen, and expand efforts to create equity and eliminate racial disparities by expanding access to health care through community access supports, universal coverage and other steps to improve the access to quality and affordability of health care (e.g., Medi-Cal expansion to undocumented adults and seniors).</li> <li>Support efforts to ensure employers help H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers apply for health insurance through Covered California.</li> <li>Support policies and funding that preserve and expand primary prevention, essential public health functions, and that foster social/racial equity in the areas of community health, health care access (including telehealth), education, and disease prevention.</li> </ul>
<b>Public Health Departments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support increased ongoing (not one time) funding for public health departments to conduct essential activities including testing, case investigation, contact tracing, surveillance, epidemiology, infection control, mitigation, communications, and other preparedness and response measures.</li> <li>Support efforts and funding to enhance public health workforce staffing, infrastructure, and capacity.</li> </ul>
<b>Testing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support increased funding to test individuals that are not connected to a primary health care provider to minimize access barriers for underserved communities and increase capacity to support outbreaks in congregate living settings.</li> <li>Support increasing production of testing supplies to increase the supply of testing kits for health care facility-based testing services.</li> <li>Support funding to deploy testing resources based on the needs of impacted communities.</li> <li>Support reimbursement for the full cost of specimen collection and testing.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support efforts to streamline the process to utilize presumptive eligibility for Medi-Cal for testing purposes.</li> </ul>
<b>Case Investigation and Contact Tracing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support funding to develop and maintain electronic data collection and reporting systems.</li> </ul>
<b>Surveillance, Epidemiology, Infection Control</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Expand shared data collection and improvement of reporting standards for workplace infections</li> <li>▪—Support efforts for state Health and Human Service Agency to alter the Confidential Morbidity Report form to produce more consistent occupation data (currently a write-in response).</li> </ul>
<b>Preparedness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support funding for public health preparedness training and exercises.</li> <li>▪—Support policies that prioritize vaccine distribution through a health equity lens.</li> <li>▪—Support policies that prioritize certain groups to gain access to medications and vaccines based on documented higher risk for serious illness and death.</li> <li>▪—Support efforts to establish and maintain adequate distribution, storage, and administration of vaccines.</li> <li>▪—Support efforts to establish and maintain adequate supply chains for personal protective equipment.</li> </ul>
<b>Public Health Laboratories</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support increased funding and staff training for state and local public health laboratories.</li> </ul>
<b>Commercial Laboratories</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support increased oversight and enforcement of commercial lab responsibilities to ensure compliance with state mandates, state and local health officer orders, and adherence to reporting requirements.</li> </ul>
<b>Alternative Housing Access</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support efforts to expand eligibility for alternate housing to adequately isolate infected or exposed populations to reduce virus transmission (e.g., hotels, emergency rental assistance, Housing for the Harvest program, etc.).</li> </ul>
<b>Isolation Housing Supports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support expanded funding for income replacement and other types of isolation and quarantine supports.</li> </ul>
<b>Health Literacy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support state level policy that documents be produced in the language of our California residents.</li> <li>▪—Continue to request that the State provide pandemic related communications associated with public health, safety, or business guidance in both English and Spanish.</li> </ul>
<b>Access to Healthcare</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support changes to continue the ability for healthcare to provide services using virtual services.</li> <li>▪—Support the expansion or continuation of elimination of cost sharing payments by insurers for plan members treated for COVID-19.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Create an emergency health aid program to raise eligibility thresholds beyond Medi-Cal expansion levels and increase federal matching funds to help cover people who lost their jobs or remain uninsured during the pandemic.</li> <li>▪—Expand testing and treatment (including clinical trials) to cover immigrants and temporary workers, including providing much needed funding for community health centers and removing barriers to permitting coverage under Emergency Medi-Cal.</li> <li>▪—Expand Medi-Cal to include reimbursement for mild to moderate mental health needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic.</li> </ul>
<b>Worker Support and Protections</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support creation of Workforce Safety Councils that build on partnerships between labor, government, and business to work with employers to implement safety protocols, develop and distribute educational materials, and support and fund Workforce Safety Officers to implement health orders and guidance.</li> </ul>
<b>Sick Leave and Family Care Protections</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support policies that expand sick leave and family leave to support workers and their families regardless of immigration status or employment type (i.e., gig-workers).</li> <li>▪—Support State and Federal policies that provide immediate cash assistance for families, such as young child tax credits, regardless of immigration status.</li> </ul>

## Public Assistance for Basic Needs

Safety net services are a critical element of community well-being that help struggling households survive and thrive.

<b>Safety Net and Employment Support Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support funding for basic assistance to households who work in lower wage jobs, are underemployed, or are unemployed through CalFresh/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program, childcare programs, Community Action programs and the CalWORKs/Temporary Assistance to Needy Family (TANF) programs.</li> <li>▪—Support funding for programs that help prevent homelessness and rapidly secure housing (HUD Homeless Assistance, CalWORKs Housing Support, CalWORKs Family Stabilization, Housing Disability Advocacy Program).</li> <li>▪—Support improvements to the CalWORKs/TANF program to modify work participation requirements to better match individual family needs and local economic circumstances and to recognize additional costs to communities as a result of ongoing funding stagnation.</li> <li>▪—Support expansion of wage subsidy programs for households served by both CalFresh/SNAP and CalWORKs/TANF—these programs have proven to be effective local resources for promoting self-sufficiency and establishing a positive work history.</li> <li>▪—Support the continuation of virtual interviews, self-attestation verifications, and other virtual means of submitting required documents for Medi-Cal, CalWORKs and CalWORKs employment services, CalFresh, and general assistance.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support efforts to increase CalFresh/SNAP, Medi-Cal, CalWORKs, CalWORKs employment services, and general assistance benefits, and eliminate eligibility barriers (e.g., residency and citizenship status, household size, income and property limits).</li> </ul>
<b>Food Security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support funding for local food banks.</li> <li>▪—Support funding to implement farmers markets in rural communities.</li> <li>▪—Support funding for meal delivery programs (e.g., Great Plates, Meals on Wheels, Congregate Meals for Seniors).</li> <li>▪—Support policy changes to make Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards eligible for online use through web-based marketplaces such as Amazon Pantry and Walmart for food purchases.</li> </ul>

## Housing

Available and affordable housing is integral to the health and well-being of County residents and an important element for social/racial equity, environmental justice and economic development. Lack of housing or dense, multi-generational housing conditions make communities more susceptible to the spread of the virus.

<b>Housing Stability/ Homeless Prevention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support continued funding for the Housing for the Harvest Housing program that offers temporary hotel housing to agricultural workers who need to isolate due to COVID-19 positivity or exposure to protect their loved ones and coworkers by giving them a space to self-isolate.</li> <li>▪—Support continued funding for Project Homekey to purchase hotels and establish permanent supportive housing for people experiencing chronic homelessness and are at risk of exposure to COVID-19.</li> <li>▪—Support efforts to provide protections from eviction, foreclosure, and speculation.</li> <li>▪—Support efforts to fund continued and expanded emergency rental and utility assistance programs.</li> <li>▪—Support efforts to fund additional city and county emergency housing and ongoing operations.</li> <li>▪—Support policies and funding to sustain and transition short term emergency COVID housing to long term housing use (travel trailers), and to fund ongoing operations.</li> <li>▪—Support the continued provision of fair housing tenant/landlord services (e.g., CDBG Program).</li> <li>▪—Support an increase in housing vouchers for transitional and permanent supportive housing and affordable housing.</li> <li>▪—Support programs that allow for a variety of homeless housing types such as additional permanent, supportive, and shelter housing.</li> <li>▪—Support the continuation of employer housing and food requirements under the H-2A Temporary Agricultural Worker program.</li> </ul>
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<b>Affordable Housing Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support efforts to fund the planning and development of housing—especially affordable housing and affordable rental housing—for low-income residents and those with special needs (e.g., farmworkers, the disabled, and the homeless).</li> <li>▪—Support efforts to streamline policies and processes that create barriers or delays to the development of affordable or special needs housing projects and incentivize providing more than the minimum inclusionary requirement (e.g., CEQA exemptions for farmworker housing projects).</li> <li>▪—Support non-profit housing developments through additional/expanded tax credit programs.</li> <li>▪—Support changes to the tax credit program to incentivize development of mixed income housing projects.</li> <li>▪—Support regional approaches to affordable housing development which allow cities/counties to share in Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) credits.</li> <li>▪—Support efforts to incentivize affordable housing development for migrant farmworkers and H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers.</li> </ul>
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## ***Economic Development***

Communities of color are over-represented in essential jobs that increase their exposure to the virus. High rates of poverty and low wages create greater risks of economic disruption.

<b>Individual Supports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support the continuation/reinstatement of increased unemployment benefits by the federal government—including extending benefits to undocumented workers.</li> <li>▪—Support additional economic stimulus payments to individuals—including funding to undocumented residents (e.g. Disaster Relief Assistance for Immigrants).</li> <li>▪—Support expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit to provide more relief to low-income Californians, including those that file taxes with Individual Tax Identification Numbers.</li> <li>▪—Support funding and policies that protect workers through the provision of personal protective equipment (PPE) and educational materials on how to prevent virus contraction and transmission.</li> <li>▪—Support efforts to address the disparate impact of COVID-19 pandemic on women of color, exacerbating existing disparities and further undermining family economic stability and survival (including efforts to address childcare, loss of wage earnings due to COVID-19, wealth gap, and access to income supports).</li> <li>▪—Support taxpayer hardship relief/assistance programs.</li> </ul>
<b>Business Supports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪—Support efforts aimed at supporting women and minority-owned businesses impacted by the pandemic. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○—Small business grants, loans, and/or no-interest loans</li> <li>○—Workforce development programs</li> <li>○—Entrepreneurship programs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL)</li> <li>○ Payroll Protection Program (PPP)</li> <li>▪ Support efforts to establish an emergency loan program through the state's Small Business Disaster Relief Loan Guarantee Program.</li> <li>▪ Support efforts to provide protections from eviction, foreclosure, and speculation for small businesses.</li> <li>▪ Support taxpayer hardship relief/assistance programs.</li> </ul>
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## Protecting Youth and Families

The pandemic has added major stressors to children and families, especially in communities where there is a higher incidence of the virus. Economic challenges, school closures, and social isolation further add to the problem and place additional stress on family units.

<b>Protecting Youth and Families</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support efforts to expand eligibility for isolation spaces (e.g., hotels) for people experiencing domestic violence.</li> <li>▪ Support efforts to protect youth at heightened risk for abuse and mistreatment.</li> <li>▪ Support efforts to strengthen social programs and family resources to keep families connected to county support systems and services (e.g., mental health, child care).</li> </ul>
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## Childcare

Local economic recovery from the COVID-19 crisis hinges on the ability of many county residents, especially those who work in industries deemed essential, to access childcare so that they can return to work.

<b>Childcare</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support improved access to safe, high-quality childcare.</li> <li>▪ Support child care workforce retention and development.</li> </ul>
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## Language Access

Since the pandemic began there has been a lack of communications and guidance documents in languages other than English. It is essential that these written and verbal communications be provided in non-English languages for communities where English is not the primary language.

<b>Translation of Communications/ Guidance—and— Language Assistance Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continue to request that the State provide pandemic-related communications associated with public health, safety, or business guidance in both English and Spanish.</li> <li>▪ Support policy changes to ensure all individuals have meaningful access to equitable language assistance services that affirm the right to communication in the language in which one feels most comfortable.</li> </ul>
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## Virtual Access

As a result of the need for social distancing during the pandemic, some requirements have temporarily been waived to allow access to County services by virtual means and to increase virtual participation in government. Making these changes permanent will increase the public's access to County government.

<b>Increased Internet and Virtual Access</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support policy changes to permanently increase access to virtual connection, learning, and public participation opportunities.</li> <li>Support policy changes to continue public participation and access by the public of meetings governed by the Brown Act.</li> <li>Support policy changes which allow County services to be provided by virtual means.</li> </ul>
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## Broadband Expansion

A lack of internet access disproportionately affects some County residents because internet access is not available in their area or is unaffordable. Expansion of broadband services would benefit economic activities, access to healthcare (e.g.: telehealth); and education (e.g.: distance learning).

<b>Broadband Expansion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support efforts to secure funding for the expansion of broadband and cellular services to unserved and underserved areas of Monterey County (e.g., state universal broadband bond).</li> <li>Support investments in broadband affordability programs for low-income households.</li> <li>Support efforts to reform existing state programs to expand internet access, generate needed revenue, and make it easier for local governments to obtain funding to move local projects forward.</li> <li>Support efforts to regulate broadband/internet access as a utility by the Federal Communications Commission and California Public Utilities Commission.</li> </ul>
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## Education

Schools are facing significant challenges which disparately impact students of color. At the beginning of the pandemic nearly 7,000 students/families did not have access to the tools they need for distance learning (e.g., laptops or tablets), and over 10,000 students did not have internet access in their home because internet access is not available in their community or is unaffordable to their families.

<b>Internet Access and Technology Needs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support efforts that ensure quality distance learning through expanded broadband access and technology supports, especially in low-income, unserved and underserved communities.</li> </ul>
<b>In-Person Learning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the safe transition to in-person learning through increased state funding for testing, rapid results, and appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for students and teachers.</li> <li>Support Whole Child, Whole Family school-based supports including integrated mental health care, school-based family support services and referrals, and after school programs.</li> </ul>
<b>K-12 Vaccines</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support efforts to provide COVID-19 vaccines to eligible school children.</li> </ul>

## **Monterey County 2023 Policy Priorities**

### **Monterey County Veterans Home**

One of the County's top priorities is the development of a Veterans Home in Monterey County to serve aged and disabled veterans, eligible spouses, domestic partners, and homeless veterans. There are over 50,000 veterans in Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Benito, and San Luis Obispo Counties alone. CalVet operates eight Veterans Homes in California, providing a range of services from independent living to skilled nursing and memory care. Four of the homes offer combined skilled nursing and memory care. The demand for these services far exceeds the current availability of beds, which has resulted in 2-5+ year wait times. The closest of Veterans Home is over two hours away from Monterey County. The County strongly believes that our Veterans should not have to leave their families, friends, and the community they call home to access these services.

The County intends to pursue State legislation to authorize the development of a State Veterans Home in Monterey County, potentially located on or near other Veterans' services at the former Fort Ord. The County will work with its state and federal delegations, CalVet, and the Veterans Administration to ensure the project meets regulatory requirements for financial assistance through CalVet and the VA's State Veterans Home Construction Grant Program, which can provide up to 65% of construction costs. If constructed, the facility would be available to all California veterans.

**Key Objectives:** Support efforts to establish a CalVet Veterans Home in Monterey County to serve the needs of our growing veterans' population and support the veteran's community's contributions to our local economy.

### **Homeless Funding Formulas**

The County of Monterey is committed to efforts that address homelessness so that it is rare, brief, and non-recurring. Part of that commitment is fighting for resources to support the homelessness response network. However, federal and state funding formulas make that difficult to achieve when allocations rely on population, poverty, and the biennial Point in Time (PIT) census. This means communities who are actively reducing their PIT counts are inadvertently penalized when funding is reduced, and programs established to serve people experiencing homelessness are at risk of closure. Therefore, the County supports alternative funding formulas that reward communities who set and achieve their goals of reducing homelessness.

**Key Objectives:** Support efforts by State and Federal partners to identify a different means to assess community needs when allocating funds to address homelessness. While there is no simple way to decide how funding should be determined, at minimum other factors should be considered in determining allocations like cost of living, housing stock, area median income, fair market rate, and long-term stabilization of programs in communities that are successfully reducing homelessness.

### **Nacimiento and San Antonio Dam Safety/High Priority Capital Asset Management**

Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) owns and operates the Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams and Reservoirs which provide flood control, water supply, groundwater recharge, recreation, and other benefits. MCWRA's highest priority capital and maintenance projects, identified in the High Priority Capital Asset Management Program, have not been performed due to a lack of financial resources.

Completion of these projects will allow MCWRA to fully operate Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams, meet federal and state regulatory compliance including the rigorous requirements of the California Division of Dam Safety, and assure the safety of Monterey County residents.

**Key Objectives:** Secure funding for a set of subprojects for Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoir and Dam facilities to fulfill Federal and State regulatory requirements and provide flood protection and a sustainable water supply.

### **Interlake Tunnel and San Antonio Spillway Modification Project**

MCWRA has done extensive early planning and design for the Interlake Tunnel Project between both Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs and for the potential raising of the spillway at San Antonio to increase water storage capacity. In 2016, the State of California provided a \$10 million grant for the Interlake Tunnel Project and MCWRA has an agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for an additional \$17 million to install a Fish Exclusion System during the construction. In August 2020, early water projections for the Interlake Tunnel Project and Raised Spillway were estimated at 54,000 new acre feet of water and another 36,000-acre feet for conservation releases and groundwater recharge. Significant additional funding is needed to complete this project. It is important to note that Monterey County does not receive any imported water from state or federal projects and upwards of 95% of the water used comes from local groundwater supplies. Reservoir operations provide a buffer against drought conditions to Salinas Valley water users. The MCWRA has been able to make releases to provide groundwater recharge, despite very limited minimal inflows in the last two years. However, in 2021 operations were curtailed two months earlier than normal. Without significant inflows, there will be little opportunity for operations next season and in future years due to the current severe drought. It is therefore imperative to pursue State and/or Federal funding for this project to help ensure a sustainable water supply for the critically important Salinas Valley region for generations to come.

**Key Objectives:** Secure funding for a tunnel to connect existing facilities at Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs on the Central Coast of California will increase water storage capacity and achieve environmental and water conservation release efficiencies.

### **San Lucas Clean Drinking Water**

San Lucas is a small, disadvantaged farming community located in unincorporated Monterey County approximately eight miles from King City. The community water system (approximately 100 connections) is owned and operated by the San Lucas County Water District. The San Lucas Water Supply Project would address ongoing water quality problems at the existing District water source which have occurred since 2006. The Project would construct a new pipeline to tie into the Cal Water system on the east side of King City and deliver water directly to the District water distribution tank. The pipeline is anticipated to be approximately 7.8 miles long and run along the eastern side of Highway 101 and the railroad line. Funding is needed for the project's design, environmental assessment, engineering, and construction work to provide a clean, long-term, reliable source of drinking water to meet the community's current and future needs.

**Key Objectives:** Secure funding for a long-term project that provides a reliable source of clean drinking water to the small, disadvantaged community of San Lucas.

## ***Old Monterey County Jail***

The Old Monterey County Jail located in Salinas, California, was built in 1931 in the Gothic Revival architectural style during the Art Deco period. It served as the County's primary jail until a new jail was completed in 1977. In 2004, the building was listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places reflecting its architectural significance and for areas where Cesar Chavez was imprisoned during the 1970 Salinas Lettuce Boycott – raising national attention of farmworker working conditions. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this historic moment in labor and civil rights history took place in 2020. After extensive evaluation of multiple alternatives, the Board of Supervisors selected three preferred alternative redevelopment and/or rehabilitation projects. The County needs funding to implement a capital project and repurpose the historic jail and site. Most recently it has been considered as a potential site for a Family Justice Center which would provide wrap around services to victims of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and elder abuse.

**Key Objectives:** Support efforts to secure local, state and/or federal funding for a capital project to repurpose the Old Monterey County Jail.

## **Marina Health Clinic**

The Monterey County Health Department (MCHD) Clinic at Marina (Marina Clinic) is located at 355 De Forest Road, Marina, California. The Marina Clinic is a 4-exam room, 1790 square foot facility and currently staffed by two (2) physicians and seven (7) support staff. The Marina Clinic provides comprehensive primary and preventive care and is the only full-time safety net clinic in the City of Marina. To better meet the needs of the city of Marina residents and surrounding areas, Monterey County needs to construct a new-10,000 square foot clinic with 12 exam rooms, and office space to deliver expanded general family practice, obstetrics and gynecology, and mental health integration services to better support the Medi-Cal and uninsured population in this community. A final site has not been selected for this project but there may be an opportunity to expand the facility at the existing location if funding is secured.

**Key Objectives:** Secure funding to construct a 10,000 square foot primary care clinic with expanded general family practice, pediatric, obstetrics/gynecology, dental, and mental health services for Medi-Cal and uninsured residents.

## **Immigration Reform / Farm Bill Reauthorization**

Current immigration policies make it increasingly difficult to meet the workforce needs of the local agricultural industry that is highly dependent on an adequate supply of immigrant labor. The County is becoming increasingly concerned with labor shortages affecting the agricultural industry that threaten the economic vitality of the region. In California alone, the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates losses attributed to labor shortages has cost farmers millions of dollars per year as fruit and other crops are left to rot in the field because of a lack of farmworkers to bring in the harvest. The County believes the Farm Workforce Modernization Act strikes the right balance between the needs of workers and employers, as evidenced by the support it has garnered from over 300 agricultural groups, including the United Farm Workers and California Farm Bureau Federation.

The Farm Bill is a package of legislation passed roughly once every five years that has a tremendous impact on farming livelihoods, how food is grown, and what kinds of foods are grown. Covering programs ranging from crop insurance for farmers to healthy food access for low-income families, from beginning farmer

training to support for sustainable farming practices, the farm bill sets the stage for our food and farm systems. The current Farm Bill expires in September 2023. The County supports reauthorization of the Farm Bill to support the local agricultural industry, consumers, and for the natural environment. Taken together, these two policy proposals are critically important to the economic health of the Monterey County.

***Key Objectives:*** Support reauthorization of the Farm Bill, including agricultural reforms that will improve health and protect the environment of all County residents through significantly strengthening federal nutrition programs, improving access to healthy food, promoting environmental stewardship and conservation, protecting our food supply, and robustly funding rural development initiatives based on best practices in coordination with local officials.

Support the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, which would establish a program for agricultural workers in the United States to earn legal status through continued agricultural employment and contribution to the U.S. agricultural economy; reform the H-2A program to provide more flexibility for employers, while ensuring critical protections for workers; and establish a nationwide E-Verify system through which agricultural employers would electronically verify the employment eligibility of their workers.

## **FEMA Reimbursements**

The County of Monterey Office of Emergency Services continues to work with the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to recover costs related to emergency work for the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, 2020 Wildfires, and 2021 Winter Storms. Monterey County has experienced several major disaster events and is concerned that FEMA may reduce disaster related reimbursement funding and/or change the way disaster events qualify for reimbursement. The County has submitted millions of dollars in FEMA Public Assistance grant requests to recover costs related to the declared COVID-19 emergency as well as the declared wildfires of 2020. The amount of time for these grant applications to be reviewed by FEMA has been considerable. In some cases, the County has waited two years to recover approved and expended costs for its disaster response and recovery efforts.

***Key Objectives:*** Support efforts to improve the FEMA Public Assistance Program and expedite the grant award process to ensure the County is reimbursed for eligible costs as quickly as possible. Support streamlining disaster debris removal programs to ensure equity and applicability to the needs of disaster victims.

## Strategic Collaboration

In matters where legislative pursuits align or are consistent with the interests of Monterey County, support other agencies' efforts. Collaborate with neighboring cities, counties, and other agencies on large-scale projects and regional planning efforts. Maintain effective relationships with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) and National Association of Counties (NACo).



### **California State Association of Counties (CSAC)** **Policy Priorities for 2023**

**Homelessness.** Counties are at the forefront of responding to California's growing homelessness crisis. Although state and local governments have made significant investments in housing and homelessness programs over the last few years, California still lacks a comprehensive, holistic strategy that provides sustained funding and clear levels of responsibility for all levels of government. CSAC is embarking on a major policy initiative through the newly created Homelessness Policy Solutions Group to develop policy solutions that map out a comprehensive system to address homelessness. Working with guidance from the CSAC Homelessness Action Team and CSAC Board-adopted Homelessness Principles, CSAC will also continue our advocacy on policies that address the causes of homelessness, calling for ongoing and flexible funding for the ongoing costs associated with providing services to unhoused residents and those at risk of homelessness, and prioritizing the development of an adequate housing continuum accessible to all Californians.

**CalAIM Implementation.** California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) is a multi-year initiative to enhance care coordination and improve health outcomes through state and federal proposals to simplify the Medi-Cal program. CalAIM has significant implications for many county health and human services functions, including behavioral health services, social services eligibility, county public hospitals, and cross-sector initiatives for foster youth and those who are homeless or justice-involved. CSAC will continue to focus on the federal, state, and local finance implications, as well as the impacts on county operations, programs, and the people served. Additionally, CSAC will continue to advocate for prioritization and funding of counties to provide services that leverage counties' existing expertise, and for the state to consult with counties in formulating and implementing all changes of this initiative.

**Behavioral Health.** The state is making significant investments in behavioral health housing, children's behavioral health services, and CalAIM. To successfully harness these investments to make transformative change requires addressing underlying county mental health plan funding shortfalls, and the expanding set of roles and responsibilities on these agencies continues to create challenges for successful progress. CSAC will advocate for behavioral health workforce assistance and adequate, sustained funding to match new services and administration expectations.

**Workforce Challenges.** Counties are facing significant workforce challenges, even as California has regained most of the nonfarm jobs lost due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While the workforce challenges are particularly acute for county health and human services and public safety agencies, nearly all county departments face recruitment and retention challenges. CSAC will engage on opportunities for increased investments to support the county workforce, as well as policies that can help counties more effectively recruit, hire, and retain qualified and talented workers.

**Drought.** As California continues to experience extreme drought, the need for state and federal investments has become more important than ever. CSAC will support counties through advocacy for

diversified regional water investments, continued watershed restoration and improved management of local water supplies. CSAC will emphasize core county roles including groundwater management, dry well monitoring and support, and water projects with co-benefits. This includes dam retrofits, flood and water-recharge investments, and support for low-income communities. CSAC will support efforts to bring options to areas with lower water availability through funding and actions with state agencies.

**Wildfire.** Hand in hand with drought comes extreme fire. CSAC will continue efforts to reduce wildfire risk through active participation in partnerships such as the Forest Management Task Force and land stewardship actions. CSAC will support efforts to increase prescribed burning with best available practices, appropriate insurance risk, and training. In addition, it is critical to invest in programs that have co-benefits of reduced community wildfire risk and watershed conservation, advocate for regional wildfire and watershed program actions, community wildfire insurance, and wildland fire risk reduction through public and private working lands.

**Cannabis.** Throughout 2022, CSAC worked to update the County Platform to better reflect the everchanging world of cannabis. CSAC will use the newly approved language to further our advocacy. The state must invest in resources to combat illegal cannabis and give counties the tools to ensure that they are able to appropriately address the fallout from unlicensed activity. However, cannabis is a major economic driver for many counties and CSAC's advocacy will go beyond enforcement to support the licensed market in new and creative ways.

**Easing Administration of the Public Records Act (PRA).** Counties and other local governments have faced an enormous increase in the number and size of PRA requests over the past few years. The intensive work required to review records and redact the material that is exempt or prohibited from disclosure has grown exponentially. Further compounding this problem is that counties must make tough judgment calls on whether to release some records, especially when doing so is specifically prohibited, for example because doing so would violate privacy laws or employee confidentiality. Counties have also seen an increase in vexatious litigants using the PRA to grind government work to a halt. CSAC will develop proposals that seek to reduce the impact of these growing issues.

**Available, Accessible & Affordable Housing.** The need for increased production of permanent housing in the state continues to be an issue of great importance. Addressing California's housing production challenges is also now broadly recognized as an important component of the state's efforts to address the rising rates of homeless and housing vulnerable families and individuals. In recent years, the state has created a variety of programs and allocated funding to improve the housing availability and affordability. Unfortunately, many of these programs often have narrow eligibility standards and cumbersome administrative processes for counties to access and administer. CSAC will continue efforts to find reasonable modifications to these programs that address local needs, as well as additional resources to assist counties in their efforts to address the housing challenges they face.

**Protecting Local Revenues.** The Legislature, for a variety of reasons, has for the past few years been reexamining some aspects of who should bear the costs of funding government. CSAC will advocate for decisions about local revenues to be made by local agencies, not the state, and will oppose legislation that would reallocate revenues away from counties or would reduce county revenues.

**CARE Court Funding/Implementation.** SB 1338, the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act, includes a requirement that the state consult with county stakeholders in developing a state allocation to counties to implement the CARE Act process. CSAC will advocate to secure adequate, flexible, and sustained funding across all impacted local agencies to support counties' efforts in this new statewide



initiative. Additionally, CSAC will advocate for any necessary changes related to implementation as planning efforts progress for all counties.

**Aging Programs.** As implementation of California's Master Plan for Aging moves forward, CSAC will continue to engage directly on opportunities to strengthen and enhance services for older adults. One key area of focus remains the local leadership structure for aging services. The state's newly formed CA 2030 Steering Committee includes two CSAC representatives, and is charged with examining local governance, geography, funding formulas, core services, and performance measures. CSAC will advocate for county priorities throughout this process and engage on other aging initiatives, legislation, and budget investments to help better serve the growing and more diverse aging population in our state.

**Broadband Implementation.** CSAC will continue to focus its advocacy on successful implementation of historic state investments in broadband, to ensure Californians across the state can access, adopt, and meaningfully use broadband service.

**Juvenile Justice Realignment.** Implementing juvenile justice realignment will remain a priority for years to come. Ongoing funding will be critical for the outcome of our youth and overall county success. This includes building off the \$100 million secured in last year's budget to address treatment and secure residential capacity, as well as modernizing county-operated juvenile facilities with an emphasis on creating environments that support trauma-informed care, restorative justice, and rehabilitative programming. CSAC will continue advocating for funding, so counties are able to implement infrastructure plans that meet the short-term and long-term, individualized needs of youth. Further, CSAC will remain involved with efforts of the County Probation Consortium, designed to tackle the most complex challenges of the realigned population through direct inter-county collaboration.

### **Federal Priorities**

**Resilience.** Counties continue to prepare for and respond to increasing numbers of extreme weather events and natural disasters. CSAC will continue to work with federal agencies to implement key programs under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act, and to work closely with the California congressional delegation to pursue additional investments and reforms to various disaster preparedness, mitigation, and response programs.

**Housing and Homelessness.** California's affordable housing and homelessness crises continue to impact counties statewide. CSAC will continue to work with key members of the California congressional delegation, several of whom have championed a series of association-supported housing and homelessness initiatives. CSAC also will work to protect and enhance funding for key housing and homelessness programs administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Protecting and Strengthening the Social Safety Net.** Entitlement reform and potential discretionary budget cuts are expected to be hot-button issues during the 2023 legislative session and beyond. As lawmakers consider the possibility of a wide-ranging budget and debt-ceiling package, CSAC will work with allies to protect key county-administered safety net programs.

**Rural Development and Public Lands.** With the current farm bill set to expire at the end of fiscal year 2023, Congress will focus on reauthorizing the law. CSAC will advocate for a robust rural development title and will seek to maintain and expand funding and eligibility for key nutrition programs, including SNAP/CalFresh. In addition, and as Congress considers modifying federal forest management policy, CSAC will support efforts to enhance wildfire protection, preparedness, and forest resiliency. Finally, CSAC will advocate for a long-term reauthorization of both the Payments in Lieu of Taxes program and the Secure Rural Schools program, including support for the National Center for Public Lands Counties.



## **Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)** **2023-24 Policy Principles**

The RCRC Board of Directors regularly adopts a set of Policy Principles that guide legislative and regulatory advocacy efforts for the organization. These Policy Principles guide the organization's priorities on broad categories and specific issues and allow RCRC staff to take formal positions on individual pieces of legislation and regulatory proposals each year. A link to the full document can be found here: [RCRC 2023-24 Policy Principles](#). Per RCRC staff, some of the major policy issues the organization expects to focus on in 2023 include:

- [Continued engagement on energy issues.](#)
- [Work on interstate agreements involving cannabis.](#)
- [Vigilance on water rights and water supply reliability.](#)
- [CARE Court implementation.](#)
- [Ensuring disbursement of broadband funding.](#)
- [Land Use planning as it relates to housing, homelessness, and building in the wildland urban interface \(WUI\).](#)
- [Forest stewardship, including vegetation management.](#)



## **National Association of Counties (NACo)** **2023 Policy Priorities**

The American County Platform is NACo's permanent policy document, which is updated each year at the annual meeting. It's divided into substantive policy areas covered by ten policy steering committees; the platform reflects the philosophy and broad objectives of NACo's membership. Additionally, NACo sets forth policy priorities on an annual basis. For 2023, the NACo Policy Priorities include:

- [Counties play an instrumental role in the overall public administration and governance of federal, state, and local policies, programs, and services.](#)
- [Restore the Balance of Federalism and Optimize Intergovernmental Partnerships](#)
- [Seize Legislative Opportunities to Improve the Implementation of the American Rescue Plan Act's Fiscal Recovery Funds](#)
- [Successful Implementation of the County-Related Provisions of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Inflation Reduction Act & the CHIPS and Science Act](#)
- [Promote Health Equity by Reforming the Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy, Passage of Mental Health, Substance Use Treatment Legislation, and Consideration of Other Criminal Justice Reforms](#)
- [Secure the Inclusion of County Priorities in 2023 Farm Bill Reauthorization](#)
- [Boost Advanced Broadband Deployment and Accessibility While Preserving Local Decision-Making](#)
- [Support Full Funding for Payments In Lieu of Taxes \(PILT\) and the Secure Rural Schools \(SRS\) Program](#)
- [Promote County Priorities and Local Decision-Making in Future U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\) and Other Federal Rulemaking](#)
- [Maintain Election Integrity and Strengthen Election Worker Safety](#)
- [Enhance Community Resilience through Regional and Local Disaster Preparedness](#)
- [Promote Workforce and Housing Opportunities and Supportive Services for County Residents to Support Economic Recovery](#)

## Economic Development

### ***Legislative Principles – Economic Development***

#### **General**

Support the County's ability to enhance the quality of life, well-being, prosperity, health, safety, livelihood, art, libraries, culture, recreation, housing, and education (e.g., early childhood development, cradle to career initiative) of Monterey County residents. Support policies and programs that protect consumers. Advocate for resources and policies that help families achieve self-sufficiency (i.e., ~~by~~ providing critical support services such as child care, ~~providing student debt relief, etc.~~). Child care plays a key role in the ability for parents to return to the workforce and/or retrain for the current labor market demands. Support job training, and public or private efforts, to stabilize and enhance jobs and economic growth. Support efforts to protect communities of color who are over-represented in essential jobs that increase their exposure to communicable diseases. Support efforts to address high rates of poverty and low wages which create greater risks of economic disruption. Support policies and programs that promote health, equity, and neighborhood sustainability, safeguard the preservation of prime agricultural lands and natural open spaces, and improve the environment and protect environmentally sensitive areas in order to ensure a diversified and healthy economy. Support funding, policies, and programs that remove barriers to local industries reaching their full economic potential and acting as regional economic generators.

#### **Agriculture**

Support efforts to protect and promote agriculture, farm worker health and safety, the protection of public health and the environment, and the assurance of a fair marketplace. Support efforts to provide agricultural research and education activities. Support efforts to protect and preserve prime agricultural lands (e.g., Williamson Act funding). Support pest detection and pest management programs and invasive weed prevention programs. Support efforts to ensure the success of the local cannabis and industrial hemp industries, while addressing the tax, regulatory, policy, enforcement, education, health, environment, and safety of our communities as related to both cannabis and hemp.

#### **Housing & Homelessness**

Support efforts that incentivize ~~create~~ affordable housing ~~policies~~ and fund the creation of housing, — especially affordable housing and affordable rental housing — ~~for~~ extremely low, very low, and low-income county residents and those with special needs (e.g., farm workers, veterans, seniors, the disabled, families with children, and ~~the~~ people experiencing homelessness). Work to streamline processes which create barriers or delays to the development of affordable housing projects and fair access to housing. Support efforts to address the unique needs of ~~homeless~~ individuals and families experiencing or at-risk of homelessness, and equitably allocate funding to address the ~~homeless~~ ness and housing crises.

#### **Military Installations**

Monterey County has a long and proud military history and is honored to support the ten military missions located here which provide many local jobs. Safeguarding and strengthening local military missions is critical to our national security and local economic strength. Support efforts to assist in military base reuse, especially the redevelopment and blight removal of lands on the former Fort Ord, and to replace jobs lost because of the base closure. Support efforts to enhance, grow and protect national security assets in the Monterey Bay Area (i.e., Monterey Bay Defense Alliance), and oppose Base Realignment and

Closure (BRAC) and similar Department of Defense proposals, which would diminish local missions, negatively impacting the regional economy.

### **Sustainable Job Growth**

Support efforts to fund development of regional countywide economic development plans that balance environmental and economic considerations in furtherance of jobs key to the pillar industries of economic development in the County: agriculture, tourism, small business, higher education, and marine research. Support efforts to promote a strong state and county economy, and provide a healthy environment to retain, expand, and attract business and economic development. Support efforts to expand broadband infrastructure to provide high-speed internet to underserved areas of the County, and to retain local authority to assess fees and control placement of new wireless facilities. Support legislative, policy or regulatory efforts that provide local governments with economic and community development tools (e.g., opportunity zones) and encourage compliance with state-mandated regional planning strategies. Support efforts that promote ecotourism and wellness, Edu-tourism, Blue Economy research and development, [emerging technologies \(drone automation and robotics technology\), and](#) Agri-Technology that further economic and employment growth.

### **Workforce Development and Working Families**

Support efforts to fund workforce development initiatives (e.g., youth and veterans' employment and leadership programs) to ensure the continuity of employment, and training programs to stimulate economic growth through the creation of a trained and skilled workforce. Ensure public investments in roads, transit, sewers, and other community infrastructure are made in ways that create job opportunities for people residing in Monterey County who are underemployed and unemployed. Support efforts to prepare youth for future self-sufficiency and prevent youth violence and crime. Support working family initiatives that balance work and care-giving obligations such as: workplace flexibility and access to paid leave; affordable, quality child/elder care; and equal pay.

## ***Legislative Priorities – Economic Development***

### **Agriculture**

Agriculture is the cornerstone of prosperity in Monterey County. Support for agriculture is critical to the economic vitality of the region, State, and nation. The Salinas Valley is known as the “salad bowl” of the world and produces diverse vegetable crops, strawberries, and is a major producer of high-quality varietal wine grapes. Adequate transportation system maintenance and capacity, along with the security of County water supplies (e.g., water rights, storage, reuse, and financing) is critical to the health of the local agricultural economy.

[The Farm Bill is a package of legislation passed roughly once every five years that has a tremendous impact on farming livelihoods, how food is grown, and what kinds of foods are grown. Covering programs ranging from crop insurance for farmers to healthy food access for low-income families, from beginning farmer training to support for sustainable farming practices, the farm bill sets the stage for our food and farm systems. The current Farm Bill expires in September 2023. The County supports reauthorization of the Farm Bill to support the local agricultural industry, consumers, and for the natural environment.](#)

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to secure and enhance Monterey County's water resources for agriculture (e.g., water rights, storage, reuse, financing); secure funding for transportation infrastructure that supports the agricultural industry; protect prime agricultural lands (i.e., Williamson Act, conservation easements); and promote agriculture and agritourism.

Support reauthorization of the Farm Bill, including agricultural reforms that will improve health and protect the environment of all County residents through significantly strengthening federal nutrition programs, improving access to healthy food, promoting environmental stewardship and conservation, protecting our food supply, and robustly funding rural development initiatives based on best practices in coordination with local officials.

## ➤ Cannabis

Monterey County is ranked fourth in California cannabis cultivation by license count by the Department of Cannabis Control (DCC). Since July 2021, California's cannabis industry has been in crisis due to an oversupply of product. A growing number of operators cannot pay their local and state taxes and have requested to defer their tax liabilities so that they may fund other pressing needs, such as payroll and expenses related to meeting local and state licensing requirements. Monterey County has seen 35 cannabis business closures since 2016, including 9 in the last year. On an annual basis these closures collectively represent losses of approximately \$1.3 million in local cultivation tax revenue and 500 jobs, which represents approximately 20% of the cannabis workforce at its peak in July 2021.

The Monterey County Cannabis Program provides a local framework for the management of licensed commercial cannabis activities in coordination with state agencies to address taxation, regulation, enforcement, education, and the protection of the health, environment, and safety of our communities. Outstanding issues that need to be addressed for the Program to be successful as follows:

**Federal Legalization:** Californians voted to allow for the recreational cultivation, sale, and use of cannabis, however the federal government's ban poses serious roadblocks and risks. State and local control must be respected on the regulation and enforcement of these issues. The federal government should declassify cannabis as a Schedule I drug and remove all conflicts under federal law; allow banking services for the cannabis industry to reduce the public safety issues posed by a cash-based industry; and adopt national standards for the cannabis industry to facilitate trade.

**Stabilize the Cannabis Industry:** Legislative action is needed to aid in stabilizing the cannabis industry, which has been heavily impacted by a market downturn that began in July 2021. State tax reform could provide additional relief via a reduced cannabis excise tax rate, as could implementation of SB 1326 – which authorizes the Governor to enter into agreements with other states that have also legalized commercial cannabis business to be licensed, allowing transportation of cannabis goods between licensed operators across state lines. Monterey County was awarded \$1.7 million through the Local Jurisdiction Assistance Grant Program offered by the DCC, which is primarily being utilized to assist operators in meeting local requirements. The County supports any legislation that would result in additional funding and/or flexibility for operators to convert from provisional to annual state licenses and requiring the DCC to cap the number of cultivation licenses approved.

**Enforcement:** The State should fully enforce cannabis regulations and provide direct resources to local law enforcement agencies for cannabis related enforcement activities. Combatting unlicensed cannabis is

a key public safety issue and there should be dedicated resources for the active enforcement of such activities on public lands.

**Local Access to Metrc (Track-n-Trace) System:** The County supports DCC's continued efforts allow local jurisdictions to access to Metrc the track-n-trace system that all licensees are required to enter seed to sale information into. The County depends on cannabis tax revenue to support regulatory schemes and enforcement. Allowing local access would enable the validation of transactions to ensure that cannabis goods are moving appropriately through the supply chain and that taxes are being appropriately assessed.

**War on Drugs:** The County supports policies, particularly those with grant funding opportunities, that address harms caused by the War on Drugs to local residents. The County was awarded a Cannabis Equity Grant to work on implementation of the *Growing Equity Together Program*.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to: reform banking regulations for cannabis-related businesses; legalize cannabis at the Federal level; provide funding for cannabis-related enforcement; fund and implement cannabis equity programs; reduce state cannabis excise tax; gain access to Metrc for local jurisdictions; implement interstate agreements (SB 1326); and stabilize the cannabis industry.

### ➤ **Industrial Hemp**

The California Industrial Hemp Act became effective on January 1, 2017, and made the cultivation of industrial hemp for fiber, seed, and extracts legal at the federal and state levels. Industrial hemp production includes cultivation of cannabis sativa plants, the same species of plant cultivated for the cannabis market. What differentiates legally between industrial hemp and cannabis varieties is the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) present in the flowering tops - under 0.3% THC is defined as hemp, and greater than 0.3% THC is defined as cannabis.

In 2019, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 5314 establishing a pilot program for the cultivation and processing of industrial hemp in the inland unincorporated areas of the County. This ordinance added Chapter 21.49 to Title 21 (non-coastal zoning) of the designation (HMP district) establishing industrial hemp cultivation as an allowed use subject to certain restrictions under the pilot program and development of new industrial hemp processing plants with a use permit. The ordinance requires approval of registration by the Monterey County Agricultural Commissioner, limits the number of industrial hemp cultivation registrations that may be issued (not to exceed 30), provides for a maximum cultivated area of 100 acres per registration, and requires a three-mile setback from existing legal commercial cannabis cultivation sites unless the setback is reduced or waived by mutual consent of the industrial hemp cultivator and the cannabis cultivator.

In May 2020, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors updated the ordinance with the passage and adoption of Ordinance No. 5327, which re-opened registration for qualified operations; extended the length of the Industrial Hemp Pilot Program for a three-year period ending on December 31, 2022, allowed for split-parcel zoning – potentially allowing previously excluded portions of parcels to be included in the HMP District, and banned the use of artificial lights.

**Funding for Enforcement:** The County is under contract with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to perform work under the CDFA Industrial Hemp Cultivation Program. Maximum funding under the contract is \$49,250. CDFA recognizes this funding level will not cover all costs incurred by counties for enforcement activities. The County may consider establishment of a fee for Industrial

Hemp cultivation pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code Section 81005. (c) which provides that: “The board of supervisors of a county may establish a reasonable fee, in an amount necessary to cover the actual costs of the commissioner and the county of implementing, administering, and enforcing the provisions of this division, except for costs that are otherwise reimbursed pursuant to subdivision (b), to be charged and collected by the commissioner upon registrations or renewals required pursuant to Section 81003 or 81004 and retained by the commissioner or the county, as appropriate. *(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 838, Sec. 9. (SB 153) Effective January 1, 2020.)*”

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to increase funding for enforcement activities. Support efforts to develop uniform pesticide and other contaminant standards. Support efforts to fund local research of industrial hemp cultivation especially research of pollen travel and contamination.

## **Arts & Culture**

Strengthening arts and cultural assets is vital to community development and can significantly contribute to economic development. Assets include those related to entertainment (e.g., theaters, performing groups), personal development (e.g., community centers, libraries, bookstores), education (e.g., schools, museums), and communities (e.g., cultural events/festivals). A flourishing arts and culture sector can affect where workers want to live and as such is important for workforce recruitment and retention. Arts and cultural activities also promote economic development by attracting visitors and increasing the length of time and money they spend.

[Libraries:](#) The Monterey County Free Library (MCFL) operates sixteen ~~seventeen~~ branch libraries, three bookmobiles, a library by mail program, deposit collections in local schools, and several special programs, including a literacy program which ~~operates a literacy outreach vehicle focused on~~ serves adult literacy, family literacy, and English as a Second Language literacy along with completion of high school, and career development. ~~and kindergarten readiness~~ Free library services are provided to all residents of Monterey County.

MCFL serves as a community physical and digital hub, equipped to serve evolving and diverse community needs in such areas as: literacy; education; lifelong learning; health information; workforce development and career support; economic and business development; digital literacy; critical thinking; financial literacy; new and emerging technologies; after-school-programming; veterans services; connections to other agencies; and assistance to vulnerable populations. Libraries have been drivers for equity and inclusion during the COVID-19 pandemic, as they are every day, and services continue to evolve based on community needs. ~~and services continue to evolve based on community needs. However, the pandemic has caused major financial losses and disrupted libraries' work to support small businesses, students, and jobseekers.~~

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts that expand, strengthen, and support art and cultural activities and facilities, which improve the education, health, and well-being of both visitors and those who live in our communities. Support efforts to equip and empower public libraries to act as cultural hubs of understanding and inclusion in public programming including materials, programs, and services to meet equity, diversity, and inclusion goals. Programs and services should include funding for art displays, cultural programming, access to meeting rooms for community groups, and expert logistical support. Support use of public



[libraries as community anchor institutions for digital inclusion, including provision of high-speed and accessible broadband access, ongoing digital literacy education, and community connection to other agencies and resources. Support addition and enhancement of public libraries as flexible community services locations, including for use by community groups, in disasters, and for arts and culture opportunities throughout the County of Monterey.](#)

## **Broadband & Telecommunication Services**

[Historic investments by the federal and state governments in last-mile and middle-mile broadband infrastructure lay the foundation for community resilience, economic and educational opportunity. Digital access and digital literacy are linked with social equity, the ability to connect with essential services, and democratic participation – and are important factors in the social determinants of health.](#)

[The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the critical utility of broadband infrastructure and shed national light on the benchmark definition versus the reality of existing reliable and affordable services in the rural and urban communities such as Monterey County. The Federal Communications Commission \(FCC\) standard for broadband speed is 25 megabits per second \(Mbps\) download and 3 Mbps upload. The American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\) defines unserved and underserved households and businesses as those not currently meeting the FCC standards. Under this standard, large regions of Monterey County remain unserved or underserved including areas in Big Sur, Cachagua, North County \(Aromas, Los Lomas, North County canyons\) and South County.](#)

[The FCC has developed a Broadband Map which displays where Internet services are available across the United States, as reported by Internet Service Providers \(ISPs\) to the FCC. The map will be updated continuously to improve its accuracy through a combination of FCC verification efforts, new data from Internet providers, updates to the location data, and—importantly—information from the public. The map contains discrepancies related to coverage within Monterey County and outreach efforts are needed to encourage residents to test their broadband connectivity so that essential and accurate crowd-sourced broadband connectivity data can be provided to the FCC database.](#)

[The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more. According to the California Emergency Technology Fund \(CETF\) ACP enrollment tracker, as of November 2022, Monterey County has 61,142 eligible households \(47% of total households\) that qualify for ACP, however, only 11,833, or 19% of eligible households, have enrolled. Outreach efforts are needed to promote adoption and leverage community service partners that share the same population of focus and have access to services that complement digital literacy. One such example is the \*\*Digital Navigators program\*\* through participating libraries.](#)

[Telecommunication services, which are usually integrated with broadband services by providers, are extremely limited or non-existent in some parts of Monterey County, with cellular network strengths varying depending on the topology, time of day, weather, and location. A more robust network is needed, especially in remote, highly trafficked tourist destinations like Big Sur. It has yet to be economically and environmentally feasible for providers to expand services into many areas. However, recent wildfires and other emergencies highlight the need for dependable communications for residents, visitors, and first responders.](#)

### **Key Objectives:**



[Support efforts to expand access to broadband and telecommunication services to unserved and underserved areas of Monterey County \(e.g., County, or other agency's grant proposals, public-private partnerships, state universal broadband bond, etc.\) and increase internet speeds. Support efforts to address affordability \(e.g., California LifeLine Program, Affordable Connectivity Program\). Support efforts to reform existing state programs to expand internet access, generate needed revenue, and make it easier for local governments to obtain funding to move local projects forward. Support efforts to regulate broadband/internet access as a utility by the Federal Communications Commission and California Public Utilities Commission. Support efforts to regulate access fairly and equitably to telecommunications services, removing barriers and providing adaptations for all unserved and underserved rural and urban regions. Support expedited construction of the middle-mile in Monterey County that enables providers to submit last-mile proposals. Support FCC Broadband Map accuracy outreach efforts.](#)

## Housing

[In 2021, Monterey County partnered with the local continuum of care to release a housing market analysis, where it was revealed that for every household below 30% Area Median Income \(AMI\), only 16 units were affordable; for every household below 50% AMI, there were only 28 units available. The need for increased production of permanent housing in the state continues to be an issue of great importance. Addressing California's housing production challenges is also now broadly recognized as an important component of the state's efforts to address the rising rates of homeless and housing vulnerable families and individuals. In recent years, the state has created a variety of programs and allocated funding to improve the housing availability and affordability. Unfortunately, many of these programs have narrow eligibility standards and often have a cumbersome administrative process for counties to access and administer. Monterey County supports efforts to find reasonable modifications to these programs and address state efforts that hinder housing production, as well as additional resources to assist in efforts to address housing challenges.](#)

Available and affordable housing is integral to the health and well-being of County residents and an important element for social [and racial](#) equity, environmental justice, and economic development. It is critical that people have the option to live near their workplace, particularly those workers most essential to the local economy (e.g., farmworkers, teachers, emergency service workers, nurses, child care providers), many of whom find that housing is priced beyond their reach. When people can afford to live close to their jobs, entire communities reap the benefits. Commute times and traffic congestion ease, neighborhoods are more diverse and provide the opportunity for families to live and grow in one place, and economies strengthen by helping employers attract and retain essential workers. Therefore, Monterey County supports policies, funding, and programs that support additional multi-family, farmworker, disabled, senior, veterans, [homeless](#), and workforce housing opportunities to assure an adequate supply of low-cost and affordable housing stock are needed.

**[HUD – CDBG & HOME Programs:](#)** State and Federal programs are important sources of funding to help local communities develop affordable housing. Currently Monterey County receives \$1.2 million annually in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) which supports community development and infrastructure needs ancillary to housing development, and services for low-income and moderate-income persons. Increasing CDBG funding and expanding the program to allow funding to be used for new housing construction would be a powerful tool for local governments. HUD also offers the HOME Investment Partnership Program which funds new housing construction. An increase in HOME funding is needed for the County, as part of a

consortium, to consider participating. New permanent financing sources are needed to address housing needs at all income levels and to provide adequate housing subsidies for households.

**Project Homekey:** Project Homekey allows local governments to develop a broad range of housing types based on local community needs, including but not limited to hotels, motels, hostels, single-family homes, multifamily apartments, adult residential facilities, and manufactured housing, and to convert commercial properties and other existing buildings to permanent or interim housing. The County supports the ongoing funding and resources to continue this program. In addition, the County supports any initiatives that increase State and federal coordination to address inconsistent or conflicting policies, as experienced with the first round of Homekey funding. Federal requirements surrounding environmental reviews conflicted with the State's implementation/expenditure timeline requirements and CEQA waivers which caused the project to experience severe setbacks and halts in construction. Such inconsistencies may lead to non-compliance.

**Housing Vouchers:** In order to build more affordable housing and assist residents in need of subsidized housing opportunities, increased access to public housing, and vouchers programs is needed. Voucher programs need to meet the high cost of rent in Monterey County and the area's Fair Market Rents (FMR) as demonstrated in the 2022 fair market rate study that led to a 36% increase – the highest in the nation.

**Flexible Housing Subsidy Programs:** The State can assist communities to implement flexible housing subsidy programs, intended to provide housing stability to those at risk of experiencing homelessness. Subsidy pools centralize the management of housing resources under a single operator to match resources to eligible households, provide housing navigation and placement services, and provide flexibility in funding that can be utilized in several ways to close the funding gaps that serve as barriers to securing housing.

**Low-Income Housing Tax Credit:** Increasing access to the Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program is needed to provide funding opportunities to developers. Currently, the LIHTC Program can take developers several rounds and years of delays to fund low-income multi-family housing developments.

**Barriers to Housing Production:** Some of the biggest barriers to affordable and market rate housing construction are the development of necessary infrastructure, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and development impact fees, and the threat of litigation over CEQA and land use issues. Major infrastructure is needed for the development of housing (e.g., sewer, water, roads, transit, and other infrastructure). Supporting the expansion of CEQA exemptions for affordable housing infill projects and policies which provide protections for affordable housing and market rate developers (e.g., litigation) would help alleviate these concerns. Supporting policies that remove barriers to housing developments related to State Minimum Fire Safe Regulations.

**Local Housing Trust Fund Opportunities:** Increasingly, local communities are creating housing trust funds as a means to find local solutions to California's affordable housing crisis. The Board of Supervisors has historically expressed an interest in supporting the formation of a local housing trust fund to finance construction of affordable housing within the County. Housing funding opportunities are critical to get developers the funding they need to kick start local projects. The County of Monterey will establish the Monterey County Housing Trust Fund (MCHTF), which is an important step towards providing a local source of financing. Establishing the MCHTF will allow the County to invest in housing projects to house those experiencing homelessness, farm workers, and other disadvantaged populations. ~~Housing funding opportunities are critical to get developers the funding they need to kick start local projects. Tools that assist in affordable housing production (e.g., Local Housing Trust Fund); and affordable housing preservation (e.g., Community Land Trust) would greatly enhance these efforts.~~

**RHNA Credit Allocation:** State law requires cities and counties to meet housing production goals as defined by the Housing Elements Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) or to face penalties. New state housing funding (e.g., Healthy Homes California, No Place Like Home) is geared to incentivize housing production and collaboration as the funds can be spent anywhere countywide. However, if the housing is built within city's boundaries – not the urban county unincorporated area – the city receives the full RHNA credit, while the county which put extensive effort into the development of the project, receives no direct RHNA credit. Monterey County is supportive of policy changes that allow for RHNA credits to be allocated through a regional approach that truly reflects collaborative housing development efforts.

**Farmworker Housing:** The 2018 Farmworker Housing Study and Action Plan for Salinas Valley and Pajaro Valley, prepared by the California Institute for Rural Studies, estimated that in 2016 the number of workers in the region employed in agriculture was 91,433, and stated that farmworker housing in the region is severely overcrowded. Based on the data, 45,560 additional units of farmworker housing are needed to alleviate critical overcrowding in farmworker households. Additionally, state funding programs and resources (e.g., Joe Serna, Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Program) are needed to build affordable farmworker housing. Infrastructure funding opportunities are needed to ensure farmworker housing is built in locations that are close to communities and existing transit and other opportunities.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts and funding to increase the supply of affordable and accessible housing production to meet County needs, especially rental housing, and housing for special need populations, with a preference for infill projects. Support funding resources to address homelessness issues locally. Support efforts to fund infrastructure (e.g., water, sewer) to support affordable housing development. Support the expansion of CEQA exemptions for affordable housing infill projects with infrastructure. Support policies which provide protections for affordable housing developers (e.g., litigation). Support [permanent status of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit](#)~~increased in tax credits for affordable housing developers to help spur affordable housing production~~. Support funding for programs that help get people into affordable housing and avoid displacement or homelessness (e.g., Project Homekey and the Flexible Housing Subsidy Program). Support reform of housing element laws, and changes to eliminate or reduce school impact fees for employer sponsored housing projects. Support the development of tools that assist in affordable housing production (e.g., Local Housing Trust Fund); and affordable housing preservation (e.g., Community Land Trust). Support regional approaches to affordable development which allow cities/county to share in Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) credits. Support an appropriate balance between statewide goals for housing production and affordability while maintaining appropriate discretion for Counties in implementing these policies through locally driven plans.

## **Immigration**

The County strives to support and defend the civil and human rights of all ~~of its~~ residents, including those that are foreign-born. Immigrants comprise over 30% of the total population, and at 21.7% Monterey County has the highest percentage of non-citizens of any California county. The County's immigrant population, including undocumented immigrants, is a critical component of the local labor force, especially for the County's two largest industries – agriculture and hospitality. The contributions of immigrants to the economic, cultural, and social well-being of our community are a source of pride for the County, and the County recognizes the importance of maintaining an environment of trust and safety for immigrants who choose to make Monterey County their home.

The Board of Supervisors has proudly supported the County's immigrant community by supporting comprehensive immigration reform which includes a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants; removing Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) from the County jail and declaring Monterey County a "Welcoming County"; supporting reinstatement of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and becoming the first "Dreamers County" in the nation; supporting the Farm Workforce Modernization Act; and opposing policies that seek to discriminate against individuals based on their immigration status.

### Key Objectives:

Support policies that provide permanent legal status and a path to citizenship for Dreamers. Support policies that extend Temporary Protected Status for qualifying individuals. Support policies that establish effective nonimmigrant visa programs that address the workforce needs of the agriculture and hospitality industries. Oppose legislative and executive actions that seek to punish local governments for failure to assist with federal immigration enforcement actions. Oppose legislative and executive actions that unlawfully discriminate against immigrants based on their country of origin. Oppose legislative and executive actions that restrict public benefits to immigrants. Support comprehensive immigration reform legislation that addresses the County's labor force needs and provides a path to citizenship for the nation's undocumented immigrant population. Support efforts to increase language access, ensure access to health care, facilitate naturalization, extend voting rights, and build leadership development pipelines for immigrants.

## Labor Force

The availability of skilled and unskilled labor is critical to ~~the maintenance and enhancement of~~ economic development activities across all sectors. Monterey County's economy is primarily based on agriculture and tourism, both of which are highly dependent on an adequate labor supply. An aging worker population and current immigration policies make it increasingly difficult to meet these workforce needs.

The lack of agricultural workers is one of the largest challenges facing our local industry today. ~~The agriculture industry contributes \$11.7 billion and 63,921 jobs, and the hospitality industry provides 27,120 jobs and contributes over \$3.24 billion to the local economy.~~ However, industry sources report that they are increasingly affected by labor shortages that jeopardize the local economy, the hospitality industry, and the availability of agricultural goods for national and international shipment. The California Farm Bureau reports that over half of the farmers in California are experiencing labor shortages and that fewer potential employees are applying for seasonal harvest jobs despite increased recruiting efforts, higher wages offered and other incentives.

~~Additionally, the Central Coast is experiencing a significant shortage of skilled medical personnel, which is expected to grow over the next 15 years, especially for primary care clinicians—as well as, public health professionals; social workers; and child care workers.~~ Like many employers, Monterey County is facing significant workforce challenges as public and private sector employers compete for a diminishing number of qualified employees. While the need for skilled and licensed professionals is particularly acute, the tight labor supply is impacting many industries across skill levels, including entry-level positions. All entities within county health and human services agencies, including public health, behavioral health, human services, aging services, and child care are dealing with these obstacles.

### Key Objectives:

Support efforts to implement comprehensive federal immigration reform to ensure that Monterey County has an adequate labor supply for all economic sectors. Oppose efforts to implement restrictive immigration policies that threaten the economic well-being of Monterey County residents. Support policies that promote a greater investment in higher education, training and retaining health care professionals, social workers, and child care workers to meet local workforce needs. [Support policies that help counties more effectively recruit, hire, and retain qualified and talented workers.](#)

## **Rising Fuel Costs**

[Rising oil and gas prices have and continue to cause economic burdens on County constituents by its chain-sequence effect on the economy. Fuel prices affect the cost of growing produce and manufacturing goods, as well as increasing the cost of transporting goods. Increased costs are passed down to consumers, who all the while, are paying inflated prices for fuel to drive to their workplace or other destination. In addition, the increase in fuel costs directly and negatively impacts construction costs of critical County projects. The Governor and Legislature have introduced a plan to address rising fuel costs and the impacts to Californians.](#)

### **Key Objectives:**

[Support efforts by the Governor and State Legislature to address rising fuel prices in California.](#)

## **Tourism**

In ~~2019~~2021, tourism spending in Monterey County ~~reached a record was \$2.54~~\$3.24 billion ~~and That year, tourism was the number one~~remained the top industry on the Monterey Peninsula and the second largest industry in Monterey County. [Tourism](#) supports more than 21,000 ~~27,000~~ jobs and generates ~~\$153~~\$146 million in local tax revenues (e.g., sales tax, transient occupancy tax). This revenue provides communities with vital tax resources needed to invest in infrastructure improvements, programs and projects that benefit residents. ~~In 2020, the hospitality industry was decimated in a matter of months, experiencing a total loss of visitor spending of \$1.74 billion and estimated job losses of 25%.~~ [While travel in Monterey County during 2021 continued to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, it significantly recovered from the low in 2020.](#)

Monterey County has an abundance of open or undeveloped space and unique natural environments which lend themselves to tourism, eco-tourism, sustainable-tourism, and cultural-heritage tourism (e.g., Pinnacles National Park, Fort Ord National Monument, and numerous State, Regional and County parks). With proper marketing these assets can attract visitors for longer stays and more frequent visits, which benefit the local economy through increased visitor spending on lodging, food, retail, and other services. The attraction of recreational enthusiasts encourages the establishment of manufacturing, retail and [service businesses which cater to the recreational equipment needs of visitors and residents. Tourism benefits can also be gained by collaborating with the Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau and national organizations such as Brand USA and the State of California Travel Program. Traffic congestion acts as a deterrent to tourist, exacerbating the need to support transportation and infrastructure projects which improve public safety, enhance roadway capacity, provide for more public transportation, and improve coastal and trail access for residents and visitors.](#)

### **Key Objectives:**

[Support efforts that promote tourism, eco-tourism, sustainable-tourism, and cultural-heritage tourism, including support for federal, state, and local conservation and recreation areas; partner with other](#)

[agencies to leverage the benefits of tourism to increase economic growth, create jobs, generate tax revenue, and boost U.S. exports; fund infrastructure improvements and capital projects that support visitor travel and tourism.](#)

## Workforce Development

The Workforce Development Board coordinates and leverages local workforce strategies with education and economic development stakeholders to ensure that workforce development and job training programs meet the needs of employers. Investments in workforce development create a comprehensive system to provide our community with a highly skilled workforce that competes in the local, regional, and global economy. Monterey County receives funding through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) to manage programs to assist with local workforce investment needs.

### Key Objectives:

Support ~~reauthorization of~~[funding through](#) the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), including expanded funding for a business-led Workforce Development Board governed and supported by local leaders. Support the America's Job Center of California's centers in Monterey County, which focus on the needs of job seekers and businesses to ensure workers have access to critical employment programs, services, and training opportunities. Support funding for personal financial management education services. Support funding for career pathways for existing local and potential new industries, including securing resources and developing additional workforce of licensed mental health professionals due to the extreme shortage in the California labor market and increasing demand for mental health services.

## Youth Employment

Youth employment programs are nationally recognized for preventing youth violence and bringing hope and opportunity to communities. Such programs are highlighted as one of the five strategies in the Office for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Comprehensive Gang Prevention Model. In Monterey County gang issues, violence and crime steal the futures of all too many young people. Providing local youths with employment opportunities goes a long way toward ending youth violence and criminal gang involvement and is a priority for the County and its many city and community partners. A cradle to career initiative (Bright Futures) is developing connections across the County to support children, youth, and adults to attain their educational goals and find gainful local employment. Summer and year-round youth employment and leadership programs prepare youth for future self-sufficiency, prevent youth violence and crime, and support businesses and organizations. The Monterey County Workforce Development Board has ~~a number of~~[several](#) job training and youth leadership programs for young adults between the ages of 18-24, that are focused on -low -income, homeless and -justice involved youth, with the end goal of getting young adults into, jobs, or post -secondary education.

### Key Objectives:

~~Support efforts such as Bright Futures to improve access to high quality and affordable education, foster progress in educational outcomes for local students from cradle to career and improve the pipeline of quality talent in Monterey County.~~ Support efforts to enhance funding for summer youth employment and training programs and expand funding for year-round programs to better prepare youth for future

self-sufficiency and prevent youth violence and crime. [Support programs such as the CaliforniasForAll Youth Job Corps programs that provide out of school youth aged 16-30 the opportunity for job training programs, summer employment, and community service, while meeting critical needs of climate change and food insecurity in Monterey County.](#)



## Administration

### ***Legislative Principles – Administration***

#### **General**

Support legislative and regulatory efforts that protect and enhance local governments' revenues, maximize County access to state and federal funding sources and increase local funding flexibility. Support efforts to increase local authority and control over revenues, governance, and service delivery – as well as protect the County against federal and state mandates that constrict its ability to manage its own affairs. Support efforts to provide funding or reimbursement at the actual cost of doing business for County administered programs, projects, and responsibilities. Support efforts to recruit and retain a highly skilled and professional county workforce, provide staff opportunities for professional development, and promote the recognition of employees as professionals in their fields. Protect the attorney-client privilege. Support full funding for mandated programs and oppose unfunded mandates and the imposition of unreasonable or unnecessary legislative, administrative, or regulatory burdens that add costs or risks to County and local operations. Support efforts to provide increased training opportunities to County staff to ensure public health and safety.

#### **Government Efficiency & Privacy**

Support efforts to modernize the governance structure of County divisions and agencies or enter into strategic partnerships to improve the efficient delivery of government services. Support efforts to streamline operations, enhance access and use of digital and other information technologies, and add flexibility and discretion for counties to manage programs in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible. Support policies that promote net neutrality and open access to information in any format. Support efforts to increase data privacy and cybersecurity, limit third party access to data, safeguard against data breaches, and guard against election interference.

#### **Local Revenue Generation**

Support efforts that preserve the County's autonomy as the fiscal manager, administrator, and policy-making entity related to County funds. Support expanded authority to generate voter approved revenues at the local level. Protect the County's revenue sources, especially property, sales, commercial cannabis business and transient occupancy taxes. Oppose efforts to restrict, limit or eliminate local taxing authority and policies that have the effect of reducing revenues to state and local government (e.g., the tax-exempt status of municipal bond interest, and the deduction for state and local taxes). Support the County's authority to engage in public-private partnerships and other alternative financing mechanisms for infrastructure development.

#### **Civil Rights & Civic Engagement**

Support efforts that respect civil rights, provide equal opportunity for all, and pursue equity in all operations by developing a culture of diversity and inclusion. Support efforts to improve services to Limited English Proficiency (LEP) persons by providing services in the language spoken by our residents, including indigenous languages and American Sign Language. Support efforts to increase access to [County services by virtual means and to increase virtual participation in](#) government ~~for~~ [by the public and](#) persons with ~~different~~ disabilities using adaptive or assistive devices. Support efforts to improve the [California Civil Rights Department's \(CRD\) of Fair Employment and Housing's](#) discrimination, harassment, and retaliation investigative process. Support efforts to increase diversity and inclusion in government boards,



commissions, and committees. [Support efforts to continue the ability for public bodies subject to the Brown Act to hold public meetings remotely to support greater participation by those elected/appointed to serve on those bodies and local residents.](#) [Support efforts to designate State funding for stipends for those elected/appointed to serve on local government Brown Act commissions.](#) [Support efforts to designate State funding to local governments for translation and interpretation services to support participation in government by County residents.](#) [Support efforts to defend and protect reproductive freedom, including the right to access safe, legal abortion services.](#) [Support legislation to codify the U.S. Supreme Court decision in \*Roe v. Wade\*.](#) [Support efforts to defend and protect marriage equality, including the Respect for Marriage Act, which would grant protections to same-sex and interracial couples.](#) [Support efforts to protect the constitutional rights and voting rights of County residents, the integrity of the election process, and equitable access to voter registration and voting.](#) [Support efforts to reform the election process and fund election administration to ensure reform efforts can be implemented.](#) [Support policies that create efficiencies and reduce costs in elections administration.](#)

## ***Legislative Priorities – Administration***

### **Brown Act**

[The Ralph M. Brown Act \(the Brown Act\) is intended to facilitate public participation in local government decisions and imposes an “open meeting” requirement on local legislative bodies. Among its many provisions, the Brown Act ensures that public decisions are deliberated on and made in public, at noticed meetings, in which the public can participate. Counties are committed to ensuring the public’s right to access public meetings and scrutinize the decisions of public officials. Recognizing the clear benefits of open meetings, Monterey County supports efforts that maximize local control and flexibility while maintaining transparency and accountability under the following framework.](#)

- [The people must retain “the right of access to information concerning the conduct of the people’s business, and, therefore, the meetings of public bodies and the writings of public officials and agencies shall be open to public scrutiny,” as granted by the state constitution.](#)
- [State law should allow counties to design local rules regarding the safe and efficient use of remote meeting options by elected and appointed officials and members of the public in order to promote greater participation, reduce travel barriers, and increase equity and inclusion. Remote participation might require different rules or limitations than in-person participation.](#)
- [Local legislative bodies should be able under the law to effectively manage meetings so that they can constructively accomplish the people’s business while meeting the intent of the state’s open meeting laws.](#)
- [Public meetings should be safe, accessible, and welcoming environments where community members can peaceably assemble and attend the people’s business without being threatened, harassed, or subjected to unacceptably disruptive behavior.](#)
- [The requirements of the Brown Act for local open meetings should not be more stringent than the requirements of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act for the state’s open meetings.](#)

### **Public Records Act**

[The California Public Records Act \(CPRA\) is intended to ensure that governmental records are disclosed to the public, upon request, unless there is a specific reason not to do so. Counties and other local governments have faced an enormous increase in the number and size of requests over the past few years. The intensive work required to review records and redact the material that is exempt or prohibited](#)

[from disclosure \(e.g., confidential attorney-client correspondence, social security numbers, criminal history, trade secrets, medical records, etc.\) has grown exponentially. Further compounding this problem is that counties must make tough judgment calls on whether to release some records, especially when doing so is specifically prohibited, for example because doing so would violate privacy laws or employee confidentiality. The dilemma for counties is also financial, since they are liable for court costs and reasonable attorney fees should the requester prevail in litigation filed under the CPRA. Counties have seen an increase in vexatious litigants using the CPRA to grind government work to a halt. Monterey County supports proposals that seek to reduce the impact of these growing issues.](#)

## **Workers' Compensation**

[Continued legislative efforts in expanding injuries or conditions for which a connection with employment is presumed but not proven threaten the equilibrium of the workers' compensation system. Additionally, efforts have recently included substantially modifying certain workers' compensation system segments that will unfairly penalize employers and counties while detrimentally impacting the overall quality of care delivered. Instead, counties should champion data-driven decisions or reform to the entirety of the system to find the appropriate balance between employers and employees. This legislative interest continues to be heightened in an era of the COVID-19 pandemic, wildfires, and police reform. By granting superfluous, costly benefits to workers for injuries that may not be job-related, the financial solvency of the system will be detrimentally impacted. For the system to function correctly, it relies on the contributions of employers and employees to roughly equal the amount paid out for injuries suffered on the job. To protect county employers, Monterey County will oppose efforts to create new presumptions and to expand existing presumptions without data-driven evidence that the current system is unjust.](#)

## **Local Government Funding and Authority**

It is essential that the County work to protect and enhance local government revenues, maximize access to State and Federal funding sources and increase local funding flexibility. Local authority and control over revenues, governance, and service delivery – as well as protection against mandates that constrict the County's ability to manage its own affairs is essential. Efforts must be supported which provide funding or reimbursement at the actual cost of doing business for County administered programs, projects and responsibilities and vigilantly oppose [efforts to reallocate revenues away from counties, reduce county revenues, or impose](#) unfunded mandates and the imposition of unreasonable or unnecessary legislative or regulatory burdens that add costs or risks to operations.

**Federal and State Aid:** Monterey County receives funding from the Federal and State government to administer health, welfare, and public safety programs, and much of this funding is based on federal census data. The County also receives revenue from competitive grant programs. Total Federal and State aid to the General Fund for Fiscal Year 2021-22 ~~0-21~~ is estimated at [33.54%](#) of total financing. Social service and health programs rely heavily upon and are the largest recipients of this aid. However, funding to counties to deliver required services has not kept pace with costs.

**Discretionary Revenues:** The County's primary discretionary revenue sources are property, sales, commercial cannabis business taxes and transient occupancy taxes. These revenues support most County services and basic functions (e.g., public safety, criminal justice, health, public assistance, land use, recreation, environment, administration).

**Targeted Federal and State Advocacy:** The County's state and federal legislative advocacy efforts work to support or defend legislative, regulatory, or budget actions that impact resource, operation, revenue or funding opportunities for County projects and programs. The Board of Supervisors has a Legislative

Program and Strategic Grant Services Program to aid County departments in legislative efforts and priority project grant applications. These programs work in close collaboration to advocate for maximum state and federal program funding which translates into locally available funding opportunities. The County's lobbyists and grant consultants are key to these efforts, working with state and federal agency staff to shape rulemakings and guidance for programs that impact County finances and operations.

**Local Authority:** The County must have adequate authority, operational flexibility, and resources to meet its role as an agent of the State and local service provider. The County supports efforts to ensure local discretionary control over governance issues and the delivery of services. The County opposes the transfer of programs from the State to counties unless program control and flexibility are also shifted, and adequate State funding is guaranteed.

**Transparency:** The County supports transparency in its operations and business decisions, open government, and freedom of information as it executes its responsibilities. The County believes that the transparency of public spending strengthens democracy, promotes fiscal responsibility, and bolsters public confidence.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to secure and enhance State and Federal revenues and funding for local government operations and programs; preserve the County's autonomy and local authority as the fiscal manager, administrator, and policy-making entity related to County funds; and to expand authority to generate voter approved revenues at the local level. Support efforts to increase transparency in the way the County conducts its business, modernize the governance structure of County divisions and agencies, and enter into strategic partnerships to improve the efficient delivery of government services. Support efforts to enhance and equitably distribute constitutionally guaranteed funds to counties for realigned public safety, health, and human services programs. Support the reduction or elimination of regressive fees and fines that disproportionately affect low-income residents. Oppose administrative and regulatory burdens which unnecessarily add risks or costs to County business activities. Oppose federal efforts to eliminate or limit local taxing authority, the state and local tax deduction, the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds, and other tax policies that have the effect of reducing revenues for state and local governments. Support legislative and administrative policies that ensure the accuracy and completeness of collected census data that reflects the total resident population in each state, including noncitizens.

## **Social, Health, and Racial Equity**

Monterey County supports policies and practices that promote equity and reduce disparities based on race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, and socioeconomic status. Policies should address all forms of racism, particularly institutional and structural racism, which have historically played a central role in creating and perpetuating persistent social and health inequities. Despite progress in addressing explicit discrimination in these policy areas, inequities continue across the nation. These inequities exist across all indicators for success, including education, criminal justice, jobs, housing, public infrastructure, and health, regardless of region. Identifying and addressing the root causes of these inequities~~disparities~~ is needed to understand the unintended consequences of policies, systems and institutional biases which may further marginalize certain communities, particularly communities of color.

Monterey County has developed a Governing for Racial Equity Action Plan that will move a theory of change into action to achieve a collective vision of equity, [work to center community voice](#), and drive institutional and structural change across [the County organization](#)~~departments~~.

**Key Objective:**

Support efforts, policies and practices that eliminate disparities based on race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, and socioeconomic status, to ensure equitable opportunities and better futures are available to all Monterey County residents. Support efforts to fund and implement proven Governing for Racial Equity practices across County departments, including [policies and programs to help combat racism and inequity and resolve inherent biases and institutional processes that result in systemic racism and inequity](#), and establishing and funding equity infrastructure (i.e., equity offices in key County departments with decision-making power) to sustain ongoing efforts. [-Support efforts to work in partnership with indigenous peoples and racialized communities to collect intersectional demographic data, such as age, gender identity and ethnic origin. This will help break down barriers and better identify interconnected issues, such as economic status, employment, and outcomes in health care.](#)

## Health & Human Services

### ***Legislative Principles – Health & Human Services***

#### **General**

Assure ~~that~~ adequate protections are in place to provide equitable opportunities for all individuals to realize their full unique potential and provide for needed public health, safety, and social service programs. Support state and federal actions that promote the health and welfare of the County's most vulnerable residents. Support efforts to fund, expand, coordinate, and improve the County's health care safety net system, including COVID or other emergency response funding. Support efforts to protect and preserve the health care systems that serve Monterey ~~e~~County residents where our interests align, especially in serving the most vulnerable. Support America's Essential Hospitals (AEH) initiatives for federal support of Public Safety Net Systems, including an official designation which recognizes the importance of the safety net role and mission to care for all people, including the uninsured, low-income patients and other marginalized groups. This includes a proposed request for \$7 billion in funding. Also support AEH initiatives that develop throughout the year.

Support reforms to fully fund comprehensive health care programs, providers, and facilities for every resident, without adversely affecting the local economy and business community. Oppose funding cuts to critically important health and human service programs, such as Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California), Medicare, and Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) funding, and efforts that reduce local flexibility in the implementation of such programs. Support initiatives that eliminate or indefinitely delay implementation of DSH cuts. Support AEH's and the California Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems (CAPH) request to fix the Medicaid dual calculation so not to penalize hospital systems in the DSH calculation.

Oppose policies that limit access to private health insurance. Support state efforts to implement CalAIM with the federal government as part of providing expanded Medicaid (Medi-Cal) funding to California counties. Support CAPH's initiatives for state support of Public Health Care Systems, including reform of Medi-Cal payments and working with the California Hospital Association coalition of providers for immediate general fund relief necessary to address inadequate Medi-Cal payment rates. Also support other CAPH initiatives that develop throughout the year. Target initiatives and programs that support the infrastructure, staffing and funding of public health care systems, including Natividad and the Health Department. Support funding that is health system centered instead of heal plan centered.

Support funding for, and policies that, assure parity for mental health and substance use disorder prevention and treatment. ~~Oppose attempts to require website posting of hospital contracts which would affect the hospital's ability to compete, increase potential lawsuits, and place an undue burden on County business. Oppose federal surprise billing legislation that places unreasonable and costly regulatory requirements on hospital. Support efforts to reduce the burden resulting from price transparency rules that were effective January 2021.~~ Support programs that promote increasing and improving workforce development to assist with public health and healthcare staffing shortages. Support efforts to fund electronic health records integration and implementation so health information exchange efforts can expand. Support changes in federal substance ~~ab~~use confidentiality rules to allow for streamlined information sharing.

## Public Health

Support policies and funding that preserve and expand primary prevention and essential public health staffing infrastructure and functions. Support efforts that foster social equity in the areas of community health, health care access, education, and disease prevention. Support efforts to create safe neighborhoods and invest in affordable housing to assure the environment is supportive of making healthy choices that lead to healthy lifestyles, with a focus on early childhood development, prevention of childhood obesity, promotion of maternal and child health, and youth violence prevention. Support efforts to create climate resilient communities. Support efforts and policies that promote environmental health regulations that require businesses and individuals to follow public health principles that protect people and the environment. Support efforts to allow streamlined information sharing across multi-sector entities to improve coordination of care and client outcomes.

Support efforts to address staffing shortages in public health, behavioral health, human services, aging services, child welfare, and child care which become exacerbated when new public health crises emerge. Support state and federal funding and technical assistance in a timely manner to ensure adequate planning, medical supplies, access to laboratory testing services, workforce, and alternative care capacity to appropriately respond to any local, state, or global health emergency.

## Healthy Communities

Built and social environments significantly impact the health of communities. Support public policies and programs that aid in development of healthy communities including food and beverage policies that increase access to healthier food in both county-operated and non-county-operated no/low-cost food programs (e.g., USDA Summer Lunch, inmate programs, and senior meals) or concession and vending operations. The County further supports the concept of joint use of facilities and partnerships, mixed-use developments, and walkable and safe developments, to promote healthy community events and activities.

Support efforts and funding to develop climate change mitigation and resiliency strategies, including but not limited to bolstering infrastructure, to help protect against and address potential impacts on human health such as increased respiratory and cardiovascular disease, injuries and premature deaths related to extreme weather events, including catastrophic wildfires, changes in the prevalence and geographic distribution of food- and water-borne illnesses and other infectious diseases, and threats to mental health, particularly for disadvantaged communities that are the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

## Healthcare for All

Support, deepen, and expand efforts to create equity and eliminate racial disparities by expanding access to health care through community access supports, universal coverage, and other steps to improve the access to quality and affordability of health care (e.g., Medi-Cal expansion to undocumented adults and seniors). Support efforts to ensure employers help H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers apply for health insurance through Covered California. Support policies and funding that preserve and expand primary prevention, essential public health functions, and that foster social/racial equity in the areas of community health, health care access (including telehealth), education, and disease prevention.

## Social Services

Support efforts to preserve and advance social services by providing the authority and resources required to promote the social and economic self-reliance of individuals and families, and for the protection of children, elders, and dependent adults. Support efforts to restore funding and clarify state/county responsibilities for county provided social services. Encourage and support the State's efforts to secure funding and federal waivers resulting in additional resources for counties and community-based social service providers. Support efforts to provide funding and policies to address the unique needs of veterans and their families.

## Legislative Priorities – Health & Human Services

### Public Health, Health Care Coverage, Access & Integration

Access to timely and high-quality healthcare is a fundamental human right. California counties play a critical role in serving those most in need through the provision of public health, communicable disease control, behavioral health, social services, and a strong public safety net health care system. Funding cuts during the great recession left significant underfunded infrastructure needs for public health and communicable disease control. While public health investments during the COVID-19 pandemic were appreciated, we continue to be concerned about the lack of ongoing funding, including the lack of flexibility in the amount of funding, planning efforts, and sustained support for the critical public health infrastructure ~~Restoration of these funds in particular are~~ needed for a comprehensive infectious disease control system in California to combat emerging and reemerging diseases.

In addition, access to comprehensive health insurance supports healthcare as a basic human right. While Medi-Cal in California has expanded to those 50 and older regardless of documentation status, for those 138% or less of the Federal Poverty Level, many still find health insurance unaffordable or find they cannot maintain their insurance due to seasonal employment or other reasons. Universal affordable health insurance would contribute to reducing health inequities.

Additionally, the reduction of health inequities is a critical need that can be accomplished through intentional systems change to improve the social determinants of health and increasing the proportion of County residents covered by health insurance. System changes include fostering the promotion of health and prevention strategies, developing multi-sector coalitions using collective impact to address complex issues, expanding health care coverage, and partnering health care delivery with public health. These efforts are an intentional move up-stream from the treatment of illness associated with communicable and chronic disease to advance a policy, systems, and organizational change approach to address the underlying environmental factors and conditions that influence health and health behaviors.

Monterey County faces numerous health-related issues (e.g., childhood obesity, youth violence, and adult-onset diabetes). The County has adopted a strategy of "Health in All Policies" as part of its efforts to eliminate social, racial, economic, and environmental inequities that impede the attainment and maintenance of good physical and mental health, including health care access. The County supports a broad system-wide and public health prevention approach to reduce risk factors that exacerbate health inequities, maintain, and strengthen the County's role in health care reform, and the health of the public safety net health care system.



The safety net health care system and access to it provides residents with opportunities for routine care. Those opportunities include comprehensive health care insurance coverage, continued support for those with pre-existing conditions, reimbursement mechanisms that cover the costs of providing health care, and support for ~~a twelve-month extension of the Medi-Cal 2020 waiver, and the five-year renewal of California's new~~ Section 1115 ~~new~~ Medicaid waiver through December 31, 2026.

**CalAIM Implementation.** California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) is an ambitious multi-year initiative seeking to enhance care coordination and improve health outcomes through state and federal proposals to simplify and streamline the Medi-Cal program. CalAIM has significant implications for many county health and human services functions, including behavioral health services, social services eligibility, county public hospitals, and cross-sector initiatives for foster youth and those who are homeless or justice-involved. The County will continue to focus on the federal, state, and local finance implications, as well as the impacts on county operations, successful programs, and the people and families served. The County will continue to advocate for prioritization and funding of counties to provide services that leverage counties' existing expertise and for the state to consult with counties in formulating and implementing all policy, operational and technological changes of this initiative.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts that reduce health inequities, improve health care access for all (e.g., increase Medi-Cal eligibility standards to 200% or less of Federal Poverty Level; Esperanza Care), promote primary public health prevention, fund interventions to prevent emerging and reemerging communicable diseases, and strengthen communities (e.g., social support networks, community design, clean energy, public transportation, access to education, employment practices, alternatives to incarceration, restorative justice, etc.). Support state level policy that documents be produced in the language of our California residents. Support funding and policy changes to support population-based chronic disease prevention efforts such as the creation of funding of a State Wellness Trust with allocations to counties and other key partners to implement programs, policies, and strategies to prevent chronic illness.

Support efforts to preserve, promote, expand, and fund primary health prevention efforts, essential public health functions, efforts that foster social and racial equity to reduce health inequities, address Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), behavioral health, communicable and chronic disease, positively impact current and future health outcomes, promotes the integration of cognitive and physical health, mental health, behavioral health, and other types of preventive services and healthcare in unified service delivery models.

Support efforts to fully fund Health Department enhanced case management services to managed care Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Support efforts to improve the design and care of built and natural environments to be culturally supportive of healthy living throughout the county. Support increased information and resources to empower community members to choose healthy eating, active living, and drug free lives.

Oppose efforts to repeal or diminish funding or services under the Affordable Care Act, or to limit the scope of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Oppose efforts that reduce funding for public health, shifts costs to local health departments, or create unfunded mandates. Oppose legislative and executive actions such as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) proposed rule or Medicaid Fiscal Accountability Rule (MFAR) that could limit Medicaid supplementation payments and other financing arrangements which would limit the County's funding sources for federal government programs. Support efforts to stabilize and strengthen public safety net health care systems and pharmacy benefits. Support efforts to provide higher Medi-Cal and Medicare reimbursement levels for inpatient and



outpatient services, and substance abuse disorders. Support expansion of coverage for low-income individuals, families and seniors through Medi-Cal and Medicare programs, regardless of legal status. Support the continued implementation of CalAIM for California and its public health care systems to lead the nation towards care for low-income and vulnerable patients that emphasizes preventative and patient-centered care in the right place at the right time. [Support policies that expand sick leave and family leave to support workers and their families, regardless of immigration status or employment type \(i.e., gig-workers\).](#)

## Behavioral Health

Counties provide specialty mental health and substance use disorder services on behalf of the state through county-run mental health plans. The various and complicated funding streams that support behavioral health services include such sources as the 1991 and 2011 Realignments, the Mental Health Services Act, and new homeless funding. The Affordable Care Act has improved behavioral health service delivery, but additional funding and reforms are needed. The development of an integrated and comprehensive system of care that includes supports for behavioral health prevention and treatment programs will lead to reduced costs, improved equity for behavioral health care, enhanced patient outcomes, reduced mental health stigma, and reduced treatment delays and safety issues.

[\*\*Behavioral Health Funding.\*\* The state is making significant investments in behavioral health housing, children's behavioral health services, and CalAIM. To successfully harness these investments to make transformative change requires addressing underlying county mental health plan funding shortfalls, and the expanding set of roles and responsibilities on these agencies continues to create challenges for successful progress. The County will advocate for behavioral health workforce assistance and adequate, sustained funding to match new responsibilities included in initiatives such as the CARE Act and the multi-year effort to develop a comprehensive statewide 988 system.](#)

[\*\*CARE Act Funding and Implementation.\*\* The Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment \(CARE\) Act creates a new pathway to deliver mental health and substance use disorder services to the most severely impaired Californians who too often suffer in homelessness or incarceration without treatment. The CARE Act moves care and support upstream, providing the most vulnerable Californians with access to critical behavioral health services, housing, and support. The CARE Act includes a statutory commitment that the Act will become operative only upon consultation with county stakeholders and the development of an allocation to provide state financial assistance to counties to implement the CARE Act process. Secure adequate, flexible, and sustained funding across all impacted local agencies to support counties' efforts in this new statewide initiative is needed. Additional advocacy is also necessary for changes related to implementation as planning efforts progress for county implementation.](#)

The County needs expanded mental health beds and program space in its adult detention and mental health facilities. Due to the limitations of the detention facility, ~~mentally ill~~ inmates [experiencing a mental illness](#) are housed in a variety of locations which creates challenges and security issues. Funding is needed for the construction of dedicated mental health beds for adults and juveniles, individual and group mental health therapy and program space, safety cells, and in and out of custody offender programming needs.

The County's only locked 5150 [adult](#) mental health facility is located at [the County Natividad H](#) hospital. There has been a significant increase in the demand for inpatient mental health beds. Funds are needed to expand beds and program space to better serve the adult and juvenile population, and to engage in behavioral health community outreach and education.

The County would like to repurpose dormitory style jail housing units and utilize those areas for a locked mental health treatment facility. Secure housing is necessary to treat some offenders while they receive a combination of counseling, therapy, and medication to stabilize their condition. Housing and treatment should be expanded to include misdemeanor inmates and those misdemeanor offenders deemed incompetent to stand trial. The County will need funding to renovate and staff a locked treatment facility.

The pandemic has had a significant impact on family mental health, adding to long-term stressors such as Adverse Childhood Experiences including systemic racism and poverty. Social-emotional development and wellness are fundamental in the earliest years of childhood for long-term health and well-being. The County supports whole child/whole family systemic approaches to mental health, including shifting the societal conditions that create toxic stress and triggering events, as well as holistic services in all of the settings most comfortable to families, including (but not limited to): dyadic care models in pediatric clinics, particularly for families enrolled in Medi-Cal; early childhood mental health consultation and related services in subsidized child care programs; and attachment and maternal mental health supports through home visiting.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to enhance the comprehensive behavioral health system, including broader support to expand transitional and permanent housing for the homeless and disabled. Support local control over spending priorities for the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)/Proposition 63 funds, inclusive of the innovation component for funds. Support efforts to prohibit the funds currently allocated to counties from being re-directed by the State for other purposes. Support efforts to require coverage and increase reimbursements for mental health and substance use disorder services; give counties flexibility to blend mental health, alcohol and drug treatment funds and direct funds to areas of greatest need; and increase availability of services to the uninsured. Support efforts to secure funding to construct mental health beds, residential placement facilities, and program space for residents of all ages. [Support efforts to enhance behavioral health workforce assistance and adequate, sustained funding to match new responsibilities included in initiatives such as the CARE Act and the multi-year effort to develop a comprehensive statewide 988 system.](#)

### **Public Guardians, Administrators and Conservators**

Public Administrators, Public Guardians and Public Conservators act under the authority of the California Supreme Court but are solely a county function and mostly funded with County General Funds and some fees collected through the conservatee's estates. These funding sources have not kept pace with the increasing demand for services and there has been a rise in interest in conservatorships as vehicles to help manage criminally involved and homeless populations.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts that would provide adequate and sustainable funding for public guardians, conservators, and administrators to ensure quality safety-net services including securing and safeguarding financial assets for all who qualify. Oppose additional duties, mandates, and requirements for public guardians without the provision of adequate funding to carry out these services. Support efforts to enhance placement capacity for public guardians, as California severely lacks safe and secure housing for the majority of residents under conservatorship.

Support efforts to create a suitable designation for persons with traumatic brain injury, dementia, or co-occurring mental illness and dementia; and extend Medi-Cal Managed Care or private insurance coverage to provide appropriate coverage, placement, and treatment options for these individuals.

[Support efforts that minimize impact on public conservators for individuals not successful under the CARE Court Act without additional dedicated State funding.](#)

## Public Health and Prevention Policies: Cannabis and Tobacco

Legalization of recreational cannabis may exacerbate existing health disparities such as low birth weight, poor mental health outcomes, or lower high school graduation rates for children and youth. Increased cannabis use may lead to cannabis dependency and attendant health and social harms. While tobacco use has declined in Monterey County for the past few decades, lung cancer is the number one cause of cancer deaths, the use of electronic smoking devices and other smokeless tobacco products has been on the rise, and smoking rates among youth are increasing. The proliferation of tobacco product categories, flavored products, and the evolution in tobacco marketing appear to be fueling teens switching from traditional cigarettes to a new generation of tobacco products. And the use of electronic smoking devices is linked with cannabis as well as tobacco. ~~In a 2016 National Youth Tobacco Survey, 9% of students surveyed said they had used an e-cigarette device with marijuana, THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) or hash oil or THC wax.~~

### Key Objectives:

Support efforts that increase funding for cannabis and tobacco [substance use prevention and](#) education programs and to study the impacts of cannabis use and legalization on public health. Oppose efforts to exempt electronic nicotine delivery systems, such as e-cigarettes, from tobacco control laws and regulations. Support legislation regulating the sales and marketing of smokeless tobacco products, restrict sale of flavored nicotine-containing products, ~~prevention of~~ youth-focused marketing strategies, [limit cannabis product THC content, require stocking of lower THC products, and standardized 5 mg THC doses of concentrates. Continue to support implementation of the use of a specialized business model for retailers \(no food or other product sales\).](#) ~~and establish a minimum price or minimum package size for all tobacco products.~~

## Early Childhood Development

There ~~are~~ is a total of ~~34,970~~~~47,545~~ children ages ~~0-5~~~~and under~~ in Monterey County, accounting for ~~8%~~~~7.4%~~ of the population. Using measures that supplement federal poverty data (e.g., cost of living), Monterey County (combined with San Benito County) has the highest child poverty rate in the state, at 31%, with 25.5% of children being food insecure. Monterey County has one of the highest rates of children living in overcrowded housing in the state, at 36.3%.

Research shows the importance of policies that advance whole child, whole family approaches, increase racial equity, build integrated systems, and focus on prevention to enhance critical services for children and families. For children to thrive they need good health and quality early learning experiences that unfold within strong family environments. Without early intervention children for whom these statistics are a reality are likely to experience adverse consequences into adulthood - resulting in higher health care costs, a poorly educated workforce, and lifelong dependence on public assistance. Targeted interventions to improve conditions during early childhood offer a greater return on investment than interventions later

in life. With a strong investment in early childhood development, all children will be able to contribute to the local economy through increased human productivity.

The County understands the years between conception and age three are uniquely important for the positive development of the child and family; and they are the most likely time frame for a child to enter the child welfare system. Home visiting is a critical lever during that window to build buffering supports and connect families to a holistic range of systems and services, including the social safety net, public health, and family strengthening, to improve outcomes for families and children down the road.

Additionally, the County believes that early identification and intervention play a key role in successful early childhood care. Silos within systems of care prevent children and families from accessing the care, supports, and services they are eligible to receive, particularly for children with developmental delays and concerns. [Infant-family mental health services are also crucial to healthy development. The formation of neural structures in the brain that lead to positive well-being in children.](#) A child's early development is tied to their lifelong outcomes and should be nurtured in the community and across systems, and at all levels of ability.

[These several years have highlighted how many employees are parents and need quality child care in order to stay in our workforce. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, evidence suggests that child care's effect on workforce participation, productivity, and businesses' bottom line is more significant than previously recognized. Ensuring healthy child development, therefore, is an investment in the County's current and future workforce along with the capacity to thrive economically as a society.](#)

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to ensure that parents and primary caregivers are well-informed and capable of supporting their children physically, emotionally, mentally, intellectually, and financially (e.g., preschool for all, increase opportunities and access to culturally relevant, trauma informed care, education, and services, along with timely and appropriate information to support families). Support efforts to strengthen families' equitable access to quality early childhood services that meet

#### **Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Development Initiative: Framework & Strategy Priorities**

- ☆ An equitable system that supports all children and families.
- ☆ Families surrounded by support: implement an integrated, holistic, family-centered support system of screening, care coordination referrals and services; scale up home visiting programs for families with young children; expand paid family leave, protect and support breastfeeding, and implement other family-friendly business practices
- ☆ Empowered and Resilient Families: improve support for parent's and caregiver's mental health; expand access to parent-child play groups.
- ☆ Caregivers support children's growth and learning: embed parenting and child development supports in health and other public services; establish capacity support for family, friend and neighbor caregivers; scale up effective parenting programs.
- ☆ Transform early care and education systems to increase access and improve quality.
- ☆ Design coherent public policies that will improve the lives of children and families.
- ☆ Cross-cutting strategies: generate sustainable funding for early childhood services; engage families with young children in shaping local and regional policies, budgets and services; capacity development and awareness raising.

a variety of family needs (e.g., early childhood workforce development, improved access to quality, [affordable](#) and developmentally appropriate early care, increase number of quality child\_care providers, improved reimbursement rates for licensed child\_care providers) with an emphasis on families with children ages birth-three. Support efforts to ensure children are physically, mentally, socially, and emotionally healthy (e.g., increased availability and equitable access to social determinants of health: healthy food, affordable housing, trauma and special needs services, minimize harmful environmental health risk factors, child friendly workplaces). Support efforts to ensure that the early childhood development system is comprehensive, cohesive, and navigable (e.g., increase coordination, collection and sharing of data and best practices, increase coordination of whole family services and support for children and families, increased early childhood investments, immigration reform that benefits children and families, quality infrastructure development or improvement). Support efforts to increase funding for early childhood development systems, programs, facilities, and First 5 Monterey County.

## Promote Child Well-Being and Prevention of Child Abuse

Monterey County continues to pride itself in having a strong child welfare system that invests substantial local discretionary funds into child abuse prevention and early intervention programs. The County has one of the lowest foster care entry rates in the state, further reflecting our prevention efforts. With the statewide implementation of Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) the County is putting an ever-increasing emphasis on keeping children with kin whenever possible, to include a formal foster care setting. This includes doing an extensive search for family and supporting kin caregivers as formal resource families. Monterey County continues to struggle with challenging community demographics ranging from overcrowded and unstable housing to co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders, along with youth and family violence. [Additionally, lingering economic challenges and social impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic have placed additional stress on already strained family units.](#)

In 2016, the Monterey County Department of Social Services began a community dialogue to develop a Roadmap to Child Well-Being. The dialogue was facilitated by the American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) with the support of the staff to the National Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities, and included national, state, and local stakeholders. In 2018, the formalized work was complete and next steps were outlined by the team. This has included a comprehensive review and update of our local mandated reporter training, collaborating to bring forth evidence-based Nurse Family partnership with the Health Department, and work on providing more grass root supports for the community by those in the community.

### Key Objectives:

Support policies that expand funding for child abuse prevention services to meet collaborative next steps outlined through the work with APHSA. For children and youth who enter foster care, locate kin to be trained and supported as caregivers along with recruiting and preserving Community Resource Families (formally known as foster families). Support policies to improve the integration of data among youth serving agencies, including child welfare, public assistance, behavioral health, physical health, education, and public safety. Support funding to assist with housing for children, families and emancipating foster youth. Support funding for social work workforce development and education programs. Support funding to sustain and expand primary prevention efforts such as the Nurse Family Partnership and relative support programs. Support the gathering of community through Child and Family Teams as best practice to get the individual needs of the family met. Support funding and programs for parenting education, domestic violence prevention, and child\_care training for family, friends and neighbors who provide

unlicensed care. Support resources to expand life skill training for pre-teens and teens. Support staff and community coaching around the Child Welfare Core Practice Model to best serve those who are in need of services. Support funding for the recruitment foster parents for probation foster youth and children-family teams. ~~Support efforts to remove barriers to access of the Child Support Services program to reach unserved families and increase funding for mandated child support services staffing.~~

## **Child Support Services**

Monterey County Department of Child Support Services (CSS) enhances the well-being of children and the self-sufficiency of families by providing professional services to locate parents, establish paternity and establish and enforce orders for financial and medical support. County CSS consistently collects more for families than other counties in the State that have similar sized caseloads and is ranked tenth in the State for cost effectiveness. In FY 2020-21 CSS collected \$46.7 million and currently serves approximately 13,000 children locally.

Strengthening the child safety net, reducing poverty, and increasing access to justice is vital. Without adequate funding, Local Child Support Agencies (LCSA's) cannot expand service capacity to sufficiently address local needs. Child Support is the third largest Safety Net program for children and plays a direct role in lifting children out of poverty. Child Support payments enable parents to provide food, clothing and shelter for children who would otherwise not have access to these basic necessities. Additional funding to LCSAs is needed to increase outreach and engagement efforts to unserved and underserved communities, particularly communities of color, who are disproportionately impacted by child poverty issues; increase the use of technology to simplify access to program services; and ensure that programs are appropriately staffed to manage increasingly complex child support program needs, while meeting new programmatic mandates and requirements.

### **Key objectives:**

Support efforts to increase funding to LCSAs to help maintain the social safety net, reach unserved families, decrease child poverty, and facilitate positive, equitable outcomes for all children.

## **Sustain and Strengthen Safety Net & Employment Support Resources**

Safety net services are a critical element of community well-being that help struggling families and individuals survive and thrive. According to the 2021<sup>16</sup> American Community Survey ~~16%~~11.5% of all Monterey County residents have incomes below the federal poverty level (FPL) and 14.2%~~24%~~ of children ~~live in poverty~~. When the high cost of living in Monterey County is taken into consideration – the effective poverty rate climbs. The FPL represents a bare minimum threshold. A better standard is the self-sufficiency standard budget which considers average costs for various household budget items (housing, food, child care, etc.). Using this standard, 59% of households with children in Monterey County have annual incomes below the self-sufficiency standard.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support funding for basic assistance to individuals who work in lower wage jobs, are underemployed or are unemployed through CalFresh and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), CalWORKs Employment and Training Services, the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program, child care programs, Community Action programs and the CalWORKs/Temporary Assistance to Needy Family (TANF) programs. Support efforts that ensure a living wage for all Monterey County residents. Support funding for programs



that help prevent homelessness and rapidly secure housing (HUD Homeless Assistance, CalWORKs Housing Support). Support improvements to the TANF program to modify work participation requirements to better match individual family needs and local economic circumstances, the need for wrap around services for families struggling through crises, and to recognize additional costs to communities as a result of ongoing funding stagnation and high unemployment caused by job loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Support expansion of wage subsidy programs for households served by both CalFresh/SNAP and CalWORKs/TANF, and CalWORKs Employment Training Services – these programs have proven to be effective local resources for promoting self-sufficiency and establishing a positive work history.

## **Assure Safe & Legal Shelter for All**Homelessness

California's poverty and homeless rates remain among the highest in the nation, affecting all Californians including children, adults, veterans, seniors, and families. The deepening homelessness crisis not only takes a toll on those who live without adequate shelter or housing, but it also diminishes the community as a whole.

**State Efforts to Address Homelessness:** Although state and local governments have made significant investments in housing and homelessness programs over the last few years, California still lacks a comprehensive, holistic strategy that provides long-term, sustainable funding and clear levels of responsibility for all levels of government. The County supports policies that address the root causes of homelessness, flexible funding for emergency and supportive housing interventions, and strategies that ensure that homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring.

The State has invested significant resources to address homelessness and homelessness prevention, including resources for local governments to house the homeless population during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Governor's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors created a Comprehensive Crisis Response Strategy that outlines proposed next steps to further California's homeless related public policy goals aimed at: dramatically reducing street homelessness; breaking down barriers to accessing mental health and substance abuse services; reducing the cost and increasing the supply of housing options; and preventing people from becoming homeless. In addition to focusing on implementing and funding these next steps, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic the Governor and Legislature adopted an Action Plan for preventing and ending homelessness in California in March of 2021 and in July of 2021 signed a historic housing and homeless funding package as part of the \$100 billion California Comeback Plan. The initial package included s \$10.3 billion for affordable housing and \$12 billion over two years towards services. However, both the Plan and the budget was updated in 2022 to include a \$3 billion increase and clear strategies that address the homelessness crisis head-on, ~~and created new opportunities to fund innovative housing programs such as Project Roomkey.~~ The goal of this program is to provide non-congregate shelter options for people experiencing homelessness, to protect human life, and minimize strain on the health care system.

**Homelessness in Monterey County:** The 2022~~19~~ Monterey County Homeless Point-In-Time Census and Survey identified 2,047 ~~2,422 homeless~~ individuals experiencing homelessness, 76~~6~~% of which were unsheltered. Since 2017, Monterey County has experienced a total reduction in homelessness of 28%, largely attributed to the wave of funding from both the State and federal governments through both COVID and non-COVID related funding streams coupled with increased collaboration and coordination between the public and private sector.

-According to the California Department of Education, 9.6% of K-12 students met the broader definition of homeless used by education. This staggering figure is matched by data from the American Community Survey which states that 39.8% of children live in crowded housing. The McKinney-Vento Act, which provides states with funding for the education of homeless students, defines homeless children and youth as those who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Under this definition, Monterey County's student homeless population is approximately 9,900. Rapid response to the unsheltered homeless and public encampments is necessary, as are midterm strategies such as establishing low-barrier transitional housing and bridge communities. The long-term goal is to provide safe, healthy, accessible, affordable housing for all.

**Funding Formula Allocations:** The County of Monterey is committed to efforts that address homelessness so that it is rare, brief, and non-recurring. Part of that commitment is fighting for resources to support the homelessness response network. However, federal and state funding formulas make that difficult to achieve when allocations rely on population, poverty, and the biennial Point in Time (PIT) census. This means communities who are actively reducing their PIT counts are inadvertently penalized when funding is reduced, and programs established to serve people experiencing homelessness are at risk of closure. Therefore, the County supports alternative funding formulas that reward communities who set and achieve their goals of reducing homelessness.

**Lead me Home Plan Update – 5-Year Plan to end Homelessness in Monterey and San Benito Counties:**

In November 2021, the County adopted the Lead me Home Plan Update which provides a five-year roadmap for the Monterey and San Benito County Continuum of Care (CoC) and its partners to achieve the vision that all people in the region live in decent, safe, and affordable housing from which they can access services and supports that stabilize their lives. The Plan sets out the ambitious goal of reducing the total population of people experiencing homelessness in Monterey and San Benito Counties by 50% by June 2026.

**Addressing Homeless Encampments:** Without an adequate supply of housing, too many people living with very low incomes or who are escaping domestic violence have no local housing options other than living unsheltered. To address this reality of insufficient housing and shelter options, service providers (public, non-profit, faith-based, and voluntary) offer resources that aid in survival and address critical health and quality of life issues for those living unsheltered and in encampments. Encampments can pose public health and safety hazards to individuals and the environment which may require their removal. Additional resources are needed for both service providers and the cost of cleanup of encampment areas.

**Key Objectives:**

Support the fair and equitable calculation and distribution of State and Federal funds to counties to provide services to all homeless populations. Support the proposed goals of the Governor's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors aimed at: reducing homelessness; increasing access to mental health and substance abuse services; reducing the cost and increasing the supply of housing options; and homeless prevention. Support resources for local government to house the at-risk homeless population ~~during the COVID-19 pandemic~~. Support efforts to provide on-going funding to support services and operations that ~~would utilize the new facility and maintain high quality services that~~ assist homeless individuals and families navigate the continuum of care. Strengthen "by right" permitting or CEQA streamlining for safe parking programs. Support efforts that address the homelessness ~~crisis~~ issue in all California communities, ensuring that counties, ~~as the social services providers,~~ are at the forefront of all solutions addressing homelessness. Support efforts to expand housing subsidies to prevent loss of housing and provide long-term assistance to sustain housing. Support efforts that encourage and facilitate the production of housing that is attainable to households at or below 30% of ~~area~~ average median income. Support



innovative approaches to increase affordable housing availability (e.g., rent control, facilitating construction of accessory dwelling units). Support additional resources for local shelter, transitional, [rapid re-housing](#), and permanent supportive housing programs. Support efforts to prevent homelessness and to assist the current homeless population with coordinated services, health services, health access, and other health supports. Support an increase in ~~student homeless~~ funding [to address students experiencing homelessness as defined](#) under the McKinney-Vento Act. Support funding to provide services and address the environmental cleanup of homeless encampments.

## Strengthen Resources for Seniors and People Living with Disability

Long-term services and supports help all individuals live successfully while maintaining dignity and independence in their homes and communities. Years of funding erosion has taken a toll on service capacity and strains the ability of local agencies to provide financial, health and social supports to older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers. It is increasingly difficult for the aging and disability services network to maintain existing safety net services. Reports to Adult Protective Services continue to increase, and demand for services is rising as families struggle to support and care for older relatives. The number of older adults who struggle to make ends meet, face food insecurities, and homelessness continues to increase. Out of pocket medical expenses, lack of sufficient assets, dramatically rising housing costs and fixed budgets are major causes of economic insecurity. Without additional resources to address these growing needs, local communities are unprepared to adequately respond to the needs of this growing population. [According to 2021 Census data, Monterey County has an estimated 86,220 residents 60 years old or older, approximately 12.4% of whom live below the federal poverty level. The population of people who are 60 years old or older is growing—16% of County population in 2014 and projected to be 24% by 2030. The Federal Poverty Level \(FPL\) for these seniors is 8.2% \(2015\). However, the Elder Economic Security Standard Index \(Elder Index\) which accounts for cost of living more accurately estimates the County's senior poverty rate at 27.6% \(2011\)—three times the number captured by the FPL.](#)

### Key Objectives:

Support funding for programs and services that promote the ability of older adults and people with disabilities to live safely and with dignity in an environment of their choice where they can eat well, stay healthy, and avoid unnecessary and costly institutional care. Key legislation supporting these efforts are the Elder Justice Act, Older Americans Act, and the Older Californians Act. Such legislation provides funding for food programs, legal services, caregiver and family supports, and ombudsman initiatives. County programs requiring additional support include Adult Protective Services, In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), Public Authority, SSI Advocacy, and the ~~newly formed~~ Aging and Disability Resources Connection (ADRC). The ADRC model is one that combines the efforts of the aging and disability networks to create a streamlined, “no wrong door” approach to the provision of person-centered resources.

Support funding to minimize health care costs at end of life, avoid spending end of life in institutional settings and create livable communities for all ages. Support funding to ensure an adequate number of social workers are available to meet the needs of the growing number of older adults and people with disabilities in our community. Support [efforts to implement initiatives developed for the California's Master Plan on Aging \(December 2020\) to strengthen and enhance services for older adults](#). Support efforts to enable all County agencies, services, and facilities to offer access and options tailored to the needs of this growing County demographic.

## Honor our Veterans

Monterey County is home to more than 20,000 veterans and an estimated 25,000 spouses and dependents whom the Monterey County Military & Veterans Affairs Office (MVAO) is in place to assist in obtaining a variety of state and federal benefits. MVAO provides free-of-charge assistance in filing claims with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for the benefits they have earned by their service in defense of our nation, as well as information and referrals to other federal, state, and local programs. Currently only 31.8% of Monterey County's veterans are accessing VA Compensation and Pension Benefits.

Veterans and members of the military have made tremendous sacrifices, and some have paid the ultimate sacrifice for the protection of our country and the well-being of people facing tragedy and injustice around the world. Expanded federal, state, and local resources are needed to assist our veterans and their families with successful reintegration into civilian life (e.g., family reintegration, employment, housing, education, child care, and services to address a multitude of disabilities including post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury).

**Federal Benefits:** The County supports improved access and service expansion for: health benefits (e.g., dental); local facilities (e.g., Veterans Drop-In Center; Major General Gourley VA-DoD Outpatient Clinic (e.g., pharmacy services); Veterans Stand Down events and other outreach efforts; Veterans' Treatment Courts; and Veterans' Justice Outreach programs. The veterans community can also benefit from increased funding for County Veterans Service Officers (CVSOs), [specifically funding to increase outreach and claims processing for the 66% of Monterey County Veterans not currently receiving VA benefits](#), ~~and increased and expedited access for CVSOs to the VA Veteran Benefits Management Systems (VBMS), which will aid in developing and monitoring various claims and appeals submitted on behalf of veterans, surviving spouses and eligible dependents resulting in better, timelier services to claimants~~. The County also supports efforts to increase compensation to disabled veterans and their surviving spouses.

**State Benefits:** The County supports efforts to obtain increased County Subvention Program funding from the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet). This program funds a group of programs mandated by the Legislature to reimburse counties for a portion of the costs of "presenting and pursuing any claim the veteran may have against the VA and in establishing the veteran's right to any privilege, preference, care, or compensation provided for by the laws of the United States or of this state" ([California Military and Veterans Code § 971](#)). The County supports efforts to expand and improve the Disabled Veterans' Property Tax Exemption, which reduces the property tax liability on the principal place of residence of qualified veterans who, due to a service-connected injury or disease, have been rated 100% disabled or are being compensated at the 100% rate due to unemployability. The County supports efforts to eliminate [or reduce](#) the state tax obligation on military retirement pay ~~as California is the sole remaining state that does not provide a tax benefit for military retirement pay~~.

**State Veterans Home:** One of the County's top priorities is the development of a Veterans Home in Monterey County to serve aged and disabled veterans, eligible spouses, domestic partners, and [homeless veterans](#) ~~Gold Star families~~. There are over 50,000 veterans in Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Benito, and San Luis Obispo Counties alone. CalVet operates eight Veterans Homes in the California providing a range of services from independent living to skilled nursing and memory care. Four of the homes offer combined skilled nursing and memory care, however demand for these services far exceeds the current supply of available beds which results in 2-5+ year wait times. The closest of Veterans Home is over two hours away

from Monterey County. The County strongly believes that our veterans should not have to leave their families, friends, and the community they call home to access these services.

The County intends to pursue State legislation to authorize the development of a State Veterans Home in Monterey County, potentially located on or near other veterans' services at the former Fort Ord. The County will work with its state and federal delegations and the Veterans Administration to ensure the project meets regulatory requirements for assistance through CalVet and the VA's State Veterans Home Construction Grant Program, which can provide up to 65% of construction costs. If constructed the facility would be available to all California veterans.

**Pharmacy at the Major General William H. Gourley VA-DoD Outpatient Clinic in Marina:** The County continues to support establishment of a pharmacy at the MG Gourley VA-DoD Outpatient Clinic in Marina. The brand-new clinic was opened in 2017 and includes an area designed and purpose-built to serve as a pharmacy, however due to changes in federal VA priorities, only mail-order pharmaceutical services are offered. Without a pharmacy, many disabled veterans are forced to make multiple trips for essential medications. Many of our veterans live in rural communities which make it difficult to access health care services. A pharmacy nearby, would reduce unnecessary transportation requirements for veterans and families of active-duty military on the Central Coast.

~~**Central Coast Veterans Cemetery**~~~~**Other Veterans Facilities:** The County supports efforts to establish a Veterans Memorial Building to serve as an anchor and testament of gratitude to the Veterans of Monterey County. The building would serve as a central meeting place for veteran organizations (e.g., Veterans for Foreign Wars, American Legion, The Retired Enlisted Association, Military Officers Association of America, etc.). Additionally, the building could house the County's Military and Veterans Affairs Office.~~ The County also supports efforts to obtain continued state funding to maintain the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery in Seaside, California at the former Fort Ord and continued further development with regard to in-ground burial.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to establish a CalVet Veterans Home in Monterey County to serve the needs of our growing veterans' population and support the veteran's community's contributions to our local economy. Support efforts which provide tax relief to veterans. Support efforts to improve and expand benefits to veterans and their surviving spouses, access to VA and CalVet benefits. Support local assistance outreach efforts to discharging military members, reservist and National Guard members, veterans, surviving spouses and eligible dependents. Support increased subvention funding from CalVet. Support the growth and expansion of the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery. ~~Support efforts to establish and maintain a Veterans Memorial Building.~~ Support the addition of a pharmacy at the MG ~~Major General~~ Gourley VA-DoD ~~Outpatient~~ ~~Clinic~~. Support efforts to honor and recognize the contributions and sacrifices of veterans (e.g., Veterans Service Recognition Act).

## Infrastructure

### ***Legislative Principles – Infrastructure***

#### **General**

Support efforts to identify and secure funds for local transportation, water, energy, technology, government facility, housing, and community infrastructure projects, in particular where such improvements contribute to clean energy and green building. Support funding efforts to repair, upgrade or modernize transportation, wastewater collection and disposal systems, and other infrastructure projects or systems, particularly in areas where the associated infrastructure is aging and there is insufficient financial capacity to fund necessary improvements. [Support efforts to protect and advance local flexibility in the delivery of public works projects.](#)

#### **Environmental Review**

Support efforts to reform environmental processes such as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to retain environmental protections while reforming the legal process to reduce abuses. Support efforts to align state and federal requirements, and to ~~obtain~~, streamline and coordinate state and federal permit processes for public infrastructure and safety projects.

#### **Water Resources**

Support efforts to fund, manage and protect the County's water quality, water supply, groundwater sustainability, storm water, ~~and~~ flood protection, and mediate the effects of climate change (e.g., drought, sea level rise). ~~and~~ [Support efforts to protect](#) the Monterey County Water Resources Agency's water rights.

#### **Energy**

Monitor the potential Federal lease of lands for oil and gas exploration and the potential effects of these activities on water quality and dam safety. Support efforts to ensure appropriate oversight and funding for State regulation and monitoring of energy extraction activities (e.g., hydraulic fracturing). Support efforts to allow the County to manage an adequate renewable energy program (e.g., fees on oil, commercial solar).

#### **Land Preservation**

Support efforts to sustainably fund, protect and preserve the federal, state, county, and regional parks within Monterey County, including the promotion of park designations and the preservation of resources of historical or cultural significance. Support efforts to manage County open space lands (e.g., Fort Ord, Odello East, Hatton Canyon, Jack's Peak) including partnerships with or transfers to Monterey Peninsula Regional Parks District, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), or other public land management agencies. Maintain and protect rural resources, coastal areas, biodiversity, park facilities and recreation features.

## Legislative Priorities – Infrastructure

### Resilient and Sustainable Communities

Monterey County is experiencing the negative consequences of climate change with increasing regularity; catastrophic wildfire and flooding, prolonged drought, and sea level rise are the new normal. [Climate change will not affect all equally, with particular communities that already experience greater health inequities predicted to have great climate change impacts.](#) Monterey County is planning for long term resiliency and sustainability of County infrastructure to support [all](#) our communities, the economy, natural resources, clean air ~~quality~~, and transportation options. The County supports the development of renewable energy generation and energy efficiency efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, mitigate the impacts of climate change, and increase energy security throughout the region. The County supports policies and programs that increase clean commute opportunities and vehicle trip reduction [including those](#) that increase walking and biking mobility and safety for all users, promote traffic calming, promote mass transit, and improve regional transportation demand management. The County supports the development and expansion of electric vehicle deployment and charging infrastructure, vehicle to grid technology, and stationary battery storage. [The County further supports electric vehicle \(EV\) deployment and has adopted an EV replacement policy that provides a framework to consider purchase of EVs prior to fuel-powered vehicles.](#) The County is working on several complete street and active transportation projects that provide access for all users regardless of age, ability, or transportation mode through development of bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian amenities, and public transit systems and facilities. The County supports actions that prioritize the preservation and restoration of our climate and natural environment to help ensure the long-term health, social well-being, and economic vitality of the communities we serve while improving the quality of life for all.

#### Key objectives:

Support efforts that advance policies to reverse and plan for the impacts of climate change while building resilient and sustainable communities (e.g., energy, water, and resource efficiency; clean energy; pollution control and toxics reduction; wildfire mitigation; and climate protection). Support efforts to increase California's waste management infrastructure, ensure the County's ability to comply with recycling and waste management goals, and support the development of domestic market solutions. Support efforts by the County's Sustainability Program to promote [greenhouse gas emissions mitigation](#), resources conservation, climate adaptation, and pollution reduction including but not limited to [developing programs to transition away from fossil fuels including the deployment of electric vehicle \(EV\) charging stations and all electric buildings, build and support capacity for regenerative agricultural practices](#), evaluating energy alternatives [such as microgrids with battery storage and](#) ~~(e.g., solar)~~ for County facilities. Support housing, transportation, land-use, and community development policies and projects that create diverse neighborhoods, promote healthy and greener lifestyles, develop green jobs, and protect local and global ecosystems. Support efforts to protect, conserve, and maintain healthy coastal, ocean and forest ecosystems and the thriving economy ~~it~~[they](#) supports in the County. Support efforts to act as stewards and provide sustainable management of ~~the County's~~ ocean and coastal resources in the areas of: sustainable fisheries and aquaculture; sea-level rise adaptation and coastal resilience; coastal sediment management; marine pollution; and marine renewable energy. Support resources and policies that advance wildfire mitigation efforts, forest conservation, and habitat restoration. Support policies that bring environmental justice to all, and keep our citizens safe from the physical, economic, and the health effects of environmental degradation, [including through bolstering infrastructure to help protect against](#)

[and address potential impacts on human health \(such as increased respiratory and cardiovascular disease, injuries and premature deaths related to extreme weather events, including catastrophic wildfires, changes in the prevalence and geographic distribution of food- and water-borne illnesses and other infectious diseases, and threats to mental health\) particularly for disadvantaged communities that are the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change](#) and while creating pathways to economic prosperity and strong local economies. Support redundancy and resiliency in County facilities and enable facilities to act as community hubs in a disaster, emergency, or utility disruption.

## Transportation

The transportation infrastructure is the backbone of all economic activity and is in vital need of funding for capital, maintenance, safety, and operations of local roads, bridges, pedestrian ~~and~~ bike facilities, transit, and rail. Transportation systems should meet industry and societal needs, provide users choices, be integrated with planned land use, be compatible with the environment by considering air quality, noise pollution, aesthetics, ecological factors, cost benefit analyses, and energy consumption measures.

Monterey County owns and operates a significant portion of the local transportation infrastructure and supports funding to local governments for system preservation, capacity improvement, and safety needs - using regional partnerships and collaborations on system planning and investment. The County's transportation infrastructure has many needs including pavement maintenance, adequate facilities for pedestrian ~~and~~ bike travel, transit, and rail services, and for improvements such as shoulder additions, adding vehicle lanes to roadways, repair ~~and~~ replacement of aging bridges, and other safety improvements.

**Maintenance Improvements:** The County maintains 1,260+ road miles and 175 bridges. Even with the addition of Measure X and SB 1, additional funding is needed to provide an acceptable maintenance program. Deferred road maintenance results in rapid deterioration and compromise of roadway structural integrity and exponentially increases repair costs. The current maintenance backlog is over \$750 million for roads, \$300 million for bridges, and \$500 million in road appurtenances and growing. [The State's announcement of eliminating gas powered vehicle sales in the year 2035 places uncertainty on the existing funding sources of the Highway Users Tax Account \(HUTA\) and SB 1 in the future. A replacement for this long-standing funding source needs to be developed.](#)

**Capacity Improvements:** Traffic congestion and inadequate roadway capacity can negatively impact the local economy through impacts to tourism, agricultural product delivery to market, and increased unproductive travel time. Efforts to increase capacity and/or movement should be supported (e.g., State Route 156, Blackie Road extension, Davis Road widening and bridge, [Rossi Street extension](#), or public transportation options) to increase road safety and capacity to accommodate user needs.

**Safety Improvements:** Roadway safety is a top priority, and improvement efforts should be evaluated for the overall benefits provided. Recently the County was part of a public-private partnership to construct a roundabout at Holman Highway. Roundabouts have certain advantages over signalized intersections, such as safety, air quality and reduced maintenance costs of signals. Additionally, Monterey County, the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC), and Caltrans collaborated on the G-12 Pajaro to Prunedale Corridor Study, a regional safety study for that set of roads – ~~and~~ the County successfully acquired grant funding for two ~~(2)-out-of-the six-(6)~~ project segments. ~~Moreover, t~~The County is ~~also~~ in the design phase of a roundabout for the intersection of Carmel Valley Road and Laureles Grade. [Additionally, the County, TAMC, and Caltrans have been working on the US 101 South of Salinas Corridor](#)



[Study; with anticipated outcomes being more safety projects.](#) The County has developed a multi-year program/cycle to maintain roadway striping and signage. In addition, the County is working with fire fuel reduction programs to help manage [and](#)/reduce vegetation along roadways. ~~The County has developed a multi-year program/cycle to maintain roadway striping and signage. In addition, the County is working with fire fuel reduction programs to help manage/reduce vegetation along roadways.~~

**[Rail Expansion:](#)** Expansion of rail service to Monterey County provides many benefits, including improved access and connections for local, regional, and interregional travel; decreased highway congestion; enhanced goods movement; and environmentally sound transportation serving a variety of travel markets and transportation needs. Rail expansion also promotes mixed-use, transit-oriented development, affordable housing, livable and walkable communities, and economic growth around rail stations.

**[Active Transportation Program & Safe Routes to Schools Program:](#)** Active Transportation and Safe Routes to Schools programs promote safe and convenient opportunities for physically active travel for daily trips to and from work and schools – and addresses health, physical activity, and traffic safety issues while tackling air pollution and climate change. Investment also focuses on infrastructure to increase the comfort of the on-road experience (e.g., for cycling) to improve the appeal of active modes to all people.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to develop and fund the capital, maintenance, safety, capacity, and operation of County transportation infrastructure: local roads, bridges, pedestrian facilities, bike facilities and trails, transit (e.g., Marina-Salinas Multimodal Corridor), and expanded public transit and rail access (e.g., Salinas Rail Extension, Coast Daylight, and Monterey Branch Line projects). Support efforts to increase funding for Active Transportation and Safe Routes to School projects, as well as Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) projects. Support efforts to streamline the regulatory process to repair and maintain public infrastructure, which reduces costs. Support proactive efforts to streamline permitting and reduce fees (e.g., take permits) for multiple pre-and post-storm maintenance activities, to allow for timely response while protecting the environment. [Support efforts to streamline disbursement of federal infrastructure funds to local agencies for project implementation. Support efforts to transition to a road mileage charge program or alternate means of revenue generation to replace expected long term decline in gas tax revenue associated with the increased adoption of electric vehicles.](#)

## **Water Resources Sustainability**

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (WRA) manages, protects, stores, and conserves water resources in Monterey County for all beneficial uses, while minimizing damage from flooding to create a safe and sustainable water supply for present and future generations. WRA operates Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs for flood management and water supply (groundwater recharge) purposes, and also leases land around the reservoirs to the County for park use that can benefit from sustained water levels. Additionally, WRA operates a distribution system that delivers roughly 23,000 acre-feet of river, well, and recycled water to approximately 12,000 acres of agricultural land in the northern Salinas Valley.

An estimated 95% of all water used in Monterey County is derived from groundwater wells. With nearly 350,000 acres of land under cultivation in the Salinas Valley, agricultural pumping averages 495,000 acre-feet per year. Combined with urban and other uses, total water pumped in an average year from the Salinas Valley is about 520,000 acre-feet. Assuring that there are sufficient quantities of good quality groundwater is the most important aspect of managing water resources in Monterey County today. Major water resource management issues in the County include the preservation of water rights, protection of

existing and the development of new surface and groundwater supplies for agricultural and municipal users (particularly disadvantaged communities), combating water quality issues (e.g., seawater intrusion, chromium, nitrate, and arsenic contamination), and enhancing flood protection and threatened and endangered species habitat especially along the Salinas, Carmel, and Pajaro Rivers.

The ~~WRAMonterey County Water Resources Agency~~, acting as the County's Flood Control Authority, works to ensure continued protection from flooding and to protect natural resources. The County supports efforts to increase funding for restoration projects, and the development of adaptive strategies to climate change and sea level rise. Regulatory complexities continue to hinder the effective and timely delivery of flood control projects. The multiple and redundant approval processes and long timeframes often delay delivery of projects, including environmental clearance and mitigation, design approval, right of way certification, and project financing. To this end, the County supports efforts to streamline regulatory burdens while advocating for funding support to adequate staffing at the local, state, and federal regulatory agencies.

Monterey County is also a member of the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) which was established in 2017 under California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. The SVBGSA is tasked with the ambitious goal of ~~developing~~implementing groundwater sustainability plans for each of the Salinas Basin's seven (7) subbasins ~~no later than January 2022 and implementing those plans~~ to achieve basin sustainability by 2040.

## Preserve and Enhance Water Supply

The sustainability of Monterey County's water resources depends on minimizing threats to supplies, enhancing existing or developing new resources and fostering a regional approach to water supply solutions. County residents and businesses rely upon multiple sources of water (groundwater, surface water, recycled water, and desalinated water), but are most dependent on groundwater. The County is completely dependent upon local water sources and derives no help or benefit from the State or Federal water projects. The main challenges which the County faces related to supply are contamination due to seawater intrusion or contaminants; environmental requirements from regulatory agencies/ environmentally challenging issues; sufficient supplies and distribution during periods of drought; development of additional supplies; and the preservation of County water rights. A top priority of the County is the preservation of a surface water permit the Monterey County Water Resources Agency holds on the Salinas River basin, Permit #11043, which would authorize the diversion of up to 135,000 acre-feet of water per year for projects intended to halt seawater intrusion into the groundwater basin, as well as provide flood control.

Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) is a collaborative effort to plan and implement water management solutions on a regional basis. The County participates in IRWM planning to take a regional approach to finding solutions that will improve water quality and supply reliability to support and meet the community's public health, agricultural, industrial and environmental water goals and needs. Regional water solutions are an efficient model for water supply and management planning. Continued regional water efforts will assist the County in providing a path forward to address many of the water challenges facing our communities.

The Monterey County Health Department Environmental Health Bureau regulates approximately 1,300~~1,296~~ water systems with 2-199 connections through inspection, monitoring, and consultation. Drinking water contamination is a widespread problem, as is adequate source capacity for many residents



especially in disadvantaged communities. Primary drinking water standards for nitrates, arsenic, or fluoride in 235 of these systems exceeds primary drinking water standards and requires the use of bottled water as an interim emergency measure.

Resolving a contaminated water system is costly and residents and communities often lack the economic means to do so. Typical solutions include consolidation with a water system that meets standards, drilling a new well, or installing treatment. Consolidation is preferred, but many systems are not adjacent to other water systems with adequate supply, capacity, quality, or willingness to consolidate - or the cost of the necessary infrastructure is a barrier. A solution could be to drill a new well, but sufficient groundwater may not be available or may be contaminated. Treatment is an option, but treatment maintenance is costly and time consuming and generates waste products that may present challenges for proper disposal.

Despite the history of proactive water policies at the state level, Monterey County residents still face formidable water challenges. Disadvantaged communities disproportionately bear the health and financial impacts of contaminated water or inadequate access to safe water.

[In 2022, the Governor released the “California Water Supply Strategy” that outlines priority actions and investments focused on adapting and protecting water supplies in efforts to mitigate climate change impacts. Monterey County aims to partner with the State on implementing these actions through the development of the County’s sustainable water supply projects.](#)

***Human Right to Water:*** In 2018, Monterey County became the first county in the nation to recognize the human right to safe and clean drinking water. The County adopted a resolution that requires County departments to consider this right when implementing policies and regulations pertinent to the uses of water for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. Support efforts to create a low-income water rate assistance program that provides financial relief to ratepayers using funding in the State’s General Fund, or by allocating cap-and-trade funding.

#### ***Potential Projects to Preserve and Enhance Water Supply***

- ***Interlake Tunnel:*** A tunnel to connect existing facilities at San Antonio and Nacimiento Reservoirs to increase water storage capacity and achieve environmental and water conservation release efficiencies. The project needs additional funding and may require legislative or regulatory actions for completion.
- ***San Antonio and Lake Nacimiento Dams and Reservoirs Infrastructure ~~and Maintenance~~ Projects:*** These multi-use facilities provide flood control, water supply, groundwater recharge, recreation, and other benefits. High priority capital ~~asset and maintenance~~ projects for these facilities have been identified, but capital resources do not exist to complete them. Completion of these projects will allow full operation of Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams, meet federal and state regulatory compliance, and assure the safety of Monterey County residents.
- ***Salinas Valley Water Project, Phase II:*** This project would use the water allocated by Permit #11043. The project configuration is under development, but it could consist of two distinct pipelines pinpointing water deliveries to specific areas of the Salinas Valley to augment water supplies and combat seawater intrusion.
- ***Expansion of Existing Recycled Water Project:*** This project builds upon the success of existing recycled water usage near the coast in the Salinas Valley by expanding infrastructure to additional acreage.

- ***Destruction of Abandoned Wells:*** With the implementation of a recycled water source, wells that are in seawater intruded areas need to be destroyed so the well casings do not become conduits for seawater to move from upper to lower aquifers.
- ***Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project:*** A project to construct a desalination plant to provide water to the Monterey Peninsula. Sizing of the desalination plant will be determined by the implementation of the Pure Water Monterey (PWM) project.
- ***Safety and Security of Water Supply Facilities:*** Projects to ensure adequate security for key dam facilities and structures against credible threats and appropriate protective measures including surveillance, site access restriction and failure warning systems.

#### Key Objectives:

Support ~~efforts to provide~~ adequate fundings for efforts aimed at agricultural water supply and ~~/~~sustainability, safe drinking water for all County residents (~~—~~especially those in disadvantaged communities), local regulation and support for large and small drinking water systems and domestic wells (~~—~~especially those that do not meet drinking water standards), and sufficient funding for the California Drinking Water Program. Support efforts to secure legislative, funding, and regulatory approvals to advance Monterey County water supply projects, and to protect and preserve Permit #11043 water rights. Supports a sustainable funding source for dam and spillway infrastructure repairs and rehabilitation, and funding for dam infrastructure in any legislative water and/or climate related bond measure.

## Protect Water Resources and the Environment

The sustainability of the County's water resources depends on protection from natural disasters and environmental hazards and threats. Monterey County has three major river systems, the Salinas, Carmel and Pajaro that are prone to flooding. In 1995, all three river systems flooded causing over 11,000 evacuations, damaging 1,500 homes and 150 businesses, and creating millions of dollars in economic damage throughout the region both in terms of agricultural production and impact to tourism. Each river has unique characteristics that make flood management complicated, especially with the need to protect species listed as threatened or endangered. On the flip side, California ~~recently~~ is experiencing a historic drought, and is currently in another drought emergency which threatens the security of local water supplies, highlighting the need for the development of drought contingency plans and additional water sources. In the area of stormwater, the County must comply with state and federal stormwater regulations which require monitoring and abatement of stormwater entering the Monterey and Carmel Bays, which have been designated as Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS).

Challenges associated with protecting water resources and the environment often relate to the unpredictability and severity of uncontrollable events such as droughts or floods. Another major challenge is the lack of funding available, both locally and at the State, for appropriate resource planning and management. Currently, State funding for water related projects is tied to compliance with various State programs. To enhance funding opportunities, the County is participating in the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) program. The County, along with the Water Resources Agency, County of Santa Cruz, the Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and the City of Watsonville ~~have~~ recently formed the Pajaro Regional Flood Management Authority, a joint powers authority, to implement projects on the lower Pajaro River for flood control purposes. Efforts are underway to raise funds to implement those projects.

### **Potential Projects to Protect Water Resources and the Environment**

- **Salinas River Management Program and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP):** This program provides a more holistic approach to river management which incorporates watershed management principles, water delivery scenarios, and maintenance of the water course, providing increased flood and habitat protection.
- **Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program, ~~Phase II:~~** A coordinated approach led by the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County in conjunction with WRA and the Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program River Management Unit Association to manage vegetation and sediment in specific Maintenance Areas along the river to maximize flood flow capacity, minimize bank erosion, and minimize environmental effects. ~~This project is an expansion of the highly successful Phase I demonstration project developed by The Nature Conservancy, to provide overdue maintenance on the remaining sections of the Salinas River channel.~~
- **Salinas River Lagoon and Old Salinas River:** Project to reduce flooding, enhance steelhead migration and promote environmental and habitat protection.
- **Lower Carmel River & Lagoon:** Multiple projects which aim to protect infrastructure, reduce flooding, and promote environmental and habitat protection.
  - Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement (CRFREE) Project
  - Scenic Road Protection Structure Project / Carmel Lagoon Ecosystem Protective Barrier
  - County Service Area 50 (CSA-50-1) Flood and Drainage Improvement Projects
- **Pajaro River Flood Risk Management Project:** Structural improvements to the lower Pajaro River, Salsipuedes and Corralitos Creeks to reduce flood risk in Watsonville and Pajaro - developed by the U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers in partnership with Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species: Quagga and Zebra Mussel Prevention Program:** Vessel inspection and education program aimed at preventing an infestation of Lake Nacimiento and Lake San Antonio from aquatic invasive species (e.g., Quagga or Zebra mussels). Funding for the development and ongoing operation of a statewide vessel tracking database is important in this infestation prevention effort.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support legislative and funding efforts and necessary regulatory approvals to advance Monterey County projects that protect water resources and the environment. Support efforts to provide for appropriate planning efforts (e.g., Salinas River Management Program HCP, Groundwater Sustainability). Support regional wastewater collection and recycling efforts, and the disposition of County sanitation districts to public utility purveyors.

## Public Safety

### Legislative Principles – Public Safety

#### General

Support efforts to protect life and property through the delivery of emergency response, law enforcement, custody, and rehabilitation services that provide a high level of safety to residents and visitors. Support funding for programs that assist the County with efforts aimed at reducing crime, enhancing public safety through community partnerships and multi-jurisdictional efforts, providing alternatives to incarceration, increasing access to justice by providing the community with adequate and accessible facilities (e.g., proposed [South County court facilities, Family Justice CenterGreenfield Courthouse](#)), and to provide court security services. Support justice policy reforms that advance racially equitable public safety. Support efforts to fund public safety facilities, equipment, training and programs. Support funding for programs that assist the County with broad based Emergency Management (response, mitigation, prevention, and recovery), emergency, disaster, and homeland security preparedness, including efforts at achieving communications interoperability [for field response and 911 communications](#). Support collaborative efforts to maintain and increase public safety, prevent and reduce the frequency, severity, and impact of fire and other natural or man caused disasters.

#### Violence Prevention

Support collaborative efforts to maintain and increase public safety, prevent and reduce the frequency, severity, and impact of criminal behavior on the community, and the long-term effects of violence, especially youth violence, and trauma. Support federal gun control actions to prevent death and injury. Support evidence-based approaches and services for the rehabilitation and community re-entry of juvenile and adult offenders, and strategies to deter criminal behavior and promote law-abiding lifestyle choices, and a healthy family environment. Support efforts to recognize and protect victim's rights and the restoration of justice (e.g., work of the Restorative Justice Commission) while promoting healing. Support efforts to fund County and collaborative efforts aimed at preventing and reducing violence (e.g., gang violence, domestic violence) and other law offenders (e.g., human exploitation/trafficking), recognizing a public health approach to the prevention of violence and in support of the strategies outlined in the *Building Safe & Thriving Communities Action Plan (2015)*.

### Legislative Priorities – Public Safety

#### ~~Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery~~

~~Monterey County is vulnerable to a wide range of natural and manmade hazards that threaten the life and safety of residents and visitors and has the potential to damage or destroy both public and private property and disrupt the local economy and overall quality of life. Monterey County has experienced several major disaster events, and is concerned that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) may reduce disaster related reimbursement funding and/or change the manner in which disaster events qualify for reimbursement.~~

## **Emergency Communications**

~~Additionally,~~ ~~t~~The COVID-19 pandemic and projections for more frequent and severe extreme weather events demonstrate the need to ensure the County is prepared and has a coordinated system in place to respond to disasters while maintaining continuity of operations. Regional planning must take place to develop technology and communication systems that are functional in a mutual aid response situation. Funding is needed to support needed technologies for operation continuity such as alternate ~~9-1-1~~911 dispatch centers, next generation ~~9-1-1~~911, and enhancement of existing communications and information management systems by leveraging cloud-based technology.

Enhancing communication with respect to public safety is paramount to assisting in emergencies. This includes radio communication, Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), interoperability with neighboring agencies, and the coordination of various data points that are used to manage the Internet of Things (IoT). Next Generation ~~9-1-1~~911 (NG911) technology is currently being implemented throughout the state. This process will take time and there may be additional funding and support required as technology changes along with public demands and expectations. Text to ~~9-1-1~~911 was implemented statewide in 2021, the County of Monterey has been accepting text since 2017. This feature of communicating assists with those that are unable to make voice calls.

As of July 16, 2022, there is an alternate three-digit number for suicide prevention and mental health crisis, 988. By legislative mandate in California, 911 centers and public safety will need to modify existing responses to transition to a fully implemented 988 system by January 1, 2030.

The COVID19 pandemic has identified new needs to increase social distancing between staff in the Emergency Communications Center. Also, it has become necessary to consider web-based emergency communications systems that can be accessed remotely to ensure continuity of emergency coordination from the ~~9-1-1~~911 center.

Monterey County Emergency Communications Department and the Office of Emergency Services are designated as the Alerting Authority for the Monterey County Operational Area and its political subdivisions. As the designated authority, these agencies are charged with the responsibility to alert and warn the public when there is an impending natural or human-made disaster, threat, or dangerous or missing person. Alerting Authorities may have a range of unique alerting and dissemination technology at their disposal to alert the public of an emergency. These systems could include, but are not limited to, emergency telephone networks, sirens, or digital road signs.

### **Key Objectives:**

Support funding for expanded dispatch and web-based communication systems to allow the Emergency Communications Department to operate from multiple locations in case of disaster, pandemic, or other unforeseen circumstances. Support efforts to modernize and expand Alert and Warning Systems; support efforts to integrate Alert and Warning Systems with Evacuation Notification systems across jurisdictional boundaries, including county to county.

## **FEMA Disaster Assistance Cost Recovery**

The Monterey County Office of Emergency Services (OES) continues to work with the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to recover costs related to emergency work for the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, 2020 Wildfires, and 2021 Winter

Storms. Monterey County has experienced several major disaster events, and is concerned that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) may reduce disaster related reimbursement funding and/or change the manner in which disaster events qualify for reimbursement.

The County has submitted millions of dollars in FEMA Public Assistance grants related to the declared COVID-19 emergency as well as the declared wildfires of 2020. The amount of time for these grant applications to be reviewed by FEMA has been considerable. In some cases, the County is required to wait two years to recover approved and expended costs for its disaster response and recovery efforts.

With the County recovering from multiple significant events over the past two years, OES is working to increase staff capacity to meet the time consuming, complex, and cumbersome process of ensuring documentation and projects are submitted to CalOES and FEMA in an efficient and effective manner so as to recover as many costs as possible.

The County participated in the Government Sponsored Private Property Debris Removal Program managed by CalOES and CalRecycle after the 2020 Wildfires. Debris removal was completed in August 2021. The County has not received a Memorandum of Understanding from CalOES outlining the responsibilities of the County to collect insurance monies from participating property owners; nor has the County received invoices or receipts per parcel. Until such time, the County cannot move forward with ensuring there have not been a duplication of benefits per 44 C.F.R. §§ 206.252(c) and 253(a).

Monterey County OES recommends CalOES and FEMA evaluate policies in the FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide to address Private Property Debris Removal Program eligibility for structures with multiple standing walls, communities with gates, and communities with home owner associations to make them more equitable, efficient, and streamlined.

After the 2020 Wildfires, the River Fire Burn Scar has created regular debris, mud, and flood flows for residents downslope. The most notable event was the 2021 Winter Storms, in which 25 residential properties were damaged or destroyed. Due to the scale of the damage, residents have been unable to access any disaster relief services. Most notably is the complex challenges surrounding mud and flood flows from County, State, and Federal wildland into residential areas, impacting private roads. Some of these private residential roads impacted are not owned by any one person or group of individuals and therefore the cost and responsibility of mud and debris removal on these roads is unknown.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support continued FEMA reimbursement to Public Assistance grants at the highest level possible. Support streamlining the timeline for the FEMA Public Assistance grant program and disbursement of funds. Support streamlining disaster debris removal programs to ensure equity and applicability to the needs of disaster victims.

### **Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery**

Monterey County is vulnerable to a wide range of natural and manmade hazards that threaten the life and safety of residents and visitors and has the potential to damage or destroy both public and private property and disrupt the local economy and overall quality of life. The COVID-19 pandemic and projections for more frequent and severe extreme weather events demonstrate the need to ensure the County is prepared and has a coordinated system in place to respond to disasters while maintaining continuity of operations. Regional planning must take place to develop technology and communication systems that are functional in a mutual aid response situation.

The Monterey County Office of Emergency Services (OES) 2022-25 Strategic Plan is currently being implemented to increase the County's capacity to manage emergencies of any size or type, planned or unexpected, through the four phases of emergency management: preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery – improving the County's ability to manage emergencies, leading to increased resilience. The Plan prioritizes standardizing the County Emergency Management Program; ensuring the County's readiness to respond; train the emergency management workforce of the future; and encourage a paradigm shift through engagement.

The limited availability, frequency, and location of California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI) hosted courses is problematic – and available course are outdated and slow to meet changing industry standards. Additionally, funding for emergency management training to be hosted by the Operational Area is limited and very competitive. The County supports increasing appropriations for CSTI and Operational Area hosted courses.

To effectively manage the Operational Area Grant program and increase revenue from state, federal, non-profit, and private grant programs for public safety goods and services, Monterey County OES will be re-evaluating and improving internal policies, procedures, workflows, and controls of all grants. Local and federal procurement policies and program requirements are complex, and the staff time required is significant and often costs double the amount of management and administration award. The County supports increasing the percentage of management and administration costs allowed for preparedness grants, specifically in the Homeland Security Grant Program.

In 2021, Monterey County OES wrote a grant for the federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for home hardening and defensible space on private residential property. Due to the complexities of federal procurement policies, program requirements, and inequity of the benefit-cost analysis tool the County withdrew the application. The County supports changes to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to better support projects directly impacting private residential property, and reevaluation of the benefit-cost analysis tool for socio-economic inequities - prioritizing vulnerable and disenfranchised communities. The County further supports more wildfire specific eligible projects within the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and reevaluation of the exclusion of projects that are currently considered "response" projects but are also very feasibly "mitigation" projects (i.e., development or improvement of roads to increase capacity during mass evacuations).

The demand for emergency management staff has increased significantly to meet the demands of new and emerging threats, cascading impacts, rising disaster costs, degrading community lifelines, a changing operating environment, and increased community needs. Funding for local agencies through FEMA's Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) is insufficient to meet the increased staffing needs. Since Fiscal Year 2016, EMPG funds have increased by only \$49 million nationwide, while the frequency and severity of emergencies have doubled. The County supports State and Federal increased appropriations for local agencies through the EMPG program and establishing additional grant programs for which local agencies can apply.

**Community Disaster Resilience.** In 2021, the Board of Supervisors adopted the Monterey County Community Resilience Plan. The Plan outlines six strategies for increasing resilience: Build Social Capital, Enhance Emergency Services Infrastructure, Move Toward Sustainability, Create Healthy Communities, Encourage Resilient Households, and Empower Social Mobility. Cumulatively these strategies result in 61 initiatives that are intended to be implemented over the next several years.

**Reimagine Public Libraries as Disaster Hubs.**~~The Role of Libraries in Disaster Response:~~ There are 21 libraries in the County, 16 of which are Monterey County Free Libraries that offer free tutoring, free Wi-



[Fi and computer access, and educational programs for County residents. These libraries are a key source of social capital for the community, as they are trusted and familiar places for residents when searching for resources; thus, libraries are a valuable resource for disseminating pre- and post- disaster information.](#)

Recent disaster events have highlighted the important and expanded role public libraries play in enhancing community resiliency and post-disaster recovery efforts. Libraries serve as vital information hubs to connect residents to disaster resources and services, providing free access to technology and essential information. The role libraries play can be greatly expanded with investments in independent/redundant power and connectivity, flexible facilities that are ADA compliant, and staff education and training (e.g., disaster protocols, first aid, CPR, AED, FEMA, etc.).

**Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator:** [The Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator \(MHOAC\) is a role with a set of duties defined by the California Health and Safety Code Section 1797.153. These regulations task the MHOAC with responsibility for seventeen essential functions related to health and medical needs. During normal operations, the MHOAC is responsible for collaborating with local and regional emergency planners to develop and maintain medical and health disaster plans. In Monterey County, the EMS Agency staffs the MHOAC position and maintains a 24-hour-per-day, 365-days-per-year single point of contact for the program.](#)

[When the local Office of Emergency Services \(OES\) activates the EOC due to a declared emergency, the MHOAC role becomes one of heightened significance. In the event of a local, state, or federal declaration of emergency, the MHOAC performs essential functions within the Operations Branch of the Emergency Operation Center \(EOC\) and becomes a primary point of contact for the coordination of medical and health resources between local, regional, and state authorities. Largely concerned with the procurement and distribution of necessary resources during emergencies and disasters, the MHOAC becomes increasingly vital to an effective emergency response the longer an emergency persists. The EMS Agency has worked to expand the development of processes and technical resources available to assist with this mission. The EMS Agency has expanded staffing and personnel capabilities to fulfill this role.](#)

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts that assist the County with disaster prevention, preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery; medical and health disaster planning; coordination, response and mitigation including infrastructure and emergency response personnel, homeland security needs, and communications service expansion and interoperability. Support efforts to fund FEMA and oppose changes that would reduce or make it more difficult for counties to qualify for FEMA reimbursements. Support efforts to provide financial assistance to local governments and private property owners to efficiently repair homes, businesses, infrastructure, and the natural environment after disaster events. Advocate for additional funding for emergency operations planning, exercises to validate the planning process, trainings, and equipment; seek funding for emergency planning specifically addressing the safety of seniors and those with disabilities; and increase access to funding for local jurisdictions for disaster-related damages. Support emergency management education and preparedness to underserved populations. Support efforts to fund wildfire prevention efforts (e.g., fuel management) and to provide adequate resources to local governments and communication to sensitive populations to mitigate the impacts of investor-owned utilities power shut off events.

Support funding for expanded dispatch and web-based communication systems to allow the Emergency Communications Department to operate from multiple locations in case of disaster, pandemic, or other unforeseen circumstances. [Support the Office of Emergency Services in seeking funding and resources to](#)



implement [Community Resilience Initiatives, including Support](#) efforts to expand and fund public libraries' expanding role in community disaster response and recovery.

## **Wildfires**~~Fire Insurance~~

~~Additionally, a~~As the threat of wildfires has increased so has the County's need arisen to focus on fire fuel management measures and the ability to respond to Community Power Resiliency (formerly Public Safety Power Shut-off (PSPS)) events – which have significant impacts on our community and local economy, often leaving large segments of the population without power for days at a time.

**Community Power Resiliency.** Monterey County received grants funds through the Community Power Resiliency and Public Safety Power Shutoff programs to increase resilience throughout the community. These grants have been extremely beneficial in immediately impacting the community by providing the necessary infrastructure for uninterrupted power and respite from extreme weather.

**Vegetation Management Program.** The CAL FIRE Vegetation Management Program has been extremely effective in the Monterey County Operational Area. The County is extremely grateful to Governor for committing resources and reducing “red tape” to efficiently and effectively conduct these projects to protect life and property.

**Homeowners Insurance in High Fire Risk Areas.** An estimated 10 million Californians live in wildland-urban interface (WUI) areas, leaving them especially vulnerable to the spread of wildfire. It's estimated that over 11,000 residences in Monterey County are in high or extreme fire risk zones. California has encountered unprecedented wildfire activity over the past decade. The last major fires in Monterey County were the 2016 Soberanes Fire which over 82 days burned 57 homes, 11 outbuildings, and consumed 132,000 acres along the Big Sur coast, and the Carmel River, and Dolan fires in 2020 that consumed 179,719 acres and damaged or destroyed 130 structures.

As a result of the record claims paid out in recent years, insurers that operate in the state have been reevaluating their exposure in fire hazard areas. Insurance rates have been raised dramatically in certain areas and insurers are increasingly declining to write new policies and refusing to renew insurance even for longtime customers.

~~In August 2019, the California Insurance Commissioner released data showing that from 2015 to 2018, insurance companies dropped more than 340,000 customers across the state. Monterey County residents account for approximately 6,000 of the total. The inability to obtain insurance can create a domino effect for the local economy, affecting home sales and property taxes.~~

~~In December 2019, the California Insurance Commissioner issued a mandatory 1 year moratorium on insurance companies non-renewing policyholders within certain zip codes, however the moratorium did not include any zip codes in Monterey County. The Commissioner repeated the moratorium in 2021 following the Governors emergency proclamation which included 22 California Counties but again Monterey County was not included even though the county suffered severe losses from the 2020 fires.~~

### **Key Objectives:**

Support continued funding for Community Power Resiliency and Vegetation Management programs benefiting Monterey County. Support a collaborative approach between the state, insurance providers and policyholders to develop a comprehensive program encouraging insurers to write policies in high wildfire risk areas where community wildfire risk mitigation programs meet agreed upon standards.

[Support policies that require insurers to offer rate reductions to homeowners that implement specified home hardening and defensible space mitigations to improve the wildfire resilience of their homes. Support state-funded programs to aid socially vulnerable homeowners with home retrofits and defensible space efforts in order to mitigate individual and community wildfire risk, including mitigation efforts necessary to meet state or federal programs designed to increase insurance affordability and availability. Support efforts that provide incentives to insurance companies and reasonable and timely solutions for homeowners, renters and businesses to keep insurers writing policies in high wildfire risk areas. Support efforts that help homeowners, renters and businesses with home hardening and creation of defensible space. Support efforts to have the insurance industry reevaluate fire risk models. Support efforts to have Monterey County included in any Insurance Commissioner actions to assist homeowners. Support efforts to modify the FAIR plan to make it easier to understand and navigate and more affordable for those that cannot get private fire insurance.](#)

## **[Lithium-Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems Facilities](#)**

[The Moss Landing Lithium-Ion Battery Energy Storage System \(BESS\), the world's largest BESS, was connected to California's power grid and began operating in December 2020. The project is located at the retired Moss Landing gas-fired power plant, which was built by PG&E near Moss Landing Harbor, Monterey County, California, US. This facility houses large quantities of LG and Tesla lithium-ion battery packs managed by Vistra and PG&E respectively. Since 2021, there have been several incidents at the site resulting in a response from the local fire protection district, regional HAZMAT team, and law enforcement; on one occasion resulting a shelter-in-place issued to the surrounding residential community.](#)

### **[Key Objectives:](#)**

[Monterey County Office of Emergency Services would like the State to increase regulations around safety requirements and community emergency planning for Lithium-Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems, a new technology, similarly to requirements placed on refineries.](#)

## **[County Control of Emergency Medical Services](#)**

In 1980, the [Emergency Medical Services \(EMS\)](#) Act empowered counties to establish local EMS agencies (LEMSAs) to develop and implement EMS systems. LEMSAs oversee and coordinate a systems approach to the delivery of EMS services by both public and private providers, hospitals, and tertiary resources.

[The Monterey County Emergency Medical Services Agency is a Bureau within the Monterey County Health Department and is designated by the Board of Supervisors as the LEMSA that oversees the delivery of EMS within Monterey County. A high performing EMS System consists of multiple agencies with a variety of functions working together to provide high-quality, patient-centered care to those suffering from a medical emergency.](#)

[The Monterey County EMS System is comprised of ground and air ambulance providers, dispatch/communications centers, fire and rescue service providers, hospital emergency departments, specialty care centers for trauma, stroke, and heart attack patients, and the Monterey County EMS Agency. The EMS Agency is responsible for managing and coordinating these agencies to ensure that the community receives a coordinated and appropriate EMS response when calling 911 and, ultimately, the](#)

[best possible care. However, the EMS Agency’s responsibilities do not stop when a patient reaches the doors of the hospital. The EMS Agency is also responsible for ensuring that our local hospitals are able to appropriately receive patients from EMS and, when needed, provide online medical direction to EMS providers in the field. Additionally, the EMS Agency has the responsibility for designation and oversight of specialty care centers for the treatment of trauma, stroke, and ST elevation myocardial infarction \(STEMI\) patients in Monterey County.](#)

[The EMS Agency also takes the lead in ensuring that EMS service provider agencies are prepared to respond to disasters and mass casualty incidents \(MCIs\) involving multiple patients. Advance preparations include building a robust system of mutual aid partners, regulating medical supply inventories, participation in training and exercise opportunities, and drafting and editing various disaster-related plans.](#)

Any attempts to limit the authority or move control of local EMS systems from the counties would cause significant disruption to the coordinated care that is provided in EMS systems.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to maintain the authority and governing role of counties and their local emergency medical services agencies to plan, implement, and evaluate all aspects and components of the emergency medical services system. Support efforts to maintain the administration and medical control of emergency medical services, pre-hospital emergency medical care, and ambulance services at the county level. [Support efforts to adequately fund EMS systems.](#)

## **Juvenile Justice**

[SB 823 \(2020\) realigned the entirety of the juvenile justice system to counties. The success of youth, and those with the most serious risk factors and highest needs, are at the forefront of our considerations in this endeavor. The support, structure, and resources necessary for successful implementation by county probation and partners requires significant as well as ongoing investment and resources from the state. Additionally, continued implementation must account for the following tenets: 1\) policies must not destabilize the system or harm local efforts where we safely supervise and treat 90 percent of the youth in the community; 2\) policies must allow flexibility for probation to tailor programs, services, capacity, and delivery methods to the needs of the youth; 3\) additional investments are needed to redesign and transform our existing physical spaces into more therapeutic home-like environments that is reflective of the trauma-informed work probation does with youth; and 4\) funding must be stable, secure, and ongoing.](#)

#### **Key Objectives**

[Support efforts and policies that provide resources, flexibility, and innovation for addressing the needs of youth in secure settings as well as probation’s ability to transition and serve youth in least restrictive settings. Promote training and skill development that assist probation’s well-trained staff to serve youth and their families.](#)

[Support policies to ensure that courts have confidence to serve youth in the juvenile system avoiding transfers to adult court. Support funding and programs to assist youth in their reentry including housing, workforce development, and education among others.](#)

Additionally, investments in planning and modernization of county juvenile facilities are critical to ensure facilities reflect the types of environments which foster evidence-based programming and support youth in age appropriate and trauma informed ways as well as the safety of the youth and probation staff. Support policies that allow probation departments and counties to develop local responses to address the needs of secure track youth and provide necessary funding to support critical services and programs for youth.

## **Adult Pretrial Services**

Probation departments are working throughout the State to support the courts in their constitutional duties. Probation serves the court as a neutral party, accountable to the courts and the public, to provide information to judicial officers prior to arraignment to maximize the safe release of defendants and provide a level of accountability for the accused to return to court. Probation's role as both a county department and as an arm of the court enables accountable, transparent, and efficient connection to the services a specific client may need to enhance safety.

### **Key Objectives**

Support a state pretrial system that mitigates justice by geography through a state framework that connects the court system to county services and monitoring. Pretrial services must be connected to the courts and provide confidence to courts to make safe release decisions based on informed factors. State funding for comprehensive pretrial services is necessary to provide courts with options to encourage appropriate and safe releases and should cover the full costs of enacted policies at a level that does not require county supplementation.

## **Violence Prevention and Reduction**

Monterey County recognizes the devastating societal impacts of gang violence – not only on the victims of gang-related crimes, but also the lives of gang members and their families and has identified gang violence prevention and reduction as a top priority. The County is committed to working with law enforcement, allied agencies, municipalities, and community-based organizations to prevent and reduce violence, especially gang violence, and promote healthy and safe communities.

**County Violence Prevention and Reduction Initiatives:** Monterey County has a full array of County-led initiatives designed to prevent and reduce gang violence utilizing a public health approach to address its underlying causes – including prevention, intervention, enforcement, and reentry initiatives (e.g., Building Safe and Thriving Communities Action Plan; Silver Star Resource Center; Striving to Reduce Youth Violence Everywhere (STRYVE); and Truancy Abatement). Monterey County hosts an annual Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Conference (My Life Story) geared towards youth-serving organizations and hosts youth, adult and parent panelists who share of their lived experience as a result of being impacted by gangs, violence, and system involvement. Each of these areas would benefit greatly from additional federal and state support.

**County Collaborative Efforts:** The County is also involved in other countywide collaborative efforts such as the Community Alliance for Safety and Peace (CASP) in Salinas, ~~Four Cities for Peace (4C4P) in South Monterey County,~~ Seaside Youth Violence Prevention Task Force, Building Healthy Communities in East Salinas, the North Monterey County Community Alliance in Castroville, Impact Monterey County, Moms

Demand Action Be SMART Monterey County Chapter, and the California Cities Violence Prevention Network.

**Federal Assistance for Public Safety:** Monterey County's federal advocacy program related to violence prevention is focused on supporting U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) programs that provide critical support to county courts and corrections, juvenile justice, and law enforcement agencies. These programs include, but are not limited to, the Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant Program, which helps counties across nation test emerging and evidence-based approaches to the public safety challenges facing their jurisdictions, and the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP), which reimburses counties for costs associated with the incarceration of undocumented immigrants. These DOJ programs provide critical support to the County's efforts to safely lower jail populations, fight recidivism and combat drug trafficking while providing treatment and alternatives to incarceration.

**Gun Violence:** Monterey County residents are adversely impacted by gun violence that results in an average of fifty deaths every year, half of whom are youth homicide victims aged 10-24 years old, and over a hundred life threatening gunshot injuries that require trauma-level hospital care. The County is committed to supporting efforts to close gaps in the current patchwork of regulation, including those gaps that enable felons, people convicted of domestic violence, children, those found to be a danger to themselves or others, and other prohibited persons to access firearms and ammunition, and those that allow the trafficking of illegal guns.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support federal and state efforts to fund violence prevention and reduction efforts and local law enforcement programs designed to reduce violence, especially gang violence; support a public health approach for violence prevention and community-wide collaborative efforts, including school-based violence prevention efforts; support continued participation in the California Cities Violence Prevention Network. Support efforts that increase supports for community promotion of peace and equity. Support efforts that promote community programs that prevent childhood trauma and intergenerational violence, such as parenting education programs. Support efforts to enhance data-sharing between County departments and local jurisdictions. Support federal efforts to adopt stricter controls governing the sale, transfer, possession, manufacturing, and distribution of all firearms, dangerous weapons, and ammunition; support repeal of the Dickey Amendment, which complicates public health research into the causes and consequences of gun violence by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

### **Family~~Domestic~~ Violence Prevention**

Violence adversely impacts all Californians, particularly those in disadvantaged communities, at disproportionate rates, and that these impacts have long-term and wide- ranging health and economic consequences for these individuals, families, communities, and state as a whole. The effects of violence in the family environment, particularly on children as victims or witnesses, both short and long-term, are well documented by research.

The existing efforts to provide services to children of parents on probation for domestic violence have been on-going for years through several County operated and supported programs. The Child Advocate Program (CAP) operated by the Probation Department is funded by a First 5 grant and serves children aged 0 – 5 and their families. Mental health and emergency safe house shelter services to victims of domestic violence are coordinated by the District Attorney's Office Victim Witness Program in partnership with County Behavioral Health and community-based organizations. Due to the number of domestic

violence cases, the need to identify and intervene as soon as possible, focus a wider age range, additional resources are required to manage and limit the negative impact of domestic violence on children, victims, and the community at large. An expansion of CAP, mental health services and support of emergency and transitional shelters would assist in addressing these unmet needs.

#### **Key Objectives:**

[Support efforts to build safe communities, use data-informed approaches, pursue trauma-informed care, and work with key partners to implement violence prevention strategies.](#) Support efforts aimed at reducing multi-generational violence, including in the family and home environment, mitigating the long-term effects of violence-induced trauma, and promoting efforts and services to stabilize families, increase their self-sufficiency, and provide a healthy environment for child development.

### **Post-Sentence Relief and Reintegration to Reduce Recidivism**

Monterey County provides attorney services to assist persons convicted of crimes with reintegration back into our community, including services to persons seeking to obtain post-conviction dismissals of their cases under Penal Code section 1203.4, charge and sentence reductions under Proposition 47, certificates of rehabilitation, and gubernatorial pardons. These services greatly expand the social and financial opportunities of people who may have received a criminal conviction and correspondingly decrease the probability they may reoffend. Due to the large volume of people seeking this assistance, the County would benefit greatly from additional federal and state support.

#### **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to reduce reliance on incarceration without compromising public safety (e.g., bail reform efforts that address current socioeconomic inequities). Support efforts to reform the cash-bail system while ensuring that counties have the funding necessary for planning, pre-trial assessments, and supervision. Support funding for re-entry teams comprised of jail civilian program specialists, social workers, and eligibility workers to identify and alleviate barriers to successful reintegration into the community after release from jail. Re-entry planning would include but not be limited to obtaining housing, driver license, Medi-Cal, cash aid, and employment prior to release from county jail.

### **Access to Justice**

~~Increasing access to justice by providing the community with adequate and accessible court facilities is a priority for Monterey County.~~

~~**Greenfield Courthouse:** The City of Greenfield and County of Monterey, in collaboration with the Courts, worked diligently to locally fund a portion of a courthouse in Greenfield that has been proposed for construction for over ten years. Locally the County and City worked to lower the overall project cost and position the project for timely construction. The City dedicated land for the project and reduced the estimated project cost from \$49 million, to \$33 million by tightening the scope of the project. Additionally, the City has committed funding up to \$10 million toward the project. Once full funding is secured, the project is positioned to begin construction quickly and is shovel ready. In November 2019, the Judicial Council updated the Courthouse Construction Program project priority list for new courthouse construction projects statewide and adjusted the scoring process and criteria used to create the list. Under~~

~~the new methodology the Greenfield Courthouse project moved down the list to number 45 of 80 total projects.~~

~~This project is an important long term priority for the County, as our community members face extreme access to justice issues, with the next closest courthouse located on the other side of our large county boundaries. For residents of South Monterey County that could mean a 1.5 hour drive each way (3 hours total) to the Courthouse in Monterey that handles all civil and family law cases, including obtaining temporary restraining orders. Additionally, the population of the area is anticipated to grow by 16,000–20,000 new residents in the next 10 years.~~

~~Given the State’s current fiscal constraints there is not an immediate opportunity for funding this project; however, as the economy recovers, the Legislature will have the opportunity to revisit funding for court construction project that will enhance access to justice. **Key Objectives:**~~

~~Support efforts to authorize and secure funding to establish the Greenfield Courthouse. Support legislative efforts to examine the Judicial Council’s methodology and ranking of court facility projects. With the addition or expansion of court facilities support funding for court security (bailiffs and supervision of court facilities).~~

## Offenders with Mental Health Conditions

Many defendants in the criminal justice system suffer from mental health conditions. In the justice system, there currently is no distinction between offenders diagnosed with a mental illness and the general population. Monterey County supports funding and programs designed to divert offenders diagnosed with mental illness by connecting them with treatment as opposed to incarceration. Monterey County supports adequate funding be made available for housing and delivering comprehensive services needed to better support these offenders to address the underlying mental health condition that manifests in criminal violations.

Monterey County supports collaborative efforts between state and local mental health practitioners and corrections officials to host Jail Based Competency Treatment (JBCT) programs and other measures to increase capacity for incompetent to stand trial (IST) treatment in local jails. There is a long felony IST waitlist, and the County supports solutions to resolve waitlist issues. Given the pressing need to significantly shorten days individuals spend on the waitlist, the state included provisions in a budget trailer bill that would authorize the suspension of county LPS patient intake at state hospitals if IST solutions are insufficient; a requirement to return existing LPS patients back to counties would follow. The County opposes the state utilizing this LPS “trigger/backstop” and supports efforts to develop alternative IST solutions, as well as ensuring the necessary resources and infrastructure align with any change to the division of state and county responsibilities.

In 2020, the County entered into a contract with the California Department of State Hospitals and began operating a JBCT Program in the Monterey County Jail. The County’s JBCT is a regional model and serves inmates from Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties.

[Incompetent to Stand Trial. County Public Guardians have the authority under current law to conduct conservatorship investigations and are mindful of the potential costs and ramifications of additional mandates or duties in this area. Collaboration is necessary among the California Department of State Hospitals \(DSH\), County Public Guardians, Behavioral Health Departments, and County Sheriffs to find](#)



[secure placements for individuals originating from DSH facilities, county jails, or who are under conservatorship. A shared funding and service model is needed for complex placements, such as the Enhanced Treatment Program. Efforts must be opposed to shift financial and other liability and risk for state DSH responsibilities to counties, and instead support partnering with the state in ensuring that diversion and community-based restoration services are adequately resourced and supported while retaining access to state hospitals for the most high-risk individuals. State support is needed to establish additional secure placement options for adults and juveniles who are conserved or involved in the local or state criminal justice systems, both with capital facility investments and by eliminating statutory and administrative barriers to create local flexibility. While existing provisions allow for competency restoration to occur in community settings or in locked sub-acute care facilities \(IMDs, mental health rehabilitation centers\) the lack of secure placement options across the state and the federal IMD exclusion from Medicaid limit options to provide treatment for IST individuals.](#)

**Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to fund programs that assist the County in addressing the needs of offenders with mental health conditions, including funding to deploy behavioral health specialists with law enforcement personnel in the community. Oppose utilizing the LPS “trigger/backstop.” Support alternative IST waitlist solutions. Support efforts to fund provision of restoration services to those with pending misdemeanor charges deemed IST. [Support efforts to expand funding and options to provide treatment and care, including but not limited to seeking a waiver for the IMD exclusion.](#)



**MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
2023 LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOP (SPECIAL MEETING)**

**Friday, January 20, 2023**

**1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Board Chambers – Monterey County Government Center  
168 W. Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93901  
OR via Zoom**

**Legislative Workshop – Objectives:** The purpose of the Legislative Workshop is to discuss legislative, budgetary and other issues of mutual concern with the County’s legislative delegation and identify issues to work together on in 2023. Please note, because this is a special meeting, there will not be general public comment – public comment will be allowed only for items on the agenda.

1:00 P.M. - Call to Order

**Roll Call**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Review of Agenda and Objectives
3. State of the County
4. Monterey County 2023 Policy Priorities
  - a. Monterey County Veterans Home
  - b. Homeless Funding Formulas
  - c. Nacimiento and San Antonio Dam Safety/High Priority Capital Asset Management
  - d. Interlake Tunnel and San Antonio Spillway Modification Project
  - e. San Lucas Clean Drinking Water
  - f. Old Monterey County Jail
  - g. Marina Health Clinic
  - h. Immigration Reform / Farm Bill Reauthorization
  - i. FEMA Reimbursements
5. Remarks by State and Federal Legislators on their 2023 Priorities (3-5 minutes each)
  - a. Senator Dianne Feinstein
  - b. Senator Alex Padilla
  - c. Congressman Jimmy Panetta
  - d. Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren
  - e. Senator Anna Caballero
  - f. Senator John Laird
  - g. Assemblymember Robert Rivas
  - h. Assemblymember Dawn Addis
6. Remarks by Monterey County Board of Supervisors Regarding 2023 Priorities (3-5 minutes each)
  - a. Supervisor Luis Alejo – *District 1*
  - b. Supervisor Glenn Church – *District 2*
  - c. Supervisor Chris Lopez – *District 3*
  - d. Supervisor Wendy Root Askew – *District 4*
  - e. Supervisor Mary Adams – *District 5*
7. Roundtable Discussion
8. Public Comment on Agenda Items
9. Board Direction to Staff

Adjournment

# Legislative Proposal

## Monterey County Veterans Home



***Establish a new Veterans Home in Monterey County to serve the areas' aged and disabled veterans' community and honor their service to our Nation.***

Monterey County seeks to sponsor State legislation that permits the construction of a Veterans Home in Monterey County – preferably on or near the former Fort Ord. Establishing a Veterans Home in Monterey County will address the needs of our nation's heroes living in California by significantly reducing wait times, providing close proximity to veteran health care and several other veteran services, and reducing the risk of veterans homelessness. The scope of the project, location and cost are to be determined in coordination with the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

The Proposal seeks to authorize legislation similar to SB 1234 (Johannessen) in 2002 that would authorize the State Public Works Board to issue lease-revenue bonds to finance acquisition, design, and construction of an additional Veterans Home in Monterey County, and to allow the State Department of General Services, on behalf of the State Department of Veterans Affairs to construct an additional Veterans Home. The legislation should also seek a continuous appropriation for its operation.

Federal legislative efforts are also needed to secure two-thirds of the costs for the acquisition, design and construction and a continuous appropriation for its operation through the VA.



- CalVet has eight (8) Veterans Homes that offer affordable long-term care to Veterans who are age 55+, eligible spouses and domestic partners are eligible to apply for admission.
- The age requirement is waived for disabled or homeless veterans needing long-term care.
- Services range from independent living programs with minimal support to 24/7 skilled nursing and dementia care for veterans with significant clinical needs.
- Four (4) of the Veterans Homes offer skilled nursing and dementia care, all of which 2 to 5+ year waiting lists.
- All the Veterans Homes are at a considerable distance from Monterey County with the closest in Fresno and Yountville (both 2.5 hours away) and Ventura (4 hours away).

## California's Veteran Population

California has the largest Veteran population in the United States – with over 1.6 million Veterans. Monterey County and its surrounding area is home to thousands of these veterans plus thousands more active and reserve military members. The Veterans population in the local area is 108,000:

- 21,000 in Monterey County
- 17,800 in San Luis Obispo County
- 57,000 in Santa Clara County
- 2,500 in San Benito County
- 10,000 in Santa Cruz County

## Economic Impact

California's Veterans are accessing their earned benefits, VA Compensation and Pension (C&P) Benefits, at greater levels than ever before. In 2011, 15.8% of Veterans accessed these benefits, which increased to 27.8% by 2019. Overall, these benefits total over \$8 billion annually and represent a tremendous positive economic impact on California's economy. California is losing veterans at an alarming rate – much faster than the next 2 largest veteran population states (Texas and Florida). We owe all we have to the veterans of this Nation, and it is our joint obligation to do all we can to care for those who have selflessly served for the freedoms we have today.

## Benefits to Locating a Veterans Home in Monterey County

Locating a Veterans Home in Monterey County will provide an attractive geographical location with a rich Military History and current Military presence. Residents of the Veterans Home would have easy access to the Major General William H. Gourley VA-DoD Outpatient Clinic, Commissary's, Post Exchanges, Military Gyms and other Military / Veteran accessible facilities. There are a large variety of beaches, walking / bike trails and County / State / National parks that will promote outdoor activity.

## Contact

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**Monterey County Military and Veterans Affairs Office**  
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# Homeless Funding Formulas



*State and Federal partners need to identify a different means to assess community needs when allocating funds to address homelessness.*

The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a federally mandated “snapshot” of people experiencing homelessness conducted by local Continuums of Care (CoC). CoCs are required to do sheltered counts annually and unsheltered counts at least biennially. These numbers are used to inform policies, drive strategic plans, assess system performance, and determine funding allocations on a state and federal level. However, there are many issues with utilizing the PIT in homeless funding formulas.

## Homeless funding formulas inadvertently penalize communities for reducing homelessness.

The 2017 PIT revealed that on any given night 2,837 individuals were experiencing homelessness in Monterey County, the **highest** count in our history. In response, stakeholders moved swiftly to overhaul the homelessness response system – bringing in funding from Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF), the Youth Homeless Demonstration Program (YHDP), updating the regional plan to end homelessness, and opening several new navigation centers, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing programs.

In 2022, Monterey County experienced a significant decrease in the PIT, having counted 2,047 individuals on the night of the count, the **lowest** count in our history. While we celebrate the accomplishment of working towards our overarching goal, this 28% decrease is expected to have severe impacts on upcoming State funding (i.e., Round 4 - Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP), and others).

## Point-in-Time counts are both far too low and too unreliable to be used as a sole basis for understanding a region’s homelessness service needs.

- It is widely understood that PIT counts don’t exhibit the true need to properly address homelessness. In Monterey County, the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) shows more than double the PIT are accessing services throughout the year – a prime example of the pressure providers face in assisting more people with half the resources and manpower, causing burnout, lower salaries, and high turnaround.
- Inconsistent methodologies, access to volunteers, and the unique characteristics of communities can also lead to irregularities in funding allocations.
- Under section 578.7 of the CoC Program interim rule, “CoCs must plan and conduct, at least biennially, a PIT count of persons experiencing homelessness within the geographic area.” However, PIT counts are designed to only capture information on people visibly experiencing homelessness as described in Category 1 of HUD’s definition of homelessness. People experiencing homelessness in Categories 2-4 aren’t included in the count, however access services throughout the year.

While there is no simple way to decide how funding should be determined, at minimum other factors should be considered in determining allocations like cost of living, housing stock, area median income, fair market rate, and long-term stabilization of programs in communities that are successfully reducing homelessness.

## Contact

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# Nacimientto and San Antonio Dam Safety/ High Priority Capital Asset Management

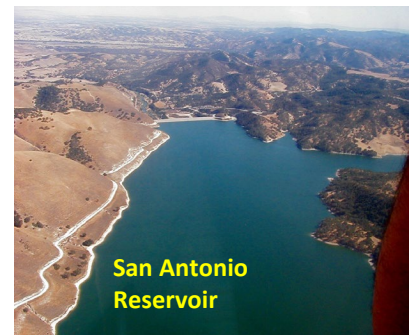


*A set of subprojects for Nacimientto and San Antonio Reservoir and Dam facilities to fulfill Federal and State regulatory requirements and provide flood protection and a sustainable water supply. Cost estimate \$160 million.*



Nacimientto and San Antonio reservoirs supply water to Monterey County's fertile Salinas Valley for all the valley's beneficial uses. The reservoirs, built in 1957 and 1967 respectively, were put in place by the people of the Salinas Valley to provide flood control; store and release water for aquifer recharge; and combat seawater intrusion in the valley. The facilities provide water to the Salinas Valley agricultural economy, as well as valley residents; a large number who work in the agricultural industry or in the tourism-related businesses on the Monterey Peninsula. Without these reservoirs, life and the economies of Monterey County would suffer greatly.

The water released from these reservoirs utilizes the natural Salinas River channel for approximately 100 miles of conveyance through the Salinas Valley. The releases percolate into the ground for groundwater aquifer recharge and are seasonally diverted about 90 miles downstream to augment recycled water for irrigating crops in northern Monterey County.



Failing infrastructure is becoming a national phenomenon. The problems in California and other states indicate that there is a need to protect, maintain, enhance, and renew existing infrastructure. At Nacimientto, the condition of the spillway and plunge pool erosion limits the volume of releases from the high-level outlets. San Antonio is currently under self-imposed risk reduction measures that limit the amount of water that can be stored due to the California Department of Safety of Dams mandated replacement of the spillway.



This is a multi-benefit Project. It provides flood control, drought resiliency, groundwater recharge to drinking water supply aquifers for over 200,000 residents including disadvantaged communities and 418,000 acres that support an \$11.7B agricultural industry. Having both facilities fully operational is crucial to implementation of several Groundwater Sustainability Plans. Monterey County does not receive any imported water from State or Federal water projects. Monterey County Water

Resources Agency (Agency) is the lead agency for the project. The Agency received just over \$6 million in the 2022-23 State Budget, and while appreciative of this investment, a large financial obligation remains to successfully complete these projects.

## Contact

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**Monterey County Water Resources Agency**

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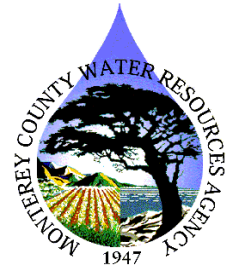
(831) xxx-xxxx / [xxxxx@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:xxxxx@co.monterey.ca.us)

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# Interlake Tunnel and San Antonio Spillway Modification Project



***A tunnel to connect existing facilities at Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs on the Central Coast of California will increase water storage capacity and achieve environmental and water conservation release efficiencies. Cost estimate \$180 million.***



The proposed Interlake Tunnel and San Antonio Spillway Modification Project (Project) will connect Nacimiento and San Antonio reservoirs to effectively increase the use of existing storage capacity in the system to increase water quantity for drought protection, and seawater intrusion abatement, as well as stabilize releases, providing additional flood control for the surrounding farming communities.

The Nacimiento reservoir, located in Northern San Luis Obispo County, is in a watershed that can receive significantly more rainfall than the adjoining San Antonio reservoir watershed in southern Monterey County. The water spilled from the Nacimiento reservoir in wetter years

can cause flooding within the Nacimiento and Salinas rivers.

The Project will utilize existing storage infrastructure by designing and constructing an 12,000-foot underground tunnel between the Nacimiento and San Antonio reservoirs to transfer water and thereby increase the opportunity to store additional water when available. The water from these two reservoirs would then be used downstream for groundwater recharge, sea water intrusion abatement, and the promotion of fish habitats - increasing the total available supply and quality of water benefits the surrounding communities and ecosystems.

This Project provides a workable solution for agricultural production and resource management challenges, as it helps increase water quantity and improves water quality for all users of the Salinas Valley system. The Project builds drought resiliency and allows for a more stable, consistent release of water through the Nacimiento, San Antonio and Salinas rivers that will help the health of the ecosystem and improve flood control. In addition, the Project will help reduce the need to pump groundwater, especially in northern Monterey County – allowing the groundwater basin to recharge, which helps reduce seawater intrusion, and improves water quality.

Monterey County does not receive any water from a State or Federal water project, making it crucial that existing infrastructure be utilized to the maximum to address water storage needs to offset the impacts of climate change. The Nacimiento and San Antonio reservoirs recharge drinking water supply aquifers for over 200,000 residents including disadvantaged communities and more than 418,000 acres that support an \$11.7B agricultural industry.

## Request

The Agency is seeking federal and state funding for the Project, which is expected to cost \$180 million to complete. The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (Agency) is the lead agency for the project.

## Contact

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**Monterey County Water Resources Agency**  
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# San Lucas Clean Drinking Water Project Monterey County



*Clean drinking water pipeline for the severely disadvantaged community of San Lucas*

San Lucas is a small, severely disadvantaged farming community located in unincorporated Monterey County approximately eight miles south of King City – consisting of predominantly Hispanic farm worker families. The community water system (approximately 100 connections) is owned and operated by the San Lucas County Water District (District).



*1 Nic Coury/courtesy Monterey County Weekly*

The San Lucas Clean Drinking Water Project would address persistent water quality problems which have occurred since 2006. In 2011, a “do not drink” order was issued, and despite establishing an alternative well to serve the community, a second “do not drink” order was issued in 2016. The lack of safe, affordable drinking water for the community has also caused a nearly 20-year delay of a severely needed affordable housing project in San Lucas.

San Lucas is a designated Rural Center in the County’s 2010 General Plan, and with the potential for improved infrastructure to support future development, San Lucas will be able to help meet the growing needs of this disadvantaged community as well as the County’s critical housing needs. Unfortunately, the



*2 Nick Rahaim/courtesy Monterey County Weekly*

Project cost for this needed long-term water supply solution far exceeds limits established for existing State funding programs. The County, working on behalf of the District, is seeking alternative funding from the State for this critical water project for the community that has been on bottled water orders 8 of the past 10 years.

The Project would construct a new pipeline to tie into the Cal Water system on the east side of King City and deliver water directly to the community’s water distribution tank. The pipeline is anticipated to be approximately 7.8 miles long and run along the eastern side of Highway 101 and the railroad line.

## Request

Funding in the amount of \$12 million is sought for design, environmental assessment, engineering, and construction work to provide a clean, long-term, reliable source of drinking water to meet the community’s current and future needs.

## Contact

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# Old Monterey County Jail



**Adaptive reuse project for the Old Monterey County Jail, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2004 for its significance in the national farm labor movement. Estimated project cost \$17.25 million.**

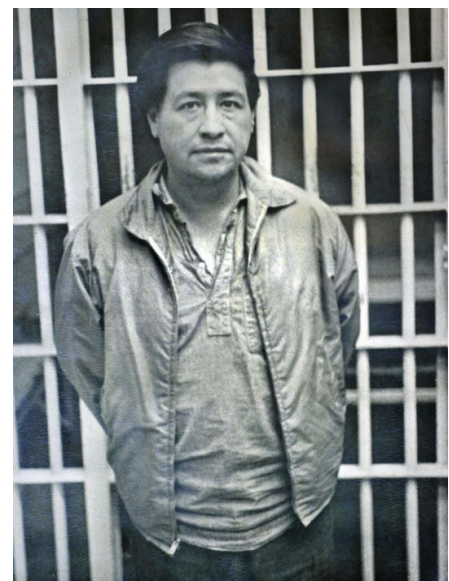
## Old Monterey County Jail

The Old Monterey County Jail (Old Jail) located at 158 West Alisal Street, Salinas, California, was built in 1931 in the Gothic Revival architectural style during the Art Deco period. The facility originally consisted of a multi-level administrative building with access onto Alisal Street, with the jail located behind the building connected by a stairwell. Additions were made circa 1950 around the original building. It served as the County's primary jail until a new jail was completed in 1977.



In 2004, the Old Monterey County Jail was listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places reflecting its architectural significance and for areas where César Chávez was imprisoned. It is the only historic landmark of the farmworker rights movement on the Central Coast.

In December 1970, César Chávez, co-founder of the United Farm Workers, was held in the Old Monterey County Jail for 20 days for refusing to call off a lettuce boycott, thereby raising national and international attention to farmworkers. His incarceration brought national figures such as Ethel Kennedy and Coretta Scott King to the jail to visit and advocate for his release. This event is considered pivotal in the struggle for farm labor rights.



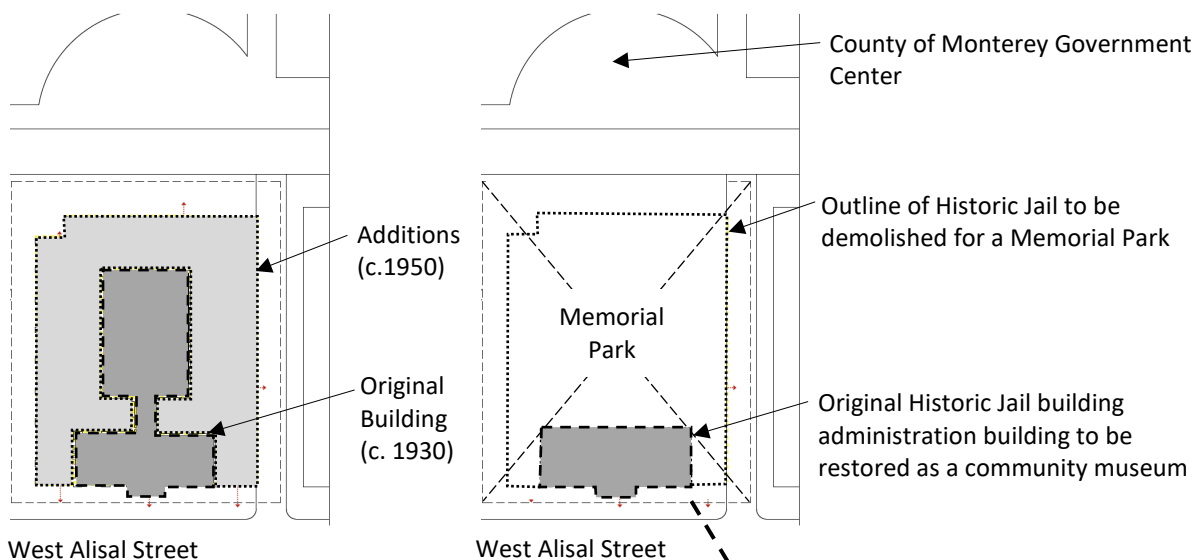


In 1998, the County began planning for redevelopment of the County Government Center which included demolition of the Old Monterey County Jail. The Jail demolition action was challenged and resulted in the County abandoning the effort. The Jail was inspected finding mold and some structural deterioration, and the County performed work to stabilize and mothball the facility and restrict access.

Around 2014, the County began efforts to assess potential reuse of the facility and site. A feasibility study evaluated nine options ranging from demolition (\$4 million) to full restoration (\$34 million). In 2016, the Board selected to demolish the facility, but in 2017 changed course to explore adaptive reuse of the facility. Requests for Proposals were issued in 2018 and 2019 which generated no responses. Later in 2019, the Board provided direction to seek State Budget funding to restore the Administration Wing and add new building; preserve the Alisal Street Façade and add a park; or preserve the Administration Wing and add a park. If funding is available, the Board would also consider full restoration for reuse.

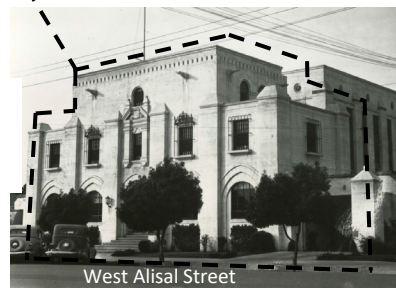
## Request

Monterey County seeks \$17.25 million to retain the Administrative Building portion of the Old Monterey County Jail. This would retain a significant piece of the historic resource that fronts Alisal Street, which could be used as a museum of the Labor movement. The area behind the Administrative Building could be a new memorial park dedicated to César Chávez that could be used for civic rallies similar to the Labor movement and is located at the west end of a promenade leading to Historic Downtown Salinas.



Existing Plan

Concept Plan



## Contact

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**Director, Monterey County Department of Public Works, Facilities and Parks**

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## Marina Health Clinic

*Construct a 14,000 sq. ft. comprehensive primary care and dental clinic with expanded general family practice, pediatric, obstetrics/gynecology, dental services, and mental health services for Medi-Cal and uninsured residents and dental services for underserved/unserved veteran residents. Estimated cost \$14 million.*



The County of Monterey Clinic at Marina (Marina Clinic) is located at 355 De Forest Road, Marina, California. The Marina Clinic is currently staffed by two (2) physicians and seven (7) support staff. The Marina Clinic provides comprehensive primary and preventive care and is the only full-time safety net clinic in Marina.



### Need for Clinic Expansion

The Marina Clinic service area is zip code 93933. In this service area, there are 8,906 residents who are low income (below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level [FPL]). Out of these, the Marina Health Clinic serves only 2,617 patients every year due to limited staffing capacity restricted by the lack of clinic space. This translates to a penetration rate of 30% leaving 70% of the low-income population without access to affordable primary and preventive care. The Marina Clinic is also designated as a Medically Underserved Area (MUA), Dental and Mental Health - Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA).

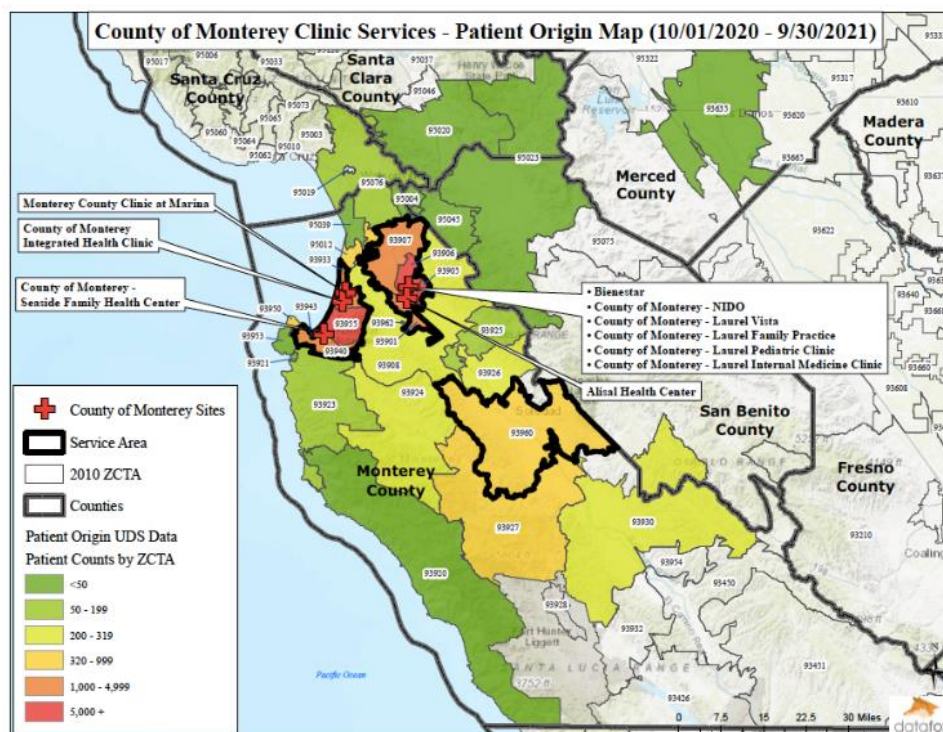
To better meet the needs of the City of Marina residents and surrounding areas, the County of Monterey needs to construct a new 14,000 square foot medical and dental facility. The facility's medical clinic will consist of 12 exam rooms and office space to deliver expanded general family practice, obstetrics and gynecology, and mental health integration services to better support the Medi-Cal and uninsured population in this community. The facility's dental clinic will consist of 8-12 dental chairs that would meet a critical service need for comprehensive dental services for low-income residents AND Veteran residents (approximately 20,000) with limited or no access to dental services in Monterey County.

If funding were to be secured in the amount of **\$14 million**, there is an opportunity to **construct a new build-to-suit 14,000 sq. ft. health clinic** at a nearby vacant lot which will deliver comprehensive primary care and dental services to approximately 10,000 patients (**75% capacity increase**), serving low-income residents and Veteran residents seeking access to comprehensive dental services.

### Background

The County of Monterey Health Department (MCHD) Clinic Services Bureau began as a three-clinic network on the Central Coast of California in the 1990s. In 1994, Clinic Services established itself as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FHC) Look-Alike and in 2019 received its full FQHC designation. Since then, its community clinic network has grown to a total of 10 locations serving 45,450 patients in 2021 and provides primary care, preventive dental, mental health, and enabling services to individuals across the lifespan. MCHD Clinic Services is committed to offering high quality and culturally competent medical services to County residents, regardless of their ability to pay.

MCHD Clinic Services' service area encompasses the Monterey County neighborhoods of Salinas, Marina, Seaside, and Soledad. Across its ten clinic sites, MCHD Clinic Services provides primary care, gynecology and obstetrics, family planning, mental health, and enabling services to children and adults across the lifespan.



Overall, MCHD Clinic Services seeks to serve the safety-net population and focuses on offering culturally appropriate care to each of its patients at each of its sites. Recognizing that access to care is most critical to maintaining good health, MCHD Clinic Services strives to hire bilingual providers and support staff to ensure care is provided with the utmost of cultural and linguistic competency to their diverse patient population. Importantly, services are provided in patients' primary languages – Spanish and English.

## Population Count

MCHD's service area population consists of 295,582 individuals. Of the eight zip codes that comprise MCHD's service area, 93906 (Salinas) has the most residents with 21.8 percent of the service area population. The zip code contributing the least number of individuals is 93907 (Salinas) with 7.9 percent of the service area population. Across the service area, 104,612 individuals (or 35.4 percent of the total population) are low-income (below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level [FPL]).

## Contact

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# Immigration Reform / Farm Bill Reauthorization



***Support comprehensive immigration reform legislation that addresses the County's labor force needs and provides a path to citizenship for the nation's undocumented immigrant population. Support reauthorization of the Farm Bill. Support the Farm Workforce Modernization Act.***

Current immigration policies make it increasingly difficult to meet the workforce needs of the local agricultural industry that is highly dependent on an adequate supply of immigrant labor. The County is becoming increasingly concerned with labor shortages affecting the agricultural industry that threaten the economic vitality of the region. In California alone, the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates losses attributed to labor shortages has cost farmers millions of dollars per year as fruit and other crops are left to rot in the field because of a lack of farmworkers to bring in the harvest. The County believes the Farm Workforce Modernization Act strikes the right balance between the needs of workers and employers, as evidenced by the support it has garnered from over 300 agricultural groups, including the United Farm Workers and California Farm Bureau Federation.

The Farm Bill is a package of legislation passed roughly once every five years that has a tremendous impact on farming livelihoods, how food is grown, and what kinds of foods are grown. Covering programs ranging from crop insurance for farmers to healthy food access for low-income families, from beginning farmer training to support for sustainable farming practices, the farm bill sets the stage for our food and farm systems. The current Farm Bill expires in September 2023. The County supports reauthorization of the Farm Bill to support the local agricultural industry, consumers, and for the natural environment. Taken together, these two policy proposals are critically important to the economic health of the Monterey County.

## **Key Objectives:**

Support comprehensive immigration reform legislation that addresses the County's labor force needs and provides a path to citizenship for the nation's undocumented immigrant population. Support reauthorization of the Farm Bill, including agricultural reforms that will improve health and protect the environment of all County residents through significantly strengthening federal nutrition programs, improving access to healthy food, promoting environmental stewardship and conservation, protecting our food supply, and robustly funding rural development initiatives based on best practices in coordination with local officials.

Support the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, which would establish a program for agricultural workers in the United States to earn legal status through continued agricultural employment and contribution to the U.S. agricultural economy; reform the H-2A program to provide more flexibility for employers, while ensuring critical protections for workers; and establish a nationwide E-Verify system through which agricultural employers would electronically verify the employment eligibility of their workers.

## **Contact**

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# FEMA Disaster Assistance Cost Recovery



***Improve the FEMA Public Assistance Program and expedite the grant award process to ensure the County is reimbursed for eligible costs as quickly as possible. Streamline disaster debris removal programs to ensure equity and applicability to the needs of disaster victims.***

The County of Monterey Office of Emergency Services continues to work with the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to recover costs related to emergency work for the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, 2020 Wildfires, and 2021 Winter Storms. Monterey County has experienced several major disaster events and is concerned that FEMA may reduce disaster related reimbursement funding and/or change the way disaster events qualify for reimbursement.

The County has submitted millions of dollars in FEMA Public Assistance grant requests to recover costs related to the declared COVID-19 emergency as well as the declared wildfires of 2020. The amount of time for these grant applications to be reviewed by FEMA has been considerable. In some cases, the County has waited two years to recover approved and expended costs for its disaster response and recovery efforts.

With the County recovering from multiple significant events over the past two years, OES is working to increase staff capacity to meet the time consuming, complex, and cumbersome process of ensuring documentation and projects are submitted to CalOES and FEMA in an efficient and effective manner so as to recover as many costs as possible.

The County participated in the Government Sponsored Private Property Debris Removal Program managed by CalOES and CalRecycle after the 2020 Wildfires. Debris removal was completed in August 2021. The County has not received a Memorandum of Understanding from CalOES outlining the responsibilities of the County to collect insurance monies from participating property owners; nor has the County received invoices or receipts per parcel. Until such time, the County cannot move forward with ensuring there have not been a duplication of benefits per 44 C.F.R. §§ 206.252(c) and 253(a).

Monterey County OES recommends CalOES and FEMA evaluate policies in the FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide to address Private Property Debris Removal Program eligibility for structures with multiple standing walls, communities with gates, and communities with home owner associations to make them more equitable, efficient, and streamlined.

After the 2020 Wildfires, the River Fire Burn Scar has created regular debris, mud, and flood flows for residents downslope. The most notable event was the 2021 Winter Storms, in which 25 residential properties were damaged or destroyed. Due to the scale of the damage, residents have been unable to access any disaster relief services. Most notably is the complex challenges surrounding mud and flood flows from County, State, and Federal wildland into residential areas, impacting private roads. Some of these private residential roads impacted are not owned by any one person or group of individuals and therefore the cost and responsibility of mud and debris removal on these roads is unknown.

## **Key Objectives:**

Support efforts to improve the FEMA Public Assistance Program and expedite the grant award process to ensure the County is reimbursed for eligible costs as quickly as possible. Support streamlining disaster debris removal programs to ensure equity and applicability to the needs of disaster victims.

## **Contact**

**Tracy Molfino, Interim Emergency Services Manager**

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# MONTEREY COUNTY

## STRATEGIC GRANT SERVICES PROGRAM



# 2023

*For Consideration by the Board of Supervisors January 10, 2023*

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## **STRATEGIC GRANT SERVICES PROGRAM**

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The Board of Supervisors created the Strategic Grants Service Program to assist in grant funding efforts on some of the County's high priority projects. The Program works to support the Board's Strategic Initiatives (Economic Development, Administration, Health and Human Services, and Public Safety), and in close collaboration with the Board's Legislative Program to advocate for maximum funding for state and federal programs which translate into local grant funding opportunities.

The Strategic Grant Services Program is resourced to work on a small number (10-15) of grants each year, varying depending on their complexity. Therefore, by design, the Program can only work on a small number of the County's grant applications each year and should not be construed to represent the County's overall grant funding efforts, priorities, or needs. Several County departments have staff with extensive grant expertise and therefore do not request assistance or guidance from the Program.

### **Purpose**

Working with County departments, the Strategic Grant Services Program coordinates, facilitates and provides strategic expertise from the identification of grant funding opportunities through application submittal. Priority projects must align with the Board's Strategic Initiatives and Legislative Program goals and meet all grant requirements to submit a strong and competitive application.

### **Typical Activities**

The level of service provided for each application is dependent upon the needs of the department, complexity of the application, level of coordination required, available department expertise and resources, and Program capacity. To facilitate priority project grant applications, Program staff engages in activities such as: continuously updating the Grant Needs Inventory; research to identify and analyze grant opportunities to meet priority needs; notify departments of funding opportunities; consultation with departments and grantor agencies to determine project eligibility and competitiveness; partners with departments on the application process, including the development of an agreement outlining roles, responsibilities and timeline for application development and submittal; partner with outside organizations on projects critical to the County (e.g. partner with the Transportation Agency for Monterey County on road, rail, and transit projects); provide strategic expertise throughout the application development process aimed at putting forth a complete, compelling, and competitive application; offer strategic advice related to framing the application in a way that minimizes administrative resources required for post-award grant management; provide strategic advice during the development of the grant application package – including project narrative, scope, schedule, budget, and exhibits; provide and coordinates internal review of the draft application, including review with the grantor agency if allowable; aid with post-application adjustments as requested by the grantor agency; monitor grant award announcements; and announce grant awards in partnership with the lead department.

### **Program Guidance and Administration**

The Strategic Grant Services Program has a limited workload capacity which is directed by the Board of Supervisors through an annually adopted Program. Following adoption, the Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee provides routine Program guidance and direction. The County Administrative Office – Intergovernmental & Legislative Affairs (CAO-IGLA) Division administers the Program, which receives assistance and expert advice from the County's grant consultant at Nossaman LLP. The Program includes a Work Plan and a Grant Needs Inventory.

## **2023 Work Plan**

A result of collaboration with County departments, the Work Plan strategically identifies priority projects and funding sources to guide Program efforts during 2023. The Work Plan is designed to be flexible to adjust to the County's changing priorities and leaves approximately 20% of Program capacity unallocated in order to take advantage of new or unanticipated funding opportunities. The Work Plan presents a timeline of grant applications which the Program will assist departments during calendar year 2023.

## **2023 Grant Needs Inventory**

In coordination with the Board of Supervisors and department heads, a Grant Needs Inventory has been compiled, organized by Board Strategic Initiative, to provide a listing of County projects which require a source of grant funding. The Program also relies upon project information included in the Monterey County 5-year [Capital Improvement Program](#). The Grant Needs Inventory guides the research of the Strategic Grant Program staff and the County's grant consultant in identifying funding opportunities.

## **Grant Writing Pilot Project**

As part of the FY 2022-23 budget, the Board of Supervisors approved a \$50,000 grant writing and technical assistance pilot project geared toward assisting County departments in providing grant writing, technical assistance, cost benefit analysis, economic benefit analysis, or other needed services to complete infrastructure project grant applications. In July 2022, the County contracted with Harris & Associates, a firm that specializes in providing these services. The project is an expansion of the work of the Strategic Grant Services Program.

## **Policies Governing Program Activities**

The CAO-IGLA Division executes the Strategic Grant Services Program with the assistance of the County's grant consultants at Nossaman LLP, and with a high level of collaboration with County departments. The Policies Governing Program Activities outlines the roles of the Board of Supervisors, CAO-IGLA staff, the County's grant consultants, and County departments in the execution of the Program. These policies can be found at this link: [Policies - Strategic Grant Services Program](#)

## **California Grants Portal – Grants.ca.gov**

The California Grants Portal (a project by the California State Library) is a one-stop destination to find all grants and loans offered on a competitive or first-come basis by California State agencies. The Grant Information Act requires state agencies to provide summaries of each of their grant or loan opportunities, including information about how to apply and links that grant seekers can follow for more details. Visit [Grants.ca.gov](https://grants.ca.gov)



## **Federal Grants Portal - Grants.gov**



Grants.gov provides a centralized location for grant seekers to find and apply for federal funding opportunities. The Grants.gov system houses information on over 1,000 grant programs and vets grant applications for federal grant-making agencies. It provides a common website for federal agencies to post discretionary funding opportunities and for grantees to find and apply to them. Using the Grants.gov system makes it faster, easier and more cost effective for grant applicants to electronically interact with federal grant-making agencies. Visit [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov)



## PROGRAM CONTACTS

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## STRATEGIC GRANT SERVICES PROGRAM 2023 WORK PLAN

This Work Plan was developed in a consultation and collaboration with the County departments. It identifies priority projects and potential grant programs the County will likely focus on in 2023. Due to the fluctuating nature of grant funding availability and County project modifications, this Work Plan is considered a “living document” that will be updated throughout the year.

DEPARTMENT	PRIORITY PROJECT / GRANT PROGRAM OR FUNDING SOURCE
Housing & Community Development (planning) Public Works, Facilities and Parks (construction)	<b>Carmel Lagoon Adaptive Management – Scenic Road Protective Structure, Ecosystem Protective Barrier, Sandbar Management Plan</b> <i>Multiple Sources for Planning and Construction Funding</i>
Housing & Community Development (planning/regulatory) Public Works, Facilities and Parks (construction)	<b>San Lucas Sustainable Drinking Water Supply Project</b> <i>State Water Resources Control Board and other sources</i>
Housing & Community Development (planning & funding) Public Works, Facilities and Parks (construction)	<b>Carmel River Flood Reduction and Environmental Enhancement (CRFREE) Project</b> <i>Multiple Sources for Construction Funding</i>

DEPARTMENT	PRIORITY PROJECT / GRANT PROGRAM OR FUNDING SOURCE
Sustainability Program Health/Environmental Health Public Works, Facilities and Parks	<b>Drought Related Projects</b> <i>Urban and Multi-benefit Drought Relief Grant Program and Small Community Drought Relief Program</i>
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	<b>Habitat Management in County Parks</b> <i>Habitat Conservation Fund</i>
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	<b>Old Jail Rehabilitation Project</b> <i>TBD</i>
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	<b>Road, Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure Improvements</b> <i>Caltrans Active Transportation Program (ATP)</i>
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	<b>Toro Park, Fort Ord, San Lorenzo Park, Lake San Antonio and 855 East Laurel, Salinas</b> <i>California Department of Parks and Recreation Funding Programs</i>
Sustainability Program	<b>Electric Vehicle Readiness Project</b> <i>Strategic Growth Council or TBD</i>
Sustainability Program	<b>Project to Implement SB 1383 Food Waste Recovery Goal of 20%</b> <i>CalRecycle Food Waste Prevention and Rescue Grant Program</i>
Sustainability Program	<b>Workforce Training for Electrification and Energy Efficiency in Buildings</b> <i>Federal Economic Development Agency (EDA) and Central Coast Community Energy (3CE)</i>
Water Resources Agency	<b>Interlake Tunnel &amp; Fish Screens</b> <i>California Department of Fish &amp; Wildlife, I-Bank</i>
Water Resources Agency	<b>Lake San Antonio and Lake Nacimiento Dams and Reservoirs Infrastructure Projects</b> <i>State Budget \$100 Million Grant Program and other sources</i>
Water Resources Agency	<b>Salinas River Management Program and Habitat Conservation Plan</b> <i>Federal Section 6 Grant</i>

**STRATEGIC GRANT SERVICES PROGRAM**  
**2023 GRANT NEEDS INVENTORY**

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
<b>Economic Development</b>		
Agricultural Commissioner	Fumigation Notification Pilot Project	Continuation of Fumigation Notification Pilot Project. Funding by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation ended 6/30/20.
Agricultural Commissioner	Invasive Species and Invasive Weeds Management	Projects for plant quarantine, export certification, invasive species detection and removal, nursery and seed inspection, and animal damage control management.
Agricultural Commissioner	Farmers Markets	Funding for farmers market programs.
Agricultural Commissioner	Agricultural Education	Funding for agricultural education programs.
Economic Development	Affordable Housing	Affordable housing for veterans, seniors, farm workers, disabled, mental health housing, etc.
CAO - Economic Development	Coastal Visitor Service Improvements	Improve visitor services in County coastal areas including additional restrooms and safety improvements for pull out areas along Highway 1.
<b>Administration</b>		
Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder	Core Assessor Tasks	General funding to expedite assessment of property taxes and replace funding associated with the reduction of State assessor funding through the SCAPAP grant program.
Civil Rights Office Health	Language Access Services	Improve services to Limited English Proficiency (LEP) persons, develop a staff interpreter training program, and expand County abilities in document translation and in-person interpretation, including indigenous languages.
Civil Rights Office Health	Community Engagement for Underrepresented Communities	Increase organizational capacity to develop relationships with and solicit input from traditionally underrepresented communities.
Civil Rights Office	Equitable Access to Government for Persons with Different Abilities	Increase the County's capacity to accommodate individuals with disabilities using adaptive or assistive technologies to promote equitable access to County government.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Civil Rights Office	Conflict Management and Alternative Dispute Resolution	Improve the County's ability to conduct conflict management and/or alternative dispute resolution methods for our residents and workforce by developing a peer-to-peer conflict management program by training existing County staff to manage workforce and community disputes.
Civil Rights Office CAO – IGLA Health	Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Discrimination Education	Collaborate with local school districts to develop and provide an educational program for middle and high school students regarding the importance of diversity, equity and inclusion in society and the negative effects of discrimination.
Civil Rights Office Probation	Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Discrimination Education	Support efforts to collaborate with the Probation Department to develop and provide educational programs for youth involved in the justice system regarding the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in society and the negative effects of discrimination.
Civil Rights Office	Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Discrimination Training Partnerships	Collaborate with local agencies and non-profits to develop and provide training in the area of implicit biases, cultural competency and cultural humility, and governing or providing services in an equitable manner.
Civil Rights Office Human Resources	Equitable Access to Government	Support and improve the County's efforts to recruit and retain a workforce that demographically represents Monterey County residents to provide better government services.
Clerk of the Board	Historic Records Preservation	Preserve and digitize up to 5,000 Monterey County ordinances that are in hard copy only, dating back to 1853. Preserve documents, and scan into searchable database.
Elections	Voting System and Technology Update	Support the continued update of voting technology to effectively manage elections, outreach efforts, and improve service to voters.
Elections	Wayfinding Signage	Wayfinding signage to Government Center at Schilling Place from major streets and highways (artistic and traditional).
Elections	Voter Outreach and Education	Support outreach and education of voters, via funding for outreach materials, PSAs, and staffing.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Elections	Alternative Voting Locations	Support new, flexible, voting locations to ensure equitable access to voting and voter information. Funding to support the operation of the Elections mobile voting unit, cradle point technology, and outreach efforts in addition to the potential implementation of alternative pop-up satellite voting locations.
Human Resources	Improved HR Systems	Feasibility study of alternative online HR hiring systems, expansion of hiring for diverse populations, innovative employment environments to attract a wider variety of employees, and development of anti-bullying policies.
Tax Collector	Tax and Collections Improvements	Improvement of property tax collection, fine/fee collections, banking, and investment services through software and staffing improvements.
<b>Health and Human Services</b>		
Child Support Services	Improved Outreach	Provide funding that will allow the program, as part of the social safety net, to reach unserved families and grow the program.
Health Social Services	Early Childhood Development	Programming for early childhood development and anti-bullying for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students. Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Development Initiative priority strategies.
Health	Facility Expansion and Access Improvement	Expansion of existing facilities and construction of new integrated clinics to better serve disadvantaged communities.
Health	Mental Health Rehabilitation Facility	Conversion of the old jail to a 110-bed locked facility providing mental health rehabilitation services, with a focus on bringing individuals home from locked Institutes of Mental Disease (IMD), a wing focused on serving Transition Aged Youth (18+ years), misdemeanor restoration of competency.
Health	Marina Health Clinic	New clinic to better meet physical health needs of Marina residents. Construction of 5,000 sq ft to support the Medi-Cal and uninsured population in this community, double number of exam rooms and providers and expand services to include OB/GYN.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Health Natividad	Caring for the Uninsured	Programming to provide preventive care for the uninsured.
Health	Animal Services	Expand animal shelter and adoption services, paid volunteer coordinators, technology improvements, behavioral health/therapy animals.
Health	Animal Services	Tenant Improvements for the expansion of kennel capacity at Hitchcock Road Animal Services to better meet the needs of residents and their pets.
Health	Public Guardian	Programming to assist adult conservatorship patients and help place them.
Health	Public Guardian / Behavioral Health	Expansion of bed capacity for LPS conservatees across the State.
Health	Behavioral Health	Construction of Residential Placement facilities for youth with behavioral health conditions.
Health	Health Integration	Integration of primary care, mental health, and substance use disorder prevention and treatment services.
Health	Transportation	Changes to built environment to promote active lifestyles.
Health	Community Engagement	Develop a community engagement program with specialist and generalist community health workers to engage with underrepresented communities (VIDA or similar programs).
Health	Laboratory	Expand public health laboratory capacity to provide testing in response to outbreaks, epidemics, and pandemics.
Health	Case Management	Expansion of case management services for individuals with multiple chronic diseases who struggle with homelessness, substance use and mental illness.
Health	Data Sharing	Develop data sharing mechanisms across service providers in order to proactively support clients with social determinants of health needs.
Health	Communicable Disease Prevention	Expand capacity among public health system partners including schools and health care providers to conduct case investigation and contact tracing.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Health	Chronic Disease Prevention	Improve access to affordable health food and nutrition education services.
Health	Chronic Disease Prevention	Support legislative bodies, regulators, and businesses in developing and implementing policies to reduce tobacco use, secondhand smoke exposure, and cannabis use among those at risk of harm.
Health	Farmworker Resource Center	Establish Farmworker Resource Centers to provide services and programs designed to address the needs of farmworkers and their families.
Health	Workforce Development	Paid professional internships in public health and mental health services, loan forgiveness, funding for positions, hiring bonuses, and other financial stipends.
Health	Behavioral Health	Construction of residential placement facilities for adults with serious mental illness.
Health	Behavioral Health	Expand Mobile Crisis Services offerings by partnering with City of Salinas Police Department (SPD) to start a co-responder program where a Behavioral Health Clinician embedded at SPD will partner with officers to provide joint responses.
Health	Behavioral Health	Expand and enhance programs and services under Sober Living Environments, Primary Substance Use Disorder Prevention services and expansion of Friday Night Live (FNL) Services in Monterey County.
Health Sheriff/Coroner	Behavioral Health	Expand upon existing programming for First Episode Psychosis (FEP), Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in the County jail, and Early Intervention.
Health	Behavioral Health	Expand the current mobile crisis services offerings in the County by developing a centralized Mobile Crisis Call Center to take Crisis calls from the community 24/7.
Health	Behavioral Health	Create a 4-bed Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) co-located with a 4-bed Crisis Residential Treatment (CRT) program for children and youth under 18 years of age.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Health	Healthy Lifestyles	Support leveraging of case management and health education/lifestyle change programs to improve community conditions.
Health	Injury Prevention	Strategies to support healthy aging in place including coordination of services, education, and infrastructure improvements to prevent injuries and falls amongst in our elderly population.
Health	Injury Prevention	Vehicle, pedestrian, bicyclist injury prevention programming and infrastructure improvements (lights, bike lanes, sidewalks, etc.).
Health	Behavioral Health	Expansion of outpatient behavioral health services in the city of Salinas.
Health	Clinic Services/Primary Care	Establishment of an urgent care clinic in Salinas.
Health Social Services	Integrated Services	Co-location of Health and Social Services operations on the Natividad/Laurel Campus. Construction of new facility to provide access for North Salinas and Alisal residents.
Natividad	Demolition	Demolition of old hospital wing.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks Natividad Health	Master Plan	Development of a County Master Facility Plan for maximizing utilization of Natividad/Laurel/Creekbridge County Property.
Health	Violence Prevention	Teen dating, youth violence, and domestic violence prevention strategies including funding for infrastructure projects.
Health CAO	Crisis Response Team	Crisis response team to better respond to crimes affecting the community. Crisis support and debriefing, service referrals, and staffing.
Library	Archival Preservation	Scanning, storing, digitizing, and archiving materials of County historical and archival importance. Upgrade addition, expansion, and maintenance of appropriate physical storage locations for physical materials.
Library	Automated Service Points	Material vending machines, service kiosks, hold lockers, and other automated service delivery options installed in communities not near a branch library facility.



DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Library	Libraries as Disaster and Emergency Community Hubs	Infrastructure upgrade, equipment, and training for Branch Libraries and Library staff to serve as community hubs and service points in a disaster or emergency including utility disruption, natural disaster evacuation, information delivery points, and recovery centers.
Library	Library Facility Remodel and Modernization	Remodels, upgrades, and modernization of Library facilities including furniture, shelving, utilities, accessibility, flexibility, energy efficiency, and expansion.
Library	Books and Supplies	New books, supplies, and technology.
Library	Educational Programming	Expand programming for science, technology, reading, English, art, and math (STREAM). Staff to run, coordinate and expand programming.
Military & Veterans Affairs	Outreach Events	Outreach events to benefit veterans and families.
Military & Veterans Affairs	Veteran Treatment Court	Funding to enhance veteran treatment court and the mentorship program.
Military & Veterans Affairs	Improved Veterans Services	Improve and expand health, mental health, homelessness, veterans' treatment court support, and benefit services for veterans and their families.
Military & Veterans Affairs Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Veterans Home	Assistance and County support TBD to establish a new CalVet Veterans' Home in Monterey County.
Natividad	Workforce Development: Nurse Education Support	Increase number of nurses with bachelor's degrees. Get Advance Cardio Life Support (ACLS) certification for all ICU, pharmacy, and cardiopulmonary staff. Improve training for all nurses, technicians, and doctors.
Natividad	Workforce Development: Family Medicine	Improve Family Medical Residency program. Improve training and equipment. Potentially expand program.
Natividad	Medical Facility Needs and Capital Improvements	Equipment upgrades and facility expansions at emergency department, imaging department, clinics, main hospital, and other medical facilities. Capital funding for new construction to expand these facilities.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Natividad	Level II Trauma Center Improvements	Programming to support NMC's Level II Trauma Center including trauma prevention outreach, education, impaired driver prevention education, bicycling and pedestrian safety, proper use of protective equipment, and distracted driving education.
Natividad	Violence Prevention	Expansion of hospital-linked violence prevention to serve victims of violent crimes, patients with gang-related injuries, and families.
Natividad	Behavioral Health, Psychiatric Crisis Services and Outreach Improvements	Improve behavioral health services including community outreach, family support, psychiatric emergency services, and provision of additional services to the jail population.
Natividad	Patient Communication and Education Improvements	Natividad needs methods to communicate effectively with patients with limited English proficiency to better communicate treatment related information. Needs include translators, a health information exchange, and innovative approaches such as video forms.
Natividad	Insuring the Uninsured	Expand coverage of the uninsurable, uninsured or underinsured.
Natividad	Building Clinics	Construct additional clinics to serve low-income and underserved areas, especially in Salinas.
Natividad	Midwifery	Funding to provide midwifery services to pregnant and birthing women.
Natividad	Family Centered Care	Funding to provide services after an inpatient stay or emergency room visit that assists patients with social needs, chaplain services, end of life assistance, transportation, medical care not covered by insurance.
Social Services	Aging & Adult Services	Funding for Adult Protective Services, In-Home Supportive Services, the Monterey County Aging and Disability Resource Connection, affordable housing and eviction protection resources, expand adult daycare, transportation, and build upon Area Agency on Aging programs.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Social Services	Children's Services	Expansion of a consistent and thorough mandated report training, expansion of prevention and family safety efforts. Expansion of intensive, individualized services for children, youth, and families, especially those of poverty and/or high risk. Building a families first prevention infrastructure and extending foster care eligibility redeterminations.
Social Services	Community Action Programs	Expansion of community needs driven non-profit services to achieve the overall goal of moving individuals and families out of poverty and into self-sufficiency.
Social Services	Seaside Social Services Center	Maximize the County-Owned property on the corner of Broadway and Noche Buena in Seaside as a one-stop service center for social services and employment services serving the entire Monterey Peninsula - and assess opportunity to expand multi-unit affordable housing, library facilities, and Women Infant and Children's (WIC) programing in addition to preserving the Casa De Noche Buena homeless program.
Social Services Housing and Community Development CAO – Homeless Services	Housing and Homelessness Issues	Projects benefitting the homeless, disabled, long-term illness sufferers, emancipating foster youth, and transitional aged youths (aged 18-24). Farm worker housing, rapid re-housing, supportive housing, permanent supportive housing, workforce housing, homeless shelters, homeless youth housing campus, safe parking programs, transitional housing, prevention programs and outreach services.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks Water Resources Agency Social Services CAO – Homeless Services	Homeless Encampment Cleanup	Funding to address public health, safety, and environmental hazards related to homeless encampment cleanup and related services to homeless individuals.
Social Services	CalWORKs	Expansion of the CalWORKs program to provide better opportunities to enter the workforce.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
<b>Infrastructure</b>		
Agricultural Commissioner	South County Access (Greenfield, King City, San Ardo, San Lucas)	Construction of a new office and warehouse to provide the southern region of Monterey County with a modern, secure, full-service facility. The facility will provide expanded pesticide use compliance and enforcement, and plant protection services through increased capacity.
Information Technology, Library, Economic Development, Health, Social Services	Broadband	Infrastructure to build out broadband technology to address the County's digital divide especially in unserved and underserved areas.
Sustainability Program Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Decarbonization of County facilities	Upgrades to building infrastructure and HVAC systems, energy efficiency projects, renewable energy generation and asset management software.
Sustainability Program	Net Zero Facilities Energy Plan	Funding for a fellow or organization to create a net zero facilities energy plan.
Sustainability Program Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Charging Stations or Electric Vehicles for County Fleet and Employees	Installation or hardware for Electric Vehicle charging stations and electric vehicles.
Sustainability Program	Civic Spark Fellow	Graduate level fellowship to work on Climate Action Plan.
Sustainability Program	Equity index Tool	Funding to assess climate action and environmental justice through an equity index tool, funding for the CBOs to attend Climate Action engagements.
Sustainability Program	Healthy Soils Grants and Carbon Farm Plans	Funding for the development of incentives and tools to sequester carbon in the soils on farms and ranches in the County.
Sustainability Program	On Farm Compost Program	Funding for the development of on-farm composting programs to reduce the burden of organic wastes on farms and assist in carbon sequestration activities.
Sustainability Program	Zero Emissions Shared Mobility Study	Funded for 2023, but funding for 2024 and beyond is needed.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Sustainability Program Public Works, Facilities, and Parks	Electrification Rebate Program	Rebates for retrofits or new construction with all electric infrastructure.
Sustainability Program	Electrification Reach Code Development	Funding for a fellow or organization to assess the feasibility of an electrification reach code
Sustainability Program Fleet Management Program	Fleet Electrification Study	Funding for a fellow or organization to create a fleet electrification plan
Sustainability Program Office of Emergency Services	Prescribed Burns	Funding to assist in research and assessment for prescribed burns to reduce wildfire intensity and contain carbon in forests.
Sustainability Program	Electric Rideshare	Funding to research mobility and create an electric rideshare program for disadvantaged communities
Sustainability Program Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Bike Lanes	Funding for creating and making safe County bike lanes.
Sustainability Program	Electric bikes	Incentive for the purchase and installation of electric bikes in Monterey County.
Sustainability Program Social Services	Food recovery research	Funding for recovering edible food waste from the waste stream or for improving food supply chains.
Sustainability Program	Solar Power Generation	Solar power generating infrastructure at County facilities (e.g., Agricultural Commissioner's Office).
Housing and Community Development	Fire Fuel Mitigation	MOU with Monterey County Resource Conservation District (RCD) to act on behalf of the County as Fire Mitigation Officer to pursue projects that reduce fire fuel loads in high fire hazard areas.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Housing and Community Development	General Plan Implementation/Updates	Implementation of the Long-Range Planning and General Plan (Inland/Coastal) Implementation 5-Year Work Program (2021-2027) and begin work on forthcoming updates both required by new State Law (Environmental Justice Element, Safety Element) and as needed due to the age of the existing General Plans.
Housing and Community Development Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Carmel Lagoon Flood Protection / Ecological Restoration	Suite of projects to protect infrastructure, public facilities, and private homes. Projects to improve water quality and restore ecological functions of the Carmel Lagoon as well as reduce flood risk of structures.
Housing and Community Development Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement (CRFREE)	Project to reduce flooding hazards, restore the floodplain, provide habitat restoration, and other improvements. Includes Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans for State Route 1 improvements.
Housing & Community Development Public Works, Facilities and Parks	San Lucas Clean Drinking Water	Design, environmental assessment, engineering, and construction work on a pipeline from or consolidation with King City to the disadvantaged community of San Lucas to provide a clean, long-term, reliable source of drinking water to meet current and future needs.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) and Asset Management Plan	Modern work order and time tracking tools for use by staff for better time and resource management. Asset prioritization from the master plans to help focus the County on funding and project priorities. <i>* Note: From the Citygate Associates report on the recommendations for the former Resource Management Agency.</i>
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Former Ft Ord Lands Management	Funding and resources to develop long-term plan/strategy and maintain several thousand acres of trails, habitat restoration, and fuel management at the former U.S. Army lands/base dedicated to the County.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Pajaro Park Maintenance	Funding for ongoing maintenance for Pajaro Park, a park maintained by the Pajaro Sunny-Mesa Community Services District but lacks adequate funding for maintenance.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Davis Road Bridge & Lane Expansion	Replace existing bridge on Davis Road near City of Salinas and convert a segment of Davis Road from Reservation Road to Blanco Road to four lanes. Project will improve traffic flow, traffic safety, and stop seasonal closures due to flooding.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Rossi St Extension	Funding for a new road that serves as additional access into and out of the unincorporated community of Boronda, an economically disadvantaged and underserved community. With the move of the solid waste authority to Madison Lane in the community, the need for another access has become pronounced. Though some property owners and public agencies express willingness to contribute, there needs to be funding for project approval, design, environmental documents/CEQA review, and construction
Housing and Community Development Public Works, Facilities and Parks CAO - Homeless Services	Homeless Navigation Shelters and Innovative Housing Solutions	Construct regional homeless navigation shelters and housing solutions that will expand services to the homeless population, address emergency shelter needs, and provide navigation services to move people into permanent housing. Identify regional innovative solutions to expand housing opportunities for those experiencing homelessness with a focus on areas in the Count that are lacking these resources (e.g., South County).
Social Services Housing and Community Development CAO – Homeless Services	Safe Parking and Navigation Services	Identify and prepare designated area(s) for safe parking countywide to address emergency homeless needs and provide navigation services to move people into permanent housing.
Social Services Housing and Community Development Public Works, Facilities and Parks CAO – Homeless Services	Homeless Youth Housing Campus & Resource Center	Identify and acquire a designated location(s) for a homeless youth housing campus and resources center to meet the unique needs of the youth population transitioning out of the foster care system.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Housing and Community Development	Affordable Housing	Identify sites to provide (or improve/expand existing) additional affordable housing throughout the County. Prepare environmental analysis documents (CEQA) for identified sites. Supporting infrastructure, facilities, and programs as needed (e.g., East Garrison, East Laurel Drive in Salinas, Kents Court in Pajaro). Apply for funding solutions to create a Housing Trust Fund to ensure funding resources are readily available to expedite tax credit applications. Collaborate with the Housing Authority to ensure project-based vouchers are available for housing developments.
Housing and Community Development Social Services Health CAO – Homeless Services	Permanent Supportive Housing	Identify opportunities to partner and develop permanent supportive housing for those most vulnerable countywide to end homelessness.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	South County Court Access (Greenfield, King City)	Construction of a new courthouse to provide the southern region of Monterey County with a modern, secure, full-service facility. The facility will provide expanded court services through increased judicial-proceedings capacity, returning needed civil and small claims case processing.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	State Route 1 Corridor Improvements, Marina to Moss Landing	Work with Caltrans on safety improvements to intersections on Highway 1 (SR 1) between Marina, north to the County line, including Moss Landing.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	G-12 Pajaro to Prunedale Corridor Study	Safety Improvements along the G-12 corridor from US 101 to the Santa Cruz County border, in the North County. Roads consist of San Miguel Canyon, Hall Road, Elkhorn Road, Salinas Road, and Porter Drive.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Fuel Management	Fuel management on undeveloped County parcels to reduce fire fuel loads in high fire hazard areas.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	US 101 South of Salinas Corridor Study	Work with TAMC on safety improvements along the US 101 corridor from the southerly border of the City of Salinas to the City of Gonzales and beyond. Possible solutions include new interchanges, new intersection controls, and new frontage roads.



DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Elkhorn Road/Werner Road/Salinas Road Roundabout	Evaluate the intersection of Elkhorn Road, Werner Road, and Salinas Road to identify alternatives to improve traffic operations and safety in the area. Note that this is also part of the G-12 Pajaro to Prunedale Corridor Study.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Highway 68 Improvements	Coordinate with Caltrans to evaluate roundabouts that could allow better movement and improve safety along Highway 68.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Jolon Road	County road that is frequently used by the military for maneuvers at Fort Hunter Liggett, possibly eligible for Defense Access Roads (DAR) grant. Scope is safety upgrades and road repairs.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Palo Colorado Road MP 4.0-7.4	County road that travels from SR 1 through USFS land, past a State Park, to a Boy Scout Camp. Only access road to area. Road was severely damaged by 2017 Winter Storms and qualified for FEMA reimbursement, but a funding gap remains of \$13 million. Scope is to perform debris removal, slide repairs, soil nail wall construction, retaining wall construction, and culvert rehabilitation.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Nacimiento-Fergusson Road	Repair and repave Nacimiento-Fergusson Road. Caltrans SR 1 was damaged by the 2017 Winter Storms and made impassable. While Caltrans repaired the road, traffic was diverted down the U.S. Forestry Service (USFS) owned and County maintained road, Nacimiento-Fergusson Road, for over 1.5 years. The USFS road was impacted and further damaged by the additional traffic. This road was damaged by the 2020 Dolan Fire, along most of its length and the January 2021 Winter Storms caused extensive storm damages, landslides, and compromised areas along the road. Despite County crews making an emergency access path through the area and restoring local traffic service, the road remains closed to through traffic and its tenuous condition is a concern for local residents who feel they will be landlocked if another storm precipitates. County staff estimate of repairs is approximately \$25 million, and the USFS is working with FHWA on design and funding. Construction is tentatively 2023.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Carmel Valley Village Utility Undergrounding	Replace existing overhead electric facilities with underground electric facilities along public streets and roads, Carmel Valley Road: Garland Regional Park to Pilot Road.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Old Monterey County Jail	Seek funding for preservation and reuse of the historic Old Monterey County Jail.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Salinas Soccer Complex	Support City of Salinas construction of regional indoor and outdoor soccer facilities with supporting amenities.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	BMX pump track/skate park	Funding for a BMX pump track, skate park, and trail enhancements on East Laurel Drive in Salinas.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	San Lucas / San Ardo Neighborhood Parks	Construct neighborhood parks in communities where recreational amenities are currently lacking. Seek landowners willing to donate land for the purpose of constructing parks.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	De Anza Trail	Funding for historic De Anza Trail project.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (Moss Landing Segment)	Construct a .85-mile path and 386' bridge for pedestrians and bicyclists – the MBSST Moss Landing Segment.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Playground Safety Compliance	Funding for projects to meet mandated requirements for playground safety at County parks.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Blight Removal	Regional approach to address abandoned structures that need toxic remediation and removal in former Fort Ord.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Vehicle Replacement: Public Works and Parks	Replace (purchase or lease) old heavy equipment (e.g., stripers and patch trucks) with vehicles which meet air quality standards. New light duty equipment replacement due to age and usage. Continue pursuit of new technologies/methods. New septic vacuum truck for sewer maintenance at Parks (reservoir) facilities.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks (construction) Sustainability Program & OES (planning)	Elkhorn Slough Flood Protection / Ecological Restoration	Projects to improve the ecosystem of the slough, improve Elkhorn Road from flood risk, remove the rail line from flooding, and reduce risk of rail-line spills in the slough.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Flood Prevention – Countywide Drainage Maintenance	Proactively complete maintenance work along drainage areas within Monterey County which are prone to higher-than-normal flood risk. Work may include locating underground services, permitting, traffic management, on-site biology monitoring, vegetation management, debris removal, flushing culverts, excavation of sediment, bank stabilization, hauling, and reporting. Includes permitting/environmental plus implementation costs. May want to consider a Countywide flood/drainage maintenance program permitting.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Litter Abatement	Supplemental funding and resources for removing illegal litter dumping in the County Road Right-of-Way.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Lockwood-San Lucas Bridge	Replacement of an aged truss bridge crossing the Salinas River. Project will enhance traffic safety.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Road and Bridge Maintenance	Projects to improve road and bridge maintenance, especially the 70% of County roads which do not meet State maintenance standards.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Laguna Seca Recreation Area Facility Improvements	A \$60M suite of projects at Laguna Seca Recreation area and Raceway (racetrack overlay project; start/finish bridge; hardwire track video cameras; radio upgrade; pavilion/downtown area; lakebed expansion of asphalt and turf; public address system; drinking water distribution system; restrooms; campground improvements).
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Improved Park Access	Road, parking, restroom and trailhead improvements to improve access to Pinnacles National Park, Fort Ord National Monument, Toro Park, and Lake San Antonio.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Sustainable Park Maintenance	See funding for funding the ongoing parks and lakes maintenance, through grants, assessment districts or County Service Areas, sales tax initiative, etc.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Mobile Technology for Park Ranger Patrol Vehicles	Mobile computers in 12 park ranger patrol vehicles to link to the Sheriff's Department dispatch for accurate response mapping, hazardous chemical response, and critical enforcement data. Increased officer efficiency, safety, and customer service.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Road Resurfacing, Parking Lot and Drainage Repair	Lake San Antonio North Shore road resurfacing, parking lot improvements, and drainage system repairs.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	Drinking Water, Storage, and Sanitation Upgrades	Water and sewer upgrades at multiple Parks locations, especially Laguna Seca, Toro Park, and Lake Nacimiento.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks	ADA Transition Plan Implementation	Implement ADA upgrades per the completed ADA Transition Plan at multiple Parks facilities.
Public Works, Facilities and Parks Water Resources Agency	Quagga & Zebra Mussel Prevention	Quagga and Zebra Mussel prevention activities to prevent infestation of Lakes Nacimiento & San Antonio. Enforcement, education, outreach, and facility improvements. Update quagga and zebra mussel prevention plan.
Water Resources Agency	Interlake Tunnel and Spillway Modification Project	Construction of a tunnel and associated components (e.g.: fish screens) to connect existing reservoir facilities, increase storage, and provide environmental and water conservation release efficiencies.
Water Resources Agency	San Antonio & Nacimiento Dams: High Priority Capital Projects	San Antonio and Nacimiento capital asset projects included in the WRA Capital Asset Management Plan (CAMP). \$160M.
Water Resources Agency	Nacimiento Lake Drive Repairs	Road repairs and partial replacement to ensure vehicle traffic does not jeopardize the dam's safety, security and stability.
Water Resources Agency Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency	Pajaro River Flood Risk Management Project	A combination of structural measures along the lower Pajaro River, Salsipuedes Creek and Corralitos Creek to reduce flood Risk in Pajaro and Watsonville.
Water Resources Agency	Salinas River Management Program	Improve watershed management, water delivery scenarios, and maintenance of the Salinas River to reduce flooding and restore habitat.
Water Resources Agency	Salinas River Habitat Conservation Plan	Develop a habitat conservation plan for facility operations and maintenance for compliance with the Endangered Species Act.
Water Resources Agency	Salinas Valley Water Project Phase II	Develop non-groundwater sources to offset groundwater pumping, reduce seawater intrusion into the Salinas River Groundwater Basin, and improve water supply (Permit 11043).

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Water Resources Agency	Destruction of Abandoned Wells	With implementation of a recycled water source, wells in seawater intruded areas need to be destroyed so the well casings do not become conduits for seawater to move from upper to lower aquifers.
Water Resources Agency	Expansion of Recycled Water Project	Expand recycled water facilities in the coastal portion of the Salinas Valley.
Water Resources Agency	Flood Reduction Projects	Improve the Moss Landing tide gates, reduce Santa Rita Creek flooding, and reduce flood risks at waste treatment plant near Soledad.
Water Resources Agency	Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project	Expand CSIP footprint to increase water supply from new sources and reduce groundwater pumping in the seawater intruded area.
Water Resources Agency	Planning and Environmental Assessment Funding	Planning and environmental assessment for nearly all projects to make them eligible for construction grant funding.
Water Resources Agency	Rebuild/Replace Pump Stations	Rebuild/replace pump stations (e.g., Santa Rita, upper and lower Merritt, Gonzales, and Hebborn) for flood control, safety, environmental, and energy efficiency.
Water Resources Agency	Nacimiento Hydroelectric Plant Upgrade	Upgrade existing hydroelectric plant to enable power production through a greater range of reservoir releases.
<b>Public Safety</b>		
CAO Health	Crisis Response Team	Crisis response team to better respond to crimes affecting the community. Crisis support and debriefing, service referrals, and staffing.
CAO	Social Marketing Campaign for Literacy	Social marketing programs to improve literacy, especially third grade reading proficiency, and promote violence prevention.
CAO	Victim Services	Expansion of Sexual Assault Response Team and Advocacy Center to South Monterey County for forensic examinations, law enforcement interviews with victims and witnesses of sexual assault and domestic violence.
CAO	Youth Diversion	Youth diversion programs that provide youth who commit first low-level crimes the opportunity to address the root causes of their actions and prevent juvenile justice involvement.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
CAO	Youth Employment and Mentorship	Funding that will create youth employment opportunities paired with mentorship support designed for gang and system impacted youth.
CAO	Violence Interrupters	Programming to assist gang members seeking a way out and intervention to reduce the incidence of gang member families joining and participating in gangs.
CAO	Training and Professional Development	Training and professional development for providers of gang and system impacted youth to increase cultural competency, implement healing and trauma informed approaches to services and programs.
District Attorney Social Services	Family Justice Center	Funding to establish a Family Justice Center to provide a one-place justice and services center for victims and their families.
District Attorney	Cold Case Task Force DNA Testing	Funding to underwrite DNA genealogy testing for investigations in the Cold Case Homicide Unit (\$50,000 annually)
District Attorney	Case Management System Interface	Update case management system to interface with the systems of other local law enforcement agencies.
District Attorney	Digital Handheld Radios	Investigators require new handheld radios with dual bank capacity.
District Attorney	Staffing for Truancy and Victims Programs	Victim's Advocate position to provide services to additional victims of crime, Legal Assistant for the truancy program to improve outreach to schools around the County.
Emergency Communications 911	Technology for Computer Aided Dispatch	Replace existing CAD system that allows for improved functionality, interoperability and economies of scale. As technology improve, cloud based dispatching solutions are needed.
Emergency Communications 911	Public Safety Communications Center	Construct a new, or remodel the current, Public Safety Communications Center to increase the size, capacity of the facility to accommodate full staffing during emergencies.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Emergency Communications (911)	911 Continuity of Operations	Expand dispatch center to allow 911 services set up at alternative location and/or assistance with maintaining a 911 dispatch center backup location to include emergency phone lines, Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Radio Communication. Create more remote options for Next Generation 911 access to emergency phone lines, CAD and Radio (NGEN). The COVID-19 Pandemic has demonstrated the need for more physical distance between workstations, improved filtration, and when needed remote access.
Emergency Communications (911) Information Technology	NGEN Public Safety Radio	NGEN radio tower and NGEN system upgrades to improve public safety communications and interoperability.
Office of Emergency Services	Enhance Emergency Response to Schools, Public Buildings, and Businesses	Provide on-site personnel at schools, public buildings, and business with alerting capability to notify 911 and send localized alerts during emergency situations. School safety/anti-terrorism technology.
Office of Emergency Services	Resiliency, Planning, Emergency Preparation, Recovery	Programming for community and regional resiliency building, planning for hazards, disasters (i.e., drought, wildfire, flood, etc.), terrorism, emergency preparation, and post-disaster recovery.
Office of Emergency Services	State Homeland Security Grant	Funding to protect against, mitigate, respond to and recover from acts of terrorism and other catastrophic events.
Office of Emergency Services	Emergency Management Program Grant	Funding for preparing for all hazards to protect life and property. This grant must go through the Operational Area identified by the state.
Office of Emergency Services	UASI Grant - Urban Area Strategic Initiative	To build, enhance, and sustain capability to prevent and protect against acts of terrorism.
Office of Emergency Services	Emergency Management Activities	Funding for emergency management activities involving preparedness, prevention, mitigation, and recovery (e.g., PSPS or hazard mitigation).
Office of Emergency Services	Post Ranch Public Radio Site	Replace aging radio and antenna equipment to provide critical radio communications for first responders.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Probation	Silver Star Resource Center	Improve youth/family services, truancy programs, behavioral health services, mentoring programs, Partners for Peace, fund nonprofit providers. Expand service to other County locations.
Probation	Rancho Cielo	Funding to expand/enhance vocational programs.
Probation	Infrastructure, Facilities, and Equipment	Improve office facilities, infrastructure, equipment (computers/software for client tracking between partner departments to improve case management).
Probation	Improved Programming for Probation Population, Improved Client Services	Programs for in-custody/reentry adults/juveniles. Deputy probation officer for First 5. Expand Child Advocate Program into a Family Advocate Program.
Probation	Training	Additional training for probation staff.
Public Defender	Improved Public Defender Services	Funding for attorneys, investigators, social workers, and legal support staff to process post sentence relief, AB 1810 evaluations, Franklin hearings, social reports for serious felony matters, perform community outreach, address dramatic increase in misdemeanor filings related to Prop 47, and provide other services. Funding for equipment to transition to a paperless office.
Sheriff	Corrections Improvement Funding	Upgrades to the jail to improve energy efficiency, improve ADA accessibility, improve security cameras, add mental health beds, expand eligibility worker staffing, and staff for jail programming.
Sheriff	Anti-Drug Trafficking Boat	Interdiction boat needed for new SWAT dive team to combat drug trafficking
Sheriff	Dash Cams, Body Cams, and Bullet Proof Vests	Dashboard cameras, body cameras, data storage equipment to support cameras, bullet proof vests.
Sheriff	Fleet Replacement	Fleet replacement vehicles.
Sheriff	Cannabis Cultivation Related Enforcement	Increase enforcement of cannabis laws with additional staffing.
Sheriff	Staffing Expansion	Staffing: Deputies for program escorts, staff for record keeping, and crime scene lab technicians.
Sheriff District Attorney Probation	Case Management System Interface	Improve information sharing between justice related departments and the Courts system for sharing client information and better case management. Improvement should include better analytics and statistical tracking.



DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
CAO with public safety, health, social services departments	JAG Grant - Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)	Staffing for Sheriff, District Attorney, and Probation focused on prevention, education, and law enforcement related truancy, gang related crimes, and substance abuse.

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## MEMORANDUM

TO Monterey County Board of Supervisors

FROM Brent R. Heberlee

DATE December 19, 2022

RE Legislative Program: 2022 Federal Advocacy Report

### Introduction

The Second Session of the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress saw congressional Democrats and President Biden build on their significant legislative victories from 2021. The implementation of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), which are directing tens of millions of federal dollars to Monterey County, was the primary focus of the County's federal advocacy program over the past year. The recently enacted Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) builds on the foundational climate and clean energy investments in IIJA and offers similar opportunities for the County to reap the unprecedented benefits of the law. Taken together, these three laws are directing nearly \$3.5 trillion to a wide variety of domestic programs, most of which are administered by state and local governments.

Razor thin Democratic majorities in the House and Senate proved challenging for the President and Democratic leaders to advance their policy priorities in Congress. Speaker Pelosi proved adept at shepherding many bills through the House that reflected County priorities – immigration reform, gun control, voting rights, and cannabis regulation – only to see them languish in the Senate. On the other side of the Capitol, Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer seemed content to prioritize executive branch and judicial nominations for floor time rather than engaging in protracted fights with Republicans over legislative policy matters.

In spite of the aforementioned challenges and the November mid-term elections that loomed over the congressional calendar, 2022 was widely regarded as a very productive year for Congress. I worked closely with the Legislative Committee and county staff to address many

of our federal policy priorities with the County's congressional delegation. Following is a summary of the County's federal advocacy efforts with which I was involved and policy updates on key federal legislative, budgetary, and regulatory issues included in the 2022 Legislative Program.

#### Engagement with Monterey County Officials

- **BOS Legislative Workshop:** I attended the Board's Legislative Workshop in January. I assisted County staff with the preparation of issue briefs for the meeting and secured attendance of representatives of the County's congressional delegation, including Reps. Jimmy Panetta and Zoe Lofgren.
- **Legislative Committee:** I provided monthly written and oral reports to the Legislative Committee on federal matters impacting the County.
- **NACo Legislative Conference:** In early February, I arranged for Supervisors Alejo and Lopez to meet with officials in the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, DC to discuss the County's desire to establish a State Veterans Home at the former Fort Ord.

#### Summary of Legislative Advocacy

- **American Rescue Plan Act**

In the spring of 2022, the County received the second tranche of its \$84.3 million ARPA Local Fiscal Recovery Fund allocation. The County continues to advocate for follow on legislation that would provide additional flexibility for the use of ARPA funds. The County is also designated as an "eligible revenue sharing county" under ARPA and therefore qualifies for payments under the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund. The County is scheduled to receive two equal payments totaling \$1.65 million over the next two years under this program.

- **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act**

In early 2022, the Biden administration began implementing the \$973 billion IIJA in earnest. To date, numerous federal agencies, led by the Department of Transportation, have issued dozens of funding opportunities for state and local governments in the areas transportation, water, power and energy, environmental remediation, public lands, broadband and resilience. The Army Corps of Engineers has allocated \$149 million of IIJA funds to the Pajaro River Flood Risk Management Project in 2022.

On behalf of the County, I have attended dozens of webinars and meetings with White House and federal agency officials on the implementation of IIJA grant programs. I have communicated regularly with County staff about federal funding opportunities, eligibility requirements, and technical assistance programs.

- **Inflation Reduction Act**

The IRA invests \$369 billion in climate and clean energy, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent below 2005 levels by 2030. It establishes new programs that provide direct funding opportunities for counties to engage in clean energy and climate projects and provides funds to address a range of issues, including air pollution, energy efficiency and carbon emissions.

On behalf of the County, I am participating in briefings and webinars hosted by the White House and federal agencies on the implementation of the IRA, as well as keeping County staff apprised of federal funding opportunities that will support County sustainability initiatives.

- **Community Project Funding**

In early April, the County submitted six community project funding requests to our congressional delegation as part of the FY2023 appropriations process. The House-passed appropriations bills include funding for three County projects – the Family Justice Center (\$275,000), Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project (\$900,000), and U.S. 101 Lane Widening “South of Salinas Project” (\$1,000,000). As of this writing, Congress appears to be on track to complete action on an FY2023 omnibus appropriations package that is expected to include funding for these projects.

- **Immigration**

The County continues to support targeted and comprehensive immigration reform legislation that provides a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers and other undocumented immigrants, including the Farm Workforce Modernization Act. Recent efforts to reach a bipartisan agreement in the Senate on a framework for immigration reform appear to have fallen short, lessening the likelihood of any meaningful immigration reform legislation moving through Congress in the near future.

- **Voting Rights**

In spite of the successful effort by the House last year in passing the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, which would restore key protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the bill remains stalled in the Senate after several unsuccessful attempts to garner the ten Republican votes needed for the bill to advance. The focus in the Senate has now turned to securing reforms to the Electoral Count Act, which would confirm that the vice president has no power to alter the electoral vote count and raise the threshold for how many House and Senate members are needed to object to a slate of electors. Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer is attempting to add the Electoral Count Act reforms to the FY2023 omnibus appropriations bill.

- **Cannabis**

The County continues to advocate for the Secure and Fair Enforcement (SAFE) Banking Act, which would shield banks and credit unions from federal penalties if they choose to provide services to legitimate cannabis-related businesses. Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer is making a final push to include the SAFE Banking Act as an amendment to the FY2023 omnibus appropriations bill, but he is facing resistance from Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell.

- **Housing**

The County continues to advocate in support of affordable housing legislation and federal housing assistance programs. The County supported legislation sponsored by Reps. Panetta and Lofgren to increase the statutory cap of Project Based Vouchers from 20 to 50 percent to incentivize the construction of new affordable housing units.

- **Gun Safety**

The County supported strong gun safety legislation that passed the House in 2021, but Senate Democrats were only able to muster enough votes to pass a less ambitious, bipartisan compromise intended to stop dangerous people from accessing firearms. The Senate bill was signed into law in June. The new law will enhance background checks for potential gun buyers under the age of 21, requiring for the first time that authorities have time to examine juvenile records, including mental health records beginning at age 16. It also provides millions of dollars for states to implement so-called red flag laws that allow officials to temporarily confiscate guns from people deemed in court to be too dangerous to own them, and other intervention programs.

- **Veterans**

The County supported several veterans bills that were ultimately included in the Honoring our PACT Act, a new law that would provide healthcare access and benefits to veterans who were exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances during military service.

I have continued to assist with the County's effort to establish a State Veterans Home in Monterey County by arranging and participating in meetings with VA officials, our federal and state delegations, the Legislative Committee, and county staff. To date, my advocacy and research have focused on the VA grant program that provides participating states with up to 65% of the cost to construct state homes.

### Outlook for 2023

The results of the November mid-term elections will bring divided government to Capitol Hill for the first time during the Biden administration. Republicans will control the House in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress by the narrowest of margins, and Democrats will retain their slim majority in the Senate in spite of the recent decision by Sen. Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ) to

change her party affiliation to Independent. This is a recipe for legislative gridlock in Congress for the next two years, although there may be a few areas of compromise on legislative initiatives both big and small.

The most pressing issue confronting the House at the beginning of the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress will be the election of a new Speaker. Currently, Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) does not appear to have a sufficient amount of support within the Republican Caucus to be elected Speaker. He is working furiously behind the scenes to gain the support of his detractors, but it's entirely possible that he may not be able to do so by January 3, which could prevent the House from organizing itself and plunge it into chaos for a period of time until a Speaker can be elected.

Closer to home, Rep. Panetta is expected to keep his current committee assignments on Ways and Means, Agriculture, and Armed Services. The County's new representative, Rep. Zoe Lofgren, will continue to serve on Judiciary, House Administration, and Science, Space, and Technology, where she is expected to become the Ranking Member. The House Science Committee has jurisdiction over much of the non-defense Federal research and development portfolio, including programs at DOE, EPA, NASA, and NOAA.

House Republican leaders have indicated that they intend to pursue a vigorous oversight agenda directed at many Biden administration programs, making full use of their subpoena power if administration officials prove to be resistant to demands for document production and witness testimony. Rep. McCarthy has said that Republicans' oversight priorities will fall into the following categories: Homeland Security Department and the "open border crisis;" big tech and the "silencing of Americans' free speech;" China, national security; COVID origins; Hunter Biden; the U.S.'s "disastrous" withdrawal from Afghanistan; Washington spending; the Justice Department and FBI (including politicization of both); education and "woke" ideology; energy production and American industry; "politicization and abuse" of the Internal Revenue Service; and "breaking the swamp's bureaucracy."

On a brighter note, House Republicans have decided that they will maintain Community Project Funding in the annual appropriations process, so the County will continue to have the ability to request funding for local projects from our congressional delegation. With divided government, however, the likelihood of enacting FY2024 appropriations bills will be greatly diminished.

Both parties have a common desire to enact a new Farm Bill in 2023, a multiyear bill that reauthorizes a multitude of agricultural, food, nutrition, and conservation programs administered by USDA. This legislation will have a significant impact on the County's agricultural industry, and Rep. Panetta will be deeply involved in the reauthorization process through his seat on the House Agriculture Committee.



# NOSSAMAN LLP | Memorandum

**TO:** Monterey County Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Ashley S. Walker, Senior Policy Advisor

**RE:** Legislative Program: 2022 Annual Report

**DATE:** January 10, 2023

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## **I. Introduction**

Nossaman LLP is honored to represent the County of Monterey at the state level of government, and advocate on issues outlined in the County's Legislative Program. We look forward to continuing our success and work together, in partnership with the County, as we enter into what is sure to be another interesting and demanding legislative year.

## **II. Summary of Legislative Advocacy Actions in 2022**

Nossaman collaborated with the County on the following legislative advocacy actions:

- **Monterey County's 2022 Legislative Advocacy Fast Facts:**
  - Reviewed 2,020 bills for potential impacts to the County.
  - Drafted 88 position letters and/or memos on proposed legislation.
  - Sponsored 1 bill.
  - Supported 25 bills.
  - Opposed 5 bills.
  - Advocated on 14 state budget proposals and/or other policy issues outside of specific legislation.
  - Requested State Budget funding for 6 projects totaling \$377 Million.
- **State Budget Funding Requests:** We worked with the County to request state budget funding for 6 different projects, totaling \$377 million. We requested that the County's Legislative Delegation put these requests forward as "Member Requests" through the FY 2022-23 State Budget negotiation process. We were successful securing over \$6.1 million for the Nacimiento dam safety project, and are currently working with the County's Water Resources Agency and the California Department of Water Resources on the funding agreement to draw down those dollars.

Below is an outline of the state budget requests we made in 2022:

- **Interlake Tunnel and San Antonio Spillway Modification Project (Project):** A tunnel to connect existing facilities at Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs on the Central Coast of California will increase water storage capacity and achieve environmental and water conservation release efficiencies. Requested funding: \$150 million.
- **Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams:** A set of subprojects for Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoir and Dam facilities to fulfill Federal and State regulatory requirements and provide flood protection and a sustainable water supply. Requested funding: \$150 million.

- **San Lucas Clean Drinking Water Project:** A water pipeline to connect San Lucas to King City's water infrastructure, and provide clean drinking water for the severely disadvantaged community of San Lucas. Requested funding: \$12 million.
- **Old Monterey County Jail:** Develop an adaptive reuse project for the Old Monterey County Jail, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2004 for its significance in the national farm labor movement. Requested funding: \$15 million.
- **Mental Health Rehabilitation Center:** Create 100-120 new mental health treatment beds by converting a vacated county-owned adult jail rehabilitation facility. Requested funding: \$40 million.
- **Marina Health Clinic:** Construct a 10,000 square foot primary care clinic with expanded general family practice, pediatric, obstetrics/gynecology, and mental health services for Medi-cal and uninsured residents. Requested funding: \$10 million.
- **Other State Budget and Policy Issues:** Nossaman kept the County updated on all relevant state budget proposals throughout the year, including the Governor's January proposal, the May Revise, and the Legislature's negotiation with the Governor and Administration. We worked with the County on the following 14 state budget proposals or other policy issues, outside of proposed legislation.

<b>BUDGET</b> <b>Dam Safety and Climate Resilience</b>	Request to Establish and Fund State-Level Grant Program in 2022-23 State Budget.
<b>COVID-19</b> <b>Testing Supply Needs in Monterey County</b>	Request for additional testing supplies for Monterey County to appropriately address the COVID-19 pandemic and meet community demands for testing.
<b>VETERANS</b> <b>Support for Veteran's Home in Monterey County</b>	Support Monterey County's request for authorizing legislation allowing a Veteran's Home to be built in the region.
<b>BUDGET</b> <b>Adult Protective Services</b>	Support for the Adult Protective Services (APS) training program stakeholder proposal from the County Welfare Directors Association of California (CWDA), California State Association of Public Administrators, Guardians, and Conservators, California Commission on Aging, and California Elder Justice Coalition. Specifically, Monterey County supports an ongoing \$4.6 million General Fund investment to continue and increase support for the APS training program to ensure that the APS workforce remains prepared to meet the needs of California's growing aging and disabled populations.
<b>BUDGET</b> <b>Alternative Health Care Plan Proposal</b>	Opposition to the Alternative Health Care Service Plan proposal (i.e., the single statewide Medi-Cal contract for Kaiser). We request the State's reconsideration of the proposal, based on our considerations of the harms it could cause to the safety net health systems in our county, and the Medi-Cal beneficiaries we serve.



<b>BUDGET</b> <b>County Human Services Disaster Response</b>	Support for the human services disaster response stakeholder proposal from the County Welfare Directors Association of California (CWDA) and Children Now. Specifically, Monterey County supports an ongoing \$159 million General Fund investment to provide funding and resources to strengthen the ability of county human services departments to prepare for and respond to disasters.
<b>BUDGET</b> <b>Resource Family Approval Funding</b>	Support of a budget proposal for Resource Family Approval (RFA) process funding, respectfully requesting an estimated \$100 million General Fund for county workload for the RFA process.
<b>BUDGET</b> <b>IRWM Funding 2022-23 State Budget</b>	Request that \$510 million be included in the 2022-23 State Budget to the Department of Water Resources through the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program to fund regional projects that protect, restore, and enhance water quality and supply throughout California. The Water Bond Coalition requests the funding be allocated through the IRWM Funding Areas, based on hydrologic regions, as defined by the California Water Plan and consistent with previously approved resource bonds, Propositions 84 and 1. This funding is needed now to help combat the persistent drought conditions that will only get worse given the effects of climate change.
<b>BUDGET</b> <b>Housing for the Harvest Program (H4H) Extension</b>	Request for the extension of the Housing for the Harvest Program (H4H) that is set to expire on April 30, 2022.
<b>BUDGET</b> <b>Comments Regarding Probation Funding in the FY22-23 State Budget</b>	The County of Monterey recognizes and appreciates the inclusion of key investments in the Governor's January Budget and May Revision for 2022-23 to sustain probation's efforts to improve our communities through programs like SB 678 and mobile probation centers and to fund immediate needs related to the enactment of DJJ realignment to counties. These investments are a necessary, timely and important step toward meeting the comprehensive resource needs that are required to implement policies enacted by the Legislature and the Administration over the last few years. However, additional investments are required to meet the diverse, complex, and acute needs of the youth and adults that probation serves. We support key aspects of the Chief Probation Officers of California's state budget requests, and strongly and respectfully ask the Legislature and Administration to dedicate additional resources to juvenile justice infrastructure planning and grants, probation officer training to meet critical workforce needs, and probation's delivery of services for CalAIM implementation.
<b>BUDGET</b> <b>AB 205 Energy Bill</b>	The County took a quick oppose position with authority under our Legislative Program on this budget trailer bill. The budget language would allow for a shift of local authority for siting of solar, wind, and certain battery backup projects to the California Energy Commission (CEC) and would, under the auspices of a Strategic Energy Reserve, delegate to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) blanket authority to bypass local permitting, including through the Coastal Act of 1976. These facilities can have enormous impacts on our communities, even when the benefits are spread to other parts of the state. This bill was passed and signed.

<b>GUN SAFETY</b> <b>Gun Safety Legislation</b>	Extend our thanks for efforts related to introducing, passing, and enacting gun safety related legislation.
<b>CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (CPUC)</b> <b>Greater CPUC Oversight of Utility Fast Trip/EPSS Electrical Outages</b>	Express support for the motion submitted by Pioneer Community Energy, Sonoma Clean Power, East Bay Community Energy, Marin Clean Energy, and Rural County Representatives of California (Joint Parties) requesting that the Commission open an expedited phase or track of the De-Energization Rulemaking to consider rules, expanded reporting requirements, and common program-related terms for all investor-owned utilities' (IOUs) Fast-Trip Programs.
<b>CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (CPUC)</b> <b>Performance Audit Request</b>	Express concerns with the recent performance audit request to review the implementation of California's broadband deployment.

- **Sponsored Legislation:** The County proposed two sponsored bills this year. Below is a summary of those proposals.
  - **Middle Mile Advisory Committee:** The Department of Technology provides oversight and policy input for the statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network through a broadband advisory committee, called the Middle-Mile Advisory Committee, to oversee the construction and establishment of the statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network. The Committee is comprised of various representatives, including a representative of the Department of Technology, the Department of Finance, and 2 ex officio members of the Assembly. The Committee currently does not include any local government representatives. AB 2256 (Quirk-Silva) adds two local government seats to the Middle Mile Advisory Committee. The bill adds these seats to the Committee by appointment; one appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly and the other appointed by the Senate Rules Committee, as members of the committee. The County co-sponsored this bill along with CSAC. The bill was signed by the Governor and went into effect on January 1, 2023.
  - **Veterans Home:** Although a bill was not introduced in 2022, the County worked tirelessly to request that a Member of our Legislative Delegation introduce a bill that would allow for the construction of a Veterans home in the County. This work included meetings with our Members and key policy committee Members, meetings with Cal VET, the creation of presentations and handouts to support our request, gathering countless local and federal letters of support, requesting the Legislature hold an informational hearing on the housing needs of our Veterans, and holding a local press conference. We are hopeful that legislation will be introduced in 2023 to push this project forward.
- **Positions on Legislation:** The County took 30 positions on bills in 2022, which is consistent with a normal legislative year. Below is a chart outlining the bills we took positions on that made it to the Governor's desk, and the final actions taken on the proposals.

Measure	Author	Topic	Position	Status
<a href="#">AB 1654</a>	<a href="#">Rivas, Robert</a> D	Low-income housing: insurance tax: income tax: credits: farmworker housing.	Support	CHAPTERED

<a href="#">AB 1951</a>	<a href="#">Grayson</a> D	Sales and use tax: exemptions: manufacturing.	Oppose	VETOED
<a href="#">AB 2179</a>	<a href="#">Grayson</a> D	COVID-19 relief: tenancy.	Support	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">AB 2256</a>	<a href="#">Quirk-Silva</a> D	Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy: reports.	Co-Sponsored	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">AB 2339</a>	<a href="#">Bloom</a> D	Housing element: emergency shelters: regional housing need.	Support If Amended	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">AB 2449</a>	<a href="#">Rubio, Blanca</a> D	Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.	Support If Amended	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">AB 2509</a>	<a href="#">Fong</a> R	Vehicles: vehicle license fee and registration fees: exemptions.	Support	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">AB 2724</a>	<a href="#">Arambula</a> D	Medi-Cal: alternate health care service plan.	Oppose	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">SB 6</a>	<a href="#">Caballero</a> D	Local planning: housing: commercial zones.	Support	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">SB 418</a>	<a href="#">Laird</a> D	Pajaro Valley Health Care District.	Support	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">SB 489</a>	<a href="#">Laird</a> D	Flood management projects: state funding: Pajaro River Flood Risk Management Project.	Support	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">SB 496</a>	<a href="#">Laird</a> D	Flood control: water development projects: Pajaro River.	Support	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">SB 852</a>	<a href="#">Dodd</a> D	Climate resilience districts: formation: funding mechanisms.	Support	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">SB 949</a>	<a href="#">Laird</a> D	Veterans: California Central Coast State Veterans Cemetery.	Support	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">SB 1100</a>	<a href="#">Cortese</a> D	Open meetings: orderly conduct.	Support	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">SB 1237</a>	<a href="#">Newman</a> D	Licenses: military service.	Support	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">SB 1326</a>	<a href="#">Caballero</a> D	Cannabis: interstate agreements.	Support	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">SB 1338</a>	<a href="#">Umbert</a> D	Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program.	Concerns	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">SJR 8</a>	<a href="#">Caballero</a> D	Social Security Disability Insurance: disabled adult child benefit.	Support	CHAPTERED

- **Other Advocacy Efforts:**

- **COVID 19 Vaccine / Testing Insurance Issues:** Early on in 2022, Nossaman kept the County updated on vaccine and testing insurance issues, as some of the community was being charged for these services.
- **CRFREE Budget Request:** Nossaman met with the Big Sur Land Trust to discuss the CRFREE project and funding needs. Big Sur Land Trust requested that the Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement project be included on Senator Laird's list for one-time budget surplus funding in the amount of \$5 Million. The County supported this state budget request.
- **Dam Safety Coalition:** The County participated in a coalition of stakeholders across the state to create a funding stream for dam safety and infrastructure projects. Assemblymember

Rivas agreed to champion this budget request in 2022, which resulted in a new \$100 million grant program for these types of projects.

- **CARE Court:** Both CSAC and RCRC submitted comments on the Administration's Care Court proposal, and Nossaman provided those comments to the County. Nossaman informed the County's delegation that we share the same concerns outlined by CSAC and RCRC.
- **Water Bond Coalition:** The County signed on to a letter requesting that \$510 million be included in the 2022-23 State Budget to the Department of Water Resources through the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program to fund regional projects that protect, restore, and enhance water quality and supply throughout California.
- **Prop 1E Subvention Funding Deadline Extension Request:** The Proposition 1E (November 2006) funding for the State Flood Control Subventions Program (Program) includes a liquidation deadline of June 30, 2023. Unless action is taken to extend the deadline, the voter authorization for approximately \$149 million in state general obligation bonds will expire. The Pajaro River Flood Risk Reduction Project would be impacted if this deadline is not extended. The County support this effort, and this extension was included in this budget trailer bill.
- **Gun Safety Legislation:** Nossaman kept the County informed of all gun legislation proposed and signed by the Governor. Nossaman drafted a letter to thanking the Legislature and Governor for quick action on this important safety issue.
- **Monterey County Homeless Summit – CSAC Speaker:** Nossaman secured Graham Knaus, Executive Director of CSAC, to speak during the Homeless Summit on July 14. Graham will be spoke broadly about homelessness and path forward for counties and cities.
- **CPUC Performance Audit Request:** We were informed of a potential audit request to be considered by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC) regarding the performance of California's broadband deployment. The County responded with a letter to JLAC and our delegation outlining concerns, as the implementation for the various programs and initiatives in the audit request have just begun in the last few months. The audit request was placed on hold.
- **California's Water Supply Strategy:** In August, the Governor released a new document outlining policy and investment goals for water related issues in California. The document is fairly high level, but specific to the goals of the administration. Nossaman set up a meeting with the Governor's office to discuss the County's water projects and how these projects can help implement the new Strategy.
- **Propositions on the November 2022 Ballot:** Nossaman has provided summaries of the propositions that will be on the November 2022 ballot for voters.
- **Election Update:** Nossaman provided an update on the outcome of the 2022 election, which resulted in 21 new Assemblymembers and 11 new Senators.
- **Homelessness Meeting with the Governor's Office:** After the concerns raised with the announcement by Governor Newsom that the state will be holding off on providing the remaining third round of Homelessness Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) grants,

Nossaman coordinated a meeting with the Governor's Central California Regional Director to discuss Monterey County's plans to address homelessness.

- **Project Homekey:** Nossaman continued to work with the County and the City of Salinas to alert the State of our concerns and request assistance related to federal requirements for this Homekey project.
- **Engagement with County Board of Supervisors and Staff:** Nossaman met with each Member of the Board of Supervisors to ensure our legislative program reflects the Board's vision. Nossaman met regularly with County staff in various Departments to provide updates on state legislation and our advocacy efforts.
- **Engagement with CSAC and RCRC:** Nossaman attended weekly legislative meetings with CSAC and other county advocates. In these meetings, we discussed the most important issues facing counties and coordinate strategy for supporting, opposing or amending legislation or budget proposals. Nossaman also kept in communication with RCRC staff regarding their legislative priorities on rural county related issues.
- **Engagement with Legislative Delegation and Staff:** Nossaman met with the County's legislative delegation and/or staff regularly to discuss legislative proposals and positions, budget requests and issues, and priority projects within the County. Additionally, Nossaman assisted the County coordinating topics for discussion at the annual Legislative Workshop.
- **Governor Newsom's Actions and Executive Orders:** Nossaman kept the County informed of anticipated or signed actions and/or executive orders that the Governor and Administration put forth that impacted the County.

### III. Looking Ahead to 2023

**2023 Legislative Session – Anticipated Policy Issues:** While the Legislature and Administration accomplished some significant policy and fiscal goals in 2022, Sacramento will be as busy as ever in the coming year with several anticipated hot policy topics. The Legislature reconvenes on January 4, 2023 and some of the important issues for counties we anticipate being debated include, but are not limited to:

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| ○ Behavioral Health             | ○ Housing   |
| ○ Broadband                     | ○ Implementation of the California Water Strategy |
| ○ Brown Act and Public Meetings | ○ Juvenile Justice Realignment                    |
| ○ CalAIM Implementation         | ○ Land Use Planning                               |
| ○ Cannabis                      | ○ Wildfire  |
| ○ CARE Court Implementation     | ○ Workforce Challenges                            |
| ○ Drought                       |   |
| ○ Homelessness                  |   |



**TO:** Monterey County Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Ashley S. Walker, Senior Policy Advisor

**RE:** Strategic Grant Services Program: 2022 Annual Report

**DATE:** January 10, 2023

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## **I. Introduction**

The Strategic Grants Services Program (SGSP) was created by the Board of Supervisors in recognition of the need to concentrate funding efforts on the County's highest priority needs and projects. Nossaman began working with County's CAO-Intergovernmental & Legislative Affairs Division (IGLA) in September 2014 on the new program to enhance the County's success at securing grant funding. Nossaman works in close collaboration with the IGLA office to align our efforts with the County's Legislative Program. This alignment ensures that the many narrowly focused state and federal grant funding opportunities still support the County's primary goals.

The designation of "priority projects" which Nossaman has/or will work on is based on the following criteria:

- Alignment with the Board's Strategic Initiatives & Milestones
- Alignment with the Board's Legislative Priorities
- Availability of grant funding
- Ability to meet grant requirements
- Grant matching fund requirements
- Analysis of the ability to develop a competitive grant application

Nossaman engages on a regular basis with County Departments to provide feedback and suggest strategies regarding funding needs for priority projects. Often times this preparation work sets up projects for future funding opportunities, such as upcoming bond programs.

## **II. Summary of Accomplishments in 2022**

The SGSP has been a very successful partnership between the County and Nossaman. A summary of our accomplishments in 2022 include:

- **Total Grant and Funding Secured since September 2014:** Worked with County Departments to secure a total of \$69,284,446 for high priority projects.
- **Total Grant and State Funding Secured in 2022:** Worked with County Departments to secure a total of \$21,262,035 for various projects awarded in 2022.
- **Grant Applications Submitted:** Assisted various county departments with the submission of 10 grant applications.

- **Pending Grant Applications:** There are currently 2 pending grant applications Nossaman has assisted the County with, totaling **\$24,188,600**.
- **Alerts:** Nossaman alerted varies county department of 28 different funding opportunities that may be of interest to those departments and nonprofit partners on topics such as homelessness, water, climate adaptation, public health, affordable housing, parks, and public safety.
- **Grant Application Support Letters:** Coordinated securing grant 21 support letters for varies projects benefiting the County.
- **Funding Needs:** Consulted with all department heads and Supervisors to collect updated information on critical unfunded projects within the County.
- **Strategic Grant Services Program Work Plan:** Under the guidance of the Board's Legislative Committee and in collaboration with departments, developed a work plan for calendar year 2022 focused on 16 priority projects.

### III. Strategic Advice Provided on Projects

Nossaman regularly assists with on-going County projects in need of funding and provides research on grant opportunities at the request of Supervisors and/or Department heads. These efforts don't necessarily result in the immediate submission of a grant application, but rather lay the groundwork for future funding opportunities. Below is an outline of the projects we worked on in 2022.

- **Department Meetings:** Nossaman participated in several meetings with Departments whose projects are listed on the potential work for Harris and Associates. Nossaman evaluated potential grant programs that would be good fits for the projects on this list, and provided Departments with key information about the grant programs.
- **FY 2022-23 Budget Act Funding Opportunities:** The state budget provided several different funding opportunities for the County, and Nossaman initially identified programs likely to benefit the County's projects. Potential state budget funding pots that Nossaman identified, included those focused on: wildfire resilience, water resilience, climate resilience, sustainable agriculture, and the Cap and Trade expenditure plan.
- **Interlake Tunnel & Fish Screens:** Nossaman lobbied for funding in the 2022-23 State Budget, and continued to research and monitor any potential funding programs that this project would be eligible and competitive for.
- **San Antonio and Nacimiento Dam and Spillway:** Nossaman continued to work with a statewide coalition to advocate for funding in a statewide bond that could be used for projects such as dam and spillway repairs. Additionally, Nossaman lobbied for funding in the 2022-23 State Budget and successfully secured over \$6 million.
- **Proposition 68 Grants:** The County submitted several applications to both the Regional Parks Program and the Rural Tourism and Recreation Program. While none of the projects were funded, we did scope out these projects for potential future funding opportunities. Nossaman worked with staff to review all of the County's applications for funding, provide comments and suggestions to enhance competitiveness, and secured support letters from our Legislative Delegation. The applications included:

- Proposition 68 Rural Recreation and Tourism Program:
  - San Lorenzo Park: This project will expand the park offerings with the addition of a Splash Pad.
  - Lake San Antonio Marina Project: This project will construct a new Marina in the Lake San Antonio South Shore recreation area to revitalize park visitation.
  - Lake San Antonio Amphitheater Project: This project will add an Amphitheater to Lake San Antonio North Shore to revitalize park visitation.
- Proposition 68 Regional Parks Program:
  - Salinas Bike and Skate Park: The 855 East Laurel Street Project is a new 1.7 acre Bike and Skate Park.
- **Active Transportation Program (ATP):** The County's PWFP Department and the County's Health Department submitted several ATP applications. The projects have both infrastructure and non-infrastructure components, and the County Health Department will be performing outreach and non-infrastructure activities. Nossaman met with County staff and provided input and suggestions on the 3 of the draft applications. On October 20 the California Transportation Commission released the 2023 Active Transportation Program (ATP) staff recommendations for funding. The County had submitted 5 applications, 3 of which successfully secured funding.
  - Chualar Complete Streets: This project will include sidewalks to close the gaps in the community and allow for safe pedestrian use. The project will include crosswalks as well to ensure there are safe routes to schools and public transportation facilities. Nossaman met with County staff about this project, reviewed the application and made suggestions to the grant narrative. Funding requested and secured: \$6,349,000
  - Castroville Complete Streets: This project will include sidewalks to close the gaps in the community and allow for safe pedestrian use. The project will include crosswalks as well to ensure there are safe routes to schools and public transportation facilities. Nossaman met with County staff about this project, reviewed the application and made suggestions to the grant narrative. Funding requested and secured: \$6,463,000
  - San Ardo Complete Streets: The County received technical assistance from Caltrans on this application. This project will include sidewalks to close the gaps in the community and allow for safe pedestrian use. The project will include crosswalks as well to ensure there are safe routes to schools and public transportation facilities. Nossaman did not work on this application. Funding requested and secured: \$3,448,000

Additionally, the County applied for the following ATP applications that were not recommended for funding:

- Esquiline Road Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Improvement Project: The project will construct a new bridge with pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Nossaman did not work on this application.
- Carmel Valley Road: The proposed project consists of constructing a Class II bike lane on Carmel Valley Road from the entrance to Los Laureles Lodge to the intersection of Panetta Road. The segment of road is narrow and cannot safely accommodate bicyclists and motorists at the same time. Nossaman met with County staff about this project, reviewed the application and made suggestions to the grant narrative.



- **FY 2022 OJP Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative:** Nossaman participated in several meetings with the County and County's partners, including the City of Salinas, to discuss an application for funding in order to create a critical incident response team, which would be trauma related. Nossaman participated in the group preparation meetings and secure letters of support from our legislative delegation. The application was submitted, but was not selected for funding.
- **San Lucas Clean Drinking Water Project:** Nossaman has been highly engaged on this project, providing strategic advice on funding opportunities to provide a solution to the drinking water issues in the community of San Lucas. Nossaman lobbied for funding in the 2022-23 State Budget for this project. Supervisors Alejo and Lopez met with State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to discuss the need for a clean drinking water solution in the community of San Lucas, and funding for the project. Nossaman has also been working closely with the SWRCB, and has set up meetings with the Chair of the Board and several Divisions, to discuss next steps regarding accessing funding for the project. Additionally, Nossaman set up a meeting with the Governor's office to discuss the project and potential funding through the State Budget. The SWRCB recommended that the San Lucas Water District accept an offer of Technical Assistance to evaluate a long term solution for safe, clean drinking water for the community of San Lucas. Nossaman will continue to work on identifying opportunities to fund this critical drinking water project.

#### **IV. Upcoming Grant Opportunities in 2023**

There are several upcoming grant opportunities we have identified that align with County priorities and projects. Some of these programs are outlined in our SGSP 2023 Work Plan. Examples of upcoming opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- **Active Transportation Program (ATP):** Bike and pedestrian improvements, connectivity improvements.
- **Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program (AHSC):** Affordable housing related infrastructure, sustainable transportation infrastructure.
- **California Drinking Water State Revolving Fund:** Assists public water systems in financing the cost of drinking water infrastructure projects needed to achieve or maintain compliance with Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requirements.
- **CAL FIRE Wildfire Prevention and Forest Health Grants:** Wildfire Prevention Grants Program seeks to award local projects in and near fire threatened communities that focus on increasing the protection of people, structures, and communities. Forest Health Grant Program will award funding for landscape scale forest restoration projects that restore forest resilience to catastrophic disturbance.
- **Dam Safety Grant Program:** Details are TBD.
- **Habitat Conservation Fund:** Eligible projects include: nature interpretation programs to bring urban residents into park and wildlife areas, protection of various plant and animal species, and acquisition and development of wildlife corridors and trails.

- **Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant:** This opportunity provides funding for communities to implement mitigation activities to reduce risk to life and property from natural hazards. In CA, natural hazards include wildfire, earthquake, drought, extreme weather, flooding, and other impacts of climate change. HMGP funding can also support the development of Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMP) and project scoping activities.
- **Local Housing Trust Fund:** Provides matching funds for entities that set aside funding in a trust fund for affordable housing.
- **Small Community Drought Relief Program:** Funding to provide immediate relief in response to conditions arising from a drought scenario to address immediate impacts on human health and safety and on fish and wildlife resources and to provide water to persons or communities that lose or are threatened with the loss or contamination of water supplies.
- **Urban and Multi-benefit Drought Relief Grant Program:** Funding for communities, including Tribes, facing the loss or contamination of their water supplies due to the drought; and to address immediate drought impacts on human health and safety, and to protect fish and wildlife resources plus other public benefits, such as ecosystem improvements.



# County of Monterey

## Item No.12

### Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: 23-047

January 17, 2023

Introduced: 1/10/2023

Current Status: Scheduled PM

Version: 1

Matter Type: General Agenda Item

Consider approval of the proposed Board of Supervisors Standing Committee Rotation Schedule and Appointments for 2023; Consider staff recommendations regarding continuation, creation and dissolution of certain Board of Supervisors Ad Hoc Committees and Consider proposed appointments to various Non-County Entities for calendar year 2023 as recommended by the Chair of the Board of Supervisors.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Approve the proposed Board of Supervisors Standing Committee Rotation Schedule and Appointments for 2023;
- b. Approve the proposed appointments to various Non-County Entities as proposed by the incoming Chair; and,
- c. Consider the following options for each of Board of Supervisors Ad Hoc Committees:
  1. Dissolve and remove from 2023 appointments list; or
  2. Confirm appointments and establish a termination date
  3. Consider renaming of the Downtown MOU ad hoc committee to a new Salinas-County ad hoc committee to more accurately reflect further work to advance a broad range of City/County efforts

#### SUMMARY:

In March 2022, the Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted policy language which established the rotation of appointments to standing committees, with 3-year terms, sequentially by district; and continued confirmation of ad hoc committees and appointments to non-county entities at the beginning of each calendar year.

#### DISCUSSION:

Board Policy G-10 addresses Board of Supervisors (Board) Standing and Ad Hoc Committees, and Non-County Entities to which the Board makes appointments, and the process for making such appointments. The subject policy sets forth a rotating membership for standing committees with 3-year terms, commencing in January 2023, and continues the confirmation of ad hoc committees and appointment to non-county entities on an annual basis.

#### **Standing Committees**

In accordance with the policy, the incoming Chairperson submitted a proposed standing committee rotation schedule for the Board's receipt prior to the close of the year (December 2022). A copy of

the proposed rotational schedule is attached to this report as Exhibit A.

Staff requests the Board consider appointments pursuant to the proposed rotational schedule at their first meeting of the year, in adherence with policy procedures. During the meeting, supervisors whose district is in sequence, will have the ability to assign or delegate membership on a standing committee to another supervisor. Such assignment or delegation will require Board approval. The rotational sequence shall immediately commence, following Board approval of the rotation schedule.

**Non-County Entities:**

Prior to the close of the calendar year, the County Administrative Officer (CAO) solicited interest from each supervisor regarding service on various non-county entities to which the Board makes appointments. The CAO, Assistant CAO, and County Counsel have conferred with the incoming Chairperson regarding Board member preferences on such entities. The Chair's recommendation for appointments to those entities is outlined in Exhibit B for the Board's consideration.

The non-county entity list has been reformatted to clearly differentiate appointment types (i.e. staff, district, and term appointments).

**Ad Hoc Committees**

Currently, there are eight (8) existing ad hoc committees of the Board. A detailed list of said ad hoc committees, current membership, and anticipated expiration dates is attached to this report as Exhibit C for the Board's reference.

Further Board direction is sought regarding the continuance or dissolution of each of the ad hoc committees. Staff recommends the dissolution of the Fire and Emergency Medical Services and Ad Hoc Committee, as it has completed its original purpose. It is further recommended that the Board rename the Downtown MOU Ad Hoc Committee to the Salinas-County Ad Hoc Committee to more accurately reflect work to further advance a broad range of city/county efforts.

A consolidated list of proposed standing committee appointments and Chair recommendations regarding appointments to various Non-County Entities is attached to this report as Exhibit B for Board consideration. Upon Board direction, the County Administrative Office will modify and post the 2023 appointment list accordingly.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:**

The County Administrative Office coordinated with the Office of County Counsel and the incoming Chair of the Board of Supervisors (District 1).

**FINANCING:**

There are no financial impacts to the General Fund resultant to the Board receiving this report. Costs related to the operation of various boards, committees and commissions are funded in the appropriate departmental budget related to their operations.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:**

The assignments of Board of Supervisors members and staff to boards, committees, and commissions

for calendar year 2023 work to advance all categories of the Board's Strategic Initiatives.

Mark a check to the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives

- X Economic Development
- X Administration
- X Health & Human Services
- X Infrastructure
- X Public Safety

Prepared by: Karina Bokanovich, Management Analyst II

Approved by: Nicholas E. Chiulos, Interim County Administrative Officer

Attachments:

Exhibit A - Proposed Standing Committee Rotation Schedule

Exhibit B - Consolidated list of Standing Committee, Non-County Entity, and Ad hoc Committee appointments for 2023

Exhibit C - Ad Hoc Committee Descriptions

Exhibit D - Board Policy G-10



# County of Monterey

**Item No.**

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

**Legistar File Number: 23-047**

**January 17, 2023**

**Introduced:** 1/10/2023

**Current Status:** Scheduled PM

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**Matter Type:** General Agenda Item

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### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Approve the proposed Board of Supervisors Standing Committee Rotation Schedule and Appointments for 2023;
- b. Approve the proposed appointments to various Non-County Entities as proposed by the incoming Chair; and,
- c. Consider the following options for each of Board of Supervisors Ad Hoc Committees:
  1. Dissolve and remove from 2023 appointments list; or
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### SUMMARY:

In March 2022, the Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted policy language which established the rotation of appointments to standing committees, with 3-year terms, sequentially by district; and continued confirmation of ad hoc committees and appointments to non-county entities at the beginning of each calendar year.

### DISCUSSION:

Board Policy G-10 addresses Board of Supervisors (Board) Standing and Ad Hoc Committees, and Non-County Entities to which the Board makes appointments, and the process for making such appointments. The subject policy sets forth a rotating membership for standing committees with 3-year terms, commencing in January 2023, and continues the confirmation of ad hoc committees and appointment to non-county entities on an annual basis.

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the proposed rotational schedule is attached to this report as Exhibit A.

Staff requests the Board consider appointments pursuant to the proposed rotational schedule at their first meeting of the year, in adherence with policy procedures. During the meeting, supervisors whose district is in sequence, will have the ability to assign or delegate membership on a standing committee to another supervisor. Such assignment or delegation will require Board approval. The rotational sequence shall immediately commence, following Board approval of the rotation schedule.

**Non-County Entities:**

Prior to the close of the calendar year, the County Administrative Officer (CAO) solicited interest from each supervisor regarding service on various non-county entities to which the Board makes appointments. The CAO, Assistant CAO, and County Counsel have conferred with the incoming Chairperson regarding Board member preferences on such entities. The Chair's recommendation for appointments to those entities is outlined in Exhibit B for the Board's consideration.

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A consolidated list of proposed standing committee appointments and Chair recommendations regarding appointments to various Non-County Entities is attached to this report as Exhibit B for Board consideration. Upon Board direction, the County Administrative Office will modify and post the 2023 appointment list accordingly.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:**

The County Administrative Office coordinated with the Office of County Counsel and the incoming Chair of the Board of Supervisors (District 1).

**FINANCING:**

There are no financial impacts to the General Fund resultant to the Board receiving this report. Costs related to the operation of various boards, committees and commissions are funded in the appropriate departmental budget related to their operations.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:**

The assignments of Board of Supervisors members and staff to boards, committees, and commissions

Legistar File Number: 23-047

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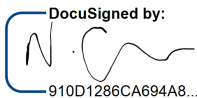
for calendar year 2023 work to advance all categories of the Board's Strategic Initiatives.

Mark a check to the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives

- X Economic Development
- X Administration
- X Health & Human Services
- X Infrastructure
- X Public Safety

Prepared by: Karina Bokanovich, Management Analyst II

Approved by: Nicholas E. Chiulos, Interim County Administrative Officer

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1/11/2023 | 9:43 AM PST

Attachments:

Exhibit A - Proposed Standing Committee Rotation Schedule

Exhibit B - Consolidated list of Standing Committee, Non-County Entity, and Ad hoc Committee appointments for 2023

Exhibit C - Ad Hoc Committee Descriptions

Exhibit D - Board Policy G-10



**Board Standing Committee Assignments in Next Five Years with Staggered Rotation, 3-Year Terms**

<b>BOARD STANDING COMMITTEES</b>	<b>2023 DISTRICTS</b>	<b>2024 DISTRICTS</b>	<b>2025 DISTRICTS</b>	<b>2026 DISTRICTS</b>	<b>2027 DISTRICTS</b>
Alternative Energy and Environment Committee	1 2	1 2	2 3	3 4	3 4
Budget Committee	2 3	2 3	3 4	4 5	4 5
Cannabis Standing Committee <sup>1</sup>	3 4	3 4	3 4	3 5	3 5
Capital Improvement Committee	4 5	4 5	5 1	1 2	1 2
Economic Development Committee	5 1	5 1	1 2	2 3	2 3
Equal Opportunity Committee	1 2	1 2	3 4	4 5	5 1
Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee	2 3	2 3	3 4	4 5	4 5
NEW - Homelessness	X <sup>2</sup> 4	X 4	X 4	X 5	X 5
Human Resources Committee	4 5	4 5	5 1	1 2	1 2
Legislative Committee	5 1	5 1	1 2	2 3	2 3
Monterey Urban County Standing Committee <sup>3</sup>	3 2	3 2	4 2	4 5	4 5
Water Resources Agency Joint Boards Leadership Committee <sup>4</sup>	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3

<sup>1</sup> The Supervisor from District 3 shall serve on the Cannabis Standing Committee with the remaining position rotating sequentially by District.

<sup>2</sup> The Supervisor appointed to serve on the Coalition of Homeless Services Providers Leadership Council shall serve on the Homelessness Standing Committee with the remaining position rotating sequentially by District – Supervisor Alejo appointed for 2022.

<sup>3</sup> A Supervisor from either District 3 or 4 shall serve on the Monterey Urban County Standing Committee with the remaining position rotating sequentially by District.

<sup>4</sup> The Supervisors from Districts 2 and 3 shall serve on the Water Resources Agency Joint Boards Leadership Committee.

**Assignment of Monterey County Board of Supervisors Members and Staff  
to Boards, Committees and Commissions for Calendar Year 2023**

<b>BOARD STANDING COMMITTEES (Year 1 – Rotating Schedule)</b>	<b>NUMBER OF APPOINTMENTS</b>	<b>2023 APPOINTMENTS</b>
Alternative Energy and Environment Committee	2	District 1 District 2
Budget Committee	2	District 2 District 3
Cannabis Standing Committee	2	District 3 District 4
Capital Improvement Committee	2	District 4 District 5
Economic <del>Opportunity</del> <u>Development</u> Committee	2	District 5 District 1
Equal Opportunity Committee	2	District 1 District 2
Health, Housing and Human Services Committee	2	District 2 District 3
Homelessness Committee	2	<del>X<sup>1</sup></del> <u>District 4</u>
Human Resources Committee	2	District 4 District 5
Legislative Committee	2	District 5 District 1
Monterey Urban County Standing Committee	2	District 3 District 2
Water Resources Agency Joint Boards Leadership Committee	2	District 2 District 3

<sup>1</sup> The Supervisor appointed to serve on the Coalition of Homeless Service Providers Leadership Council shall serve on the Homelessness Standing Committee. The appointment is made by the Leadership Council.

<b>AD HOC COMMITTEES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF APPOINTMENTS</b>	<b>2023 APPOINTMENTS</b>
Animal Services Ad Hoc Committee	2	District 2 District 3
COVID-19 Agricultural Ad Hoc Committee	2	District 1 District 3
COVID-19 Communications Ad Hoc Committee	2	District 3 District 4
COVID-19 Hospitality Ad Hoc Committee	2	District 5 District 2
<del>Downtown MOU Ad Hoc Committee</del>	<del>2</del>	<del>Supervisor Aleje</del> <del>Supervisor Askew</del>
<del>Fire and Emergency Medical Services Ad Hoc Committee</del>	<del>2</del>	<del>Supervisor Adams</del> <del>Supervisor Phillips</del>
Natividad Medical Center Strategic Objectives Ad Hoc Committee	2	<u>District 1</u> <u>District 3</u>
<u>Salinas County Ad Hoc Committee</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>District 1</u> <u>District 4</u>

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Unified Health System Ad Hoc Committee	2	District 3 District 4
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AGENCIES, JPAs & MISC. APPOINTMENTS		NUMBER OF APPOINTMENTS	2023 APPOINTMENTS
3CE (Central Coast Community Energy) – Policy Board		1 1 Alternate	District 5 District 4
Arts Council for Monterey County		1 1 Alternate	<del>District 3</del> District 2 District 1
Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG)		2 1 Alternate	District 2 District 5 District 4
Behavioral Health Commission		1 1 Alternate	<del>District 3</del> District 2 District 1
Central California Alliance for Health (Santa Cruz-Monterey-Merced Managed Medical Care Commission)		1	District 4
Children’s Council of Monterey County		1 1 Alternate	District 4 District 3
Coalition of Homeless Services Providers Leadership Council		1 Leadership Council Appointment	NA
Community Alliance for Safety and Peace (CASP)		1 1 Alternate	District 1 District 2
Community Restorative Justice Commission		1	District 2
Emergency Communications Policy Advisory Committee		2	District 3 District 2 <del>District 1</del>
Emergency Medical Services Committee		2	District 5 District 3
First 5 Monterey County		1	District 3
Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council		1	District 2
Local Agency Formation Commission		2 1 Alternate	District 1 District 3 District 4
Military & Veterans Affairs Advisory Commission		1	District 1
Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District		3 1 Alternate	District 2 District 3 District 4 District 1
Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau (MCCVB)		1	District 5
Monterey County Parks Commission		1	District 2
Monterey One Water		1 1 Alternate	District 2 District 4
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD)	Board of Directors	1 Resident District Supervisor (Dist. 4 or 5)	District 5
	Policy Advisory Committee (PAC)	<u>1</u>	District 5
	Water Supply Project Governance Committee	1 1 Alternate to Governance Committee	District 5 District 4

<b>AGENCIES, JPAs &amp; MISC. APPOINTMENTS - Continued</b>	<b>NUMBER OF APPOINTMENTS</b>	<b>2023 APPOINTMENTS</b>
Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST)	1 1 Alternate	District 1 District 4
Natividad Medical Center Board of Trustees	1	Supervisor Lopez
Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency Board of Directors <u>(WRA)</u>	1 1 Alternate	District 1 District 4
Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority	1	District 2
Remote Access Network Board	1	District 5
Salinas Valley Recycles (Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority)	2 1 Alternate	District 2 District 3 District 1
Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster	1 1 Alternate	District 4 District 5
<del>Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC)</del>	<del>5 (Each individual's alternate)</del>	<del>Supervisor Alejo Linda Gonzalez &amp; Javier Gomez Supervisor Phillips Claudia Link Supervisor Lopez Priscilla Barba Supervisor Askew Yuri Anderson Supervisor Adams Sarah Hardgrave Colleen Courtney</del>
Workforce Development Board	1	District 2

<b>AGENCIES, JPAs &amp; MISC. (DISTRICT APPOINTMENTS)</b>	<b>DISTRICT APPOINTMENTS</b>	<b>2023 APPOINTMENTS</b>
Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency Board of Directors (BoS)	District 2 and 1 Alternate	<del>District 3</del>
Gonzales Enhanced Infrastructure District	District 3	NA
South Salinas Valley Broadband Authority	District 3	NA

AGENCIES, JPAs & MISC. (STAFF APPOINTMENTS)	NUMBER OF STAFF APPOINTMENTS	2023 APPOINTMENTS
3CE (Central Coast Community Energy) – Operations Board	1 <i>1 Alternate</i>	CAO <i>Assistant CAO</i>
Community Corrections Partnership	1	Assistant CAO
Law Library Board of Trustees	1 Staff member from County Counsel, District Attorney, or Public Defender	Robert Brayer
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	1	Erik Lundquist

AGENCIES, JPAs & MISC. (TERM APPOINTMENTS)	NUMBER APPOINTMENTS	2023 APPOINTMENTS	TERM
<del>California State Association of Counties - (CSAC) Board of Directors</del>	1 <i>1 Alternate</i>	District 1 <i>District 4</i>	Appointed annually in Fall.  Term expires early November 2023
<del>Golden State Connect Authority (GSCA)</del>	1 <i>1 Alternate</i>	District 3 <i>District 2</i>	Appointed annually in Fall.
<del>Golden State Financing Authority (GSFA)</del>			Term expires early January 2024
<del>Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)</del>			Term expires December 2024
ReGEn Monterey (Monterey Regional Waste Management District)	1 (District 2, 4, 5)	District 4	Term expires June 2023
Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency	1 <i>1 Alternate</i>	District 1 <i>John Baillie</i>	

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**EXHIBIT B**  
**2022 Ad Hoc Committees**

Ad hoc committees are periodically established by the Board of Supervisors to address a single subject for a limited duration.

<b>Ad Hoc Committee</b>	<b>Established</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Animal Services Ad Hoc Committee	2016	To provide oversight of the alignment of animal services in Monterey County and the City of Salinas.
COVID-19 Agricultural Ad Hoc Committee	2020	To address the challenges faced by specific economic sectors through the COVID-19 pandemic while maintaining a focus on the health of our communities and the need for policies and protocols to protect our residents and workforce.
COVID-19 Communications Ad Hoc Committee	1/12/21	Consisting of the Board Chair and Immediate Past Chair, to work with Staff and other Board approved resources to increase public awareness of County efforts to address the pandemic.
COVID-19 Hospitality Ad Hoc Committee	2020	To address the challenges faced by specific economic sectors through the COVID-19 pandemic while maintaining a focus on the health of our communities and the need for policies and protocols to protect our residents and workforce.
Downtown MOU Ad Hoc	2/23/2021	To work on updating MOUs in relation between the County and the City of Salinas.
Fire and Emergency Medical Services Ad Hoc Committee	2020	To review the funding options in the unincorporated Monterey County for Fire and Emergency Medical Services.
Natividad Medical Center Strategic Objectives Ad Hoc Committee	2020	To address Natividad Medical Center's Strategic Objectives.
Unified Health System Ad Hoc	7/19/2022	To address electronic efficiencies for patients requiring medical help

# County of Monterey

## Board Policy Manual

Policy Name	Policy Number	Page
Standing and Ad Hoc Committees, and Non-County Entities Functions, Membership and Appointments	G-10	1 of 16
<b>Policy Category</b> Government and Administration		

### I. Purpose

- a. To establish policy and guidelines for the function of and appointments to standing and ad hoc committees of the Board of Supervisors, and appointments to non-County entities such as the Local Agency Formation Commission of Monterey County (“LAFCO”) and the Monterey Bay Air Resources District (“MBARD”).

### II. Background

- a. The Board of Supervisors (“Board”) has, on occasion, established various standing and ad hoc committees. In addition, the County is required or has agreed to appoint Supervisors to various non-County entities such as special districts and joint powers authorities. Historically, the appointments to such committees and non-County entities have been annually upon recommendation of the incoming Chairperson of the Board and vote of the full Board. The procedure for appointments has not been formally established and was last addressed by the Board in 2010.
- b. This policy is intended to formalize the functions of, and the appointment process to, Board standing and ad hoc committees, and appointments to non-County entities.

### III. Policy

- a. It is the policy of the Board that the functions of and appointments to Board standing and ad hoc committees, and appointments to non-County entities, be pursuant to this policy unless otherwise determined by Board resolution or Board order.

### IV. Definitions

- a. “Standing committee” means an advisory committee established by the Board consisting of less than a quorum of the Board and having continuing jurisdiction of a major policy issue or objective, or an issue of ongoing significance to the County. Standing Committees shall be subject to the California Open Meeting Law, Government Code



section 54950 et seq. (the “Brown Act”).

- b. “Ad hoc committee” means an advisory committee established by the Board, consisting of less than a quorum of the Board, and established to address a specific issue or goal with a limited existence. Ad hoc committees shall generally not exist for the lesser of the time to complete their purpose or 1 year. In unusual circumstances, the Board may authorize an ad hoc committee to exist beyond 1 year, but such committees shall not exist for more than a total of eighteen (18) months. Ad hoc committees are not subject to the Brown Act.
- c. “Non-County entity” means a non-County legislative or governing body established pursuant to state law or agreement. Examples of non-County entities are, but are not limited to, LAFCO, MBARD, Salinas Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“SVBGSA”), Salinas Valley Recycles (Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority), Monterey Regional Waste Management District (“MRWMD”), and Monterey One Water (“M1W”). Such entities may or may not be subject to the Brown Act, depending on their organic law, method of formation, or unilateral determination. Membership on some such entities may also be determined by state law or agreement.

## **V. Committees established**

- a. Standing committees.

As of the date this policy was adopted, the standing committees of the Board are as set forth in Attachment A. The Board may create new or abolish existing standing committees from time-to-time, and the Clerk of the Board (“COB”) is authorized and directed to update Attachment A as necessary to reflect the new or abolished committees. Attachment A shall reflect which committees are new and which have been abolished, and the date of such action by the Board to create a historical record of standing committees.

- b. Ad hoc committees.

As of the date this policy was adopted, the ad hoc committees of the Board are as set forth in Attachment B. The Board may create new or abolish existing ad hoc committees, on occasion, and the COB is authorized and directed to update Attachment B as necessary to reflect the new or abolished committees. Attachment B shall reflect which committees are new and which have been abolished, the date of such action by the Board, and the target date for the termination of the Ad Hoc Committee, to create a historical record of ad hoc committees.

- c. Non-County entities.

As of the date this policy was adopted, the non-County entities to which the Board makes appointments are as set forth in Attachment C. Non-County entities may be created or abolished on occasion, and the COB is

authorized and directed to update Attachment C as necessary to reflect the new or abolished entities. Attachment C shall reflect which entities are new and which have been abolished, and the date of such action, to create a historical record of non-County entities.

## **VI. Appointments and Membership**

### **a. Standing committees.**

The membership on standing committees shall be on a rotational basis sequentially by Supervisorial District as follows:

1. Supervisors shall serve on a standing committee for a term of three years that commences on January 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on December 31<sup>st</sup>.
2. Upon adoption of this policy, the Chairperson shall recommend appointments to the standing committees for the remainder of calendar year 2022, with consideration given to interest, continuity, expertise and importance to specific Supervisorial Districts, and the Board shall make the appointments. Thereafter, in December of 2022, the incoming Chairperson shall recommend appointments to the standing committees on a rotational basis. The recommendations shall be by Supervisorial District sequentially, and the recommendations shall stagger the initial terms such that not all memberships start with District 1. For example, Districts 1 and 2 to committee A; Districts 2 and 3 to committee B; Districts 3 and 4 to committee C, etc. The Board shall make the appointments at the first meeting in January of 2023, designating the Supervisor first in sequence to serve an initial term of two years, and the Supervisor second in sequence to serve the full term. Thereafter, upon completion of a Supervisor's term on the committee, the Supervisor from the District next in sequence shall serve on the committee and no formal appointment by the Board shall be required.
3. A Supervisor whose District is in sequence may, at the start of a term, decline to serve on a standing committee, in which case the Supervisor in the District next in sequence shall serve, and the membership sequence shall remain the same. For example, if the Supervisor from District 3 is next in sequence to start a term to serve on committee A and declines, the Supervisor from District 4 then serves on the committee and District 5 is next in sequence. The declining Supervisor shall provide notice to the Chairperson, CAO, County Counsel, and the COB in the December prior to the start of a term.

If all other Supervisors decline to serve, the Board shall make an appointment upon the Chairperson's recommendation. Upon such appointment, the appointed Supervisor's District shall not re-start the sequence of membership and it remains the same. In the same example as above, if District 2 is appointed, District 5 remains next in sequence.

4. A Supervisor whose District is in sequence may assign or delegate membership on a standing committee to another Supervisor at the start of a term. Such assignment or delegation shall require Board approval. In the event the Board approves the assignment or delegation, the assigned/delegated Supervisor's District shall not re-start the sequence of membership. For example, the Supervisor from District 4 is on committee B and the Supervisor from District 5 is next in sequence to serve on that committee. The Supervisor from District 5 may assign or delegate service to the Supervisor from District 3. Upon Board approval, the Supervisor from District 3 serves on the committee, but District 1 remains in sequence to next serve a term on the committee. If the Board declines all proposed assignments/delegations, the Supervisor from the District in sequence shall serve the term. In the example above, if the Board declines the assignment/delegation to District 3, the Supervisor from District 5 shall serve the term.
5. Membership on standing committees is by District. If a new Supervisor is elected during a term for which a District is serving on a committee, the newly elected Supervisor shall finish out the term.
6. Supervisors who begin a term on a committee are expected to serve out that term. If a vacancy occurs in a Supervisorial District, or a Supervisor desires to resign or refuses to participate in committee meetings, the procedures in paragraph VI.A.3, above, shall generally be followed, and the selected Supervisor shall serve out the term on the committee, but the sequence of membership shall remain the same.
7. Notwithstanding the foregoing:
  - i. A Supervisor from either District 3 or 4 shall serve on the Monterey Urban County Standing Committee with the remaining position rotating sequentially by District;
  - ii. The Supervisors from Districts 2 and 3 shall serve on the Water Resources Agency Joint Boards Leadership Committee;
  - iii. The Supervisor from District 3 shall serve on the Cannabis Standing Committee with the remaining position rotating sequentially by District; and,
  - iv. The Supervisor appointed to serve on the Coalition of Homeless Services Providers Leadership Council shall serve on the Homelessness Standing Committee with the remaining position rotating sequentially by District.
  - v. Should any of the above identified Supervisors decline to serve, wish to assign or delegate, or resign from serving, the procedures in paragraphs VI.A.3, A.4 or A.6, above, shall be followed as appropriate.

8. The COB shall keep a roster of standing committee membership which shall be presented to the Board for information at the Board's first meeting of the calendar year.

b. Ad hoc committees.

Ad hoc committees may be formed on occasion by the Board. Upon formation, the Board shall determine membership and anticipated length of existence, with consideration given to interest, expertise, and importance to specific Supervisorial Districts. Supervisors appointed to an ad hoc committee are expected to serve on the committee until such time as the committee is disbanded; however, a Supervisor may request to be removed from a committee, in which case the Board shall select a replacement.

Prior to the first meeting of the Board in a calendar year, the COB shall prepare a matrix showing membership on ad hoc committees and the anticipated expiration of the committees, and submit the matrix for Board confirmation at the first meeting of the calendar year. The COB shall keep the matrix for reference and shall update the matrix if a committee is disbanded during the calendar year.

c. Non-County entities.

In December of each year, for those non-County entities whose membership is not set by state law or agreement, the CAO shall, in a manner that does not violate the Brown Act, and in consultation with the County Counsel, solicit interest from each Supervisor regarding service on such entities (designated appointments are listed on Attachment C). Upon receiving such input, the CAO shall provide the information to the incoming Chairperson, who shall prepare recommendations for appointments to the non-County entities, including recommendations for those non-County entities whose membership is set by state law or agreement. Recommendations for those entities whose membership is not set by state law or agreement shall be prepared with consideration given to interest, continuity, expertise, and importance to specific Supervisorial Districts. The CAO shall process to the full Board consideration of the recommendations at the first Board meeting in January of each year, and the Board shall make such appointments as it deems appropriate. The COB shall keep a roster of non-County entity membership for reference.

## **VII. Committee Procedures**

- a. At their first meeting of each calendar year, standing and ad hoc committees shall select a Chairperson. Generally, and unless a committee determines otherwise, the Chairperson position of each committee shall rotate annually between its appointees. The meetings of committees, and the responsibility of committee members, shall be in conformance with Section 2.04.250 of the Monterey County Code, enclosed for ease of reference as Attachment D.

## **VIII. Review Date**

- a. This Policy will be reviewed by the Board in December of 2024, and then every even numbered year after that.

## **IX. Board Action**

- a. Legistar File Number: 22-185, March 1, 2022

# ATTACHMENT A

ATTACHMENT A  
BOARD STANDING COMMITTEES

Alternative Energy and Environment Committee

Budget Committee

Cannabis Standing Committee<sup>1</sup>

Capital Improvement Committee

Economic Opportunity Committee

Equal Opportunity Committee

Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee

Homelessness Committee<sup>2</sup>

Human Resources Committee

Legislative Committee

Monterey Urban County Standing Committee<sup>3</sup>

Water Resources Agency Joint Boards Leadership Committee<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Supervisor from District 3 to be a member with the remaining position rotating sequentially by District.

<sup>2</sup>Supervisor appointed to Coalition of Homeless Services Providers Leadership Council to be a member with the remaining position rotating sequentially by District.

<sup>3</sup>Supervisor from either District 3 or 4 to be a member with the remaining position rotating sequentially by District.

<sup>4</sup>Supervisors from Districts 2 and 3 to be members.

## ATTACHMENT B



ATTACHMENT B  
BOARD AD HOC COMMITTEES

Animal Services Ad Hoc Committee  
COVID-19 Agricultural Ad Hoc Committee  
COVID-19 Communications Ad Hoc Committee  
COVID-19 Hospitality Ad Hoc Committee  
Downtown MOU Ad Hoc Committee  
Housing Authority Ad Hoc Committee

## ATTACHMENT C

ATTACHMENT C  
NON-COUNTY ENTITIES

3CE (Central Coast Community Energy) – Policy Board  
3CE (Central Coast Community Energy) – Operations Board<sup>1</sup>  
Arts Council for Monterey County  
Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG)  
Behavioral Health Commission  
California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Board of Directors<sup>2</sup>  
Central California Alliance for Health (Santa Cruz-Monterey-Merced Managed Medical Care  
Commission) (CCAH)  
Children’s Council of Monterey County  
Coalition of Homeless Services Providers Leadership Council  
Community Corrections Partnership<sup>1</sup>  
Community Alliance for Safety and Peace (CASP)  
Community Restorative Justice Commission  
Emergency Communications Policy Advisory Committee  
Emergency Medical Services Committee  
First 5 Monterey County  
Golden State Connect Authority (GSCA)  
Golden State Financing Authority (GSFA)  
Gonzales Enhanced Infrastructure District Public Financing Authority<sup>3</sup>  
Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council  
Law Library Board of Trustees<sup>1</sup>  
Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)  
Military & Veterans Affairs Advisory Commission  
Monterey Bay Air Resources District (MBARD)  
Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau (MCCVB)  
Monterey County Parks Commission

ATTACHMENT C (cont.)

NON-COUNTY ENTITIES

Monterey One Water (M1W)

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) Board of Directors<sup>4</sup>

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) Policy Advisory Committee (PAC)

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)<sup>1</sup>

Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project Governance Committee

Monterey Regional Waste Management District (MRWMD)<sup>5</sup>

Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST)

Natividad Medical Center Board of Trustees

Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency (PRFMA)<sup>6</sup>

Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority (PRWFPA)

Remote Access Network<sup>7</sup>

Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)

Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA)<sup>8</sup>

Salinas Valley Recycles (Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority)<sup>9</sup>

Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster<sup>10</sup>

Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC)<sup>11</sup>

Workforce Development Board (WDB)

<sup>1</sup>County staff appointments.

<sup>2</sup>Appointment to the Board of Directors is typically made in the fall, in time for the appointed Supervisor to participate in the CSAC Board meeting in November/December.

<sup>3</sup>Appointee is the Supervisor from the District that includes the City of Gonzales; alternate is chief of staff.

<sup>4</sup>Appointee must be a resident of MPWMD.

<sup>5</sup>Appointee shall be the Supervisor from either District 4 or 5.

<sup>6</sup>The Supervisor from District 2 shall be the County appointee to the Board; Board to make another appointment for the Water Resources Agency seat.

<sup>7</sup>Appointee shall be the Chairperson of the Board.

<sup>8</sup>Appointment to SVBGSA Board is made in June for a three (3) year term. Next appointment is June of 2023, and every three (3) years thereafter.

<sup>9</sup>Appointees shall be the Supervisors from Districts 1, 2 and 3, either as primaries or alternate.

<sup>10</sup>Appointees shall be the Supervisors from Districts 4 and 5.

<sup>11</sup>Alternates are County staff appointments.

## ATTACHMENT D

## ATTACHMENT D

### 2.04.250 Committees.

A. It shall be the responsibility of each member of a committee appointed by the Board to be fully informed concerning the business assigned to it by the Board. Each committee shall promptly perform tasks assigned to it and report to the Board such information and recommendations as shall be necessary or proper.

B. The regular meetings of all committees of the Board of Supervisors shall be held at 168 West Alisal Street, Salinas, California; however, regular meetings of a Board committee may be held at a location within the County other than 168 West Alisal Street or other than in the City of Salinas provided that either:

1. Such alternate location is adopted when the schedule for regular meetings during the year is adopted by the committee as permitted in Subsection 2.04.250.D, or

2. The alternate location is adopted by resolution or order at a regular meeting and notice of the alternative location is posted prior to the regular meeting immediately preceding the meeting at the alternate location.

C. Committees may hold special meetings, and continue or adjourn regular meetings, in the manner provided for the Board of Supervisors set forth in Sections 2.04.030 and 2.04.060, above.

D. Each committee may annually adopt a schedule setting forth the time and place for holding regular meetings; such schedule may be amended from time-to-time by the committee.

(Ord. 2523 § 1 Ch. 7 Rule 23, 1979)

(Ord. No. 5257, §§ 5, 6, 9-29-2015)



# County of Monterey

## Item No.13

### Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: 23-051

January 17, 2023

**Introduced:** 1/11/2023

**Current Status:** Scheduled PM

**Version:** 1

**Matter Type:** General Agenda Item

Winter Storm Update: Flood





# County of Monterey

## Item No.14

### Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: PAR 23-001

January 17, 2023

Introduced: 1/11/2023

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: Preliminary Analysis  
Report

Receive a preliminary analysis report in response to **Board Referral No. 2022.26** seeking to devise a comprehensive program utilizing the opioid settlement dollars designated for all Monterey County local governments for providing treatment and other services to local communities.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Receive a preliminary analysis report in response to **Board Referral No. 2022.26**;
- b. Provide direction on a preferred referral processing option:
  - i. Proceed with completion of referral as outlined in preliminary report;
  - ii. Proceed with completion of referral based on modifications by Board;
  - iii. Return to Board with a more comprehensive analysis of referral and anticipated effort for completion; or
  - iv. Rescind referral.
- c. Provide further direction, as appropriate.

#### PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS:

##### **Background:**

On November 22, 2022, Board Referral No. 2022.26 was assigned to the Health Department in anticipation of receipt of National Opioid Settlement Funds to assure there is a comprehensive plan developed for expenditure in accordance with allowable uses included in the Settlement Agreements entered with settling defendants. The largest of these settlement funds are with the “Big 3” opioid distributor defendants-McKesson, Amerisource Bergen, and Cardinal Health-and opioid manufacturer defendant Janssen/Johnson & Johnson. The County of Monterey and most of the eligible cities within the County will be receiving a direct allocation to support implementation of strategies and activities in the areas of prevention, treatment and other strategies including education of first responders; efforts to provide leadership, planning, and coordination; training; and research.

##### **Project Description:**

The Health Department will develop a Comprehensive Strategy and Plan to address opioid misuse and impact on our county residents and systems. Department staff have been meeting with representatives from Monterey County Prescribe Safe Coalition to discuss opportunities for investment based on data trends, current services and interventions available in our community, and other available funding opportunities. Additionally, initial outreach has commenced to the cities eligible to receive direct

allocation (City of King, City of Marina, City of Monterey, City of Soledad, City of Salinas and the City of Greenfield, all of whom elected to receive direct allocation, except for City of Greenfield, which determined to have its allocation received by the County). Staff plan on convening stakeholders in early January 2023 to discuss priorities for investment to address impacts of opioid misuse in our county and develop the Comprehensive Strategy and Plan.

**Estimated Project Cost:**

Department staff will work with partners to identify estimated project cost and provide an estimate to the Board of Supervisors at its update to this Referral No. 2022.26 on February 28, 2023.

**Staffing Level Estimate:**

Department staff will provide a staffing level estimate to the Board of Supervisors at its update to this Referral No. 2022.26 on February 28, 2023.

**Departmental Challenges:**

As some local city jurisdictions elected to receive funds directly, coordinating with these entities will be critical to assure maximization of settlement funds. The Department will coordinate meetings with staff from the jurisdictions eligible for a direct allocation (thus far, cities with populations over 10,000: City of King, City of Marina, City of Monterey, City of Soledad, City of Salinas, and City of Greenfield), and with jurisdictions not eligible for direct allocation (cities with populations 10,000 or under) to gauge priorities, review current investments and programming, and coordinate strategies and implementation efforts to maximize anticipated funds.

The level of Settlement funding may be insufficient in meeting the needs of the community to combat the impacts from opioid misuse on individuals, families, the community and service providers.

**Proposed Response Date:**

Department staff will return to the Board of Supervisors with a Draft Implementation Plan for expenditure of anticipated Opioid Settlement Funds on February 28, 2023.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:**

This recommendation advances the Board of Supervisors Health and Human Services Strategic Initiative and supports these key objectives: Reduce regional, and socio-economic inequities in health outcomes; and improve health outcomes through health and wellness promotion and access to top-quality healthcare.

Check the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives:

☐ Economic Development:

- Through collaboration, strengthen economic development to ensure a diversified and healthy economy.

☐ Administration:

- Promote an organization that practices efficient and effective resource management and is recognized for responsiveness, strong customer orientation, accountability and transparency.

☒ Health & Human Services:

- Improve health and quality of life through County supported policies, programs, and services; promoting access to equitable opportunities for healthy choices and healthy environments in collaboration with communities.

☐ Infrastructure:

- Plan and develop a sustainable, physical infrastructure that improves the quality of life for County residents and supports economic development results.

☐ Public Safety:

- Create a safe environment for people to achieve their potential, leading businesses and communities to thrive and grow by reducing violent crimes as well as crimes in general.

Prepared by: Elsa M. Jimenez, Director of Health, 755-4526

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sonia De La Rosa, County Administrative Officer, 755-5029

Attachments:

Board Report

Board Referral No. 2022.26



# County of Monterey

**Item No.**

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

**Legistar File Number: PAR 23-001**

**January 17, 2023**

**Introduced:** 1/11/2023

**Current Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Matter Type:** Preliminary Analysis  
Report

Receive a preliminary analysis report in response to **Board Referral No. 2022.26** seeking to devise a comprehensive program utilizing the opioid settlement dollars designated for all Monterey County local governments for providing treatment and other services to local communities.

### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Receive a preliminary analysis report in response to **Board Referral No. 2022.26**;
- b. Provide direction on a preferred referral processing option:
  - i. Proceed with completion of referral as outlined in preliminary report;
  - ii. Proceed with completion of referral based on modifications by Board;
  - iii. Return to Board with a more comprehensive analysis of referral and anticipated effort for completion; or
  - iv. Rescind referral.
- c. Provide further direction, as appropriate.

### PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS:

#### **Background:**

On November 22, 2022, Board Referral No. 2022.26 was assigned to the Health Department in anticipation of receipt of National Opioid Settlement Funds to assure there is a comprehensive plan developed for expenditure in accordance with allowable uses included in the Settlement Agreements entered with settling defendants. The largest of these settlement funds are with the “Big 3” opioid distributor defendants-McKesson, Amerisource Bergen, and Cardinal Health-and opioid manufacturer defendant Janssen/Johnson & Johnson. The County of Monterey and most of the eligible cities within the County will be receiving a direct allocation to support implementation of strategies and activities in the areas of prevention, treatment and other strategies including education of first responders; efforts to provide leadership, planning, and coordination; training; and research.

#### **Project Description:**

The Health Department will develop a Comprehensive Strategy and Plan to address opioid misuse and impact on our county residents and systems. Department staff have been meeting with representatives from Monterey County Prescribe Safe Coalition to discuss opportunities for investment based on data trends, current services and interventions available in our community, and other available funding opportunities. Additionally, initial outreach has commenced to the cities eligible to receive direct

allocation (City of King, City of Marina, City of Monterey, City of Soledad, City of Salinas and the City of Greenfield, all of whom elected to receive direct allocation, except for City of Greenfield, which determined to have its allocation received by the County). Staff plan on convening stakeholders in early January 2023 to discuss priorities for investment to address impacts of opioid misuse in our county and develop the Comprehensive Strategy and Plan.

**Estimated Project Cost:**

Department staff will work with partners to identify estimated project cost and provide an estimate to the Board of Supervisors at its update to this Referral No. 2022.26 on February 28, 2023.

**Staffing Level Estimate:**

Department staff will provide a staffing level estimate to the Board of Supervisors at its update to this Referral No. 2022.26 on February 28, 2023.

**Departmental Challenges:**

As some local city jurisdictions elected to receive funds directly, coordinating with these entities will be critical to assure maximization of settlement funds. The Department will coordinate meetings with staff from the jurisdictions eligible for a direct allocation (thus far, cities with populations over 10,000: City of King, City of Marina, City of Monterey, City of Soledad, City of Salinas, and City of Greenfield), and with jurisdictions not eligible for direct allocation (cities with populations 10,000 or under) to gauge priorities, review current investments and programming, and coordinate strategies and implementation efforts to maximize anticipated funds.

The level of Settlement funding may be insufficient in meeting the needs of the community to combat the impacts from opioid misuse on individuals, families, the community and service providers.

**Proposed Response Date:**

Department staff will return to the Board of Supervisors with a Draft Implementation Plan for expenditure of anticipated Opioid Settlement Funds on February 28, 2023.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:**

This recommendation advances the Board of Supervisors Health and Human Services Strategic Initiative and supports these key objectives: Reduce regional, and socio-economic inequities in health outcomes; and improve health outcomes through health and wellness promotion and access to top-quality healthcare.

Check the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives:

☐ Economic Development:

- Through collaboration, strengthen economic development to ensure a diversified and healthy economy.

☐ Administration:

- Promote an organization that practices efficient and effective resource management and is recognized for responsiveness, strong customer orientation, accountability and transparency.

Legistar File Number: PAR 23-001

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☒ Health & Human Services:

- Improve health and quality of life through County supported policies, programs, and services; promoting access to equitable opportunities for healthy choices and healthy environments in collaboration with communities.

☐ Infrastructure:


- Plan and develop a sustainable, physical infrastructure that improves the quality of life for County residents and supports economic development results.

☐ Public Safety:

- Create a safe environment for people to achieve their potential, leading businesses and communities to thrive and grow by reducing violent crimes as well as crimes in general.

Prepared by: Elsa M. Jimenez, Director of Health, 755-4526

Approved by:

DocuSigned by:  
  
9353DBA6C4ED434...

Date: 1/11/2023 | 12:22 PM PST

Sonia De La Rosa, County Administrative Officer, 755-5029

Attachments:

Board Report

Board Referral No. 2022.26

**Monterey County Board of Supervisors  
Referral Submittal Form**

**Referral No. 2022.26**  
**Assignment Date: 11/22/22**  
(Completed by CAO's Office)

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

Date: 11/04/22	Submitted By: <b>LUIS ALEJO</b>	District # : 1
<b>Referral Title: OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDING PROGRAM FOR MONTEREY COUNTY</b>		
Referral Purpose: <b>To devise a comprehensive program utilizing the opioid settlement dollars designated for all Monterey County local governments for providing treatment and other services to local communities.</b>		
Brief Referral Description (attach additional sheet as required ): In 2018, Monterey County joined as a lead plaintiff in federal litigation against two dozen of the largest pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors relating to the opioid abuse crisis in our county and across our nation. In 2021, settlement discussion ensued and agreements have been reached in federal court. Monterey County and its 12 cities are set to receive several million dollars collectively for services and programs to address the impact of the opioid crisis locally.		
This referral requests that the County Health Department devise a comprehensive program and strategy to effectively utilize this funding and provide services across our county, in partnership with our cities. The goal is gain the input and support of smaller jurisdictions so that the funding and services can be implemented collaboratively, instead of each jurisdiction attempting to create its own program with much smaller allocation amounts. This will help ensure that the limited dollars will have the most impact on countering the impacts of the opioid crisis in our communities, and to have a centralized program to provide treatment to those residents in need of services across our county.		
<b>Classification - Implication</b>		<b>Mode of Response</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial / Minor <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Social Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <b><u>Opioid Settlement Funding</u></b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Memo <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentation
		<b>Requested Response Timeline</b>
		<input type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 month <input type="checkbox"/> 6 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> Status reports until completed <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Date: _____

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

Department(s): <b>Health</b>	Referral Lead: <b>Elsa Jimenez</b>	Board Date: <b>11/22/22</b>
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**REASSIGNMENT – Provided by CAO. Copied to Board Offices and Department Head(s). Completed by CAO's Office:**

Department(s):	Referral Lead:	Date:
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**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: _____	<b>Department's Recommended Response Timeline</b> <input type="checkbox"/> By requested date <input type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> 1 month <input type="checkbox"/> 6 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> 6 months <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> Other/ Specific Date: _____

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

Referral Response Date:	Board Item No.:	Referrals List Deletion:
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**Note:** cc: Nick Chiulos, Mary Zurita, and Ebby Johnson on all CAO correspondence relating to referrals.





# County of Monterey

## Item No.15

### Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: PAR 23-002

January 17, 2023

Introduced: 1/11/2023

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: Preliminary Analysis  
Report

Consider:

- a. Response to Board Referral No. 2022.21 requesting the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors office to augment their budget to cover all expenses for framed Board resolutions; and
- b. Selecting an updated ceremonial resolution template.

#### RECCOMENDATION:

It is recommended the Board of Supervisors:

Consider a response to Board Referral No. 2022.21 requesting the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors office to augment their budget to cover all expenses for framed Board resolutions. This augmentation is being recommended by the Budget & Analysis Division with the Budget End Year Report (BEYR). If approved, we request the Board select an enhanced ceremonial resolution template from the options provided.

Options:

Select Attachment A, B or C as the newly enhanced ceremonial template;

Select Attachment A, B and C to have a variety of newly enhanced ceremonial templates;

Deplete the six (6) month supply of the current ceremonial resolution and then implement the new ceremonial template(s) if approved; or

Make no changes, at this time, and keep the current ceremonial resolution template; and

Provide further direction if needed.

#### SUMMARY:

The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors office worked with the Budget & Analysis Division to recommend the approval of the budget augmentation request via Board Referral No. 2022.21, to the Clerk of the Board's budget. The initial costs would be \$6,000 (approximately) as reflected in the breakdown below to support framed ceremonial resolutions primarily requested by the Board Chair, Members of the Board of Supervisors and or Department Heads/Directors. This augmentation will alleviate the additional costs on the Clerk's office budget for supplies.

Nick Pasculli, County Communication Director took the lead on the new design(s) of the Ceremonial Resolution template. His team worked closely with the Clerk of the Board's office throughout its conception. A few designs have been created and design proofs are to be presented, reviewed, and discussed by the Board on Tuesday, December 13, 2022.

#### FINANCING:

If the recommended Budget End Year Report (BEYR) is approved by the Board of Supervisors the funding is available. If the BEYR is not approved then further direction is needed on the funding source for this request.

**The initial costs will for Attachment A and B new ceremonial resolution templates:**

\$915.00 (estimate) for the cost 1000 pieces of the new ceremonial templates see Attachment D:  
\$4,000 (approximately) for 200 frames; and  
\$1,000 (approximately) as a cushion if additional framed resolutions are requested by the District offices and others.

Totaling: \$5,915 (approximately)

**The initial costs will be for Attachment C new ceremonial resolution template:**

\$2,698 (estimate) for the cost 1000 pieces of the new ceremonial template see Attachment E;  
\$4,000 (approximately) for 200 frames; and  
\$1,000 (approximately) as a cushion if additional framed resolutions are requested by the District offices and others.

Totaling: \$7,698 (approximately)

This will be a new line item in the Clerk of the Board's budget which is being requested as on-going funding separate and apart from the Clerk of the Board's own supply funds.

Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives:

☐ Economic Development  
☒ Administration  
☐ Health and Human Services  
☐ Infrastructure  
☐ Public Safety

Prepared by Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 831-755-5066

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Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Attachments:

Board Referral 2022.21 - September 27, 2022  
Attachment A - New Ceremonial Resolution template  
Attachment B - New Ceremonial Resolution template  
Attachment C - New Ceremonial Resolution template  
Attachment D - Quote from Vendor for Attachment A and B  
Attachment E - Quote from Vendor for Attachment C  
Attachment F - Current Ceremonial Resolution template





# County of Monterey

## Board Report

Legistar File Number: PAR 23-002

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

January 10, 2023

Introduced: 12/14/2022

Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Matter Type: Preliminary Analysis  
Report

Consider:

- a. Response to Board Referral No. 2022.21 requesting the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors office to augment their budget to cover all expenses for framed Board resolutions; and
- b. Selecting an updated ceremonial resolution template.

### RECCOMENDATION:

It is recommended the Board of Supervisors:

Consider a response to Board Referral No. 2022.21 requesting the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors office to augment their budget to cover all expenses for framed Board resolutions. This augmentation is being recommended by the Budget & Analysis Division with the Budget End Year Report (BEYR). If approved, we request the Board select an enhanced ceremonial resolution template from the options provided.

Options:

- Select Attachment A, B or C as the newly enhanced ceremonial template;
- Select Attachment A, B and C to have a variety of newly enhanced ceremonial templates;
- Deplete the six (6) month supply of the current ceremonial resolution and then implement the new ceremonial template(s) if approved; or
- Make no changes, at this time, and keep the current ceremonial resolution template; and
- Provide further direction if needed.

### SUMMARY:

The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors office worked with the Budget & Analysis Division to recommend the approval of the budget augmentation request via Board Referral No. 2022.21, to the Clerk of the Board's budget. The initial costs would be \$6,000 (approximately) as reflected in the breakdown below to support framed ceremonial resolutions primarily requested by the Board Chair, Members of the Board of Supervisors and or Department Heads/Directors. This augmentation will alleviate the additional costs on the Clerk's office budget for supplies.

Nick Pasculli, County Communication Director took the lead on the new design(s) of the Ceremonial Resolution template. His team worked closely with the Clerk of the Board's office throughout its conception. A few designs have been created and design proofs are to be presented, reviewed, and discussed by the Board on Tuesday, December 13, 2022.

### FINANCING:

If the recommended Budget End Year Report (BEYR) is approved by the Board of Supervisors the funding is available. If the BEYR is not approved then further direction is needed on the funding source for this request.

**The initial costs will for Attachment A and B new ceremonial resolution templates:**

\$915.00 (estimate) for the cost 1000 pieces of the new ceremonial templates see Attachment D:  
\$4,000 (approximately) for 200 frames; and  
\$1,000 (approximately) as a cushion if additional framed resolutions are requested by the District offices and others.

Totaling: \$5,915 (approximately)

**The initial costs will be for Attachment C new ceremonial resolution template:**

\$2,698 (estimate) for the cost 1000 pieces of the new ceremonial template see Attachment E;  
\$4,000 (approximately) for 200 frames; and  
\$1,000 (approximately) as a cushion if additional framed resolutions are requested by the District offices and others.

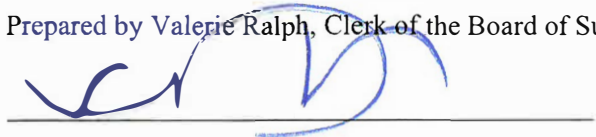
Totaling: \$7,698 (approximately)

This will be a new line item in the Clerk of the Board's budget which is being requested as on-going funding separate and apart from the Clerk of the Board's own supply funds.

Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives:

☐ Economic Development  
☒ Administration  
☐ Health and Human Services  
☐ Infrastructure  
☐ Public Safety

Prepared by Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 831-755-5066



Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Attachments:

Board Referral 2022.21 - September 27, 2022  
Attachment A - New Ceremonial Resolution template  
Attachment B - New Ceremonial Resolution template  
Attachment C - New Ceremonial Resolution template  
Attachment D - Quote from Vendor for Attachment A and B  
Attachment E - Quote from Vendor for Attachment C  
Attachment F - Current Ceremonial Resolution template

# Monterey County Board of Supervisors Referral Submittal Form

**Referral No. 2022.21**  
**Assignment Date: 09/27/22**  
(Completed by CAO's Office)

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

Date: 9/19/2022	Submitted By: SUPERVISOR LUIS ALEJO	District #: 1
Referral Title: <b>Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Budget Augmentation for Resolutions</b>		
Referral Purpose: To augment the budget for the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to cover all expenses for framed Board Resolutions, and to enhance our certificates for Board Resolutions.		
<p>Brief Referral Description (attach additional sheet as required ): This referral requests that the budget of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors be augmented by approximately \$4000 to cover all costs to print and frame resolutions by the Board of Supervisors. Framed resolutions are primarily requested by the Board Chair, members of the Board of Supervisors, or Department Directors, and cost approximately between \$3000-4000 per year. Currently costs are taken from the Clerk's limited supplies budget, which leaves the office with limited resources for other department needs throughout the year.</p> <p>Secondly, this referral request that the certificate for the Board Resolutions be enhanced with a colorful design modeled after other counties, and that more cost effective options be researched for board resolutions framing and matting.</p>		
<b>Classification - Implication</b>		<b>Mode of Response</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial / Minor <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Social Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <b><u>Clerk of the Board</u></b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Memo <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentation
		<b>Requested Response Timeline</b>
		<input type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 month <input type="checkbox"/> 6 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> Status reports until completed <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Date: _____

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

Department(s): Clerk of the Board/County Administrative Office	Referral Lead: Valerie Ralph/Ezequiel Vega	Board Date: 09/27/22
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**REASSIGNMENT – Provided by CAO. Copied to Board Offices and Department Head(s). Completed by CAO's Office:**

Department(s):	Referral Lead:	Date:
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**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: _____	<b>Department's Recommended Response Timeline</b> <input type="checkbox"/> By requested date <input type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> 1 month <input type="checkbox"/> 6 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> 6 months <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> Other/Specific Date: _____

---

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

Referral Response Date:	Board Item No.:	Referrals List Deletion:
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**Note:** Please cc Karina Bokanovich, Rocio Quezada and Maegan Ruiz-Ignacio on all CAO correspondence relating to referrals.

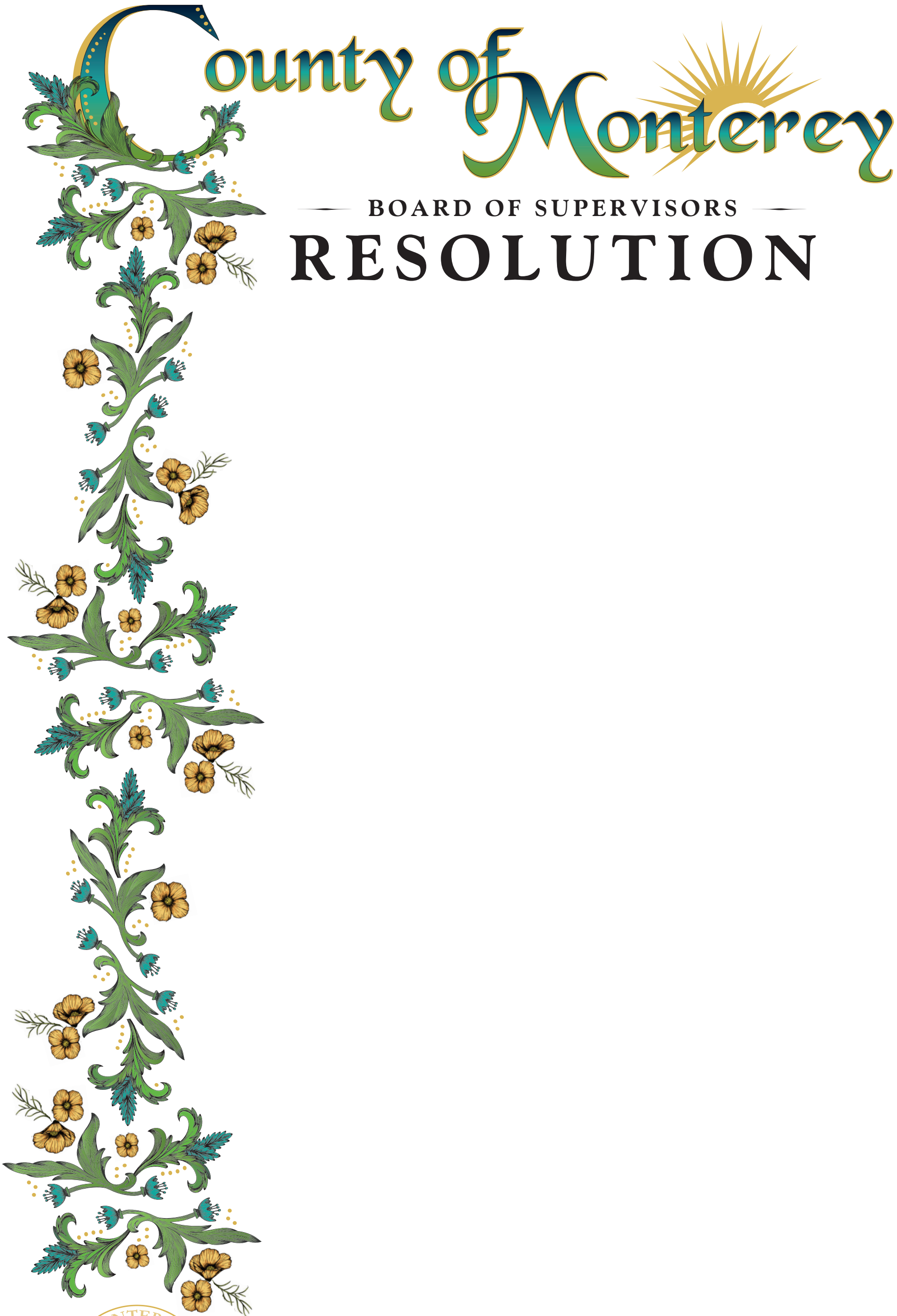


# County of Monterey

— BOARD OF SUPERVISORS —  
**RESOLUTION**







# County of Monterey

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

## RESOLUTION





# Estimate

No: 27841

Date: 10/3/22

Customer PO:

Nick Pasculli  
Monterey County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
P.O. Box 1728  
Salinas CA 93902

831-796-3094

Quantity	Description	Amount			
400	Resolution Embellishment Digital Imprint , 11.63 x 16 White 80# Cougar Opaque Digital Cover, Digital Color Prints on 1 side	\$ 155.35			
400	Resolution Embellishment Offset Imprint , 11.63 x 16 White 80# Cougar Opaque Digital Cover, Offset Printed, 4 colors front in cmyk ink,	\$ 397.15			
500	Resolutions (Complete New Order ) , 11 x 17 White 80# Cougar Opaque Digital Cover, Offset Printed, 5 colors front in cmyk, 873 ink,	\$ 685.48			
	<table><tr><td>1,000</td><td>Resolutions (Complete New Order )</td><td>\$ 914.57</td></tr></table>	1,000	Resolutions (Complete New Order )	\$ 914.57	
1,000	Resolutions (Complete New Order )	\$ 914.57			
Account Type: Charge					

Please sign and return this estimate to authorize us to begin work.

APPROVED BY:

DATE:

324 Lincoln Avenue Salinas, California 93901 t. 831.758.9040 f. 831.758.9059 sales@myexpressprinter.com

12/13/2022

Monterey County Board of Supervisors

,  
Linda Gonzalez

Dear Linda,

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to submit a quote on the following project. Prices include print ready files unless otherwise specified.

---

**Estimate #:** Q98642  
**Job Description:** Proclamations Board of Supervisors 11 x 17, 10 x 16 foil area  
**Job Details:** 4/0  
11 x 17  
gold foil stamp and emboss  
100# opaque text white  
shrink wrap in 100's  
carton pack  
UPS delivery to Monterey

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**Component:** Proclamations Board of Supervisors 11 x 17  
**Size:** 11 X 17  
**Ink: - Side One:** Four color process  
**Paper:** 100# Opaque Smooth Text Bright White

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**Bindery:** Trim to Final Size, Shrink Wrapping in 100's, Embossing, Foil Stamping  
**Shipping:** Ground Shipping

---

*Customer requested file adjustments/corrections during proofing stage may result in additional charges. Quote does not include sales tax.*

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Price</u>
<b>500</b>	<b>\$2,373.02</b>
<b>1,000</b>	<b>\$2,698.02</b>
<b>1,500</b>	<b>\$3,035.85</b>
<b>2,000</b>	<b>\$3,325.52</b>

Thank you,

Eric Lunquist

OK To Proceed \_\_\_\_\_ Qty. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Monterey County Board of Supervisors

# Resolution





# County of Monterey

Item No.16

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: PAR 23-003

January 17, 2023

Introduced: 1/11/2023

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: Preliminary Analysis  
Report

Receive a preliminary analysis report in response to **Board Referral No. 2022.23** seeking to request a County funding contribution for Fiscal Year 2023 and develop a long-range funding source for the Pajaro Park.

### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

Receive a preliminary analysis report in response to **Board Referral No. 2022.23** and:

- a. Direct that staff proceed with completion of referral based on description in this report; or,
- b. Direct that staff:
  1. Proceed with completion of referral based on modifications by the Board; or,
  2. Return to Board with a more comprehensive analysis of referral and anticipated effort for completion; or,
  3. Rescind referral.
- c. Provide further direction, as appropriate.

### PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS:

#### **Background:**

On November 22, 2022, the Board added Supervisor Phillips' Referral No. 2022.23 (Attachment A) to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors' referral matrix. The referral is seeking to request a County funding contribution for Fiscal Year 2023 and develop a long-range funding source for Pajaro Park.

A chronology that summarizes the recent historical actions is below.

#### History:

2006 to 2013 - The former Redevelopment Agency of the County of Monterey worked cooperatively with the community of Pajaro to construct the Pajaro Neighborhood Park ("Park"). The Park was built with private donations and \$5,000,000 from a State Department of Parks and Recreation 2006 Parks Bond Act/Proposition 84 grant.

December 4, 2012 - The Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District ("District"), entered into an Operation and Maintenance Agreement (Attachment B) with the County of Monterey. The District accepted responsibility for the funding and upkeep of the Park until June 30, 2039, contingent upon the project completion and pursuant to grant requirements and deed restrictions.

October 22, 2013 - The District entered into a Real Property Acquisition and Project Transfer Agreement (Attachment C) with the Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency of the County of Monterey (“SARDA”). This agreement transferred the Park property to the District upon completion of the project and filing of the Notice of Completion.

December 15, 2015 - The District entered into a Memorandum of Understanding for Operation and Maintenance of the Park (Attachment D) with the County for an annual funding payment of \$25,000 until June 30, 2039. The payment was intended to help offset annual maintenance costs to the District.

October 19, 2021 - The County approved a vacant parcel to be transferred “as-is” via Quitclaim Deed to Berkshire Investments, LLC, for the sale price of \$35,500, pursuant to the Successor Agency’s Long Range Property Management Plan. The County’s portion of net sale proceeds (estimated at \$5,000) was to be distributed to the District for future improvements to the Pajaro Community Park.

### **Proposed Project Description:**

#### Possible Funding Options

Referral 2022.23 states that the District is requesting approximately \$40,000 to \$60,000, this year to meet its operational and maintenance needs and for the County to determine a long-range funding source. The annual operating funds needed based on previous statements by the District and review of their Fiscal Year 2022, Park expenses is approximately \$59,000 to \$64,000. This amount will increase each year by 3.5% due to rising labor and materials cost. In addition to the annual operating expense, the District has stated that the artificial turf soccer field will need to be replaced soon. The cost to replace the turf is estimated to be between \$500,000 to \$1 million.

Option A - County has limited discretionary funds to use across all departments to support basic governmental functions. Discretionary funds that could be considered for a one-time contribution to the District include General Fund Contingencies and Cannabis Tax Assignment. Using any of these funding sources will require at least a 4/5th vote from the Board of Supervisors. General Fund Contingencies is set aside for unplanned operational needs that arise within a fiscal year. The current balance in contingencies is \$556,260. Cannabis Tax Assignment funds have been used for both ongoing and one-time needs to largely fund Board directed programs. The Cannabis Tax Assignment balance is \$5,843,934. This option would largely be for a one-time contribution for Fiscal Year 2023, to assist the District with current operational expenses.

Option B - District to conduct a rate study or complete an Engineer’s Report to move forward with a Public Hearing and Proposition 218 election to increase property assessments for the Park’s operations and maintenance. While Referral 2022.23 questions whether the District can legally subsidize the Park through its rate payers; staff found no legal requirement precluding the District from conducting a Proposition 218 election with the intent of increasing rates.

While none of the Attachments state that property tax assessments are not allowed, there is some language regarding park user fees in Attachment B and E. Special district property tax assessments are not the same as user fees but are often confused. The discussion of fees relates to the public accessing and using the park, not funding the park through property tax assessments.

Section 2.g. of Attachment B states, “The CSD shall not charge an entrance fee for public access to the park.” Exhibit B of Attachment E is the Grant Contract for the State Department of Parks and Recreation 2006 Parks Bond Act/Prop 84 funding. Section II.J.2. states, “The GRANTEE shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of residence, and shall not apply differences in admission or other fees on the basis of residence. Fees shall be reasonable and not unduly prevent use by economically disadvantaged members of the public.”

At minimum, it would be beneficial for the District to conduct a rate study or Engineer’s Report to determine the annual operating funds needed for the Parks long-range sustainability. The study/report would outline necessary obligations, maintenance needs and capital improvements, calculate annual increases based on the Consumer Price Index, and determine the necessary rate increases that are needed over the life of the Park. Option B would be beneficial for the long-term funding and sustainability of the Park.

Option C- District could request that the County include Park funding in the annual budget process. This could be done under the County Administrative Office Non-Departmental Budget Unit, Contributions-Other Agencies. Currently, the annual contribution of \$25,000 to the District as stated in Attachment D is funded through this Unit. An option would be to execute an amendment to the MOU, and increase the funding amount. The current revenue sources within the General Fund would be the funding sources staff would evaluate and recommend. Option C would also be beneficial for the long-term funding and sustainability of the Park, however, it would reduce County funding for other programs and departments.

Option D- Monterey County Parks to assume operations and maintenance responsibility for the Park. This option would be the costliest to the County and require more than making an annual General Fund contribution. At a minimum, two (2) new FTE’s would need to be allocated to the Park; one (1) Parks Buildings and Grounds Worker II and one (1) Parks Services Aide II. Annual cost for the positions including salary and benefits would be approximately \$195,437. An initial one-time contribution of \$100,000 to \$200,000, for vehicles, tools and supplies, would also be needed, plus ongoing replacement costs. While this option would provide for long-term funding for the Park, the District would be partially dependent upon the County which could potentially create legal issues and increase liability.

Staff will continue considering further options.

**Estimated Project Cost:**

Costs associated with the completion of this referral include the cost for staff time and is dependent on the option that is chosen.

**Staffing Level Estimate:**

It is anticipated that one (1) to two (2) PWFP staff, along with CAO-Budget Office staff will be utilized to complete a response to the subject referral. Needs for additional staffing is dependent on the option that is chosen.

**Departmental Challenges:**

N/A

**Proposed Response Date:**

Staff proposes to return to the Board prior to April 2023.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:**

The recommended action supports the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Initiatives for Health and Human Services and Infrastructure. By partially or fully funding the operations and maintenance of the Park, the County will enable the public to continually use the Park for exercise and recreation and will be able to facilitate the upkeep and longevity of the Park's infrastructure.

☐ Economic Development

☐ Administration

☒ Health & Human Services

☒ Infrastructure

☐ Public Safety

Prepared by: Bryan Flores, Chief of Parks, (831) 796-6425

Reviewed and Approved by: Randell Ishii, MS, PE, TE, PTOE

Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks

**Attachments:**

Attachment A - Board Referral No. #2022.23

Attachment B - Operation and Maintenance Agreement, 2012

Attachment C - Real Property Acquisition and Project Transfer Agreement, 2013

Attachment D - Memorandum of Understanding for Operation and Maintenance Funding, 2015

Attachment E - Deed Restriction, 2011





# County of Monterey

**Item No.**

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

**Legistar File Number: PAR 22-036**

**December 13, 2022**

**Introduced:** 12/8/2022

**Version:** 1

**Current Status:** Agenda Ready

**Matter Type:** Preliminary Analysis  
Report

Receive a preliminary analysis report in response to ***Board Referral No. 2022.23*** seeking to request a County funding contribution for Fiscal Year 2023 and develop a long-range funding source for the Pajaro Park.

### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

Receive a preliminary analysis report in response to ***Board Referral No. 2022.23*** and:

- a. Direct that staff proceed with completion of referral based on description in this report; or,
- b. Direct that staff:
  1. Proceed with completion of referral based on modifications by the Board; or,
  2. Return to Board with a more comprehensive analysis of referral and anticipated effort for completion; or,
  3. Rescind referral.
- c. Provide further direction, as appropriate.

### PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS:

#### **Background:**

On November 22, 2022, the Board added Supervisor Phillips' Referral No. 2022.23 (Attachment A) to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors' referral matrix. The referral is seeking to request a County funding contribution for Fiscal Year 2023 and develop a long-range funding source for Pajaro Park.

A chronology that summarizes the recent historical actions is below.

#### History:

2006 to 2013 - The former Redevelopment Agency of the County of Monterey worked cooperatively with the community of Pajaro to construct the Pajaro Neighborhood Park ("Park"). The Park was built with private donations and \$5,000,000 from a State Department of Parks and Recreation 2006 Parks Bond Act/Proposition 84 grant.

December 4, 2012 - The Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District ("District"), entered into an Operation and Maintenance Agreement (Attachment B) with the County of Monterey. The District accepted responsibility for the funding and upkeep of the Park until June 30, 2039, contingent upon the project completion and pursuant to grant requirements and deed restrictions.

October 22, 2013 - The District entered into a Real Property Acquisition and Project Transfer Agreement (Attachment C) with the Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency of the County of Monterey (“SARDA”). This agreement transferred the Park property to the District upon completion of the project and filing of the Notice of Completion.

December 15, 2015 - The District entered into a Memorandum of Understanding for Operation and Maintenance of the Park (Attachment D) with the County for an annual funding payment of \$25,000 until June 30, 2039. The payment was intended to help offset annual maintenance costs to the District.

October 19, 2021 - The County approved a vacant parcel to be transferred “as-is” via Quitclaim Deed to Berkshire Investments, LLC, for the sale price of \$35,500, pursuant to the Successor Agency’s Long Range Property Management Plan. The County’s portion of net sale proceeds (estimated at \$5,000) was to be distributed to the District for future improvements to the Pajaro Community Park.

### **Proposed Project Description:**

#### Possible Funding Options

Referral 2022.23 states that the District is requesting approximately \$40,000 to \$60,000, this year to meet its operational and maintenance needs and for the County to determine a long-range funding source. The annual operating funds needed based on previous statements by the District and review of their Fiscal Year 2022, Park expenses is approximately \$59,000 to \$64,000. This amount will increase each year by 3.5% due to rising labor and materials cost. In addition to the annual operating expense, the District has stated that the artificial turf soccer field will need to be replaced soon. The cost to replace the turf is estimated to be between \$500,000 to \$1 million.

Option A - County has limited discretionary funds to use across all departments to support basic governmental functions. Discretionary funds that could be considered for a one-time contribution to the District include General Fund Contingencies and Cannabis Tax Assignment. Using any of these funding sources will require at least a 4/5th vote from the Board of Supervisors. General Fund Contingencies is set aside for unplanned operational needs that arise within a fiscal year. The current balance in contingencies is \$556,260. Cannabis Tax Assignment funds have been used for both ongoing and one-time needs to largely fund Board directed programs. The Cannabis Tax Assignment balance is \$5,843,934. This option would largely be for a one-time contribution for Fiscal Year 2023, to assist the District with current operational expenses.

Option B - District to conduct a rate study or complete an Engineer’s Report to move forward with a Public Hearing and Proposition 218 election to increase property assessments for the Park’s operations and maintenance. While Referral 2022.23 questions whether the District can legally subsidize the Park through its rate payers; staff found no legal requirement precluding the District from conducting a Proposition 218 election with the intent of increasing rates.

While none of the Attachments state that property tax assessments are not allowed, there is some language regarding park user fees in Attachment B and E. Special district property tax assessments are not the same as user fees but are often confused. The discussion of fees relates to the public accessing and using the park, not funding the park through property tax

assessments.

Section 2.g. of Attachment B states, “The CSD shall not charge an entrance fee for public access to the park.” Exhibit B of Attachment E is the Grant Contract for the State Department of Parks and Recreation 2006 Parks Bond Act/Prop 84 funding. Section II.J.2. states, “The GRANTEE shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of residence, and shall not apply differences in admission or other fees on the basis of residence. Fees shall be reasonable and not unduly prevent use by economically disadvantaged members of the public.”

At minimum, it would be beneficial for the District to conduct a rate study or Engineer’s Report to determine the annual operating funds needed for the Parks long-range sustainability. The study/report would outline necessary obligations, maintenance needs and capital improvements, calculate annual increases based on the Consumer Price Index, and determine the necessary rate increases that are needed over the life of the Park. Option B would be beneficial for the long-term funding and sustainability of the Park.

Option C- District could request that the County include Park funding in the annual budget process. This could be done under the County Administrative Office Non-Departmental Budget Unit, Contributions-Other Agencies. Currently, the annual contribution of \$25,000 to the District as stated in Attachment D is funded through this Unit. An option would be to execute an amendment to the MOU, and increase the funding amount. The current revenue sources within the General Fund would be the funding sources staff would evaluate and recommend. Option C would also be beneficial for the long-term funding and sustainability of the Park, however, it would reduce County funding for other programs and departments.

Option D- Monterey County Parks to assume operations and maintenance responsibility for the Park. This option would be the costliest to the County and require more than making an annual General Fund contribution. At a minimum, two (2) new FTE’s would need to be allocated to the Park; one (1) Parks Buildings and Grounds Worker II and one (1) Parks Services Aide II. Annual cost for the positions including salary and benefits would be approximately \$195,437. An initial one-time contribution of \$100,000 to \$200,000, for vehicles, tools and supplies, would also be needed, plus ongoing replacement costs. While this option would provide for long-term funding for the Park, the District would be partially dependent upon the County which could potentially create legal issues and increase liability.

Staff will continue considering further options.

**Estimated Project Cost:**

Costs associated with the completion of this referral include the cost for staff time and is dependent on the option that is chosen.

**Staffing Level Estimate:**

It is anticipated that one (1) to two (2) PWFP staff, along with CAO-Budget Office staff will be utilized to complete a response to the subject referral. Needs for additional staffing is dependent on the option that is chosen.

Legistar File Number: PAR 22-036

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**Departmental Challenges:**

N/A

**Proposed Response Date:**

Staff proposes to return to the Board prior to April 2023.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:**

The recommended action supports the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Initiatives for Health and Human Services and Infrastructure. By partially or fully funding the operations and maintenance of the Park, the County will enable the public to continually use the Park for exercise and recreation and will be able to facilitate the upkeep and longevity of the Park's infrastructure.

☐ Economic Development

☐ Administration

☒ Health & Human Services

☒ Infrastructure

☐ Public Safety

Prepared by: Bryan Flores, Chief of Parks, (831) 796-6425

Reviewed and Approved by: Randell Ishii, MS, PE, TE, PTOE

Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks

DocuSigned by:  
Randell Ishii  
C09779208FE94F3...

**Attachments:**

Attachment A - Board Referral No. #2022.23

Attachment B - Operation and Maintenance Agreement, 2012

Attachment C - Real Property Acquisition and Project Transfer Agreement, 2013

Attachment D - Memorandum of Understanding for Operation and Maintenance Funding, 2015

Attachment E - Deed Restriction, 2011

## Attachment A

**Monterey County Board of Supervisors  
Referral Submittal Form**

**Referral No. 2022.23**  
**Assignment Date: 11/22/2022**  
(Completed by CAO's Office)

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

Date: November 2, 2022	Submitted By: Supervisor Phillips	District #: 2
<b>Referral Title:</b> Long-Range Funding Source for Pajaro Park		
<b>Referral Purpose:</b> To seek a long-range funding source for Pajaro Park to ensure long term park access to residents of the Pajaro Valley which will enhance the overall health and well-being of residents of this disadvantaged community who need it the most.		
<b>Brief Referral Description:</b> <p>The purpose of this referral is to request the County find an immediate funding source for the \$40k shortfall and develop a long-range funding source for the Pajaro Park in future fiscal years.</p> <p>Pajaro Park was developed in large part through grants &amp; private donations. It opened for operations in 2014. It is the only recreational facility for our youth in the northern reaches of our county – Pajaro/Los Lomas, etc. This park &amp; especially the artificial turf soccer fields are the most intensely used sports fields in our county.</p> <p>The Pajaro Park, unlike the other parks in our county, is not managed by our parks department. But instead, it was agreed the park would be managed by Pajaro Sunny Mesa water district. So far Pajaro Sunny Mesa receives only \$25,000 a year County funds to manage and maintain the park.</p> <p>It costs at least \$85,000 a year to maintain the park. Pajaro Sunny Mesa cannot legally subsidize the park through its rate payers. P/SM needs an immediate infusion of \$60,000 to continue to operate and maintain the park. The alternative is for the county parks department to assume operations and control of the park – which I can only assume would be much more costly.</p> <p>In addition, because of the extensive use, the soccer field will soon need to be replaced. I ask the County to find an immediate funding source for the \$40,000 shortfall this year and develop a long-range funding source for the park in future fiscal years.</p> <p>Long-range funding will ensure long term park access to residents of the Pajaro Valley which will enhance the overall health and well-being of residents of this disadvantaged community who need it the most.</p>		
<b>Classification - Implication</b>		<b>Mode of Response</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial / Minor <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Social Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Budget Policy</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		<input type="checkbox"/> Memo <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>X Board Report</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation
		<b>Requested Response Timeline</b>
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>X 2 weeks</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 1 month <input type="checkbox"/> 6 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> Status reports until completed <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Date:

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

Department(s): PWF and CAO	Referral Lead: Randy Ishii and Ezequiel Vega	Board Date: 11/22/22
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**REASSIGNMENT – Provided by CAO. Copied to Board Offices and Department Head(s). Completed by CAO's Office:**

Department(s):	Referral Lead:	Date:
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**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: _____	<b>Department's Recommended Response Timeline</b>
Date: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> By requested date <input type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> 1 month <input type="checkbox"/> 6 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> 6 months <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> Other/ Specific Date: _____

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

Referral Response Date:	Board Item No.:	Referrals List Deletion:
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**Note:** cc:

## Attachment B



# OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

by and between the  
COUNTY OF MONTEREY  
AS SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
OF THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY  
and the  
PAJARO/SUNNY MESA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Relating to the Operation and Maintenance of the Completed  
PAJARO NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY PARK

This OPERATION MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is entered into as of October 2, 2012 by and between the COUNTY OF MONTEREY, AS SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY, a body corporate and politic ("Successor Agency") and the PAJARO/SUNNY MESA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT ("CSD"), a public corporation, with reference to the following facts:

## RECITALS

A. California Assembly Bill 1X 26, enacted on June 28, 2011 and upheld by the California Supreme Court on December 29, 2011, dissolved all California redevelopment agencies effective February 1, 2011 through amendments to the California Health and Safety Code (the "Amended Code"). Pursuant to Sections 34173, 34175, and 34176 of the Amended Code, and by operation of law, the County of Monterey, as Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency of the County of Monterey, has assumed the rights, duties, and obligations pertaining to all functions of the original County redevelopment agency, and as such has assumed the rights, duties, and obligations pertaining to the Property. Consequently, the County of Monterey in its capacity as Successor Agency, and not the original redevelopment agency, is party to this Agreement.

B. The Successor Agency is the owner of that certain real property in the unincorporated area of County of Monterey located at 24 San Juan Road in the community of Pajaro, more specifically consisting of Assessors Parcel Nos. (APN) 117-341-002, 117-341-003, and 117-331-025, as shown and described in Exhibit A hereto (the "Site").

C. The Successor Agency is the recipient of a grant in the amount of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) issued by the State of California pursuant to the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program of 2008 (Proposition 84) (the "Grant"), for the purpose of developing a public park presently known as the Pajaro Neighborhood Community Park (the "Project").

D. On November 9, 2011, by approval of Resolution No. 11-039 (PLN090275), the Monterey County Planning Commission approved a Combined Development Permit to allow the Project. Condition of Approval No. 13 of said Permit reads:

*Prior to the issuance of grading/building permits for the park, the Redevelopment Agency (owner) shall submit evidence of an agreement for the maintenance of the*

*park. This agreement should include the entity responsible for park operations, security, daily park functions such as litter removal, graffiti/vandalism removal, landscaping maintenance, lighting upkeep, inspections of park appurtenances, daily playground equipment maintenance, restroom cleaning schedule, and an ongoing security plan in coordination with the Sheriffs Office. Agreement shall include contact information of responsible parties and contact information for personnel responsible for oversight. The responsible entity and Sheriffs Office contact information must be posted in at least three (3) locations throughout the park in the event a matter requires immediate attention. No agreement shall impose direct fees for the use of the park.*

E. Upon completion of the park improvements and recording of a Notice of Completion for the construction of the Project, is the parties desire that the CSD accept responsibility to operate and maintain the completed improvements as a public park in compliance with the terms and conditions of the Grant and the Combined Development Permit.

F. It is anticipated that the CSD will also accept ownership of the Site and completed improvements under a Property Transfer Agreement to be developed and approved at a future date, prior to completion of the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

1. The Successor Agency shall enter into all agreements with the Architect, Construction Manager, Construction Contractors, and others, and shall take all steps necessary to design and construct the Project at the Successor Agency's sole and complete cost. The Successor Agency shall have the right to use the proceeds of the Grant, and such other Successor Agency funds as it determines necessary and appropriate, for this purpose.

2. Upon Completion of the Project, as evidenced by the recording of a Notice of Completion for the Project, the CSD agrees to operate and maintain the Project as a public park at the CSD's sole cost in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Grant and with Condition of Approval No. 13 of the Combined Development Permit approved by Monterey County Planning Commission Resolution No. 11-039 (PLN090275) on November 9, 2011, as follows:

a. The Successor Agency shall have no responsibility for operation and maintenance of the Project upon Completion of the Project as evidenced by the recording of the Notice of Completion.

b. The Successor Agency shall obtain and assign to the CSD all warranties of workmanship, materials, and equipment related to the construction and installation of fixtures and equipment related to the Project.

c. Subject to the approval of the State of California, CSD shall operate and maintain, or cause to be operated and maintained, the Project once completed, as a public park, continuously and without interruption until and through June 30, 2039, in conformance with all the terms and conditions of any and all Governmental Permits approved therefore, and all terms and conditions of the Grant, including the Grant Application, Grant Application Guide and Grant Administration Guide.

d. Said operation and maintenance by CSD shall include the providing of all park operations, security, daily park functions such as litter removal, graffiti/vandalism removal, landscaping maintenance, lighting upkeep, inspections of park appurtenances, daily playground equipment maintenance, restroom cleaning schedule, and an ongoing security plan in coordination with the Monterey County Sheriff's Office. CSD shall ensure that the park remains open to the public during daylight hours seven days a week. The park may be locked by CSD maintenance personnel during the night. Night-time lighting shall be minimal and for security purposes only.

e. The CSD shall post and maintain signs in at least three (3) locations throughout the park giving twenty-four hour a day contact information for the Sheriff's Office and the CSD, as the entity responsible for park maintenance, in the event a matter requires immediate attention.

f. The CSD shall adopt policies to ensure there will be no discrimination in use of the park against or segregation of any person, or group of persons, on account of race, color, creed, religion, sex, marital status, national origin or ancestry in the sale, lease, sublease, transfer, use, occupancy, tenure or enjoyment of the park. The CSD shall further adopt policies to ensure there shall be no discrimination in use of the park on the basis of residence in the community.

g. The CSD shall not charge an entrance fee for public access to the park. Any user fees charged for special events or activities at the park shall conform to the regulations of the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation and to the provisions of the Conditional Use Permit for the Project.

3. Indemnification. CSD shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless both the Successor Agency and the County of Monterey, and their respective officers, agents, and employees, from and against any and all claims, liabilities, and losses whatsoever (including damages to property and injuries to or death of persons, court costs, and reasonable attorneys' fees) occurring or resulting to any and all persons, firms or corporations furnishing or supplying work, services, materials, or supplies in connection with the performance of this Agreement, and from any and all claims, liabilities, and losses occurring or resulting to any person, firm, or corporation for damage, injury, or death arising out of or connected with the CSD's performance of this Agreement, unless such claims, liabilities, or losses arise out of the sole negligence or willful misconduct of the Successor Agency. "CSD's performance" includes CSD's action or inaction and the action or inaction of CSD's officers, employees, agents and subcontractors.

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the foregoing indemnification expressly includes the State of California.

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the foregoing indemnification expressly excludes the Architect, Construction Manager, and contractors hired by the Successor Agency to perform services in connection with this Agreement.

The provisions of this Section shall survive the termination of this Agreement and the Completion of the Project.

4. Insurance.

a. Evidence of Coverage: Prior to commencement of this Agreement, the CSD shall provide a "Certificate of Insurance" certifying that coverage as required herein has been obtained. Individual endorsements executed by the insurance carrier shall accompany the certificate. In addition the CSD upon request shall provide a certified copy of the policy or policies.

This verification of coverage shall be sent to the County Contracts/Purchasing Department, unless otherwise directed. The CSD shall not receive a "Notice to Proceed" with the work under this Agreement until it has obtained all insurance required and such, insurance has been approved by the Successor Agency. This approval of insurance shall neither relieve nor decrease the liability of the CSD.

b. Qualifying Insurers: All coverage's, except surety, shall be issued by companies which hold a current policy holder's alphabetic and financial size category rating of not less than A-VII, according to the current Best's Key Rating Guide or a company of equal financial stability that is approved by the Successor Agency's Purchasing Manager, or as otherwise approved by Successor Agency.

c. Insurance Coverage Requirements: Without limiting CSD's duty to indemnify, CSD shall maintain in effect throughout the term of this Agreement a policy or policies of insurance with the following minimum limits of liability:

i. Commercial general liability insurance, including but not limited to premises and operations, including coverage for Bodily Injury and Property Damage, Personal Injury, Contractual Liability, Broadform Property Damage, Independent Contractors, Products and Completed Operations, with a combined single limit for Bodily Injury and Property Damage of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

ii. Business automobile liability insurance, covering all motor vehicles, including owned, leased, non-owned, and hired vehicles, used in providing services under this Agreement, with a combined single limit for Bodily Injury and Property Damage of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

iii. Workers' Compensation Insurance, if CSD employs others in the performance of this Agreement, in accordance with California Labor Code section 3700 and with Employer's Liability limits not less than \$1,000,000 each person, \$1,000,000 each accident and \$1,000,000 each disease.

iv. Professional liability insurance, if required for the professional services being provided, (e.g., those persons authorized by a license to engage in a business or profession regulated by the California Business and Professions Code), in the amount of not less than \$1,000,000 per claim and \$2,000,000 in the aggregate, to cover liability for malpractice or errors or omissions made in the course of rendering professional services. If professional liability insurance is written on a "claims-made" basis rather than an occurrence basis, the CSD shall, upon the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement, obtain extended reporting coverage ("tail coverage") with the same liability limits. Any such tail

coverage shall continue for at least three years following the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.

d. Other Insurance Requirements. All insurance required by this Agreement shall be with a company acceptable to the Successor Agency and issued and executed by an admitted insurer (or as otherwise approved by Successor Agency) authorized to transact Insurance business in the State of California. Unless otherwise specified by this Agreement, all such insurance shall be written on an occurrence basis, or, if the policy is not written on an occurrence basis, such policy with the coverage required herein shall continue in effect for a period of three years following the date CSD completes its performance of services under this Agreement.

Each liability policy shall provide that the Successor Agency shall be given notice in writing at least thirty days in advance of any endorsed reduction in coverage or limit, cancellation, or intended non-renewal thereof. Each policy shall provide coverage for CSD and additional insureds with respect to claims arising from each subcontractor, if any, performing work under this Agreement, or be accompanied by a certificate of insurance from each subcontractor showing each subcontractor has identical insurance coverage to the above requirements.

Commercial general liability and automobile liability policies shall provide an endorsement naming the Successor Agency, its officers, agents, and employees as Additional Insureds with respect to liability arising out of the CSD's work, including ongoing and completed operations, and shall further provide that such insurance is primary insurance to any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the Successor Agency and that the insurance of the Additional Insureds shall not be called upon to contribute to a loss covered by the CSD's insurance. The required endorsement form for Commercial General Liability Additional Insured is ISO Form CG 20 10 11-85 or CG 20 10 10 01 in tandem with CG 20 37 10 01 (2000), or insurer's equivalent endorsement. The required endorsement form for Automobile Additional Insured endorsement is ISO Form CA 20 48 02 99, or insurer's equivalent endorsement.

Prior to the execution of this Agreement by the Successor Agency, CSD shall file certificates of insurance with the Successor Agency's contract administrator and the County Contracts/Purchasing Division, showing that the CSD has in effect the insurance required by this Agreement. The CSD shall file a new or amended certificate of insurance within five calendar days after any change is made in any insurance policy, which would alter the information on the certificate then on file. Acceptance or approval of insurance shall in no way modify or change the indemnification clause in this Agreement, which shall continue in full force and effect.

CSD shall at all times during the term of this Agreement maintain in force the insurance coverage required under this Agreement and shall send, without demand by Successor Agency, annual certificates to Successor Agency's Contract Administrator and the County Contracts/Purchasing Division. If the certificate is not received by the expiration date, Successor Agency shall notify CSD and CSD shall have five calendar days to send in the certificate, evidencing no lapse in coverage during the interim. Failure by CSD to maintain such insurance is a default of this Agreement, which entitles Successor Agency, at its sole discretion, to terminate this Agreement immediately.

representations and/or practices relative to the foregoing is hereby superseded, revoked and rendered ineffective for any purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties, intending to be legally bound, have executed this Agreement on the date first written above.

COUNTY OF MONTEREY,  
AS SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE  
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE  
COUNTY OF MONTEREY

PAJARO/SUNNY MESA  
COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

By: Dave Potter  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

By: [Signature]  
Chair, Board of Directors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
County Counsel

By: Kay Beeman

Date: 10/8/12

APPROVED AS TO INDEMNITY/INSURANCE LANGUAGE:

RISK MANAGEMENT  
COUNTY OF MONTEREY  
APPROVED AS TO INDEMNITY/  
By: INSURANCE LANGUAGE

By: Maia Schumacher  
Date: 10-9-12

## Attachment C

**REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION  
AND  
PROJECT TRANSFER AGREEMENT**

**PAJARO NEIGHBORHOOD PARK**

THIS REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION AND PROJECT TRANSFER AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is dated for reference purposes as of October 22, 2013, by and between the SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY, a public body, corporate and politic ("Grantor"), and the PARAJO/SUNNY MESA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, ("Grantee"), with reference to the following facts:

**RECITALS**

Grantor owns that certain real property located in the unincorporated area of the County of Monterey, State of California, located at 24 San Juan Road, bearing Assessor's Parcel Numbers 117-341-009, 117-341-010, and 117-331-025, and more particularly described in Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof ("Property").

A. California Assembly Bill 1X 26, enacted on June 28, 2011 and upheld by the California Supreme Court on December 29, 2011, dissolved all California redevelopment agencies effective February 1, 2011 through amendments to the California Health and Safety Code (the "Amended Code"). Pursuant to Sections 34173, 34175, and 34176 of the Amended Code, and by operation of law, the County of Monterey, as Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency of the County of Monterey, has assumed the rights, duties, and obligations pertaining to all functions of the original County redevelopment agency, and as such has assumed the rights, duties, and obligations pertaining to the Property. Consequently, the County of Monterey in its capacity as Successor Agency, and not the original redevelopment agency, is party to this Agreement.

B. The Successor Agency has succeeded as the recipient of a grant in the amount of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) issued by the State of California pursuant to the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program of 2008 (Proposition 84) (the "Grant"), for the purpose of developing a public park presently known as the Pajaro Neighborhood Community Park (the "Project").

C. On November 9, 2011, by approval of Resolution No. 11-039 (PLN090275), the Monterey County Planning Commission approved a Combined Development Permit to allow the Project.

D. On December 4, 2012, Grantor and Grantee entered into an Operations and Management Agreement, whereby the parties agreed that upon completion of the park improvements and recording of a Notice of Completion for the construction of the Project, Grantee will accept responsibility to operate and maintain the completed improvements as a public park in compliance with the terms and conditions of the Grant and the Combined Development Permit.



E. Grantor has caused construction of the Project to begin and anticipates completion in December, 2013.

F. On the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement, Grantor desires to convey and donate the Property and all improvements thereon to Grantee for public purposes and Grantee desires to acquire and accept the Property and improvements from Grantor.

## AGREEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, for valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, Grantee and Grantor hereby agree as follows:

### ARTICLE 1. GRANT AND CONVEYANCE

1.1 The Property. On the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Agreement, Grantor agrees to grant and convey to Grantee for public uses and purposes, and Grantee agrees to acquire and accept from Grantor for public uses and purposes, the entirety of the Property, together with all buildings, structures and improvements located on the Property, if any, and any rights appurtenant to the Property

1.2 Effective Date. For purposes of this Agreement, the "Effective Date" shall be the date on which this Agreement is fully executed by both Grantee and Grantor and a copy of this fully executed Agreement is delivered to the Title Company.

### ARTICLE 2. CONSIDERATION

2.1 Consideration. Grantor acquired the Property for the purpose of developing a public park commonly known as the Pajaro Neighborhood Park, in part through the use of grant funds issued by the State of California pursuant to the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program of 2008 (Proposition 84) ("Grant"). Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Grant, Grantor desires and agrees to donate and convey the Property to Grantee for charitable or public uses and purposes and for no monetary consideration, but only upon the assumption of the obligations of the Grant by Grantee. Grantee has reviewed the terms of the Grant and other documents, including the Combined Development Permit ("CDP") for the Project, and has agreed to accept the Property and assume the obligations stated in the Grant and the CDP.

### ARTICLE 3. COMPLETION OF CONVEYANCE

3.1 Place and Date. The transfer and conveyance of the Property shall be completed in accordance with Article 9 hereof ("Closing"). The Closing shall occur through an escrow (the "Escrow") with Chicago Title Company ("Title Company"), whose address is 50 Windham Street, Salinas, California 93901, or at such other place as Grantor and Grantee agree in writing. The Escrow shall be deemed open on the Effective Date. Subject to the conditions precedent described in Article 8 hereof, the Closing shall occur on or as soon as reasonably possible after the Effective Date, but not later than thirty (30) days after Grantor has accepted the Park improvements as complete and authorized the issuance of a Notice of Completion for the Project,

unless extended by Grantor and Grantee in writing (the "Closing Date"). In the event there exists a failed condition to Grantee's or Grantor's obligation and Grantee and Grantor do not agree to extend the Closing Date, or such failed condition exists after expiration of any such extension, then the party for whose benefit such condition exists may waive the condition or terminate this Agreement by written notice to the other party and to the Title Company. The Escrow shall be considered closed when the Deed is recorded in the Official Records of Monterey County, California.

3.2 Escrow Instructions. This Agreement shall constitute escrow instructions to and for the benefit of the Title Company to facilitate the Closing. Prior to the Closing Date, Grantor and Grantee shall each give any additional written escrow instructions ("Supplemental Escrow Instructions") to the Title Company which are necessary for the Closing in accordance with this Agreement. In the event there is a conflict between any such Supplemental Escrow Instructions and the provisions of this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall control.

3.3 Retained Obligations and Responsibilities. Notwithstanding the Close of Escrow and transfer of Property, Grantor and Grantee agree that Grantor, as the recipient of the Grant shall retain the obligation and responsibility to administer the following activities in relation to the construction contract awarded by Grantor to develop the park in compliance with the Grant:

- a. Completion by the contractor of any uncompleted activities (punch list).
- b. Curing of any deficiencies in payments to contractor's workers or vendors during the Mechanics Lien period after recording of the Notice of Completion.
- c. Final payments owing to the contractor, including release of retained contract funds.
- d. Completion of post-completion construction management and architectural activities, including but not limited to final project cost accounting, completion of record or "as-built" drawings, assembly and archiving of project files, final payments to consultants, etc.
- e. Receipt of final payments of state grant funds from the granting agencies indicated in Recital B herein, and the performance of any audits of said grants by the State.
- f. Final project cost accounting, closing out of Successor Agency funding for the Project, and the return of any unexpended Successor Agency funds as may be required by law.

In addition, Grantor shall transfer to Grantee any and all warranties issued by any contractor or subcontractor relating to workmanship and materials that may be issued to Grantor as part of the Project. Such transfer of warranties shall occur as soon as possible after receipt, but no later than ten (10) business days of receipt. Grantor shall also cooperate with Grantee to resolve any problems relating to warranties or the need to resort to warranties, until such time as those warranties are transferred to Grantee.

#### ARTICLE 4. REVIEW OF THE PROPERTY

4.1 Delivery of Documents. Within five (5) business days after the Effective Date, Grantor shall, at the expense of Grantor, deliver to Grantee the following documents, each to the extent in Grantor's actual possession (without any duty to generate or obtain the same from third parties) and to the extent not delivered to Grantee by Grantor prior to execution of this Agreement:

4.1.1 Surveys and Assessments. One copy of any surveys of the boundaries of the Property; and one copy of any and all engineering, assessments, reports and/or surveys regarding the physical, soils, geological, wetlands, and/or environmental condition of the Property.

Grantee acknowledges and agrees that any documents delivered to Grantee pursuant to this Agreement shall be delivered to Grantee without any representations or warranties by Grantor with the exception of the representation set forth in Section 6.1.2 hereof. Grantee expressly agrees that (a) any documents and information furnished by Grantor to Grantee are for informational purposes only and without representation or warranty as to their accuracy or the completeness of their contents; and (b) Grantee will not rely on such documents and information and will conduct its own inspections and due diligence relating to the Property.

#### 4.2 Access for Review.

4.2.1 Studies Generally. From the date of this Agreement to the Closing Date, Grantor shall provide Grantee and Grantee's agents and representatives with access to the Property, at all reasonable times to make such reasonable inspections, tests, copies, verifications, surveys, assessments, and studies ("Studies") as Grantee considers reasonably necessary or desirable under the circumstances. Grantor shall also make available to Grantee's agents access to employee(s) with knowledge of the historical use of the Property, including site conditions. Grantee shall not damage or alter the Property in any material respect as a result of such Studies, and shall otherwise conduct the same so as not to unreasonably interfere with present operations, if any, on the Property. Any such Studies shall be made at Grantee's sole cost and expense.

4.2.2 Intrusive Studies. If Grantee plans to undertake any Studies on or about the Property which involve intrusion to the surface of the Property or the use of any testing, monitoring or other equipment, then Grantee must (a) give Grantor advance written notice describing the scope and schedule of the work or activities involved in the Studies and the identity of the contractor, (b) prior to any entry on to the Property, deliver to Grantor proof of commercial general liability insurance of at least \$1,000,000 covering any and all parties entering the Property to perform such intrusive studies and listing Grantor as additional insured, which insurance shall be primary and noncontributing with any insurance carried by Grantor and issued on an occurrence basis, and (c) after the completion of the work or Studies, restore the Property to a condition substantially similar to that existing at the time immediately prior to the work or Studies.

#### ARTICLE 5. TITLE TO THE PROPERTY

5.1 Grant Deed. On the Closing Date, Grantor shall convey fee simple absolute title to the Property to Grantee by means of a duly executed and acknowledged Grant Deed ("Deed") in the form of Exhibit B attached hereto, reciting that title is subject to real property taxes and assessments not yet due and payable, matters ascertainable by a reasonable inspection and survey of the Property, matters recorded in the Monterey County Recorder's Office and any additional off-record matters approved by Grantee.

## ARTICLE 6. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

6.1 Grantor. Grantee acknowledges that Grantee is acquiring the Property "AS-IS, WHERE-IS, IN ITS CURRENT CONDITION, WITH ALL FAULTS" and in reliance upon its own Studies, investigations and due diligence. No person acting on behalf of Grantor is authorized to make (and by execution hereof, Grantee acknowledges and agrees that, with the exception of those representations and warranties contained in this Section 6.1, Grantor has not made, does not make and specifically negates and disclaims) any representations or warranties of any kind or character whatsoever, whether express or implied, oral or written, past, present or future, with regard to the Property, including without limitation (1) its value; (2) its nature, condition or quality (including without limitation, its water, soil and geology); (3) its compliance with any laws, rules, ordinances or regulations of any applicable governmental authority or body; (4) its suitability for activities which Grantee may desire to conduct thereon; (5) its suitability for any development desired by Grantee or the ability of Grantee to develop the Property; (6) the income to be derived from the Property; (7) the habitability, merchantability, profitability or fitness for a particular purpose of the Property; (8) the environmental condition of the Property; and (9) the manner, quality, state of repair or lack of repair of the Property. With the foregoing limitations, and subject to the matters described in Exhibit C attached hereto ("Warranty Exceptions"), Grantor represents and warrants to Grantee as of the date of this Agreement as follows:

6.1.1 Power and Authority. Grantor is a public body, duly organized and validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of California. Grantor has full power and authority to enter into this Agreement and to perform this Agreement. The execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement by Grantor have been duly and validly authorized by all necessary company actions on the part of Grantor and all required consents or approvals by the members, managers, and/or officers of Grantor have been duly obtained. This Agreement is a legal, valid and binding obligation of Grantor, enforceable against Grantor in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be limited by applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, arrangement, moratorium or other similar laws from time to time in effect which affect the rights of creditors generally or by limitations upon the availability of equitable remedies.

6.1.2 Documents True and Correct. All of the copies of the documents delivered to Grantee pursuant to Section 4.1 hereof are true, correct and complete copies of all originals of such documents in Grantor's possession.

6.1.3 Environmental Condition. To the best knowledge of Grantor, (a) there has previously been soil or ground water contamination or pollution with Hazardous Substances on the Property, and/or there previously has been discharge, disposal or dumping of Hazardous

Substances on the Property, and such Hazardous Substances may be present on Property; (b) underground or above ground storage tanks may be located on the Property; (c) there may be endangered or protected species of either plant or animal located on the Property, (d) there may be vernal pools or wetlands located or suspected to be located on the Property, (e) there may be endangered or protected species of either plant or animal located on the Property, (f) there may be Indian burial grounds or archaeological artifacts located on the Property, and (g) the Property may be in violation of Environmental Laws. However, as set forth in Section 7.3.3 below, Grantor has received a "Letter of No Further Action" dated June 9, 2009 with respect to the Property, issued by the Monterey County Department of Health, Environmental Health Bureau.

6.1.4 No Pending Actions. There are no actions or proceedings pending or, to the best knowledge of Grantor, threatened or being contemplated against or involving the Property.

6.1.5 No Conflict. Neither the execution, delivery or performance by Grantor of this Agreement, nor compliance with the terms and provisions hereof, conflicts or will conflict with or will result in a breach or violation of any order, writ, injunction or decree of any court or governmental authority against Grantor, or any indenture, mortgage or contract or other agreement or instrument to which Grantor is a party or by which it or any of its properties is bound, or constitutes or will constitute a default thereunder.

6.2 Grantee. The representations and warranties of Grantee in this Section 6.2 are a material inducement for Grantor to enter into this Agreement. Grantor would not convey the Property to Grantee without such representations and warranties of Grantee. Grantee represents and warrants to Grantor as follows:

6.2.1 Power and Authority. Grantee is a public body, corporate and politic, with full power and authority to enter into this Agreement and to perform this Agreement, subject to approval by the Board of Directors of the Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District. Upon approval of this Agreement by the Board of Directors of the Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District, the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement by Grantee will have been duly and validly authorized by all necessary action on the part of Grantee and all required consents or approvals by all governmental, quasi-governmental and other public bodies will have been duly obtained. This Agreement is a legal, valid and binding obligation of Grantee, enforceable against Grantee in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be limited by applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, arrangement, moratorium or other similar laws from time to time in effect which affect the rights of creditors generally or by limitations upon the availability of equitable remedies.

6.2.2 Studies/Diligence. Grantee is a sophisticated party with experience in acquiring and owning real properties similar to the Property. Prior to the Effective Date Grantee has been kept informed of the development of the Park, and has had permission to inspect or otherwise review the progress of the Park's development. On and after the Effective Date Grantee will continue to independently inspect the Property and perform various Studies with respect to the Property. Grantee has entered into this Agreement in light of its knowledge with regard to the Property to date and based upon its experience, rights and intentions to make such further Studies and inspections as it deems necessary.

6.2.3 No Conflict. Neither the execution, delivery or performance by Grantee of this Agreement, nor compliance with the terms and provisions hereof, conflicts or will conflict with or will result in a breach or violation of any ordinance, order, writ, injunction or decree of any court or governmental authority against Grantee, or any indenture, contract, agreement or instrument to which Grantee is a party or by which it is bound.

## ARTICLE 7. COVENANTS

7.1 Grantor. Grantor covenants and agrees with Grantee as follows:

7.1.1 Indemnity. Grantor shall indemnify and defend Grantee against and hold Grantee harmless from all claims, demands, liabilities, judgments, awards, losses, damages, costs and expenses (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees, costs of expert witnesses, court costs, and other expenses of litigation) that may be suffered or incurred by Grantee if any representation or warranty expressly made by Grantor in this Agreement is untrue or incorrect in any material respect when made or that may be caused by any material breach by Grantor of any covenant expressly made by Grantor in this Agreement. The foregoing indemnity of Grantor shall survive the Closing and any earlier termination of this Agreement.

7.2 Grantee. Grantee covenants and agrees with Grantor as follows:

7.2.1 Indemnity. Grantee shall indemnify and defend Grantor against and hold Grantor harmless from all claims, demands, liabilities, judgments, awards, losses, damages, costs and expenses (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees, costs of expert witnesses, court costs, and other expenses of litigation) that may be suffered or incurred by Grantor if any representation or warranty expressly made by Grantee in this Agreement is untrue or incorrect in any material respect or that may be caused by any material breach by Grantee of any covenant expressly made by Grantee in this Agreement. The foregoing indemnity of Grantee shall survive the Closing and any earlier termination of this Agreement.

7.3 Environmental Matters.

7.3.1 Certain Definitions. For purposes hereof:

(a) "Agencies" shall mean any and all government agencies with jurisdiction in regards to the presence of Hazardous Substances and/or the violation of Environmental Laws;

(b) "Activities" shall mean any and all investigation, remediation and monitoring activities with regard to the Present Contamination on the Property which are required by Agencies in accordance with applicable law;

(c) "Present Contamination" shall mean any contamination of the Property by Hazardous Substances as of the Effective Date;

(d) "Hazardous Substances" shall mean any substance or material defined or designated as hazardous or toxic waste, hazardous or toxic material, a hazardous,

toxic or radioactive substance, hazardous or potentially hazardous to human health, or other similar term, by any federal, state or local environmental and/or health statute, regulation, or ordinance presently in effect, including without limitation residual petroleum hydrocarbons; and

(e) "Environmental Laws" shall mean any law, statute, ordinance or regulation pertaining to health, industrial hygiene, Hazardous Substances, or the environment.

7.3.2 Grantee Environmental Assessments. Grantee acknowledges that (a) Grantor has heretofore provided Grantee with copies (and may hereafter pursuant to Section 4.1 hereof provide Grantee with additional copies) of certain environmental reports and site assessments with regard to the Property, including without limitation, (i) Phase I/II Environmental Site Assessment (Weber, Hayes & Associates, September 8, 2008), (ii) Limited Remedial Excavation (Grading) and Proper Disposal of Shallow Motor Oil Impacted Soils (Weber, Hayes & Associates, April 21, 2009), and (iii) Monitoring Well Destruction (Weber, Hayes & Associates, May 20, 2009), and (b) the Monterey County Health Department, Environmental Health Bureau, no further action letter issued to Grantor, indicating that the shallow soil contamination previously existing on the Property has been remediated, a monitoring well discovered on the Property was properly destroyed, and no further action is required at the Property (June 9, 2009), and (c) Grantee has been provided with rights and access to the Property in order to obtain any additional environmental assessments, tests, investigations and Studies that Grantee deems necessary, and (d) Grantee has heretofore commissioned and obtained certain environmental site assessments with regard to the Property which describe the present environmental condition of the Property and whether any Hazardous Substances are currently present at the Property.

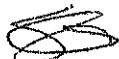
7.3.3 Remediation Cost Reimbursement. Grantor and Grantee acknowledge that Grantor conducted certain environmental remediation activities on the Property, and such activities have been determined by the appropriate permitting bodies to be adequate. Grantee acknowledges the existence of a "No Further Action" Notice issued by the Monterey County Department of Health with respect to the Property.

7.3.4 Remediation After Closing. Grantee hereby agrees effective on the Closing Date to assume all obligation, liability and responsibility for performing or causing to be performed any and all remediation required for events which occur after Close of Escrow.

7.3.5 Release. Grantee and anyone claiming by, through or under Grantee hereby fully and irrevocably releases Grantor and each of Grantor's representatives, agents, servants, attorneys, affiliates, successors and assigns, and all persons, firms, corporations and organizations acting on their behalf, from any and all claims that it may now have or hereafter acquire against Grantor or any of their representatives, agents, servants, attorneys, affiliates, successors and assigns, for any costs, losses, liabilities, damages, expenses, demands, actions or causes of action arising from or related to (a) the condition of the Property, including without limitation any construction defects, errors, omissions or other conditions, latent or otherwise, and/or geotechnical, seismic or environmental matters affecting the Property or any portion thereof, including without limitation any Present Contamination, (b) any liability or obligation to perform any Activities with respect to any Present Contamination, and (c) any interference to Grantee's use or operation of the Property caused by the Present Contamination or any necessary Activities.

THIS RELEASE INCLUDES CLAIMS OF WHICH GRANTEE IS PRESENTLY UNAWARE OR WHICH GRANTEE DOES NOT PRESENTLY SUSPECT TO EXIST WHICH, IF KNOWN BY GRANTEE, WOULD MATERIALLY AFFECT GRANTEE'S RELEASE TO GRANTOR. GRANTEE SPECIFICALLY WAIVES THE PROVISION OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE SECTION 1542, WHICH PROVIDES AS FOLLOWS:

A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR EXPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN TO HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED THE SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR.



GRANTEE'S INITIALS

#### ARTICLE 8. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

8.1 Grantor. The obligations of Grantor under this Agreement to close the transfer and convey the Property to Grantee are subject to satisfaction of all of the conditions set forth in this Section 8.1. Grantor may waive any or all of such conditions in whole or in part but any such waiver shall be effective only if made in writing. If any condition set forth in this Section 8.1 is not fully satisfied or waived in writing by Grantor within the time indicated, then Grantor shall be released from all obligations to Grantee under this Agreement. If Grantor fails to notify Grantee of Grantor's disapproval of any items requiring Grantor's approval within the time period specified below, then Grantor shall be deemed to have approved such items.

8.1.1 No Default. On the Closing Date, Grantee shall not be in default in the performance of any covenant or agreement to be performed by Grantee under this Agreement.

8.1.2 Representations and Warranties True and Correct. On the Closing Date, all representations and warranties made by Grantee in this Agreement shall be true and correct as if made on and as of the Closing Date, without exceptions.

8.1.3 No Contest. On the Closing Date, no suit, action, investigation, inquiry or other proceeding by any governmental body or other person or any legal or administrative proceeding shall have been instituted against Grantee or Grantor which challenges the validity or legality of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

8.1.4 Acceptance By Grantor. On the Closing Date, the Board of Directors of the Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency of the County of Monterey and/or all other necessary governmental or quasi-governmental bodies or agencies shall have passed all appropriate resolutions accepting title to the Property or the conveyance or grant of the Property pursuant to this Agreement.

8.2 Grantee. The obligations of Grantee under this Agreement to acquire the Property and accept title from Grantor are subject to satisfaction of all of the conditions set forth



in this Section 8.2. Grantee may waive any or all of such conditions in whole or in part but any such waiver shall be effective only if made in writing. If any condition set forth in this Section 8.2 is not fully satisfied or waived in writing by Grantee, then Grantee shall be released from all obligations to Grantor under this Agreement. If Grantee fails to notify Grantor of Grantee's disapproval of any items requiring Grantee's approval within the time period specified below, then Grantee shall be deemed to have approved such items.

8.2.1 Studies. On or before the Closing Date, Grantee shall have approved in Grantee's sole discretion, the results of any and all Studies with respect to the Property as Grantee may elect to make or obtain. The failure of Grantee to disapprove its Studies and the condition of the Property and to terminate this Agreement in writing prior the Closing Date shall irrevocably be deemed to constitute Grantee's (a) unconditional approval of its Studies and the condition of the Property, and (b) election to close its acquisition of the Property subject to satisfaction of the other conditions set forth in this Section 8.2.

8.2.2 No Contest. On the Closing Date, no suit, action, investigation, inquiry or other proceeding by any governmental body or other person (other than Grantee) or any legal or administrative proceeding shall have been instituted or threatened against Grantee, Grantor or the Property or any part thereof which challenges the validity or legality of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

8.2.3 No Default. On the Closing Date, Grantor shall not be in default in the performance of any covenant or agreement to be performed by Grantor under this Agreement.

8.2.4 Representations and Warranties True and Correct. On the Closing Date, all representations and warranties made by Grantor in this Agreement shall be true and correct as if made on and as of the Closing Date, without exceptions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if prior to the Closing Date Grantee discovers that any representation or warranty made by Grantor in this Agreement was not true when made or is not true as of the Closing Date, and if Grantee nevertheless elects to close its acquisition of the Property as set forth herein, then Grantee shall be deemed to have irrevocably waived any claim against Grantor relating to said representation or warranty and to release Grantor from any liability, breach or claim relating thereto.

8.2.5 Acceptance By Grantee. On the Closing Date, the Board of Directors of the Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District and/or all other necessary governmental or quasi-governmental bodies or agencies shall have passed all appropriate resolutions accepting title to the Property or the conveyance or grant of the Property pursuant to this Agreement.

## ARTICLE 9. CLOSING

### 9.1 Procedure.

#### 9.1.1 Deliveries.

9.1.1.1 Not less than one (1) day prior to the close of Escrow, subject to the satisfaction of the conditions to Grantor's obligations set forth in this Agreement, Grantor shall deliver the Deed into Escrow with the Title Company fully executed by Grantor and acknowledged and in recordable form.

9.1.1.2 Not less than three (3) business days after the opening of Escrow, Grantee must deliver a copy of this fully executed Agreement into Escrow with the Title Company.

9.1.2 Additional Deliveries. Grantee and Grantor shall each deposit into Escrow such other instruments and items as are reasonably required by the Title Company or otherwise required to close the Escrow and to consummate the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

9.1.3 Recording. At the Closing on the Closing Date, Grantor and Grantee shall cause the Deed conveying the Property to Grantee and all necessary and appropriate certificates of acceptance from Grantee to be recorded in the Official Records of Monterey County, California.

9.2 Possession. Grantor shall transfer possession of the Property to Grantee on the Closing Date.

9.3 Closing Costs. Grantee and Grantor shall each pay one-half (1/2) of (a) all city, county and other documentary transfer taxes and conveyance taxes in respect of the conveyance of the Property, if any, (b) any document prep, notary and delivery fees, (c) any escrow fees, and (d) any recording fees.

9.4 Prorations. All current income and expenses of the Property shall be prorated between Grantor and Grantee as of the Closing Date on the basis of a thirty-day month and, to the extent of information then available, such prorations shall be made at the Closing.

9.5 Broker's Commission. Grantee and Grantor each warrant and represent to the other that it has not retained, nor is it obligated to, any person for brokerage, finder's or similar services in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, and that no commission, finder's fee or other brokerage or agent's compensation can be properly claimed by any person or entity based upon the acts of such party with regard to the transactions which are the subject matter of this Agreement.

## ARTICLE 10. DEFAULT

10.1 Effect of Default. If, after satisfaction of all conditions precedent to a party's obligations under this Agreement, such party ("delinquent party") shall fail or refuse to consummate the transactions which are the subject of this Agreement within the time and in the manner specified in this Agreement, then the sole and exclusive remedy of the other party ("nondelinquent party"), and in substitution for any other remedies that may exist at law or in equity (including, without limitation, an action for damages), shall be to terminate this Agreement by giving prior written notice thereof to the delinquent party and to the Title Company, and upon such termination and receipt by the delinquent party of such notice, all

parties to this Agreement shall be released from all obligations in law or in equity to convey or acquire the Property, as the case may be.

#### ARTICLE 11. GENERAL PROVISIONS

11.1 Notices. All notices, consents, approvals and other communications under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given or made (a) upon delivery if hand delivered; (b) one (1) business day after delivery to any nationally recognized overnight courier service for next business day delivery, fee prepaid; (c) one (1) business day after facsimile transmission, with transmission verified and a hard copy of the transmission promptly sent by U. S. Mail; or (d) three (3) days after deposit with the United States Postal Service as registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, and in each case addressed as follows:

To Grantor: Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency of the  
County of Monterey  
168 W. Alisal Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901  
Attn: Director of Economic Development

To Grantee: Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District  
136 San Juan Road  
Watsonville, CA 95076  
Attn: General Manager

11.2 Merger/Entire Agreement. This Agreement, together with the Operation and Maintenance Agreement, dated October 12, 2012, between the parties ("O&M Agreement"), is intended to be the entire agreement of the parties with respect to the transfer of the Project. All prior negotiations and written and contemporary oral agreements between the parties and their agents with respect to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement are merged in this Agreement together with its exhibits and the O&M Agreement and its exhibits.

11.3 Time. Time is of the essence in the performance of the parties' respective obligations pursuant to this Agreement.

11.4 Attorneys' Fees. If there is any legal action, arbitration or proceeding between Grantor and Grantee arising from or based on this Agreement or the interpretation or enforcement of any provisions hereof, then the unsuccessful party to such action, arbitration or proceeding shall pay to the prevailing party all costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, incurred by such prevailing party in such action, arbitration or proceeding and in any appeal in connection therewith. If such prevailing party recovers a judgment in any such action, arbitration, proceeding or appeal, then such costs, expenses and attorneys' fees shall be included in and as a part of such judgment. For purposes hereof, the "prevailing party" shall be the party which recovers substantially the relief sought by said party, whether by judgment, settlement, dismissal or otherwise, in connection with any such action, proceeding or arbitration.

11.5 Successors and Assigns. This Agreement and the rights and obligations hereunder shall not be assigned or conveyed by Grantee to any other entity or person without the prior written consent of Grantor, which consent may be withheld in the sole and absolute discretion of Grantor. This Agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the parties and their respective authorized successors and assigns.

11.6 Amendments or Modifications. This Agreement is subject to amendment or modification only with the written consent of both of the parties.

11.7 Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

11.8 Construction. Grantor and Grantee acknowledge that each party and its counsel have reviewed and revised this Agreement and that the normal rule of construction to the effect that any ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting party shall not be employed in the interpretation of this Agreement or any document executed and delivered by either party in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement. The captions in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall not be used to interpret this Agreement.

11.9 Terms Generally. The defined terms in this Agreement shall apply equally to both the singular and the plural forms of the terms defined. Whenever the context may require, any pronoun shall include the corresponding masculine, feminine or neuter forms. The term "person" includes individuals, corporations, partnerships, trusts and other entities and associations. The words "include," "includes" and "including" shall be deemed to be followed by the phrase "without limitation." The words "approval," "consent" and "notice" shall be deemed to be preceded by the word "written."

11.10 Further Assurances. From and after the date of this Agreement, Grantor and Grantee agree to do such things, perform such acts, and make, execute, acknowledge and deliver such documents as may be reasonably necessary or proper and usual to complete the transactions contemplated by this Agreement and to carry out the purpose of this Agreement in accordance with this Agreement.

11.11 Partial Invalidity. If any provision of this Agreement is determined by a proper court to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect the other provisions of this Agreement and this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect without such invalid, illegal or unenforceable provisions provided that the severance of such provision(s) does not result in a material failure of consideration under this Agreement to either party hereto.

11.12 Exhibits. The Exhibits attached to this Agreement are made a part of this Agreement.


11.13 Counterparts; Facsimile. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts with the same effect as if the parties executing several counterparts had executed one counterpart and all such executed counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument. Facsimile signatures on this Agreement shall be binding as if original.

11.14 Holidays. In the event any date for performance of any obligation or the giving of any notice pursuant to this Agreement occurs on a California state or federal holiday or on a Saturday or Sunday, then the next business day shall be deemed the applicable date for performance or notice.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor and Grantee have executed this Agreement as of the date first hereinabove written.

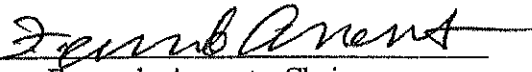
**GRANTEE:**

PAJARO/SUNNY MESA COMMUNITY  
SERVICES DISTRICT, a public body


By:   
Steve Snodgrass, Chair  
Board of Directors

**GRANTOR:**

SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE  
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE  
COUNTY OF MONTEREY, a public body,  
corporate and politic

By:   
Fernando Armenta, Chair  
Board of Directors

Approved as to form:

By:   
Kathryn Reimann  
Sr. Deputy County Counsel

## Attachment D

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

by and between the  
COUNTY OF MONTEREY  
and the  
PAJARO/SUNNY MESA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Operation and Maintenance of the Pajaro Neighborhood Park

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ("MOU") is entered into as of 12/15, 2015 by and between the COUNTY OF MONTEREY ("County"), a body corporate and politic, and the PAJARO/SUNNY MESA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT ("CSD"), a public corporation, with reference to the following facts:

### RECITALS

WHEREAS, Monterey County owns, maintains and operates public parks throughout the county and is dedicated to providing quality recreational facilities to the citizens of the County; and,

WHEREAS, the former Redevelopment Agency of the County of Monterey worked with the community of Pajaro from 2006 through 2013 to fund, design, and construct a new 5-acre public park in that community (the "Project"); and,

WHEREAS, the Project directly benefits Monterey County residents by providing public park facilities that are within walking distance from the entire Pajaro community, and play a role in improving the lives of residents by enhancing community involvement in health, education and pride; and,

WHEREAS, the Pajaro Neighborhood Park was named the American Public Works Association's "2015 Public Works Project of the Year"; and,

WHEREAS, on October 22, 2013 the Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency and the CSD entered into a Real Property Acquisition and Project Transfer Agreement, whereby the CSD agreed to accept title to the park and responsibility for the Project, on the terms set forth in that Agreement, upon the close of escrow after the approval of a Notice of Completion for the construction of the park; and,

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2014 a Grant Deed was recorded transferring ownership of the completed park to the CSD; and,

WHEREAS, funding for design and construction of the Project included a \$5.0 million Proposition 84 grant from the State Department of Parks and Recreation; and,

WHEREAS, a key condition of the Proposition 84 Grant required that the park must be operated and maintained by a public agency as a public park through June 30, 2039, a period of twenty five years from the date of completion. The Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District (CSD) accepted this responsibility through an *Operation and Maintenance MOU* dated December 4, 2012; and,

WHEREAS, the CSD estimates the annual cost to operate and maintain the park to be approximately \$53,000 per year; and,

WHEREAS, the CSD has engaged in fundraising efforts managed by the United Way of Monterey County that have raised approximately \$75,000 in donations over the last three years and has not resulted in a sufficiently sustainable revenue source to cover all annual costs associated with maintenance and operations of the Pajaro Neighborhood Park; and,

WHEREAS, the Pajaro Neighborhood Park provides much-needed recreational services to all residents of the unincorporated area of Monterey County, and the County finds it to be in the public interest, and will provide a public benefit, to continue its support of the Project for the duration of the CSD's commitment to provide maintenance and operations services by funding \$25,000 per year to pay for a portion of the CSD's cost to operate and maintain the park; and,

WHEREAS, the parties desire to complete a *MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING* to implement the payment of these funds to the CSD.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. The Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District hereby confirms to the County of Monterey the District's prior agreements with the former Redevelopment Agency and with the Successor Agency related to the ownership and operation of the Pajaro Neighborhood Park through June 30, 2039; and

2. The County of Monterey agrees to contribute to the Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District the sum of \$25,000 from the County's General Fund in every fiscal year from the date of this MOU through June 30, 2039 to pay a portion of the District's cost to operate and maintain the Pajaro Neighborhood Park.

3. The obligation described herein is contingent upon the Board of Supervisors appropriating the necessary sum every fiscal year in its budget; however, the County covenants to use its best efforts to so appropriate every fiscal year.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties, intending to be legally bound, have executed this *MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING* on the date first written above.

COUNTY OF MONTEREY

By: 

Chair, Board of Supervisors

PAJARO/SUNNY MESA  
COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

By: 

Chair, Board of Directors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

County Counsel

By: 

Sr. Deputy

## Attachment E

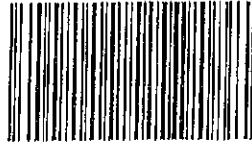
Stephen L. Vagnini  
Monterey County Recorder  
Recorded at the request of  
Filer

ORDAWN  
8/23/2011  
8:29:00

1 RECORDING REQUESTED BY:  
2 California Department of Parks and Recreation  
Office of Grants and Local Services

3 WHEN RECORDED MAIL TO:  
4 Office of Grants and Local Services  
PO Box 942896  
5 Sacramento, CA 94296-0001  
Attn: Cristelle Taillon

DOCUMENT: 2011045789



Titles: 1/ Pages: 15

Fees....

Taxes...

Other... 2.00

AMT PAID \$2.00

6 No fee shall be charged per GC § 27383

8 DEED RESTRICTION

9  
10 I. WHEREAS, the Redevelopment Agency of the County of Monterey (hereinafter referred  
11 to as "Owner(s)" is/are recorded owner(s) of the real property described in Exhibit A, attached and  
12 incorporated herein by reference (hereinafter referred to as the "Property"); and

13 II. WHEREAS, the California Department of Parks and Recreation (hereinafter referred to  
14 as "DPR") is a public agency created and existing under the authority of section 5001 of the California  
15 Public Resources Code (hereinafter referred to as the "PRC"). And

16 III. WHEREAS, Owner(s) (or Applicants) applied to DPR for grant funds available pursuant  
17 to the 2006 Parks Bond Act, Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization for Creation  
18 of the new Pajaro Community Park through acquisition and development of 4.9 acres in Monterey  
19 County. Construct a new plaza/kiosco, baseball/soccer field, basketball court, track, picnic areas,  
20 playground, tot lot, restroom, public art wall, parking lot, and landscaping. on the Property; and

21  
22 IV. WHEREAS, on November 7, 2010, DPR's Office of Grants and Local Services  
23 conditionally approved Grant SW-27-002, (hereinafter referred to as "Grant") for the Creation of the  
24 new Pajaro Neighborhood Park through acquisition and development of 4.9 acres in Monterey County.  
25 Construct a new plaza/kiosco, baseball/soccer field, basketball court, track, picnic areas, playground, tot  
26 lot, restroom, public art wall, parking lot, and landscaping. on the Property, subject to, among other  
27 conditions, recordation of this Deed Restriction on the Property; and

1 V. WHEREAS, but for the imposition of the Deed Restriction condition of the Grant, the  
2 Grant would not be consistent with the public purposes of the 2006 Parks Bond Act, Statewide Park  
3 Development and Community Revitalization and the funds that are the subject of the Grant could  
4 therefore not have been granted; and

5 VI. WHEREAS, Owner(s) has/ve elected to comply with the Deed Restriction of the Grant,  
6 so as to enable Owner(s), to receive the Grant funds and perform the work described in the Grant;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the issuance of the Grant funds by DPR, the  
8 undersigned Owner(s) for himself/herself/themselves and for his/her/their heirs, assigns, and successors-  
9 in-interest, hereby irrevocably covenant(s) with DPR that the condition of the grant (set forth at  
10 paragraph(s) 1 through 5 and in Exhibit B hereto) shall at all times on and after the date on which this  
11 Deed Restriction is recorded constitute for all purposes covenants, conditions and restrictions on the use  
12 and enjoyment of the Property that are hereby attached to the deed to the Property as fully effective  
13 components thereof.

14 1. DURATION. (a) This Deed Restriction shall remain in full force and effect and shall  
15 bind Owner(s) and all his/her/their assigns or successors-in-interest for the period running from July 1,  
16 2009 through June 30, 2039.

17 2. TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS. It is intended that this Deed Restriction is irrevocable  
18 and shall constitute an enforceable restriction within the meaning of a) Article XIII, section 8, of the  
19 California Constitution; and b) section 402.I of the California Revenue and Taxation Code or successor  
20 statute. Furthermore, this Deed Restriction shall be deemed to constitute a servitude upon and burden to  
21 the Property within the meaning of section 3712(d) of the California Revenue and Taxation Code, or  
22 successor statute, which survives a sale of tax-deeded property.

23 3. RIGHT OF ENTRY. DPR or its agent or employees may enter onto the Property at times  
24 reasonably acceptable to Owner(s) to ascertain whether the use restrictions set forth above are being  
25 observed.  
26  
27

4. REMEDIES. Any act, conveyance, contract, or authorization by Owner(s) whether written or oral which uses or would cause to be used or would permit use of the Property contrary to the terms of this Deed Restriction will be deemed a violation and a breach hereof. DPR may pursue any and all available legal and/or equitable remedies to enforce the terms and conditions of this Deed Restriction. In the event of a breach, any forbearance on the part of DPR to enforce the terms and provisions hereof shall not be deemed a waiver of enforcement rights regarding any subsequent breach.

5. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of these restrictions is held to be invalid, or for any reason becomes unenforceable, no other provision shall be affected or impaired.

Dated: August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Business Name (if property is owned by a business): NONE

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT/TYPE NAME & CAPACITY OF ABOVE  
(GRANTEE'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE)  
JIM COOK, DIRECTOR  
Redevelopment and Housing

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT/TYPE NAME & CAPACITY OF ABOVE  
(ADDITIONAL SIGNATURE, AS REQUIRED)

\*\*\*NOTARY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ON THE NEXT PAGE\*\*\*

1 State of California

2 County of MONTEREY

3 On AUGUST 19, 2011 before me, GRETCHEN J. MARKLEY, a Notary Public,  
4 personally appeared Jim Cook, who proved to me on the basis of  
5 satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and  
6 acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that  
7 by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the  
8 person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

9 I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the  
10 foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

11 WITNESS my hand and official seal.

12 Signature Gretchen Markley (Seal)



13 State of California

14 County of \_\_\_\_\_

15 On \_\_\_\_\_ before me, \_\_\_\_\_, a Notary Public,  
16 personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_, who proved to me on the basis of  
17 satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and  
18 acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that  
19 by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the  
20 person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

21 I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the  
22 foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

23 WITNESS my hand and official seal.

24 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ (Seal)

## EXHIBIT "A"

THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN AN UNINCORPORATED AREA, COUNTY OF MONTEREY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

### PARCEL I:

A part of Rancho Bolsa De San Cayetano, beginning at a point in the Patent Survey Boundary of said Rancho, said point being also in the Northwestern boundary of a 15 acre tract of land conveyed by Francis S. Spring to Fanny C. Porter and John T. Porter by Deed dated November 21, 1879 and recorded in Volume Z of Deeds, at Page 345, Monterey County Records, and from which said point of beginning the most Northerly corner of said 15 acre Tract of land bears along said Patent Survey boundary and Boundary of said 15 acre Tract, N. 23° 17' E., 692.58 feet distant, and the most Westerly corner of "Subdivision No. 2 of the land of Estate of Fanny C. Porter", as said subdivision is shown on that certain map file for record on January 26, 1938 in Volume 4 of Maps, "Cities and Towns", at Page 14, Monterey County Records, bears with the following two courses and distances:

(1) S. 86° 04' E., 297.67 feet; thence

(2) N. 30° 37' E., 57.62 feet; thence from point of beginning and leaving said Patent Survey Boundary and Boundary of said 15 acre Tract of land, and running

(1) S. 86° 04' E., 180.13 feet; thence

(2) S. 41° 02 1/2' E., at 12.93 feet a 2" x 3" post, at 58.43 feet a 1 inch diameter steel bar set flush with the ground, at 87.43 feet a 2" x 3" post, 151.0 feet to a 1 inch diameter steel bar set flush with the ground; thence

(3) Along the arc of a circular curve to the right, the center of which bears S. 48° 57 1/2' W., 960 feet distant, for a distance of 335.80 feet to a 1 inch diameter steel bar set flush with the ground; thence

(4) S. 43° 14' W., 480.5 feet to a 1 1/4 inch diameter iron pipe set in the Northeasterly line of the Southern Pacific Railroad right of way, 50.0 feet from the centerline of the main line Track; thence along said railroad right of way line

(5) N. 50° 01 1/2' W., 100.0 feet to a 1 inch diameter steel bar; thence leave said right of way line and crossing said railroad

(6) S. 39° 58 1/2' W., 135.6 feet to a 1 1/4 inch diameter iron pipe; thence

(7) N. 8° 00' W., at 270.0 feet to a 1 1/4 inch diameter iron pipe, 286.33 feet to a point in said Patent Survey Boundary; thence along said Patent Survey Boundary

(8) N. 23° 17' E., 819.30 feet to the point of beginning.

Excepting therefrom all that portion of land lying within the limits of said Southern Pacific Company Railroad right of way, particularly described as follows: Beginning at a 1 inch diameter steel bar set in the Northeasterly line of the above mentioned Southern Pacific Railroad right of way, at the Northwestern extremity of that certain course hereinabove numbered (5); thence along said right of way line, N. 50° 01 1/2' W., 331.55 feet to a point in the aforementioned Patent Survey Boundary; thence along said Patent Survey Boundary, S. 23° 17' W., 104.39 feet to a point in the Southwesterly line of said railroad right of way; thence along last mentioned right of way line, S. 50° 01 1/2' E., 301.58 feet; thence N. 39° 58' W., 100.00 feet to the place of beginning.

Also excepting therefrom so much of said property as has been taken for levee, highway and other public purposes in a decree of condemnation, recorded March 11, 1941 in Volume 711 of Official Records of Monterey County at Page 105.

Also excepting therefrom that portion of the herein described property lying Southwesterly of the Southwesterly line of the said

Southern Pacific Company Railroad right of way exception set forth.

Also excepting therefrom that portion of said land lying within the boundaries of the Pajaro River Project.

PARCEL II:

That certain real property situate, lying and being in Lot 16 of the Atherton Partition, so called, of the Rancho Bolsa De San Cayetano, in the County of Monterey, State of California, particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the most Westerly corner of San Juan Street, as said corner and street are shown on Map entitled, "Subdivision No. 2 of the land of Estate of Fanny C. Porter", filed January 26, 1938 in the Office of the County Recorder of the County of Monterey, State of California, and now on file in said Office in Map Book Four, Cities and Towns, at Page 14; said corner being in the Southeasterly boundary of that certain piece or Parcel of land conveyed from the Estate of Fanny C. Porter, deceased, to Lorena Lee Dong by Deed dated February 28, 1948, recorded in Book 1042 of Official Records, at Page 209; and running thence from said place of beginning along said Southeasterly boundary

(1) South  $30^{\circ} 37'$  West 57.62 feet to the most Southerly corner of said Piece or Parcel of land; thence along the Southwesterly Boundary thereof,

(2) North  $86^{\circ} 04'$  West, 117.54 feet to an angle point in the Northeasterly Boundary of that certain 7.56 acre Tract of land conveyed from the Estate of Fanny C. Porter, deceased to Laurence C. Karstedt by Deed dated March 20, 1939, recorded in Book 615 of Official Records at Page 283; thence leave the Boundary of said Piece or Parcel of land and running along the Northeasterly Boundary of said 7.56 acre Parcel of land

(3) South  $41^{\circ} 02' 1/2'$  East, 151.0 feet; thence

(4) On the arc of a circular curve to the right, the center of which bears South  $48^{\circ} 57' 1/2'$  West 960 feet distant, for a distance of 35.05 feet in a Southeasterly direction, thence leaving last mentioned boundary

(5) On the arc of a circular curve to the right, the center of which bears North  $51^{\circ} 03'$  East 75 feet distant, for a distance of 95.01 feet in a Northwesterly direction; thence

(6) North  $33^{\circ} 38'$  East, 84.95 feet; thence

(7) N.  $38^{\circ} 13' 1/2'$  West, 29.09 feet to the place of beginning.

Excepting so much of said property that has been taken for Levee, Highway and other Public Purposes in a Decree of Condemnation, recorded March 11, 1941 in Volume 711 of Official Records of Monterey County at Page 105.

Also excepting therefrom that Portion of said land lying within the Boundaries of the Pajaro River Project.

APN: 117-341-002, 117-341-003, and 117-331-025



**EXHIBIT B**State of California - Natural Resources Agency  
Department of Parks and Recreation**GRANT CONTRACT**

2006 Parks Bond Act

**Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization**GRANTEE Monterey Co Redevel. AgencyGRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD is from July 01, 2009 through June 30, 2017CONTRACT PERFORMANCE PERIOD is from July 01, 2009 through June 30, 2009PROJECT TITLE PAJARO COMMUNITY PARK PROJECT NUMBER 8W-27-002

The GRANTEE agrees to the terms and conditions of this contract, hereinafter referred to as AGREEMENT, and the State of California, acting through its Director of Parks and Recreation, pursuant to the State of California, agrees to fund the total State grant amount indicated below. The GRANTEE agrees to complete the GRANT SCOPE as defined in the GRANT SCOPE / Cost Estimate Form of the APPLICATION filed with the State of California referenced by the application number indicated above.

The General and Special Provisions attached are made a part of and incorporated into the Contract.

Monterey Co Redevel. Agency

Grantee

By Jim Cook

Typed or printed name of Authorized Representative

Signature of Authorized Representative

Address 168 W Alisal St 3rd Fl Salinas CA 93901Title Director of Redevelopment and HousingDate 12/23/10STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATIONBy [Signature]Date 1/10/11**CERTIFICATION OF FUNDING**

CONTRACT NO. 03904056	AMENDMENT NO.	CALSTARS VENDOR NO. 400000470100			PROJECT NO. 8W-27-002
AMOUNT ENCUMBERED BY THIS DOCUMENT \$5,000,000.00		FUND. SAFE DRINKING WTR, COASTAL PROTECTION FUND OF 2008			
PRIOR AMOUNT ENCUMBERED FOR THIS CONTRACT	ITEM 3790-102-8051(1)	CHAPTER 1/09	STATUTE 09	FISCAL YEAR 2010/11	
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCUMBERED TO DATE \$5,000,000.00	INDEX 1091	OBJ. EXPEND 702	POA. 85100	PROJECT / WORK PHASE	
T.B.A. NO.	I hereby certify upon my personal knowledge that budgeted funds are available for this encumbrance.				
S.R. NO.	ACCOUNTING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE <u>[Signature]</u>			DATE 1/10/11	

Grantee: 1/11/11

## I. RECITALS

1. This AGREEMENT is entered into between the State of California, by and through the California Department of Parks and Recreation (hereinafter referred to as "STATE") and Monterey Co. Redevelopment Agency (hereinafter referred to as "GRANTEE").
2. The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 authorizes STATE to award grants to eligible entities for the purpose of Division 43 of the Public Resources Code.
3. Pursuant to the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Act of 2008, STATE is authorized to oversee and manage grants to eligible entities for the purposes stated within its provisions. Funding for this three hundred sixty eight million (\$368 million) grant program was made available through the Sustainable Communities and Climate Change Reduction chapter in Proposition 84. (Public Resources Code Division 43, Chapter 9, §75065(b)).
4. Pursuant to the Proposition 84 2006 Bond Act, STATE is authorized to oversee and manage grants to eligible entities for the purposes stated within its provisions. Funding for the ninety three million (\$93 million) Nature Education Facilities Program grant program was made available through the Parks and Nature Education Facilities chapter in Proposition 84. (Public Resources Code Division 43, Chap. 8, §75063 (b)).
5. Sustainable Communities and Climate Change Reduction chapter in Proposition 84. (Public Resources Code Division 43, Chapter 9, §75065(b).), STATE is authorized to oversee and manage grants to eligible entities for the purposes stated within its provisions. Funding for this three hundred sixty eight million (\$368 million) grant program was made available through the Sustainable Communities and Climate Change Reduction chapter in Proposition 84. (Public Resources Code Division 43, Chapter 9, §75065(b)).
6. The STATE hereby grants to GRANTEE a sum (hereinafter referred to as "GRANT MONIES") not to exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00), subject to the terms and conditions of this AGREEMENT, the GUIDES, any legislation applicable to the ACT, and the APPLICATION.
7. In consideration thereof GRANTEE agrees to abide by the terms and conditions of this AGREEMENT as well as the provisions of the ACT. GRANTEE acknowledges that the GRANT MONIES are not a gift or a donation.
8. In addition to the terms and conditions of this AGREEMENT, the parties agree that the terms and conditions contained in the documents set forth below are hereby incorporated into and made part of this AGREEMENT.
  - a. The GRANT ADMINISTRATION GUIDE;
  - b. The APPLICATION GUIDE;
  - c. The submitted APPLICATION.

## II. GENERAL PROVISIONS

### A. Definitions

As used in this AGREEMENT, the following words shall have the following meanings:

1. The term "ACT" means the statutory basis for these grant programs.
2. The term "APPLICATION" means the individual project application packet for a grant pursuant to the enabling legislation and/or grant program process guide requirements.
3. The term "ACQUISITION" means to obtain fee title of real property or a permanent easement which provides the recipient permanent rights to use the property for the purposes of the project. Leases or rentals do not constitute ACQUISITION.
4. The term "CONTRACT PERFORMANCE PERIOD" means the period of time described in Section 1 of this AGREEMENT.
5. The term "COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM" means the Statewide Park Program or Nature Education Facilities Program.
6. The term "DEVELOPMENT" means capital improvements to real property by means of construction of permanent or fixed features of the property.
7. The term "GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD" means the period of time described in the contract face sheet during which eligible costs can be charged to the grant and which begins on the date of appropriation and ends on the fund liquidation date.
8. The term "GRANT SCOPE" means the items listed in the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form found in the APPLICATION.
9. The term "GUIDES" means the documents identified as the "Application Guide for the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Act of 2008", or the "Application Guide for the Nature Education Facilities Program" and the "Grant Administration Guide". The GUIDES provide the procedures and policies controlling the administration of the grant.
10. The term "PROJECT TERMINATION" refers to the non-completion of a GRANT SCOPE.
11. The term "STATE" refers to the State of California acting by and through the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

### B. Project Execution

1. Subject to the availability of GRANT MONIES in the ACT, the STATE hereby grants to the GRANTEE a sum of money not to exceed the amount stated in Section I of this AGREEMENT, in consideration of, and on condition that, the sum be expended in carrying out the purposes set forth in the GRANT SCOPE, and under the terms and conditions set forth in this AGREEMENT.

The GRANTEE shall assume the obligation to furnish any additional funds that may be necessary to complete the GRANT SCOPE.

2. After STATE has approved the APPLICATION, all changes and alterations to the GRANT SCOPE must be approved in writing by the STATE. GRANTEE'S failure to comply with this provision may be construed as a breach of the terms of the AGREEMENT and result in the enforcement of the Project Termination provision section E. found in this AGREEMENT.

To maintain the integrity of the COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM, the GRANTEE agrees that any other project changes or alterations which deviate from the project selection criteria responses provided by the GRANTEE in the original competitive APPLICATION must be submitted in writing to the STATE for prior approval.

3. The GRANTEE shall complete the GRANT SCOPE in accordance with the time of the GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD set forth on page one of this AGREEMENT, and under the terms and conditions of this AGREEMENT.
4. The GRANTEE shall comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et. seq., Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 15000 et. seq.).
5. The GRANTEE shall at all times comply with all applicable current laws and regulations affecting ACQUISITION and DEVELOPMENT projects, including, but not limited to, legal requirements for construction contracts, building codes, health and safety codes, and laws and codes pertaining to individuals with disabilities, including but not limited to the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. §12101 et. seq.) and the California Unruh Act (California Civil Code §51 et seq.)
6. If the GRANT SCOPE includes ACQUISITION of real property, the GRANTEE agrees to comply at all times with all applicable State and local laws or ordinances affecting relocation and real property ACQUISITION.
7. GRANTEE agrees that lands acquired with GRANT MONIES shall not be acquired through the use of eminent domain.

#### C. Project Costs

1. GRANTEE agrees to abide by the GUIDES.
2. GRANTEE acknowledges that the STATE may make reasonable changes to its procedures as set forth in the GUIDES. If the STATE makes any changes to its procedures and guidelines, STATE agrees to notify GRANTEE within a reasonable time.

#### D. Project Administration

1. If GRANT MONIES are advanced for ACQUISITION projects, the GRANT MONIES shall be placed in an escrow account. If GRANT MONIES are advanced and not expended, the unused portion of the advanced funds shall be returned to the STATE within 60 days after the close of escrow.
2. If GRANT MONIES are advanced for DEVELOPMENT projects, the advanced funds shall be placed in an interest bearing account until expended. Advanced funds must be spent within six months from the date of receipt, unless the STATE waives this requirement. Interest earned on the advanced funds shall be used on the project as approved by the STATE. If GRANT MONIES are advanced and not expended, the unused portion of the grant and any

Interest earned shall be returned to the STATE within 60 days after project completion or the end of the GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD whichever is earlier.

3. The GRANTEE shall submit written project status reports within 30 calendar days after the STATE has made such a request. In any event, the GRANTEE shall provide the STATE a report showing total final project expenditures within 60 days of project completion or the end of the GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD, whichever is earlier. The GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD is identified on page one of this AGREEMENT.
4. The STATE shall have the right to inspect all property or facilities acquired and/or developed pursuant to this AGREEMENT and the GRANTEE shall make such property or facilities available for inspection upon 24 hours notice from the STATE.
5. The GRANTEE and the STATE agree that if the GRANT SCOPE includes DEVELOPMENT, final payment may not be made until the work described in the GRANT SCOPE is complete.
6. Any grant funds that have not been expended by the GRANTEE shall revert to the STATE.

#### **E. Project Termination**

1. In the event of non-completion of a GRANT SCOPE, the GRANTEE shall return all GRANT MONIES to the STATE.
2. This AGREEMENT may be rescinded, modified or amended only by mutual written agreement between the GRANTEE and the STATE, unless the provisions of this AGREEMENT provide that mutual agreement is not required for a rescission, modification or amendment.
3. Failure by the GRANTEE to comply with the terms of this AGREEMENT, as well as any other grant contracts or other agreements that GRANTEE has entered into with STATE, may be cause for suspension of all obligations of the STATE under this AGREEMENT unless the STATE determines that such failure was due to no fault of the GRANTEE. In such case, STATE may reimburse GRANTEE for eligible costs properly incurred in performance of this AGREEMENT despite non-performance of the GRANTEE. To qualify for such reimbursement, GRANTEE agrees to mitigate its losses to the best of its ability.
4. The GRANTEE agrees that in the event of a breach of this AGREEMENT, the STATE may seek, in addition to all remedies provided by law, specific performance of the AGREEMENT in accordance with the purpose of the AGREEMENT to preserve, protect and increase the quantity and quality of parks, public recreation facilities, opportunities and/or historic resources available to the people of the State of California.

#### **F. Budget Contingency Clause**

For purposes of this program, if funding for any fiscal year is reduced or deleted by the budget act, executive order, the legislature, or by any other provision of statute, the STATE shall have the option to either cancel this contract with no liability occurring to the STATE, or offer a contract amendment to GRANTEE to reflect a reduced grant amount. This paragraph shall not require the mutual agreement as addressed in Paragraph E, subsection 2, of this AGREEMENT.

#### G. Indemnity

1. The GRANTEE shall waive all claims and recourse against the STATE including the right to contribution for loss or damage to persons or property arising from, growing out of or in any way connected with or incident to this AGREEMENT except valid legal claims arising from the concurrent or sole negligence of the STATE, its officers, agents, and employees.
2. To the fullest extent of the law, the GRANTEE shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the STATE, its officers, agents and employees against any and all claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses or liability costs arising out of the ACQUISITION, DEVELOPMENT, construction, operation or maintenance of the property described as the project which claims, demands or causes of action arise under California Government Code Section 895.2 or otherwise except for liability arising out of the concurrent or sole negligence of the STATE, its officers, agents, or employees.
3. The GRANTEE agrees that in the event the STATE is named as codefendant under the provisions of California Government Code Section 895 et. seq., the GRANTEE shall notify the STATE of such fact and shall represent the STATE in the legal action unless the STATE undertakes to represent itself as codefendant in such legal action in which event the STATE shall bear its own litigation costs, expenses, and attorney's fees.
4. The GRANTEE and the STATE agree that in the event of judgment entered against the STATE and the GRANTEE because of the concurrent negligence of the STATE and the GRANTEE, their officers, agents, or employees, an apportionment of liability to pay such judgment shall be made by a court of competent jurisdiction.
5. The GRANTEE shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the STATE, its officers, agents and employees against any and all claims, demands, costs, expenses or liability costs arising out of legal actions pursuant to items to which the GRANTEE has certified. The GRANTEE acknowledges that it is solely responsible for compliance with items to which it has certified.

#### H. Financial Records

1. The GRANTEE shall maintain satisfactory financial accounts, documents and records for the project and make them available to the STATE for auditing at reasonable times. The GRANTEE also agrees to retain such financial accounts, documents and records for five years following project termination or final payment, whichever is later.
2. The GRANTEE shall keep such records as the STATE shall prescribe, including records which fully disclose (a) the disposition of the proceeds of GRANT MONIES, (b) the total cost of the project; (c) the amount and nature of project funds provided by other sources, and (d) any other records that will facilitate an effective audit of use of the GRANT MONIES.
3. The GRANTEE agrees that the STATE shall have the right to inspect and make copies of any books, records or reports pertaining to this AGREEMENT or matters related thereto during regular office hours. The GRANTEE shall maintain and make available for inspection by the STATE accurate records of all of its costs, disbursements and receipts with respect to its activities under this AGREEMENT. Such accounts, documents, and records shall be retained by the GRANTEE for 5 years following final payment of GRANT MONIES.

4. The GRANTEE shall use a generally accepted accounting system.

#### I. Use of Facilities

1. The GRANTEE agrees to operate and maintain any property acquired or developed with the GRANT MONIES for the duration of the CONTRACT PERFORMANCE PERIOD.
2. The GRANTEE agrees that during the CONTRACT PERFORMANCE PERIOD, any income earned by the GRANTEE from a STATE approved non-recreational use of the project shall be used for recreational purposes at the project, or, if approved by the STATE, for recreational purposes within the GRANTEE'S jurisdiction.
3. All facilities shall have operating hours consistent with the times proposed in the APPLICATION and be open to members of the public in accordance with the project selection criteria in the APPLICATION, unless otherwise granted permission by the STATE and except as noted under the special provisions of this AGREEMENT or under provisions of the enabling legislation and/or grant program.
4. The GRANTEE agrees that for the duration of the CONTRACT PERFORMANCE PERIOD, any property acquired or developed with GRANT MONIES under this AGREEMENT shall be used only for the purposes of the grant and consistent with the GRANT SCOPE referenced in the APPLICATION unless prior written approval is given by the STATE.
5. The GRANTEE agrees to use any property acquired or developed with GRANT MONIES under this AGREEMENT only for the purposes of the grant and no other use, sale, or other disposition shall be permitted except as authorized by a specific act of the legislature in which event the property shall be replaced by the GRANTEE with property of equivalent value and usefulness as determined by STATE.
6. The property acquired or developed with GRANT MONIES may be transferred to another eligible entity only if the successor entity assumes the obligations imposed under this AGREEMENT and with written approval of the STATE.
7. Any real property (including any portion of it or any interest in it) may not be used as security for any debt or mitigation, without the written approval of the STATE provided that such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld as long as the purposes for which the GRANT MONIES were awarded are maintained. Any such permission that is granted does not make the STATE a guarantor or a surety for any debt or mitigation, nor does it waive the STATE'S rights to enforce performance under this AGREEMENT.
8. All real property, or rights thereto, acquired with GRANT MONIES shall be subject to an appropriate form of restrictive title, rights, or covenants required and approved by the STATE. If the project property is taken by use of eminent domain, GRANTEE shall reimburse the STATE an amount at least equal to the amount of GRANT MONIES received from the STATE or the pro rated full market value of the real property, including improvements, at the time of sale, whichever is higher.
9. If eminent domain proceedings are initiated against GRANTEE, GRANTEE shall notify STATE within 10 days of receiving the complaint.

#### J. Nondiscrimination

1. The GRANTEE shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of sex, race, creed, color, national origin, age, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, disability, medical condition, or marital status in the use of property or a specific facility included in the GRANT SCOPE.
2. The GRANTEE shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of residence, and shall not apply differences in admission or other fees on the basis of residence. Fees shall be reasonable and not unduly prevent use by economically disadvantaged members of the public.

#### K. Severability

If any provision of this AGREEMENT or the application thereof is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the AGREEMENT which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this contract are severable.

#### L. Liability

STATE assumes no responsibility for assuring the safety of construction, site improvements or programs related to the GRANT SCOPE. The STATE'S rights under this AGREEMENT to review, inspect and approve the GRANT SCOPE and any final plans of implementation shall not give rise to any warranty or representation that the GRANT SCOPE and any plans or improvements are free from hazards or defects.

#### M. Assignability

Without the written consent of the STATE, the GRANTEE'S interest in and responsibilities under this AGREEMENT shall not be assignable by the GRANTEE either in whole or in part.

#### N. Section Headings

The headings and captions of the various sections of this AGREEMENT have been inserted only for the purpose of convenience and are not a part of this AGREEMENT and shall not be deemed in any manner to modify, explain, or restrict any of the provisions of this AGREEMENT.



O. Waiver

Any failure by a party to enforce its rights under this AGREEMENT, in the event of a breach, shall *not* be construed as a waiver of said rights; and the waiver of any breach under this AGREEMENT shall *not* be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach.

Monterey Co. Redevelopment Agency  
Grantee

By:   
Signature of Authorized Representative (Position Authorized in the Resolution)

Title: Director, Redevelopment & Housing Office

Date: 12/23/10



# County of Monterey

## Item No.17

### Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: OBM 23-005

January 24, 2023

**Introduced:** 1/10/2023

**Current Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Matter Type:** Other Board Matters

Board Comments