

Monterey County

*Monterey County Government Center
Board of Supervisors Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901*



Meeting Agenda - Final

Friday, January 29, 2021

10:00 AM

Special Meeting - Legislative Workshop

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

Board of Supervisors

Chair Supervisor Wendy Root Askew - District 4

Vice Chair Supervisor Mary L. Adams - District 5

Supervisor Luis A. Alejo - District 1

Supervisor John M. Phillips - District 2

Supervisor Chris Lopez - District 3

Important Notice Regarding COVID 19

Based on guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the California Governor's Office, 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 http://monterey.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=19, <http://www.mgtvonline.com/>, www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV or <https://www.facebook.com/MontereyCoInfo/>

If you attend the Board of Supervisors meeting in person, you will be required 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 public comment, or comment on a specific item on the agenda, you may do so as follows:

a. submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the Board's special meeting. Please submit your comment to the Clerk of the Board at 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. Special Board of Supervisors Meeting Agenda) and item number (i.e. Item No. 7). Your comment will be placed into the record at the Board meeting.

b. if you are watching the live stream of the Board meeting, you may submit your comment, limited to 250 words or less, to the Clerk of the Board at publiccomment@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. Special Board of Supervisors Meeting Agenda) and item number (i.e. Item No. 7). Every effort will be made to read your comment into the record, but some comments may not be read due to time limitations. Comments received after an agenda item will be made part of the record if received prior to the end of the special meeting.

c. 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 la orientación del Departamento de Salud Pública de California y la Oficina del Gobernador de California, 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 http://monterey.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=19, <http://www.mgtvonline.com/>, www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV o <https://www.facebook.com/MontereyCoInfo/>

Si asiste a la reunión de la Junta de Supervisores en persona, se le pedirá que mantenga un distanciamiento social apropiado, es decir, mantenga 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 públicos o comentar sobre un tema específico de la agenda, puede hacerlo de la siguiente manera:

a. envíe su comentario por correo electrónico antes de las 5:00 p.m. el jueves anterior a la reunión especial de la Junta. Envíe su comentario al Secretario de la Junta a 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 Reunión de la Junta Especial de Supervisores) y el número del ítem (es decir, el Ítem No. 7). Su comentario se colocará en el registro en la reunión de la Junta.

b. Si está viendo la transmisión en vivo de la reunión de la Junta, puede enviar su comentario, limitado a 250 palabras o menos, al Secretario de la Junta en publiccomment@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 Reunión de la Junta Especial de Supervisores) y el número del ítem (es decir, el Ítem No. 7). Se hará todo lo posible para leer su comentario en el registro, pero es posible que algunos comentarios no se lean debido a limitaciones de tiempo. Los comentarios recibidos después de un tema de la agenda se harán parte del registro si se reciben antes del final de la reunión especial.

c. 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 Estados Unidos (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 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.

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order No. N-29-20, some or all Supervisors may participate in the meeting by telephone or video conference.

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 2021.

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.

10:00 A.M. - Call to Order

Roll Call

1. Welcome and Introductions

Presenter: Supervisor Wendy Root Askew, Chair, Board of Supervisors

2. Review of Agenda and Objectives

Presenter: Supervisor Luis Alejo, Chair, Legislative Committee

3. County Priority Presentations

a. COVID-19

*Presenters: Charles McKee, County Administrative Officer
Elsa Jimenez, Director of Health*

b. Housing and Homelessness

*Presenters: Lori Medina, Director of Social Services
Melanie Beretti, Housing & Special Programs Services Manager*

c. Closing the Digital Divide

Presenter: Eric Chatham, Director of Information Technology

d. Disaster Preparedness, Response and Resiliency

Presenter: Gerry Malais, Emergency Services Manager

Attachments: [2021 Legislative Workshop](#)

4. Remarks by Monterey County's Legislative Delegation Regarding 2021 Priorities that Relate to Monterey County (5 minutes each)

- a. Congressman Jimmy Panetta*
- b. Senator Anna Caballero*
- c. Senator John Laird*
- d. Assemblymember Mark Stone*
- e. Assemblymember Robert Rivas*

- f. Office of Senator Dianne Feinstein – Zac Vaden, Field Representative*
- g. Office of Senator Alex Padilla - TBD*

5. Remarks by Monterey County Board of Supervisors Regarding 2021 Priorities (5 minutes each)

- a. District 1 – Supervisor Luis Alejo*
- b. District 2 – Supervisor John Phillips*
- c. District 3 – Supervisor Chris Lopez*
- d. District 4 – Supervisor Wendy Root Askew*
- e. District 5 – Supervisor Mary Adams*

6. Roundtable Discussion

7. Public Comment

8. Board Direction to Staff

9. Adjournment



Monterey County

Item No.

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: 21-089

January 29, 2021

Introduced: 1/25/2021

Current Status: Draft

Version: 1

Matter Type: General Agenda Item

a. COVID-19

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Elsa Jimenez, Director of Health*

b. Housing and Homelessness

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Melanie Beretti, Housing & Special Programs Services Manager*

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2021 Legislative Workshop

MONTEREY COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JANUARY 29, 2021



2021 LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOP

COVID-19

State and Federal Support & 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 the County's situation unsustainable, and puts the health and security of the public, especially communities of color, at risk.

Support efforts to:

- Provide additional direct fiscal relief to counties with maximum flexibility in the usage of funds to mitigate direct and indirect COVID-19 costs, revenue losses, and temporary expansion of benefits.

COVID-19 Economic Relief and Recovery

COVID-19 has devastated the local economy. Economic relief efforts are of critical importance, especially in communities of color which have been disparately impacted. Economic recovery hinges on the ability to support the agriculture and hospitality industries, and small businesses.

Support efforts to:

- Expand sick leave, income replacement, and family care protections to support isolation requirements.
- Provide safe housing alternatives for residents needing to self-quarantine and self-isolate.
- Provide direct economic stimulus payments to individuals, including undocumented residents.
- Expand tax credits to low-income Californians, including those that file taxes with ITINs.
- Extend the eviction moratorium and provide relief to landlords to support rent forgiveness.
- Fund Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grants.

COVID-19

Vaccine Supply and Prioritization

Among the highest priorities for the County and our residents is to provide COVID-19 vaccines to vulnerable populations as quickly as possible. Vaccine distribution should be allocated using a health equity lens, prioritizing groups based on those at highest risk of exposure to the virus, and those at highest risk for serious illness and death should they contract the virus.

Support efforts to:

- Advocate at the federal level for a reliable and steady flow of vaccine to Monterey County.
- Provide transparency on State distribution of vaccines to counties and ensure per capita equity, especially for high risk populations (e.g., seniors and agricultural workers).
- Dedicate State and Federal support to set up mass vaccination clinics in counties, including Monterey County, that are part of the State's Unified Support Team, established to further support counties with higher case rates.
- Prioritize a higher percentage of vaccine allocations and distribution to counties with higher case rates, especially in census tracts in the lowest quartile of the Healthy Places Index (HPI).

COVID-19 Public Health Infrastructure

Lack of adequate investments in local public health infrastructure became very apparent with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Current investment levels for core public health functions and services are insufficient to be able to meet current demands much less be able to respond to a pandemic timely and effectively.

Support efforts to:

Provide additional direct funding allocations to counties and cities with local health departments for:

- Implementation of vaccination, case investigation, contact tracing, and testing efforts.
- Bolstering local health department's laboratory, preparedness, communication, surveillance, epidemiology, and infection control infrastructure.

COVID-19 Healthcare Access

Access to quality healthcare is a fundamental human right. Communities of color have less access to routine quality health care and are disproportionately represented in essential frontline occupations and thus are at higher risk for exposure and represent more severe cases of COVID-19 including fatalities due to higher rates of underlying medical conditions.

Support efforts to:

- Expand access to healthcare through universal coverage.
- Develop policies that continue to fund virtual visits.
- Ensure that H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers apply for healthcare coverage.
- Expand Medi-Cal coverage for COVID related conditions and impacts.

Homelessness Point-In-Time Count

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires point-in-time counts of homelessness individuals every other year on a single night in January. PIT counts are used by the federal government to track the number, demographics and needs of people experiencing homelessness and to determine federal funding allocations to address homelessness.

The last Monterey County PIT count occurred in 2019, recording 2,422 homeless individuals, 24% of which were sheltered and 76% unsheltered. The homeless population is likely larger than the data reveals. The next PIT count was scheduled to occur in January 2021, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic is unable to be undertaken safely under currently approved methods.

Support efforts to:

- Fairly and equitably calculate and distribute State and Federal funds to counties to provide services to all homeless populations.

Homelessness Supports and Services

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 takes a toll on those who live without appropriate shelter and housing, as well as the community as a whole, and has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Support efforts to:

- Approve and expand on homeless resources contained in the Governor's proposed budget.
- Eliminate the residency requirement from the short term emergency assistance program.
- Extend and expand funding flexibility to create a more robust system of infrastructure, outreach services, behavioral health services, transitional and supportive housing, and barrier remediation.
- Increase student homeless funding under the McKinney-Vento Act.

Housing

State and Federal Investment

State and federal programs are vital to help the County develop affordable and accessible housing options, especially rental housing and housing for special needs populations. However, affordable housing and supportive service needs far exceed available resources.

Support efforts to:

- Increase funding for permanent supportive housing construction, operating costs and services.
- Increase funding for farmworker housing.
- Increase CDBG funding and expand the program to allow use of funds for new housing construction.
- Increase HOME funding and expand the Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, and new permanent financing sources.
- Increase federal Project-Based Vouchers for the development of housing for lower income households, Housing Choice Vouchers to combat housing disparities in low-income and minority populations, and voucher programs that meet the high cost of rent in Monterey County.
- Increase tax credit and flexible housing subsidy programs to prevent homelessness.

Housing Streamlined and Collaborative Development

Significant barriers exist to affordable and market rate housing construction, including infrastructure development, CEQA, development impact fees, and litigation threats over CEQA and land use issues.

State law requires cities and counties to meet housing production goals, Housing Elements Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), or to face penalties. State funding incentivizes housing production and collaboration and is designed for counties to apply. Despite extensive collaboration with cities on housing projects, if a project is developed within city boundaries, the county does not receive RHNA credit.

Support efforts to:

- Expand CEQA exemptions for affordable housing infill projects and policies which provide protections for affordable and market rate housing developments (e.g., litigation).
- Allow RHNA credit sharing in collaborative housing developments.

Closing the Digital Divide Broadband and Cellular

The lack of digital access and reliable County broadband coverage is a major impediment to business attraction, social equity, connecting with services, and democratic participation. The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the critical utility of broadband infrastructure to support distance learning, workforce adaptations, telehealth and e-commerce.

Support efforts to:

- Secure funding for the expansion of broadband and cellular services to underserved areas of Monterey County (e.g., state universal broadband bond).
- 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.
- Regulate broadband/internet access as a utility by the Federal Communications Commission and California Public Utilities Commission.

Closing the Digital Divide

Virtual Access

Support ability to provide services and increase interaction with constituents through virtual access.

Support efforts to change policies to:

- Permanently increase access to virtual connection, learning, and public participation opportunities.
- Continue participation and access of virtual public meetings governed by the Brown Act.
- Allow County services to be provided by virtual means.

Emergency Preparedness, Response, Mitigation and Resilience Disaster Assistance

The County is highly dependent of state and federal disaster assistance and reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) in the recovery from emergency events.

Support efforts to:

- Ensure FEMA and CDAA support for the full duration of the disaster event.
- Expedite the timeliness and frequency of FEMA and CDAA claims approval and reimbursement, and add certainty regarding the qualification of County expenditures.
- Oppose changes to FEMA policies which would make it more difficult for counties to qualify for disaster declarations or for damages to qualify for reimbursement.
- Fund emergency management planning, pre-disaster mitigation, and disaster evacuation transportation networks to help counties prepare for and recover from devastating events and to adapt to our changing climate.

Emergency Preparedness, Response, Mitigation and Resilience Wildfire

Climate change and construction into the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) have increased the frequency and severity of wildfires. Additional funding for fuel management activities is needed as well as post event mitigations to reduce the risk of mudslides. Property owners face challenges to retain insurance, make their properties more fire resilient, and adhere to confusing or cumbersome regulations.

Support efforts to:

- Fund fuel management activities and improve fuel management regulations.
- Fund post fire recovery and mitigation activities, including debris removal to prevent potential mudslides.
- Protect property owners from unfair fire insurance rate increases or cancellations and include debris removal as part of the FAIR plan.
- Fund or provide incentives for private property owners to make their properties more fire resilient by qualifying for mitigation grants.