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January 14, 2020

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: Proposed 2020 Ventura County State and Federal Legislative Agendas and Platforms

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that your Board approve the proposed Ventura County 2020 State and Federal Legislative Agendas and Platforms.

BACKGROUND

Ventura County's legislative program has as its goal the development and maintenance of good, sound, and effective local government. The purpose of the legislative program is to secure legislation that benefits the County and its residents while seeking to mitigate or oppose legislation that would adversely impact the County's delivery of service; to secure State and Federal funding through the grant process; and to shape public policy in priority areas that impact County government.

Each year prior to the State and Federal legislative sessions, your Board provides specific issue direction and overall policy guidance for the County legislative advocacy program. This year's program is outlined in two documents, the State Legislative Agenda and Platform and the Federal Legislative Agenda and Platform. They have been developed in coordination with Board offices, County departments, and our State and Federal advocates, and they are intended to be the foundation for how we proceed in both Sacramento and Washington, D.C. The Legislative Agendas and Platforms are intended to complement and support the County's Strategic Plan.

Because of the continuing budget demands on the County General Fund, the starting point for formation of the proposed legislative agenda and platform must be the County's budget process. Most of the issues provided for your Board's endorsement address present or expected demands on the County General Fund. However, special needs of non-General Fund departments, such as the Department of Airports, the Health Care Agency, and Harbor Department, are also addressed.

DISCUSSION

The State and Federal Legislative Agendas and Platforms (Attachments A and B) are divided into four categories: Overall Legislative Principles and Policies, New Bill Requests, Funding Opportunities, and Major Policy Issues by Department. It is intended that this format will more effectively convey your Board's position on legislative and funding priorities to the County's representatives in Sacramento and Washington D.C. These policies and proposals outlined in Attachments A and B are not intended to be exclusive of other positions your Board may adopt. Attachment C is an edited version of last year's State and Federal Legislative Agendas and Platforms. Single issue items and/or specific language that were removed are indicated by a strike-through, and items underlined are new additions.

This Board letter has been reviewed by County Counsel and the Auditor-Controller's Office. If you have questions concerning this item, please contact Sue Hughes, CEO Senior Deputy Executive Officer, at (805) 654-3836.

Sincerely,



Sue Hughes
Senior Deputy Executive Officer



mp. Michael Powers
County Executive Officer

Attachment A: 2020 Ventura County State Legislative Agenda and Platform
Attachment B: 2020 Ventura County Federal Legislative Agenda and Platform
Attachment C: Edited Version 2019 Ventura County State and Federal Legislative Agenda and Platform

- c. Ventura County State and Federal Legislative Delegation
Ventura County Board of Supervisors
Michael Powers, County Executive Officer
CEO Senior Staff/Analysts
Agency/Department Heads
Hurst Brooks Espinosa
Thomas Walters & Associates
California State Association of Counties
Urban Counties of California
SEIU Local 721
Ventura County Taxpayers Association

County of Ventura

2020 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA AND PLATFORM

I. OVERALL STATE LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES

1. The County supports a constitutional guarantee of an equitable, dependable, and predictable revenue stream to support local governments that, to the extent possible, links programs to their source of funding and achieves fiscal neutrality for Counties.
2. The County supports efforts to ensure local discretionary control over governance issues and delivery of services.
3. The County supports efforts to preserve the financial resources of local governments by requiring the State to fully reimburse the County for all costs related to State-mandated programs.
4. The County opposes any effort by the State to redirect existing revenue streams away from mandated programs provided by Counties or to require additional service provisions without commensurate additional revenue.
5. The County opposes proposals that would divert single-purpose funds away from their targeted programs.
6. The County supports the elimination of State-mandated caps or restrictions on local fees, thereby allowing the County to set local fees in order to achieve cost recovery to the extent approved by the Board of Supervisors.
7. The County supports additional mandate relief including elimination of unnecessary, redundant or overlapping eligibility, funding, maintenance of effort, monitoring, permitting or reporting requirements.
8. The County supports proposals that would permit the County to decline provision of service if funds have not been provided or to discontinue a service once all State and Federal funds have been exhausted.
9. The County opposes State budget actions that result in disproportionate fiscal impacts on Ventura County.
10. The County opposes efforts to impose sanctions on the County because of the State's failure to comply with Federal regulations.

11. The County opposes State expansion of Federal mandates without commensurate funding.
12. The County supports efforts to obtain consent of California's citizens before allowing the State of California to transfer control of local financial resources from local governments to State government.
13. The County supports proposals that maintain the fiscal stability of the County's retirement system while opposing legislation that would increase the County's financial obligation for retirement benefits.
14. The County supports proposals that would designate the Board of Supervisors as the sole authority to grant retirement benefits.
15. The County supports legislation that would refine circumstances under which employees are entitled to disability retirement.
16. The County supports legislation that would limit or minimize the County's exposure to tort/liability claims.
17. The County opposes legislation that would erode the land use authority of local elected officials.
18. The County supports efforts to obtain Federal and State funding for disaster preparedness through prevention and education programs, as well as for mitigation and recovery following a natural disaster.
19. The County opposes statewide ballot initiatives that directly impact County operations and lack an identified, new long-term funding source.
20. The County supports constitutional protections that guarantee a dedicated ongoing revenue stream for programs realigned from State to local control.

II. NEW BILL REQUESTS

None.

III. STATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

1. Health Care Facilities Funding. The County supports funding for construction, design, consulting, and related costs for Ventura County Health Care Facilities.

2. Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project. The County supports increased funding assistance in support of the local stakeholder process to remove Matilija Dam and restore the Ventura River Watershed using State, Federal, and private funds.
3. Long-term Adult Protective Services Management Pilot. The County supports funding for an Adult Protective Services long-term case management pilot that will provide services to clients and evaluate the impact of those services when offered over an extended period of time.
4. Design and Construction of a Countywide Family Justice Center. The County supports funding in the amount of \$3.5 million to design and construct or purchase an “under one roof” facility for victims and families of domestic violence, child abuse, elder abuse, dependent adult abuse, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

IV. MAJOR POLICY ISSUES – BY DEPARTMENT

Agricultural Commissioner

- The County supports proposals that would fully fund the California High Risk Pest Exclusion, detection, eradication, and management programs to prevent the introduction and potential spread of invasive pests in California by inspection of materials shipped into and out of Ventura County at locations such as U.S. Postal Distribution Centers and plant nurseries.
- The County supports efforts to promote the implementation of integrated pest management strategies to reduce reliance on the most toxic pesticides, herbicides, and rodenticides and to promote programs to educate the public on safe pesticide use and their impacts.
- The County supports methods that would fully fund County pesticide regulatory activities, including proposals that maintain or increase funding through the pesticide mill fee for regulatory activities to protect the safety of workers, the public, and the environment and provide funding for education, outreach, and compliance assessment activities related to the safe use of pesticides.
- The County supports legislation that would increase the environmental review of new school site proposals similar to other developments. When schools must be sited in agricultural areas, mitigations such as buffers, setbacks, and pick-up/drop-off locations should be incorporated onto the new school footprint and designed to minimize interference with agricultural operations.
- The County supports legislation and regulations that preserve and enhance funding resources and authority for fruit and vegetable quality control, food safety,

direct marketing, and organic inspection activities that provide consumer protection and equity in the marketplace.

- The County supports adoption of State regulations for orderly production and marketing of industrial hemp and hemp products.
- The County opposes legislation creating local mandates or programs that do not provide 100 percent funding, authority, security, and resources for cannabis and industrial hemp regulatory activities conducted by County agricultural commissioners.
- The County supports legislative and administrative efforts to maximize and expedite access to State agricultural resources to address recovery needs resulting from natural disasters including but not limited to fires, freezes, floods, or drought.
- The County supports efforts to control invasive weeds and promote soil carbon sequestration/health that supports water retention ability to enhance fire resiliency, land productivity and biodiversity conservation/regenerative ecosystems.
- The County supports efforts to fully fund programs for the control of invasive weeds and woodboring pests.
- The County supports efforts to provide affordable housing for farmworkers consistent with the General Plan.
- The County supports efforts to promote agritourism to provide access to locally grown fresh and healthy foods for the County's residents and supports local farms and ranches, community and school gardens, and farmers markets.
- The County supports increased funding of pesticide and herbicide research at public universities.
- The County supports additional funding for enhanced air monitoring of pesticides in agricultural areas.
- The County supports increased funding for California Department of Food and Agriculture Healthy Soils program.
- The County supports the adoption of a statewide policy limiting the number of roosters a private citizen can possess, with exemptions for legitimate agricultural and educational uses such as 4H, Grange, Future Farmers of America, and others who exhibit their roosters at fairs and other similar public events. A new

statewide policy would enhance enforcement of our existing statewide anti-cockfighting law.

Airports

- The County supports maintaining dedicated State funding and restricting the use of the Aviation Trust Fund only for its intended purpose.
- The County supports the FAA policy to use aviation fuel sales tax revenues, as is intended, to maintain and improve the State's aviation system.
- The County supports State programs and funding to assist non-hub airports in developing and sustaining viable air service.
- The County supports legislation that ensures compatible land use and development in the vicinity of the County airports.
- The County supports proposals that would provide more flexibility for State agencies, such as Cal Trans Division of Aeronautics, to administer grant funds.
- The County supports amending the California Public Utilities Code (PUC) to include the Federal Aviation Administration Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS) protected surfaces within the PUC, Section 21659, *Hazards Near Airports Prohibited*.
- The County supports the development and transition to alternative piston engine aviation fuels in a manner that does not negatively impact general aviation.

Animal Services

- The County supports proposals and funding that would lead to: a reduction in the current overpopulation of pets through pet sterilization; more effective re-homing of lost pets from local shelters; the close regulation of "puppy mills" to ensure that animals have basic humane care; restoration of suspended Hayden Law provisions and funding reimbursement; and mandatory rabies vaccination for cats.

Area Agency on Aging

- The County supports proposals that would increase awareness of and prevent elder and dependent adult abuse to include the following: increase funding for elder abuse prosecution and prevention programs; expedite reimbursement or restitution to seniors victimized by financial crimes; increase the penalties for those convicted of crimes against seniors; expand the list of mandatory reporters

of elder abuse to include notary publics; and supports legislation that includes money transmitters in the definition of mandated reporters of suspected elder abuse and require licensed persons to report the known or suspected instance of financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult immediately, or as soon as possible, to the local adult protective services agency or local law enforcement.

- The County supports legislation that prohibits owners, operators, or employees of licensed health care facilities from serving as a representative payee on behalf of a resident of the facility.
- The County supports legislative efforts to prevent homelessness among at-risk older adults and people with disabilities.
- The County supports legislation that would utilize prevention funding, through California's implementation of the Federal Affordable Care Act, to fund more evidence-based programs for seniors that would support seniors' desire to age in place.
- As part of the Master Plan for Aging, the County supports legislation that increases the services and supports to allow people to continue living in the community, provides opportunities for engagement, allows individuals to maintain their health and wellbeing, and provides for economic security.
- The County supports funding and efforts to move towards community-based services and age-in-place programs as opposed to nursing home placement to include supporting legislation that fully funds the Older Californians Act (Linkages, Respite, Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Center, and Brown Bag Programs) as well as modernizes and updates it to respond to the changing and growing needs of the senior population; provides State funding for the Family Caregiver Support Program, the senior nutrition program, funding for in-home care (and respite) for caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia; and funding to help strengthen and expand Aging and Disability Resource Center's ability to help seniors and people with disabilities access resources and services.
- The County supports full funding for the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program and the Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP).
- The County supports efforts to increase the monthly spending allowance for Medi-Cal Medically Needy Only beneficiaries without impacting Medi-Cal payment rates.
- The County supports legislation and efforts to make Ventura County Dementia Friendly and Age Friendly designated, to include efforts to develop an evidence-

based core training program for staff of area agencies on aging relating to Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias, connecting diagnosed individuals and their caregivers to critical resources that will allow diagnosed individuals to maintain as much independence as possible and provide connection to resources that will help sustain the physical and mental stability of the caregiver.

- The County supports legislation to expand the existing Assisted Living Waiver to Ventura County to enable eligible seniors and adults with disabilities to reside in a community setting to support aging with dignity.

Child Support Services

- The County supports efforts to adequately fund local child support services programming.

County Executive Office

- The County supports all legislative and administrative efforts to maximize and expedite access to Federal and State resources to address both short-term and long-term recovery needs resulting from natural and catastrophic disasters, including acts of domestic terrorism, in the region.
- The County supports legislative and administrative efforts to improve sharable recovery case management information among community-based organizations and local, State, and Federal agencies.
- The County supports the equitable distribution of both Federal pass-through funds and State affordable housing funds.
- The County supports changes to the mechanism for allocating housing credits in Housing Elements and/or how jurisdictions report units in Annual Housing Production Reports that facilitate sustainable development, smart growth, and the provision of affordable housing.
- The County supports funding for the development, acquisition, construction or rehabilitation of housing/shelters for persons who are homeless or disabled.
- The County supports funding for services and intervention for those who are homeless, at risk of becoming homeless, and those who are disabled.
- The County supports efforts and funding that would promote the development of a crisis stabilization unit in the east county.

- The County supports investment in economic development, building prosperous communities, and competitive industries.
- The County supports State efforts toward the repeal of the Federal caps on State and local taxes that can be deducted on individual tax returns.
- The County supports Transient Occupancy Tax for funding sustainable tourism efforts, such as promotion of bicycle tourism.
- The County supports efforts to fund the California Innovation Hub program.
- The County supports efforts to expand financial resources for the development and preservation of affordable housing.
- The County supports legislation that would provide a means for the safe disposal of unused medication.
- The County supports improved communication between local governments and investor-owned utilities regarding the timing and deployment of enforced power shutoffs.
- The County supports exploration of, funding for, and deployment of alternative energy storage technologies to provide temporary power supply during enforced shutoffs.
- The County supports the requirement that cellphone companies maintain battery backup during power shutoffs.
- The County supports cost-effective strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and encourage the use of grants, loans, and incentives to assist local governments in the implementation of greenhouse gas reduction programs.
- The County supports legislation that would provide a cost reduction for the purchase of alternative fuel use vehicles for Counties equivalent to the tax rebate afforded to private consumers.
- The County supports efforts to allocate Cap and Trade auction revenue to local governments.
- The County supports efforts that would fund undergrounding utilities to remove a common source of ignition and to help prevent wildfires and loss of utility services during disasters.

- The County supports funding for wildfire prevention efforts such as removal of dead trees and nonfire-resistant species such as palms.
- The County supports efforts to ensure Californians have access to reasonably priced fire insurance.
- The County supports Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) and measures that further the goals of choice, clean energy, and affordable rates; limits the increase of the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) charge; increases local control over the purchase and development of renewable energy resources; and increases the ability for Ventura County residents and businesses to achieve a 100 percent renewable energy supply.
- The County supports legislation that incentivizes local renewable energy production and local energy sustainability, including protection of local autonomy to administer energy efficiency programs, and install and utilize integrated distributed energy resources.
- The County supports complete transparency of all energy procurement practices, fair competition in statewide energy markets for CCAs, and legislation and regulatory policies that protect CCA customers from improper cost allocations.
- The County opposes legislation that restricts, limits, or diminishes customer choice options for retail power providers or programs, including community choice aggregation.
- The County supports legislation that promotes energy efficiency of buildings, appliances, and indoor and outdoor lighting products; and funding and incentives for electric vehicles and charging infrastructure, including for transit vehicles and trucks.
- The County supports legislation that would require public notification by the owner when any natural gas leak occurs.
- The County supports efforts to make mandatory the current advisory truck length limit of 30 feet on the Maricopa Highway (SR33) from Camino Cielo Road to the Santa Barbara County line.
- The County supports efforts to identify a location along State Route 118 in Moorpark that would convert the “mini-site” weigh station to a full-service California Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Facility.

- The County supports a statewide, dedicated funding source for 211 dispatch services, which is designed to provide a countywide 24-hour-a-day phone line for referrals to meet health and human services' needs.
- The County supports efforts to prevent and serve the victims of human and sex trafficking.
- The County supports efforts to control workers' compensation costs.
- The County supports funding for locally accessible health care, mental health services, and other programs that provide support for military veterans.
- The County supports gun control legislation that reduces the likelihood of accidental or intentional homicides, in particular mass homicides, and that limits access to firearms for individuals who are at risk of harming themselves or others.
- The County supports efforts by the Ventura County Fair Board to cease the practice of contracting for gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.
- The County supports efforts that would lead to the implementation of BEACON's (Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Ocean and Nourishment) beach nourishment projects.
- The County supports all efforts to protect our local military bases from closure and encroachment, supports funding for infrastructure, and the work of the community coalition known as Regional Defense Partnership 21st Century (RDP-21).
- The County supports legislation that would allow for Intergovernmental Service Agreements (IGSA) between the military and the County.
- The County supports efforts and funding that would provide public access and passive recreation for Ormond Beach and the entire Santa Clara River.
- The County supports efforts to relocate McGrath State Beach Campground.
- The County supports Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Initiatives for public safety and commercial applications.
- The County supports Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Initiatives that enhance public safety while respecting citizens' rights to privacy.

District Attorney

- The County supports the introduction of legislation that would authorize District Attorneys to seek prolonged gun violence restraining orders and forfeitures from persons whose possession of a weapon represents a risk to the community.
- The County supports legislation that would ensure adequate funding for Crime Victim's Assistance Programs.
- The County supports funding to investigate and prosecute computer network intrusion crimes.
- The County supports funding for local agencies, including Behavioral Health, the District Attorney, and the Public Defender, to implement the mandate of Mental Health Diversion pursuant to SB 215 (Statutes of 2018, Chapter 1005).
- The County supports funding to develop and staff an Intelligence Driven Prosecution program in Ventura County.
- The County supports funding to reimburse local agencies for expenses connected to the prosecution of the Golden State Killer case (People v. Joseph James DeAngelo).
- In the event SB 10 (Statutes of 2018 – Chapter 244) is upheld on the November 2020 ballot, the County supports funding for local agencies, including Probation, the District Attorney, and the Public Defender, to implement the pretrial assessment system.

Fire District

- The County supports initiatives to ensure the financial viability of the Fire District as well as the public safety services it provides. Specific focus is on forward planning, prevention measures and response enhancements to “all-hazard” emergency incidents, local, State, and Federal.
- The County supports efforts to bring insurance companies and the industry into mitigating the wildland fire problem.
- The County supports a vibrant statewide fire response system and opposes any negative actions that may impede its operational effectiveness.

Harbor Department

- The County supports maintaining dedicated State staffing for management of boating infrastructure funds and restricting the use of the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund only for its intended purpose.

Health Care Agency

- The County supports timely reimbursement from the State for services provided by the County.
- The County supports construction funding to permit compliance with State earthquake retrofit requirements for acute care hospital facilities. Additionally, the County supports proposals that would extend the deadline for hospital earthquake retrofitting.
- The County supports supplemental funding to comply with State Seismic requirements for healthcare services through increased Medi-Cal managed care payments by using Intergovernmental Transfers as the basis for the non-Federal share.
- The County supports any efforts to protect, maximize, and provide funding for the County Medical System (inpatient and outpatient), including, but not limited to, Health Care Reform, Health Care for the Homeless, Federally Qualified Health Centers, telemedicine/e-consult services, maintenance and enhancement of electronic health care infrastructure, Medicare and Medicaid Waivers, Disproportionate Share Hospital Funding, Coverage Initiatives, 340b Programs, and Outpatient Reimbursement rules, Medicaid FMAP enhancement, formulas, and initiatives.
- The County opposes efforts that would remove funding or dilute the financial control and authority of the County Board of Supervisors over County health care services.
- The County supports policies and funding that comes directly to the County for the implementation of service delivery options included in future Medicaid Waiver programs.
- The County supports expanding the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) model of care, which provides a comprehensive medical/social service delivery system using an interdisciplinary team approach to provide and coordinate all needed preventive, primary, acute, and long-term care services for older adults.

- The County supports the continuation of State funding to offset the local costs associated with planning for and responding to the medical/health consequences of terrorism, disasters, or other public health emergencies. Those funding formulas should consider proximity of jurisdictions to high profile targets rather than be based solely on the presence of such targets within jurisdictional boundaries.
- The County supports restored and sustainable funding for pediatric immunization programs, maternal, child and adolescent health programs, HIV/AIDS education, prevention, intervention and treatment services, legislation that enhances the authority of Public Health Officers to combat and control communicable disease,
- The County supports legislation that will provide or maintain preventative health care for all ages which include proposals for women's health services that encourage early prenatal care, continued funding of Family Pact which provides access to health care for low-income women, Children's Medical Services (CMS) Programs which include the preventive health strategies embedded into California Children Services (CCS) and all Child Health Disability Prevention Programs (CHDP).
- The County opposes efforts to eliminate the seamless system of care for children with special healthcare needs received by their local California Children Services. The County also opposes any efforts to change the provider to an out of County provider if those services are available within Ventura County.
- The County supports State funding for local trauma centers.
- The County supports the preservation of the medical control of the Medical Director of the Local Emergency Medical Services Agency.
- The County supports the preservation of County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency authority and governing role to plan, implement, and evaluate a countywide EMS system.
- The County opposes efforts which would limit the authority of the Local Emergency Medical Services Agency Medical Director in taking disciplinary action against a holder of an Emergency Medical Technician certificate.
- The County supports efforts to maintain an independent State Emergency Medical Services Authority aligned with the Department of Health and Human Services.
- The County supports efforts to restore State funding for the LabAspire program that supported undergraduate and graduate students to enter the Public Health

Laboratory field and qualify to be certified microbiologists and laboratory directors.

- The County supports efforts to improve the collaboration between local and public health departments and area hospitals and health systems in the health assessment and implementation planning process.
- The County supports sustainable revenue streams that seek to reduce health inequities and prevent chronic diseases.
- The County supports efforts to expand access to dental health services for low-income and Medi-Cal eligible clients, including increasing the Denti-Cal reimbursement fees for providers, and supporting school-based dental disease prevention programs.
- The County supports State legislation or budget actions that will raise Medi-Cal hospital rates through a hospital provider fee with the appropriate model that will provide additional funding for public hospitals and health systems and to allow for growth in Medi-Cal enrollment, uninsured patients, and the utilization and expansion of coverage.
- The County opposes any diversion or supplantation of any County Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funding.
- The County supports providing additional county flexibility in the MHSA, including serving individuals with a primary diagnosis of a substance use disorder, funding focused on service delivery, and reinventing the innovation funding.
- The County supports local control for prioritization of projects funded by the MHSA.
- The County supports funding to help address housing and residential treatment services for people with mental illness as well as funding for local inpatient psychiatric units and hospitals.
- The County supports funding for mental health and substance use disorder programs for foster youth and at-risk families.
- The County supports the creation of a certification/license mechanism for Children's Crisis Residential programs.
- The County supports efforts to provide for efficiencies in State agencies that streamlines the audit and appeals process.

- The County supports budget actions that would protect and provide additional funds to mental health program funding and alcohol and drug programs. These include, but are not limited to, MHSA, EPSDT and Short Doyle programs.
- The County supports opioid drug abuse prevention policies, including State rules, which maintain peace officers' access to prescription drug monitoring program data during possible criminal investigations, and expanded Federal funding for overdose prevention education and rescue efforts.
- The County seeks funding and legislative support for the expansion of Family Medicine Residency Training programs to further improve the availability and access of primary care physicians at the local, state, and national level.
- The County supports efforts to fund and incentivize health care delivery systems that achieve statewide accreditation, certification, and/or recognition.
- The County supports efforts to seek funding and legislative action that would improve opportunities for both primary care and specialty physicians that work in public health care safety-net systems to reduce or forgive student loan obligations.

Human Services Agency

- Additional funding and program support is sought to ensure the success of foster children and former foster children who continue to participate in the extended foster care program after reaching the age of 18. Efforts to increase funding and program support for nutrition benefits, transitional housing, career development, job training, integrated case management, mental health and other services for all foster youth will be supported.
- The County supports efforts that would provide resources to the child welfare system for preventative and aftercare services for at-risk families.
- The County supports eligibility modifications and program enhancements that improve service to clients, promote administrative simplification, and improve efficiencies of public social services programs.
- The County supports program enhancements that reinforce work and workforce support programs that help to lift families out of poverty and provide pathways to self-sufficiency.
- The County supports policies and legislation that protect elder and dependent adults from predatory strategies as well as neglectful, unsafe environments that put them at risk.

- The County supports policies and legislation that enhances the ability of Adult Protective Services to investigate reports of suspected elder and dependent abuse received from financial institutions.
- The County supports legislation, programs, and policies that reduce the number of people, especially children and single-parent households, living in poverty in California.
- The County supports policies and legislation that support progressive integration and sharing of records that increase transparency and interoperability in adult protective services, behavioral health, public health, and child welfare cases.
- The County supports programs and funding that support foster and child welfare families, the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) program, Katie A. settlement mental health services for at-risk youth, Child Welfare Continuum of Care Reforms, and other initiatives.
- The County supports funding, programs, and initiatives aimed at reducing the number of families and individuals experiencing homelessness in our community, particularly those initiatives aimed at expanding housing options and comprehensive support services that lead to self-sufficiency.
- The County supports funding for the operations of the Public Guardian and Public Administrator.
- The County supports policies and legislation that facilitate and allow sharing client information with law enforcement, such as the reverse 911 database for seniors, during disasters and emergencies.
- The County supports adoption of funding policies that minimize county share of cost for the In-Home Support Services (IHSS) program.
- The County supports reasonable funding formulas to reimburse Counties for the administration of Medi-Cal, CalWORKs, and IHSS.

Information Technology Services

- The County supports efforts that would provide for the improvement of broadband availability, accessibility, competition, and performance in Ventura County.
- The County supports legislation and technology enhancement efforts that will strengthen and improve cybersecurity for the public, businesses, and government.

- The County supports efforts to enhance the privacy of sensitive data concerning individuals but does not place burdensome regulations on businesses and the free flow of information.
- The County supports funding and initiatives to modernize public safety technology and infrastructure.
- The County supports funding and initiatives to enhance science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) programs.
- The County supports legislation that stimulates interoperability, innovation, fosters competition, reduces barriers to entry, and facilitates growth for hi-tech entrepreneurs and technology businesses.
- The County supports legislation that facilitates open data and transparency while opposing legislation that will burden County operations.
- The County supports funding for senior adult education programs specializing in technology, training, access, and resources.

Library

- The County supports full funding for the Public Library Foundation program, the Public Library Fund, and the State's support of literacy funding.
- The County supports an increase in funding for the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California (CENIC), which provides high-speed broadband for public libraries.

Probation

- The County supports community prevention and early intervention programming to address juvenile gang involvement, truancy, substance abuse, and delinquency through the uninterrupted funding of all existing juvenile probation programs.
- The County supports proposals that would provide State funding of juvenile and adult programs to suppress the addiction to controlled substances and facilitate the treatment of severe chemical dependency, including medically assisted treatment.
- The County supports revenue opportunities for local jurisdictions to establish evidence-based programs targeting mentally ill and domestic violence offenders.

- The County supports revenue opportunities for local jurisdictions to establish evidence-based programming in the community (community-based organizations) targeting criminogenic risk factors for both adult and juvenile offenders. Revenue support to include training for community providers to deliver programs supported by research, for organizations to operate utilizing continuous improvement plans and program evaluations using outcomes, and for subsidized treatment for offenders.
- The County supports funding to provide services for the emerging adult population, ages 18 to 25, in the areas of transitional housing and placement, intensive case management and mentoring, advanced independent living skills, and vocational training and job placement.
- The County supports funding to enhance the creation of community-based interventions and approaches aimed to reduce racial and ethnic disparities within the local juvenile justice system.
- The County supports funding to expand the use of jail alternative programs and approaches which are proven to have success in lowering recidivism rates among adult and juvenile offenders.
- The County supports legislation which sets minimum standards for licensing businesses operating as sober living homes.
- The County supports funding for facility modifications to repurpose vacant juvenile detention buildings to be used for other types of youthful offenders in need of residential services and treatments.

Public Defender

- The County supports funding for the office of the Public Defender so that indigent defendants prosecuted under specialized crime suppression grants receive the required constitutional level of representation.
- The County supports funding to provide repayment of educational loans for attorneys who provide legal services in public interest areas of law such as criminal prosecution and defense.
- The County opposes legislation that would allow an Office of Public Defender to be held by a person who has not been a practicing attorney in all of the Courts of the State for the year preceding the date of his/her election or appointment.

- The County supports the establishment of a State sentencing/overcrowding commission.
- The County supports a multi-agency approach to implementing the Stepping Up Initiative in order to reduce the number of adults with mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders in local jails.
- The County supports the development and funding of community-based, non-jail alternatives that enhance public safety, lower rates of recidivism, and preserve taxpayer resources.

Public Works Agency

- The County supports legislative efforts to develop funding policies and incentives at the State level that will ensure adequate funding for the maintenance, repair, and rehabilitation of aging vital public works infrastructure in Ventura County.
- The County supports legislation that would allow local governments the discretion to set speed limits based upon alternative methods other than the 85th percentile speed when supporting data/research indicates that the resulting speed limit recommendation would improve safety and/or reduce accidents.
- The County supports legislation and regulatory rulemaking which promotes innovative ways of contracting for public projects allowing for award based on best value while providing full and open competition.
- The County encourages and supports the creation of grants that support the repair and replacement of aging flood protection infrastructure including channels, dams, and levees.
- The County supports State grant funding to continue the migration of the Ventura County Flood Warning System network to the ALERT2 protocol which will help facilitate local efforts to develop and enhance flood forecast models and emergency warning systems in Ventura County.
- The County supports funding for expansion of local pedestrian and bicycle usage and alternate transportation modes.
- The County supports funding and incentives for multi-modal transportation and complete streets, including flexible design requirements for State highways serving as local roads, and installation and repair of sidewalks, particularly in low-income areas.

- The County supports and encourages the development of State regulations and procedures that promote the common sense implementation of both State and Federal resource protection laws and ensure that both State and Federal agencies work together in a coordinated, uniform, and predictable fashion in order to enable efficient, consistent, and cost-effective compliance with these resource protection laws.
- The County encourages and supports enhanced communication, collaboration and coordination between State and Federal regulatory agencies in order to expedite the delivery of vital public works projects and minimize regulatory redundancy, process inefficiencies, and agency conflicts.
- The County supports legislation that streamlines the disposal tonnage tracking and reporting requirements applicable to local jurisdictions found in the California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939). Specifically, the County supports improvements to State law and regulation which would benefit all jurisdictions by promoting greater accuracy of jurisdiction of origin tonnage information, ease of verification of such tonnage information, and cost-effective compliance with diversion mandates.
- The County supports legislation that provides greater accuracy in tracking and reporting the jurisdiction, source or origin, and content of wastewater for disposal.
- The County supports efforts to require the disposal of wastewater, including produced water, through wastewater treatment plants where available as opposed to groundwater injection wells.
- The County supports legislative efforts and regulatory rulemaking at the State level promoting environmental sustainability by incentivizing manufacturer's incorporation of design elements using nontoxic products which increase the recyclability of a product at the end of its useful life.
- The County supports legislative efforts and regulatory rulemaking at the State level that promote the use of renewable fuels and forms of energy and streamlining the implementation of projects.
- The County supports State legislation providing financial and operational incentives for emerging technologies in renewable energy production and recycling to support local government efforts to minimize costs and environmental impacts; examples of potential renewable energy sources include landfill-bound organic material, municipal solid waste and biosolids from wastewater treatment plants.

- The County supports funding for programs which divert all recyclables or reusable materials from landfills.
- The County supports legislative efforts to provide financial and technical assistance, and permit streamlining, for the development of local water supply enhancement projects which promote resource sustainability including but not limited to groundwater and seawater desalination, underground water storage facilities, recycled water, rainwater capture, and distribution system interconnection projects designed to reduce dependence on the imported water supply from the Bay Delta.
- The County supports legislative efforts that focus water quality improvements on pollutant source control versus treatment control methods.
- The County supports an active State role in preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species.
- The County supports efforts that would include iron and manganese as a constituent that would qualify for grant funding for remediation for tap water.
- The County supports legislative efforts at the State level on telecommunications and electrical restructuring policy to ensure that local governments; 1) are adequately compensated for use of public rights-of-way, 2) control access of such rights-of-way, and 3) retain zoning authority over placement of communication technology infrastructure.

Resource Management Agency

- The County supports proposals that encourage and provide financial assistance to local governments to preserve and enhance the environment through energy conservation, development of renewable energy sources, restrictions on offshore development, coastal, wetlands and waterways protection, farmland and habitat preservation, and development of alternative transportation modes.
- The County supports efforts to fund programs that encourage additional parkland and open space.
- The County opposes the erosion of existing and future local land use controls or the creation of multiple, uncoordinated or conflicting regulations in the area of State and local permitting and resource protection.
- The County supports legislation that will enable local governments to balance preservation of agriculture and open space, water supply, and other physical constraints with housing production in meeting state housing element goals; allow

units produced through inclusionary housing policies and shared units through Homeshare to count toward meeting housing goals (including mobilehomes); and recognize local land use initiatives and smart growth policies such as the Guidelines for Orderly Development in the establishment of housing needs assessment.

- The County supports full funding for County Land Conservation Act (LCA) subvention payments and supports legislation which further simplifies County administration and strengthens enforcement and funding of the LCA program.
- The County opposes legislation that would weaken existing consumer protection laws and regulations.
- The County supports legislation to eliminate the sunset provision and fee limits in State law which will prohibit the County from collecting fees to cover the cost of its State-mandated weights and measures program.
- The County supports legislation that streamlines the environmental review process for development without compromising environmental quality standards or the public's ability to review and comment.
- The County supports legislation to provide financial assistance to local governments to update their Local Coastal Programs (LCPs), as well as legislation that brings greater clarity and predictability to the Coastal Commission's policies, processes and schedules for reviewing and acting on LCP amendments.
- The County supports legislation that specifies Sea Level Rise (SLR) is a regional issue and acknowledges the limitations of local governments to resolve the complexities of SLR on a County, City or project level basis. The County supports a consistent and regional approach to this multi-jurisdictional issue to ensure not only the continued existence of critical coastal infrastructure but the health, safety and welfare of California coastal communities for generations to come.
- The County supports funding to address/mitigate the impacts of Sea Level Rise and to protect our coastal resources and communities including Naval Base Ventura County.
- The County supports full State funding of the ocean water quality monitoring program.
- The County supports the continued adoption and implementation of State requirements for oil and gas production to ensure that oil and gas development

activities, including the disposal of wastewater, do not pose a significant risk to water supplies, people, or natural resources.

Sheriff's Department

- The County supports funding for programs such as the tri-Counties Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) and the Enhanced Law Enforcement Activities Subaccount (ELEAS).
- The County supports continued funding for gang violence reduction which utilizes evidence-based programs to help high-risk youth develop problem solving, decision making and communication skills, and partners with community-based organizations.
- The County supports funding for programs such as Serious Habitual Offender, a program that seeks to identify offenders that are presently engaged in repeated criminal conduct.
- The County supports funding for the purchase of equipment and training for law enforcement.
- The County supports continued funding for programs to enforce statutes regulating the use of Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV).
- The County supports continued funding to allow the Sheriff to support United States Forest Service public safety personnel.
- The County opposes any efforts that would reduce its ability to recoup costs for inmate welfare programs.
- The County supports continued funding for the Office of Traffic Safety Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) and Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training program grants to reduce traffic collisions as well as alcohol, drug, and marijuana impaired driving.
- The County supports funding to track, combat, and treat opioid and methamphetamine addiction.
- The County supports funding for jail construction and front-line law enforcement, as well as funding for Standards and Training for Corrections officers.
- The County supports funding for regional multi-disciplinary targeted gang suppression and prevention programs.

- The County supports efforts that acknowledge the costs of and provide appropriate resources for the storage, retrieval, and, where required, editing of video and audio recordings captured by County personnel.
- The County supports State and Federal assistance to address the treatment needs of those with serious mental illness who are detained in County facilities.
- The County supports funding for vocational training for incarcerated individuals.
- The County supports funding to address discharge planning activities that takes into account the needs of homeless individuals as they transition back into the community following release from a local detention facility.

County of Ventura

2020 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA AND PLATFORM

I. OVERALL FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES

1. The County supports proposals that would provide a greater share of total available Federal funding to California and opposes proposals that would reduce the State's share of total funding.
2. The County supports proposals that would provide Counties with greater decision-making authority over the use of Federal funds and which provide for direct grants or mandatory pass-through allocations.
3. The County supports efforts to reduce or eliminate the many cumbersome, contradictory regulatory/administrative/oversight requirements of Federal programs.
4. The County opposes proposals that would impose new unfunded mandates on the County.
5. The County supports legislation that would limit or minimize the County's exposure to tort/liability claims.

II. NEW BILL REQUESTS

1. Camarillo Airport Land Transfer. The County of Ventura supports legislation that would enable the transfer of land located at the Camarillo Airport from the Department of Homeland Security or Federal General Services Agency to the County of Ventura Department of Airports.
2. Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project. The County of Ventura supports legislation to amend the Matilija Dam Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2007 project authorization to allow for appropriate Federal funding in support of an improved Matilija Dam project description.
3. Ventura River 1 Levee. The County of Ventura supports an authorization for improving the Ventura River (VR-1) levee through a vehicle such as the Water Resources Development Act.
4. Santa Clara River 1 Levee. The County of Ventura supports an authorization for improving the Santa Clara River 1 (SCR-1) levee through a vehicle such as the Water Resources Development Act.

5. Santa Paula Creek. The County of Ventura supports a modification or a re-evaluation of the previously authorized Santa Paula Creek Project through a vehicle such as the Water Resources Development Act.

III. FEDERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

1. Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project. Support is requested for construction funding in the amount of \$1.5 million for the US Army Corps of Engineers for the Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project.
2. Santa Paula Creek Storm Damage Restoration Work. Support is requested for funding in the amount of \$3 million for the US Army Corps of Engineers to complete a re-evaluation of the previously authorized Santa Paula Creek project to address deficiencies related to the revised hydrology, channel scour, and damaged fish ladder inlet.
3. Santa Clara River Watershed Protection Plan/Capital Facilities Plan. Support is requested for funding in the amount of \$1 million for the US Army Corps of Engineers to continue the efforts currently underway for the feasibility study for the Santa Clara River Watershed Protection Plan/Capital Facilities Plan. The Feasibility Study – which encompasses the entire watershed - is a joint Study with project partners consisting of the Ventura County Watershed Protection District, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, and the US Army Corps of Engineers, and is open to all stakeholders.
4. Santa Clara River Levee (SCR-1). Support is requested for funding in the amount of \$3 million for the US Army Corps of Engineers to complete a feasibility study for the Santa Clara River Levee (SCR-1) system.
5. Ventura River Levee (VR-1). Support is requested for funding in the amount of \$3 million for the US Army Corps of Engineers to complete a feasibility study for the Ventura River Levee (VR-1) system.
6. Beardsley Wash Watershed Project. Support is requested for funding in the amount of \$1.8 million for the Natural Resources Conservation Service for the Ferro-Ditch Channel Improvement segment of the project.
7. Lower Calleguas Creek Watershed Study. Support is requested for funding in the amount of \$1.5 million for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in the Agricultural Appropriations bill directing the NRCS to conduct a feasibility study for the Lower Calleguas Creek under the Small Watersheds Program.
8. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Support the inclusion of language in the Agricultural Appropriations bill directing the NRCS to conduct feasibility studies in Ventura County under the Small Watersheds Program.

9. Channel Islands Harbor. Support is sought for funding in the amount of \$8 million in the US Army Corps of Engineers' Operations and Maintenance/Navigation account for an off-cycle maintenance dredging operation to clear the Channel Islands Harbor sand trap for fiscal year 2020. Additionally, support is sought for funding in the amount of \$5 million for breakwater repair for fiscal year 2020.
10. Ventura County Backlogged Violent Case DNA Analysis and Prosecution Project. Support in the amount of \$950,000 is requested for funding through the Debbie Smith Act of 2019 for the Ventura County Sheriff's Office Forensic Service Bureau, Major Crimes Unit, and the Ventura County District Attorney's Office to continue a joint specialized unit that is dedicated to the investigation, laboratory analysis, and prosecution of violent cases that hold the promise of being solved through DNA technology. The Debbie Smith Act was signed into law in 2004 and through grant programs provided local crime labs and prosecutors' offices resources to end the backlog of untested DNA evidence. These grant programs were effective in assisting investigations into both violent and non-violent crime. The funding ended in 2014. The Justice Served Act was later enacted by Congress to establish a new purpose area in the Debbie Smith Act to help prosecution offices address violent crime cases.
11. Ventura County Computer Incident Response Team. Support is requested for \$750,000 in funding for Ventura County District Attorney's office to implement a three-year program to investigate and prosecute computer network intrusion crimes.

IV. MAJOR POLICY ISSUES – BY DEPARTMENT

Agricultural Commissioner

- The County supports proposals that would fully fund: the inspection of incoming and outgoing shipments of any materials capable of harboring pests and diseases detrimental to Ventura County's agricultural industry; the eradication of newly discovered pest populations; and pest management efforts.
- The County supports enactment of and full funding for Federal food safety programs.
- The County supports efforts to promote the implementation of integrated pest management strategies to reduce reliance on the most toxic pesticides, herbicides, and rodenticides and to promote programs to educate the public on safe pesticide use and their impacts.
- The County supports legislation that would allow growers of specialty crops to participate in crop insurance programs, including legislation that would treat plant

pest and disease quarantines as disasters and provide eligibility for economic relief to growers of specialty crops in declared disaster areas.

- The County supports full funding for early pest and disease detection and surveillance improvements which would provide Federal support for pest exclusion and pest detection programs.
- The County supports legislation providing for full funding for cooperative U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Pesticide Regulation, and local Agricultural Commissioner pesticide programs providing scientific risk assessments and evaluations of the most toxic pesticides.
- The County supports all legislative and administrative efforts to maximize and expedite access to Federal agricultural resources to address recovery needs resulting from natural disasters such as fires, freezes, floods, or drought.
- The County supports legislation that encourages and provides financial assistance to agricultural operations to conserve and enhance the environment through conservation of prime farmland, energy conservation, and the development of renewable energy sources.
- The County supports adoption of Federal regulations for orderly production and marketing of industrial hemp and hemp products.

Airports

- The County supports the FAA fully funding the reconstruction of runways and taxiways to ensure existing infrastructure meets the needs of the community.
- The County supports Federal programs and funding to assist non-hub airports in developing and sustaining viable air service.
- The County supports reauthorization and increased funding of the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), which provides funding for safety, security, noise abatement, and capacity enhancement programs.
- The County supports Federal funding for any security requirements that may become mandatory for general aviation airports, and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) reviews done for AIP eligible projects at the County airports.
- The County opposes the privatization of the Camarillo Air Traffic Control Tower facility.

- The County supports the Federal Contract Tower Program including full funding of the program at the Oxnard Airport.
- The County supports the development and transition to alternative piston engine aviation fuels in a manner that does not negatively impact general aviation.
- The County supports raising the Federal cap on local Passenger Facility Charges to assist in funding airport infrastructure.
- The County supports alternative programs for pilot training that will address the pilot shortage issue that is impeding the County's ability to restore airline service.
- The County supports the expansion of eligibility for use of federal grant funds.
- The County supports reducing unnecessary Federal regulatory burdens on airport operators.

Area Agency on Aging

- The County supports legislation that reauthorizes and modernizes the Older American's Act (OAA), keeping pace with inflation and the growing number of older adults; preserve the OAA's flexibility and person-centered commitment; capitalize on the existing aging network to coordinate long-term care services; and increase appropriations under the Older Americans Act including expanding the Older Americans Act to include funding for Adult Protective Services and funding to help strengthen and expand Aging and Disability Resource Center's ability to help seniors and people with disabilities access resources and services.
- The County supports legislation that preserves the Federal funding for the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy program that provides counseling regarding Medicare. The County also supports legislation that provides funding for fall prevention, veterans services including the Veterans Directed Home and Community Based Program and funding that provides in-home care and respite for persons with Alzheimer's or related dementia.
- The County supports legislation that would allow dignity in death that includes privacy in nursing home rooms for those with less than five days to live, as well as additional services for the terminally ill.
- The County supports efforts to fully fund the Elder Justice Act and any Federal legislation relating to elder abuse that increases the funding provided for elder abuse prosecution and prevention programs and increases the penalties for those convicted of crimes against seniors. The County also supports increasing the penalties for those convicted of crimes against seniors or the disabled.

- The County supports legislation that requires the Federal government to negotiate for the lowest available prices for prescription drugs under the Medicare Part D program and expands Medicare coverage of dental and hearing and visual aids for seniors.
- The County supports funding and efforts to move towards community-based services and age-in-place programs as opposed to nursing home placement.
- The County supports legislation that requires that the Social Security Administration's burial benefit be increased to \$495 and be payable to immediate family members, who include, but are not limited to, the surviving spouse and child.
- The County supports legislation that reauthorizes the work opportunity tax credit and amends the Internal Revenue Code to add low income older adults to the list of specified groups for whom employers may claim a work opportunity tax credit.
- The County supports legislation that requires all funeral directors to notify the Federal Social Security Administration of a person's death in order to prevent fraudulent payments of Social Security benefits and to reduce the occurrence of identity theft.

County Executive Office

- The County supports all legislative and administrative efforts to maximize and expedite access to Federal and State resources to address both short-term and long-term recovery needs resulting from natural and catastrophic disasters, including acts of domestic terrorism, in the region.
- The County supports funding for wildfire prevention efforts such as removal of dead trees and nonfire-resistant species such as palms.
- The County supports efforts that would fund undergrounding utilities to remove a common source of ignition and to help prevent wildfires and loss of utility services during disasters.
- The County supports legislative and administrative efforts to improve sharable recovery case management information amongst community-based organizations, and, local, State, and Federal agencies.
- The County supports legislation that would allow for the interception of Federal tax refunds as a means to recover fees and judgments owed to the County of Ventura.

- The County supports full funding for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program and authorization of mandatory payments to provide stability to the program.
- The County supports the repeal of the caps on the amount of State and local taxes (SALT) that can be deducted on individual tax returns.
- The County opposes legislation that seeks to increase truck size or weight limits beyond those in current federal law until a federally funded, full analysis is completed outlining what impacts any increases may have on the national transportation system, including the added cost to State and local governments.
- The County supports efforts to increase funding to the Federal EPA Superfund Account for work currently underway at the Halaco site as well as funding for future clean-up and removal actions.
- The County supports the establishment of a Federal Authority that will fund Regional Sediment Management projects on the California coast that are consistent with the US Army Corps of Engineers' mission of coastal risk reduction, ecosystem restoration, and navigation.
- The County supports efforts that would achieve the sediment management goals of the Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON) in Ventura County and Coastal California.
- The County supports efforts to require NASA and Boeing, the owners of land at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory, and the Department of Energy, which leases land at the site, to clean up the site to the most protective standards, equivalent to background, and opposes the transfer and/or development of the property until the clean-up of the site is deemed complete.
- The County supports legislation protecting participants in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program from deportation and that provides a pathway for permanent status.
- The County supports repeal of provisions included in the Ensuring Patient Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act of 2016 that make it nearly impossible for the Drug Enforcement Agency to freeze suspicious narcotic shipments.
- The County supports ongoing authorization and increased funding for programs to support persons of low income.

- The County supports efforts to reclassify cannabis from a Schedule 1 substance to make it easier for ill patients and scientific and medical researchers to obtain marijuana.
- The County supports efforts to prevent and serve the victims of human and sex trafficking.
- The County supports improvements to Federal housing assistance programs that promote housing stability therefore allowing more people in need to participate in those programs.
- The County supports efforts to obtain additional housing vouchers to support local collaborative efforts to house chronically homeless individuals and families.
- The County supports investment in economic development, building prosperous communities, and competitive industries.
- The County supports efforts to expand financial resources for the development and preservation of affordable housing.
- The County supports stronger gun control legislation including: a ban on modifications that make a semi-automatic gun work like an automatic; strict restrictions on the size of magazines and the sale of guns like the AR-15; background checks for all gun buyers; prohibition of gun shows at state-owned fairgrounds; prevention of the mentally ill from buying guns; a ban on the sale of guns to people convicted of violent crimes, including domestic violence; and implementation of a mandatory waiting period on all gun purchases.
- The County supports all efforts to protect our local military bases from closure and encroachment, supports funding for infrastructure, and the work of the community coalition known as Regional Defense Partnership 21st Century (RDP-21).
- The County supports cost-effective strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and encourage the use of grants, loans, and incentives to assist local governments in the implementation of greenhouse gas reduction programs.
- The County supports legislative efforts which would provide financial assistance and operations and economic incentives that promote the use of renewable energy.
- The County supports legislation that would provide a cost reduction for the purchase of alternative fuel use vehicles for Counties equivalent to the tax rebate afforded to private consumers.

- The County supports legislation that would reinstate the 2022-2025 Federal Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) vehicle fuel economy standards and provide further fuel efficiency requirements for light trucks, sport utility vehicles, heavy trucks, and trains.
- The County of Ventura supports legislation that would establish a Federal revenue neutral carbon tax.
- The County supports dedicated funding for 211 dispatch services, which is designed to provide a countywide 24-hour-a-day phone line for referral to meet health and human services' needs.
- The County advocates support and funding for access to local-level health care, mental health services, and programs that provide support for military veterans.
- The County supports Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Initiatives that enhance public safety while respecting citizens' rights to privacy.
- The County supports legislation that recognizes shipping companies for voluntarily reducing speeds in the Santa Barbara Channel region to reduce air pollution and the risk of fatal ship strikes on whales.
- The County opposes legislative or administrative efforts to reduce the boundaries of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary.

District Attorney

- The County supports funding to develop and staff an Intelligence Driven Prosecution program in Ventura County.

Fire District

- The County supports initiatives to ensure the financial viability of the Fire District as well as the public safety services it provides. Specific focus is on forward planning, local government reimbursement, and prevention measures and response enhancements to "all-hazard" emergency incidents, local, State and Federal.
- The County supports efforts to bring insurance companies and the industry into mitigating the wildland fire problem.

Harbor Department

- The County supports Federal funding through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for activities related to dredging of Federally authorized channels and sand deposition areas, jetty maintenance and repair, and environmental enhancement.
- The County supports efforts to ensure that funds collected under the Harbor Maintenance Tax are targeted for navigation projects.
- The County supports the reauthorization of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act and regulatory versions that ensure that local issues and concerns are addressed.
- The County supports the appropriation of funding needed to reach authorized depths.

Health Care Agency

- The County supports any efforts to protect, maximize, and provide funding for the County Medical System (inpatient and outpatient), including, but not limited to Health Care Reform, Health Care for the Homeless, Federally Qualified Health Centers, telemedicine/e-consult services, maintenance and enhancement of electronic health care infrastructure, Medicare and Medicaid Waivers, Disproportionate Share Hospital Funding, Coverage Initiatives, 340b Programs, and Outpatient Reimbursement rules, Medicaid FMAP enhancement, formulas, and initiatives.
- The County opposes efforts to remove or dilute the financial control and authority of the County Board of Supervisors over County health care services.
- The County seeks expanded funding support for publicly operated health care safety-net services. Continuation and expansion is sought for the federally funded State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Continued expansion and funding support is also sought for development and expansion of locally sponsored safety-net programs to provide health services, such as Oral Health, the Medical Home Model, Integrated Medical & Mental Health Services, and Case/Care Management Services.
- The County would oppose any effort to disqualify County medical clinics as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC).
- The County supports legislation that would allow for the inclusion of a marriage and family therapist in the list of health care professionals covered to bill Medicaid/Medicare through Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC).

- The County supports the continuation of Federal funding to offset the local costs associated with planning for and responding to the medical/health consequences of terrorism, disasters, or other public health emergencies. Those funding formulas should consider proximity of jurisdictions to high profile targets rather than be based solely on the presence of such targets within jurisdictional boundaries.
- The County supports expansion and continued funding of both mental health and health care services for the homeless.
- The County supports the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's efforts to ensure that manufacturers provide safe and effective mobile medical digital devices for home use.
- The County supports reauthorization and full funding of the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program in order to improve the infrastructure for data collection, delivery of service, and full implementation.
- The County supports public policies and services that strengthen our public health system, expands health insurance coverage and provides resources to better serve Maternal Child Adolescent Health (MCAH) populations, including children with special health care needs.
- The County supports full funding for the Prevention and Public Health Fund.
- The County supports reauthorization and full funding of the Ryan White CARE Act.
- The County supports proposals which allow for Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement for individuals who are excluded from participation in the Medicaid program as a result of their mental health placements, such as patients at Institutions for Mental Disease (IMDs), which are hospitals, nursing facilities, or other institutions with more than 16 beds that are primarily engaged in the diagnosis, treatment, or care of persons with mental diseases.
- The County supports opioid drug abuse prevention policies, including State rules, which maintain peace officers' access to prescription drug monitoring program data during possible criminal investigations, and expanded Federal funding for overdose prevention education and rescue efforts.
- The County supports efforts to provide additional funding for treatment and all other costs associated with opioid addiction.

- The County supports Federal legislation or budget actions that will raise Medi-Cal hospital rates through hospital provider fees with the appropriate model that will provide additional funding for public hospitals and expansion of coverage for children.
- The County seeks funding and legislative support for the expansion of Family Medicine Residency Training programs to further improve the availability and access of primary care physicians at the local, state, and national level.
- The County supports efforts to seek funding and legislative action that would improve opportunities for physicians that work in public health care safety-net systems to reduce or forgive student loan obligations.
- The County supports an increase in Graduate Medical Education (GME) funding for the training of primary care doctors. The funding is based on a complex formula related to the number of residents in training. The formula has been capped for years with no additional slots for funding added.
- The County supports efforts to fund and incentivize health care delivery systems that achieve national accreditation, certification, and/or recognition.
- The County supports construction funding to permit compliance with State earthquake retrofit requirements for acute care hospital and outpatient facilities.

Human Services Agency

- The County supports efforts to reauthorize Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). We urge Congress and the Administration to increase Federal funding levels for TANF and Child Care. The County supports changes that are designed to improve overall administration; address factors contributing to poverty including, but not limited to, increased employment, job retention, and career advancement opportunities; encourage program flexibility and simplification for more effective service delivery; and better align TANF with related programs.
- The County supports the goals of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and increased funding for the workforce network and collaborative.
- The County supports Federal legislation and other administrative actions that establish a greater Federal role in the protection of elder and dependent adults against all forms of abuse and neglect.
- The County supports policies and funding that encourage an integrated, multi-disciplinary treatment approach to elder abuse.

- The County supports policies, funding, and legislation that encourages long-term case management for Adult Protective Services clients.
- The County supports increased and flexible Federal funding to provide families in crisis with the support, services, and evidence-based interventions needed to keep children safely at home and out of foster care.
- The County supports efforts to increase funding and program support for transitional housing, career development, job training, integrated case management, mental health, and other services for all foster youth.
- The County supports modifications to Federal law that will make foster youth categorically eligible to apply for SSI benefits. Under current rules, applicants may not apply for SSI while they are receiving Title IV-E (foster care placement) funding. This places child welfare agencies in a difficult position; while agencies would like to help youth apply for these benefits, they may not do so while the youths' foster care placements are funded by Title IV-E.
- The County supports funding, programs, and initiatives aimed at reducing the number of families and individuals experiencing homelessness (including veterans) in our community, particularly those initiatives aimed at expanding housing resources and comprehensive support services that lead to self-sufficiency.
- The County supports efforts that align and are consistent with California's Child Welfare Continuum of Care reform.
- The County supports efforts to provide funding and services to children who are victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation.
- The County supports increased funding for the preventative services for the child welfare services.
- The County opposes changing the current funding or eligibility requirements and methodologies for entitlement programs such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid.

Information Technology Services

- The County supports efforts that would provide for the improvement of broadband availability, accessibility, competition, and performance in Ventura County.

- The County supports legislation and technology enhancement efforts that will strengthen and improve cybersecurity for the public, businesses, and government.
- The County supports efforts to enhance the privacy of sensitive data concerning individuals but does not place burdensome regulations on businesses and the free flow of information.
- The County supports funding and initiatives to modernize public safety technology and infrastructure.
- The County supports funding and initiatives to enhance science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) programs.
- The County supports funding for workforce training for a changing job market.
- The County encourages support for legislation that stimulates innovation, fosters competition, reduces barriers to entry, and facilitates growth for hi-tech entrepreneurs and technology businesses.
- The County supports legislation that facilitates open data and transparency while opposing legislation that will burden County operations.
- The County supports funding for senior adult education programs specializing in technology, training, access, and resources.

Library

- The County supports the Museum and Library Services Act and the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services and increasing appropriations for its library grant programs through the Library Services and Technology Act.

Probation

- The County supports proposals that would provide Federal funding of juvenile and adult programs to suppress the addiction to controlled substances and facilitate the treatment of severe chemical dependency, including medically assisted treatment.
- The County supports proposals that would provide Federal funding for the purposes of establishing collaborative re-entry programs and services for those adult offenders returning to their communities from State prisons and local custodial facilities. The programs will be rooted in evidence-based practices that demonstrate success in lowering recidivism among offenders and will include

targeted efforts in the areas of vocational training, education, housing and treatment services.

- The County supports funding opportunities designated to assist local agencies who have the responsibility of managing youth in the foster care system and those reintegrating into their communities.

Public Defender

- The County supports increased funding of the John R. Justice Prosecution and Defender Incentive Act, which provides repayment of educational loans for attorneys who provide legal services in public interest areas of law such as criminal prosecution and defense.
- The County supports funding for the office of the Public Defender so that indigent defendants prosecuted under specialized crime suppression grants receive the required constitutional level of representation.
- The County supports a multi-agency approach to implementing the Stepping Up Initiative in order to reduce the number of adults with mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders in local jails.
- The County supports the development and funding of community-based, non-jail alternatives that enhance public safety, lower rates of recidivism, and preserve taxpayer resources.

Public Works Agency

- The County supports legislative efforts to develop funding policies and incentives at the Federal level that will ensure adequate funding for the maintenance, repair and rehabilitation of aging vital public works infrastructure in Ventura County.
- The County seeks Federal funding assistance for the US Army Corps of Engineers in support of local efforts to complete levee rehabilitation and/or reconstruction projects that are required in order to obtain the certification of Watershed Protection District owned and operated flood control levees in order to document compliance with FEMA's Levee Certification Requirements (i.e., 44 CFR 65.10).
- The County supports legislative efforts that would require FEMA to give all newly mapped areas an amortization period before mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements and higher insurance rates go into full effect.

- The County supports efforts that would require FEMA to refine updated or new maps when additional properties are added to the revised floodplain maps to ensure that those properties have been included appropriately.
- The County supports multi-year authorization of the National Flood Insurance Program.
- The County supports reauthorization of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act to include maximum funding support for maintenance and operation of local roads, bridges, and other transportation infrastructure; maximum flexibility to use Federal highway funding for expansion of local pedestrian and bicycle usage and alternate transportation modes; and reduction of redundant and cumbersome administrative regulations that hinder usage of Federal highway funds.
- The County supports and encourages the development of Federal regulations and procedures that promote the common sense implementation of both Federal and State resource protection laws and ensure that both Federal and State agencies work together in a coordinated, uniform, and predictable fashion in order to enable efficient, consistent, and cost-effective compliance with these resource protection laws.
- The County encourages and supports enhanced communication, collaboration and coordination between Federal and State regulatory agencies in order to expedite the delivery of vital public works projects and minimize regulatory redundancy, process inefficiencies, and agency conflicts.
- The County supports Federal initiatives and funding assistance for the planning, design, construction, and/or land acquisition associated with the protection of Ventura County's natural resources, including but not limited to natural floodplain management, habitat protection, and water resources protection.
- The County opposes blanket implementation of the US Army Corps of Engineers' levee vegetation policy guidelines.
- The County supports legislative efforts and regulatory rulemaking at the Federal level promoting environmental sustainability by incentivizing manufacturer's incorporation of design elements using nontoxic products which increase the recyclability of a product at the end of its useful life.
- The County supports Federal legislation providing financial and operational incentives for emerging technologies in renewable energy production and recycling to support local government efforts to minimize costs and environmental impacts; examples of potential renewable energy sources include landfill-bound

organic material, municipal solid waste and biosolids from wastewater treatment plants.

- The County supports legislative efforts to provide financial and technical assistance for the development of local water supply enhancement projects which promote resource sustainability including but not limited to groundwater and seawater desalination, underground water storage facilities, rainwater capture, recycled water, and distribution system interconnection projects.
- The County supports legislative efforts that focus water quality improvements on pollutant source control versus treatment control methods.
- The County supports legislative efforts at the Federal level on telecommunications and electrical restructuring policy to ensure that local governments; 1) are adequately compensated for use of public rights-of-way, 2) control access of such rights-of-way, and 3) retain zoning authority over placement of satellite dishes, cellular towers and antennas.

Resource Management Agency

- The County supports legislation which encourages and provides financial assistance to local governments to preserve and enhance the environment through energy conservation, development of renewable energy sources, restrictions on offshore development, farmland and habitat preservation, and alternative transportation modes.
- The County supports continued funding of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program and the fair-share distribution of funds to Ventura County.
- The County supports continued funding of research and State/local monitoring efforts in the furtherance of the goals of the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act of 2000.
- The County opposes new oil and gas leases off the Pacific Coast.

Sheriff's Department

- The County supports reauthorization and increased funding for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) to address the substantial impact illegal immigration has on the County.
- The County supports sufficient funding for the Department of Justice to ensure that full State and local participation in the Asset Forfeiture Program is maintained.

- The County supports continued or increased funding for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program. As a result of past EMPG funding, local emergency responders are prepared to respond to human-caused and natural disaster.
- The County supports continued funding for FEMA programs that assist with disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.
- The County supports continued or increased funding for the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grant program. The PDM grants, awarded through FEMA, provide funds to States, territories, native tribes, communities, and universities for mitigation planning and the implementation of those plans before a disaster occurs.
- The County supports funding for enforcement and eradication programs designed to combat street to mid-level drug sales, manufacturing, and distribution.
- The County supports legislation that would fully fund a multi-jurisdictional drug task force to combat criminal drug enterprises.
- The County supports continued funding to allow the Sheriff to support the U.S. Forest Service in law enforcement activity on Federal forest land.
- The County opposes any efforts that would reduce its ability to recoup costs for inmate welfare programs.
- The County supports legislation and regulations that would amend the federal Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy (MIEP) and allow non-convicted individuals to have continued access to necessary treatment through Federal health benefits such as Medicaid, Medicare, CHIP, and VA health benefits.
- The County supports funding to track, combat, and treat opioid and methamphetamine addiction.
- The County supports funding for traffic safety and driving under the influence with grants provided by the Office of Traffic Safety, through a partnership with the National Transportation Safety Board.
- The County supports efforts to ensure adequate funding to be used to decrease the backlog awaiting DNA and National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) analysis.

County of Ventura

202019 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA AND PLATFORM

I. OVERALL STATE LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES

1. The County supports a constitutional guarantee of an equitable, dependable, and predictable revenue stream to support local governments that, to the extent possible, links programs to their source of funding and achieves fiscal neutrality for Counties.
2. The County supports efforts to ensure local discretionary control over governance issues and delivery of services.
3. The County supports efforts to preserve the financial resources of local governments by requiring the State to fully reimburse the County for all costs related to State-mandated programs.
4. The County opposes any effort by the State to redirect existing revenue streams away from mandated programs provided by Counties or to require additional service provisions without commensurate additional revenue.
5. The County opposes proposals that would divert single-purpose funds away from their targeted programs.
6. The County supports the elimination of State-mandated caps or restrictions on local fees, thereby allowing the County to set local fees in order to achieve cost recovery to the extent approved by the Board of Supervisors.
7. The County supports additional mandate relief including elimination of unnecessary, redundant or overlapping eligibility, funding, maintenance of effort, monitoring, permitting or reporting requirements.
8. The County supports proposals that would permit the County to decline provision of service if funds have not been provided or to discontinue a service once all State and Federal funds have been exhausted.
9. The County opposes State budget actions that result in disproportionate fiscal impacts on Ventura County.
10. The County opposes efforts to impose sanctions on the County because of the State's failure to comply with Federal regulations.
11. The County opposes State expansion of Federal mandates without commensurate funding.

12. The County supports efforts to obtain consent of California's citizens before allowing the State of California to transfer control of local financial resources from local governments to State government.
13. The County supports proposals that maintain the fiscal stability of the County's retirement system while opposing legislation that would increase the County's financial obligation for retirement benefits.
14. The County supports proposals that would designate the Board of Supervisors as the sole authority to grant retirement benefits.
15. The County supports legislation that would refine circumstances under which employees are entitled to disability retirement.
16. The County supports legislation that would limit or minimize the County's exposure to tort/liability claims.
17. The County opposes legislation that would erode the land use authority of local elected officials.
18. The County supports efforts to obtain Federal and State funding for disaster preparedness through prevention and education programs, as well as for mitigation and recovery following a natural disaster.
19. The County opposes statewide ballot initiatives that directly impact County operations and lack an identified, new long-term funding source.
20. The County supports constitutional protections that guarantee a dedicated ongoing revenue stream for programs realigned from State to local control.

II. **NEW BILL REQUESTS**

None.

III. **STATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

1. Health Care Facilities Funding. The County supports funding for construction, design, consulting, and related costs for Ventura County Health Care Facilities.
2. Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project. The County supports increased funding assistance in support of the local stakeholder process to remove Matilija Dam and restore the Ventura River Watershed using State, Federal, and private funds.
3. Long-term Adult Protective Services Management Pilot. The County supports funding for an Adult Protective Services long-term case management pilot that will

provide services to clients and evaluate the impact of those services when offered over an extended period of time.

2.4. Design and Construction of a Countywide Family Justice Center. The County supports funding in the amount of \$3.5 million to design and construct or purchase an “under one roof” facility for victims and families of domestic violence, child abuse, elder abuse, dependent adult abuse, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

IV. **MAJOR POLICY ISSUES – BY DEPARTMENT**

Agricultural Commissioner

- The County supports proposals that would fully fund the California High Risk Pest Exclusion, detection, eradication, and management programs to prevent the introduction and potential spread of invasive pests in California by inspection of materials shipped into and out of Ventura County at locations such as U.S. Postal Distribution Centers and plant nurseries.
- The County supports efforts to promote the implementation of integrated pest management strategies to reduce reliance on the most toxic pesticides, herbicides, and rodenticides and to promote programs to educate the public on safe pesticide use and their impacts.
- The County supports methods that would fully fund County pesticide regulatory activities, including proposals that maintain or increase funding through the pesticide mill fee for regulatory activities to protect the safety of workers, the public, and the environment and provide funding for education, outreach, and compliance assessment activities related to the safe use of pesticides.
- The County supports legislation that would increase the environmental review of new school site proposals similar to other developments. When schools must be sited in agricultural areas, mitigations such as buffers, setbacks, and pick-up/drop-off locations should be incorporated onto the new school footprint and designed to minimize interference with agricultural operations.
- The County supports legislation and regulations that preserves and enhances funding resources and authority for fruit and vegetable quality control, food safety, direct marketing, and organic inspection activities that provide consumer protection and equity in the marketplace.
- The County supports adoption of State regulations for orderly production and marketing of industrial hemp and hemp products.
- The County opposes legislation creating local mandates or programs that do not provide 100 percent funding, authority, security, and resources for cannabis and

industrial hemp regulatory activities conducted by County agricultural commissioners.

- The County supports legislative and administrative efforts to maximize and expedite access to State agricultural resources to address recovery needs resulting from natural disasters including but not limited to fires, freezes, floods, or drought.
- The County supports efforts to control invasive weeds and promote soil carbon sequestration/health that supports water retention ability to enhance fire resiliency, land productivity and biodiversity conservation/regenerative ecosystems.
- The County supports efforts to fully fund programs for the control of invasive weeds s and woodboring pests.
- The County supports efforts to provide affordable housing for farmworkers consistent with the General Plan.
- The County supports efforts to promote agritourism to provide access to locally grown fresh and healthy foods for the County's residents and supports local farms and ranches, community and school gardens, and farmers markets.
- The County supports increased funding of pesticide and herbicide research at public universities.
- The County supports additional funding for enhanced air monitoring of pesticides in agricultural areas.
- The County supports increased funding for California Department of Food and Agriculture Healthy Soils program.
- The County supports the adoption of a statewide policy limiting the number of roosters a private citizen can possess, with exemptions for legitimate agricultural and educational uses such as 4H, Grange, Future Farmers of America, and others who exhibit their roosters at fairs and other similar public events. A new statewide policy would enhance enforcement of our existing statewide anti-cockfighting law.
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Airports

- The County supports maintaining dedicated State funding and restricting the use of the Aviation Trust Fund only for its intended purpose.
- The County supports the FAA policy to use aviation fuel sales tax revenues, as is intended, to maintain and improve the State's aviation system.
- The County supports State programs and funding to assist non-hub airports in developing and sustaining viable air service.
- The County supports legislation that ensures compatible land use and development in the vicinity of the County airports.
- The County supports proposals that would provide more flexibility for State agencies, such as Cal Trans Division of Aeronautics, to administer grant funds.
- The County supports amending the California Public Utilities Code (PUC) to include the Federal Aviation Administration Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS) protected surfaces within the PUC, Section 21659, *Hazards Near Airports Prohibited*.
- The County supports the development and transition to alternative piston engine aviation fuels in a manner that does not negatively impact general aviation.

Animal Services

- The County supports proposals and funding that would lead to: a reduction in the current overpopulation of pets through pet sterilization; more effective re-homing of lost pets from local shelters; the close regulation of "puppy mills" to ensure that animals have basic humane care; restoration of suspended Hayden Law provisions and funding reimbursement; and mandatory rabies vaccination for cats.

Area Agency on Aging

- The County supports proposals that would increase awareness of and prevent elder and dependent adult abuse to include the following: increase funding for elder abuse prosecution and prevention programs; expedite reimbursement or restitution to seniors victimized by financial crimes; increase the penalties for those convicted of crimes against seniors; expand the list of mandatory reporters of elder abuse to include notary publics; and supports legislation that includes money transmitters in the definition of mandated reporters of suspected elder abuse and require licensed persons to report the known or suspected instance of financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult immediately, or as soon as possible, to the local adult protective services agency or local law enforcement.

- The County supports legislation that prohibits owners, operators, or employees of licensed health care facilities from serving as a representative payee on behalf of a resident of the facility.
- The County supports legislative efforts to prevent homelessness among at-risk older adults and people with disabilities.
- The County supports legislation that would utilize prevention funding, through California's implementation of the Federal Affordable Care Act, to fund more evidence-based programs for seniors that would support seniors' desire to age in place.
- As part of the Master Plan for Aging, the County supports legislation that increases the services and supports to allow people to continue living in the community, provides opportunities for engagement, allows individuals to maintain their health and wellbeing, and provides for economic security.
- The County supports funding and efforts to move towards community-based services and age-in-place programs as opposed to nursing home placement to include supporting legislation that fully funds the Older Californians Act (Linkages, Respite, Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Center, and Brown Bag Programs) as well as modernizes and updates it to respond to the changing and growing needs of the senior population; provides State funding for the Family Caregiver Support Program, the senior nutrition program, funding for in-home care (and respite) for caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia; and funding to help strengthen and expand Aging and Disability Resource Center's ability to help seniors and people with disabilities access resources and services.
- The County supports full funding for the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program and the Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP).
- The County supports efforts to increase the monthly spending allowance for Medi-Cal Medically Needy Only beneficiaries without impacting Medi-Cal payment rates.
- The County supports legislation and efforts to make Ventura County Dementia Friendly and Age Friendly designated, to include efforts to develop an evidence-based core training program for staff of area agencies on aging relating to Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias, connecting diagnosed individuals and their caregivers to critical resources that will allow diagnosed individuals to maintain as much independence as possible and provide connection to resources that will help sustain the physical and mental stability of the caregiver.

- The County supports legislation to expand the existing Assisted Living Waiver to Ventura County to enable eligible seniors and adults with disabilities to reside in a community setting to support aging with dignity.

Child Support Services

- The County supports efforts to adequately fund local child support services programming.

County Executive Office

- The County supports all legislative and administrative efforts to maximize and expedite access to Federal and State resources to address both short-term and long-term recovery needs resulting from natural and catastrophic disasters, including acts of domestic terrorism, in the region.
- The County supports legislative and administrative efforts to improve sharable recovery case management information among community-based organizations and local, State, and Federal agencies.
- ~~Support is sought to involve and obtain County concurrence to develop a specific realignment operation and fund distribution strategy; include only those programs in realignment where Counties have the ability to control costs at the local level; and ensure that the realignment funding mechanism and formula is adequate to continue to fund programs as caseloads and program costs grow.~~
- The County supports the equitable distribution of both Federal pass-through funds and State affordable housing funds.
- The County supports changes to the mechanism for allocating housing credits in Housing Elements and/or how jurisdictions report units in Annual Housing Production Reports that facilitate sustainable development, smart growth, and the provision of affordable housing.
- ~~The County supports efforts to provide~~ funding for the development, acquisition, construction ~~and/or~~ rehabilitation of ~~permanent supportive~~ housing/shelters for persons who are homeless or disabled.
- The County supports funding for services and intervention for those who are homeless, at risk of becoming homeless, and those who are disabled.
- The County supports efforts and funding that would promote the development of a crisis stabilization unit in the east county.

- The County supports investment in economic development, building prosperous communities, and competitive industries.
- The County supports State efforts toward the repeal of the Federal caps on State and local taxes that can be deducted on individual tax returns.
- The County supports Transient Occupancy Tax for funding sustainable tourism efforts, such as promotion of bicycle tourism.
- The County supports efforts to fund the California Innovation Hub program.
- The County supports efforts to expand financial resources for the development and preservation of affordable housing.
- The County supports legislation that would provide a means for the safe disposal of unused medication.
- The County supports improved communication between local governments and investor-owned utilities regarding the timing and deployment of enforced power shutoffs.
- The County supports exploration of, funding for, and deployment of alternative energy storage technologies to provide temporary power supply during enforced shutoffs.
- The County supports the requirement that cellphone companies maintain battery backup during power shutoffs.
- The County supports cost-effective strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and encourage the use of grants, loans, and incentives to assist local governments in the implementation of greenhouse gas reduction programs.
- The County supports legislation that would provide a cost reduction for the purchase of alternative fuel use vehicles for Counties equivalent to the tax rebate afforded to private consumers.
- The County supports efforts to allocate Cap and Trade auction revenue to local governments.
- The County supports efforts that would fund undergrounding utilities to remove a common source of ignition and to help prevent wildfires and loss of utility services during disasters.
- The County supports funding for wildfire prevention efforts such as removal of dead trees and nonfire-resistant species such as palms.

- The County supports efforts to ensure Californians have access to reasonably priced fire insurance.
- The County supports Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) and measures that further the goals of choice, clean energy, and affordable rates; limits the increase of the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) charge; increases local control over the purchase and development of renewable energy resources; and increases the ability for Ventura County residents and businesses to achieve a 100 percent renewable energy supply.
- The County supports legislation that incentivizes local renewable energy production and local energy sustainability, including protection of local autonomy to administer energy efficiency programs, and install and utilize integrated distributed energy resources.
- The County supports complete transparency of all energy procurement practices, fair competition in statewide energy markets for CCAs, and legislation and regulatory policies that protect CCA customers from improper cost allocations.
- The County opposes legislation that restricts, limits, or diminishes customer choice options for retail power providers or programs, including community choice aggregation.
- The County supports legislation that promotes energy efficiency of buildings, appliances, and indoor and outdoor lighting products; and funding and incentives for electric vehicles and charging infrastructure, including for transit vehicles and trucks.
- The County supports legislation that would require public notification by the owner when any natural gas leak occurs.
- The County supports efforts to make mandatory the current advisory truck length limit of 30 feet on the Maricopa Highway (SR33) from Camino Cielo Road to the Santa Barbara County line.
- The County supports efforts to identify a location along State Route 118 in Moorpark that would convert the “mini-site” weigh station to a full-service California Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Facility.
- The County supports a statewide, dedicated funding source for 211 dispatch services, which is designed to provide a countywide 24-hour-a-day phone line for referrals to meet health and human services’ needs.
- The County supports efforts to prevent and serve the victims of human and sex trafficking.

- The County supports efforts to control workers' compensation costs.
- The County supports funding for locally accessible health care, mental health services, and other programs that provide support for military veterans.
- ~~The County supports legislation that would name a portion of U.S. 101 Freeway in honor of Ventura County Sheriff's Sergeant Ron Helus.~~
- The County supports gun control legislation that reduces the likelihood of accidental or intentional homicides, ~~and~~ in particular mass homicides, and that limits access to firearms for individuals who are at risk of harming themselves or others.
- The County supports efforts by the Ventura County Fair Board to cease the practice of contracting for gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.
- The County supports efforts that would lead to the implementation of BEACON's (Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Ocean and Nourishment) beach nourishment projects.
- The County supports all efforts to protect our local military bases from closure and encroachment, supports funding for infrastructure, and the work of the community coalition known as Regional Defense Partnership 21st Century (RDP-21).
- The County supports legislation that would allow for Intergovernmental Service Agreements (IGSA) between the military and the County.
- The County supports efforts and funding that would provide public access and passive recreation for Ormond Beach and the entire Santa Clara River.
- The County supports efforts to relocate McGrath State Beach Campground.
- The County supports Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Initiatives for public safety and commercial applications.
- The County supports Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Initiatives that enhance public safety while respecting citizens' rights to privacy.

District Attorney

- The County supports the introduction of legislation that would authorize District Attorneys to seek prolonged gun violence restraining orders and forfeitures from persons whose possession of a weapon represents a risk to the community.

- The County supports legislation that would ensure adequate funding for Crime Victim's Assistance Programs.
- ~~The County supports efforts to establish an accountability and trauma reduction model Family Justice Center for victims of family violence in Ventura County.~~
- The County supports funding to investigate and prosecute computer network intrusion crimes.
- The County supports funding for local agencies, including Behavioral Health, the District Attorney, and the Public Defender, to implement the mandate of Mental Health Diversion pursuant to SB 215 (Statutes of 2018, Chapter 1005).
- The County supports funding to develop and staff an Intelligence Driven Prosecution program in Ventura County.
- The County supports funding to reimburse local agencies for expenses connected to the prosecution of the Golden State Killer case (People v. Joseph James DeAngelo).
- ~~In the event that SB 10 (Statutes of 2018 – Chapter 244) is upheld on the November 2020 ballot, the County supports funding for local agencies, including Probation, the District Attorney, and the Public Defender, to implement the pretrial assessment system, replacing the bail system under SB 10 (Statutes of 2018 – Chapter 244).~~
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Fire District

- The County supports initiatives to ensure the financial viability of the Fire District as well as the public safety services it provides. Specific focus is on forward planning, prevention measures and response enhancements to “all-hazard” emergency incidents, local, State, and Federal.
- The County supports efforts to bring insurance companies and the industry into mitigating the wildland fire problem.
- The County supports a vibrant statewide fire response system and opposes any negative actions that may impede its operational effectiveness.

Harbor Department

- The County supports maintaining dedicated State staffing for management of boating infrastructure funds and restricting the use of the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund only for its intended purpose.

Health Care Agency

- The County supports timely reimbursement from the State for services provided by the County.
- The County supports construction funding to permit compliance with State earthquake retrofit requirements for acute care hospital facilities. Additionally, the County supports proposals that would extend the deadline for hospital earthquake retrofitting.
- The County supports supplemental funding to comply with State Seismic requirements for healthcare services through increased Medi-Cal managed care payments by using Intergovernmental Transfers as the basis for the non-Federal share.
- The County supports any efforts to protect, maximize, and provide revenuefunding for the County Medical System (inpatient and outpatient), including, but not limited to, Health Care Reform, Health Care for the Homeless, Federally Qualified Health Centers, telemedicine/e-consult services, maintenance and enhancement of electronic health care infrastructure, Medicare and Medicaid Waivers, Disproportionate Share Hospital Funding, Coverage Initiatives, 340b Programs, and Outpatient Reimbursement rules, Medicaid FMAP enhancement, formulas, and initiatives.
- The County opposes efforts that would to remove funding or dilute the financial control and authority of the County Board of Supervisors over County health care services.
- The County supports policies and funding that comes directly to the County for the implementation of whole-person care demonstration pilots and other service delivery options included in California's "2020"future Medicaid Waiver or similar programs.
- The County supports expanding the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) model of care, which provides a comprehensive medical/social service delivery system using an interdisciplinary team approach to provide and coordinate all needed preventive, primary, acute, and long-term care services for older adults.
- The County supports the continuation of State funding to offset the local costs associated with planning for and responding to the medical/health consequences of terrorism, disasters, or other public health emergencies. Those funding formulas should consider proximity of jurisdictions to high profile targets rather

than be based solely on the presence of such targets within jurisdictional boundaries.

- The County supports restored and sustainable funding for pediatric immunization programs, maternal, child and adolescent health programs, HIV/AIDS education, prevention, intervention and treatment services, legislation that enhances the authority of Public Health Officers to combat and control communicable disease,
- The County supports legislation that will provide or maintain preventative health care for all ages which include proposals for women's health services that encourage early prenatal care, continued funding of Family Pact which provides access to health care for low-income women, Children's Medical Services (CMS) Programs which include the preventive health strategies embedded into California Children Services (CCS) and all Child Health Disability Prevention Programs (CHDP).
- ~~The County supports legislation that protects a woman's right to breastfeed in a public place.~~
- ~~The County opposes efforts to eliminate the seamless system of care for children with special healthcare needs received by their local California Children Services. The County also opposes any efforts to change the provider to an out of County provider if those services are available within Ventura County.~~
- ~~The County supports State funding for local trauma centers and preservation of County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency authority to control a countywide EMS system.~~
- ~~The County opposes efforts which would limit the authority of the local Emergency Medical Services Agency medical director in taking disciplinary action against a holder of an Emergency Medical Technician certificate.~~
- ~~The County supports efforts to maintain an independent State Emergency Medical Services Authority aligned with the State Department of Public Health.~~
- The County supports State funding for local trauma centers.
- The County supports the preservation of the medical control of the Medical Director of the Local Emergency Medical Services Agency.
- The County supports the preservation of County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency authority and governing role to plan, implement, and evaluate a countywide EMS system.

- The County opposes efforts which would limit the authority of the Local Emergency Medical Services Agency Medical Director in taking disciplinary action against a holder of an Emergency Medical Technician certificate.
- The County supports efforts to maintain an independent State Emergency Medical Services Authority aligned with the Department of Health and Human Services.
- The County supports efforts to restore State funding for the LabAspire program that supported undergraduate and graduate students to enter the Public Health Laboratory field and qualify to be certified microbiologists and laboratory directors.
- The County supports efforts to improve the collaboration between local and public health departments and area hospitals and health systems in the health assessment and implementation planning process.
- The County supports sustainable revenue streams that seek to reduce health inequities and prevent chronic diseases.
- The County supports efforts to expand access to dental health services for low-income and Medi-Cal eligible clients, including increasing the Denti-Cal reimbursement fees for providers, and supporting school-based dental disease prevention programs.
- The County supports State legislation or budget actions that will raise Medi-Cal hospital rates through a hospital provider fee with the appropriate model that will provide additional funding for public hospitals and health systems and to allow for growth in Medi-Cal enrollment, uninsured patients, and the utilization and expansion of coverage.
- ~~The County opposes any diversion or supplantation of any County Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funding, from its original intent, as amended by Executive Order S-07-06 on May 12, 2006, to provide funding for development, acquisition, construction, and/or rehabilitation of permanent supportive housing for members of the target population.~~
- The County supports providing additional county flexibility in the MHSA, including serving individuals with a primary diagnosis of a substance use disorder, funding focused on service delivery, and reinventing the innovation funding.
- The County supports local control for prioritization of projects funded by the MHSA.

- The County supports funding to help address housing and residential treatment services for people with mental illness as well as funding for local inpatient psychiatric units and hospitals.
- The County supports funding for mental health and substance use disorder programs for foster youth and at-risk families.
- The County supports the creation of a certification/license mechanism for Children's Crisis Residential programs.
- The County supports efforts to provide for efficiencies in State agencies that streamlines the audit and appeals process.
- ~~• The County supports efforts to include mental health crisis services as an eligible benefit from all payer sources under the Affordable Care Act.~~
- ~~• The County supports efforts to be given management authority over the Drug Medi-Cal programs (as they do specialty mental health), which would include the ability to determine which providers to contract with as well as the ability to authorize specific services and service levels.~~
- The County supports budget actions that would protect and provide additional funds to mental health program funding and alcohol and drug programs. These include, but are not limited to, MHSA, EPSDT and Short Doyle programs.
- The County supports opioid drug abuse prevention policies, including State rules, which maintain peace officers' access to prescription drug monitoring program data during possible criminal investigations, and expanded Federal funding for overdose prevention education and rescue efforts.
- The County seeks funding and legislative support for the expansion of Family Medicine Residency Training programs to further improve the availability and access of primary care physicians at the local, state, and national level.
- The County supports efforts to fund and incentivize health care delivery systems that achieve statewide accreditation, certification, and/or recognition.
- The County supports efforts to seek funding and legislative action that would improve opportunities for both primary care and specialty physicians that work in public health care safety-net systems to reduce or forgive student loan obligations.
- ~~• The County supports proposals and funding that would lead to: a reduction in the current overpopulation of pets through pet sterilization; more effective rehoming of lost pets from local shelters; the close regulation of "puppy mills" to ensure that animals have basic humane care; restoration of suspended Hayden~~

~~Law provisions and funding reimbursement; and mandatory rabies vaccination for cats.~~

Human Services Agency

- Additional funding and program support is sought to ensure the success of foster children and former foster children who continue to participate in the extended foster care program after reaching the age of 18. Efforts to increase funding and program support for nutrition benefits, transitional housing, career development, job training, integrated case management, mental health and other services for all foster youth will be supported.
- The County supports efforts that would provide resources to the child welfare system for preventative and aftercare services for at-risk families.
- The County supports eligibility modifications and program enhancements that improve service to clients, promote administrative simplification, and improve efficiencies of public social services programs.
- The County supports program enhancements that reinforce work and workforce support programs that help to lift families out of poverty and provide pathways to self-sufficiency.
- The County supports policies and legislation that protect elder and dependent adults from predatory strategies as well as neglectful, unsafe environments that put them at risk.
- The County supports policies and legislation that enhances the ability of Adult Protective Services to investigate reports of suspected elder and dependent abuse received from financial institutions.
- The County supports legislation, programs, and policies that reduce the number of people, especially children and single-parent households, living in poverty in California.
- The County supports policies and legislation that support progressive integration and sharing of records that increase transparency and interoperability in adult protective services, behavioral health, public health, and child welfare cases.
- The County supports programs and funding that support foster and child welfare families, the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) program, Katie A. settlement mental health services for at-risk youth, Child Welfare Continuum of Care Reforms, and other initiatives.
- The County supports funding, programs, and initiatives aimed at reducing the number of families and individuals experiencing homelessness ~~(including~~

~~veterans~~) in our community, particularly those initiatives aimed at expanding housing options and comprehensive support services that lead to self-sufficiency.

- The County supports ~~adequate~~ funding for the operations of the Public Guardian and Public Administrator.
- The County supports policies and legislation that facilitate and allow sharing client information with law enforcement, such as the reverse 911 database for seniors, during disasters and emergencies.
- The County supports adoption of funding policies that minimize county share of cost for the In-Home Support Services (IHSS) program.
- The County supports reasonable funding formulas to reimburse Counties for the administration of Medi-Cal, CalWORKs, and IHSS.

Information Technology Services

- The County supports efforts that would provide for the improvement of broadband availability, accessibility, competition, and performance in Ventura County.
- The County supports legislation and technology enhancement efforts that will strengthen and improve cybersecurity for the public, businesses, and government.
- The County supports efforts to enhance the privacy of sensitive data concerning individuals but does not place burdensome regulations on businesses and the free flow of information.
- The County supports funding and initiatives to modernize public safety technology and infrastructure.
- The County supports funding and initiatives to enhance science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) programs.
- The County supports legislation that stimulates interoperability, innovation, fosters competition, reduces barriers to entry, and facilitates growth for hi-tech entrepreneurs and technology businesses.
- The County supports legislation that facilitates open data and transparency while opposing legislation that will burden County operations.
- The County supports funding for senior adult education programs specializing in technology, training, access, and resources.

Library

- The County supports full funding for the Public Library Foundation program, the Public Library Fund, and the State's support of literacy funding.
- The County supports an increase in funding for the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California (CENIC), which provides high-speed broadband for public libraries.

Probation

- The County supports community prevention and early intervention programming to address juvenile gang involvement, truancy, substance abuse, and delinquency through the uninterrupted funding of all existing juvenile probation programs.
- The County supports proposals that would provide State funding of juvenile and adult programs to suppress the addiction to controlled substances and facilitate the treatment of severe chemical dependency, including medically assisted treatment.
- The County supports revenue opportunities for local jurisdictions to establish evidence-based programs targeting mentally ill and domestic violence offenders.
- The County supports revenue opportunities for local jurisdictions to establish evidence-based programming in the community (community-based organizations) targeting criminogenic risk factors for both adult and juvenile offenders. Revenue support to include training for community providers to deliver programs supported by research, for organizations to operate utilizing continuous improvement plans and program evaluations using outcomes, and for subsidized treatment for offenders.
- The County supports funding to provide services for the emerging adult population, ages 18 to 25, in the areas of transitional housing and placement, intensive case management and mentoring, advanced independent living skills, and vocational training and job placement.
- The County supports funding to enhance the creation of community-based interventions and approaches aimed to reduce racial and ethnic disparities within the local juvenile justice system.
- The County supports funding to expand the use of jail alternative programs and approaches which are proven to have success in lowering recidivism rates among adult and juvenile offenders.

- The County supports legislation which sets minimum standards for licensing businesses operating as sober living homes.
- The County supports funding for facility modifications to repurpose vacant juvenile detention buildings to be used for other types of youthful offenders in need of residential services and treatments.

Public Defender

- The County supports funding for the office of the Public Defender so that indigent defendants prosecuted under specialized crime suppression grants receive the required constitutional level of representation.
- The County supports funding to provide repayment of educational loans for attorneys who provide legal services in public interest areas of law such as criminal prosecution and defense.
- The County opposes legislation that would allow an Office of Public Defender to be held by a person who has not been a practicing attorney in all of the Courts of the State for the year preceding the date of his/her election or appointment.
- The County supports the establishment of a State sentencing/overcrowding commission.
- The County supports a multi-agency approach to implementing the Stepping Up Initiative in order to reduce the number of adults with mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders in local jails.
- The County supports the development and funding of community-based, non-jail alternatives that enhance public safety, lower rates of recidivism, and preserve taxpayer resources.

Public Works Agency

- The County supports legislative efforts to develop funding policies and incentives at the State level that will ensure adequate funding for the maintenance, repair, and rehabilitation of aging vital public works infrastructure in Ventura County.
- The County supports legislation that would allow local governments the discretion to set speed limits based upon alternative methods other than the 85th percentile speed when supporting data/research indicates that the resulting speed limit recommendation would improve safety and/or reduce accidents.

- The County supports legislation and regulatory rulemaking which promotes innovative ways of contracting for public projects allowing for award based on best value while providing full and open competition.
- The County encourages and supports the creation of grants that support the repair and replacement of aging flood protection infrastructure including channels, dams, and levees.
- The County supports State grant funding to continue the migration of the Ventura County Flood Warning System network to the ALERT2 protocol which will help facilitate local efforts to develop and enhance flood forecast models and emergency warning systems in Ventura County.
- The County supports funding for expansion of local pedestrian and bicycle usage and alternate transportation modes.
- The County supports funding and incentives for multi-modal transportation and complete streets, including flexible design requirements for State highways serving as local roads, and installation and repair of sidewalks, particularly in low-income areas.
- The County supports and encourages the development of State regulations and procedures that promote the common sense implementation of both State and Federal resource protection laws and ensure that both State and Federal agencies work together in a coordinated, uniform, and predictable fashion in order to enable efficient, consistent, and cost-effective compliance with these resource protection laws.
- The County encourages and supports enhanced communication, collaboration and coordination between State and Federal regulatory agencies in order to expedite the delivery of vital public works projects and minimize regulatory redundancy, process inefficiencies, and agency conflicts.
- The County supports legislation that streamlines the disposal tonnage tracking and reporting requirements applicable to local jurisdictions found in the California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939). Specifically, the County supports improvements to State law and regulation which would benefit all jurisdictions by promoting greater accuracy of jurisdiction of origin tonnage information, ease of verification of such tonnage information, and cost-effective compliance with diversion mandates.
- The County supports legislation that provides greater accuracy in tracking and reporting the jurisdiction, source or origin, and content of wastewater for disposal.

- The County supports efforts to require the disposal of wastewater, including produced water, through wastewater treatment plants where available as opposed to groundwater injection wells.
- The County supports legislative efforts and regulatory rulemaking at the State level promoting environmental sustainability by incentivizing manufacturer's incorporation of design elements using nontoxic products which increase the recyclability of a product at the end of its useful life.
- The County supports legislative efforts and regulatory rulemaking at the State level that promote the use of renewable fuels and forms of energy and streamlining the implementation of projects.
- The County supports State legislation providing financial and operational incentives for emerging technologies in renewable energy production and recycling to support local government efforts to minimize costs and environmental impacts; examples of potential renewable energy sources include landfill-bound organic material, municipal solid waste and biosolids from wastewater treatment plants.
- The County supports funding for programs which divert all recyclables or reusable materials from landfills.
- The County supports legislative efforts to provide financial and technical assistance, and permit streamlining, for the development of local water supply enhancement projects which promote resource sustainability including but not limited to groundwater and seawater desalination, underground water storage facilities, recycled water, rainwater capture, and distribution system interconnection projects designed to reduce dependence on the imported water supply from the Bay Delta.
- The County supports legislative efforts that focus water quality improvements on pollutant source control versus treatment control methods.
- The County supports an active State role in preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species.
- The County supports efforts that would include iron and manganese as a constituent that would qualify for grant funding for remediation for tap water.
- The County supports legislative efforts at the State level on telecommunications and electrical restructuring policy to ensure that local governments; 1) are adequately compensated for use of public rights-of-way, 2) control access of such rights-of-way, and 3) retain zoning authority over placement of communication technology infrastructure.

Resource Management Agency

- The County supports proposals that encourage and provide financial assistance to local governments to preserve and enhance the environment through energy conservation, development of renewable energy sources, restrictions on offshore development, coastal, wetlands and waterways protection, farmland and habitat preservation, and development of alternative transportation modes.
- The County supports efforts to fund programs that encourage additional parkland and open space.
- The County opposes the erosion of existing and future local land use controls or the creation of multiple, uncoordinated or conflicting regulations in the area of State and local permitting and resource protection.
- The County supports legislation that will enable local governments to balance preservation of agriculture and open space, water supply, and other physical constraints with housing production in meeting state housing element goals; allow units produced through inclusionary housing policies and shared units through Homeshare to count toward meeting housing goals (including mobilehomes); and recognize local land use initiatives and smart growth policies such as the Guidelines for Orderly Development in the establishment of housing needs assessment.
- The County supports full funding for County Land Conservation Act (LCA) subvention payments and supports legislation which further simplifies County administration and strengthens enforcement and funding of the LCA program.
- The County opposes legislation that would weaken existing consumer protection laws and regulations.
- The County supports legislation to eliminate the sunset provision and fee limits in State law which will prohibit the County from collecting fees to cover the cost of its State-mandated weights and measures program.
- The County supports legislation that streamlines the environmental review process for development without compromising environmental quality standards or the public's ability to review and comment.
- The County supports legislation to provide financial assistance to local governments to update their Local Coastal Programs (LCPs), as well as legislation that brings greater clarity and predictability to the Coastal Commission's policies, processes and schedules for reviewing and acting on LCP amendments.

- The County supports legislation that specifies Sea Level Rise (SLR) is a regional issue and acknowledges the limitations of local governments to resolve the complexities of SLR on a County, City or project level basis. The County supports a consistent and regional approach to this multi-jurisdictional issue to ensure not only the continued existence of critical coastal infrastructure but the health, safety and welfare of California coastal communities for generations to come.
- The County supports funding to address/mitigate the impacts of Sea Level Rise and to protect our coastal resources and communities including Naval Base Ventura County.
- The County supports full State funding of the ocean water quality monitoring program.
- The County supports the continued adoption and implementation of State requirements for oil and gas production to ensure that oil and gas development activities, including the disposal of wastewater, do not pose a significant risk to water supplies, people, or natural resources.

Sheriff's Department

- The County supports funding for programs such as the tri-Counties Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) and the Enhanced Law Enforcement Activities Subaccount (ELEAS).
- The County supports continued funding for gang violence reduction which utilizes evidence-based programs to help high-risk youth develop problem solving, decision making and communication skills, and partners with community-based organizations.
- The County supports funding for programs such as Serious Habitual Offender, a program that seeks to identify offenders that are presently engaged in repeated criminal conduct.
- The County supports funding for the purchase of equipment and training for law enforcement.
- The County supports continued funding for programs to enforce statutes regulating the use of Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV).
- The County supports continued funding to allow the Sheriff to support [United States Forest Service](#) ~~forest~~ public safety personnel.
- The County opposes any efforts that would reduce its ability to recoup costs for inmate welfare programs.

- The County supports continued funding for the Office of Traffic Safety Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) and Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training program grants to reduce traffic collisions as well as alcohol, drug, and marijuana impaired driving.
- The County supports funding to track, combat, and treat opioid and methamphetamine addiction.
- The County supports funding for jail construction and front-line law enforcement, as well as funding for Standards and Training for Corrections officers.
- The County supports funding for regional multi-disciplinary targeted gang suppression and prevention programs.
- The County supports efforts that acknowledge the costs of and provide appropriate resources for the storage, retrieval, and, where required, editing of video and audio recordings captured by County personnel.
- The County supports State and Federal assistance to address the treatment needs of those with serious mental illness who are detained in County facilities.
- The County supports funding for vocational training for incarcerated individuals.
- The County supports funding to address discharge planning activities that takes into account the needs of homeless individuals as they transition back into the community following release from a local detention facility.

County of Ventura

202019 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA AND PLATFORM

I. OVERALL FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES

1. The County supports proposals that would provide a greater share of total available Federal funding to California and opposes proposals that would reduce the State's share of total funding.
2. The County supports proposals that would provide Counties with greater decision-making authority over the use of Federal funds and which provide for direct grants or mandatory pass-through allocations.
3. The County supports efforts to reduce or eliminate the many cumbersome, contradictory regulatory/administrative/oversight requirements of Federal programs.
4. The County opposes proposals that would impose new unfunded mandates on the County.
5. The County supports legislation that would limit or minimize the County's exposure to tort/liability claims.

II. NEW BILL REQUESTS

1. Camarillo Airport Land Transfer. The County of Ventura supports legislation that would enable the transfer of land located at the Camarillo Airport from the Department of Homeland Security or Federal General Services Agency to the County of Ventura Department of Airports.
2. Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project. The County of Ventura supports legislation to amend the Matilija Dam Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2007 project authorization to allow for appropriate Federal funding in support of an improved Matilija Dam project description.
3. Ventura River 1 Levee. The County of Ventura supports an authorization for improving the Ventura River (VR-1) levee through a vehicle such as the Water Resources Development Act.
4. Santa Clara River 1 Levee. The County of Ventura supports an authorization for improving the Santa Clara River 1 (SCR-1) levee through a vehicle such as the Water Resources Development Act.

5. Santa Paula Creek. The County of Ventura supports a modification or a re-evaluation of the previously authorized Santa Paula Creek Project through a vehicle such as the Water Resources Development Act.

III. FEDERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

1. Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project. Support is requested for construction funding in the amount of \$1.5 million for the US Army Corps of Engineers for the Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project.
2. Santa Paula Creek Storm Damage Restoration Work. Support is requested for funding in the amount of \$3 million for the US Army Corps of Engineers to complete a re-evaluation of the previously authorized Santa Paula Creek project to address deficiencies related to the revised hydrology, channel scour, and damaged fish ladder inlet.
3. Santa Clara River Watershed Protection Plan/Capital Facilities Plan. Support is requested for funding in the amount of \$1 million for the US Army Corps of Engineers to continue the efforts currently underway for the feasibility study for the Santa Clara River Watershed Protection Plan/Capital Facilities Plan. The Feasibility Study – which encompasses the entire watershed - is a joint Study with project partners consisting of the Ventura County Watershed Protection District, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, and the US Army Corps of Engineers, and is open to all stakeholders.
4. Santa Clara River Levee (SCR-1). Support is requested for funding in the amount of \$3 million for the US Army Corps of Engineers to complete a feasibility study for the Santa Clara River Levee (SCR-1) system.
5. Ventura River Levee (VR-1). Support is requested for funding in the amount of \$3 million for the US Army Corps of Engineers to complete a feasibility study for the Ventura River Levee (VR-1) system.
6. Beardsley Wash Watershed Project. Support is requested for funding in the amount of \$1.8 million for the Natural Resources Conservation Service for the Ferro-Ditch Channel Improvement segment of the project.
7. Lower Calleguas Creek Watershed Study. Support is requested for funding in the amount of \$1.5 million for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in the Agricultural Appropriations bill directing the NRCS to conduct a feasibility study for the Lower Calleguas Creek under the Small Watersheds Program.
8. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Support the inclusion of language in the Agricultural Appropriations bill directing the NRCS to conduct feasibility studies in Ventura County under the Small Watersheds Program.

9. Channel Islands Harbor. Support is sought for funding in the amount of ~~\$812.5~~ million in the US Army Corps of Engineers' Operations and Maintenance/Navigation account for an off-cycle maintenance dredging operation to clear the Channel Islands Harbor sand trap for fiscal year 20~~20~~19. Additionally, support is sought for funding in the amount of \$5 million for breakwater repair for fiscal year 2020.

10. Ventura County Backlogged Violent Case DNA Analysis and Prosecution Project. ~~Support is requested for \$900,000 in funding for the Ventura County Sheriff's Office Forensic Services Bureau, Major Crimes Unit and the Ventura County District Attorney's Office to continue a joint specialized unit that is dedicated to the investigation, laboratory analysis and prosecution of backlogged violent cases that hold the promise of being solved through DNA technology. Ventura County's local law enforcement agencies estimate there are hundreds of currently unsolved cold cases within their jurisdictions. In addition, there are more than 1500 backlogged cases, including burglaries and crimes against persons, which are awaiting DNA analysis.~~
Support in the amount of \$950,000 is requested for funding through the Debbie Smith Act of 2019 for the Ventura County Sheriff's Office Forensic Service Bureau, Major Crimes Unit, and the Ventura County District Attorney's Office to continue a joint specialized unit that is dedicated to the investigation, laboratory analysis, and prosecution of violent cases that hold the promise of being solved through DNA technology. The Debbie Smith Act was signed into law in 2004 and through grant programs provided local crime labs and prosecutors' offices resources to end the backlog of untested DNA evidence. These grant programs were effective in assisting investigations into both violent and non-violent crime. The funding ended in 2014. The Justice Served Act was later enacted by Congress to establish a new purpose area in the Debbie Smith Act to help prosecution offices address violent crime cases.

11. Ventura County Family Justice Center. ~~Support is requested for \$650,000 in funding to establish an accountability and trauma reduction model Family Justice Center for victims of family violence in Ventura County. Victims of crimes such as domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse, and child abuse require timely and skilled intervention services to help victims escape the cycle of violence and restore hope in their lives. Because victims of these crimes come from all social, economic, and cultural backgrounds, no single approach applies across all communities. The concept of the family justice center is to provide a location where victims of family crime can receive local services tailored to the characteristics and needs of their community. This is accomplished through collaboration among local law enforcement agencies, human service agencies, and local nonprofit organizations to bring coordinated services to individuals and families that have multiple and changing needs resulting from their victimization to include homelessness, the need for food and clothing, lack of transportation, and the need for counseling.~~

12. ~~Ventura County Human Trafficking Program. Support is requested for \$1 million in funding for Ventura County law enforcement to implement a three-year joint program to investigate and prosecute human trafficking crimes.~~
13. Ventura County Computer Incident Response Team. Support is requested for \$750,000 in funding for Ventura County District Attorney's office to implement a three-year program to investigate and prosecute computer network intrusion crimes.

IV. **MAJOR POLICY ISSUES – BY DEPARTMENT**

Agricultural Commissioner

- The County supports proposals that would fully fund: the inspection of incoming and outgoing shipments of any materials capable of harboring pests and diseases detrimental to Ventura County's agricultural industry; the eradication of newly discovered pest populations; and pest management efforts.
- The County supports enactment of and full funding for Federal food safety programs.
- The County supports efforts to promote the implementation of integrated pest management strategies to reduce reliance on the most toxic pesticides, herbicides, and rodenticides and to promote programs to educate the public on safe pesticide use and their impacts.
- The County supports legislation that would allow growers of specialty crops to participate in crop insurance programs, including legislation that would treat plant pest and disease quarantines as disasters and provide eligibility for economic relief to growers of specialty crops in declared disaster areas.
- The County supports full funding for early pest and disease detection and surveillance improvements which would provide Federal support for pest exclusion and pest detection programs.
- The County supports legislation providing for full funding for cooperative U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Pesticide Regulation, and local Agricultural Commissioner pesticide programs providing scientific risk assessments and evaluations of the most toxic pesticides.

- The County supports all legislative and administrative efforts to maximize and expedite access to Federal agricultural resources to address recovery needs resulting from natural disasters such as fires, freezes, floods, or drought.
- The County supports legislation that encourages and provides financial assistance to agricultural operations to conserve and enhance the environment through conservation of prime farmland, energy conservation, and the development of renewable energy sources.
- The County supports adoption of Federal regulations for orderly production and marketing of industrial hemp and hemp products.

Airports

- The County supports the FAA fully funding the reconstruction of ~~existing~~ runways and taxiways at County Airports to ensure existing infrastructure meets the needs of the community.
- The County supports Federal programs and funding to assist non-hub airports in developing and sustaining viable air service.
- The County supports reauthorization and increased funding of the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), which provides funding for safety, security, noise abatement, and capacity enhancement programs.
- The County supports Federal funding for any security requirements that may become mandatory for general aviation airports, and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) reviews done for AIP eligible projects at the County airports.
- The County opposes the privatization of the Camarillo Air Traffic Control Tower facility.
- ~~The County opposes the privatization of the Air Traffic Control System.~~
- The County supports the Federal Contract Tower Program including full funding of the program at the Oxnard Airport.
- The County supports the development and transition to alternative piston engine aviation fuels in a manner that does not negatively impact general aviation.
- The County supports raising the Federal cap on local Passenger Facility Charges to assist in funding airport infrastructure.
- The County supports alternative programs for pilot training that will address the pilot shortage issue that is impeding the County's ability to restore airline service.

- The County supports the expansion of eligibility for use of federal grant funds.
- The County supports reducing unnecessary Federal regulatory burdens on airport operators.

Area Agency on Aging

- The County supports legislation that reauthorizes and modernizes the Older American's Act (OAA), keeping pace with inflation and the growing number of older adults; preserve the OAA's flexibility and person-centered commitment; capitalize on the existing aging network to coordinate long-term care services; and increase appropriations under the Older Americans Act including expanding the Older Americans Act to include funding for Adult Protective Services and funding to help strengthen and expand Aging and Disability Resource Center's ability to help seniors and people with disabilities access resources and services.
- The County supports legislation that preserves the Federal funding for the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy program that provides counseling regarding Medicare. The County also supports legislation that provides funding for fall prevention, veterans services including the Veterans Directed Home and Community Based Program and funding that provides in-home care and respite for persons with Alzheimer's or related dementia.
- The County supports legislation that would allow dignity in death that includes privacy in nursing home rooms for those with less than five days to live, as well as additional services for the terminally ill.
- The County supports efforts to fully fund the Elder Justice Act and any Federal legislation relating to elder abuse that increases the funding provided for elder abuse prosecution and prevention programs and increases the penalties for those convicted of crimes against seniors. The County also supports increasing the penalties for those convicted of crimes against seniors or the disabled.
- The County supports legislation that requires the Federal government to negotiate for the lowest available prices for prescription drugs under the Medicare Part D program and expands Medicare coverage of dental and hearing and visual aids for seniors.
- The County supports funding and efforts to move towards community-based services and age-in-place programs as opposed to nursing home placement.
- The County supports legislation that requires that the Social Security Administration's burial benefit be increased to \$495 and be payable to immediate family members, who include, but are not limited to, the surviving spouse and child.

- The County supports legislation that reauthorizes the work opportunity tax credit and amends the Internal Revenue Code to add low income older adults to the list of specified groups for whom employers may claim a work opportunity tax credit.
- The County supports legislation that requires all funeral directors to notify the Federal Social Security Administration of a person's death in order to prevent fraudulent payments of Social Security benefits and to reduce the occurrence of identity theft.

County Executive Office

- The County supports all legislative and administrative efforts to maximize and expedite access to Federal and State resources to address both short-term and long-term recovery needs resulting from natural and catastrophic disasters, including acts of domestic terrorism, in the region.
- The County supports funding for wildfire prevention efforts such as removal of dead trees and nonfire-resistant species such as palms.
- The County supports efforts that would fund undergrounding utilities to remove a common source of ignition and to help prevent wildfires and loss of utility services during disasters.
- The County supports legislative and administrative efforts to improve sharable recovery case management information amongst community-based organizations, and, local, State, and Federal agencies.
- The County supports legislation that would allow for the interception of Federal tax refunds as a means to recover fees and judgments owed to the County of Ventura.
- The County supports full funding for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program and authorization of mandatory payments to provide stability to the program.
- The County supports the repeal of the caps on the amount of State and local taxes (SALT) that can be deducted on individual tax returns.
- ~~The County supports efforts that would implement continuous process improvement methodologies in all Federal agencies.~~
- ~~The County supports efforts to provide for the establishment of a national memorial and monument to commemorate those who lost their lives as a result of the March 12, 1928 St. Francis Dam disaster.~~

- The County opposes legislation that seeks to increase truck size or weight limits beyond those in current federal law until a federally funded, full analysis is completed outlining what impacts any increases may have on the national transportation system, including the added cost to State and local governments.
- The County supports efforts to increase funding to the Federal EPA Superfund Account for work currently underway at the Halaco site as well as funding for future clean-up and removal actions.
- The County supports the establishment of a Federal Authority that will fund Regional Sediment Management projects on the California coast that are consistent with the US Army Corps of Engineers' mission of coastal risk reduction, ecosystem restoration, and navigation.
- The County supports efforts that would achieve the sediment management goals of the Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON) in Ventura County and Coastal California.
- The County supports efforts to require NASA and Boeing, the owners of land at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory, and the Department of Energy, which leases land at the site, to clean up the site to the most protective standards, equivalent to background, and opposes the transfer and/or development of the property until the clean-up of the site is deemed complete.
- The County supports legislation protecting participants in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program from deportation and that provides a pathway for permanent status.
- The County supports repeal of provisions included in the Ensuring Patient Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act of 2016 that make it nearly impossible for the Drug Enforcement Agency to freeze suspicious narcotic shipments.
- The County supports ongoing authorization and increased funding for programs to support persons of low income.
- The County supports efforts to reclassify cannabis from a Schedule 1 substance to make it easier for ill patients and scientific and medical researchers to obtain marijuana ~~and decriminalize hemp~~.
- The County supports efforts to prevent and serve the victims of human and sex trafficking.
- The County supports improvements to Federal housing assistance programs that promote housing stability therefore allowing more people in need to participate in those programs.

- The County supports efforts to obtain additional housing vouchers to support local collaborative efforts to house chronically homeless individuals and families.
- The County supports investment in economic development, building prosperous communities, and competitive industries.
- The County supports efforts to expand financial resources for the development and preservation of affordable housing.
- The County supports stronger gun control legislation including: a ban on modifications that make a semi-automatic gun work like an automatic; strict restrictions on the size of magazines and the sale of guns like the AR-15; background checks for all gun buyers; prohibition of gun shows at state-owned fairgrounds; prevention of the mentally ill from buying guns; a ban on the sale of guns to people convicted of violent crimes, including domestic violence; and implementation of a mandatory waiting period on all gun purchases.
- The County supports all efforts to protect our local military bases from closure and encroachment, supports funding for infrastructure, and the work of the community coalition known as Regional Defense Partnership 21st Century (RDP-21).
- The County supports cost-effective strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and encourage the use of grants, loans, and incentives to assist local governments in the implementation of greenhouse gas reduction programs.
- The County supports legislative efforts which would provide financial assistance and operations and economic incentives that promote the use of renewable energy.
- The County supports legislation that would provide a cost reduction for the purchase of alternative fuel use vehicles for Counties equivalent to the tax rebate afforded to private consumers.
- The County supports legislation that would reinstate the 2022-2025 Federal Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) vehicle fuel economy standards and provide further fuel efficiency requirements for light trucks, sport utility vehicles, heavy trucks, and trains.
- The County of Ventura supports legislation that would establish a Federal revenue neutral carbon tax.
- The County supports dedicated funding for 211 dispatch services, which is designed to provide a countywide 24-hour-a-day phone line for referral to meet health and human services' needs.

- The County advocates support and funding for access to local-level health care, mental health services, and programs that provide support for military veterans.
- The County supports Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Initiatives that enhance public safety while respecting citizens' rights to privacy.
- The County supports legislation that recognizes shipping companies for voluntarily reducing speeds in the Santa Barbara Channel region to reduce air pollution and the risk of fatal ship strikes on whales.
- The County opposes legislative or administrative efforts to reduce the boundaries of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary.

District Attorney

- The County supports funding to develop and staff an Intelligence Driven Prosecution program in Ventura County.

Fire District

- The County supports initiatives to ensure the financial viability of the Fire District as well as the public safety services it provides. Specific focus is on forward planning, local government reimbursement, and prevention measures and response enhancements to "all-hazard" emergency incidents, local, State and Federal.
- The County supports efforts to bring insurance companies and the industry into mitigating the wildland fire problem.

Harbor Department

- The County supports Federal funding through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for activities related to dredging of Federally authorized channels and sand deposition areas, jetty maintenance and repair, and environmental enhancement.
- The County supports efforts to ensure that funds collected under the Harbor Maintenance Tax are targeted for navigation projects.
- The County supports the reauthorization of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act and regulatory versions that ensure that local issues and concerns are addressed.

- The County supports the appropriation of funding needed to reach authorized depths.

Health Care Agency

- The County supports any efforts to protect, maximize, and provide revenuefunding for the County Medical System (inpatient and outpatient), including, but not limited to Health Care Reform, Health Care for the Homeless, Federally Qualified Health Centers, telemedicine/e-consult services, maintenance and enhancement of electronic health care infrastructure, Medicare and Medicaid Waivers, Disproportionate Share Hospital Funding, Coverage Initiatives, 340b Programs, and Outpatient Reimbursement rules, Medicaid FMAP enhancement, formulas, and initiatives.
- The County opposes efforts to remove or dilute the financial control and authority of the County Board of Supervisors over County health care services.
- The County seeks expanded funding support for publicly operated health care safety-net services. Continuation and expansion is sought for the federally funded State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Continued expansion and funding support is also sought for development and expansion of locally sponsored safety-net programs to provide health services, such as Oral Health, the Medical Home Model, Integrated Medical & Mental Health Services, and Case/Care Management Services.
- The County would oppose any effort to disqualify County medical clinics as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC).
- The County supports legislation that would allow for the inclusion of a marriage and family therapist in the list of health care professionals covered to bill Medicaid/Medicare through Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC).
- The County supports the continuation of Federal funding to offset the local costs associated with planning for and responding to the medical/health consequences of terrorism, disasters, or other public health emergencies. Those funding formulas should consider proximity of jurisdictions to high profile targets rather than be based solely on the presence of such targets within jurisdictional boundaries.
- The County supports expansion and continued funding of both mental health and health care services for the homeless.
- The County supports the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's efforts to ensure that manufacturers provide safe and effective mobile medical digital devices for home use.

- The County supports reauthorization and full funding of the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program in order to improve the infrastructure for data collection, delivery of service, and full implementation.
- The County supports public policies and services that strengthen our public health system, expands health insurance coverage and provides resources to better serve Maternal Child Adolescent Health (MCAH) populations, including children with special health care needs.
- The County supports full funding for the Prevention and Public Health Fund.
- The County supports reauthorization and full funding of the Ryan White CARE Act.
- The County supports proposals which allow for Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement for individuals who are excluded from participation in the Medicaid program as a result of their mental health placements, such as patients at Institutions for Mental Disease (IMDs), which are hospitals, nursing facilities, or other institutions with more than 16 beds that are primarily engaged in the diagnosis, treatment, or care of persons with mental diseases.
- The County supports opioid drug abuse prevention policies, including State rules, which maintain peace officers' access to prescription drug monitoring program data during possible criminal investigations, and expanded Federal funding for overdose prevention education and rescue efforts.
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- The County supports efforts to provide additional funding for treatment and all other costs associated with opioid addiction.
- The County supports Federal legislation or budget actions that will raise Medi-Cal hospital rates through hospital provider fees with the appropriate model that will provide additional funding for public hospitals and expansion of coverage for children.
- The County seeks funding and legislative support for the expansion of Family Medicine Residency Training programs to further improve the availability and access of primary care physicians at the local, state, and national level.
- The County supports efforts to seek funding and legislative action that would improve opportunities for physicians that work in public health care safety-net systems to reduce or forgive student loan obligations.
- The County supports an increase in Graduate Medical Education (GME) funding for the training of primary care doctors. The funding is based on a complex formula related to the number of residents in training. The formula has been capped for years with no additional slots for funding added.

- The County supports efforts to fund and incentivize health care delivery systems that achieve national accreditation, certification, and/or recognition.
- The County supports construction funding to permit compliance with State earthquake retrofit requirements for acute care hospital and outpatient facilities.

Human Services Agency

- The County supports efforts to reauthorize Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). We urge Congress and the Administration to increase Federal funding levels for TANF and Child Care. The County supports changes that are designed to improve overall administration; address factors contributing to poverty including, but not limited to, increased employment, job retention, and career advancement opportunities; encourage program flexibility and simplification for more effective service delivery; and better align TANF with related programs.
- The County supports the goals of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and increased funding for the workforce network and collaborative.
- The County supports Federal legislation and other administrative actions that establish a greater Federal role in the protection of elder and dependent adults against all forms of abuse and neglect.
- The County supports policies and funding that encourage an integrated, multi-disciplinary treatment approach to elder abuse.
- The County supports policies, funding, and legislation that encourages long-term case management for Adult Protective Services clients.
- The County supports increased and flexible Federal funding to provide families in crisis with the support, services, and evidence-based interventions needed to keep children safely at home and out of foster care.
- The County supports efforts to increase funding and program support for transitional housing, career development, job training, integrated case management, mental health, and other services for all foster youth.
- The County supports modifications to Federal law that will make foster youth categorically eligible to apply for SSI benefits. Under current rules, applicants may not apply for SSI while they are receiving Title IV-E (foster care placement) funding. This places child welfare agencies in a difficult position; while agencies would like to help youth apply for these benefits, they may not do so while the youths' foster care placements are funded by Title IV-E.

- The County supports funding, programs, and initiatives aimed at reducing the number of families and individuals experiencing homelessness (including veterans) in our community, particularly those initiatives aimed at expanding housing resources and comprehensive support services that lead to self-sufficiency.
- The County supports efforts that align and are consistent with California's Child Welfare Continuum of Care reform.
- The County supports efforts to provide funding and services to children who are victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation.
- The County supports increased funding for the preventative services for the child welfare services.
- The County opposes changing the current funding or eligibility requirements and methodologies for entitlement programs such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid.

Information Technology Services

- The County supports efforts that would provide for the improvement of broadband availability, accessibility, competition, and performance in Ventura County.
- The County supports legislation and technology enhancement efforts that will strengthen and improve cybersecurity for the public, businesses, and government.
- The County supports efforts to enhance the privacy of sensitive data concerning individuals but does not place burdensome regulations on businesses and the free flow of information.
- The County supports funding and initiatives to modernize public safety technology and infrastructure.
- The County supports funding and initiatives to enhance science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) programs.
- The County supports funding for workforce training for a changing job market.
- The County encourages support for legislation that stimulates innovation, fosters competition, reduces barriers to entry, and facilitates growth for hi-tech entrepreneurs and technology businesses.
- The County supports legislation that facilitates open data and transparency while opposing legislation that will burden County operations.

- The County supports funding for senior adult education programs specializing in technology, training, access, and resources.

Library

- The County supports the Museum and Library Services Act and the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services and increasing appropriations for its library grant programs through the Library Services and Technology Act.

Probation

- The County supports proposals that would provide Federal funding of juvenile and adult programs to suppress the addiction to controlled substances and facilitate the treatment of severe chemical dependency, including medically assisted treatment.
- The County supports proposals that would provide Federal funding for the purposes of establishing collaborative re-entry programs and services for those adult offenders returning to their communities from State prisons and local custodial facilities. The programs will be rooted in evidence-based practices that demonstrate success in lowering recidivism among offenders and will include targeted efforts in the areas of vocational training, education, housing and treatment services.
- The County supports funding opportunities designated to assist local agencies who have the responsibility of managing youth in the foster care system and those reintegrating into their communities.

Public Defender

- The County supports increased funding of the John R. Justice Prosecution and Defender Incentive Act, which provides ~~partial~~ repayment of educational loans for attorneys who provide legal services in public interest areas of law such as criminal prosecution and defense.
- The County supports funding for the office of the Public Defender so that indigent defendants prosecuted under specialized crime suppression grants receive the required constitutional level of representation.
- The County supports a multi-agency approach to implementing the Stepping Up Initiative in order to reduce the number of adults with mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders in local jails.

- The County supports the development and funding of community-based, non-jail alternatives that enhance public safety, lower rates of recidivism, and preserve taxpayer resources.

Public Works Agency

- The County supports legislative efforts to develop funding policies and incentives at the Federal level that will ensure adequate funding for the maintenance, repair and rehabilitation of aging vital public works infrastructure in Ventura County.
- The County seeks Federal funding assistance for the US Army Corps of Engineers in support of local efforts to complete levee rehabilitation and/or reconstruction projects that are required in order to obtain the certification of Watershed Protection District owned and operated flood control levees in order to document compliance with FEMA's Levee Certification Requirements (i.e., 44 CFR 65.10).
- The County supports legislative efforts that would require FEMA to give all newly mapped areas an amortization period before mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements and higher insurance rates go into full effect.
- The County supports efforts that would require FEMA to refine updated or new maps when additional properties are added to the revised floodplain maps to ensure that those properties have been included appropriately.
- The County supports multi-year authorization of the National Flood Insurance Program.
- The County supports ~~reauthorization legislation and rule-making which would ensure full implementation~~ of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act ~~and a follow-on, long-term highway bill that would to~~ include maximum funding support for maintenance and operation of local roads, bridges, and other transportation infrastructure; maximum flexibility to use Federal highway funding for expansion of local pedestrian and bicycle usage and alternate transportation modes; and reduction of redundant and cumbersome administrative regulations that hinder usage of Federal highway funds.
- The County supports and encourages the development of Federal regulations and procedures that promote the common sense implementation of both Federal and State resource protection laws and ensure that both Federal and State agencies work together in a coordinated, uniform, and predictable fashion in order to enable efficient, consistent, and cost-effective compliance with these resource protection laws.
- The County encourages and supports enhanced communication, collaboration and coordination between Federal and State regulatory agencies in order to

expedite the delivery of vital public works projects and minimize regulatory redundancy, process inefficiencies, and agency conflicts.

- The County supports Federal initiatives and funding assistance for the planning, design, construction, and/or land acquisition associated with the protection of Ventura County's natural resources, including but not limited to natural floodplain management, habitat protection, and water resources protection.
- The County opposes blanket implementation of the US Army Corps of Engineers' levee vegetation policy guidelines.
- The County supports legislative efforts and regulatory rulemaking at the Federal level promoting environmental sustainability by incentivizing manufacturer's incorporation of design elements using nontoxic products which increase the recyclability of a product at the end of its useful life.
- The County supports Federal legislation providing financial and operational incentives for emerging technologies in renewable energy production and recycling to support local government efforts to minimize costs and environmental impacts; examples of potential renewable energy sources include landfill-bound organic material, municipal solid waste and biosolids from wastewater treatment plants.
- The County supports legislative efforts to provide financial and technical assistance for the development of local water supply enhancement projects which promote resource sustainability including but not limited to groundwater and seawater desalination, underground water storage facilities, rainwater capture, recycled water, and distribution system interconnection projects.
- The County supports legislative efforts that focus water quality improvements on pollutant source control versus treatment control methods.
- The County supports legislative efforts at the Federal level on telecommunications and electrical restructuring policy to ensure that local governments; 1) are adequately compensated for use of public rights-of-way, 2) control access of such rights-of-way, and 3) retain zoning authority over placement of satellite dishes, cellular towers and antennas.

Resource Management Agency

- The County supports legislation which encourages and provides financial assistance to local governments to preserve and enhance the environment through energy conservation, development of renewable energy sources, restrictions on offshore development, farmland and habitat preservation, and alternative transportation modes.

- The County supports continued funding of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program and the fair-share distribution of funds to Ventura County.
- The County supports continued funding of research and State/local monitoring efforts in the furtherance of the goals of the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act of 2000.
- The County opposes new oil and gas leases off the Pacific Coast.

Sheriff's Department

- The County supports reauthorization and increased funding for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) to address the substantial impact illegal immigration has on the County.
- The County supports sufficient funding for the Department of Justice to ensure that full State and local participation in the Asset Forfeiture Program is maintained.
- The County supports continued or increased funding for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program. As a result of past EMPG funding, local emergency responders are prepared to respond to human-caused and natural disaster.
- The County supports ~~continued funding for FEMA programs Federal legislation that would improve preparedness and response systems. This includes reauthorizing FEMA through FY 2017, that assist with disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. authorizing funding for the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), reauthorizing the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) response system, and reauthorizing the Emergency Management Assistance Compacts (EMAC) program.~~
- The County supports ~~continued or increased~~ funding ~~for~~ the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grants ~~program. at their authorized levels.~~ The PDM grants, awarded through FEMA, provide funds to States, territories, native tribes, communities, and universities for mitigation planning and the implementation of those plans before a disaster occurs.
- The County supports funding for enforcement and eradication programs designed to combat street to mid-level drug sales, manufacturing, and distribution.
- The County supports legislation that would fully fund a multi-jurisdictional drug task force to combat criminal drug enterprises.

- The County supports continued funding to allow the Sheriff to support the U.S. Forest Service in law enforcement activity on Federal forest land.
- The County opposes any efforts that would reduce its ability to recoup costs for inmate welfare programs.
- The County supports legislation and regulations that would amend the federal Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy (MIEP) and allow non-convicted individuals to have continued access to necessary treatment through Federal health benefits such as Medicaid, Medicare, CHIP, and VA health benefits.
- The County supports funding to track, combat, and treat opioid and methamphetamine addiction.
- The County supports funding for traffic safety and driving under the influence with grants provided by the Office of Traffic Safety, through a partnership with the National Transportation Safety Board.
- The County supports efforts to ensure adequate funding to be used to decrease the backlog awaiting DNA and National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) analysis.