

The background of the page features a large, faint, circular seal of Placer County, California. The seal contains the text "COUNTY OF PLACER" at the top and "CALIFORNIA" at the bottom. In the center of the seal is a shield with a plow, a sheaf of wheat, and a bundle of grapes, with a star above it. The shield is flanked by two figures, one holding a staff and the other holding a bundle. Below the shield is a banner with the motto "AGRICULTURE".

**PLACER
COUNTY**

2014

Placer County's Legislative Platform is a statement of the goals and priorities of the Board of Supervisors and establishes the basis for its advocacy efforts with the Executive and Legislative branches of the U.S. Government and the State of California.

**ANNUAL
LEGISLATIVE
PLATFORM**

**PLACER COUNTY
2014 LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY PLATFORM
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Placer County's Legislative/Regulatory Platform is a statement of the goals and priorities of the Board of Supervisors and establishes the basis for its advocacy efforts with the Executive and Legislative branches of the U.S. Government and the State of California. The annual Platform contains broad goals and specific legislative proposals of interest and benefit to the County of Placer and its citizens. The Legislative/Regulatory Platform is composed of four parts:

General Principals	Page 2
Key Issues	Page 3
Priority Projects	Page 4
Specific Proposals	Page 5

PLACER COUNTY
2014 Legislative/Regulatory Platform
GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- A. Support legislation to restore local control and oppose efforts that will hinder or limit the County's ability to self-govern and to maintain land use control.
- B. Encourage and seek legislation that facilitates orderly economic expansion and growth, and increases the opportunity for discretionary revenues and programmatic and financial flexibility for the County.
- C. Support State/Local government fiscal restructuring efforts that align program responsibility and sufficient revenue sources to assure Placer County the financial independence necessary to provide services to its residents and meet its mandated responsibilities.
- D. Oppose federal or state legislation for new, transferred, or realigned mandated programs that do not contain their own, sufficient revenue source.
- E. Support current or increased levels of state and federal funding for County mandated programs.
- F. Support legislation that provides tax and funding formulas for the equitable distribution of state and federal monies while opposing attempts to decrease, restrict or eliminate County revenue sources.
- G. Support the County's authority to assure mutually acceptable tax sharing agreements for annexation, incorporation and redevelopment that protect or enhance the County's ability to provide services to its constituents.
- H. Support legislation that protects the County's quality of life, its diverse natural resources, and continued preservation of agricultural lands, wildlife habitat and open space.
- I. Seek cooperation with the federal and state government, on regulatory and administrative issues affecting the County, to ensure the protection and well-being of its citizens.
- J. Encourage and engage with local agencies and governments to cooperate for the betterment of the community, and expand voluntary regional solutions to regional problems.
- K. Support legislation and regulations that provide local agencies program and operational flexibility.

PLACER COUNTY
2014 Legislative/Regulatory Platform
KEY ISSUES

1. Economic Development

Support statewide, regional and local efforts to promote economic development and legislation that will fund existing state economic development programs, such as those within the Governor's Office of Business & Economic Development unit, California Competes, TeamCalifornia Marketing programs, Office of Small Business Advocate, CA Film Commission. Support legislation or programs that would facilitate broad areas of business development that would be beneficial to Placer County, as well as prudent financing and funding options for business growth and infrastructure development.

2. Regional Water Strategy

Support statewide, regional, and local efforts to promote a sustainable water supply plan that protects Placer County residents. Support the efforts of the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA), regional partners and coalitions where advocacy is consistent with interests of Placer County to protect our water resources and prevent increases in fees and/or changes in our infrastructure that is dedicated to conveying and distributing water to Placer County residents.

3. Sustainable Communities Funding; Cap and Trade Auction Revenues

Support legislation, regulation and program implementation for distribution of Cap and Trade Auction Revenues to local agencies, consistent with policies and program priorities of Placer County. In 2014, significant auction revenues will be available for potential uses such as energy, infrastructure, housing and other programs as may be defined.

4. Program Realignment

Support efforts and legislation to achieve protections, dedication of adequate revenue, and flexibility leading to best outcomes for Placer County including those related to the implementation of 2011 and 2013 State/County Realignments impacting Public Safety and Health and Human Services.

5. Employee relations

Oppose legislation that would reduce local control as pertains to employee relations and collective bargaining, mandated employee benefits, or that may otherwise create financial burden.

6. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Reform

Monitor legislation related to CEQA reform and advocate as necessary relative to key policy interests of Placer County including, but not limited to, economic development, efficient delivery of infrastructure, implementation of priority programs and policies, and provision of housing.

For details regarding issues and specific proposals in this Platform, please visit our website at:
<http://www.placer.ca.gov/~media/ceo/Legislative%20Program/2014/2014%20Leg%20Platform%20DETAIL%20FINAL.pdf>

PLACER COUNTY
2014 Legislative/Regulatory Platform
KEY PROJECTS

7. Placer County Conservation Plan Funding and Support

Support legislation and programs that advance the objectives of the PCCP to protect open space and agricultural land in the County and to comply with the myriad of state and federal laws that apply to wetlands and sensitive species while streamlining regulatory procedures. Seek clarification on levels-of-significance thresholds, definitions, and mitigation/conservation standards, as implemented by proposed or adopted NCCPs/HCPs. Seek to resolve potential statutory conflicts between fuel load reduction needs and activities and impacts to oak woodlands as necessary.

8. Facilitate Implementation of Placer Legacy Programs

Support legislation and programs that advance the objectives of the Placer Legacy Program to protect open space and agricultural land in the County and to comply with the myriad of state and federal laws.

9. Kings Beach Commercial Core Improvement Project

Support opportunities to obtain financial assistance from federal and state agencies to fund construction of the Kings Beach Commercial Core Improvement Project.

10. Placer Parkway Project

Seek and support federal funding for the Placer Parkway Project as shown in the approved Placer Parkway Corridor Preservation EIR. The Placer Parkway will provide a new east/west connection, which adds significant needed capacity, and support economic development.

PLACER COUNTY
2014 Legislative/Regulatory Platform
SPECIFIC PROPOSALS

11. Lake Tahoe Restoration Act

Seek funding for future restoration efforts to preserve and protect Lake Tahoe.

12. California State Water Resources Control Board National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase 2 Regulations

Support NPDES Phase 2 permit requirements that are reasonable and implementable by municipalities. Support federal funding assistance and legislation to make it easier to implement local fee programs for storm water quality program implementation.

13. Lake Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Load Implementation (TMDL)

Support legislation and advocacy efforts to: (1) minimize further water quality regulation and unfunded mandates, with an emphasis on minimizing administrative, monitoring and inspection regulatory activities that do not directly lead to cleaner storm water; (2) facilitate easier implementation of local fee programs to support storm water quality program implementation and; (3) continue and increase State and Federal funding assistance for TMDL compliance and storm water program implementation.

14. State Wetlands and Riparian Areas Protection Policy

Support legislation or policy development that directs the State Water Resources Control Board to prepare a Wetlands and Riparian Areas Protection Policy that takes advantage of the science-based planning and programmatic regulatory opportunities provided by programs such as the Placer County Conservation Plan (PCCP).

15. HR 2389 - Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act

Approve a long-term reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act.

16. Reauthorization - Federal Surface Transportation Bill ("MAP-21 Reauthorization")

Support federal funding for transportation improvements and specifically ongoing Reauthorization of the Federal Surface Transportation Bill, known as MAP-21.

17. Retaining the Film Industry in California

Support incentives that result in retention and promotion of film production in California, specifically those types of productions traditionally shot on location in Placer County.

18. Pest Detection Funding for Farm Bill Appropriations to California

Support funding to retain or enhance existing funding for pest prevention and detection funding performed by the Agriculture Department.

19. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Funding for California Wildlife Services

Support legislation and regulation that restores or enhances funding to the USDA/APHIS Wildlife Services Program in California to increase service and reduce costs to counties.

20. Development funding for USDA Slaughter and Processing Facility

Support funding to aid in the facility planning, design, and business planning that will precede construction of a new UDA-inspected slaughter and processing facility in Placer County

21. State and Regional Board Irrigated Lands Regulatory Proposal

Oppose any new legislation that seeks to add additional regulatory responsibility by the Agricultural Commissioner of the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) without adequate funding.

22. Williamson Act

Support legislation and state funding for the Williamson Act program.

23. United States Forest Service (USFS) NEPA Funding for Noxious Weed Eradication

Support long term funding for NEPA preparation and specific noxious weeds in the Integrated Resource and Restoration (IRR) USDA budget line item.

24. Collection of CA Department of Food and Agriculture Administrative Fees

Oppose legislation or regulation (including sunset extensions) that would require County Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers to collect administrative fees for the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

25. Materials Recover Performance Standards

Oppose efforts that impose infeasible performance standards (e.g. one size fits all) and/or do not consider local conditions, such as a jurisdiction's diversion rate, the local waste stream, other recycling programs in place, and available materials markets. Support efforts that, instead of imposing performance standards on MRFs, promote materials markets.

26. Fees Imposed by Federal, State and Local Regulatory Agencies

Generally oppose efforts to increase fees or other costs of operation unless substantiated by life-cycle and/or cost-benefit analyses, or reasonable demonstrated need. Oppose any new or increased fees designed to help state agencies make up for budget deficits or to fund subsidies or grant programs.

27. Permitting and Regulatory Flexibility for Solid Waste, Water, and Wastewater Programs

Support legislation and/or regulatory permitting that would provide local agencies more program and operational flexibility and would give relief to small districts and small or disadvantaged communities. Oppose increased or more stringent regulatory requirements without use of scientific evidence.

28. Alternative Daily Cover

Oppose legislation that would restrict, prohibit, or otherwise disincentivize the use of MRF fines (e.g. no longer count as waste diversion) as ADC that is not based on sound science. Support use of MRF fines as ADC where the material meet State standards.

29. Solid Waste Regulation or Legislation

Oppose any solid waste and recycling related mandates that are not substantiated by cost/benefit/feasibility studies, a funding mechanism (other than tipping fees or garbage rates), and/or manufacturer and extended producer responsibility.

30. Extended Producer Responsibility Legislation

Support Product Stewardship and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation designed to shift the financial disposal burden of household hazardous waste, universal waste and other problematic products from cities and counties to manufacturers and producers of the products.

Oppose landfill bans that are not substantiated by scientific studies and oppose bans that do not provide a plan for cost-effective ways to remove the material from the waste stream.

31. Support Economic Incentives for Green Technology Legislation

Support efforts to provide financial and other incentives to assist in implementing compliance programs using green technology

32. Biomass

Support, oppose, or propose legislation in support of the Placer County woody biomass facility in general, and rules to ensure woody biomass from all forest ownerships (public and private) is potentially eligible as fuel for renewable energy, and to acknowledge such use as being carbon neutral. Support initiatives for the renewal of incentive programs such as the Production Tax Credit and Investment Tax Credit by demonstrating there are significant underutilized resources that are both socially and environmentally beneficial.

33. Health and Human Services Programs

Support adequate, flexible, and stable funding to best meet Federal/State Health and Human Services program requirements including Child Welfare Services, Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse Services, Human Services, Adult Protective Services, In-Home Supportive Services, Health Care to Low-Income Adults including the indigent and California Children Services, and Health Reform. In addition, support continuation of the Placer County Integrated Health & Human Services Pilot Program (Placer Waiver- State Welfare and Institutions Code 18986.62) to maximize flexibility in program design as well as increase Federal/State funding leveraging opportunities.

34. Child Welfare Services and Foster Care Program Mandates

Support full and complete restoration of State funding, as well as efforts to adequately fund and support Child Welfare Services and Foster Care program mandates.

35. Reduce Pet Overpopulation

Support legislation that seeks to reduce the number of unwanted dogs and cats entering shelters each year without increasing the cost to the County. Advocate for legislation that requires owners to spay or neuter their dogs and/or cats if the owners are repeatedly cited for their dogs and cats being unlicensed or repeatedly impounded or cited for being at large.

36. Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds and Program Reforms

Advocate for continued support for Federal CDBG and HOME program funding and support improvements and reforms to statewide administration of the CDBG program.

37. Low Income Housing Tax Credits

Advocate for continued support for Federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits.

38. Modify Laws that Limit CalPERS Retirement Options Affecting New Hires

Support or sponsor legislation and policy as may be required to allow Placer County to discontinue enrollment of new employees into the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) to create a "soft freeze" on the retirement plan.

39. Modify CalPERS Health Insurance Vesting

Support legislation that will allow Placer County to continue to have local control to contract with their bargaining groups for County employees regarding health insurance premium contribution formulas.

40. Funding for Regional Public Safety Communications Network

Seek funding to continue implementation of a countywide Project 25 compliant communications system. This will provide increased public safety and disaster response by increasing communication across and between multi-jurisdictional boundaries with other mutual aid agencies.

41. Veterans Outreach Clinic

Monitor legislation and regulatory opportunities for effective service and accessibility options for veterans, considering support of shifting the Auburn Community Based Outreach Clinic from the VA Medical Center – Reno, NV to the VA Medical Center – Mather, CA.

42. Funding for Public Libraries

Continue to support efforts to restore State funding of public libraries for all programs.

43. Child Support Arrearages

Support legislation that includes mechanisms that promote collection of child support arrearages.

44. The Medicare/Medicaid Extension Act

Support amendment to the Medicare/Medicaid Extension Act that will provide a fair and equitable process for reimbursement of Medicare Set Aside or Medicare Reimbursement Accounts.

45. Sustainable Communities Program

Support/take advantage of the Sustainable Communities Program funding initiative to locally promote economic competitiveness, protect healthy environments, and enhance quality of life.

46. Parcel Fees for Fire Planning in State Responsibility Areas (SRA)

Support legislation and advocacy efforts to modify the requirements of AB29 X1 that affect Placer County residents, and at a minimum, replace it with a more equitable statewide solution.

47. Transit and Transportation Funding

Support legislation, advocacy and grant submission efforts leading to funding for local and regional transit and transportation.