



# 2022

## ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

### **Board of Supervisors**

Bonnie Gore, District 1

Robert Weygandt, District 2

Jim Holmes, District 3

Suzanne Jones, District 4

Cindy Gustafson, District 5

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Placer County Board of Supervisors recognizes the need to identify and advocate for its legislative and funding priorities in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. To be effective in this mission, the Board is pleased to present its 2022 Legislative Platform.

Placer County's Legislative Platform is a summary of the 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 regarding legislation and regulation. It also provides general direction to the County Executive Office and County departments, legislative advocates, state and federal delegation members and the public on positions of support or opposition to key policy initiatives which impact the way the County does business. Because the Legislative Platform is approved at the beginning of each year, it is not always possible to anticipate additional legislative, regulatory and/or budgetary issues that may arise at a later date. Thus, the Board may review and modify this document during the two-year legislative session as necessary.

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**Placer County  
2022 Legislative Platform**

California Legislation <a href="http://www.legislature.ca.gov/">http://www.legislature.ca.gov/</a>		Federal Legislation <a href="http://www.congress.gov">www.congress.gov</a>	
<b>State Senate District 1</b> <b>Senator Brian Dahle</b> 1021 O Street, Ste. 7230 Sacramento, CA 942849-0001 (916)651-4001 <a href="https://dahle.cssrc.us/">https://dahle.cssrc.us/</a>	Grass Valley: 11310 McCourtney Road, Unit E-3, Grass Valley, CA 95949 (530) 271-0201	<b>Congressional District 1</b> <b>Representative Doug LaMalfa</b> (R – Richvale) 408 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 (202)225-3076 <a href="http://lamalfa.house.gov/">http://lamalfa.house.gov/</a>	Auburn: 2399 Rickenbacker Way Auburn, CA 95602 (530) 878-5035
<b>State Senate District 4</b> <b>Senator Jim Nielsen</b> 1021 O Street, Ste. 7110 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916)651-4004 <a href="http://nielsen.cssrc.us/">http://nielsen.cssrc.us/</a>	Roseville: 2200A Douglas Blvd. Ste. 100 Roseville, CA 95661 (916)772-0571	<b>Congressional District 4</b> <b>Representative Tom McClintock</b> (R – Elk Grove) 2312 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 (202)225-2511 <a href="http://mcclintock.house.gov/">http://mcclintock.house.gov/</a>	Roseville: 2200A Douglas Blvd., Ste. 240 Roseville, CA 95661 (916) 786-5560
<b>State Assembly District 1</b> <b>Assembly Member Megan Dahle</b> 1021 O Street, Ste. 5170 P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-0001; (916) 319-2001 <a href="https://ad01.asmrc.org/">https://ad01.asmrc.org/</a>	Redding: 280 Hemsted Drive, Suite 110, Redding, CA 96002 (530) 223-6300	<b>Senator Alex Padilla</b> 112 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510 Phone: (202) 224-3553	Sacramento: 501 I Street Ste.7-800 Sacramento CA, 94104 Phone: (916) 448-2787
<b>State Assembly District 5</b> <b>Assembly Member Frank Bigelow</b> 1021 O Street, Ste. 4640 Sacramento, CA 942849-0005 (916) 319-2005 <a href="https://ad05.assemblygop.com/">https://ad05.assemblygop.com/</a>	Placerville: 2441 Headington Rd. Placerville, CA 95667 (530) 295-5505	<b>Senator Dianne Feinstein</b> 331 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510 Phone: (202) 224-3841 <a href="http://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/">http://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/</a>	San Francisco: One Post St. Ste. 2450 San Francisco, CA 94104 Phone: (415) 393-0707
<b>State Assembly District 6</b> <b>Assembly Member Kevin Kiley</b> 1021 O Street, Ste. 4530 Sacramento, CA 942849 (916) 319-2006 <a href="https://ad06.asmrc.org/">https://ad06.asmrc.org/</a>	Granite Bay: 8799 Auburn-Folsom Road, Ste. A Granite Bay, CA 95746 (916) 774-4430		
<b>State Advocate – Shaw, Yoder, Antwih, Schmelzer, &amp; Lange</b> Paul Yoder & Karen Lange 1415 L Street, Ste. 1000 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916)446-4656 / <a href="https://syaslparkers.com/">https://syaslparkers.com/</a>		<b>Federal Advocate – Holland &amp; Knight, LLP</b> Rich Gold & Mike Galano 800 17th Street N.W., Ste. 1100 Washington, DC 20006 (202) 955-3000 <a href="http://www.hklaw.com/Offices/Washington-DC/">http://www.hklaw.com/Offices/Washington-DC/</a>	
<b>California State Association of Counties (CSAC)</b> 1100 K Street, Ste. 101 Sacramento, CA 95815 (916) 327-7500 / <a href="http://www.counties.org/">http://www.counties.org/</a>		<b>National Association of Counties (NACo)</b> 25 Massachusetts Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001 (202)393-6226 <a href="http://www.naco.org/">http://www.naco.org/</a>	
<b>Rural County Representative of California (RCRC)</b> 1215 K Street, Ste. 1650 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 447-4806 / <a href="http://www.rcrcnet.org/">http://www.rcrcnet.org/</a>			

## **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- A. Seek or 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. Seek or support legislation that facilitates orderly economic expansion and growth and increases the opportunity for discretionary revenues and programmatic and financial flexibility for the County.
- C. Seek or 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. Seek or support equitable levels of state and federal funding for County mandated programs. Oppose federal or state legislation for new, transferred, or realigned mandated programs that do not contain their own sufficient revenue source.
- E. 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.
- F. Seek or support legislation that assures the County's authority to negotiate mutually acceptable tax sharing agreements for annexation, incorporation and redevelopment that protect or enhance the County's ability to provide services to its constituents.
- G. Seek or 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.
- H. Seek or support 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.
- I. Encourage and engage with local agencies and governments to cooperate for the betterment of the community and expand voluntary regional solutions to regional problems.
- J. Seek or support legislation and regulations that provide local agencies program and operational flexibility and allow staff to perform their duties in the most efficient manner.

## **POLICY AREAS**

### AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT, AND NATURAL RESOURCES

#### **1. Cap and Trade**

Support and track cap and trade funding criteria for wetlands, forest health, and Sustainable Communities that further advance policies of Placer County. Support legislative efforts to provide long-term cap and trade revenue in these areas.

#### **2. Regional Forest Health and Wildfire Risk Reduction**

Seek or support programs, regulation, legislation, and funding at the state and federal levels to mitigate fire danger with fuel load reduction in critical forests and watersheds and enhance programs for funding recovery when fires occur. Coordinate with agencies, conservancies and other stakeholders to improve the health of Sierra Nevada forests. In addition, Placer County will continue to advocate for responsible reforms to federal land management. Support legislative/regulatory efforts that would ensure ongoing and necessary levels of funding and accelerated progress on key programmatic elements to facilitate increased forest resilience and wildfire risk reduction work in California and specifically in or affecting Placer County.

##### **a. Biomass**

Seek, support or oppose any legislation and rulemakings (and any others that relate to these issues through biomass utilization) to ensure that woody biomass from all forest ownerships (public and private) eligible as fuel for renewable energy can be procured under a stewardship agreement and to acknowledge such use as being carbon neutral and is valued both on the products it creates and on its social, economic, and environmental co-benefits and associated avoided costs. As determined to be in the County's interest, engage with partnerships and coalitions within the region, state and nationally. In addition, support all projects that remove biomass from the forest and create renewable energy as well as any current or proposed biomass to energy facilities within the county. These efforts will communicate how the sustainable use of biomass for energy and alternative fuel production and other value-added products supports the reduction of GHG emissions, increases the ability of our forests to remain carbon sinks rather than net emitters, and can provide additional funding to support restoring and maintaining public and private forestland ecosystems. In addition, support all appropriate ecological restoration projects that remove biomass from the forest and create renewable energy, alternative fuels, or other products, as well as any current or proposed biomass to energy or alternative fuel facilities within or adjacent to the County.

##### **b. Tree Mortality**

Support for local state and federal resources to address the tree mortality crisis in California. Support the achievement of a sustainable ecosystem and the maintenance of healthy forests while providing defensible space for protection of life and property. Support an increase in state and federal funding for fuels management and advocate that local governments be included in any effort to develop appropriate allocation of these resources.

##### **c. Timber Export**

Explore ways to expand outlets for sale of unprocessed timber coming from federal lands, including the potential for exporting such timber internationally.

**d. Funding**

Ensure adequate and accessible funding now and into the future by extending the life of state grant funds beyond the current 5-year encumber/spend timeframe; consider instituting a 10-year period within which the project proponents and funding agencies work together using benchmarks and other criteria to determine the appropriate life of the funds on a project-by-project basis. Additionally, allow future maintenance/retreatment funding to be included in the original treatment funding request, by using tools such as a project escrow fund or a long-term statewide forest resilience/fuels reduction maintenance fund.

**e. Regulatory streamlining**

Support SB 901 continuation for CEQA/NEPA streamlining.

**f. Prescribed/cultural burning**

Reduce regulatory barriers (e.g. liability, air quality limitations) to facilitate more prescribed and cultural burning and landscape-scale fuels treatment.

**g. Workforce**

Support statewide training program to build pipeline of trained, qualified practitioners and support services.

**h. Wood processing infrastructure**

Accelerate development and approval of wood products and processing infrastructure, including within Placer County. Activities could include: a.) strategically siting one or more biomass facilities in western Placer County that can accept and use excess woody material from forest treatment projects for value-added products, including energy and possibly others, and b.) making biofuels part of state's climate strategy.

**2. Open Space**

**a. Placer Legacy Program**

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 state and federal laws.

**b. Placer County Conservation Program (PCCP)**

Seek and support legislation, rulemaking, programs, and funding to advance the objectives of the PCCP, a Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan under the State and Federal Endangered Species Acts, designed to comply with state and federal wetlands and endangered species laws while streamlining regulatory procedures. The PCCP also includes the Western Placer County Aquatic Resources Program and In Lieu Fee Program to provide programmatic assurances necessary for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other state and federal regulatory agencies to issue programmatic permits streamlining local, state and federal permitting processes.

**c. Federal Section 6**

Seek ongoing and consistent California Wildlife Conservation Board, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Section 6 Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund and NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service grant awards to support the Placer Legacy Program and Placer County Conservation Program's 50-year commitments to conservation.

**d. Waters of the U.S. Rulemaking**

Due to changes in Presidential Administration and recent case law, the U.S. EPA and Army Corps of Engineers is once again revisiting their Waters (wetlands) of the U.S. rule and has embarked in the rulemaking process. The PCCP was issued Clean Water Act Section 401/404 programmatic wetland permits in 2021. The use and implementation of these permits to cover public infrastructure and private economic development projects requires consistent application of these rules. In addition, and for projects needing consistent application of the water/wetlands regulations throughout the

County, the rulemaking process and outcome can have significant implications to permitting timelines and mitigation costs.

**e. National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Streamlining**

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) requires federal agencies to consider the effects on historic properties of projects they permit, including transportation and public infrastructure projects and all projects carried out under the PCCP. Placer County and its partner agencies (PCWA, SPRTA, and the City of Lincoln) have sought a Programmatic Agreement to allow it to initiate Section 106 at the local level. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and State Office of Historic Preservation have been interested but unwilling to move this process forward prior to adoption of the PCCP. The PCCP is now fully permitted and operative and as such, negotiation and approval of the Program Agreement will require state and federal advocacy.

**3. Lake Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Load Implementation (TMDL)**

Seek or support legislation to: (1) minimize further water quality regulation and unfunded mandates, with an emphasis on minimizing administrative, monitoring and inspection requirements that do not directly lead to cleaner storm water; (2) facilitate 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.

**4. Protection of the landfills and wastewater facilities within Placer County**

Support legislation and regulations that protect Placer County interests pertaining to landfills and wastewater facilities as essential public services and support operating flexibility, viable waste conversion technology, green technology, and Stewardship and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation which shifts financial burden to producers. Support funding for County mandated programs – such as the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, specifically for implementation of SB 1383, and oppose mandates that do not contain a revenue source. Oppose infeasible performance standards, fee increases unless substantiated with data, unreasonable operational restrictions, and efforts that hinder or limit local control.

**5. USDA Livestock Harvest and Processing Facility Funding and Regulatory Process**

Obtain funding to aid in the facility planning, design, and business planning that will proceed construction of a new USDA-inspected slaughter and processing facility in Placer County.

**6. Un-Refunded Gasoline Tax Revenue**

Support legislation that would impact Agriculture Department gas tax revenue and evaluate based on how it would affect county program funding. Oppose legislation that would weaken agricultural and environmental protection funding in Placer County. Support legislation to direct Senate Bill 1 (gas tax) revenue to specific high-priority and underfunded state-mandated programs performed by the Agricultural Commissioner, freeing up General Fund

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

Support long term funding for NEPA preparation and programs for the eradication of specific noxious weeds in the Integrated Resource and Restoration (IRR) USDA budget line item. Support specific allocations for weed projects and that those funds should not be diverted for use on other projects.



**8. Wildlife Services Regulation**

Oppose legislation or regulatory efforts which would limit the ability of Placer County personnel to perform their essential job duties in the most efficient, effective, and humane manner. To date, legislative efforts to restrict access to tools or methods have exempted law enforcement staff (Penal Code 830 et al.), but have failed to account for other government agencies who employ professional staff to protect human health and safety, the environment, and agriculture from wildlife-related damage or injury. Exemptions within future legislation or regulation should include non-law enforcement governmental professional staff.

**9. Water**

**a. Groundwater Sustainability**

Implement the requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), including, but not limited to: affirm and implement Board policy and interests for the County, engage with partners and stakeholders, seek regulatory or legislative amendments to existing SGMA law as needed, evaluate modifications that emerge for potential action, and ensure that groundwater rights for the citizens of Placer County are protected. In addition, support and contribute to the Sacramento Water Bank (a Federal process) which is being developed to a project to store an additional 1,000,000 acre feet underground, and the River Arc program, a project designed to flow water from the Sacramento River to the region, will help to provide additional and back-up water resources to the entire region, including Placer County.

**b. Regional Water Strategy**

Support the efforts of Regional Water Authority and the regional water purveyor team (the Sacramento Water Alliance) 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 through advocacy and other means.

**c. Water Quality Improvements**

Seek or support funding for existing and future water quality improvement and stream environment zone restoration projects.

**10. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) - Farm Advisor Funding**

Support opportunities advocate for state funding to restore and maintain academic staffing levels in University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) county offices. Advocate to create a separate line-item in the state budget for UC ANR, separate from the larger University of California budget and/or moving control of the UC ANR budget directly to the state legislature to ensure greater accountability in the allocation of funds.

**11. Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILT)**

Advocate for a long-term reauthorization of mandatory entitlement funding for the PILT program. In the absence of a long-term renewal, Placer County will support continued full funding for PILT via the appropriations process.

**12. Secure Rural Schools (SRS)**

Placer County will maintain efforts aimed at securing a multi-year reauthorization of the SRS program. Absent a long-term program renewal, Placer County will continue to support short-term extensions of the Act.

**13. Formerly Used Defense Site Cleanup**

Seek funding for the Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Program through the Army Corps of Engineers to address Trichloroethylene (TCE) contamination at the former Titan 1-A Missile Site in Lincoln.

**GOVERNMENT FINANCE AND OPERATIONS**

**1. Library Access to Digital Materials**

Support equitable and unrestrictive access for libraries to purchase electronic books, audiovisual content, and other digital content.

**2. Restoration of Library Funding**

- a. Support full restoration of California Library Services Act
- b. Support funding for Lunch at the Library
- c. Support funding Zip Books which provides reading materials to the rural and underserved areas.

**3. Broadband**

Seek funding for deployment, availability installation and expansion of broadband (high speed internet service) to all parts of the County to drive economic development and job opportunities, support county service delivery, and improve health, education and public safety outcomes for residents. Support local decision-making and accountability and oppose any actions that would preempt or limit the zoning and siting authority of the Board of Supervisors.

**4. Homeowners Insurance Coverage in the Wildland Urban Interface**

Support any combination of plans, programs, regulation, or legislation at the state and federal levels to mitigate loss of homeowner's insurance coverage due to wildfire danger in the Wildland Urban Interface. Coordinate with insurance companies, state agencies, homeowners and other stakeholders to minimize the loss of insurance coverage and seek mutually beneficial conditions that would support wide availability of homeowners insurance at rates that are both competitive and risk based, while at the same time decreasing both the risk and danger of structure fires in the Wildland Urban Interface.

**5. Disadvantaged Communities**

Seek or support legislation or regulations to develop a streamlined definition of Disadvantaged Communities (DACs). Support efforts to align DAC funding formulas with relevant community needs.

**6. General Liability**

Monitor legislation or initiative and take a support or oppose position, as necessary, related to Tort Reform, Medical Malpractice Reform Act, Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act (MICRA) Ballot initiative, or changes to indemnification language on government code for contracts and professional liability.

**7. California Public Records Act Reimbursement**

Support legislation that would allow local governments to charge requesting parties for reimbursement of staff time involved in fulfilling Public Records Act requests.

**8. Fund County Veterans Service Officers**

Seek or support permanent funding for County Veteran Service Officers who participate in the CalVet County Subvention Program.

**9. Workforce Development**

- a. Support in the planning, administration, and supervision of comprehensive local systems of workforce training and employment, with a minimum of federal regulation.
- b. Support additional workforce development programs through Placer County to expand opportunities to business and residents. Collaborate with the Business Advantage Network, Sierra Business Council and Small Business Development Programs to create a more robust program.

**EMPLOYEE RELATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

**1. Employee Relations**

Oppose legislation and regulations that would reduce local control as pertains to employee relations and collective bargaining, and mandated benefits, or that may otherwise create adverse fiscal outcomes with implementation of the Public Employees Retirement Board, Meyers-Milias, and other labor-related laws and regulations. Seek or support legislation and initiatives for regulatory change to meet objectives.

**2. State Court Employees Included in County's Miscellaneous Pension Plan**

Support legislative and regulatory efforts to remove state court employees from Placer County's CalPERS miscellaneous pension plan.

**3. Workers' Compensation Act**

Monitor legislation and regulation and take a support or oppose position, as necessary, as it relates to indemnity benefits (including temporary total, temporary partial, wage loss and permanent partial, permanent total disability benefits and death benefits).

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**1. Child Support Arrearages**

- a. Seek and support legislation that exempts Child Support from list of judgments upon which interest must accrue.
- b. Support legislation that includes the Child Support Program as a debt collection entity to obtain winnings for owed support from any gaming and/or gambling revenue.
- c. Sponsor and/or support efforts to remove sunset provision of Family Code section 4007.5. for incarcerated individuals.

**2. Child Support Operations and Funding**

Support legislation that provides funding protections to counties for the Child Support Program, and the Child Support Agencies (LCSAs/Local Child Support Agencies) which must provide the services. Additionally, support policy and legislative changes pursuant to the Final Rule, which allows for modernizing collections, guideline calculation review and creating efficiencies to lower the cost of collections.

**3. Dedicated Funding for Chronic Disease Prevention and Wellness Promotion**

Support a dedicated funding stream to fund preventive health services or activities that improve community health outcomes. Advocate for flexibility for California to design prevention programs to take advantage of California's state and local health department strengths and encourage the provision of base funding to state and local health departments with additional funding available on a competitive basis. Encourage the allocation of new revenue streams in an equitable manner across all local health jurisdictions. Seek to improve nutrition, obesity, and fitness education programs as well as health literacy in California's population.

**4. Tobacco Control**

Advocate for efforts to reduce the presence of secondhand tobacco smoke and vape aerosol in Placer County outdoor non-recreational areas. Support 1.) Smoke-free outdoor non-recreational areas, 2.) policy to prohibit smoking and vaping of all tobacco products in multi-unit housing, 3.) a policy to prohibit establishment of new tobacco retailers within 1,000 feet of schools or other youth-populated areas and 500 feet of another tobacco retailer, 4.) youth and young adults to enable them to effectively educate the community about tobacco control issues.

**5. Foster Care**

**a. Funding for Assembly Bill 403 (Stone) Regarding Foster Care Program Reform**

Support full state funding of required program changes to enact the newly mandated child welfare system reforms.

**b. Funding for Assembly Bill 12 (Beall): California Fostering Connections to Success Act**

Support full state funding of this required program, or legislative changes to the original bill to allow for prioritization of youth who qualify for the services within the state funding granted.

**c. Federal Family First Prevention Services Act of 2018**

Support selected provisions of, and advocate for full federal and state funding of the Federal Family First Prevention Services Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-123) enacted to reform the federal foster care system.

**6. General Health and Human Services Program**

- a. Support accurate adequate, flexible, and stable funding and regulatory interpretation to best meet Federal/State Health and Human Services program requirements including Child Welfare Services, Mental Health Services, Substance Use Disorder Services, Human Services, Adult Protective Services, In-Home Supportive Services, California Children Services, and Health Reform. In addition, support innovation by maximizing flexibility in program design, increasing Federal/State funding leveraging opportunities, and streamline State program requirements and regulations.
- b. Support client access permitting online engagement and electronic interviews to reduce cost, increase participation and reduce duplicative eligibility processes.

**6. Medi-Cal**

**c. Medi-Cal Funding**

Support all efforts to adequately fund the federal Medicaid program. Similarly, oppose all efforts to block grant, cap or otherwise reduce federal and state funding to support this critical safety net

program.

**d. County Organized Health System Model Implementation**

Support efforts to restructure the current Medi-Cal Managed Care Regional Expansion Model in favor of a County Organized Health System. Advocate for a model that generates better healthcare quality scores, increases primary care capacity, improves coordination of care, and conducts outreach to enroll uninsured populations.

**7. Mental Health and Substance Use**

- a. Support state and federal funding opportunities to increase the accessibility and funding for quality substance abuse and mental health services for vulnerable and at-risk children, adults, and families. Support legislation that simplifies and integrates behavioral health funding to ease the ability to leverage funding and find local solutions. Support the ability to expand the use of Prop 63 funding for those with primary substance use disorders and allow use on models that are known to decrease costs and improve outcomes (e.g. CSUs). Make available funds and new programs equally available to both rural and urban areas. Support regulation that incentivizes and assists the development of increased Mental Health placement facilities that are high quality and recovery focused.
- b. Support Assembly Bill No. 1051 (Bennett) which would revise elements of AB 1299 (Ridley-Thomas) which required the automatic Presumptive Transfer of Specialty Mental Health Services. The revision would exempt placements made in Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs.
- c. Support Behavioral Health initiatives, such as California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), that considers financing, workforce, regional needs, and that incentivizes positive outcomes relevant to the most vulnerable and least capable of seeking healthcare. Advocate for Department of Health Care Service-initiated CalAIM changes impacting specialty mental health, ensuring they are appropriately financed and prioritize client care and efficiency. Support CalAIM efforts lead by the Health Plans to be well coordinated between County and Health entities, benefit the consumer, focus on accessibility, and fiscally cover costs of providers, including County-provided services. Preserve the Affordable Care Act and Publicly Funded Health Coverage and support efforts to extend and stabilize the funding in the Children's Health Insurance Program.
- d. Support partnerships with Health Care and Criminal Justice to increase capacity of an array of options along a continuum of crisis services that include funding for substance use disorders, detox and recovery services, and meet the needs of individuals with medically complicated health issues.
- e. Reform of the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act in a manner that protects patient due process rights, accounts for the county role under the Act and increases funding for services mandated by the Act.
- f. Support regulation that incentivizes, funds, and assists the development of increased Mental Health placement facilities that are high-quality and recovery focused.
- g. Support the decriminalization of behavioral health conditions by expanding community treatment for people living with mental illness and substance use disorders, and support funding for diversion programs and competency-based programming both in and out of custody, and policies that reduce the incarceration of people with mental illness.
- h. Support policy that leads to more housing resources (permanent supportive, affordable, and

temporary housing solutions) and reduces barriers for individuals with mental health and/or substance use disorders.

- i. Advocate for county involvement in the planning and implementation of 9-8-8 to ensure efficient connection to the County operated crisis continuum. Ensure funding for County entities to build a more enhanced crisis continuum that will meet the needs of 988 legislation and be closely aligned with nationally recognized approach (e.g. Crisis Now).

**8. Institutions for Mental Disease Exclusion – 16 Bed Limit**

Support efforts to increase the current 16-bed limit on Psychiatric Health Facilities to receive federal funding.

**9. Built Environment and Climate Change**

Support legislation and funding that encourages the inclusion of health in all policies and consideration of public health impacts in the design and planning of healthy communities. Support efforts and funding to develop climate change mitigation and resiliency strategies to help protect against and address potential impacts on human health such as increased respiratory and cardiovascular disease, injuries and premature deaths related to extreme weather events, including fires, changes in the prevalence and geographical distribution of food- and water-borne illnesses and other infectious diseases, and threats to mental health, particularly for disadvantaged communities most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Support legislation and funding that seeks to plan for and mitigate impacts and related health inequities associated with extreme heat, extreme weather events, and poor air quality associated with climate change and wildfires.

**10. Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities**

- a. Support legislation that would establish a comprehensive and coordinated system and provide options for long term care activities that will secure and maintain maximum independence and dignity in a home environment, remove individual and social barriers to economic and personal independence, provide a continuum of care for vulnerable seniors, and provide a comprehensive response to elder abuse/neglect and exploitation.
- b. Support legislation that would provide adequate funding such as state-only funded programs, programs authorized under the Older Americans Act, a return to full funding for Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) programs and increases to the SSBG allocation to keep up with inflation and population growth.

**11. 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 1991, 2011 and 2013 State/County Realignments impacting Public Safety and Health and Human Services.

**12. Categorical Eligibility**

Support policies that reduce the administrative burden on County agencies and staff, and those that limit the financial burden at the County level to deliver mandated services.

**13. Chronic Disease Prevention**

Support dedicated Funding for Chronic Disease Prevention and Wellness Promotion.

**14. Social Services Funding Methodology**

Support accurate adequate, flexible, and stable funding to CalWORKs, CalFresh and Medi-Cal agencies to

ensure sufficient resources based on actual costs to implement new programs and services at the levels required to achieve required outcomes and serve new program populations.

**15. Local Primacy Delegation – Funding Stabilization**

Support AB 402 which will stabilize funding to allow for the continued implementation of the local drinking water safety program.

**16. Communicable Disease Surveillance, Prevention, and Control**

- a. Ensure adequate regulations, legal authority, funding and resources for state and local public health infrastructure to monitor, evaluate, respond to, and provide communication about communicable disease threats and outbreaks, including but not limited to; tuberculosis, sexually transmitted infections, vaccine-preventable diseases, enteric diseases, and emerging infections.
- b. Ensure collection of appropriate data, reporting and analysis from health care systems and facilities as well as electronic sharing (i.e. health information exchange, disease and immunization registries) with public health departments to allow for timely identification and response to communicable disease threats.
- c. Ensure access to and insurance coverage for communicable disease prevention and treatment services including screening, immunizations, medications, and counseling, for those populations and communities disproportionately impacted by communicable diseases.
- d. Advance community policies, programs, and legislation that prevent the spread of communicable diseases.

**17. Oral Health**

- a. Support adequately funded state oral health prevention program to serve all high-risk children and older adults.
- b. Support funding and resources for periodic epidemiologic assessment of the state of oral health in the population.
- c. Support additional legislation and funding to remove practical barriers to community water fluoridation.

**18. Veterans**

Support state and federal funding opportunities to increase veteran access to benefits.

**HOUSING, LAND USE, AND TRANSPORTATION**

**1. Affordable Housing and Homeless Assistance**

- a. Support state and federal funding opportunities to develop affordable housing and expand housing and homeless assistance programs.
- b. Expand funding and enhance grant funding opportunities for Placer County service providers, including homelessness prevention programs, rapid rehousing assistance, homeless shelter and services, and affordable housing development and assistance programs.
- e. Increase availability of funds and programs including infrastructure (e.g., water and sewer), project predevelopment, and for the preservation of workforce housing, to both rural and urban areas.
- d. Support the California Housing and Community Development Department’s (HCD) role that focuses on providing funding programs that are easy for local governments to administer and facilitate affordable housing production.

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- e. Remove barriers or constraints for the construction of multifamily, attached, or other housing products that are affordable by design.
- f. Support State and Federal funding and regulatory changes or guidance that supports landlords and prevents homelessness resulting from COVID-19 related financial impacts.
- g. Increase the priority of funding for for-sale housing for moderate-income households.

**2. Housing Element Reform**

- a. Support reform of the current housing element requirements to streamline and simplify existing housing element law.
  - i. The housing element should place a greater emphasis on obtaining financing and enabling production, rather than the overly detailed data analysis now required under state law.
  - ii. Housing element reform should provide local governments with the flexibility and creativity to adopt local housing elements, comprehensive housing assistance strategies, and other local plans and programs that will be effective in their communities.
  - iii. Housing element reform should conserve state and local resources by promoting consistent with statutory requirements, including transparent standards that are uniformly applied and includes timelines for comment periods and decision-making.

**3. Multi-Jurisdictional Collaboration for the Region’s Housing Needs**

Support a regional approach to housing needs by supporting collaboration with communities within multiple jurisdictions that are within close geographical proximity, particularly rural communities, and communities above 5,000 feet in elevation, on state housing requirements and resources.

**4. California Environmental Quality Act**

Support legislation that improves and streamlines the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and provides funding to assist local agencies in implementing CEQA. Also support other CEQA streamlining to support infill development in suburban and rural-areas. The CEQA process and requirements should be simplified wherever possible including the preparation of master environmental documents and use of tiered EIRs and negative declarations, including qualified Greenhouse Gas Reduction programs and associated environmental impact reports for tiering under CEQA.

**5. National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase 2 Regulations**

Support NPDES Phase 2 permit requirements that are reasonable and implementable by municipalities. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) should return to implementing the minimum Federal Clean Water Act requirements without expanded permit conditions that are impossible to meet. Support federal funding assistance and legislation to make it easier to implement local fee programs for storm water quality program implementation.

**6. Transportation and Transit**

Seek and support legislation, regulations, and grant funding for local and regional transit and transportation.

- a. Seek grant funding and financing, as appropriate, for priority infrastructure such as the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) and the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) and new funding sources through the FAST Act.



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- b. Seek and support federal funding and financing for the Placer Parkway Project.
- c. Support the Transportation Funding Plan for Eastern Placer County. Support participation in regional transportation planning efforts and various competitive funding and revenue exploration efforts, and make sure state executive and legislative support, where appropriate, can help the county secure its fair share of state revenue to address the needs of improving current and future transportation infrastructure.
- d. Support efforts to ease traffic congestion on Highway 89 and Highway 267. This includes exploring the possibility of a third traffic lane on Highway 267 and work with Caltrans and California Highway Patrol to create a pilot program on Highway 89 and 267 to ease traffic congestion during peak hours and emergencies.
- e. Diligently pursue all funding sources to facilitate infill development of affordable housing and mixed-use development in close proximity to transit service and employment centers, to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by shortening commute distances for the County's workforce and student population.
- f. Support legislation that improves and streamlines the permitting process to expand electric-vehicle (EV) infrastructure and multi-modal public transportation projects and provides funding to assist local agencies in implementing supporting actions within adopted Greenhouse Gas Reduction Programs.
- g. Explore opportunities to facilitate a regional VMT mitigation strategy to support development that may not otherwise be able to mitigate project VMT impacts on-site

**7. Sustainable Communities**

- a. Support legislation that expands community revitalization and economic development tools including funding options for projects that provide demonstrable benefits to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions, increase climate resiliency and public safety, improve energy efficiency, and reduce energy costs for residents.
- b. Support the preservation of federal funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and increasing the funds available under the program, to expand the availability of a mix of housing types in the County for existing and future residents, students, and employees whose income cannot support the cost of market rate housing in the County.
- c. Oppose imposition of one-size-fits-all land use, building and development guidelines related to sustainability.
- d. Pursue funding sources to facilitate innovative projects in rural areas to increase climate resiliency including expansion of broadband and communication facilities for emergency preparedness, construction of cooling hub locations with microgrid capabilities during Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events, expansion of electric vehicle infrastructure, and walkability and connectivity to services and public transportation.
- e. Support legislation that removes barriers to the expansion of electric-vehicle (EV) infrastructure and transitioning development from natural gas to electric to support more sustainable and cleaner energy options. Instead, consider the relative impacts from development in suburban and rural contexts, including the challenges to supporting infill development.

**8. Economic Development**

Seek or support legislation and regulations as determined to be beneficial for Placer County projects and economic development initiatives.

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**a. Infrastructure**

Seek Federal funding and financing for capital improvements with targeted focus on improvements within the Sunset Area, North Auburn and the Tahoe Basin, and the housing opportunity areas identified in the Housing Element.

**9. Fair Funding**

Placer County recognizes that fairs represent a critical state and community asset that is in dire need of funding and strongly support the development of a comprehensive solution that will ensure the viability of the Placer County Fair.

**10. Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program**

Advocate for and support legislation for state agency regulations and grant eligibility criteria that would provide funding for environmental restoration, environmental redevelopment activities, housing, and expansion of multi-modal transportation systems in the Lake Tahoe Basin as well as implement Placer County's Area Plan.

**11. Passenger Rail**

Support implementation of the Capitol Corridor Strategic Plan which includes expanded service to/from Placer County. Work with Union Pacific to expand passenger rail opportunity for Placer County including additional tracks.

**12. Inverse Condemnation**

Oppose changes or amendments to the current state rules regarding inverse condemnation. Inverse condemnation liability provides a strong incentive for investor-owned utilities to act and invest in critical safety measures that protect ratepayers and residents.

**PUBLIC SAFETY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

**1. Public Safety Realignment**

Seek or support legislation to achieve stable and adequate revenue and flexibility leading to best outcomes for Placer County. Success at the local level requires: sufficient and reliable state revenue and programmatic flexibility; dedicated federal and state funding to ensure criminal justice facility needs are adequately met (Jail, Placer Re-Entry Program, crime lab, and transitional housing); and sufficient capacity and sustainable funding for a continuum of substance use services to maximize public safety while reducing recidivism of offenders.

**2. Trial Court Security**

Pursue adequate and sustainable funding for court security as mandated by the State.

**3. Victims of Crime Act Funding (VOCA).**

Support increased funding for Victims of Crime Act (VOCA). Placer County will continue to advocate for increased funding which helps support domestic violence shelters, services for victims of human trafficking, and other services for victims of violent crimes.

#### **4. Emergency Management**

Support legislation and regulations that maximize Placer County's ability to effectively mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural and man-made disasters and public health emergencies, protecting both physical and fiscal health. In addition, emergency management and homeland security policies, practices, and funding should be designed to promote innovation at the local level and to permit maximum flexibility so that services can best target individual community needs, hazards, threats, and capacities. This includes:

- a. Support adherence to the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS) processes, especially as they relate to the operational area concept.
- b. Advocate for improved coordination between state and local offices of emergency services and state and local departments with health and safety-related responsibilities (e.g. California Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Health Services, and the Emergency Medical Services Authority, and county offices of emergency services, county health agencies and local emergency services agencies).
- c. Work to ensure that proposals that impose responsibilities upon counties are accompanied by full and flexible funding.
- d. Support full and flexible funding for on-going emergency preparedness and all hazard planning.
- e. Support grant processes, procedures, and guidelines that allow full funding for personnel to carry out emergency management and homeland security programs.
- f. Support full and flexible funding for emergency communication system interoperability between all local government agencies and the State of California.
- g. Advocate for broad county access to technologies that offer effective and wide-ranging communications capabilities for alerting the public in emergency situations.
- h. Advocate at the federal level for policies and requirements that are practically achievable by local governments.

#### **5. Community Power Resiliency (Public Safety Power Shutoff)**

Support efforts to limit the scope and duration of proposed power shutoffs. Additionally, support efforts to that limit the impact of power shutoffs to business and residents.