

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



ITEM
3.48
(ID # 3255)

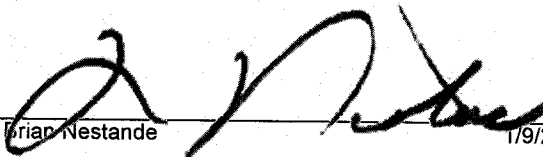
MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, January 17, 2017

FROM : EXECUTIVE OFFICE:

SUBJECT: Executive Office: 2017 Legislative Platform; All Districts [\$0]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:
Approve the 2017 Legislative Platform and direct the Executive Office and the County's Sacramento and Washington D.C. based representatives to advance the legislative proposals contained herein.

ACTION: Policy


Brian Nestande 1/9/2017

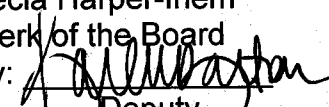
FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$ N/A	\$ N/A	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
NET COUNTY COST	\$ N/A	\$ N/A	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A			Budget Adjustment: N/A	
			For Fiscal Year: N/A	

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: [CEO use]

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Jeffries, seconded by Supervisor Washington and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Washington and Ashley
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: January 17, 2017
xc: E.O.

Kecia Harper-Ihem
Clerk of the Board
By: 
Deputy

3.48

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

BACKGROUND:

Summary

In accordance with Policy A-27, each year, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors adopts a legislative platform to guide the legislative advocacy efforts at the State and Federal levels. The Executive Office, working in conjunction with Board members and department, developed the platform to address a variety of crucial issues facing the County. Positions approved from the previous platform are still in effect.

The 2017 platform includes key State and Federal legislative priorities, new policy items and selected policy items of continuing high importance to Riverside County. Furthermore, as per the dynamic nature of the legislative process additional State and Federal legislative issues of concern to the County will be brought forward to the Board for appropriate action throughout the year as the need arises.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

This action should not affect residents or businesses of Riverside County.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY
2017
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

John Tavaglione, Chairman
Second District

Kevin Jeffries
First District

Chuck Washington
Third District

Vacant
Fourth District

Marion Ashley
Fifth District

Jay E. Orr
County Executive Officer

Riverside County Board of Supervisors



Board Chair
John F. Tavaglione
Second District

District2@rcbos.org
(951) 955-1020

Represents the cities of Corona, Norco, Jurupa Valley, and Eastvale. It also includes approximately 1/3 of the City of Riverside, including the following city of Riverside neighborhoods: Northside, Downtown, Wood Streets, Magnolia Center, Grand, and the northern half of Arlanza and La Sierra Acres.

Unincorporated communities include Home Gardens, El Cerrito, Coronita, and Highgrove



Kevin Jeffries
First District

District1@rcbos.org
(951) 955-1010

Represents the cities of Wildomar, Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, and most of the city of Riverside.

Unincorporated communities include DeLuz, Gavilan Hills, Good Hope, Lake Hills, Lake Mathews, LaCresta, Mead Valley, Meadowbrook, Spring Hills, Temescal Valley, Tenaja, Warm Springs, and Woodcrest.



Chuck Washington
Third District

District3@rcbos.org
(951) 955-1030

Represents constituents from Idyllwild to Anza Borrego Desert State Park, and from Temecula to San Jacinto. Representation includes the cities of Hemet, Murrieta, San Jacinto, and Temecula, and the communities of Aguanga, Anza Valley, Cahuilla, East Hemet, Gilman Hot Springs, Homeland, Idyllwild, Lake Riverside, Mountain Center, Murrieta Hot Springs, Pine Cove, Pine Meadow, the Pinyon Communities, Poppet Flats, Rancho California, Soboba Hot Springs, Valle Vista, and Winchester.

Vacant
Fourth District

District4@rcbos.org
(760) 863-8211

Represents the cities of Blythe, Cathedral City, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Indian Wells, Indio, La Quinta, Palm Desert, Palm Springs, and Rancho Mirage.

Unincorporated communities include Bermuda Dunes, Chiriaco Summit, Colorado River communities, Desert Center, Desert Edge, Eagle Mountain, Indio Hills, Lake Tamarisk, Mecca, Mesa Verde, North Shore, Oasis, Ripley, Sky Valley, Sun City, Palm Desert, Thermal, Thousand Palms, and Vista Santa Rosa.



Marion Ashley
Fifth District

District5@rcbos.org
(951) 955-1050

Represents the cities of Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Menifee, Perris, and Moreno Valley, March Air Reserve Base and the easterly portion of the March Joint Powers Authority. The district also encompasses tribal lands of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, and the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians.

Unincorporated areas include the Banning Bench, Cabazon, Cherry Valley, Desert Hot Springs, El Nido, Juniper Flats, Lakeview, Mission Lakes, Nuevo, Romoland, North Palm Springs, Painted Hills, Quail Lake, Reche Canyon, San Timoteo, Snow Creek, Twin Pines, West Garnet, Windy Point, and Whitewater

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Executive Summary

Executive Summary

The Executive Office prepared this document in accordance with Board Policy A-27 and with the assistance of Board members and departments. The Board continues to support efforts from previous platforms.

Highlights from Previous Platforms

Funding Disparities – The Inland Empire continues to be harmed by state funding formulas.

- The 1991 healthcare realignment significantly harmed Riverside County by failing to take into account the County's ability for growth. With the advent of the 2011 Realignment Riverside County finds itself in a similar situation where its growing population and prominence is being ignored. Failure to act now would allow cumulative disparities to grow and compound over time, thus further harming the County in the long term.
- The County continues to advocate for equity in Cap and Trade program funds. AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, set forth a regulatory structure referred to as Cap & Trade. This program is producing close to a billion dollars annually. The affordable housing and sustainability community (AHSC) grant is one of five pools of money distributed from Cap & Trade. In 2015, The Southern California region received 18% of allocated funds from the program even though the region has 60% of the state population and 67% of the disadvantaged communities in the state.

Immigration Reform – Resolution Number 2013-050 was unanimously approved February 26, 2013.

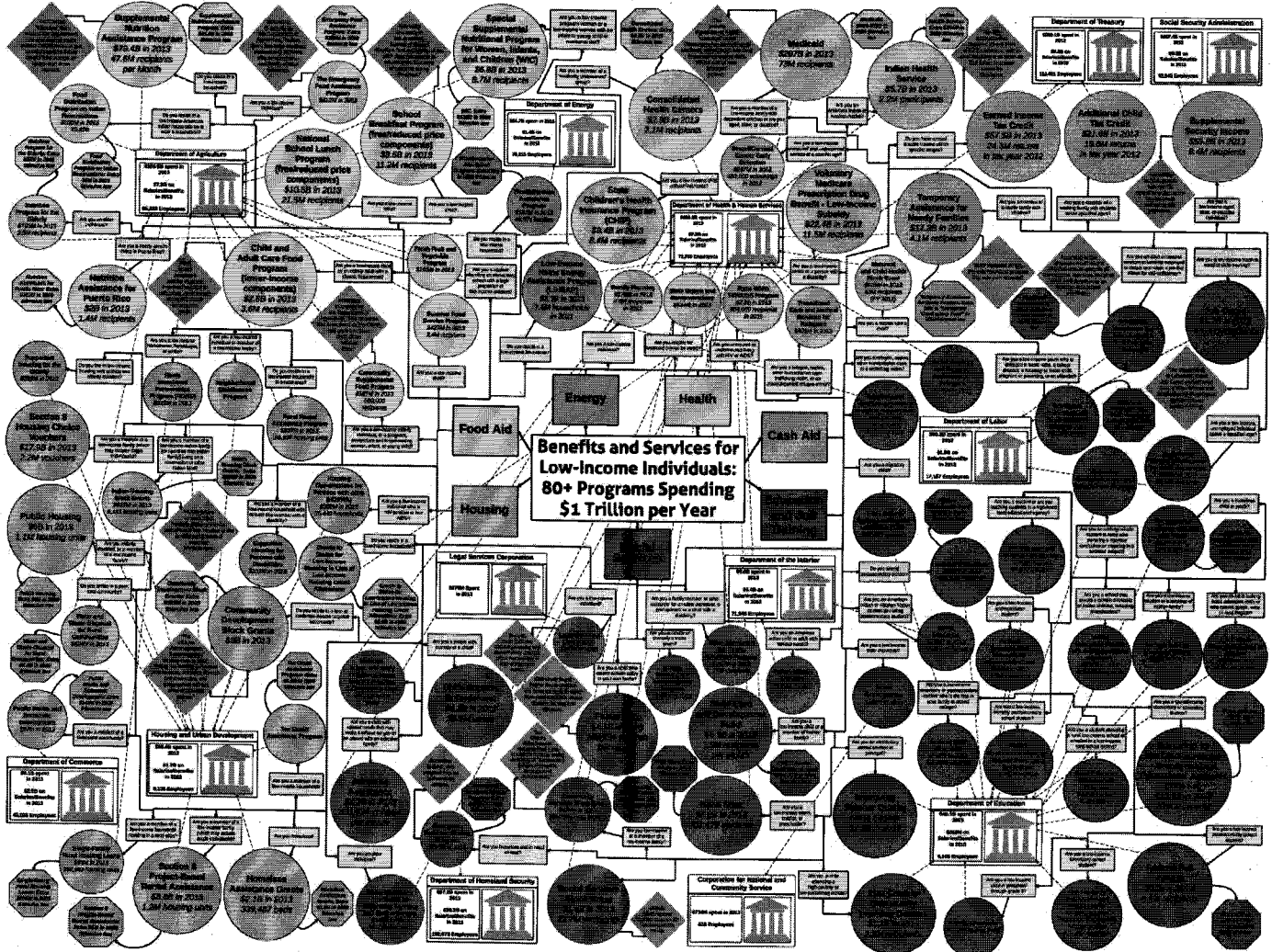
- The Board continues to support comprehensive immigration reform that protects public safety and the rights of existing American citizens and includes: continued enhancement of border security and national defense, a tough but fair pathway to citizenship, a guest worker program for agricultural/subsistence wage workers, a special provision to ensure minor children are treated separately, a registration program to combat visa overstays, and an improved process for admitting future workers.

New Proposals

The Board of Supervisors Supports:

1. **State legislation instructing the Legislative Analyst's Office to report on state and federal distribution formulas.** The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) is a non-partisan policy research arm of the State Legislature. Known for its fiscal and programmatic expertise and nonpartisan analyses of the state budget and a variety of other issues, the LAO serves as the Legislature's "eyes and ears" to ensure that legislative policy is implemented in a cost efficient and effective manner.

2. Pilot Programs - Innovation Grants for Government Efficiency



This diagram represents the flow of money from the federal government for social services and general welfare programs. The Board advocates for a simplified approach.

In 2015, the Board hired KPMG, an accounting and management consulting firm, to conduct forensic audits and reviews of county operations. The results of the first stage of the review identified a potential annual savings of over tens of millions of dollars by implementing a number of programmatic efficiencies and eliminating duplicative or obsolete practices.

The identified savings came from county departments that have budgets using almost exclusively county only funds (net county costs). Further stages of audits and reviews will involve departments that have budgets consisting of a majority of funds from state/federal programs. Riverside County strives to operate as cost effectively and efficiently as possible across all department programs to ensure optimal, customer focused service delivery.

In June 2016, Speaker Paul Ryan put forth a series of legislative and policy proposals with a goal of finding inefficiencies in government programs. Speaker Ryan's document identified over 80 separate programs devoted to benefits and services for low income individuals, with over \$1 trillion a year in spending. Specifically, the proposals call for more evidence based evaluations of programs. It also suggests a "tiered funding approach" in which programs are rigorously evaluated and either discarded or provided with continued funding based on meeting objectives and goals.

The Board advocates for a pilot program whereby federal and state funding guidelines are created to encourage costs savings through a tiered funding approach as well as the use of other models that bring forth best practices and efficiencies. The Board proposes that the pilot program incentivize counties and local governments to reinvest any cost savings to further enhance local programs. The Board further request that any pilot program be allowed the maximum possible flexibility in design and implementation. A pilot program with strict federal and state guidelines might not have the insight of local administrative expertise and therefore have a limited use.

3. Streamline Infrastructure Projects

It is government's job to ensure that infrastructure is operating at peak efficiency. The approval process for infrastructure projects has turned into a decade's long overly complicated and litigious process that has left our countries infrastructure in a state of inefficiency and disarray.

An analysis on the impacts and solutions to our current system by Common Good, a nonpartisan reform organization, shows that a six-year delay on public projects costs the nation over \$3.7 trillion. This figure, which includes the costs of prolonged inefficiencies and unnecessary pollution, is more than double the \$1.7 trillion needed to modernize America's infrastructure. Delays on projects concerning power transmission and roads/bridges play an ever-increasing part in the total losses that come as a result of delay.

- **Roads and Bridges**

Over ten percent of U.S. bridges are structurally deficient. This is not even taking into account that nearly one in seven bridges is not only structurally deficient but also functionally obsolete. When further examined this has resulted in the additional costs of: \$270 billion dollars due to the cost of vehicle congestion on our roads, environmental losses of \$6 billion, and an increase of \$151.8 billion to rebuilding costs. The total cost of a six-year delay in this case is thus \$427.7 billion.

- **Canada and Germany**

Compared to other western countries the United States is nowhere near as efficient. Looking at Canada and Germany, (which generally grant permits for major infrastructure projects within two years or less including an environmental review), both countries have clear lines of authority with

consolidated decision making processes. Lawsuits must be resolved in a timely matter and jurisdictions are limited to legal violations instead of overarching policy decisions or general quality reviews.

- **The Board supports legislation to begin the consolidation of decisions within a simplified framework with deadlines, clear lines of authority, and an overarching agency with a purpose to balance the needs created by the cross jurisdictional demands of multiple parties.**

4. Reform California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Riverside County created the first and largest in the nation Habitat Conservation Plan in an effort to balance environmental policy with the need for improved infrastructure. The plan was created with input from environmental and conservation groups to ensure development occurred and that the environment was protected.

Unfortunately, the need to improve the underlying excessive regulations contained in CEQA has not diminished.

A variety of bi-partisan reform proposals have been suggested in the state legislature, but no wholesale change has been enacted. Instead, there has been a number of single project CEQA exemptions passed into law. For example, when the National Basketball Association's Sacramento Kings franchise threatened to leave for Seattle, California enacted a law to facilitate stadium development in Sacramento that contained an important limitation on the CEQA process.

Thus, like the law enacted to facilitate stadium development in Sacramento, the Board:

- **Supports legislation that will make it so that all litigation under CEQA can be entirely resolved, including appeals, within 270 days of its filing, and further compel the state's judicial council to enact rules to guarantee this timeline.**
- 5. Support legislation allowing electric vehicle charging stations within Caltrans Roadside Rest Areas.** Caltrans operates 86 rest stops throughout the state. The Board supports legislation to create a public private partnership for the purpose of building EV charging stations within Caltrans Roadside Rest Areas. The largest impediment for the expansion of EV's is the lack of charging stations, the state should be looking at all options to expand access.
- 6. Board of Equalization: Sales Tax Oversight**
- **Support legislation to ensure that counties and cities are not harmed by miscalculations of sales tax appropriations by the Board of Equalization.** For example, the state could absorb the recent proposition 172 miscalculation in exchange for counties and cities foregoing various state owed mandate re-imbusement claims.
- 7. The Board supports the Coordinated Care Initiative.**
- The CCI brings together many fragmented pieces of our health care system, through advanced improvements in coordinated care, integrated physical and behavioral health services and robust coordination of wrap around services, which means beneficiaries are served more efficiently and are able to live more productive lives. Furthermore, the CCI program preserves the County's In-

Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Maintenance of Effort (MOE) under 1991 Realignment.

Continuation of significant items from previous platforms:

Health Care

In 2015, the Board approved consolidation of the health care departments. Mental Health, Public Health and the County Hospital became the Riverside University Health System. The consolidation provides efficiencies in the delivery of health care services for county residents.

The Board thus supports legislation to enhance the quality of health care and to strengthen the public health care delivery system:

- Repeal the prohibition of medical insurance coverage for inmates. When a person enters jail, their insurance coverage is suspended and the county is responsible for the cost of care. The county supports similar legislation like, H.R. 4201 (2015) - Restoring the Partnership for County Health Care Costs Act by Rep. Hastings, [D-FL-20].
- Oppose attempts by the federal government to limit the 340B Medicare drug purchase program. This program reduces the cost of prescription drugs for safety net hospitals and is critical to ensuring care to the underserved.
- Support continued efforts for behavior health parity and integration. The Board supports policies that enhance the role of behavior health in health care.
- Support of state recognition of tax-deductible health savings accounts in anticipation of the federal governments rebuilding of healthcare.

Judgeships

- Support legislation to fund additional Superior Court and Appellate Court Justiceships.

Reduce the federal corporate tax rate

- The U.S. has the highest corporate tax rate of all industrialized nations. There is an estimated \$2 - \$3 trillion dollars held overseas by U.S. companies to avoid the high tax rate. If those monies were brought back home, hundreds of thousands of jobs would be created.

Salton Sea

- The Board supports the implementation of the Governor's Salton Sea task force plan and encourages continued action without further consternation or formal studies. Riverside County also advocates for an appropriate share of Proposition 1A bond money for the Sea.

Transportation

- The Board continues to support new funding for state and federal transportation obligations.

Vehicle License Fees

- The Board continues to support the efforts of Wildomar, Menifee, Eastvale and Jurupa Valley to obtain parity in receipt of VLF revenue through legislation.



Behavioral Health

1991 Realignment Equity (State)

Issue: The 1991 realignment funding formula disregards population changes in the allocation of various mental health funding streams.

Action: Seek offsets in the 1991 funding formula to correct population based funding disparities.

Background: Population in the County of Riverside has increased 94% since 1991. Yet, per capita mental health funding has decreased 3% in the same period, thus augmenting budget pressures on limited county and alternative resources.

2011 Realignment Equity (State)

Issue: The 2011 realignment adjusted formula for Children and Substance Abuse Medi-Cal programs.

Action: Establish an adjustment mechanism in the 2011 realignment formula to adjust for population growth.

Background: Failure to adjust the 2011 Realignment formula for Children and Substance Abuse Medi-Cal programs based on population growth would allow cumulative disparities to grow and compound over time, thus augmenting budget pressures on limited county and alternative resources.

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Funding Definitions (State)

Issue: The MHSA currently requires the County to allocate 5% for innovative projects, as defined within the MHSA, which must be approved by the State Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission.

Action: Seek administrative or legislative change to limitations of definitions of interpretation and implementation so that obtaining approval is made less difficult and so that there is no underutilization of MHSA funds.

Background: Passage of Proposition 63 (now known as the Mental Health Services Act or MHSA) in November 2004, provided one of the first opportunities in many years for the California Department of Mental Health (DMH) to provide increased funding, personnel, and other resources to support county mental health programs and monitor progress toward statewide goals for children, transition age youth, adults, and older adults and families. The Act addresses a broad continuum of prevention, early intervention, and service needs while also providing the necessary infrastructure, technology, and training elements that would effectively support this system.

This Act imposes a 1% income tax on personal income in excess of \$1 million; since that time, it has generated approximately \$8 billion.

Behavioral Health Care and Services in Juvenile Justice Settings (State)

Issue: Limitations on Medi-Cal reimbursement and access to care restrict behavioral health and substance abuse treatment services available to juvenile offenders.

Action: Support legislation that encourages the removal of Medi-Cal restrictions and expanded funding.

Background: Removal of limitations and expansion of Medi-Cal funding would allow appropriate behavioral health and substance abuse treatment services to be available when and as needed in juvenile justice settings. This would provide budgetary relief to the County and other resources and would further result in reductions in severity of certain conditions and reduction of youth recidivism rates.

Jail / Juvenile Hall Medicaid Exclusion (Federal)

Issue: Federal Medicaid reimbursement for medically necessary behavioral health care for adults and juveniles who are incarcerated is permitted for inmates in a hospital setting but prohibited when delivered in County jail and juvenile hall facilities.

Action: Support legislation that encourages administrative or legislative change to remove restrictions that limit reimbursement based on the setting which care is delivered.

Background: Removal of restriction that limits reimbursement based on setting in which care is delivered would expand reimbursement for services being delivered, relieve budgetary pressure on County and other resources and promote higher quality and improved continuity of behavioral health care.

Medicaid Exclusion of Institutions of Mental Disease (IMD) Care (Federal)

Issue: Medicaid limits reimbursement of care delivered in certain IMD settings based on existing definitions of those settings.

Action: Support legislation that seeks administrative or legislative change.

Background: Revised definition of permitted IMD settings would relieve budgetary pressure on County and other resources and allow the County to recover costs of services being provided to Medicaid beneficiaries.

County DUI Providers

Issue: California Health & Safety Code: County DUI Providers

Action: Seek administrative or legislative change to clarify the needs, requirements, and conclusive evidence that is required as per sections 9801.5, 9805, and 11837.6 of the California Health & Safety Code.

Background: As per sections 11837.6, 9801.5, and 9805 of the Health & Safety Code:

1. Section 11837.6, amended in 2004 specifies that the County's alcohol and drug program administrator is responsible for assuring the programmatic and fiscal integrity of each DUI program. This section goes on to further state technical aspects of the oversight and review that are the responsibility of the County. Riverside County is currently in compliance with said provisions.
2. Language in Section 9801.5 indicates that the County (through the Board of Supervisors) shall facilitate the process for a number of variables, including the oversight and review referred in section 11837.6, and shall, at its option, review new applications for licensure of DUI providers and provide a recommendation to the alcohol and drug program administrator.
3. Section 9805 indicates that the Board of Supervisors shall include, among other components of this recommendation, a statement assuring that:
 - There is a need for a new DUI program in the County.
 - The establishment of an additional DUI Program will not jeopardize the fiscal integrity of existing licensed DUI programs.

Concern with the aforementioned statutes results from the lack of clarity/direction along with the implied market analysis needed for new DUI programs. This analysis, which requires the inclusion of subjective determinants such as: geographic location, transportation availability, days/times of service delivery, and other program and consumer variables, could prove to be detrimental to the County considering the drain on limited departmental resources that would come as a result.

Additionally, as it is further implied that a financial/market size/service absorption study and forecast must also be done of all current providers to support any conclusions that are determined by the market analysis. Some aspects of such an analysis may be out of normal departmental purviews, especially with the lack of concrete standards or definitions of fiscal integrity as indicated within the language of the statutes.

A lack in clarity and direction as per these statutes make it extremely difficult for the County to comply with the required statutes. Legislative change to clarify said statutes would allow the County to adhere to said requirements.



Economic Development Agency

Goods Movement by Rail

Issue: The Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach are the busiest port complex in the United States and handle as much as 40% of the nation's international cargo. According to a cargo forecast developed by Mercator International and Oxford Economics, the two ports handled 15.2 million twenty-foot equivalent (TEU) containers in 2014 and are projected to have an annual cargo volume of 41.1 million TEUs by 2040. In addition, there is significant domestic goods movement in Southern California, particularly to and from facilities in Inland Southern California, and this is also expected to grow in the coming years. There is therefore an increasingly urgent need to improve the system of goods movement in the region.

Action: 1) Support the development of rail transport-related infrastructure in California, including streamlining of the entitlement process and limits on litigation against projects with significant regional benefit; and 2) support the creation of Federal and State incentives to induce shippers to reduce reliance upon trucking for goods movement and invest in badly needed improvements such as intermodal facilities and rail/transfer yards.

Background: The volume of goods movement around and through Southern California is forecast to increase significantly, which will in turn be accompanied by greater traffic congestion. As a result, there is an increasingly urgent need to reduce road congestion associated with the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. There are a variety of mechanisms available to reduce congestion, amongst which the enhanced use of rail is one which has the greatest potential to be effective. To accomplish this, additional rail facilities, mainline track, and infrastructure will be required throughout Southern California.

The entitlement process is often used as a weapon to stall or stop new projects; witness the recent cancellation of BNSF Railways' Southern California International Gateway (SCIG) project in Los Angeles following a CEQA challenge. SCIG would have moved cargo onto rail within just a few miles of the ports, increasing rail capacity where it's urgently needed and maximizing use of the Alameda Corridor (the primary rail route serving the ports), and was expected to reduce current and future truck traffic within the South Coast Air Basin by approximately 1.3 million trips annually. The inability to build new infrastructure in California limits the ability to move cargo in an environmentally friendly and efficient way, drives up the cost of doing business, and ultimately hurts supply chain competitiveness and the region as a whole.

Complicating matters is the cost associated with operations through the Alameda Corridor. The Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority currently charges \$47 per container for movements through the Corridor, which likely contributes to the fact that the Corridor is operating at just 25% of its capacity. The expense associated with rail movements, combined with the perceived speed and flexibility offered by using trucks for the transport of goods, has reduced rail's share of overall goods movement.

Benefits: Improved rail infrastructure and increased use of rail for goods movement within Southern California would result in numerous benefits, including:

- Reduced truck traffic along the region's freeways, which are heavily impacted by truck-related congestion
- Improved air quality

- Investment and job growth related to the creation of new rail/transfer yards, intermodal facilities, and mainline track
- Improved efficiency of cargo handling at the Ports, which would allow for quicker cargo container handling and distribution to markets
- Increased capacity for passenger service along key routes, including those serving Inland Southern California (such as the San Bernardino, 91, and Riverside Lines)

Revenue Sharing on Energy/Mineral Extraction (Federal)

Issue: Federal/Local Government revenue sharing on Energy/ Mineral extraction.

Action: Riverside County supports the Salton Sea Authority in looking to bring about more development of local resources while protecting from predation by entities that would extract resources without compensation to the impacted communities.

Background: Revenue sharing on Energy/Mineral extraction has been a concept that has failed to materialize in the past. In order to get clear legislation addressing this issue passed, it will take the support of not only the Salton Sea Authority but all of the local stakeholders involved in the area. Specifically, the Salton Sea Authority is looking for legislation that supports revenue sharing agreements that are mutually acceptable to all concerned that warrant support, along with legislation that will enable such arrangements. Cooperative ventures between the Federal Government and the mineral rich counties in the Salton Sea region may offer opportunities to equitably address federal and local priorities with new resources.

There have been bills in the past such as S. 1407 (Heller), and current bills such as H.R. 2663 (Gosar) and S.2568 (Feinstein) that address this issue. These bills call for an environmental review process to assess public lands and determine which renewable energy projects would be most viable in those areas. Under the bill, the Bureau of Land Management would collect a royalty from developers that site their projects on these public lands. From these funds, 25% would go to the state, 25% to the county, 15% to the Bureau of Land Management, and 35% would be deposited into a fund for conservation purposes.

However, it seems unlikely that the current bills numbers will be passed this session and thus the Salton Sea Authority will look for the reintroduction of bills containing revenue sharing provisions as called for in the Salton Sea Authority board-adopted Guiding Principles for Legislative Action.

Community Development Block Grant

Issues:

1. Increased annual appropriations for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to allow grantees to effectively plan, administer, and utilize funding allocations;
2. Regulatory reform of the CDBG program to ensure long-term sustainability and effectiveness; and
3. Supplemental CDBG appropriations to encourage and expand use of CDBG for economic development and infrastructure revitalization.

Action:

1. Support proposed FY 2017 CDBG funding and continuing resolutions in both the Senate and House;
2. Support increased appropriations for CDBG to assist state and local government's efforts to address chronic poverty, unemployment, and deteriorating infrastructure;
3. Support regulatory reform of the CDBG Entitlement Program to modify thresholds for grantee entitlement status to ensure long-term viability; and
4. Support supplemental CDBG appropriations for economic and infrastructure development activities and modify public benefit/job creation requirements and other regulatory requirements.

Background: Stable Funding: Previous funding reductions together with stagnant funding levels in recent years continue to leave the CDBG program at its lowest funding level, when adjusted for inflation, since the programs beginning. It is important that the funding for CDBG remain stable and that it also allows for increased program administrative costs to allow HUD, grantees, and sub-recipients to appropriately and effectively plan and utilize this important resource.

Entitlement Reform: The CDBG regulations must be modified to change the "formula" or thresholds for grantees to attain "entitlement" status. In 1984 there were 795 grantees dividing up a \$3.486 billion CDBG allocation. For FY 2017, there will be more than 1250 grantees dividing up \$3 billion. The effectiveness and viability of the CDBG program is at risk and cannot be sustained. Therefore, the County should advocate for legislation in the best interest of the County's CDBG program.

Economic Development and Infrastructure: Encourage special supplemental appropriations of CDBG funds aimed at sustainable, community-based economic development, as well as infrastructure revitalization. The funding would be used to target job creating economic development and infrastructure improvement activities in areas with higher percentages of poverty, unemployment, and lower-income households, and both inadequate and deteriorating infrastructure. To encourage grantee participation, CDBG regulations pertaining to job creation (CDBG \$ per job), public benefit, and other performance issues need to be amended.

Renewable Energy Development

Issue: Renewable Energy Development at the Salton Sea.

Action: Riverside County supports the Salton Sea Authority working with the State and local agencies on how best to identify pathways for aggregating a power purchase of at least 250 MW of new geothermal energy from the Salton Sea region.

Background: California has been very progressive in its policies concerning renewable energy development. The Salton Sea Authority supports efforts to promote geothermal energy development in the Salton Sea Known Geothermal Resource Area and is thus looking to work with the Department of Energy's (DOE) and the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP). There is significant baseload power supply nearly devoid of any GHG – Greenhouse Gas that has been identified.

The Salton Sea Authority has and will continue to support the development of all renewable energy resources at the Salton Sea in order to provide potential revenue streams to help fund revitalization projects and activities.

State Bonds and Grants

Issue: Salton Sea's need for additional revenue sources.

Action: Riverside County supports the Salton Sea Authority pursuit of legislation and budget line items that would appropriate much needed funding in the form of bonds and grants to be used in the development of projects that would improve the health of the ecosystem, environment, and economy at the Salton Sea.

Background: The Salton Sea Authority continues to advocate for additional appropriation from 2014 State Water Bond (Proposition 1) for Salton Sea projects from the \$475 million provision related to state obligations in water right settlements including the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA).

As well as coordinating with the appropriate state agencies to ensure that any funds appropriated under this provision include short-term, medium-term, and long-term financial commitments.

Recent bonds such as AB 2444 (Garcia) - California Parks, Water, Climate, and Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2016 would have authorized the issuance of \$3.497 billion in State General Obligation bonds to finance parks, water, climate adaptation, coastal protection, and outdoor access programs.

Of note for the SSA, this bond would have specifically granted \$37.5 million to the Salton Sea Authority. Of this amount, not less than \$10 million shall be available for purposes consistent with the New River Water Quality, Public Health, and River Parkway Development Program.

State Low Income Housing Tax Credits

Issue: California's shortfall of affordable homes and the continued dramatic rise in rents has contributed to California's rising poverty rates.

Action: Urge California Lawmakers and the Governor of the State of California to support and pass AB 2817.

Background: Existing law established a low-income housing tax credit program operated by the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (TCAC). Existing law also limits the total annual amount that the committee may allocate to \$70 million. AB 2817 would increase the aggregate housing credit dollar amount that the committee may allocate by \$300,000,000 and potentially leverage an additional \$600 million in federal housing resources that would otherwise go unclaimed. The bill would also increase the amount the committee may allocate to farmworker housing projects from \$500,000 to \$25,000,000 per year. Increasing the amount of State credits would have a positive impact on the overall Tax Credit program by reducing the amount of Federal credits needed for a project. Currently for a project to be financially feasible state tax credits are combined with federal tax credits, which typically only allow three to four projects to be funded annually in the Inland Empire. AB 2817 directly responds to California's shortfall of affordable homes and continued rise in rents and poverty rate by leveraging hundreds of millions in federal and private funds to create thousands of new affordable homes and well-paying jobs.

Low Income Housing Tax Credits

Issue: The current regulations of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program group the Inland Empire region to include San Bernardino County, Riverside County, and Imperial County into one geographic set-aside that accounts for 12% of the state of California's population.

Action: Urge local and state legislators to support regulatory changes to the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program to align the allocation of Low Income Housing Tax Credits with the region's population.

Background: The California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTAC) has established ten geographic regions and allocated a percentage of available low income housing tax credits to each region. The County of Riverside, San Bernardino, and Imperial are grouped together to form one of the ten regions defined as the Inland Empire Region. The California Department of Finance estimated the Inland Empire population in 2015 at 4,627,677 residents representing 12% of the statewide population. The Inland Empire region currently receives only 8.3% of the geographic apportionments compared to San Diego County at 8.6% and Orange County at 7.3%. The current regulations of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program disproportionately allocates low-income housing tax credits by region and unjustly places the Inland Empire region at a disadvantage.

Farmworker Housing Assistance Tax Credit Program

Issue: The California State Treasurer's Office (STO) Farmworker Housing Assistance Tax Credit Program is underutilized due to outdated and inefficient policies. There have not been any housing projects funded under this program since 2008. This underinvestment in farmworker housing has created hardships for this labor force and their families.

Action: Urge California Lawmakers and the Governor of the State of California to support and pass AB 2140.

Background: The California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTAC) administers two low-income housing tax credit programs – a federal program and a state program. Two types of federal tax credits are available and are generally referred to as the nine percent and four percent credits. The nine percent federal tax credits are highly competitive and oversubscribed, however the four percent credits historically have been underutilized. In 1996, legislators authorized the Farmworker Housing Tax Credit Program which is an annual set-aside of state low-income housing tax credits for farmworker housing developments which is a set aside from the California state tax credits. This program is annually allocated \$500,000 for the entire state, which accrues and is carried forward into future years if not awarded to farmworker housing projects. The total State Farmworker Tax Credits available in 2016 was \$5,047,118.

Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018

Issue: California is experiencing an extreme housing shortage with 2.2 million extremely low income and very low-income renter households competing for only 664,000 affordable rental homes. This leaves more than 1.54 million of California's lowest income households without access to affordable housing.

Action: Urge California Lawmakers and the Governor of the State of California to support and pass SB 879 with a provision for CEQA reform.

Background: Under existing law, there are programs providing assistance for, among other things, emergency housing, multifamily housing, farmworker housing, home ownership for very low and low-income households, and down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers. Existing law also authorizes the issuance of bonds in specified amounts pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law and requires that proceeds from the sale of these bonds be used to finance various existing housing programs, capital outlay related to infill development, brownfield cleanup that promotes infill development, and housing-related parks. This bill would enact the Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018, which, if adopted, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$3,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law. Proceeds from the sale of these bonds would be used to finance various existing housing programs, as well as infill infrastructure financing and affordable housing matching grant programs, as provided. The bill would provide for submission of the bond act to the voters at the November 6, 2018, statewide general election in accordance with specified law. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Federal)

Issue: Congress has slashed funding for workforce education programs by \$400 million since 2010.

Action: Provide full funding for workforce and career and technical education.

Background: Riverside County has a less skilled and educated workforce than our neighboring counties. This in turn limits economic development opportunities and impacts our residents' ability to obtain high quality jobs that provide pathways to the middle class. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) helps job seekers and workers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and matches employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy.

Congress passed WIOA, the first legislative reform of the public workforce system in more than 15 years, by a wide bipartisan majority. In doing so, Congress reaffirmed the role of the American Job Center (AJC) system, a cornerstone of the public workforce investment system, and brought together and enhanced several key employment, education, and training programs. Over 15,000 Riverside County residents turn to these programs annually to obtain training and jobs.

Summer Youth Employment Program (Federal)

Issue: Youth unemployment remains at a high rate nationally and in Riverside County.

Action: Promote and fund summer employment programs targeted to low-income and disconnected youth.

Background: The national unemployment rate has dropped significantly since the recession. Youth unemployment remains at a high rate nationally and in Riverside County. Youth employment increases household income for low-income families; provides opportunities for skills development and career exploration; and increases community engagement. A re-implementation of the "summer youth employment program" rooted in career and industry sector pathways would be of significant benefit to high poverty communities and households.

USDA Watershed Program (Federal)

Issue: Revenue streams from the State for the Salton Sea are currently inadequate, and thus Federal revenue streams must be procured as well.

Action: Riverside County supports the Salton Sea Authority in supporting the Senate Appropriations Committee proposal of more than \$100 million for the USDA Watershed Program in FY 17.

Background: Under the Watershed Program NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service cooperates with States and local agencies to carry out works of improvement for soil conservation and for other purposes including flood prevention; conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water; and conservation and proper utilization of land.

The Salton Sea Authority has received a NRCS grant of \$7.5M and is looking to expand that funding, in order to help facilitate the need of multiple sources of revenue to revitalize the Salton Sea. Congress has not funded the Watershed program for two or three years, but the Senate Appropriations Committee has proposed more than \$100 million for the program in FY 17. Thus, the Salton Sea Authority will continue to watch the progress of the proposed \$100 million and support in any way necessary.

Appropriations from existing WRDA – Water Resources Development Act authorization (Federal)

Issue: Revenue streams from the State for the Salton Sea are currently inadequate, and thus Federal revenue streams must be procured as well.

Action: Riverside County supports the Salton Sea Authority in supporting the Senate version of WRDA 2016 S.2848 provisions, throughout the conference committee proceedings.

Background: The Salton Sea Authority supports Federal funding and cooperation with the US Army Corps of Engineers. \$30 million in federal funding for Salton Sea revitalization was authorized in 2007 under the federal Water Resource Development Act (WRDA), but never appropriated.

While WRDA funding has been appropriated in the President's budget for annual Energy and Water Appropriations Act budget for the Army Corps, this funding has fallen away during the years when Continuing Resolutions wiped out such necessary adjustments. The \$30 million authorization thus remains available, subject to appropriations. Projects could be funded through the Army Corps, if the budget is passed with provision for \$200,000 for completion.

The current WRDA 2016 legislation S. 2848 (Inhofe) would not only maintain the \$30 million authorization but also specifically designate the SSA as a preferred partner for the funding agreements to be established with the Army Corps. This legislation has passed the Senate and is going to a conference committee to mediate between the Senate and House versions of the bill.

Low Income Housing Tax Credits (Federal)

Issue: The Low Income Housing Tax Credit rates are currently determined by a formula that is tied to federal borrowing rates, which consistently change. The lower the federal borrowing rates fall, the lower the housing credit rate becomes which reduces the equity available for individual affordable housing developments.

Action: Urge Congress to make the minimum housing credit rates permanent.

Background: Currently, the affordable housing rates are established at a minimum 9% for new construction and substantial rehabilitation and 4% for acquisition and moderate rehabilitation. Due to the fact that federal rates have dropped to historic lows, there is now 15 to 20 percent less housing credit available for any given project. Most of the projects are underwritten with other funding sources; however, in recent years these sources have experienced a significant cut in funding. Without the flexibility to provide increased housing credit equity many projects will be impossible to finance.

HOME Investment Partnership Act Program Funding (Federal)

Issue: Over the years Congress has significantly cut funding for the HOME Investment Partnerships Act Program by nearly 50%.

Action: Urge Congress to increase funding to the HOME Investment Partnerships Act (HOME) Program.

Background: The HOME program is the only federal community development block grant left at the state and local level designed to create and preserve affordable housing that meets the specific population needs of states, cities and counties. The County of Riverside is the 10th largest populated county in the United States consisting of urbanized neighborhoods, suburban cities and rural communities. Since 1994, the County of Riverside has utilized HOME funds for the construction, acquisition, and/or rehabilitation of more than 3,323 units, provided rental assistance to more than 1,430 households, and provided down payment assistance to over 752 First Time Home Buyers. Occupancy within these units often consists of special needs populations including individuals with disabilities, veterans and chronically homeless.

The HOME program is also the only program left at the state and local level that is used to leverage funds to produce the greatest number of affordable units. Newly constructed and rehabilitated units with HOME funds are typically leveraged with private investment dollars through the tax credit program. If the HOME program funding is reduced it will detrimentally impact new construction of needed affordable housing. When HOME funds are utilized for the new construction or rehabilitation of affordable units it ensures that these units will remain affordable for a minimum of 20 years. Therefore, an increase in HOME program funding is needed to address the creation and preservation affordable housing.

EB-5 Permanent Reauthorization (Federal)

Issue: EB-5 permanent reauthorization.

Action: Permanent authorization of the EB-5 Program by Congress after 23+ years of bipartisan support and current record-breaking economic impact statistics.

Background: The interconnected world we live in today demands public policy that takes advantage of the fact that economic opportunity, capital, and people are crossing national borders at a record-setting, and seemingly ever-increasing, rates. "Immigrant investor programs" exist all around the world, all competing for the same economic benefit of attracting entrepreneurial investors to their shores and each with a unique purpose once the capital is attracted. The U.S. designed the EB-5 Regional Center Program to allocate capital to regional economic development and U.S. job creation, and it is now delivering on its promise in a major way. As of November 2016, Riverside County has over 47 local EB-5 projects, totaling over \$908 million dollars in investment and projected to create over 12,000 jobs upon project completion. Other items to note regarding the program are as follows:

1. The program has attracted a total of \$4.2 billion in investments and supported the creation of at least 77,150 jobs nationally.
2. The program's regional focus provides valuable opportunities to states and localities, particularly on civic development and infrastructure projects. The program's ability to provide long-term, low-interest capital that can complement existing public funds presents valuable opportunities for state and local leaders to address some of their public-spending projects, including in highly underinvested but critical public infrastructure and affordable housing.
3. With increased security, functionality, and integrity, the program has great potential to support regional economic development. Considering its relatively limited size, the EB-5 program alone will not be the primary solution for the country's most expensive and critical needs. However, with effective reforms to increase the program's integrity, security, and functionality, the EB-5 program has the potential to provide for incremental but relatively significant opportunities for regional economic development.

Housing Choice Voucher Program for the Chronically Homeless (Federal)

Issue: There are 750 chronically homeless individuals in Riverside County awaiting an affordable or supportive housing unit.

Action: Replicate the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Program model to provide housing and services to the chronically homeless through the use of targeted Section 8 vouchers.

Background: The Housing Choice Voucher program also known as "Section 8" is the largest provider of affordable housing in Riverside County. The Section 8 program leverages the existing private rental market to provide affordable housing for low-income households. This public-private program provides an effective means to quickly end homelessness for these individuals through the use of a voucher. Supported services would be provided off-site through existing social service programs.

Support for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (Federal)

Issue: Access to capital remains a top area of concern for economic developers as a reflection of a near constant need for more readily accessible financing to start or expand small businesses.

Action: Improve access to capital for businesses by supporting the implementation of crowdfunding regulations, streamlining federal small business financing programs, and improving access to private loans through implementing legislation such as the Jumpstart Our Business Act of 2011, Startup Act 2.0 (H.R.5893), Small Business Lending Enhancement Act (S.2231), and the Bipartisan Tax Simplification and Fairness Act (S. 727).

Background: It should be noted that while there might not be a credit crunch limiting the availability of financing for entrepreneurs and small businesses – this point is often debated to a great extent – what is more universally understood is that requirements and processes for obtaining financing are cumbersome and onerous, ripe for review and corresponding reform. As new alternatives such as crowdfunding become available, it will be critical for the federal government to review financing opportunities through agencies such as Small Business Administration (SBA) and Department of Agriculture (USDA) for relevance and cohesion in order to efficiently and effectively leverage federal resources.

Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) (Federal)

Issue: There are over 56,000 households registered for the Section 8 waiting list in Riverside County and an additional 750 chronic homeless individuals awaiting an affordable or supportive housing unit. Riverside County's Section 8 program is at maximum capacity and cannot serve any additional households.

Action: Urge Congress to increase funding to the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8).

Background: The Housing Choice Voucher program also known as "Section 8" provides resources essential to ensuring that vulnerable seniors, families, veterans, and people with disabilities have access to decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing to help stabilize and improve the quality of their lives.

More than 5 million people in more than 2 million low-income families use vouchers to help pay for housing that they find in the private market. About half of the households using vouchers are seniors or people with disabilities; most of the rest are working families with children. These households have incomes of about \$16,100, on average, well below the poverty line.

Vouchers sharply reduce homelessness and other hardships, lift more than 1 million people out of poverty, and give families an opportunity to move to safer, higher income neighborhoods. These effects, in turn, are linked to educational, developmental, and health benefits that can improve children's long-term prospects and reduce costs in other public programs.

Cantonment Area Expansion- March Air Reserve Base

Issue: March Air Reserve Base (MARB) is one of the most critical components of the Inland Southern California regional economy. According to a December 2015 Financial Impact Analysis performed by the Rose Institute of State and Local Government at Claremont McKenna College at the behest of the Economic Development Agency (EDA), MARB has a direct economic impact of nearly \$600 million; the indirect amount is doubtless significantly greater but was not estimated in the study. MARB is currently home to over 9,000 military and civilian personnel, and is one of the oldest installations in the Air Force; the base will celebrate its centennial in 2018. For reference, a list of units, detachments, and missions based at MARB is included at the end of this document.

A significant step in that effort would be the expansion of the cantonment area of the base (i.e. the secured area within the base that serves as a permanent military installation), which would bring additional units and missions to MARB and thus further enhance the base's stature within the nation's defense system. Eventually this effort could lead to MARB being designated as March Joint Reserve Base, a broader and further reaching designation that would lessen the likelihood of downsizing or closing the base. Pursuing a Joint Reserve Base designation would entail a prolonged process with agreements required between various branches of service, up to and including a formal basing action and/or a Moratorium Waiver for base expansion. The designation would also require Congressional approval and formal environmental impact analysis documents.

Action: The cantonment area currently encompasses an area of approximately 2,100 acres, and includes several units and missions that are critical to the base's function and help secure its place in the nation's defense structure. However, there are some additional facilities that would become a more permanent presence on the base following cantonment expansion, potentially including the following:

- U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) Training Center: currently just outside the cantonment area, the center would be moved inside the fence line and thus benefit from the additional security. Adding the center to the cantonment area would be a major step toward facilitating the "Joint" base designation mentioned above.

An alternative possibility would see the Army continue to own the land; the Air Force would simply extend the fence line as necessary to place the USAR facility inside the cantonment area. This would be a less burdensome and expensive process, likely a federal/federal permit resulting in a zero cost lease; however, it could lead to an incremental process that would have the same end result.

It should be noted that, in a separate action, USAR is investing in a new \$25 million facility at MARB, construction of which has already started.

- Base Commissary: expanding MARB's perimeter along the Heacock Channel would provide for the possibility of having the Base Commissary inside the fence line. This would improve security, and would facilitate adding a new gate and base access via Heacock Street.
- Base Exchange: Providing sufficient real estate to relocate the AAFES Base Exchange adjacent to the Commissary and inside the fence line, thus improving security for those using the exchange.
- American Forces Network: expansion would accommodate the possible relocation of the American Forces Network facility to a location within the secured area.

Benefits: Many of the potential benefits of cantonment area expansion have been described above, but to sum up, there are numerous beneficial outcomes that could result from this effort, including but not limited to:

- Addition of new units and missions, thus enhancing MARB's importance and status in the nation's defense facility network
- Potential designation as a Joint Reserve Base
- Reduced vulnerability in future rounds of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process
- Improved security for those based at, and working on, MARB
- Investment and job growth related to the increased number of facilities and personnel, with benefits both on base and in nearby communities

MARB Based Units, Detachments and Missions (as of 12-27-16)

Air Force

- 452d Air Mobility Wing (AFRC)
- 4th Air Force (AFRC)
- 912th ARS (AD AF)
- 144th Fighter Wing Detachment 1 (CaANG)
- 163rd ANG Reconnaissance Wing (CaANG)
- 701st Combat Operations Squadron (AFRC)
- 922nd Civil Engineer Staff (AFRC)
- Western Recruiting Squadron (AFRC)
- 362nd Recruiting Squadron (AD AF)
- 610th Air Operations Group (AFRC)

Full Spectrum Partners

- Commissary
- AAFES Exchange
- United States Office of Personnel Management
- Veterans Administration
- Boeing Corporation
- U.S. Customs Service
- American Forces Network Broadcast Center
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- United States Selective Service

Joint Units

- Total Force Honor Guard
- Air/Marine Operations Center (DHS)
- Navy Operational Support Center (USNR)
- 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, Detachment (USMC)
- 304th Sustainment Brigade (USAR)
- 358th Civil Affairs Brigade (USAR)
- 250th Military Intelligence Battalion (CaARNG)
- 1498th Transportation Company (CaARNG)
- 315th Engineers, Vertical Construction Company (CaARNG)
- 100th Troop Command (CaARNG)
- Army Honor Guard (USAR)
- 12th Marine Corps Detachment, Recruiting Station Riverside (USMC)

Glossary

AFRC	U.S. Air Force Reserve Command
AD AF	U.S. Air Force (Active Duty)
CaANG	California Air National Guard
DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
USNR	U.S. Navy Reserve
USMC	U.S. Marine Corps
USAR	U.S. Army Reserve
CaARNG	California Army National Guard
AAFES	Army and Air Force Exchange Service

Pavement Improvements - March Air Reserve Base

Issue: There are sections of concrete pavement at March Air Reserve Base (MARB) that are in need of repair, replacement, and/or augmentation to support future generations of United States Air Force (USAF) aircraft. For instance, MARB has not yet been assigned the Boeing KC-46A Pegasus next generation tanker, a versatile new aircraft currently being acquired by the USAF that will revolutionize the capability of air mobility missions for the nation's armed forces. MARB is not likely to be considered as a KC-46 base in the absence of the improvements described below.

It should be noted that the base's pavement systems are more than adequate to support the aircraft currently based at or utilizing MARB, including the C-17 Globemaster III, the KC-135 Stratotanker, the C-5M Galaxy, the KC-10 Extender, the C-130 Hercules, the F-16 Fighting Falcon, and other military aircraft. MARB also routinely supports operations by a number of large commercially operated aircraft (such as the Boeing 747 and 767) that augment the military's airlift capacity through the Civil Reserve Air Fleet.

Action: Encourage federal and state elected and appointed officials to invest in improvements to the pavement systems at MARB that will facilitate assignment of future generations of aircraft to units at MARB while continuing to accommodate current users. Areas that have already been identified as requiring work include portions of the base's primary runway and sections of the ramp. Certain of the improvements can be constructed in phases; however, the runway strengthening and repair project is the highest priority of the projects that have been identified to date.

Background: The issue that brought the need for improvements to the paving systems at MARB was the KC-46 basing decision process. The initial basing decision by the USAF was to assign the KC-46 to active duty and Air National Guard installations, a decision that was driven by the fact that the vast majority of KC-135 aircraft and bases are assigned to those units. However, it became apparent after the first round of KC-46 assignments was announced that MARB was unlikely to be considered in future rounds as a result of certain structural deficiencies.

While Air Force Reserve Command bases were not considered for the initial rounds of assignments of the KC-46, Reserve bases are being considered for future basing opportunities. Additionally, MARB currently houses units from all three USAF components: active duty, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve Command. Current active duty and Air Force Reserve Command units at MARB operate KC-135 Stratotanker and C-17 Globemaster missions. Additionally, while the 163rd Air Reconnaissance Wing of the Air National Guard currently has a remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) mission, the unit previously operated KC-135 Stratotankers. The Air National Guard's 144th Fighter Wing, Detachment 1 also operates ready alert F-16's from the base.

The KC-46 Pegasus was selected by the USAF to replace older KC-135 Stratotankers. The USAF is seeking a total of 179 aircraft to replace 179 KC-135s, and Boeing is under contract to deliver 18 KC-46's by 2017. The Pegasus can refuel all US, Allied, and Coalition military aircraft compatible with international aerial refueling procedures, any time, on any mission, and can carry passengers, cargo, and patients whenever and wherever needed. The ability to detect, avoid, defeat and survive threats using robust defensive systems and cockpit armor protection will allow the KC-46 to operate safely in medium-threat environments. Owing to its increased capabilities and landing gear configuration, the weight bearing characteristics required for KC-46 operations are greater than those required by aircraft in the current inventory.

Benefits: As a former Strategic Air Command base, MARB boasts the infrastructure necessary to host the KC-46 and other next generation aircraft. Since the base already supports units of all branches of the U.S. military (including all three USAF components), it is also functioning as a de facto Joint Base, though it has not been given that designation formally. MARB also enjoys broad community support not only for its mission but also for uniformed and civilian personnel and their families.

Many of the potential benefits of improving the pavement systems at MARB have been described above, but to sum up, there are numerous beneficial outcomes that could result from this effort, including but not limited to:

- Addition of new aircraft, units, and missions, thus enhancing MARB's importance and status in the nation's defense facility network
 - Potential designation as a Joint Reserve Base
 - Reduced vulnerability in future rounds of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process
- Investment and job growth related to the investment in equipment, facilities, and personnel, with benefits both on base and in nearby communities



Emergency Management Department

Declaration of Emergency- Timely Response (State)

Issue: On September 19, 2014, Governor Brown issued Executive Order (EO) B-26-14, authorizing the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to provide California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) funding, as deemed appropriate, for costs incurred by local governments as a result of a disaster event. However, the executive order does not direct the Governor to act within a specified length of time.

Action: Support legislation to establish a time period for the Governor to act on County declared natural disaster assistance.

Background: In the month of August 2015, severe weather phenomena lead to Riverside County calling for a state of emergency in the unincorporated community of Thermal.

On August 12, 2015, the Director of Emergency Services (County Executive Officer Jay Orr) signed a Proclamation of Local Emergency for the Thermal incident that included a request for the California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA). Per protocol, the signed Proclamation and Initial Damage Assessment was sent to the Southern Region Administrator for the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)

This was further supplemented by the ratification of the Proclamation of Local Emergency by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors on August 18, 2015.

Preliminary damage assessments of the area were conducted by IID and other agencies. The impacted area was approximately 14.5 square miles. Initial estimates from IID were approximately \$13 million in damages to the power poles, lines and other infrastructure.

A timeline of events is as follows:

- August 20, 2015: Updated preliminary damage assessments were received from IID and totaled \$18 million.
- September 2015 through January 2016: Multiple calls were made to Cal OES Southern Region to inquire about the status of our request for a State of Emergency and CDAA and the answer was always that the Governor had not yet made a decision.
- On January 12, 2016: Riverside County Emergency Management Department received a call from Cal OES Southern Region Administrator informing us that the Governor denied Riverside County's request for a State of Emergency and CDAA.
- Written position received on February 24, 2016.

The amount of time that a response took to be received for emergency funds or even the status of the application can be seen as a failure within the bureaucratic system that is meant to protect the people of the United States and the citizens of California. In the case of a much more urgent matter a response of this nature could put the lives of countless people at risk. Furthermore, response times of this nature make it especially difficult for affected communities as they are thrown into a state of flux not knowing whether they will receive funding or not and thus causing great economic strain and delays in the rehabilitation of affected communities.



Flood Control and Water Conservation

Stormwater Funding - (State)

Issue: Local governments lack resources necessary to effectively implement federally mandated stormwater management programs.

Action: Promote legislation that enables local governments to effectively develop stormwater utilities, Joint Powers Authorities (JPA) and/or other innovative local and regional governance structures necessary to develop effective programs for, pooling revenue, and reducing costs of state and federal stormwater quality mandates.

Promote legislation that allocates state funding resources to local stormwater programs and/or provides local governments with flexibility to develop new revenue streams where appropriate.

Promote legislation that facilitates integrated management of stormwater runoff and other water resources. SB 485 (Hernandez), Chapter 678, Statutes of 2015 provides an example of this approach by demonstrating how stormwater and wastewater can be jointly managed to the benefit of local communities.

Background: For nearly two decades, the Regional Water Quality Control Boards have administered federal Clean Water Act stormwater quality programs on behalf of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through permits issued to the joint operators of municipal storm drain systems (cities and Counties).

Municipal stormwater permits initially focused on development and iteration of education programs and best practices to improve management of stormwater quality over time. Starting in 2010, stormwater permits began requiring direct compliance with water quality standards. This created a multi-billion dollar mandate for cities and counties without a commensurate infrastructure to fund, develop and manage programs. Local governments across the state are now looking for creative and innovative ways to refine and address these mandates.

Although local governments broadly support livable communities and healthy environments, the method of regulation imposes a major burden on communities. Legislative actions, such as those identified above, can facilitate compliance efforts and could ease local burdens.

Proposition 1 Funding Storm Water Quality, Storm Water Conservation and Flood Control Infrastructure Improvement Grants - (State)

Issue: Challenges arising from persistent drought and the 2016 El Nino threat highlighted flood and water conservation project needs in Riverside County. Prop 1 guidelines focus flood control resources upon Northern California and Central Valley. Stormwater grants come with many regulatory pre-conditions and overly complicated application processes that unduly reduce the value of grant funds.

Action: Riverside County needs to compete vigorously for grant funding to address present and future local community needs. Prop 1 and future bonds should include implementation language promoting "fair share" funding for grant funds. Legislation should be introduced to streamline grant application, award and administration processes, by enabling local leaders, through Integrated Regional Water Management programs, to prioritize local projects and secure grant funds that provide real benefit to those communities.

Background: State and federal legislation in recent years has focused on drought relief in the Central Valley and environmental mitigation of drought-related impacts. Discussion of the governor's California Water Fix occupies center stage. Although Prop 1 funding offers a significant funding for infrastructural improvements, the California Water Action Plan objective to deliver "a more resilient and sustainably managed water infrastructure" may not be successfully realized for flood control and stormwater management projects in Riverside County. Requirements for ancillary plans and reports, such as Stormwater Management Plans and Groundwater Management Plans, impede local efforts to apply for water bond grants. Grant applications can sometimes approach \$50-100,000 to prepare; creating entry burdens for local governments and agencies, particularly in areas with disadvantaged communities.

Accountability for Operators of Subsurface Installations - (State)

Issue: Subsurface Utility operator accountability. There is a lack of competent record keeping and responsiveness to municipal agencies with franchise authority over these underground facilities.

Action: Legislation that imposes significant consequences on subsurface operators for non-compliance with existing "One Call" laws and franchise agreements allowing use of the public right of way is necessary. Increased civil penalties and stronger regulatory language would be of immense public benefit.

Background: Subsurface operators, particularly telecommunications companies, have facilities that interfere with critical new municipal infrastructure, e.g., water, sewer, storm drain, street improvements, etc. These operators often refuse to comply with the terms of the franchise agreements under which they operate. This creates enormous cost increases and delay and public inconvenience when undisclosed interfering subsurface facilities are discovered during project construction.

Water Resource and Environmental Regulation (Exemptions for Emergency Activities) - (Federal)

Issue: Clean Water Act Section 404 Regulations protecting Waters of the United States are too vague. Interpretations of exemptions are drawn too narrowly by regulators. This prevents necessary actions to ensure the resilience of flood facilities to future flood events and provide intended and expected public health and safety benefits.

Action: The list of exemptions in Section 404(f) of the federal Clean Water Act should be expanded to include clear exemptions for preventative maintenance activities to improve resilience of structures and restore intended design function either in advance of or following flood events.

Background: There is a list of activities exempt from regulation in the federal Clean Water Act, Section 404(f). Section 404(f) implementation by federal agencies does allow for emergency in-kind restoration work, but precludes preventative work, or post-damage improvements, to ensure resiliency.



Parks

Safe Neighborhood Parks, Rivers, and Coastal Protection - (State)

Issue: The County of Riverside, partnering with Special Districts and City Park and Recreation Departments, needs to be well positioned to receive a fair share of funding.

Action: Support bills like SB 317 (15/16) which emphasizes: How Californians value parks and the natural lands of the state. How demand for local parks has exceeded available funding by a factor of eight to one, with particularly high demand in urban, disadvantaged communities. How many Californians across the state lack access to safe parks and recreation areas, which limits their ability to experience the outdoors, improve their physical and emotional health. How investments to create and improve parks and recreation areas will help ensure all Californians have access to safe places to exercise and recreate. Investments to protect and restore the state's rivers, lakes, streams, and coastal waters and their related watersheds will improve water quality and reliability, enhance fish and wildlife habitats, and provide recreational, economic, and public health benefits to Californians.

Background: In prior voter approved park bond acts, Riverside County has not fared as well as Northern California, primarily due to failure in supporting the Bonds as they work their way through the legislative process.

As in previous platforms, the Board supports federal appropriations for the County's two multi species habitat plans. Funding is crucial to ensure the viability of the plans which are designed for the protection of endangered species while development of housing and infrastructure continues in defined areas.

Both RCA and CVAG, who administer the Western Riverside MSHCP and the Coachella Valley MSHCP respectively, are members of the California Habitat Conservation Plan Coalition. The Coalition is advocating for \$100 million for implementation of NCCPs and HCPs, and an additional \$300 million for watershed protection and habitat conservation in a legislative park bond, both to be administered by the Wildlife Conservation Board.

It is recommended that Riverside County actively support bill/s of this nature and encourage local state representatives to engage in discussions in order to ensure that additional line items within such bills specifically benefit Riverside County.

Santa Ana River Trail (Federal)

Issue: In order to construct a vital segment of the Multi-County Santa Ana River Trail, two dikes must be completed by the United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE).

Action: Support funding for the USACE to complete the project.

Background: The Santa Ana River Trail is a 100-mile multi-use trail that begins in San Bernardino County and terminates at the Pacific Ocean in Orange County, traversing through Riverside County in the middle. Funding for the trail has been secured for several years and planning and construction documents are complete. Two critical segments of the trail are planned within USACE lands and permanent dikes must be constructed on these lands in order to place the permanent trail. These dikes (Auxiliary, Alcoa) are planned in future years; however, expediting their placement will protect secured grants to construct the trail. Current estimates to complete the two dikes are \$5 Million (Auxiliary) and \$25 Million (Alcoa).



Public Health

Health Realignment (State)

Issue: Health Realignment is not keeping up with County population growth.

Action: Support or sponsor legislation that ensures sufficient resources for Counties to meet their obligations.

Background: Realignment of health funding in 1991 aimed to provide a steady stream of growth by funding it through sales tax and vehicle license fees, two revenue sources that usually have annual growth. However, growth in health and mental health realignment is, in fact, not occurring to any significant degree, and is not keeping up with either inflation or population. Due to the realignment formulas, Riverside County is receiving almost the same amount of funding now as in 2003, despite significant increases in population, and in sales tax and VLF.

Further, a significant change to Health Realignment occurred in 2013. As a result of this legislation (AB 85), funds are diverted from Health Realignment to CalWORKS. With this new legislation, uncertainty exists whether the amount of Health Realignment funds retained by counties will be sufficient to meet its obligations.

Health Screening for H-1B Visa Applicants - (Federal)

Issue: There is a lack of health screening for H-1B work visa applicants, and their families, some of which are already in the United States. This presents a potential health risk due to communicable diseases.

Action: Support legislation that requires that individuals entering the U.S. on H-1B visas, from countries that are endemic for TB and other diseases of public health significance, have health screening by overseas panel physicians. The health screening should be completed by civil surgeons for individuals already in the United States. The cost of the screening should be covered by the sponsoring employer.

Background: It is estimated that immigration reform will increase the number of H-1B work visas from the current 65,000 to approximately 180,000 annually. These individuals come from countries with high prevalence of TB and drug resistant TB. Screening of the applicants and their families for TB and other communicable diseases of public health significance is an important prevention strategy to reduce potential disease transmission and ensure appropriate treatment and follow-up of infected individuals.

Transportation Funding for Complete Streets - (Federal)

Issue: Complete Streets are designed to be used by everyone: cars, buses, bicyclists and walkers. Complete Streets help create better/healthier communities for people to live, play, work and shop. Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and public transportation users of all ages and abilities are able to safely move along and across a complete street.

Action: Support state and federal funding for Complete Streets which encourages transportation planners and engineers to routinely design and operate the entire right of way to enable safe access for all users, regardless of age, ability, or mode of transportation.

Background: Often, we do not consider pedestrians or bicyclists when we build our streets making walking or bicycling challenging. Complete streets allow walkers and bicyclists to be active users of roads.

Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Funding - (State and Federal)

Issue: Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization

Action: Support Child Nutrition & WIC Reauthorization to provide full funding which is adequate to maintain current and anticipated Women Infant & Children (WIC) participation levels and assure adequate Nutrition Services and Administration (NSA) funding to maintain clinic costs, education and cost of living increases should the economic recovery take longer than anticipated. Child Nutrition also includes SNAP education for families.

Background: The Inland Empire continues to suffer from the economic recovery in which families utilize these programs to ensure access to healthy and nutritious foods where they live, play and learn. Since fiscal years 2006, more families in Riverside County have turned to WIC. These circumstances have forced WIC to utilize contingency funds to assure that mothers and young children were not turned away. WIC urges Congress and the Administration to carefully monitor WIC participation, food cost inflation, and Nutrition Services Administration (NSA). Funding to assure that the budget request responds to economic conditions. Child nutrition and WIC programs strive to combat childhood obesity and chronic disease prevention and has been part of the President's budget proposals to Eat Healthier, Live Better, and end poverty.

Community Economic Opportunity Act of 2015 - (Federal)

Issue: Community Services Block Grant Act revision and reauthorization through FY 2023 was introduced as H.R. 1655 on 03/26/2015.

Action: Support Community Economic Opportunity Act of 2015 to provide full funding which is adequate to maintain current and anticipated Community Services Block Grant activities and continue to support public eligible entities through adoption of amendment language of legislation which supports public Community Action Agencies.

Background: Community Action Partnership of Riverside County is Riverside County's designated anti-poverty agency, established in 1979, a public agency and a division of the County of Riverside, Department of Public Health. Community Action Partnership is a member of a national network of 1,100 community action agencies (CAAs) created through the 1964 War on Poverty legislation to end poverty. Community Action Partnership is guided by federal regulations and national standards, policies and best practices.

Community Action Partnership receives funding from public and private sources. Its primary funding source is the federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) that is funded through the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and administered through the State of California Department of Community Services and Development (CSD).

The agency has embraced the national community action promise that "Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other."

Results from Community Action Partnership's 2015 community needs assessment and community dialogues indicate that there was not a significant change from the 2013 ranking of challenges faced by low-income residents. Riverside County is still facing issues that affect its current economic conditions. Of the 2,292,507 population in Riverside County, 20% of the residents have no high school diploma; 10.3% of residents are unemployed; 8.86% are veterans; 16.2% of the people live below poverty and over 3,000 adults and children are homeless. Approximately one (1) out of every six (6) Riverside County residents lives in poverty.



Public Social Services

Human Trafficking of at Risk Adults

Issue: Enhance penalties to unlicensed Room and Board facilities operating as Board and Care facilities who are abusing at Risk Adults (Elderly and Dependent)

Action: Introduce and support legislation adding felony trafficking and racketeering charges against organized multi-level financial predators of at Risk Adults

Background: Every day, approximately 10,000 persons in America turn 65, many if not most receive retirement, social security, or other income.

State, Federal and Local law enforcement have observed a predatory growth industry in residential room and board facilities that prey on vulnerable elders and dependent adults. In particular, these organizations seek persons who have serious health issues. The non-ambulatory with limited or no family ties are the most highly desirable targets, as they are unable to escape and do not have persons who may be looking for them. These predatory organizations have their own networks of doctors, medical supply businesses, hospices, pharmacies, transportation services and other entities that assist in falsifying information to generate increased revenue for the organization.

With false promises of adequate Board and Care, residents of these facilities are frequently in dire straits, held prisoner by incapacity and isolation. When Adult Protective Services receives a credible report of elder abuse, these predatory facilities will deny that the individual is there and refuse to allow the social worker entry. The social worker will leave to obtain legal assistance to gain entry. By the time they return, the predatory organization has moved the elder to another one of their facilities. Residents of these facilities are routinely subjected to horrific circumstances with health outcomes including amputations and death.

Interested parties who have participated in meetings seeking to solve the problem include:

- California Department of Justice
- Riverside District Attorney's Office
- Code Enforcement
- Community Care Licensing
- Adult Protective Services
- C.A.R.E
- California State Council on Developmental Disabilities, San Bernardino
- Riverside Superior Court
- Hemet Valley Medical Center
- Inland Regional Center

Successor Guardians for Foster Youth

Issue: Inability to provide a successor guardian for foster youth whose legal guardian is not a relative.

Action: Introduce and support legislation to allow a guardian who is not a relative of a foster youth to identify a proposed successor guardian with a formal plan (such as a Will or Trust) in place should the Legal Guardian or proposed Legal Guardian die or become incapacitated.

Background: With the passage of Public Law 113-183, the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014, states were encouraged to name a successor guardian for relatives seeking legal guardianship to provide for the continuity of care and permanency for the foster youth.

A child/youth placed into any permanent home should have the peace of mind knowing that his or her care has been planned out prior to the termination of his/her dependency case. This provision should apply for all legal guardianships (relative and non-relative).

Safety of Foster Children Placements

Issue: Inability of Child Welfare Agencies to share Child Abuse History

Action: Support legislation to allow County Child Welfare Agencies to share previous child abuse/neglect history with Foster Family Agencies (FFA's).

Background: The ability of County Child Welfare Agencies to share with Foster Family Agencies previous child abuse/neglect history as found in the Child Welfare System/Case Management System (CWS/CMS) will allow for a more complete background check that will help ensure a safe placement for the foster child.

Juvenile Court Dispositional Orders

Issue: Lack of Statutory Guidance for Custodial and Non-Custodial Parents (NCP).

Action: Support legislation to amend Welfare and Institutions Code to resolve what orders to make in reference to a NCP who does not desire custody and what orders to make for a noncustodial parent who desires custody.

Background: When a juvenile court removes a child from a parent's custody, it does so only after finding by clear and convincing evidence that the child would be at risk of harm in that parent's custody. When a court orders removal of a child, the court shall first determine whether there is a parent, with whom the child was not residing, who desires to assume custody of the child. If that parent requests custody, the court shall place with the parent unless it finds that placement would be detrimental to the safety of the child.

Among situations that need clarification includes situation where families have multiple NCPs. Currently, if NCP 1 were to notify Child Welfare Services (CWS) that he or she has/would like to have custody of the child and a second NCP 2 has no interest in custody, CWS staff would be required to follow the same processes for both NCPs although the outcome is already known.

By eliminating unproductive activities, the child will be placed more quickly with a parent who wants them, and allows County staff more time to assist the child and family with needed services.

Child Care for Foster Children

Issue: Childcare payments are frequently higher than the foster care payment received by foster parents for a child.

Action: Support legislation that provides a sliding scale of childcare co-payments to support the foster parent or non-needy relatives employment.

Background: One of the biggest impediments to recruiting and retaining foster parents is the inadequacy of the foster care rate. This is particularly true for foster parents whose employment requires that foster children in their care receive day care. The cost of day care typically exceeds the entirety of the foster care payment received by foster parents for a child. Failure to subsidize the cost of care limits the pool of available foster parents to households in which at least one foster parent is unemployed or where the household's independent income is sufficient to cover the costs of day care.

Email Court Reports

Issue: Facilitate the successful delivery of court reports to parties who lack a permanent address or who move frequently.

Action: Support legislation to amend Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) to allow court reports to be sent electronically, at County and customer option.

Background: Although a majority of people now communicate regularly by electronic mail, there is no provision within the WIC to allow court reports to be sent electronically. AB 879 allowed for sending legal notices electronically. The same principal can be adopted for sending court reports. Sending court reports through regular mail is both time-consuming and costly, and it does not always result in the court report being provided to the intended recipient. In a case where the party lacks a permanent address, the court report may be retrieved by someone who is not a party to the proceeding.

The provisions can be drafted to make it a voluntary program for Counties and to allow a notice recipient to participate in an "opt in" program to receive court reports electronically through a designated e-mail address.

For those parties that decline to accept electronic court reports, all current court report provisions would be required to be met.

CalWORKs Temporary Homeless Assistance (THA) Daily Payment Rate

Issue: Inadequate Temporary Homeless Assistance (THA) Housing Vouchers

Action: Support legislation to increase the current daily homeless vouchers from \$65 to \$85 a day for families of 4 or fewer and provide an increase in the CalWORKs Single Allocation to fund the new rate. Additional members of the family will remain eligible to receive the current rate of fifteen dollars (\$15) per day, up to a daily maximum of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125).

Background: Under the CalWORKs program, homeless CalWORKs families are eligible for up to a 16-day stay in a motel or hotel. This temporary assistance is intended to be a safety net while the family seeks stable permanent housing. The current daily rate for a motel stay was established 10 years ago and unfortunately the number of motels that will accept the current rate are becoming few and far between.

Many CalWORKs families have limited or non-existent means of transporting their families from motel to motel seeking a facility that will accept the current voucher rate. In addition, homelessness of families with small children are usually accompanied with additional problems such as food insecurity and add to the difficulty of a parent to seek and/or maintain employment.

Streamlined Processing of CalFresh Applications

Issue: Existing regulations inadvertently prevent advances in technology from being used to efficiently and expeditiously process applications for federally funded CalFresh benefits.

Action: Support legislation to accommodate changes in law and procedures that will increase efficiency and expedite the timely processing of CalFresh applications.

Background: Recent examples include;

- Current CalFresh regulations permit a household to apply for assistance by providing a name, address, and signature. With the increasing use of technology in County operations, this minimum threshold has created unexpected difficulties with processing the application when the applicant has the same name as an existing customer, but it is not clear if this is the same customer or a different person. If customers were encouraged to provide their Social Security Number (if available) and the Date of Birth as part of their initial application requirements, it would enable the application to be more easily and quickly processed
- Currently, Medi-Cal applications may be taken by DPSS staff for county jail inmates so that upon release, their Medi-Cal eligibility can be easily and quickly activated. Similar provisions do not exist for CalFresh in California statute; however, the technology is available now to allow individual eligibility to remain in suspense pending activation. With a legislative change, DPSS staff could process CalFresh applications from inmates and hold them in suspense pending their release, thereby allowing individuals to easily access these benefits in the future. In addition, it would increase efficiencies if DPSS were able to take CalFresh and Medi-Cal applications at the same time.

CalFresh benefits are 100% federally funded.



Riverside County Information Technology

Video Storage

Issue: Current law requires video to be recorded and retained for 1 full year.

Action: Seek administrative or legislative change to the current law to lower the requirement to 30 days instead of the current one year.

Background: While digital surveillance systems now offer an enormous amount of versatility compared to analog counterparts, thoughtful planning is still required in their design and implementation to ensure cost effectiveness. As we move to centralize video management after events such as the San Bernardino shooting, more cameras are needed and required; however, storage is cost prohibitive for the volume and type of cameras required. For security related video, 30 days should be more than adequate to pull off required video for law enforcement purposes. Requiring the storage of video for a minimum of a full year will prevent the wide scale deployment of cameras at government facilities.

Trusted Systems

Issue: State requirement that all data be stored on WORM-like storage.

Action: Seek administrative or legislative change specifying the types of documents that should be stored within these systems as compared to the current policy of all data.

Background: In computer storage media, **WORM (write once, read many)** is a data storage technology that allows information to be written to a disc a single time and prevents the drive from erasing or modifying the data. Current state policy requires that all data be stored on Worm-like storage. This practice, which most government agencies do not comply with, because of limited vendors and its cost prohibitive nature, is outdated. In an analysis of current policy, it can be noted that this requirement fails to specify the type of data which should be stored within these types of systems. As a result, as the amount of storage necessary to retain all data continues to increase, the cost associated with the increasing amount of storage will place an increasing burden on local governments with limited resources.

AB 1564

Issue: Emergency Services: Wireless 911 Calls.

Action: Seek administrative or legislative change to allow a provider of commercial mobile radio service to issue a reasonable usage charge for any "911" call placed from a commercial mobile radio service telecommunications device to a local emergency telephone system to provide for upgrades to said local emergency telephone systems.

Background: As per AB 1564, signed into law by the Governor on August 30, 2016, the bill prohibits a provider of commercial mobile radio service from charging any airtime, access, or similar usage charge for any "911" call placed from a commercial mobile radio service telecommunications device to a local emergency telephone system.

California's 9-1-1 system. The OES PSCD is tasked with administering the 9-1-1 emergency telephone response system in the state, including reviewing PSAP equipment and operations. PSCD is responsible for design, installation, maintenance and repair of the statewide microwave network and public safety radio communications systems used by the State's public safety agencies' first responders on a 24 hours/7 days a week/365 days a year basis; along with administration and oversight of the State Emergency Telephone Number Account (SETNA) used to fund 9-1-1 in California, and for the design development of the statewide network that supports delivery of 9-1-1 calls to the State's 452 PSAPs, with over 400 that are non-CHP.

Growth of wireless telephone use. When the 9-1-1 system was first established in the 1970s, the majority of emergency calls were made from landlines. The emergency response system receives a call that is routed to a PSAP and the dispatcher dispatched emergency services to the location. With the advent of mobile phones, 9-1-1 calls from mobile phones were routed to a CHP. However, as mobile phone use has grown and devices have become smaller, more 9-1-1 calls are coming from locations that are not necessarily near the CHP patrolled freeways and roadways. Yet, the current dispatch system still largely relies on the CHP to dispatch the call, potentially delaying on-the-ground emergency response times. Based on 2013 numbers, there were over 25 million 9-1-1 calls placed with about 75 percent coming from wireless phones.

Provisions within the bill eliminate the opportunity to raise new funds which could be used to implement upgrades to PSAP's and other emergency communication services. As SETNA has been in a structural deficit for years, with annual surcharge revenue declining from about \$133 million in 2005-06 to projected total revenue of \$108 million for 2014-15. It would seem that it would be extremely difficult not only to keep current services operating but also to upgrade current systems. This is especially the case when Cal OES estimated the upgrades in 2013 to be an estimated \$375 million over five years on top of the \$510 million to operate the existing system over that same period of time.

Website Inventory Systems

Issue: Removal of State requirement for a website inventory system.

Action: Seek administrative or legislative change in regards to SB 272 and its requirement for website inventory systems.

Background: SB 272 set out a requirement in 2015 (effective July 2016) that all local governments (except schools) publish a listing of enterprise systems in use within their respective jurisdiction. Riverside County meets this requirement.

Systems Inventory Link:

<https://data.countyofriverside.us/Administrative-and-Fiscal-Services/System-Of-Record-Inventory-SB272-Published-List/qu7i-8h8t>

Challenges posed to local governments by SB 272 come in the form of costs for required upkeep and the overall value of publishing said information.

To date, there has been no requests from constituents, interest groups, or other entities outside the county for the information provided within the inventory. Furthermore, as the information provided within the inventory is just a list of software and users, it provides no real access to the data that can be found within the listed systems.

An example of such data that can be seen as follows:

Product: For the Record	Vendor: For the Record	Purpose: Public Meeting Recordings	General Description of Categories or Types of Data: Public Meeting Recordings
Systems Primary Custodian: WRCRCA (RCA)	Frequency Collected: As needed	Frequency Updated: As needed	

In further consideration, it must also be taken into account that systems put in place by SB 272 are not only duplicative but far less comprehensive compared to open data tools such as the county's websites and Open Budget and Open Checkbook applications. These open data tools provide authoritative information on the county's budgeted and actual revenues and expenditures down to the individual vendor payment. The County currently has more than 4 million transactions posted online from FY 2015-16 and is working to expand this dataset to the current fiscal year and four years of historical data which would thus total more than 20 million transactions available for public viewing, analysis, and download. Compared to such tools this system provides no real substantial information to analyze and could further be implemented on a case-by-case basis through generic open records requests without the current cost of upkeep that is required of this system.

Open Data Tools Link:

<https://data.countyofriverside.us/>



Waste Resources

Local Solid Waste Diversion Mandate

Issue: California has adopted a Statewide 75% waste recycling goal for the year 2020 (AB 341). AB 341 included language saying the State "shall not establish or enforce a diversion rate on a City or County that is greater than the 50 percent diversion rate established pursuant to Section 41780" (from Section 41780.01 (b) of the Public Resources Code). Local jurisdictions are concerned that the 75% statewide recycling goal might one day be a mandate for them before they are capable of complying with it or that additional fees may be imposed.

Action: Support legislation that keeps the local diversion mandate of 50% in place until the recycling and composting infrastructure is more developed, additional tools are available to local governments to increase diversion, including recycling options (i.e. compost facilities, material recovery facilities, anaerobic digestion facilities, etc.), and the additional markets necessary to utilize the reclaimed resources are in place. Oppose any increase in State fees that do not directly fund local infrastructure projects on a dollar for dollar basis.

Background: Local jurisdictions in California are currently mandated to divert 50% of all solid waste from disposal in landfills. The language in Section 41780.01 (a) of the PRC regarding the 75% recycling goal reads as follows: "The Legislature hereby declares that it is the policy goal of the state that not less than 75 percent of solid waste generated be source reduced, recycled, or composted by the year 2020, and annually thereafter." It is believed that forcing the diversion of solid waste that is "source reduced, recycled or composted" by an arbitrary deadline does not allow time for sustainable solutions to be developed. Additionally, foreclosing on the utilization of any diversion opportunities that might develop elsewhere, such as with conversion technologies, is shortsighted. Diverse strategies are needed to create additional tools for increased diversion and market development.

The local diversion mandate of 50% should remain in place until the recycling and composting infrastructure is more developed, additional tools are available to local governments to increase diversion, including recycling options (i.e. conversion technologies), and the additional markets necessary to utilize the reclaimed resources are in place.

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

Issue: Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) – Requires producers of goods that contain materials requiring special handling (i.e. mercury, etc.), and are harmful to the environment, to be accountable for products during their lifespan (from “cradle to the grave”).

Action: Support legislation that places responsibility for product design, distribution for sale, and collection for recycling or disposal on the producer of said product and, thereby, relieves local jurisdictions from having to bear the cost of product collection for recycling and disposal programs.

Background: The California law that banned the landfill disposal of items commonly referred to as Universal Wastes that are considered harmful to the environment went into effect on February 8, 2006 (CCR, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 23). Universal Wastes include household batteries, fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, thermostats and other items that contain mercury, and electronic devices such as videocassette recorders, microwave ovens, cellular and cordless phones, printers, computers and radios. Since that time, Sharps (needles) have also been banned from landfill disposal.

As a result of these unfunded mandates, local governments have had to develop new programs to handle the disposition of such wastes. The County of Riverside Department of Waste Resources collects and processes these waste items through its hazardous waste collection and landfill load check programs. The two programs cover the entire County and are funded with a combination of landfill fees and grant monies. The use of public monies for the final disposition of these hard-to-handle products equates to subsidies in favor of the producers.

Extended Producer Responsibility makes the final handling of such products a cost of doing business for the producer, which more accurately reflects the true cost of the product. The costs are then incorporated into the purchase price and only borne by the user of the product rather than by all ratepayers. Local governments (and the ratepayer) will no longer have to fund costly programs for this purpose. By placing the life cycle burden on producers, better products are designed, which will reduce the toxicity of products, lessen the amount of packaging, and better plans for final disposition of the product (whether it be recycling or disposal).

The concept of extended producer responsibility has also been applied to products that do not necessarily fall into the categories above. For instance, the Governor signed bills from the 2010 legislative session into law that involved Extended Producer Responsibility for paint and carpet. The paint program is already saving the County \$300,000 per year and has increased re-use of paint.

Development of Conversion Technologies

Issue: Conversion Technologies – Those technologies that process through thermal (without combustion), chemical or biological means the organic portion of municipal solid waste, that remains after recycling, into useable products such as electricity and fuel, and as a result decrease the amount of solid waste disposed in landfills.

Action: Support legislation that encourages the development of conversion technologies by removing legislative/regulatory barriers to them and by granting diversion credit on behalf of those jurisdictions that make use of them.

Background: The statewide level of diversion is estimated to be 65% and recycling 50% (CalRecycle AB 341 Report). Materials suitable for composting, mulch, anaerobic digestion, or other organics recovery strategies account for about 40% of California's disposed waste stream. This includes food, vegetative materials, clean wood materials, and compostable paper (CalRecycle 2014 Characterization Study). This material could be feedstock for a number of different technologies commonly known as conversion technologies: gasification, pyrolysis, anaerobic digestion, hydrolysis, distillation, plasma arc, and fermentation. Such facilities provide additional opportunities to keep recoverable materials out of the landfill.

There have been no conversion facilities developed in the United States. Part of the problem has been government regulations. In California, pyrolysis and distillation are considered forms of "Transformation" (which is considered disposal) and are limited in terms of how much of the processed material can count toward a jurisdiction's diversion total. Feedstock sent to a transformation facility can count for no more than 10% of a jurisdiction's 50% requirement. Conversion Technologies are expensive to develop and local governments will need a number of positive factors in their favor to justify their development. Generous credit toward a jurisdiction's State mandated diversion requirement is one important factor. Conversion technologies do not incinerate the feedstock so they should not be considered transformation facilities.

It is widely accepted by stakeholders that jurisdictions should send feedstock to a conversion facility only after the waste stream has been subjected to recycling and other diversion programs (i.e. curbside recycling, Material Recovery Facility (MRF) processing, and commercial recycling, etc.). Though conversion facilities produce worthwhile products, including some technologies producing energy, the existing infrastructure is seen as getting recyclable materials to higher and more beneficial uses. Conversion technologies can make good use of solid waste materials that are not appropriate for these other diversion programs.

Numerous conversion technology facilities are in operation in Europe and Japan. There should be more than enough cases to review in making sure the technologies can meet California's stringent environmental regulations.

Development of Compost Facilities

Issue: Compost – The product resulting from the controlled biological decomposition of organic material (i.e. grasses, paper, food, etc.), which can enhance soils and decrease the amount of solid waste disposed in landfills.

Action: Support legislation that encourages the development of, and/or removes barriers to, compost facilities so jurisdictions have additional outlets (other than disposal) for organic materials and have an additional tool to increase their diversion rate.

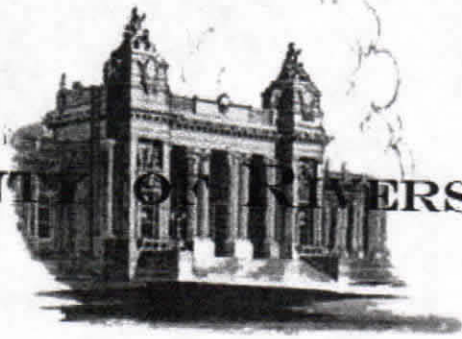
Background: A 2010 California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) assessment of the State's Compost and Mulch-Producing infrastructure estimated that 9.3 million tons of compostable materials were processed into an estimated 13 million cubic yards of products in 2008. Even so, it is believed that about 40% of all materials disposed of annually in California landfills can be processed into compost or mulch.

Composting as an industry, and a waste management process, is not using more of the compostable material available because of the difficulty in establishing markets and the sometimes constraining impact of government regulations. In terms of marketing, the industry's rates have to be competitive with landfill rates in order to capture more feedstock. Products also have to meet the requirements of potential users and convince them that the application of compost will be of benefit to their soils (and crops), and that they are an adequate replacement for chemical fertilizers. Additional end markets benefit from the soils and at the same time allow facilities to move product so more organic materials can be accepted for processing.

Regulations can impair the use of additional compostable material at processing facilities. For instance, current regulations call for green material to have no more than 1.0% contaminants by weight. Material collected in curbside collection programs often times have a higher level of contaminants when delivered to facilities. Regulations can be changed to increase the level of contamination permissible in green waste received at processing sites and add a maximum contamination level for material leaving compost sites. The contaminant level for material leaving a facility would have to be consistent with standards for determining when it can be used, where it can be used, or when it is to be disposed. Another regulation related issue is that rules of multiple agencies can be redundant and/or inconsistent and cause uncertainty on the part of prospective operators. Efforts to clear up conflicting requirements among regulatory agencies can assist in the development of compost facilities and the industry.

Composting is very important to local communities. It is beneficial to the environment because it replenishes soils with needed nutrients. The amount of compostable material still available for processing underscores the importance of the industry in helping jurisdictions meet, and maintain, the required diversion level of 50%. Legislation that helps develop compost markets, eliminates barriers/obstacles to the industry, and enhances jurisdictions' ability to achieve/maintain a 50% diversion level must be supported by Riverside County.

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



Board of Supervisors

District 1	Kevin Jeffries 951-955-1010
District 2 Chairman	John F. Tavaglione 951-955-1020
District 3	Chuck Washington 951-955-1030
District 4	Vacant 951-955-1040
District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

March 7, 2017

The Honorable Richard Roth
Member of the California Senate
State Capitol, Room 4034
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 39 (Roth) – Suspension and allocation of judgeships
As introduced 12/5/2016 – SUPPORT
Awaiting hearing – Senate Judiciary Committee**

Dear Senator Roth:

On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I write in support of SB 39, your measure that would suspend four vacant superior court judgeships in jurisdictions with more judicial positions than their assessed need warrants and reallocate those positions to high-caseload jurisdictions. Further, SB 39 specifies that the determination of judicial need be performed in accordance with a methodology approved by the Judicial Council. This measure awaits hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

As you are aware, the Judicial Council, in its biennial Judicial Needs Assessment most recently published in Fall 2016, identifies overall statewide judicial officer needs and then prioritizes placement of those positions on the basis of workload across 31 courts. The 2016 assessment identifies a need for 188.5 additional judicial officers to meet statewide workload and caseload demands. Further, the assessment compares each local court's assessed judicial need against its authorized judicial positions. Riverside County, regrettably, stands above all others in terms of overall need – the superior court's workload warrants an additional 46.8 judicial officers (a figure that is 62 percent greater than the level of judicial positions presently authorized). Steep population growth in Riverside County over the last several decades has greatly outpaced the trial court's ability to keep up with the attendant demand on judicial resources.

The County of Riverside greatly appreciates your effort to address the issue of judicial resources in the Inland Empire. SB 39 recognizes the imbalance in the current distribution of judicial resources across the state and seeks to reassign vacancies to high-caseload jurisdictions. We understand the policy interest in more rationally distributing existing judicial positions as a first step in addressing the critical need for additional resources statewide. The application of the provisions of SB 39 would likely result in additional resources for the superior court in Riverside County. The measure would improve our mutual constituents' access to justice and assist our

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COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



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District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

county criminal justice partners in carrying out their critical functions and fulfilling core county responsibilities related to matters before the court.

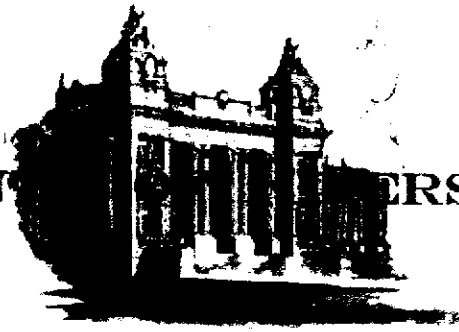
For these reasons, Riverside County is pleased to support SB 39, and we stand ready to assist you as the measure makes its way through the legislative process. If you have any questions about the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy County Executive Officer, Brian Nestande at (951) 955-1110 or bnestande@rceo.org.

Sincerely,


John Tavaglione
Chairman, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: The Honorable Hannah-Beth Jackson, Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
The Honorable John M. W. Moorlach, Vice Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
Members and Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee
Members, Riverside County Delegation

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



Board of Supervisors

District 1	Kevin Jeffries 951-955-1010
District 2 Chairman	John F. Tavaglione 951-955-1020
District 3	Chuck Washington 951-955-1030
District 4	Vacant 951-955-1040
District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

March 8, 2017

The Honorable Mike McGuire, Chair
Senate Governance and Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 5061
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: **SB 37 (Roth): Local Government Finance: property tax revenue allocations: vehicle license fee adjustments**
As introduced December 5, 2016
County of Riverside: SUPPORT

Dear Senator McGuire:

On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I write to communicate our support for Senate Bill 37 by Senator Richard Roth. This bill would provide a "Vehicle License Fee Adjustment Amount" for cities incorporated between January 1, 2004 and January 1, 2012, which includes those that were impacted by SB 89 (2011). The Board strongly supports this measure, as it would provide immediate financial assistance to the four newly incorporated cities in Riverside County.

Prior to the passage of SB 89 (2011), the four newly incorporated cities in Riverside County relied on current state law in evaluating their fiscal viability through the LAFCO process. In each case, LAFCO considered the Vehicle License Fee (VLF) revenue special allocation in their evaluation of the new cities' revenue, which informed the eventual LAFCO vote to allow the local voters to consider incorporation. When SB 89 was approved and redirected those VLF revenues to 2011 realignment, these new cities were impacted in a significant way.

SB 69 provides a mechanism by which these newly incorporated cities resume receipt of revenues anticipated prior to their incorporations. By establishing a "Vehicle License Fee Adjustment Amount" and replacing the lost VLF revenues with property taxes from the schools' share (as currently exists for all other cities and counties in the state), SB 37 restores funds to those impacted by SB 89 and ensures their continued viability.



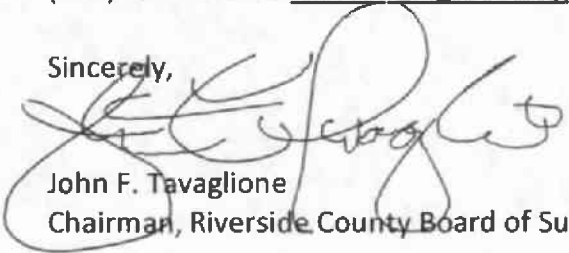
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

Board of Supervisors

District 1	Kevin Jeffries 951-955-1010
District 2 Chairman	John F. Tavaglione 951-955-1020
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District 4	Vacant 951-955-1040
District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

For these reasons, we strongly support SB 37. Should you have any questions about our position, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy County Executive Officer Brian Nestande at (951) 955-1110 or bnestande@rceo.org.

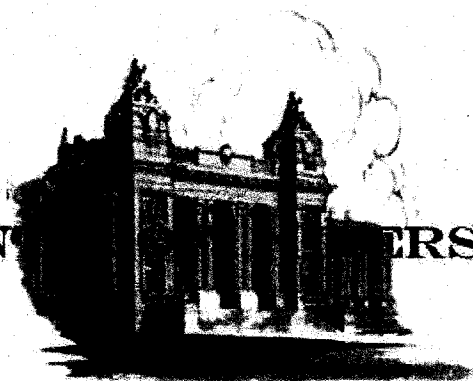
Sincerely,



John F. Tavaglione
Chairman, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Governance and Finance Committee
County of Riverside Delegation

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



Board of Supervisors

District 1	Kevin Jeffries 951-955-1010
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District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

April 21, 2017

The Honorable Holly Mitchell, Chair
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
State Capitol, Room 5080
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: **SB 130 (Mitchell): Local Government Finance: Property Tax Revenue Allocations:
Vehicle License Fee Adjustments
As amended 4/19/2017
Set for hearing April 24, 2017 – Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
County of Riverside: SUPPORT – Per Legislative Platform**

Dear Senator Mitchell:

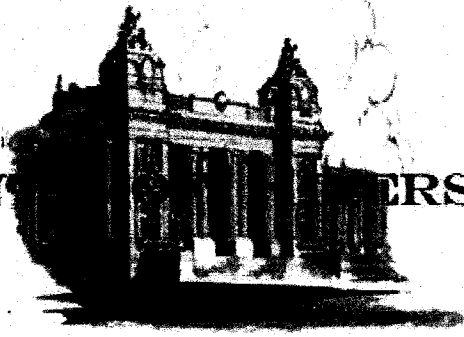
On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I write to communicate our support for your Senate Bill 130. This bill would provide a "Vehicle License Fee Adjustment Amount" for cities incorporated between January 1, 2004 and January 1, 2012, which includes those that were impacted by SB 89 (2011). The Board strongly supports this measure, as it would provide immediate financial assistance to the four newly incorporated cities in Riverside County.

Prior to the passage of SB 89 (2011), the four newly incorporated cities in Riverside County relied on current state law in evaluating their fiscal viability through the LAFCO process. In each case, LAFCO considered the Vehicle License Fee (VLF) revenue special allocation in their evaluation of the new cities' revenue, which informed the eventual LAFCO vote to allow the local voters to consider incorporation. When SB 89 was approved and redirected those VLF revenues to 2011 realignment, these new cities were impacted in a significant way.

SB 130 provides a mechanism by which these newly incorporated cities resume receipt of revenues anticipated prior to their incorporations. By establishing a "Vehicle License Fee Adjustment Amount" and replacing the lost VLF revenues with property taxes from the schools' share (as currently exists for all other cities and counties in the state), AB 48 restores funds to those impacted by SB 89 and ensures their continued viability.

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COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

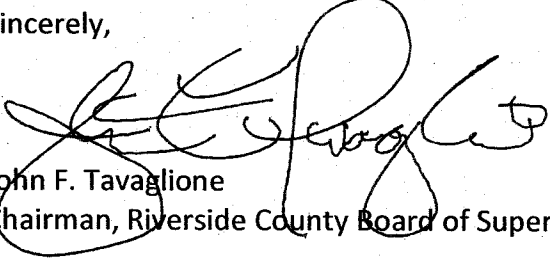


Board of Supervisors

District 1	Kevin Jeffries 951-955-1010
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District 4	Vacant 951-955-1040
District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

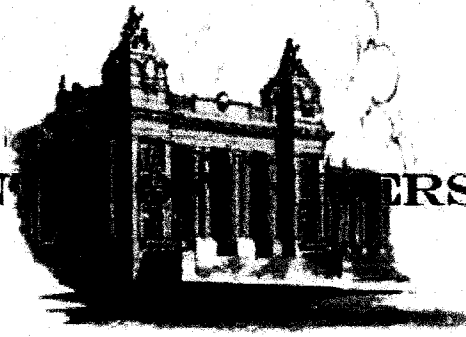
For these reasons, we strongly support SB 130. Should you have any questions about our position, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy County Executive Officer Brian Nestand at (951) 955-1110 or bnestande@rceo.org.

Sincerely,


John F. Tavaglione
Chairman, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
County of Riverside Delegation

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



Board of Supervisors

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District 4	Vacant 951-955-1040
District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

April 21, 2017

The Honorable Phil Ting, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee
State Capitol, Room 6026
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: **AB 48 (Ting): Local Government Finance: property tax revenue allocations: vehicle license fee adjustments**
As amended April 18, 2017
Set for hearing April 24, 2017 – Assembly Budget Committee
County of Riverside: SUPPORT – Per Legislative Platform

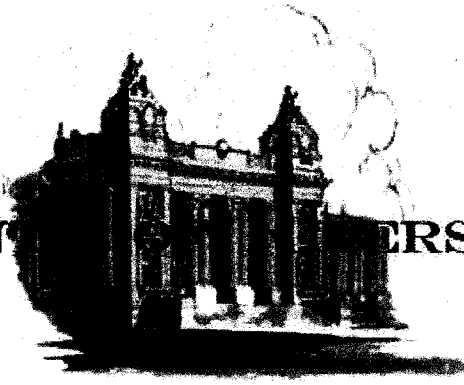
Dear Assembly Member Ting:

On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I write to communicate our support for your Assembly Bill 48. This bill would provide a "Vehicle License Fee Adjustment Amount" for cities incorporated between January 1, 2004 and January 1, 2012, which includes those that were impacted by SB 89 (2011). The Board strongly supports this measure, as it would provide immediate financial assistance to the four newly incorporated cities in Riverside County.

Prior to the passage of SB 89 (2011), the four newly incorporated cities in Riverside County relied on current state law in evaluating their fiscal viability through the LAFCO process. In each case, LAFCO considered the Vehicle License Fee (VLF) revenue special allocation in their evaluation of the new cities' revenue, which informed the eventual LAFCO vote to allow the local voters to consider incorporation. When SB 89 was approved and redirected those VLF revenues to 2011 realignment, these new cities were impacted in a significant way.

AB 48 provides a mechanism by which these newly incorporated cities resume receipt of revenues anticipated prior to their incorporations. By establishing a "Vehicle License Fee Adjustment Amount" and replacing the lost VLF revenues with property taxes from the schools' share (as currently exists for all other cities and counties in the state), AB 48 restores funds to those cities impacted by SB 89 and ensures their continued viability.

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



Board of Supervisors

District 1	Kevin Jeffries 951-955-1010
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District 4	Vacant 951-955-1040
District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

For these reasons, we strongly support AB 48. Should you have any questions about our position, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy County Executive Officer Brian Nestande at (951) 955-1110 or bnestande@rceo.org.

Sincerely,

John F. Tavaglione
Chairman, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Budget Committee
County of Riverside Delegation

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



Board of Supervisors

District 1	Kevin Jeffries 951-955-1010
District 2 Chairman	John F. Tavaglione 951-955-1020
District 3	Chuck Washington 951-955-1030
District 4	V. Manuel Perez 951-955-1040
District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

July 20, 2017

The Honorable Rob Bonta
Member of the State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2148
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 22 (Bonta) – Storing and Recording Electronic Media
As amended July 3, 2017
County of Riverside: SUPPORT – Per Legislative Platform**

Dear Assembly Member Bonta:

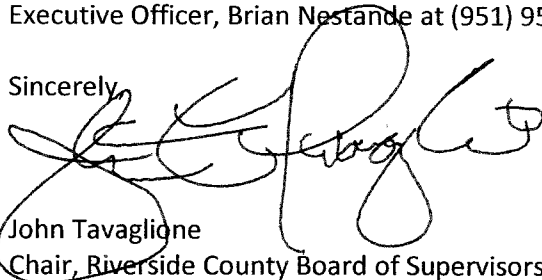
On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I write in support of AB 22, your measure that would authorize a more efficient and effective alternative for storing and recording permanent and non-permanent documents in electronic media, as specified. This measure expands the current definition of “trusted system” to include a cloud-based storage system that must comply with appropriately rigorous security standards.

Current records preservation techniques are costly, outdated, and inefficient. AB 22 recognizes and makes use of modern technology solutions, thereby offering public agencies a vastly more effective, responsive, and cost-effective way to store and archive official documents and data. The measure would ensure that cloud computing systems used for this purpose would be subject to stringent security standards and techniques.

Given the various benefits associated with AB 22 – cost savings, greater efficiency and functionality, and strict security requirements – Riverside County is pleased to support your measure. We stand ready to assist you as the measure makes its way through the legislative process.

If you have any questions about the County’s position, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy County Executive Officer, Brian Nestande at (951) 955-1110 or bnestande@rivco.org.

Sincerely,



John Tavaglione
Chair, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: Riverside County Delegation

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