

2025

LEGISLATIVE SESSION PROGRAM



SAN MATEO COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

David Canepa, President & District 5

Jackie Speier, District 1

Noelia Corzo, District 2

Ray Mueller, District 3

Lisa Gauthier, District 4

CONTACT

County Executive's Office

500 County Center, 5th Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063
Tel: (650) 363-4123 Fax: (650) 363-1916

Michael Callagy
County Executive

Iliana Rodriguez
Assistant County Executive

Justin Mates
Deputy County Executive

Adam Ely
Deputy County Executive

Robert Manchia
Chief Financial Officer

Connie Juarez-Diroll
Chief Legislative Officer

Michelle Durand
Chief Communications Officer

Shireen Malekafzali
Chief Equity Officer

Board of Supervisors

500 County Center, 5th Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

David Canepa, Board President
Fifth District
T: (650) 363-4572

Jackie Speier
First District
T: (650) 363-4571

Noelia Corzo
Second District
T: (650) 363-4568

Ray Mueller
Third District
T: (650) 363-4569

Lisa Gauthier
Fourth District
T: (650) 363-4570



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contact.....	2
Introduction	5
County Profile	8
San Mateo County Legislative Delegations	14
State Legislative Priorities	17
County Legislative Policies.....	21
1. Agriculture/Weights and Measures	22
2. Arts and Culture	24
3. Child Support	25
4. Climate Change and Sustainability	26
5. Elections and Voting.....	28
6. Emergency Response.....	29
7. General Government.....	31
8. Health and Hospitals.....	32
9. Housing	44
10. Human Resources.....	47
11. Human Services	48
12. Information Services.....	50
13. Libraries	51
14. Parks.....	52
15. Planning and Building	54



16.	Probation.....	57
17.	Public Safety Communications	60
18.	Public Safety and Justice.....	61
19.	Public Works	64
20.	State Budget	65
21.	Tax and Finance	66
22.	Transportation	67
23.	Treasurer-Tax Collector.....	69
Other Policy Areas:		
24.	Early Learning and Childcare	70
25.	Equity and Social Justice.....	72
26.	Firearms Safety	74
27.	Homelessness	75
28.	Immigrant Protections	77
29.	Reproductive Rights	78
Federal Legislative Priorities		79

INTRODUCTION





INTRODUCTION

The Mission of the County of San Mateo is to protect and enhance the health, safety, welfare and natural resources of the community; and to provide quality services that benefit and enrich the lives of the residents of the County.

To be effective in this mission, San Mateo County reviews and establishes priorities and policy statements at the beginning of each two-year legislative cycle to help guide its advocacy activities at the state and federal levels. The 2025 Legislative Session Program outlines the County's priorities in the coming legislative session and details the County's legislative policies—providing general direction for advocacy.

Advocacy of the County's Interests

While this document attempts to cover the sum of all legislative issues that may impact San Mateo County, it is not comprehensive, complete, or final. Throughout the state and federal legislative sessions, the County will review and take positions on various policy and State Budget items. In consultation with the Board of Supervisors, departments and the County Attorney, the County Executive's Office (CEO) will provide recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on legislative and policy issues affecting County operations and programs. When a recommended position is consistent with existing county policy—as adopted in the County's Legislative Program—the CEO is authorized to prepare a county position letter for the board president to sign.

If an existing policy does not apply to a particular legislative or State Budget item, the CEO will prepare an analysis, which includes a review of the fiscal, programmatic, and service impact on County operations and services. The items and positions approved by the Board will be added to the County's Legislative Program in the subsequent revision.

Before pursuing legislation or taking positions on bills, including those sponsored or supported by professional associations, County departments must first seek and secure approval from the CEO. The CEO will review the legislation and determine whether the position sought is consistent with existing Board-approved policy.

The CEO will closely track all legislation on which the County has taken a position and report to the Board of Supervisors and departments.

State and federal advocacy teams represent the County's interests based on the policies contained in the Board-approved Legislative Session Program. In addition to County position letters, Board members and County staff may be asked to testify or meet with relevant legislators or Executive branch members to advocate on issues requiring heightened advocacy. If this is the case, County staff must first notify and/or confirm the CEO's approval to ensure that positions taken are consistent with the County's Board-approved Legislative Session Program.

San Mateo County CAREs

The County of San Mateo is committed to **Creating A Remarkable Experience** for our community and employees through:

- The highest standards of public service;
- A common vision of responsiveness;
- The highest standards of ethical conduct;
- Treating people with respect and dignity.

The vision is for County employees to serve the public to the best of their abilities while holding themselves accountable to the highest standards of government. San Mateo County government protects and enhances the health, safety, welfare and natural resources of the community; and provides quality services that benefit and enrich the lives of the people of this community.



A Vision for Equity in San Mateo County

All San Mateo County residents and staff must experience just and fair inclusion into a society in which all can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential. The County of San Mateo recognizes historical and current structural policies and practices that continue to harm people of color, LGBTQIA+ communities, and those with disabilities. All people in the County are also harmed when one segment of the population is not able to fully participate.

Our aim is to create a strong, diverse, and equitable county where all people feel a deep sense of belonging and are empowered to voice their needs and manifest their aspirations.

To achieve equity, the County of San Mateo must work to create the conditions that allow all to reach their full potential.

COUNTY PROFILE

A photograph of a dirt path winding through a forest. The path is made of reddish-brown soil and is covered with fallen leaves. The trees are mostly deciduous, with some showing green leaves and others bare. Sunlight filters through the canopy, creating a dappled light effect on the ground. The path leads into the distance, disappearing into the woods.

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

San Mateo County

San Mateo County is one of nine counties that comprise the San Francisco Bay Area, one of the most dynamic and diverse regions in the United States.

Established in 1856, the county occupies 455 square miles and contains 20 cities on a peninsula bounded by the City and County of San Francisco to the north and Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties to the south. San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean form the east and west boundaries, respectively.

Along the Bay, the county is home to San Francisco International Airport with access to global markets and destinations and both large and small companies that are leaders in biotechnology, computer science, social media, healthcare and research. Just a few miles away the western part of the county offers a rural atmosphere and some of California's most beautiful coastline.

How the County Works

Counties in California perform a dual role that differs from cities.

Cities generally provide services such as police and fire protection, recreation programs, libraries, water, wastewater, planning, street repair, and building inspection. California's nearly 500 cities are generally overseen by a part-time elected council. Similarly, the County provides city-type services for residents who do not live within a city but live in an unincorporated area.

Additionally, counties are political and administrative subdivisions of the state and operate many of the state's programs for all residents. These include social services, public health protection, foster care, housing programs, alcohol and substance use disorder programs, adult protective services, child support services, birth and death records, elections, and public safety, among many others.

The County is governed by a five-member full-time Board of Supervisors who are elected in nonpartisan contests to serve four-year terms.

The Board is responsible for passing ordinances, adopting the County's budget, and appointing a County Executive and numerous other positions. The County Executive appoints the non-elected directors of County departments.

In addition to the five Board members, voters also select six countywide elected officials: the Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder-Chief Elections Officer, Controller, Coroner, District Attorney, Sheriff, and Treasurer-Tax Collector. The County Chief Probation Officer is appointed by the judiciary.



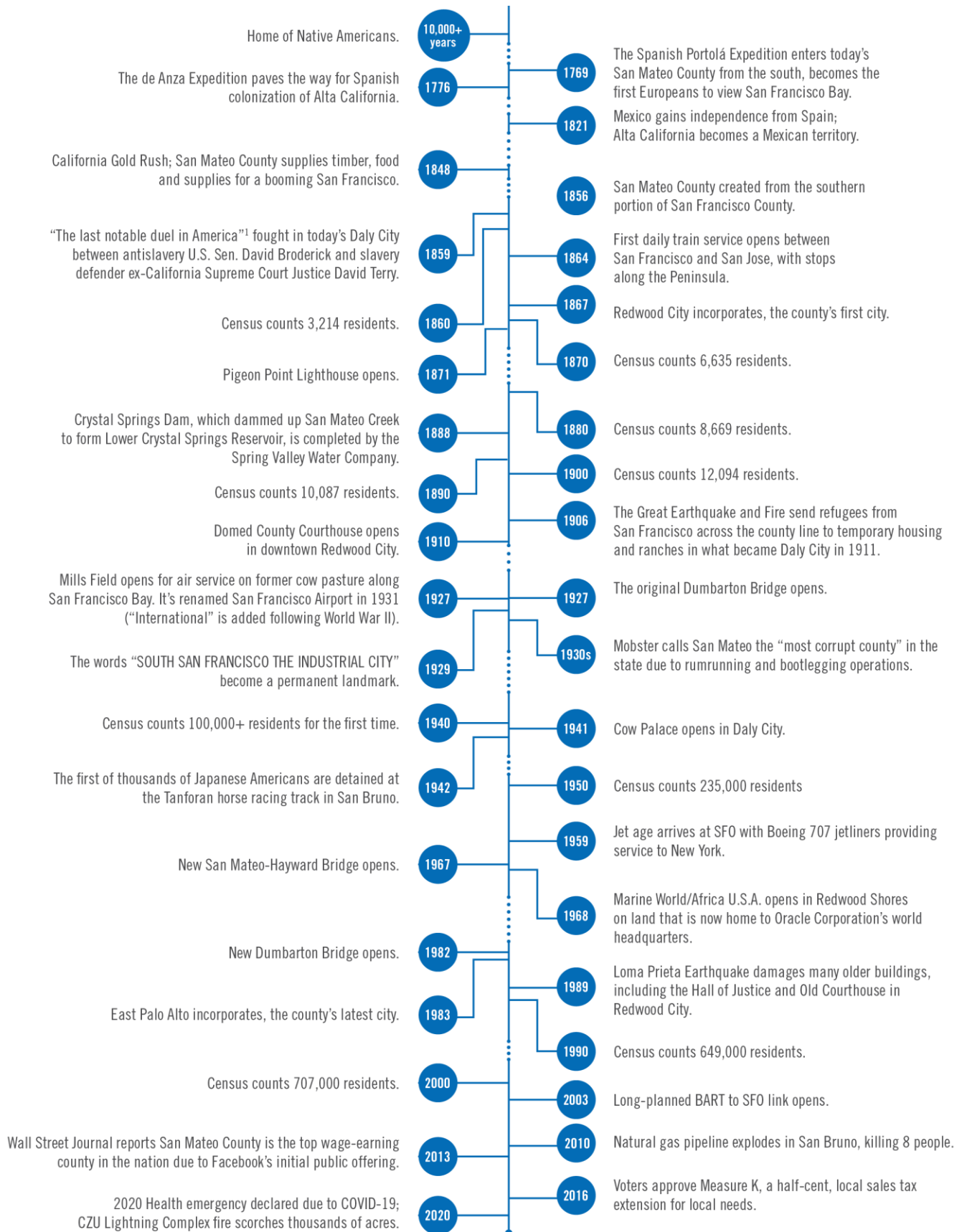
Our Mission

The County of San Mateo protects and enhances the health, safety, welfare and natural resources of the community, and provides quality services that benefit and enrich the lives of the people of this community.

We are committed to:

- The highest standards of public service;
- A common vision of responsiveness;
- The highest standards of ethical conduct;
- Treating people with respect and dignity.

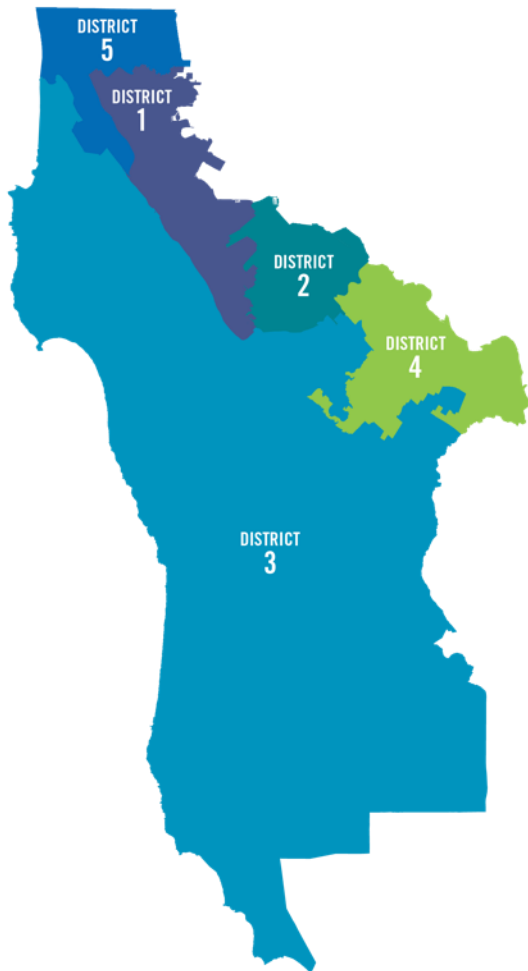
HISTORY



SAN MATEO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

San Mateo County is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors. Each supervisor must live in and represent one of five districts, which are roughly equal in population but vary greatly in size.

Supervisors are elected by voters within their districts to staggered four-year terms with a maximum of three terms in office. They appoint the County Executive to carry out the Board's policies and goals and oversee the efficient running of County government.



Jackie Speier, 1st District

Cities of Burlingame, Hillsborough, Millbrae, San Bruno (everything east of Interstate 280 and areas west of 280 and south of Sneath Lane), and South San Francisco (east of Junipero Serra Boulevard and south of Hickey and Hillside Boulevards). Unincorporated Burlingame Hills, San Mateo Highlands, and San Francisco International Airport.



Noelia Corzo, 2nd District

Cities of San Mateo, Foster City, and most of Belmont (excluding southeast portion).



Ray Mueller, 3rd District

Cities of Atherton, southeast Belmont, Half Moon Bay, part of Menlo Park (west of El Camino Real), Pacifica, Portola Valley, San Carlos, and Woodside. Unincorporated Devonshire Canyon, El Granada, Emerald Lake Hills, Harbor Industrial Park, La Honda, Ladera, Loma Mar, Los Trancos Woods, Menlo Oaks, Miramar, Montara, Moss Beach, Palomar Park, Pescadero, Princeton By-The-Sea, San Gregorio, Skyline, Sequoia Tract, Skylonda, Stanford Lands, Vista Verde, and West Menlo Park.



Lisa Gauthier, 4th District

Cities of East Palo Alto, part of Menlo Park (east of El Camino Real), and Redwood City. Unincorporated North Fair Oaks.



David J. Canepa, 5th District

Cities of Brisbane, Colma, Daly City, San Bruno (north of Sneath Lane and west of Interstate 280), and South San Francisco (east of Junipero Serra Boulevard and north of Hickey and Hillside boulevards). Unincorporated Broadmoor Village.

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

April 19, 1856

Founded

455

Square Miles

20

Cities

744,662

Population
(2022)

Birth Decline Rate

The number of births continued a gradual decline in 2020, falling to 8,089 from 8,273 in 2019 and decade-high (2011-2020) of 9,067 in 2013.

15th Most Populous County

San Mateo County is the 15th most populous of California's 58 counties, between **San Joaquin at 14** and at **Stanislaus at 16**.

21,000

Veterans

6.8%

Persons in Poverty



The county is home to 20 cities that range from densely populated urban centers to semi-rural towns.

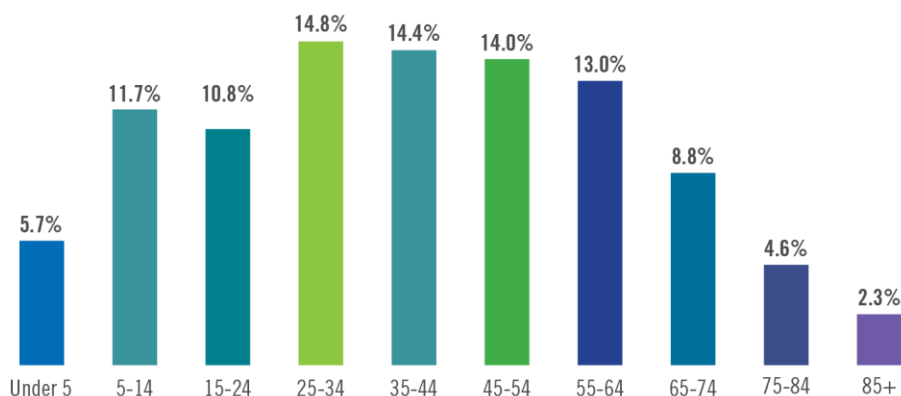
The largest city in terms of population, Daly City (102,875 residents), shares a border with the least populated city, Colma (1,370 residents).

744,662

San Mateo County Population

6,718 Atherton	27,203 Belmont
4,721 Brisbane	30,283 Burlingame
1,370 Colma	102,875 Daly City
28,963 East Palo Alto	33,056 Foster City
11,308 Half Moon Bay	11,018 Hillsborough
33,034 Menlo Park	22,512 Millbrae
37,533 Pacifica	4,289 Portola Valley
82,344 Redwood City	42,656 San Bruno
29,837 San Carlos	103,779 San Mateo
64,492 South San Francisco	64,492 Unincorporated
5,212 Woodside	

Age Distribution



San Mateo County is one of the most diverse counties in California and the United States.

45.7%

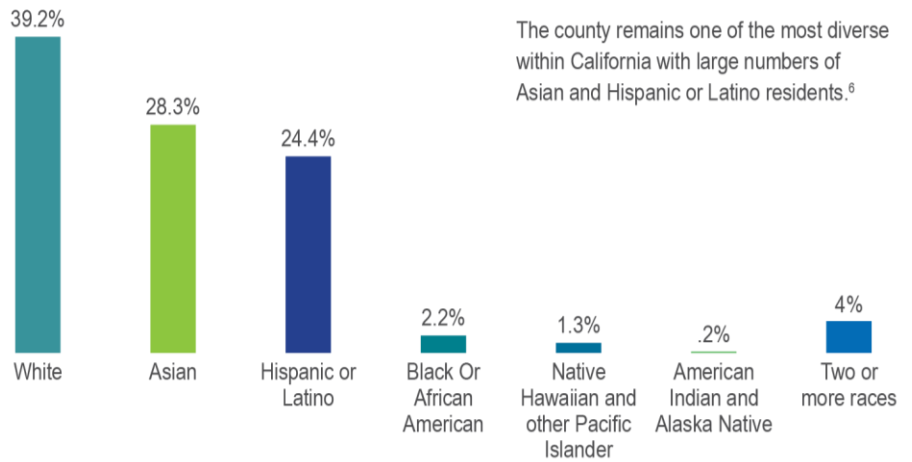
Of persons age 5 and older speak a language other than English at home.

34.6%

Of residents were born in another country.



Diversity



Educational Attainment

90.9%

Of persons age 25 years and older graduate high school or higher

51.8%

Of persons age 25 years and older attain Bachelor's degree or higher



93,554
K-12 Public School Enrollment

SAN MATEO COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATIONS



SAN MATEO COUNTY STATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

San Mateo County is represented by two senators and three assembly members in the California State Legislature. The CEO and IGPA work closely with these elected representatives to ensure the State understands the needs of the County.



Senator Scott Wiener, Senate District 11

Includes: Broadmoor, Colma, Daly City,
South San Francisco



Senator Josh Becker, Senate District 13

Includes: Atherton, Belmont, Brisbane,
Burlingame, East Palo Alto, Foster City,
Half Moon Bay, Hillsborough, Menlo Park,
Millbrae, North Fair Oaks, Pacifica, Pescadero,
Portola Valley, Redwood City, San Bruno,
San Carlos, San Mateo, South San Francisco,
Woodside



Assembly Member Catherine Stefani, Assembly District 19

Includes: Broadmoor, Colma, Daly City,
South San Francisco



Assembly Member Marc Berman, Assembly District 23

Includes: Atherton, Half Moon Bay, Menlo Park,
North Fair Oaks, Pacifica, Pescadero, Portola
Valley, Woodside



Assembly Member Diane Papan, Assembly District 21

Includes: Belmont, Brisbane, Burlingame,
East Palo Alto, Foster City, Hillsborough, Millbrae,
Redwood City, San Bruno, San Carlos, San
Mateo, South San Francisco

SAN MATEO COUNTY FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

San Mateo County is represented by two senators and two representatives in the United States Congress. The CEO and IGPA work closely with these elected representatives to ensure the State understands the needs of the County.



Senator Alex Padilla



Senator Adam Schiff



**Representative Kevin Mullin,
Congressional District 15**

Includes: Belmont, Brisbane, Broadmoor, Burlingame, Colma, Daly City, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Hillsborough, Millbrae, North Fair Oaks, Redwood City, San Bruno, San Carlos, San Mateo, South San Francisco, West Menlo Park



**Representative Sam Liccardo,
Congressional District 16**

Includes: Atherton, Half Moon Bay, Menlo Park, Pacifica, Pescadero, Portola Valley, Woodside

STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The following are the top legislative priorities for the County of San Mateo in the first year of the 2025-2027 state legislative session.

Protecting In-Lieu VLF Revenue



The Vehicle License Fee (VLF) Swap was an integral part of the 2004 Budget compromise, where in exchange for local funding of the Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) III shift and a permanent reduction to the VLF rate (a critical funding source for counties and cities), the State agreed to pay them for the lost VLF revenue. The funding would come through the redirection of a portion of each county's local ERAF and, if necessary, the property taxes from non-basic aid school districts to counties and cities. Schools do not suffer any revenue loss due to the VLF swap as the

State backfills its guaranteed funding levels.

Under current law, no statutory mechanism exists to fully reimburse counties and cities for lost VLF revenues when the funding sources identified in Revenue & Taxation Code § 97.70 are insufficient. The County supports and will seek state reimbursement in the years needed to ensure full payment.

The County will seek a permanent legislative fix to ensure it and its cities receive their full in-lieu VLF payments on time. The County strongly opposes any efforts to pay the State's VLF obligation by utilizing the County's and cities' own property tax revenues (Excess ERAF) or other independent revenue sources.

Ending Homelessness



The County strives to reach a functional zero level of homelessness, where every unsheltered person who chooses assistance will be provided interim or permanent housing. Shelter capacity has increased by 54 percent since the pandemic, including the addition of the San Mateo Navigation Center. In FY 2024-25, the Human Services Agency's Center on Homelessness launched a new model of services to help house people living in encampments, including tailored case management, diversion, and housing

services.

Ongoing financial assistance from the state will be needed to reach this goal. Therefore, the County will actively seek state support for ongoing services to be provided at the new Navigation Center and support proposals that advance its efforts to combat homelessness, including additional funding for homeless prevention services and funding dedicated explicitly to permanent housing and supportive/wrap-around services to help the unhoused achieve more permanent housing solutions. The County also supports ongoing, flexible funding for programs that have evidenced success in keeping individuals permanently housed, outreach programs to engage homeless individuals meaningfully, and focused efforts to reduce homelessness among adults over the age of 50 that address the needs of and recognize the particular causes of homelessness among this age cohort.

Further, the County believes combating homelessness requires a statewide, holistic, comprehensive strategy that provides sustained funding and clear levels of responsibility at all levels of government. Thus, it supports adopting a comprehensive system at the state level that includes ongoing flexible financing for the ongoing costs associated with providing services to unhoused residents and those at risk of homelessness and prioritizing the development of an adequate housing continuum accessible to all Californians.

Finally, the County will advocate for advancing laws, policies, and funding to help persons with serious mental illness and addictions receive voluntary and involuntary treatment, supportive services, and housing.

Infrastructure Investments to Build Resiliency



The County will support efforts to expeditiously implement the Climate Bond (Proposition 4, 2024), including effective oversight and accountability. It will advocate for robust, ongoing state investments in various infrastructure types, including sea level rise, coastal erosion, broadband, climate change, wildfire mitigation, and energy. The County will advocate for expanded funding and policies to advance the development of new and existing housing and other infrastructure to be climate resilient.

In addition, as counties move into the implementation phase of SB 1383's organic waste regulations, the County will continue to advocate for ongoing funding and implementation support, regulatory streamlining, and common-sense approaches to waste reduction.

The County will advocate for state and federal investments in emergency preparedness and resilience, including solutions to ensure affordable wildfire insurance for high-risk communities.

Developing Affordable Housing



The County places a high priority on increasing the availability of affordable housing. Since the advent of the County's Affordable Housing Fund in 2013, it has invested millions of dollars in County funds to construct and preserve thousands of affordable housing units. To advance this mission, the County will advocate for policies, regulations, and funding opportunities that promote healthy, safe, accessible, service-enriched, and affordable housing for people at all income levels near jobs, transportation, and other

amenities that make counties like San Mateo a desirable place to live and result in higher development costs compared to other parts of the state.

Immigrant Safety



The County's community health and economic stability depend on contributions from vibrant immigrant communities. In the current political atmosphere immigrant communities throughout the County are living under increased fear and uncertainty as well as family destabilization. The County will advocate for state and federal policies and funding that support immigrant communities including, but not limited to, legal services and emergency housing. The County will support state-level efforts to maintain and expand protections and programs for residents regardless of immigration status, including but not limited to maintaining safe zones such as schools and emergency evacuation centers.



COUNTY LEGISLATIVE POLICIES



1. AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The County Supports:

- 1.1. State budget proposals that provide funding for long-term protection of agricultural lands and restoration of Williamson Act funding.
- 1.2. State budget proposals that provide funding to growers to develop innovative solutions to new industry challenges, including identification and testing of economically-viable alternative crops. The County also supports legislation that encourages new farmers to enter the industry.
- 1.3. Local access to fresh and healthy foods for the County's residents, specifically legislation and budget proposals that promote and/or support local agriculture, community and school gardens and farmer's markets, and expanding them into food deserts and other vulnerable neighborhoods with poor social indicators of health.
- 1.4. State budget proposals that provide funding to growers for Climate-Smart agricultural practices that protect our agricultural communities and enable large-scale carbon sequestration on the County's working lands.
- 1.5. The continued use of additional agricultural off-highway use motor vehicle fuel funds at the local level for Agricultural Commissioners in carrying out agriculture code programs under the direction of the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA).
- 1.6. Funding of Invasive Species exclusion and management programs at the state level. Specific programs include: Pest Exclusion, Pest Detection Trapping and Survey Activities, Rapid Response, Pest Management and Eradication and public education outreach. The County also supports protecting existing revenue sources and enhancing state and federal funding of Pest Prevention Program activities. The County supports providing full cost recovery for new programs and maintaining or enhancing funding for current programs. The County supports all reasonable efforts by CDFA, County Agricultural Commissioners and the agriculture industry to acquire funding and to prevent the introduction and potential spread of invasive pest management and eradication activities. The County supports providing flexibility to enhance the abilities of Agricultural Commissioners to respond to pest emergencies and high priority local pest exclusion pathways. The County supports budgetary efforts to restore and maintain funding for agricultural border stations and supports research on invasive species pathways as well as funding mechanisms to close potential pathways.
- 1.7. The provision and protection of local authority for weights and measures device registration fees, and legislation that maintains, extends or eliminates the repeal date in Business and Professions Code Section 12246 pertaining to Weights and Measures Device Registration Fees.
- 1.8. Legislation that preserves and enhances funding resources for weights and measures programs at the state (Division of Measurement Standards, DMS) and local (Sealer) level for consumer protection, encouraging the use

of state general funds for the DMS. The County supports legislation that assures clear labeling and accuracy of the net quantity of packaged products to promote value comparison and to ensure the consumer receives the correct product and the quantity of product for which they pay. The County opposes legislation that would allow for industry self-certification of commercial weighing and measuring devices. The County also opposes legislation that would diminish or remove protections now afforded to consumers for transactions measured by weighing or measuring devices or computed by Point-of-Sale systems. The County supports legislation that establishes funding for quantity control and package inspection.

- 1.9. Proposals that provide long-term stable funding for county pesticide regulatory activities. The County supports legislative or budgetary proposals that maintain or increase funding to local Agricultural Commissioners through the pesticide mill fee that is sufficient for pesticide regulatory activities to protect the safety of workers, the public and the environment and provides funding for education, outreach and compliance assessment activities related to the safe use of pesticides. The County also supports the preemptive status of state pesticide laws and authority provided to the Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) and California Agricultural Commissioners.
- 1.10. State legislation and resources that would provide stable funding for Weed Management Area groups or programs for the control of harmful nonnative, invasive weed pests.
- 1.11. Opposes legislation creating local mandates or programs that do not clearly define and authorize roles for Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers and that do not provide full funding and resources for activities to be carried out by Agricultural Commissioners and/or Sealers.
- 1.12. ~~The County supports f~~ Full funding and resources for additional cannabis-related regulatory activities to be carried out by Agricultural Commissioners/Sealers. The County opposes legislation that creates local commercial cannabis or industrial hemp mandates or programs that do not fully fund additional regulatory activities to be carried out by Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers, impair local land use authority, fail to provide adequate security for commissioners/sealer staff and/or create interference between cannabis regulation and existing authorities granted to Commissioners/Sealers.
- 1.13. Legislation and proposals that enhance funding and resources to support an effective regulatory program for direct marketing: Certified Farmers Markets, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA's), community and school gardens at both state and local levels.
- 1.14. Opposes legislation that would end the State Organic Program (SOP) registration requirements and fee-based activities performed by the CDFA SOP and Agricultural Commissioners. The County opposes legislation that would eliminate the California Organic Products Advisory Committee (COPAC). The County opposes legislation that would end statewide enforcement of the SOP by CDFA and County Agricultural Commissioners and supports organic program funding, allowing agricultural commissioners the authority to verify that agricultural products represented as "organic" are indeed so.
- 1.15. Increased environmental review of new school site proposals to ensure similarity to other developments. The County supports legislation that supports the incorporation of buffers, setbacks and pick-up drop-off locations into new school footprints and designs to minimize interference with agricultural operations when schools must be sited in agricultural areas.
- 1.16. Stable funding for programs designed to improve conflict resolutions between humans and wildlife, such as programs designed to curb predator animals from preying on livestock.

A woman in traditional Mexican attire, including a white blouse with lace and a colorful shawl, is holding a large, vibrant shawl. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. In the background, a crowd of people is visible, and trees are in the distance.

2. ARTS AND CULTURE

The County Supports:

- 2.1. Recognition of the arts and culture as a vital asset to the County's economy and livelihood.
- 2.2. Legislation and policies that support the accessibility and growth of the arts and culture in the County.
- 2.3. Permanent and increased State budget to ensure growing operations of the Office of Arts and Culture allowing the expansion of exhibition programs, arts education services, and fellowship opportunities for underserved populations.
- 2.4. Increased state support for local non-profit arts and cultural agencies.



3. CHILD SUPPORT

The County Supports:

- 3.1. Increased child support funding. The County supports legislative, administrative and budgetary efforts to fully fund the local child support services program cost of doing business, as well as adjustments to local child support agencies and funding allocations that account for cost differences among California counties providing services. Funding from the state has been reduced in FY 2019-2020 and again in 2024-2025.
- 3.2. Recognizing child support services as a vital safety net program.
- 3.3. Legislation and proposals to improve the collection of child support orders, including legislation to enable child support agencies to collect child support from non-traditional sources of income, such as gig workers; legislation that would provide local child support agencies greater flexibility to compromise interest on state owed arrears; legislation to change the rate of interest charged for unpaid support currently at 10 percent per year to reflect current loan market rates; and legislation to include the child support program as a debt collection entity to obtain winnings for owed support from any gaming and/or gambling revenue.
- 3.4. Increased flexibilities for the administration of Child Support, including employment support for unemployed and/or underemployed parents.
- 3.5. Legislative reforms and funding to streamline access to child support services, despite the decrease in caseloads statewide.
- 3.6. Legislative reforms that increase access to services and flexibility for the administration of the Child Support Program. The County supports the ability to share information across social services agencies that provides the public a one-stop approach to receiving critical help to maintain housing, food and basic economic needs.
- 3.7. Legislation that provides reduction or removal of accumulated uncollectible debt that is allowed to the government for customers that have the inability to pay the debt and are subject to falling deeper into poverty.
- 3.8. Legislation to pass through current child support collections to families instead of recovering it to the government for TANF aid paid.
- 3.9. Legislation that strengthens protections and support for survivors of domestic violence who avoid pursuing child support due but not limited to fear of retaliation or immigration status.



4. CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

The County Supports:

- 4.1. Policies, funding and incentives that result in a net reduction of non-renewable energy use and global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through energy efficiency, energy conservation, carbon sequestration and carbon farming and increased production and use of renewable energy.
- 4.2. Strategies and funding to support the phasing out of natural gas service; zero net energy or zero net carbon new construction; decarbonization of new and existing homes and commercial, institutional and public buildings; increasing grid reliability, assuring energy affordability, increasing battery storage and microgrids and; activities identified in local government Climate Action Plans and that support local governments to coordinate long-range GHG reduction programs. The County supports programs to achieve equitable outcomes in building decarbonization, including tenant protections.
- 4.3. Funding sources to implement local or state government programs that benefit the County's water quality and resources such as: watershed protection, restoration and flood mitigation; groundwater recharge and sustainability; green infrastructure; urban greening; nature-based climate solutions; water conservation; stormwater pollution prevention; litter abatement, National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) compliance; and Municipal Regional Permit regulatory requirements. The County supports funding to support watershed-level restoration and improvement of sediment management for salmonid habitat, water quality improvement efforts and reduction in coastal flooding impacts of County coastal communities. The County supports funding and policies that ensure equitable access to affordable, high-quality water.
- 4.4. Legislation and policies that support a safe transition from traditional municipal water supplies to on-site or wastewater treatment plant sources of recycled water, and use of grey water through building code or state standards deployment.
- 4.5. Policies that promote marketplace equity between Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) programs that offer electricity customers cleaner energy, increased choice, and local control, and investor operator owned utilities and other market actors.
- 4.6. Policies that create a favorable regulatory environment for CCA energy programs and their customers, including appropriate changes to the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) exit fee calculation.
- 4.7. Policies that support the successful operation and local control of CCA energy programs and support the ability of Peninsula Clean Energy Authority to achieve its mission to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by expanding access to sustainable and affordable energy solutions.

- 4.8. Policies, funding and incentives that support community resilience to the effects of climate change, including flooding, erosion, wildfire and wildfire smoke, extreme heat and extreme weather. The County supports funding of local adaptation and resilience planning, and community-informed solutions to advance community resiliency to climate impacts.
- 4.9. Funding to study and implement mitigation and adaptation strategies for climate change impacts on the natural and built environment, species and human health. The County supports funding to protect key government-owned and/or community-serving facilities and critical infrastructure through climate vulnerability assessments as well as development and implementation of climate adaptation strategies on a local and regional scale.
- 4.10. Prioritizing local government and school district projects that fund clean energy projects and ventilation efficiency, as well as energy conservation, electrification, electric vehicle charging, building and fleet electrification, renewable energy, battery storage and microgrid projects to improve disaster and climate resiliency of school buildings.
- 4.11. Programs and funding to support agricultural systems that promote the County's sustainability goals, including regenerative, carbon-sequestering and resource-conserving agricultural practices (including cattle grazing); and energy-efficient irrigation technologies that reduce GHG emissions and water use and support agricultural and ecosystem resilience in response to droughts and extreme storms.
- 4.12. Policies, funding and strategies to increase the diversion of waste from landfills through recycling and organics collection programs. The County supports policies, funding and strategies to reduce waste at the source, such as reducing reliance on single-use plastics and packaging materials, recovering and redistributing surplus of edible food and implementing programs to promote the repair of household items. The County supports laws, regulations and funding of programs that advance extended producer responsibility for consumer products. The County supports policies, funding, and strategies for investing in the creation and maintenance of local recycling, composting, and reduce infrastructure.



5. ELECTIONS AND VOTING

The County Supports:

- 5.1. Proposals to provide reimbursement to counties for the costs incurred in conducting special elections to fill vacancies in state and federal offices.
- 5.2. Proposals to allow for changes in precincts for Vote Center counties to increase efficiency in elections. Specifically, the County supports changes to the Election Code to allow for more precincts to be consolidated for the Voter's Choice Act (VCA) counties (EC §12241) and to allow increases in the maximum number of voters in a precinct (EC §12223).
- 5.3. Legislation that increases protections against interfering with the casting of ballots at Vote Centers or by mail, including increasing fines and/or penalties for practices that attempt to impede the voting process.
- 5.4. Legislation to improve and/or clarify the challenge process for Vote-By-Mail ballots and strengthen voter protections.
- 5.5. Proposals to allow for secure and effective use of new technologies available in the field of election administration.
- 5.6. Legislation to authorize the implementation of additional, expanded and alternative voting opportunities.
- 5.7. Legislation to assist counties in the effective implementation of state mandated changes in the elections process and administration.



6. EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The County Supports:

Preparedness

- 6.1. Broad county access to technology and infrastructure that offers effective and wide-ranging communications capabilities for alerting the public in emergency situations.
- 6.2. Advocating for improved coordination between state and local offices of emergency services and state and local departments with health and safety-related responsibilities (e.g. California Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Health Services, the Emergency Medical Services Authority and county offices of emergency services county health agencies and local emergency services agencies).
- 6.3. Full and flexible funding for on-going emergency preparedness and all hazard planning.
- 6.4. Full and flexible funding and policies for on-going emergency preparedness exercises, training, and planning focusing on an all hazards approach at all levels that accounts for the circumstances of local agencies.
- 6.5. Efforts that would fund undergrounding utilities to remove a common source of ignition and to help prevent wildfires and loss of utility services during disasters.
- 6.6. The requirement that cellphone companies maintain battery backup during power shutoffs.
- 6.7. Maintaining emergency shelter centers as safe zones for all San Mateo County residents including immigrants of all statuses.

Response

- 6.8. Improved communication between local governments and investor-owned utilities regarding the timing and deployment of enforced power shutoffs.
- 6.9. Exploration of, funding for and deployment of alternative energy storage technologies to provide temporary power supply during enforced shutoffs.
- 6.10. A vibrant statewide fire response system. The County opposes any negative actions that may impede its operational effectiveness.

Recovery

- 6.11. All legislative and administrative efforts to maximize and expedite access to Federal and State resources to address both short-term and long-term recovery needs resulting from natural and catastrophic disasters, including acts of domestic terrorism, in the region.

Mitigation

- 6.12. Efforts to bring insurance companies and the industry into mitigating the wildland fire problem.
- 6.13. Community Risk and Infrastructure Safety Program (CRISP) implementation and funding.
- 6.14. Additional funding to support fullscope expansion of mitigation efforts.

All Phases

- 6.15. Grant processes, procedures and guidelines that allow full funding for personnel in order to carry out emergency management and homeland security mandates.
- 6.16. Efforts to reform the existing state and federal grant funding structure that result in a streamlined and flexible process for the protection of Californians' physical and fiscal health and wellbeing.
- 6.17. Emergency Support Function (ESF 5) expansion in emergencies as it serves as a central hub for managing emergency response through the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).



7. GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The County Supports:

- 7.1. Legislative proposals to create notice and cure provisions to remedy challenges with high frequency Public Records Act (PRA) litigants.
- 7.2. Legislative proposals to update the cost recovery provisions of the PRA to better enable agencies to recover PRA administration costs.
- 7.3. Legislative proposals to permit teleconference meetings of advisory-only commissions, committees, boards or other legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to promote increased participation, reduce travel barriers, and improve equity and inclusion.
- 7.4. The public's right to access public meetings and supports efforts that maximize local control and flexibility.
- 7.5. Efforts to ensure public meetings are safe, accessible, and welcoming, where community members can peaceably assemble, and local legislative bodies can constructively accomplish the people's business.
- 7.6. Legislative action to oppose proposals that expand administrative and civil penalties on local government entities.
- 7.7. Increased investments to support the County workforce and innovative policies that can help the County more effectively recruit, hire, and retain qualified and talented workforces.



8. HEALTH AND HOSPITALS

The County Supports:

Health

- 8.1. Reducing costs, increasing revenue and providing flexibility in the use of state and federal funds for San Mateo County Health.
- 8.2. Providing stable funding for the local healthcare services and programs.
- 8.3. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that support affordable and culturally competent health services.
- 8.4. Policies that promote and permit the development of multidisciplinary teams in order to facilitate identification, assessment and coordination of services to vulnerable and at-risk populations served by counties to ensure continuity of care.
- 8.5. Laws that require Health Care Districts (HCDs) to fund healthcare for the remaining uninsured.
- 8.6. The County supports strong efforts to ensure the sustainability of county organized health systems and reasonable reimbursement rates and rate mechanism for local health plans and systems.
- 8.7. Legislation that would improve our efficacy in engaging, treating and housing unhoused residents who, as a result of their untreated serious mental illness and substance use disorders, deteriorate cognitively and/or physically to a point that threatens their continued survival.
- 8.8. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that promote equal access to health services for LGBTQIA+ people, and training funds for county personnel to address LGBTQIA+ concerns relating to health services.
- 8.9. Implementation of laws and regulations which require health as an equally shared consideration in all General Plan development.
- 8.10. Policies, campaigns and funding to expand civic participation across populations to improve community cohesion, social capital and self-efficacy to improve mental and physical health.
- 8.11. Policies, funding and regulations that improve the economic position of low-income people bearing the burden of the poorest health inequities, through enhancements to the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit wage policies, guaranteed income (GI) or universal basic income (UBI) and other efforts to raise the incomes of working poor families.
- 8.12. Policies that provide job and economic security for those experiencing health conditions. This includes improving equitable access and expansion of paid sick leave and paid family leave.
- 8.13. Policies, regulations and funding that improves healthy neighborhoods through increased affordable housing opportunities, integrated and complete urban planning and design, connection between new residential

development and transportation investment, community stability and increased community engagement in decision-making processes that shape their communities.

- 8.14. Policies that improve equitable and expanded access to physical activity and social connection opportunities.
- 8.15. Advancing policies and funding to implement and expand robust Restorative Justice Practices, school connectedness and other social emotional health within school culture to keep children and youth in school and to lower punitive disciplinary policies.
- 8.16. Policies and programming to advance a healthy, sustainable food system and healthy food access, including local food sourcing to institutions.
- 8.17. Implementation of laws and standards that provide paid leave for new biologic or adoptive parents.
- 8.18. Funding and programming that expands violence prevention initiatives.
- 8.19. Policies and programs to develop community economic capacity and jobs.
- 8.20. Legislation that creates intentional pathways for increasing leadership and workforce positions that represent the population diversity by race, culture, gender identity, sexual orientation and for persons with disabilities.
- 8.21. Legislation that protects immigrants, including undocumented workers and farmworkers, from wage theft, poor working conditions and immigration-related employer retaliation.
- 8.22. Advancing racial health equity through workforce development, data analysis, improved standards and policy advancements.
- 8.23. Policies and enforcement to end discrimination based on real or perceived immigration status and racial identity in workplaces, housing, health-care, social services and other public areas.
- 8.24. Modifying the Brown Act such that people with disabilities who are homebound can participate via technology.
- 8.25. Policies that advance racial and social equity in population-health outcomes by addressing the social determinants of health.
- 8.26. Funding to support the health and behavioral health needs of individuals experiencing homelessness through in-the-field services.
- 8.27. Regulation and policies that seek a balanced, patient-centered approach to address the 2016 CDC guidelines on prescribing opioids for chronic pain. While a response to combat the illicit use of opioids and subsequent overdose risk is imperative, the unintended consequences of undertreating chronic pain with this important tool has caused significant harm to patients.

Aging & Adult Services (AAS):

- 8.28. Proposals and funding that promote the coordination of services such as Older Americans Act Programs, In-Home Supportive Services, Caregiver Resource Centers, Community-Based Adult Services and Adult Protective Services into an integrated long-term care system.
- 8.29. Solutions and funding for the region's housing crisis that address the needs of lower to middle income older adults and at-risk populations, such people aging with disabilities and the elderly, including homeless LGBTQIA+ individuals and formerly incarcerated older adults.
- 8.30. Solutions and funding to prevent the eviction of seniors and persons with disabilities (SPDs), who frequently live off fixed incomes or finite savings, from their residences in order to prevent SPDs from falling into homelessness.
- 8.31. Funding for programs to address food insecurity, as well as issues unique to SPDs such as social isolation and loneliness, placing them at higher risk for negative physical and mental health outcomes.

- 8.32. Continuing efforts to maximize collaboration and develop homelessness prevention programs that target highly vulnerable SPDs that are built on evidence-based rapid rehousing principles and coupled with short-term intensive case management services to keep SPDs housed in a setting of their choosing and connected to a medical home.
- 8.33. Proposals that advance the implementation of the State's Olmstead Plan, which prohibits unnecessary institutionalization of individuals with disabilities and ensures people with disabilities have a right to live in the community and receive services in their own homes.
- 8.34. Legislation that allows for enhanced confidentiality and suppression of DMV records for adult protective services social workers as a way of providing them with greater protections against threats and physical assaults by those they are investigating.
- 8.35. Proposals that expand Medi-Cal's Assisted Living Waiver program (ALW) to enable older adults and persons with disabilities to safely and healthily age in place in a community setting of their choosing.
- 8.36. Proposals that expand the federal poverty level eligibility limits for Medi-Cal and state portion of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits to increase middle income seniors' access to home- and community-based services and assisted living options that enable them to age in place in the least restrictive setting.
- 8.37. Legislation that identifies state funding for mandated county Public Guardian Probate conservatorships.
- 8.38. Legislation that would promote the expansion of health-related programs including nutrition (congregate and home delivered meals) and care coordination.
- 8.39. Legislation addressing the education, prevention, and specialized intervention and treatment of substance abuse (e.g.; polypharmacy) among older adults.
- 8.40. Implementing the County's *Age-Friendly Initiative* that promotes *Dementia Friendly* practices that will allow older adults to age in place and take a more active role in their communities.
- 8.41. Legislation or budgetary actions to provide a tax credit to individuals who provide in-home care.
- 8.42. Continuing and strengthening collaborative efforts with the San Francisco Veterans Administration to streamline In-Home Supportive Services and Public Authority processes to best serve newly housed homeless San Mateo County veterans at Colma Veteran's Village.
- 8.43. Legislation that would promote the continuance of virtual meeting for Boards, Committees and Commissions, specifically for members living with disabilities.

Behavioral Health & Recovery Services (BHRS)

- 8.44. Efforts to continue to modernize the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA), including revisiting the categorical spending percentages in partnership with county behavioral health departments. The County opposes efforts that would further redirect these dollars. The County supports using an outcomes-based model for distribution of BHSA funds, developed with county behavioral health departments, that reflect statewide and local priorities in place of current percentage distributions.
- 8.45. Policies that offer flexibility in regards to CalAIM payment reform, including flexible service rates.
- 8.46. Establishing supportive housing programs for justice-involved individuals who are living with mental illness and are either homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.
- 8.47. Advocating for further flexibility to allow for the use of BHSA funding for services for homeless and criminal justice involved individuals with a primary or sole diagnosis of substance use disorder (SUD) to better target their medical needs.

- 8.48. Providing stable funding for and increased access to mental health and drug and alcohol services through full implementation of state and federal mental health and drug and alcohol parity laws.
- 8.49. Advocating for 42 CFR Part 2 to be updated to fully align with the 1996 HIPPA privacy rule allowing PHI to be used or disclosed without patient authorization for essential healthcare operations.
- 8.50. Providing stable funding for children enrolled in special education programs that require mental health services as well as for alcohol and other substance abuse services.
- 8.51. Providing stable funding for locked long-term care and ancillary services for people with behavioral health problems, including Mental Health Rehabilitation Centers under 16 beds.
- 8.52. Promoting integration of mental health and alcohol/drug services with primary care services through opportunities presented by the state's Medicaid waivers and efforts to reform laws that prevent sharing of clinical information among providers and health plans serving the same person.
- 8.53. The pursuit of a new Serious Mental Illness/Serious Emotional Disturbance Institutions for Mental Disease (IMD) waiver to allow counties to secure additional federal funding under Medi-Cal for mental health inpatient and residential treatment stays and support maximum local control on how to reinvest savings to improve access to outpatient treatment and reduce the need for inpatient levels of care in the long term.
- 8.54. State support in establishing additional secure placement options for adults and juveniles who are conserved or involved in the local or state criminal justice systems, both with capital facility investments and by eliminating statutory and administrative barriers to create local flexibility, including juveniles. While existing provisions allow for competency restoration to occur in community settings or in locked sub-acute care facilities (IMDs, mental health rehabilitation centers) the lack of secure placement options across the state and the federal IMD exclusion from Medicaid limit options to provide treatment for individuals who are deemed incompetent to stand trial (IST). The County supports efforts to expand both funding and options to provide treatment and care, including but not limited to seeking a waiver for the IMD exclusion.
- 8.55. Advocating for access to early intervention and prevention services for youth and foster youths and a reduction in administrative barriers to mental health services, especially in rural or disadvantaged communities.
- 8.56. Increased funding for inmate management, programming, supervision, substance abuse treatment, mental health services and other inmate services.
- 8.57. Monitoring the implementation of CARE Courts to determine the impact on County programs and services.
- 8.58. The expansion of any Medi-Cal billable services.
- 8.59. Funding to promote long-term on-site supportive housing services to include health and behavioral health for formerly homeless individuals and those at risk of becoming homeless.
- 8.60. Funding and regulation to support the acquisition, citing and development of dedicated, supportive housing complexes for persons with behavioral health challenges and who are experiencing homelessness.
- 8.61. Legislation and funding for specialized unarmed response services for residents experiencing behavioral health or substance use-related crises as an alternative to mental health-related 911 calls, including mobile crisis response programs.
- 8.62. Legislation and policies that improve the ability of providers and others involved in the treatment of patients with substance use disorders to coordinate care, including legislation pertaining to the confidentiality of substance use disorder patient records with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).

- 8.63. Legislation, policies and funding to promote prevention and education on substance use disorders and mental health conditions, and to prevent suicide, overdoses and disparities in mortality for individuals with behavioral health conditions.
- 8.64. Advocating to ensure that appropriate resources, authority, and flexibility are provided to counties to maximize success at the local level as the County begins to implement behavioral health modernization provisions like Proposition 1, the CARE Act, and others.
- 8.65. Advocating for policies that allow counties to implement these programs in line with local needs, capacity, and programs offered by third-party providers.

Correctional Health Services (CHS)

- 8.66. Increasing options for adult mediation as a strategy for jail diversion including confidentiality protection similar to that provided for juveniles.
- 8.67. Efforts to overcome the barriers of money bail, mandatory fines and court fee surcharges that can exacerbate the financial security of low-income populations.
- 8.68. Efforts to end the use of criminal records to determine eligibility for critical aspects, such as housing and employment, that support effective reentry into society.
- 8.69. Providing support to local health-care services and programs that serve clients in the criminal justice system.
- 8.70. Providing financial relief for correctional health responsibilities, such as Medi-Cal-related cost containment/revenue generation methods.
- 8.71. Funding for structural modifications, personal protective equipment and sanitary supplies and other safety measures necessary to protect the health and safety of justice-involved individuals, as well as staff, from transmissible diseases.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

- 8.72. ~~Marcy Marci, it was~~ Legislation and regulatory measures that maintain or strengthen the authority and ~~governing-statutory/regulatory~~ role of ~~counties and their~~ Local Emergency Medical Services Agencies (LEMSAs) to plan, implement, evaluate and regulate all aspects and components of the EMS system.
- 8.73. Measures that enhance the ability of the LEMSA medical director to maintain medical control of the local EMS system.
- 8.74. Measures that improve the quality and delivery of EMS, ~~including and~~ prehospital patient care.
- 8.75. Measures that maintain or enhance the operational authority of the LEMSA to assure equitable access and provision of prehospital medical care countywide, including to prevent fragmentation and ensure the financial viability of the local EMS system.
- 8.76. Measures that preclude cities and/or special districts from providing EMS independent of LEMSA administration and/or medical control.
- 8.77. Measures that protect the confidentiality of the quality improvement process and promote information sharing between providers, hospitals and LEMSAs.
- 8.78. Measures that encourage the participation of EMS system providers and hospitals in evidenced-based research.
- 8.79. Measures that provide for adequate and stable funding for LEMSAs and EMS systems components including but not limited to: EMS administration, specialty systems of care (trauma, STEMI, stroke, pediatric, and burn), ground

~~and air (trauma systems, specialty centers (e.g. trauma, pediatric, cardiac, stroke), ambulance transport, emergency and disaster preparedness and response, and physicians providing otherwise uncompensated care by emergency department physicians and on-call specialists in emergency settings.~~

- 8.80. Efforts to ensure funding for crisis services which are not reimbursed through Medi-Cal, including services to individuals with private insurance.
- 8.81. Measures that ensure medically appropriate, patient centered, and safety forward access and evidence-based practices (where appropriate) within emergency incident receiving/processing centers (911, 988, etc.)

Environmental Health Services (EHS)

- 8.82. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that support and improve public health protection, that support and improve the quality and scope of environmental health programs throughout the state and that promote uniformity in implementing such programs.
- 8.83. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that support the principles of Product Stewardship (also known as Extended Producer Responsibility), which directs all participants involved in the life cycle of a product to take shared responsibility for the environmental and human health impacts that result from the production, use and end of life handling of a product.
- 8.84. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that promote a philosophy of the Green Chemistry initiative to develop a consistent means for evaluating risk, reducing exposure, encouraging less toxic industrial processes, and identifying safer, non-chemical alternatives. A Green Chemistry initiative should ensure a comprehensive and collaborative approach to increase accountability and effectiveness of environmental programs across state and local government.
- 8.85. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that promote food safety and food worker rights to healthcare, paid sick leave and insurance.
- 8.86. Legislation and policies that support a safe transition from traditional municipal water supplies to on-site or wastewater treatment plant sources of recycled water for nonpotable uses, through building code or state standards deployment.

Health Administration (Safety Net Financing)

- 8.87. Legislation to allow the use of State capital improvement funds for County facility capital projects, including clinics and other public health facilities, while preserving the option to revise and/or expand a project's scope at the County's discretion.
- 8.88. Proposals to preserve the 1991 Realignment funding for counties and the County-specific funding formula established in AB 85 (Chapter 24, Statutes of 2013) to support indigent healthcare and other services.
- 8.89. Efforts to advocate at the federal level for reimbursement for undocumented beneficiaries covered through the expansion of Medi-Cal.

Family Health Services (FHS)

- 8.90. Providing stable funding for home visiting and other case management services for families at risk for poor health and social outcomes and reauthorizing and increasing funding for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program.
- 8.91. Policies and programming that strengthen the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and promotes continued federal funding to WIC and other federal food benefit programs.

- 8.92. Efforts to secure adequate funding and reimbursement for high quality, sustainable, Enhanced Care Management services for Children and Youth Populations of Focus, along with adequate resources for additional monitoring and oversight requirements.
- 8.93. Policies that sustain or strengthen federal funding to ensure equitable access to immunizations for vaccine-preventable diseases, including annual COVID and flu vaccines, while promoting culturally-responsive education on vaccine safety and science.
- 8.94. Efforts to support training and incentives for BIPOC doulas working with communities at high risk for maternal and infant mortality and morbidity.
- 8.95. Efforts to promote and support breast-feeding initiation programs to support new mothers and infants, particularly programs designed to provide culturally sensitive support to nursing mothers.
- 8.96. Assuring that implementation of sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) data collection within programs targeting children are guided by appropriate clinical guidance on age-appropriate and culturally/linguistically-appropriate asking of questions and respect for youth's confidentiality in addressing issues of gender transition or sexual identity.
- 8.97. Policies to support ongoing funding for virtual visits for home visiting program clients, allowing the flexibility to accommodate clients' needs and reducing barriers to program participation.
- 8.98. WIC waivers that would continue to allow virtual/telephonic encounters that eliminate the physical presence requirements, allowing the flexibility to accommodate clients' needs and reducing barriers to program participation.
- 8.99. The issuance of supplemental benefits by defining them as additional funds added to a CalFresh recipient's EBT card when purchasing California-grown fresh fruits and vegetables, which can only be redeemed at CalFresh authorized retailers.
- 8.100. Advocating for waivers that enable individuals to participate in guaranteed income pilots without jeopardizing their eligibility for other benefit programs.
- 8.101. Facilitating effective information sharing between state and local health agencies to assess the impact of guaranteed income pilots.
- 8.102. Funding high-quality medical, dental, and mental health supports to families, particularly families with small children. Supports should include health promotion and disease self-management programs in order to keep families healthy in the community.

Health Coverage Unit (HCU)

- 8.103. Policies that expand Medi-Cal/Medicaid eligibility, including for those who currently qualify with a Share of Cost, including policies to change the Federal Poverty Level definitions that determine Medicaid eligibility to address higher costs of living in the SF Bay Area.
- 8.104. Policies that enable continuous Medi-Cal/Medicaid eligibility.
- 8.105. Policies that adjust Medi-Cal Share of Cost thresholds to reflect changes in the cost of living.
- 8.106. Policies that extend the premium credits and cost-sharing subsidies included in the Inflation Reduction Act.
- 8.107. Policies that remove the restrictions on undocumented residents purchasing health coverage through Covered California.

- 8.108. Policies and funding to achieve streamlined and “no wrong door” processes for consumers to self-enroll or to be assisted with enrollment and retention of health insurance coverage in Medi-Cal and subsidized health coverage through Covered California.
- 8.109. Efforts that promote appropriate information sharing between government agencies involved in assisting customers obtain or retain public health coverage.
- 8.110. Modifying eligibility requirements so that those formerly incarcerated are eligible for Medi-Cal.
- 8.111. Improving opportunities for County specialty mental health plans, California Children's Services and In-Home Supportive Services programs to be able to securely receive information about clients' Medi-Cal coverage to reduce burdens on beneficiaries for retaining key health and social services supports.

Health Information Technology (HIT)

- 8.112. Promoting funding for technology and local capacity for outreach and enrollment and retention of healthcare coverage programs, including funding to support successful enrollments in Medi-Cal.
- 8.113. Promoting updated and efficient State information technology systems to allow for more efficient assessment of resident eligibility in Medi-Cal.
- 8.114. Promoting appropriate information sharing between recognized organizations (state, local and federal) that help boost the behavioral and social determinants of health (human services, housing, residential care/nursing homes, substance use recovery programs, full service partnerships, etc.) and organizations that address medical determinants of health (hospitals, doctors, clinics) to streamline administration of public health coverage programs, enhance continuity of care and solves the root cause(s) of poor health outcomes.
- 8.115. Promoting funding opportunities to support local providers to acquire or enhance their technology infrastructure and resource allocation to create or expand data sharing capabilities that will assist in coordination of care and services, to decrease inefficiencies, decrease delays in sending or waiting for information, and aid in preparing for future interoperability and data sharing requirements.
- 8.116. Promoting the collection of demographic data that includes voluntary self-identification of information on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity, as well as the appropriate information sharing among county departments and between state and local government entities and funding for efficient information sharing systems to address the significant disparities in health and welfare faced by youth, seniors, undocumented persons, communities of color, persons with disabilities and LGBTQIA+ communities.
- 8.117. Promoting Health Information Technology literacy within communities, focusing on the disparate literacy and accessibility levels. Increased data-sharing expectations from the State, as well as the improvement in care facilitated by this data-sharing, will require communities to be comfortable with and approve of the sharing of their health data in secure ways.
- 8.118. Funding for resources to support and enhance population health data analysis and to further identify the impact of significant environmental events and public health emergencies on the health of our vulnerable populations in order to know what services are needed for quality health outcomes.
- 8.119. Expanding telehealth capabilities to create and support innovative care delivery through enhancing connectivity between health professionals and their patients. The County supports enhancing current telehealth technology infrastructure, capabilities, and features, including patient in-home monitoring that sends data and/alerts to providers. The County supports decreasing preventable/avoidable hospital/ER utilization by enabling providers to monitor and manage patients care/conditions on an outpatient basis.

- 8.120. Enhancing cybersecurity through investment in infrastructure and training improving data confidentiality, integrity, availability and patient safety.
- 8.121. Improving usability through designing and implementing electronic health records (EHRs) that are more intuitive and that more readily support clinical workflow, reducing documentation burden and making data more usable for clinical decision-making.
- 8.122. Innovating care delivery through enhancing connectivity between health professionals and their patients, improving quality of care without increasing spending.

Public Health, Policy & Planning (PHPP)

- 8.123. Implementation of laws, regulations and policies that recognize racism as a public health crisis and that support programs that address systemic racism and its impact on public health.
- 8.124. Funding for and implementation of laws and regulations to build equity throughout all communities.
- 8.125. Flexible funding and support for public health workforce and infrastructure.
- 8.126. Implementation of laws, regulations and policies that ensure the privacy and confidentiality of persons contacted by public health communicable disease control investigators, promote cultural and linguistic diversity of the disease investigation workforce, protect the health and safety of the contact tracing workforce and allocate funding for the strengthening of the disease control infrastructure to assure effective disease control and prevention work and ongoing preparedness for outbreak and pandemic response.
- 8.127. Funding for isolation/quarantine supports (lost income, rent, food, etc.) for people instructed by Public Health to isolate or quarantine as part of communicable disease control measures.
- 8.128. Implementation of laws, regulations and plans that educate residents about the risks of cannabis use and monitors the adverse impacts of cannabis.
- 8.129. Funding for medical research to evaluate the potential medical benefits of cannabis and cannabinoids.
- 8.130. Implementation of regulations, policies and plans that allocate resources to local health departments and/or funds chronic disease prevention strategies (e.g. sugar sweetened beverage and/or alcohol taxation) and integrates chronic disease programs that reduce health disparities and treats the root causes of health inequities.
- 8.131. Implementation of regulations and policies that strengthen local surveillance and data use for overdose prevention activities and expands access to high quality evidence-based drug treatment programs and harm reduction services.
- 8.132. Implementation of laws, regulations and plans that invest substantial resources to local health departments to combat and prevent communicable disease through immunizations, epidemiological surveillance, disease investigation and laboratory testing.
- 8.133. Legislation that advocates for maintaining adequate health realignment funding to support the delivery of local public health services and enhance communicable disease infrastructure.
- 8.134. Legislation, policies and entities (e.g. California Strategic Growth Council) that promote and fund a Health in All Policies approach in communities, neighborhoods, housing, schools, transportation, food systems, health equity, climate change, etc.
- 8.135. Legislation, regulations and policies that fund and increase funding for state and local public health laboratory infrastructure, workforce and new technology, including but not limited to advanced molecular detection, whole genome sequencing and communicable disease wastewater surveillance testing.

- 8.136. Legislation and policy that supports the improvement of vital records operations and the generation of statistics by improving data quality and services.
- 8.137. Implementation of laws, regulations and plans that authorize the Health Officer to require a person seeking import of a dog or cat into the state to have a health certificate by a licensed veterinarian within 10 days of travel and to have their animal vaccinated against rabies and DHPP (Distemper, Hepatitis, Parainfluenza, Parvo) / FELV (Feline Leukemia Virus) at least 21 days prior to travel.
- 8.138. Proposals that provide funding for sexually transmitted disease (STD) essential case management programs, contact investigations and partner testing and treatment for STDs.
- 8.139. Efforts to reduce consumption of sugar sweetened beverages.
- 8.140. Limiting the availability and access of particularly harmful forms of sugary products that are easily absorbed in the body and contribute significantly to a fatty liver, type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular risk.
- 8.141. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that promote the safe use and sale of produce from small community and school gardens in retail food facilities, farmer's markets and schools.
- 8.142. Funding and programming that expands access to free or affordable health-promoting, high-quality school (including pre-schools) meals.
- 8.143. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that would allow local jurisdictions to establish healthy food zones, allowing only businesses that offer for sale whole or lightly processed foods with no tobacco or alcohol sales.
- 8.144. Efforts to promote the strongest possible protection against the sale of powdered alcohol to residents of California, which could increase the risk of alcohol use by minors.
- 8.145. Efforts to strengthen the Smoke Free Workplace Act by closing specific loopholes in order to protect more employees.
- 8.146. Efforts to maintain the strongest possible protection against tobacco use by minors, such as changes to taxes, the eligibility age for purchasing cigarettes, application of smoke-free ordinances and classification of e-cigarettes as products subject to anti-smoking regulations.
- 8.147. Implementation of laws, regulations and policies that enhance the ability of County Animal Control and Licensing agencies to provide cost effective and humane animal control services.
- 8.148. Implementation of laws, regulations and plans that prevent injury, increase safety and improve active forms of transportation, such as Vision Zero, infrastructure improvements, affordable and accessible public transportation, safe active transportation planning and design standards and safety education and promotion programming.
- 8.149. Expanding support for trauma-informed approaches, including a focus on resources to implement early childhood intervention and prevention programming, including adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and other screenings, early.
- 8.150. Funding, policies and standards that enable strong alignment of the business needs of mission-driven institutions with their mission by improving access to institutional economic benefits through targeted workforce, procurement and investment opportunities.
- 8.151. Laws, regulations and programs that support the training and employment of peer support networks for navigating and providing health services in both adult and youth health and social services arenas.
- 8.152. Funding and policies to provide free and accessible menstrual products.

San Mateo Medical Center (SMMC)

- 8.153. Opposes proposals to reduce, repeal, alter, or limit the Affordable Care Act (ACA) that impact Medi-Cal eligibility expansions or otherwise impact current subsidized segments of the healthcare system.
- 8.154. Opposition to Medicaid financing reform proposals that reduce, limit, or Medicaid spending, and threatened the financial stability of public healthcare systems, including:
 - 8.154.1. Reduction of the enhanced federal medical assistance percentage for the Medi-Cal expansion population.
 - 8.154.2. Implementation of the remaining payment cuts to the Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) program.
 - 8.154.3. Limitations on Medicaid directed payment programs that allow states to direct payments to public health systems through managed care programs.
- 8.155. Actions to address the reliance on public health system self-financing, such as replacement of non-federal funding sources with state general funds, to achieve financial stability.
- 8.156. Protection for public healthcare systems from the potential negative impact of healthcare affordability targets.
- 8.157. Protection of the 340B drug discount program, a critical source of savings for hospitals that support access to prescription drugs.
- 8.158. Advocacy to support the renewal and expansion of Medicaid State plan amendments (Quality Initiative Full Program, Enhanced Payment Program, Variable Rate Range) that support Medicaid managed care directed payments and waiver authorize payments (Global Payment Program).
- 8.159. Preservation of state programs and funding that extend health care coverage, including full scope Medi-Cal for adults regardless of their immigration status.
- 8.160. Actions to increase access to equitable care and support the use of non-discriminatory race, ethnicity, language preference and other sociodemographic data. Programs and services to address social risk factors of the patients we serve, including, but not limited to, food insecurity, homelessness, housing instability and transportation access.
- 8.161. Policies and programs that safeguard the rights of patients and providers of reproductive health care services.
- 8.162. Incentives, policies and programs that support the retainment and recruitment of high quality staff at all levels, including loan programs to increase access to necessary education and trainings, regulatory changes to allow properly trained immigrants to work in the health field, licensure reciprocity with other states, and scope of practice extensions which allow properly-trained personnel to contribute to our health system at their fullest capacities.
- 8.163. Revisions to federally qualified health center and rural health clinic services reimbursement to allow same day billing of physical and behavioral health visits, expansion of payments and screenings related to social determinants of health, and administrative simplification of the process for updating Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) rates.
- 8.164. Implementation of laws, regulations and programs that make permanent the telehealth flexibilities authorized during the COVID-19 public health emergency and allow the use of audio-only as well as audio-video modalities and provide equitable reimbursement to in-person visits.
- 8.165. Implementation of laws, regulations and innovative programs that support access to affordable and culturally competent oral health services, including access to dentists, for all ages (pregnant women, children, adults, elderly), and particularly to those with special healthcare needs and/or disabilities.

- 8.166. Modifications to the Medi-Cal program designed to improve downstream effects on public healthcare systems in the vulnerable patients it serves, including changes in health plan reimbursement, covered benefits, authorization, and administration requirements (CalAim).
- 8.167. Providing forensic evaluations for victims of violence, including sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse. Ensuring timely and accurate processing of evidence, as well as state funding for associated services, including victim counseling centers, sexual assault counselors, and forensic medical evidentiary exams for victims of domestic violence. (Keller Center).
- 8.168. Resolving conflicting laws regarding adolescent sexual assault victim rights.
- 8.169. Utilizing a Child Advocacy Center model to evaluate concerns of child's sexual abuse.



9. HOUSING

The County Supports:

- 9.1. Policies, regulations and funding that address housing solutions for lower-income residents and their families experiencing homelessness. The County also supports housing solutions for households that are at-risk of homelessness including persons receiving wrap-around services and case management from the County; persons with disabilities; individuals experiencing mental health or substance use challenges; young persons who have left the foster care system; transition-aged youth; CalWORKs participants; farmworkers; the elderly; victims of domestic violence; institutionalized persons who cannot be discharged due to lack of stable housing; homeless youth including homeless LGBTQIA+ youth; veterans; and; the formerly incarcerated.
- 9.2. Policies, regulations, and funding that provide housing solutions for moderate-income families that earn between 80%-120% of the area's median income. This is to ensure that middle-income families that may no longer qualify for traditional affordable housing subsidies are still able to access economic mobility in a County with one of the highest costs of living in the country.
- 9.3. Increased and ongoing investments for the construction and renovation of affordable housing developments and its supporting infrastructure, (i.e. water, stormwater, sewer, utility, transportation, and green infrastructure). These investments may be in the form of grants, loans, low-income housing tax credits, tax-exempt bonds, together with policies and regulations that allow those funds to be used for the maximum benefit in San Mateo County.
- 9.4. Increased and ongoing investments in that sustaining long-term operations and supportive services for affordable housing developments. This can include local, state, and federal investments in the form of funding such as service grants, operating subsidies, and rental assistance.
- 9.5. Policies and legislation to protect and increase the supply of rental housing subsidies for low income households in the County. In particular, the County supports increased rental housing subsidy and operations funding for federal programs such as Section 8, Mainstream, Permanent of Supportive Housing (PSH), Family Unification Program (FUP), Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH), and Stability Voucher programs.
- 9.6. Policies and legislation that protect and increase federal funding levels for programs that support funding for affordable housing development in home repairs, public services, and various community development activities that support low income households. These critical programs can include but are not limited to the federal Community Development Block Grant (CBDG), HOME, and Emergency Solution Grants (ESG) programs.
- 9.7. Programs, policies and expenditures that raise additional revenue for affordable housing initiatives. This includes efforts to raise new revenue locally, regionally, and statewide for the protection, preservation and production of housing. Additionally, this can include support for a state constitutional amendment that lowers the voter threshold on housing financing measures and regional bonds.

- 9.8. Transparent and equitable methods of prioritizing where state and federal funds are allocated.
- 9.9. Legislation, policies, and regulations that streamline, simplify and expedite processes for accessing state, regional, and federal funding, for the development of affordable housing and various services that benefit lower-income households.
- 9.10. Policies, legislation, funding and regulations that recognize the higher costs of development in densely populated, jobs and amenities-rich counties like the County of San Mateo.
- 9.11. Programs, funding, and legislation that support climate-friendly affordable housing development, such as transit-oriented development.
- 9.12. Policies, legislation and regulations that support the importance of prioritizing the building of affordable housing in areas of high er opportunity for lower income households, from both (1) an equity perspective, to promote access to jobs, resources, and amenities in historically exclusionary neighborhoods for low-income households of color, and (2) an environmental perspective, to prevent long commutes faced by lower-income workers who cannot afford market-rate housing in high-cost areas.
- 9.13. Policies, legislation, and funding that lower barriers for achieving homeownership in households that hold lower homeownership rates due to past racist government housing policies. In San Mateo County, Black, Latino, and American Indian/Alaskan Native households hold lower homeownership rates than other races.
- 9.14. Efforts to repeal Article 34 of the California Constitution, which, subject to various exceptions, requires majority approval by the voters for the development, construction or acquisition of a “low rent” public housing projects within the scope of the law.
- 9.15. Policies, regulations and funding that seek to help existing lower-income residents remain housed amidst the pressures of rapidly increasing rents. This may include policies, legislation, and investments that support eviction prevention, the creation and preservation of affordable housing, tenants’ rights, restrictions on rent-gouging, rental and legal assistance, and other forms of protections for low-income renters.
- 9.16. Policies, regulations, and funding that support the long-term preservation of existing affordable housing in our community, both deed-restricted units and those which are rented at below-market rates outside of government regulation.
- 9.17. Policies, regulations and funding that support ongoing investments that increase resources in communities where lower income households reside in the County.
- 9.18. Policies, legislation, and funding that support development on underutilized lands to increase the supply of affordable housing. This can include land owned by school districts, public agencies and faith-based organizations.
- 9.19. Policies, legislation, and funding that support the conversion of underutilized commercial properties into residential development.
- 9.20. Programs, funding and legislation that support innovative building methods that reduce the cost of building and preserving affordable housing.
- 9.21. Programs, policies, and legislation that address delays and increased costs in the development and operations of affordable housing development. This can include lengthy delays and excessive fees imposed by critical utility companies, insurance companies, government entities, and other third parties involved in the affordable housing development process.
- 9.22. Advocating for state and federal policies and funding that provide essential, needed services to the farmworker community, including but not limited to, expanded funding and streamlined requirements for the development of farmworker housing on the coast.

- 9.23. Legislation and policies that reduce barriers to building housing serving all income levels, including but not limited to streamlining permitting and approvals, strengthening density bonuses to incentivize affordable housing production, incentivizing transit-oriented development, and reforming exclusionary zoning laws.
- 9.24. Legislation and policies that reform the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to remove barriers that make it more challenging to build infill housing.
- 9.25. Funding to increase state resources for technical assistance with local housing law implementation.
- 9.26. Programs, funding, and legislation that increase resources available to municipalities to implement programs to retrofit seismically unsafe housing stock.



10. HUMAN RESOURCES

The County Supports:

- 10.1. Legislation that provides a local option to implement employee compensation or benefit changes, as directed by the Board of Supervisors.
- 10.2. Flexibility and local control of pension systems and reform by the local agency, especially in the case of county pension systems subject to the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937.
- 10.3. Efforts to prevent unreasonable increases in workers' compensation costs and changes that will mitigate increasing medical costs and provide fair and reasonable indemnity benefits.
- 10.4. Efforts that limit new presumptions related to injuries, illnesses, diseases or physical conditions and that can be claimed as job related for workers' compensation or service-connected disability retirement.
- 10.5. Legislation that continues current requirements that employees demonstrate on-the-job exposure in order to qualify for workers' compensation or service-connected disability retirement benefits.
- 10.6. Efforts to expand reimbursement for the work of all public employees serving in their capacity as Disaster Service Workers.
- 10.7. Legislation modifying the Fair Labor Standards Act to permit adjustable work schedules to meet the needs of both management and labor.
- 10.8. Efforts that expand the County's ability to exercise its managerial rights and flexibility in addressing changing conditions.
- 10.9. Proposals that limit the Public Safety Officers Bill of Rights or similar provisions to peace officer employees.
- 10.10. Legislation that would continue employers' access to information on its own devices, servers and other sources of information.
- 10.11. The creation and implementation of education, training, internship, recruitment and retention programs for public sector workers.
- 10.12. Legislation that addresses and combats discrimination based on age, disability, disease status, gender identity, language, immigration status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or other protected characteristics.
- 10.13. Proposals which permit the full implementation of the County's Living Wage Ordinance.



11. HUMAN SERVICES

The County Supports:

- 11.1. Preservation and increased funding for human service programs realigned to counties and advocating for an appropriate level of funding.
- 11.2. Adjustments to county human service fund allocations that account for the higher cost of living and /operational differences among California counties in providing services.
- 11.3. Legislation and advocacy efforts to raise gross income limits and increase maximum rent reductions for CalFresh recipients to align with the rising cost-of-living.
- 11.4. Increased funding for resource family recruitment and retention and greater funding flexibility for foster care services, which are critical to adequately protect children in need.
- 11.5. Policies, programs and funding that increase placement options and services for foster youth with complex mental health needs.
- 11.6. Implementation of policies, programs and services to assist and improve outcomes for all foster youth including LGBTQIA+ foster youth, transitional age youth and immigrant youth in foster care.
- 11.7. Programs and funding that support foster youth access to extracurricular and enrichment activities, transportation, and mentoring services with the lived experience.
- 11.8. Policies, programs and funding to support the self-sufficiency needs of former foster youth and foster youth aging out of care.
- 11.9. Policies and accountability measures support LGBTQIA+ youth to ensure that the youth feel safe, welcomed and affirmed in foster care placements.
- 11.10. Ensuring ongoing funding to support victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) and policies that protect foster youth who have suffered from sexual exploitation.
- 11.11. Implementation of policies that secure housing opportunities, including transitional housing support, for current and former foster youth, CalWORKs families and veterans.
- 11.12. Revision of Resource Family Approval (RFA) Written Directives to ensure greater flexibility for placement of foster children with kin.
- 11.13. Policies to improve CalFresh benefits access to former foster youth, AB 12 Non-Minor dependents and college students.
- 11.14. Maintaining penalties related to the failure to meet the work participation rate in CalWORKs.

- 11.15. Allowing for County flexibility in determining the work component and permissible activities that contribute to work participation rates in CalWORKs.
- 11.16. Policies, programs and funding that improve the economic position of low-income individuals and families through enhancements of the Earned Income Tax Credit, wage policies, guaranteed or universal basic income and other efforts to raise the income levels of low-income individuals and families in high cost of living counties.
- 11.17. Policies and funding that expand program eligibility and services to refugees and immigrants, both documented and undocumented.
- 11.18. Ensuring counties have the financial, personnel and information technology support system to implement the new CWS-Cares child welfare services case management system.
- 11.19. Preventing the loss of affordable healthcare and other public assistance for residents who are impacted by increases to local and state minimum wage increases.
- 11.20. Policies and funding that will increase the available childcare slots, especially for infant and toddler aged children.
- 11.21. Promoting programs and services that assist and recognize the role of fathers in the development and well-being of their child(ren).
- 11.22. Continuing programs and services to veterans.
- 11.23. Funding to support human services care mass and shelter responsibilities related to disaster response and emergency preparation.
- 11.24. Funding for training and capacity-building of county personnel to advance racial equity and address LGBTQIA+, immigrant and disability related concerns in human services.
- 11.25. Policies and funding that would provide support and services to victims of domestic violence and their families, including legal services, outreach, screening, counseling, case management, financial assistance, housing, and job training and placement.
- 11.26. Policies that foster coordination and collaboration between governmental and nongovernmental agencies that would enhance services and data collection.
- 11.27. Advocacy efforts that promote domestic violence prevention and intervention through public awareness, education, counseling, increased data collection and research, and through comprehensive approaches to violence prevention.
- 11.28. Policies, programs, and funding to support career pathways and workforce initiatives in the human services field, particularly child welfare social workers, including incentives and partnerships to attract and retain workers in high cost of living areas.



12. INFORMATION SERVICES

The County Supports:

- 12.1. Statewide policies that ensure permanent support and funding for the construction, expansion, operation and maintenance of public internet and public safety radio projects, including but not limited to the Middle Mile within our County and geographic region.
- 12.2. Balanced approaches to address the need for equitable, reliable high-speed internet connectivity for residents, businesses, and underserved communities that would require any franchised ISPs, telephone, and cellular vendors receiving State or Federal funding to collaborate with State/County/City jurisdictions to identify and build out infrastructure to meet areas of need as identified by those jurisdictions enabling those who cannot afford, or access, commercial services for internet access.
- 12.3. Program reforms and funding to close the digital divide as quickly and completely as possible.
- 12.4. The expansion of broadband to all parts of the State and County to drive economic development and job opportunities, support county service delivery and improve health, education and public safety outcomes for residents through the coordination of projects, policies, and funding.
- 12.5. Coordination of projects, policies and funding locally between the County, School Districts and Cities to enhance the community-wide approach to digital equity.
- 12.6. Permanent authority to use bond funds, tax measure funds, and Public, Educational, and Governmental Access (PEG) funds to reduce the digital divide and increase digital equity.
- 12.7. State and local policies that require all public housing providers to offer free broadband or resources on internet options to residents.
- 12.8. State and local policies that enable digital literacy and access to free or low-cost equipment.
- 12.9. Policies that enable the use of infrastructure, such as traffic signals, street lights, public right-of-way, public buildings, cellular towers, and commercially developed building rooftops, as locations for placing public broadband equipment and public safety radio equipment via a coordinated and streamlined policy approach and approval process.
- 12.10. Continued statewide policies that support the funding of critical cybersecurity initiatives with local governments or through regional associations.
- 12.11. State and local policies that ensure accessibility of County websites to users of all abilities.
- 12.12. Full and flexible funding for emergency communication system interoperability between all local government agencies and the State of California.



13. LIBRARIES

The County Supports:

- 13.1. Restoration of the California Library Services Act which provided funding for libraries to support resource sharing of electronic and physical items among all libraries.
- 13.2. Restoration of funding to support Lunch at the Library programs, which provide meals to children during the summer months when schools are closed.
- 13.3. Restoration of funding to support the Career Online High School programs which helps adults complete their high school diploma online.
- 13.4. Funding for infrastructure needs such as building improvements, generators, air filters, air conditioners, PPE etc., and the vital role libraries play in supporting communities during times of crisis.
- 13.5. Increased lifelong learning support for early education, afterschool programming, student success cards, adult and youth literacy, career support and economic development, veterans' services and assistance to vulnerable populations.
- 13.6. Legislation that supports broadband access for communities including public WiFi, lendable hotspots and library broadband improvements to support education, workforce development and community well-being.
- 13.7. Legislation that would allow construction bonds and special taxes for libraries to pass with a lower vote threshold (from current two-thirds to 55%).



14. PARKS

The County Supports:

- 14.1. Increased funding opportunities for the restoration and preservation of redwood forests, mixed evergreen forests, grasslands, coastal scrub, oak woodlands, watersheds, wetlands and riparian corridors.
- 14.2. Increased funding opportunities for local and/or state government programs that benefit natural resources, including, but not limited to: watershed protection; landscape restoration of forests, grasslands, coastal scrub and riparian corridors; introduction/reintroduction of endangered species to native habitat; and eradication of non-native and invasive species.
- 14.3. Increased funding opportunities to complete regional trail networks, including, but not limited to, the San Francisco Bay Trail, California Coastal Trail, Crystal Springs Regional Trail, Bay-to-Sea Trail and Ohlone-Portola Heritage Trail.
- 14.4. Increased funding opportunities for projects that reduce barriers to access to greenspace and support equitable access to parks and open space for all communities.
- 14.5. Increased funding opportunities for programs (staff and program elements) that connect members of disadvantaged communities with local and regional parks and open spaces.
- 14.6. Increased funding opportunities for the planning, permitting, implementation and maintenance of wildfire fuel and hazard reduction projects in County parks and open space.
- 14.7. Use of Cap and Trade and/or other climate related funding for forest management, active stewardship and wildfire fuel reduction.
- 14.8. Modification of grant program requirements to reflect regional differences in median household income and more equitable distribution of grant funding throughout the state.
- 14.9. Efforts to work with regional partners to protect, conserve, restore and preserve the sustainability and diversity of natural resources throughout the County, including its coasts, forests, wetlands and riparian corridors for habitat and beneficial use by current residents, visitors and future generations.
- 14.10. Efforts to ensure ecosystem resiliency through the implementation of landscape restoration projects that reestablish and rebuild altered natural systems.
- 14.11. Efforts to create efficiencies and streamline permitting and regulatory compliance for environmentally beneficial projects and to allow state agencies to maintain fidelity to statutory requirements while more easily permitting efforts to build resilience projects.
- 14.12. Efforts to create efficiencies in permitting and regulatory compliance for projects that reduce wildfire fuel loads and mitigate catastrophic wildfire risk to communities.

- 14.13. Restoration projects that provide carbon sequestration benefits, including restoration and preservation of redwood forests, mixed evergreen forests, watersheds and grasslands.
- 14.14. Cattle grazing for natural resources objectives (i.e., butterfly habitat on San Bruno Mountain).
- 14.15. Efforts that support implementation of the County's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) policy.



15. PLANNING AND BUILDING

The County Supports:

- 15.1. Policies, regulations and funding that encourage “Accessory Dwelling Units” (“ADUs”) including banning local owner occupancy requirements for properties with [ADUs](#) and allowing existing unpermitted [ADU](#) to be inhabited unless correcting code violations is necessary to protect health and safety.
- 15.2. Legislation, policies and entities (e.g. California Strategic Growth Council) that promote and fund healthy, thriving and resilient communities for all, including increased affordable housing opportunities, missing middle housing, integrated and complete urban planning and design, connection between new residential development and transportation investment, climate adaptive housing, community stability and [more inclusive](#) community engagement in decision-making processes that shape their communities.
- 15.3. Climate adaptive housing efforts and other land use decisions including the facilitation of appropriate residential and mixed-use developments along efficient public transportation corridors.
- 15.4. Examination of current rules and standards that benefit lower density development (over high-density development) and automobile-oriented development (over transit and pedestrian and bicycle movements and safety). This includes setback minimums, Floor Area Ratio (FAR) requirements and parking requirements that favor low-density development.
- 15.5. Preserving land use authority of local governments by allowing jurisdictions that have adopted inclusionary zoning ordinances, such as San Mateo County, to take the intended and predictable effect of the ordinance into account when calculating the availability of adequate zoned capacity to meet their Regional Housing Needs Allocation.
- 15.6. Policies that allow for the development of regional strategies to meet obligations under the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA).
- 15.7. Legislation and policies to increase the production of market-rate housing, particularly multi-family housing.
- 15.8. Legislation and policies that expedite the timeline for building affordable housing and market-rate development. This includes extending and expanding existing streamlining tools for affordable housing development such as SB 35 (Wiener, Chapter 366, Statutes of 2017) and AB 2162 (Chiu, Chapter 753, Statutes of 2018).
- 15.9. Policies, legislation, and funding that promote healthy housing including efforts to mitigate lead, asbestos, mold and other hazards.
- 15.10. Policies, legislation, regulations and funding that support the work of the Plan Bay Area’s 2050 regional long-range plan adopted by MTC and ABAG, connecting elements of housing, economy, transportation and the environment to make the Bay Area more equitable for all residents in a manner that is transparent to and coordinated with local

governments and that addresses the needs of rural areas and actively invests in the preservation and management of Priority Conservation Areas.

- 15.11. Policies, legislation, regulations and funding that support the reuse and repurposing of existing buildings (e.g. commercial buildings) for residential use.
- 15.12. Policies, legislation and funding to support the development of and streamline the timelines for farm labor housing including a categorical exemption for farm labor housing from Coastal Development Permit requirements.
- 15.13. Programs and funding that facilitate meaningful public participation in policy development and implementation by all stakeholders.
- 15.14. Legislation that promotes infill housing production while reducing vehicle miles traveled, in line with local and state policies on coastal zones, historic resources and wildfire risk mitigation.
- 15.15. Programs and funding that support the ability of County Service Areas to provide the services and infrastructure needed to support growing unincorporated areas.
- 15.16. Protection of the County's authority to require land and/or in-lieu fees to provide public facilities in the amount needed to serve new development.
- 15.17. Legislation and guidelines that simplify the CEQA process and requirements.
- 15.18. Programs and funding that enhance the County's ability to preserve and provide access to the coast.
- 15.19. Efforts to streamline and improve coastal development permit and local coastal planning processes, including Local Coastal Program amendment procedures.
- 15.20. Funding for local open space acquisition programs, such as the subvention funds formerly provided by the Williamson Act.
- 15.21. Programs and funding to support local efforts to preserve agricultural and working lands and limit their conversion to residential or other uses.
- 15.22. Programs and funding that support the protection and conservation of open space and natural resource areas, and that make them accessible.
- 15.23. Programs and funding that support local efforts to prevent and minimize pollution and emission impacts.
- 15.24. Programs and funding for local outreach programs to educate communities on how to integrate sustainable and water efficiency elements into development and renovation projects.
- 15.25. Timber preserve zones and timber harvesting rules that enhance protection of forest resources.
- 15.26. Programs and funding that promote active living by providing recreational facilities, implementing bicycle- and pedestrian-oriented designs and establishing mixed-use walkable communities, among other ways.
- 15.27. Policies, legislation and funding to support the achievement of Vision Zero (to eliminating fatalities and serious injuries by cars) and development of complete streets within local roadway networks and on state roads and highways, and that minimize the burden on local governments to make improvements on state roads and highways including State Route 1.
- 15.28. Legislation and policies that eliminate or reduce parking minimums/off street parking requirements; reduce development costs; maximize efficient use of land for valuable uses, including housing; and reduce auto-oriented development.

- 15.29. Incentives for builders and developers to incorporate Universal Design/Visitability features that ensure safe, easy access into all housing, including new or converted dwellings or multi-family units for all persons, regardless of age or physical disability.
- 15.30. Policies and programs that ensure environmental justice by providing information, raising awareness, and addressing environmental issues that can have a disproportionate impact on underserved communities, such as air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, water quality, noise and heavy industrial uses.



16. PROBATION

The County Supports:

- 16.1. Constitutional protections that provide guaranteed and adequate state funding for counties' new responsibilities related to 2011 Public Safety Realignment. The County opposes any efforts that transfer additional program responsibilities to counties without adequate funding, constitutional protections and consideration of safety needs of the local system.
- 16.2. The development of a permanent and equitable Public Safety Realignment funding formula that rewards strategies to reduce recidivism.
- 16.3. Full funding for local public safety programs that have historically been supported by fines and fees within the criminal justice system. AB 1869 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 92, Statutes of 2020) repealed the County's authority to collect various fines and fees and appropriated monies for five years to backfill a portion of the revenue loss.
- 16.4. Preservation of funding for local public safety efforts, including rehabilitative programming for youth in secured facilities and in the community, prevention and intervention resources and programs for at-risk youth, mental health and drug and alcohol programs and reentry programming and case management services.
- 16.5. Increased funding and regulation for domestic violence prevention and rehabilitation programs and new prohibited person's compliance firearms programs.
- 16.6. Continued review of the alignment of Chief Probation Officer selection, appointment and retention authority with funding. The County also supports cautious review of any potential separation of adult and juvenile probation activities.
- 16.7. Corrections reforms established within the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) that are developed through collaboration of state and local governments and criminal justice agencies that are adequately funded to operate safe and secure jails and build upon successful, existing programs. The County also supports full state funding for any new requirements imposed on the CCP.
- 16.8. The implementation and increased funding for rehabilitative support services for youth and transitional aged youth both in secured facilities and in the community, as well as prevention and intervention programs for those that are deemed at-risk.
- 16.9. A juvenile justice system that reflects its community and increased state and federal funding support for local evidence-based and/or promising practice programs.
- 16.10. State funding and support to modernize youth facilities and effectively implement state standards.
- 16.11. Enhanced funding for alternatives to youth incarceration, including programs that promote community partnerships.
- 16.12. Local discretion for developing programs for juveniles, with a focus on treatment, rehabilitation and reentry.

- 16.13. Creation of more diversion programs for individuals with lower-level offenses and providing adequate supports to their families through appropriate community-based programs.
- 16.14. Policies that release juveniles on their own recognizance pending the outcome of trial proceedings. The County opposes policies that require juveniles to utilize bail unless they are transferred to adult court.
- 16.15. To the greatest extent possible, determinations regarding the fitness of juveniles who have committed serious offenses should be made by the juvenile court on a case-by-case basis.
- 16.16. The County opposes policies that require juvenile cases to be heard in a jury trial, even if they have committed a serious offense unless they have been transferred to an adult court.
- 16.17. Further investment in multiagency programs authorized under SB 618 (Speier, Chapter 603, Statutes of 2005), which are built on proven, evidence-based strategies including comprehensive pre-sentence assessments, in-custody treatment, targeted case management and the development of an individualized life plan.
- 16.18. Adequate funding and local flexibility to develop partnerships between counties to adequately serve youth, especially those with higher-level treatment needs; and appropriate oversight and accountability that is commensurate to the responsibility and liability being realigned. Additionally, oversight and accountability measures associated with the most complex youth cases that were last to be realigned should not disrupt the success counties have proven with existing juvenile programs and funding streams.
- 16.19. Funding that recognizes the unique position, needs and conditions of each county, as well as their juvenile facilities, and includes a growth factor so that future funding keeps pace with growing programmatic costs. To the extent the State does not provide adequate funding for counties to be successful with the realigned population, responsibility for the care and custody of the most complex juvenile cases should return to the State.
- 16.20. Evidence-based efforts to protect against unnecessary transfers of juveniles to the adult system. However, these efforts should not reduce local flexibility or create unfunded costs for counties to build new, or retrofit existing, facilities.
- 16.21. Policies based on the notion that youth may be more appropriately served in the human services system. As counties are responsible for the entirety of the juvenile justice population, these decisions should be left to counties based on individual case factors, local needs and available treatment and resources. Given the growing research on the cognitive development of youth and their decision making, juvenile placement decisions should be reviewed more closely under this light.
- 16.22. Promoting funding for training of county personnel to address LGBTQIA+ concerns relating to public safety, community corrections and policies relating to LGBTQIA+ concerns.
- 16.23. Increased funding to provide continued and updated law enforcement training on implicit bias. This training will allow law enforcement officers the ability to impact their perceptions and behaviors, while managing bias. Continued training on this perishable skill will enhance our ability and legitimacy with the diverse communities we serve.
- 16.24. Evidence-based programs and services that not only provide rehabilitative supports for juveniles and adults on probation, but also lowers recidivism rates.
- 16.25. Funding to enhance data collection and research to track and predictably analyze recidivism and program effectiveness at the local county level.
- 16.26. Collaboration and partnerships on measures that impose a reduction in probation officer caseloads without adequate funding.

- 16.27. Proposals that would fund and/or support programs to track the recidivism rates of justice-involved individuals at the county level.
- 16.28. Funding for adult probation services to counties for Probation Department training programs.
- 16.29. Legislation to fund alternatives to incarceration such as continuous electronic monitoring programs, GPS and pretrial services for probationers.
- 16.30. Legislation to restore the ability of the Board of Supervisors to order the distribution of court-ordered installment payments.
- 16.31. Funding for adult probation, Post-Release Community Supervision and court-ordered mandatory probation, to reduce recidivism in the local and State criminal justice system.
- 16.32. Legislation to require the State to provide full funding for the treatment and programming needs of its parolees in the community.
- 16.33. Proposals that would provide additional funding for programs, services and facilities that provide a continuum of services to adult probation populations, including health, mental health and substance use disorder screenings and treatment services.
- 16.34. Increased State funding for housing programs for justice involved youth.
- 16.35. Proposals to provide funding for prevention and intervention programs for youth at risk of becoming involved or who are currently involved in the juvenile justice system.
- 16.36. Proposals to provide funding for information technology initiatives that assist juvenile justice agencies to integrate, upgrade and maintain justice systems.
- 16.37. Proposals to provide full funding of the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act and strengthen provisions and funding structures to ensure effective delinquency prevention.
- 16.38. Legislation to address concerns related to juvenile justice reforms including adequate funding for new population and services.
- 16.39. Legislation for additional funding for Juvenile Court Community Schools which could include adopting an alternative to the average daily attendance formula.
- 16.40. Proposals for new funding to increase access to quality childcare and develop programs that strengthen parenting skills and promote optimal child development for pregnant and parenting system involved youth.
- 16.41. Proposals to provide resources to enhance the juvenile mental health competency process, including shortening the timeline for formal competence proceedings and providing adequate funding for mental health and supportive services to juveniles detained pending their competency proceedings or remediation.
- 16.42. Proposals that provide funding or support for programs, services and facilities for arts instruction for youth in detention facilities.
- 16.43. Measures that would ensure that indigent children and youth that rely on public healthcare services have the same protections and privileges as that of persons who receive private health services.



17. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

The County Supports:

- 17.1. Funding and legislation to educate, train and support public safety dispatchers and support staff about post-traumatic stress disorder.
- 17.2. Increased funding to provide continued and updated training to public safety dispatchers on implicit bias, diversity, inclusion and equity, in order to better serve the community.
- 17.3. Increased funding for the implementation of NexGen 9-1-1.
- 17.4. Increased funding for backup 9-1-1 centers.
- 17.5. Funding, policies and programs that enhance the wellbeing of public safety dispatchers.
- 17.6. Efforts to protect the privacy of the health information and other personally identifiable information of 9-1-1 callers.
- 17.7. Increased funding for reimbursement of emergency 911 dispatch equipment.
- 17.8. Policies that refer to 911 Emergency Dispatchers as First Responders, and that included emergency communications in legislation impacting law enforcement, fire suppression and emergency medical response.
- 17.9. Promoting funding for counties to address the critical staffing shortages in 911 Communication Centers, through innovative recruitment, hiring, retention and training solutions.
- 17.10. Funding for technology and operational changes required to implement a statewide self-registration database system as intended by the Manny Alert Act, AB 911 (Rodriguez, Chapter 686, Statutes of 2019), should implementation be required by the State.
- 17.11. Passage of the Emergency Telephone Users Surcharge Act, AB 96 (Ting, 2019), or similar legislation.
- 17.12. Full state funding for technology and infrastructure to meet State Department of Justice requirements that counties encrypt emergency radio transmissions. (Moved from DEM)



18. PUBLIC SAFETY AND JUSTICE

The County Supports:

- 18.1. Constitutional protections that provide guaranteed and adequate state funding for counties' new responsibilities related to 2011 Public Safety Realignment. The County opposes any efforts that transfer additional program responsibilities to counties without adequate funding, constitutional protections and consideration of safety needs of the local system.
- 18.2. The development of a permanent and equitable Public Safety Realignment funding formula that rewards strategies to reduce recidivism.
- 18.3. Full funding for local public safety programs that have historically been supported by fines and fees within the criminal justice system. AB 1869 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 92, Statutes of 2020) repealed the County's authority to collect various fines and fees and appropriated monies for five year to backfill a portion of the revenue loss.
- 18.4. Preservation of funding for local public safety efforts, including inmate housing, security, programming, health, mental health and drug and alcohol programs.
- 18.5. Continuing efforts to maximize opportunity for reimbursement for inmate medical care, including options available under the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA), as well as pursuing funding for increased needs resulting from realignment. The County also supports mitigating liabilities in areas such as health, mental health, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other areas of legal concern.
- 18.6. Preservation of funding and, in the future, seeking additional funding for an expanded, more robust and comprehensive drug court.
- 18.7. Full state funding for court security costs provided by the County.
- 18.8. Full funding for the cost of booking and processing of persons arrested by public entities in the County as authorized in Government Code 29553(b).
- 18.9. Increased funding for local law enforcement to enhance community engagement efforts as well as technology that supports further information sharing between law enforcement and the community to prevent and reduce crime.
- 18.10. Increased funding and regulation for domestic violence and new prohibited person's compliance firearms programs.
- 18.11. Ensuring continued state funding for adult criminal justice facilities that will meet the needs created by realignment, i.e., programming space, substance abuse and mental health treatment, etc.
- 18.12. Policies that help the County better implement Proposition 47, as well as mitigate local criminal justice impacts.

- 18.13. Increased funding for inmate management, programming, supervision, and substance abuse treatment, mental health services and other inmate services.
- 18.14. Efforts to ensure that counties that did not provide in-person visitation under the Board of State and Community Corrections rules prior to 2016 will be reimbursed or funded for the mandate to reconfigure existing facilities.
- 18.15. Legislation that allows for the consolidation and contracting out of police services and opposes efforts to amend PERS regulations to dis-incentivize these practices.
- 18.16. Efforts to align law library costs, including facilities maintenance, with trial courts rather than the County.
- 18.17. Corrections reforms established within the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) that are developed through collaboration of state and local governments and criminal justice agencies that are adequately funded to operate safe and secure jails and build upon successful, existing programs. The County also supports full state funding for any new requirements imposed on the CCP.
- 18.18. State funding for local jail construction projects, which recognize the importance of inmate programs and services such as educational, vocational and treatment services and provides flexibility that meets the unique characteristics of each county.
- 18.19. Alternatives to incarceration for people with mental illness and/or substance use disorders.
- 18.20. Promoting funding for training of county personnel to address LGBTQIA+ concerns relating to public safety and policies relating to LGBTQIA+ concerns.
- 18.21. Efforts to guide the youth of San Mateo County towards their full potential through impactful programs, which foster relationships between the Sheriff's Office and the community.
- 18.22. Promoting an environment that encourages continuous improvement and innovation. We strive to be leaders in modern policing, acting on input and feedback from our communities and colleagues, constantly implementing best-practices and exploring alternative solutions to current issues.
- 18.23. Efforts to enhance services to victims of human trafficking incidents, raise awareness of human trafficking within the community and foster greater collaborative efforts among all who fight modern-day slavery.
- 18.24. Increased funding to provide continuous de-escalation training to comply with SB 230 Caballero, Chapter 285, Statutes of 2019). The Sheriff's Office has developed an ECIT (Enhanced Crisis Intervention Training) program that will train Deputies in the best tactically and legally sound de-escalation tactics to use on persons who suffer from mental illness and are in crisis. ECIT allows us to maintain compliance with SB 230.
- 18.25. Increased funding to provide continued and updated law enforcement training on implicit bias. This training will allow law enforcement officers the ability to impact their perceptions and behaviors, while managing bias. Continued training on this perishable skill will enhance our ability and legitimacy with the diverse communities we serve.
- 18.26. Legislation and funding to support the creation of a state-wide hot line for reporting hate crimes.
- 18.27. Policies that condemn and combat hate crimes.
- 18.28. Funding for the construction, renovation and operation of locally-operated forensic crime laboratories.
- 18.29. Additional State funding to expand the use of DNA collection and analysis to be used in criminal investigations and prosecutions.
- 18.30. Legislation to fund staffing, training, and the purchase of rapid response emergency equipment for first-responder teams including police/sheriff, firefighters, emergency medical services, medical, public health, coroner, hospital emergency staff, emergency management and other medical professionals.

- 18.31. Legislation to maintain the privacy of individuals after death by protecting medical examiner/coroner records from public disclosure.
- 18.32. Support policies consistent with the County's established Independent Civilian Advisory Commission for the Sheriff's Office that increase community safety and foster trust.



19. PUBLIC WORKS

The County Supports:

- 19.1. Statewide policies that ensure construction expansion, rehabilitation, operation and maintenance of local infrastructure as priorities.
- 19.2. Balanced with the need for environmental protection, the streamlining and coordination of regulatory requirements so that routine projects can be processed without delay, expectation for routine work can be established and the costs of both initial construction and ongoing operations and maintenance of local infrastructure can be effectively reduced.
- 19.3. Policies and funding that would support the development and deployment of electrification modernization in rural and coastal areas in San Mateo County.
- 19.4. Funding for implementing programs and regulations on storm water management required by the State Regional Water Quality Control Board in order to fund activities consistent with municipal storm water permit requirements.
- 19.5. Coordinating regulatory agency permitting requirements for maintenance and capital improvement projects to avoid conflicting requirements from state agencies and streamlining delivery of projects.
- 19.6. Funding to support implementation of California Air Resource Board regulatory mandates relating to diesel powered construction equipment.
- 19.7. Permanent authority to use the Design-Build and Construction Manager At Risk project delivery methods.
- 19.8. Flexibility for alternative project delivery methods on infrastructure projects.
- 19.9. ~~Opposes linking certain transportation funding with housing production.~~



20. STATE BUDGET

The County Supports:

- 20.1.** Timely and full funding for state-mandated and partnership programs, particularly repayment of post-2004 debts and suspended mandates. The County will oppose efforts to eliminate mandate reimbursements from existing law.
- 20.2.** Increased flexibility in program and service implementation and the elimination of programs not properly funded by state and/or federal funds.
- 20.3.** The principle that reliable, predictable and equitable funding should be provided to local governments, including schools, cities, special districts and counties. This support includes the proper allocation of existing tax revenues.
- 20.4.** In concept, the reduction in funding for various programs and activities only when the concomitant requirement to provide such programs and activities is relieved. The Board has not considered what specific programs would be acceptable for reductions in funding and expressly reserves its ability to take a position on this issue should it arise during the current legislative session and any pertinent special sessions.
- 20.5.** Restoration of historic reductions in local government funding and increased flexibility in implementing and administering services.
- 20.6.** The existing 1991 realignment funding allocation formula.
- 20.7.** Improvements to the Senate Bill 90 (Chapter 1406, Statutes of 1972) mandate reimbursement process that simplify the claiming requirements, expedite the process, and provide sufficient reimbursement to counties. The County also opposes the practice of mandate suspension as a state budget solution. Local governments should be provided the opportunity to comment on proposals to suspend mandates and then be provided adequate time to end program services.
- 20.8.** Increases in alcohol taxes as well as changes in state government's business practices that lead to greater economies and improved program outcomes, should timely and full funding for programs not be maintained.
- 20.9.** Performance-based budgeting at the state level.
- 20.10.** Legislation to ensure a mechanism to enable the state to fully fund required vehicle license fees (VLF) payments to local governments. The County needs a permanent solution to the problem that arises when there are insufficient funds to cover VLF payments to local governments.



21. TAX AND FINANCE

The County Supports:

- 21.1.** Preservation of existing revenues and revenue authority. The County opposes efforts to expand Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements, as MOEs tend to penalize more progressive counties that implement programs before the statewide program.
- 21.2.** Maintenance of property tax revenues directed to local government. The County opposes efforts to direct property tax revenues away from local government.
- 21.3.** The existing property tax allocation laws, which return surplus Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) dollars to local taxing entities. The County strongly opposes legislative actions, which would utilize ERAF for payment of state program/service obligations.
- 21.4.** Appropriate flexibility and sufficient resources to implement Proposition 19, a property tax reform measure approved by voters in November 2020.
- 21.5.** A lower voter threshold for special taxes to 55 percent.
- 21.6.** The issuance or sale of revenue bonds by the state for projects that are financed, owned, operated, or managed by the state or any joint agency that exceed \$2 billion dollars without voter approval.
- 21.7.** Efforts to allocate funding through block grants, which allow for maximum flexibility in the use of funding within designated programs.
- 21.8.** Federal funding mechanisms that allow funding to flow directly to local governments rather than through state government.
- 21.9.** Increased ability to utilize state or local matching funds to draw down additional federal funds.
- 21.10.** Economic development efforts that grow the California and local economy in a sustainable (environmental and economic) fashion.
- 21.11.** Increased funding for county infrastructure needs, should such funds be available.
- 21.12.** Collaboration with other local government entities operating in San Mateo County to allow for a countywide perspective of proposed legislation impacting the allocation/distribution of local property taxes. Local governments in San Mateo County should work together to ensure the protection of local property taxes.
- 21.13.** Continued assessment of computer programs where such programs are integral to taxable business property and are necessary for the proper functioning of that property for the purpose for which it was designed.
- 21.14.** Utilization of a valuation methodology consistent with other business personal property for assessment of commercial aircraft.



The County Supports:

- 22.1.** Allocation of formulas that ensure the County receives its fair share of infrastructure bond funding by reflecting, in part, the variation in the cost of living and doing business among the state's diverse communities.
- 22.2.** Allocation of formulas that ensures San Mateo County transit agencies receive a fair share of proceeds from any new regional funding sources for operations or transit infrastructure investment.
- 22.3.** Legislation that does not alter local control, governance or funding for San Mateo County Transit agencies without the express consent of the affected San Mateo County Transit agency boards of directors.
- 22.4.** The protection from diversion or borrowing of the federal or state gas tax.
- 22.5.** Prohibitions on the delayed pass-through of state transportation funding (HUTA) to counties caused by state budget delays.
- 22.6.** Protection of dedicated statewide ongoing revenue sources, including recently approved Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (RMRA) funding sources that support local operations and maintenance of existing and future infrastructure needs.
- 22.7.** Updating, adjusting and/or indexing the current gas tax. Pursuing alternative funding strategies including vehicle miles traveled (VMT).
- 22.8.** The Legislative Analyst's Office recommendation to require a statewide transportation needs assessment every five years, if the assessment has no fiscal impact on County funds or revenues.
- 22.9.** The implementation and funding for affordable transportation for low-income youth and families.
- 22.10.** Policies and funding that facilitate countywide coordination on public transportation planning, active transportation planning (i.e. bike highways), parking and electric vehicle charging infrastructure planning. The County supports funding for bicycling and pedestrian transportation improvements in the unincorporated County. The County supports funding to be tied to miles traveled by all vehicles, rather than on fuel sales. The County supports significant and regionally coordinated investments in public transportation, including transit systems that reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMTs).
- 22.11.** Policies and funding that support improvements to streets and roads that encourage active transportation, such as walking and bicycling, transit, and other carbon-reducing road improvements, and promote urban densification and the concentration of services and housing near centers of transit.
- 22.12.** Funding for electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
- 22.13.** Funding to promote and implement micro-mobility strategies and other emerging transportation trends.
- 22.14.** Improved safety measures for active transportation and improved transit access to reduce congestion and air pollution.

22.15. Funding for adaptation of transportation systems to climate change impacts.



23. TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR

The County Supports:

- 23.1. Legislation and policies that enable the efficient collection of taxes and fees.
- 23.2. Modernization of state laws governing the operations of the County Treasurer/Tax-Collector.
- 23.3. Local control and discretion over the management, investment and protection of the County's financial assets.
- 23.4. Legislation that would require all taxing jurisdictions that share in property tax revenues to pay their fair share of the costs incurred by the Assessor, Auditor and Tax-Collector in administering the property tax system.
- 23.5. Legislation that enables the Treasurer-Tax Collector to provide flexibility and support to taxpayers, especially in unexpected situations and times of distress.

A photograph of two young children sitting on a grassy area. The child on the left is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt with colorful floral patterns and colorful sneakers. The child on the right is wearing a white t-shirt with a cartoon graphic and dark pants. They are both looking down at something in their hands, possibly toys. The background is a soft-focus green lawn.

24. EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE

The County Supports:

- 24.1.** Access to early learning and care opportunities that are accessible for all children regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, ability, language, economic status, immigration status and geographic location.
- 24.2.** Increased, protected and stable funding for a comprehensive, high-quality childcare and early learning system serving children from birth to age 13 that supports:
 - 24.2.1.** Developmentally appropriate curriculum; a culturally and linguistically responsive approach; inclusive environments conducive to learning and development for all children; robust and authentic family engagement; meaningful connections to comprehensive services and early identification and intervention processes; and effective evaluation, monitoring and support.
 - 24.2.2.** Sustained quality improvement activities that are more accessible to all programs including center-based, family childcare and “family, friend and neighbor” providers.
 - 24.2.3.** Safe and healthy environments in childcare and early learning settings.
 - 24.2.4.** Equitably distributed funds to develop, finance and maintain new and existing high-quality childcare and early learning facilities.
- 24.3.** Legislation, funding and policies that increase the availability, accessibility and affordability of high-quality childcare services, including equitably addressing the needs of unique populations of children and their families such as infants/toddlers, dual language learners, children at risk and/or with special developmental and healthcare needs, children experiencing homelessness, children under the supervision of the child welfare system, children and families who are undocumented, children and families experiencing domestic violence and children of teen parents.
- 24.4.** Policies for affordable preschool that support a diverse delivery system with options that meet families’ various needs, and that advance the goals of the “Big Lift,” which aims to transform early learning by combining high-quality and connected learning experiences from preschool to third grade, with a focus on reducing chronic absence and summer learning loss, as well as engaging families and the broader community to support learning in school and at home.
- 24.5.** Strong systems coordination between federal, state and local agencies that support childcare and early learning, physical and/or mental health, prevention/early intervention, TK-12 and higher education, community and economic development, family support, food/nutrition, social services and recreation services leading to streamlined and efficient administration and coordinated regulatory, contracting and reimbursement processes.

- 24.6. A system that supports a smooth transition for children and families from infant/toddler programs into the PreK-TK-12 system, with collaboration to align PreK and TK/K-3rd grade standards, curriculum, credentialing and assessment.
- 24.7. Improved data collection, data sharing and integration among programs and agencies that serve young children and families to provide opportunities to understand children's kindergarten readiness, the various needs of children and their families and the impact of various services on child development, school readiness and family self-sufficiency.
- 24.8. Programs, policies and funding that support recruitment and retention of a diverse, well-educated, well-compensated childcare and early learning workforce and that promote professional development and increased expertise to support vulnerable and unique populations of children and families.
- 24.9. Policies and funding that ensure pay equity and living wages for early learning, preschool, and childcare workforces.
- 24.10. Capacity-building within the childcare and early learning system/workforce to meet all of children's health and safety needs including: improving mental, physical and developmental health; responding to medical or situational crises; and ensuring safe routes to schools.
- 24.11. A robust emergency response system for childcare and early learning providers to ensure timely access to information and resources in the event of future disasters or emergencies.
- 24.12. A streamlined, single subsidy reimbursement system that reflects the actual, current cost of providing high-quality care that adequately compensates the workforce to achieve salary parity with the K-12 system.
- 24.13. Income eligibility thresholds for subsidized childcare and early learning services that reflect our region's cost of living.
- 24.14. Programs and funding for pediatricians, health-care providers and early childhood experts to screen for developmental delays, monitor children's development and provide linkages to community supports.
- 24.15. Opportunities to pilot new ideas and innovative services to improve outcomes for young children and their families in San Mateo County.
- 24.16. Programs and funding to support childcare as a public service that is universally available for Californians, including residents of all immigration statuses.



25. EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

The County Supports:

- 25.1.** The elimination and reversal of policies, practices, attitudes and cultural messages that reinforce differential outcomes by race, sexuality, gender, religion, ability/disability or socioeconomic status, including the repeal of California's Constitution ban on the use of affirmative action by public agencies.
- 25.2.** Funding, enforcement and expansion of antidiscrimination laws and regulations.
- 25.3.** Funding and policies that address lingering adverse effects of government policies that provide acknowledgment, compensation, or protections to redress harms caused by actions or inactions of government when there was a duty to act. Policies that ensure access to and participation in all levels of government are accessible to all, regardless of physical or cognitive abilities.
- 25.4.** Policies and programs that provide equitable participation and representation in local government to all, regardless of immigration status or citizenship.
- 25.5.** Investment and technical support for local governments and community-based organizations to address racial inequity at the local level.
- 25.6.** The dismantling of systemic racism throughout government.
- 25.7.** Legislation and regulations that guarantee a living wage for all Californians, regardless of immigration status, race, gender or ability/disability.
- 25.8.** Policies and programs designed to close the wealth gap and address widespread economic inequality.
- 25.9.** Policies and programs to promote pay equity and close the gender and racial pay and wealth gaps.
- 25.10.** Funding and policies that support the County's enactment of the San Mateo County Office of Labor Standards Enforcement.
- 25.11.** Policies that acknowledge the cost and difficulty of developing affordable housing in densely populated, jobs- and amenity-rich counties like the County of San Mateo, relative to other parts of the State, and accordingly prioritize resources create and preserve affordable housing for low-income households in these areas.
- 25.12.** Efforts to end discrimination of lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender queer, or questioning individuals.
- 25.13.** Policies that enhance efforts to make San Mateo County a welcoming and safe environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender queer, or questioning individuals.
- 25.14.** Development of program resources and support for transgender people.
- 25.15.** Opposes efforts to impose a binary definition of "sex" or "gender" or to define "sex" or "gender" based on biology, sex assigned at birth or similarly restrictive and inaccurate criteria.

- 25.16. Efforts to protect and expand Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion programs and opposes efforts to disband such programs and penalize organizations that implement them.
- 25.17. Policies to protect and increase access to gender-affirming healthcare.



26. FIREARMS SAFETY

The County Supports:

- 26.1.** Funding to support local firearm relinquishment programs to remove firearms from prohibited persons and otherwise dangerous individuals. San Mateo County has developed a cutting-edge local gun relinquishment program and supports efforts by the state and other local governments to replicate our model across the state.
- 26.2.** Legislation to require safe gun storage for all gun owners, regardless of whether minors are present. San Mateo County has passed an ordinance requiring safe storage of firearms in the unincorporated County that fills gaps in State law and encourages other local jurisdictions to do the same.
- 26.3.** Legislation to prohibit guns in sensitive areas, such as government buildings or parks, which have been addressed by the County, as well as areas like those contemplated by the Legislature in SB 918 (Portantino, 2022).
- 26.4.** Legislation to rigorously and consistently regulate gun dealers Statewide in a manner consistent with the County efforts as reflected by Chapter 3.51 of the Ordinance Code.
- 26.5.** Strengthening legislation that regulates ghost guns.
- 26.6.** Legislation and policies to hold the gun industry accountable for the harm gun violence has caused to our communities.
- 26.7.** Permanent funding for violence intervention programs, including the California Violence Intervention and Prevention (CalVIP) program.
- 26.8.** Increased funding and legislation to support local gun buyback programs and other gun violence prevention programs.



27. HOMELESSNESS

The County Supports:

- 27.1. Policies, regulations and ongoing funding to address the housing needs of all persons, especially homeless households and lower-income residents, including persons receiving wrap-around services and case management from the County; persons with disabilities; emancipated youth; transitional age youth; CalWORKs participants; farmworkers; the elderly; institutionalized persons who cannot be discharged due to lack of stable housing; former foster youth; homeless youth, including homeless LGBTQ IA+ youth; homeless veterans; and the formerly incarcerated.
- 27.2. Additional funding for supportive services and operations of affordable housing to enable the County to target more affordable units for homeless persons with high service needs and extremely low-incomes, with funding for ongoing annual operational funding for supportive services.
- 27.3. Increase funding for housing locator services and the number of housing vouchers available to support people who are experiencing or are at risk of homelessness to move into stable housing.
- 27.4. Funding and policies that enhance the County's ability to construct homeless shelters, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals and families.
- 27.5. Dedicated and ongoing funding for homelessness prevention programs and homeless services and operations.
- 27.6. Funding to address the human waste, litter, hazardous materials and other harmful debris associated with homeless encampments.
- 27.7. Policies, programs and funding to prevent the eviction of seniors and persons with disabilities (SPDs), who frequently live on fixed incomes or finite savings, from their residences in order to prevent SPDs from falling into homelessness.
- 27.8. Continuing efforts to maximize collaboration and develop homelessness prevention programs that target highly vulnerable SPDs that are built on evidence-based, rapid rehousing principles and coupled with short-term intensive case management services to keep SPDs housed in a setting of their choosing and connected to a medical home.
- 27.9. Continuing and strengthening collaborative efforts with the Veterans Administration to streamline In-Home Supportive Services and Public Authority processes to best serve newly housed (formerly homeless) San Mateo County veterans.
- 27.10. Legislation to allow for the flexible use of funding for services for homeless and criminal justice-involved individuals with a primary or sole diagnosis of substance use disorder (SUD) to better target their medical needs.

27.11. Establishing supportive housing programs for justice-involved individuals who are living with mental illness and are either homeless or at risk of homelessness.

A photograph of two people walking on a paved path. On the left, an older person in a purple jacket and grey pants uses a walking stick. On the right, a younger person in a light grey hoodie and blue jeans wears a black face mask and carries a black bag. The background features a body of water, green hills, and a clear blue sky with some clouds. A large white title is overlaid on the left side of the image.

28. IMMIGRANT PROTECTIONS

The County Supports:

- 28.1. Legislation, policies, and programs that protect the safety of sensitive locations including schools, hospitals, and other everyday facilities from immigration enforcement efforts.
- 28.2. Funding of efforts to maintain the safety of immigrant communities in the State regardless of status.
- 28.3. Funding to support legal services and financial relief for immigrant communities impacted by federal immigration policy.



29. REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

The County Supports:

- 29.1. Legislation and policies that protect the right to reproductive freedom, including a right to an abortion and to choose or refuse contraceptives.
- 29.2. The establishment and preservation of civil and criminal protections for patients seeking or receiving reproductive healthcare services and reproductive healthcare service providers in California, regardless of their state of residency.
- 29.3. The establishment and preservation of privacy protections for medical records related to abortion care against disclosures to law enforcement and out-of-state third parties seeking to enforce abortion bans in other states.
- 29.4. Funding of providers who provide uncompensated care to patients, regardless of state residency, with low incomes and those who face financial barriers to accessing abortion and contraception.
- 29.5. Funding to provide financial support for practical and logistical assistance to patients accessing abortion care, including but not limited to childcare, travel costs, food and lodging.
- 29.6. The creation and continued maintenance of a state-supported website with comprehensive information regarding abortion care, services, and resources available in California.
- 29.7. Funding to conduct medically accurate and culturally competent outreach and education on sexual health and reproductive health issues.
- 29.8. Funding and policies to assist reproductive healthcare facilities in securing their physical and information technology infrastructure and to enhance facility security.
- 29.9. Funding and policies to increase the reproductive healthcare workforce.
- 29.10. Funding to research the unmet needs for access to reproductive healthcare services.
- 29.11. Efforts to protect and expand access to reproductive rights.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

A large, dark blue and white inflatable orca kite is the central focus, suspended in the air by thin lines. It has a white belly with dark spots and a white patch near its eye. To its left, a white and black striped kite is partially visible. To its right, a red kite and a blue and white striped kite are also flying. The background shows a clear blue sky, green grass, trees, and several power line towers. A few people are visible on the ground, including a man in a hat and a white van parked in the distance.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

These are the top federal legislative policies for San Mateo County in the first session of the **119th** Congress.

Overview

The Trump Administration plans to continue the policies established during his first term, prioritizing limited government, states' rights, and lower taxes. The President and his team will also work to reverse many policies enacted by the Biden Administration, particularly those related to the environment, immigration, health and human services, and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), as well as tax policy and other areas. Many of these changes are expected to be implemented through executive orders or legislation supported by the Republican Party (GOP).

The Following is a List of Priority Areas for the County:

Healthcare Reform Implementation. The County supports the continued implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and full funding for its administration and programs, specifically comprehensive primary care, mental health and substance abuse treatment, among others, and opposes its repeal. The County supports the continual improvement of the ACA by addressing unresolved issues such as regional/cost-of-living adjustments for cost-sharing and premium support.

County Health opposes future federal policy changes that would erode the Medi-Cal program or otherwise impose cost-shifts on the County. The program's expansion and related waivers have allowed County Health to make major strides in providing high-quality and comprehensive health-care to the most vulnerable residents in our community. Repeal of or changes that undermine the ACA could limit access to care and lead to increases in the County's uninsured population, thereby increasing the number of persons on the County-funded Access for Everyone (ACE) Program. It has been shown that if people lose healthcare coverage, they tend to seek care only under emergency circumstances. This approach to medical care would erode years of work by the County, whose mission has been to expand access to primary preventative care to reduce emergency room visits. With California having received the federal authority necessary to implement the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), a framework that encompasses a broad-based delivery system and program, as well as payment reform across the Medi-Cal program, the County supports proposals that: 1) protect and expand Medi-Cal funding, eligibility, and covered services, including through the CalAIM initiative; and 2) educate and promote access to available healthcare services for immigrant families and children, such as Medi-Cal and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

Further, the County supports federal reimbursement for undocumented beneficiaries covered through the expansion of Medi-Cal.

Medicaid. As one of the big three federal entitlement programs, the Medicaid program provides critical funding for the healthcare safety net, which reimburses providers and hospitals for what would otherwise be unreimbursed medical care. Any cuts to Medicaid would reduce patient access to services and decrease funding to San Mateo County health programs. Additionally, Medicaid funding reductions would undercut local efforts to transform ACA outreach efforts and the care it provides.

The County opposes federal efforts to cut Medicaid through changes to funding methods, which include the implementation of a block grant or institution of a blended Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rate and the provision of per-capita payments based on states' historical Medicaid spending patterns in return for increased administrative flexibility in designing and administering the program. The County supports the extension of federal Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) allotments to protect funding for uncompensated uninsured costs. California continues to be one of the lowest Medicaid spending states based on a per-capita basis, potentially locking the State into

a very low federal allotment. Moreover, to the extent that State administrative and benefit costs exceed what is covered by the block grant, counties are at risk of assuming the financial liability for those costs.

Overall, the County supports assuring that actions to address the federal budget deficit do not erode the strength of Medicaid or Social Security.

Health Services. The County supports the advancement of preventative healthcare demonstrations to improve wellness across multiple areas through nutrition, schools, transportation and other infrastructure, conservation, housing and the built environment. This includes federal proposals and initiatives to update and advance:

- State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP~~P~~)
- Older Americans Act
- Second Chance Act
- Safe and Complete Streets Act
- Livable Communities Act
- Local Farms, Food and Jobs Act
- Clean Air Act
- Clean Water Act
- Women's Infants and Children's Program and other efforts by the Department of Agriculture to promote healthy eating.

Specifically, the County supports establishing inflation and caseload adjustments for the federal Older Americans Act so this funding stream can keep pace with increases in cost and demand.

Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). CHIP is currently funded through FY 2027. The County supports full funding of CHIP and continuing the percentage point boost in the federal contribution over the regular 65 percent federal match for CHIP.

Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy. The County supports efforts to maximize opportunities for reimbursement for inmate medical care, including options available under the ACA, such as the Medi-Cal Inmate Claiming Program.

42 CFR Part 2. Through the CARES Act, Congress amended 42 U.S.C. § 290dd-2, the statute underlying 42 CFR Part 2, to align more closely with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The County supports the swift issuance of a rule by HHS to ensure changes initiated by the CARES Act are realized without delay. The County supports SAMHSA's regulations mirroring HIPAA to balance patient privacy with provider access to comprehensive medical information.

The County also supports changes to federal laws pertaining to the confidentiality of substance use disorder patient records that improve the ability of providers and others involved in the treatment of patients with substance use disorders to coordinate care. The County supports aligning laws about the confidentiality of substance use disorder patient records with HIPAA.

Public Health Laboratories. The County supports continued funding to expand technological readiness to swiftly tackle future emerging diseases, ensuring a resilient and proactive defense against future health crises. Public Health Laboratories (PHL) are crucial for safeguarding community health post-pandemic as it was during the pandemic. They serve as a vital early warning system in detecting, containing, and responding to emerging diseases through cutting-edge testing methods like wastewater analysis, outbreak investigations, and disease sequencing. PHLs provide essential data to monitor, detect, and respond to outbreaks, guiding public policy, resource allocation, and epidemiological research.

Reproductive Rights. On June 24, 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court reversed 50 years of precedent by overturning *Roe v. Wade* in the case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*. The decision was deeply troubling as many states have passed laws that restrict, prohibit, and even criminalize abortion. The immediate impact of these new state laws leaves women in those states, particularly women of color and low-income women, unable to access abortion and other healthcare services safely. The County supports:

- Codifying the legal protections embedded in the *Roe v. Wade* decision, including support for the Women’s Health Protection Act.
- Protecting and expanding access to abortion care, including FDA-approved medications.
- Protecting and expanding access to contraception.
- Ensuring all patients have access to the full rights and protections of emergency medical care.
- Protecting consumer privacy when seeking information about and provision of reproductive healthcare services.
- Opposing bans on interstate travel to block a patient from seeking abortion care.
- Ensuring the safety of patients, providers and third parties that are providing, receiving, dispensing or delivering reproductive healthcare services.
- Conducting outreach and public education efforts.
- Funding reproductive healthcare providers and clinics.

Child Welfare Services. The County supports increased funding for services and income support needed by parents seeking to reunify with children who are in foster care. The County also supports increased financial support for programs that assist foster youth in the transition to self-sufficiency, including post-emancipation assistance such as secondary education, job training, and access to healthcare.

In addition, the County supports retaining the entitlement nature of the Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance programs and eliminating outdated rules that base the child’s eligibility for funds on parental income and circumstances. Finally, the County supports federal funding to address the service needs of youth who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

SNAP Funding. The County opposes any reductions in funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), or CalFresh, which provides food subsidies to some of the county’s neediest residents. The County will also advocate for program improvement efforts to block the state from granting SNAP waivers.

Firearm Reform. The County of San Mateo supports federal action to curb gun violence in our communities. The County supports the passage of federal laws to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, promote responsibility around firearm ownership, hold the firearm industry accountable, and prohibit dangerous hardware. Specifically, the County supports requiring universal background checks on all firearm sales, banning people with dangerous histories or dangerous mental illnesses from buying or possessing firearms, passage of strong firearm trafficking laws, and improved data sharing between all levels of law enforcement. The County supports comprehensive firearm dealer reforms and requiring purchasers of firearms to undergo safety training. The County supports banning assault weapons, bump stocks and high-capacity magazines, as well as regulating the sale of ammunition. Further, the County supports outlawing the manufacturing of ghost guns and 3-D-printed firearms. The County supports repealing the firearm industry’s broad immunity from legal accountability. -Lastly, the County supports maintaining robust funding for the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Assistance program, which can be used to support services for victims and survivors of gun violence.

LGBTQIA+ Rights. The County strongly supports full human rights for LGBTQIA+ people in all areas of life including, but not limited to, the workplace, schools, businesses, and access to medical care. The County supports the promotion of

equal access to health services for LGBTQIA+ people. Additionally, the County supports the promotion of funding for training of county personnel to address LGBTQIA+ concerns relating to human services.

Housing and Economic Development. The County supports robust funding levels for affordable housing programs, including the Community Development Block Grant (CBDG), the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solution Grants (ESG), Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) and Sustainable Communities, among others. The County also supports efforts to preserve and expand the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC), as it is the largest source of affordable housing construction funding. Due to the oversubscription of tax-exempt Private Activity Bonds (tax-exempt bonds) in the State, there is a backlog of affordable housing developments waiting for an allocation of tax-exempt bonds to begin construction. To build more housing to meet the affordable housing shortage in our County, the County supports removing inefficiencies and limitations of the program, such as the 50% test. Reducing the amount of tax-exempt bonds required for each project from 50% to 25% will allow a greater number of affordable housing developments to access tax-exempt bonds, stretching the dollars to increase overall housing production for lower-income households. The County also supports federal housing solutions that target moderate-income households, typically earning between 80%-120% of the area median income. -This ensures that middle-income families can still access economic mobility in a county with one of the country's highest living costs.

The County will continue to support increased funding and unit count allocations for all federal rental or operating assistance programs, including Section 8, Mainstream, Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), the Family Unification Program (FUP), Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (VASH) and Section 202.

The County will continue monitoring and advocating for federal housing programs that offer increased investment for local efforts within the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Commerce, the Economic Development Administration, the Department of Transportation, and the White House. Additionally, the County will advocate for legislation, policies, and regulations that streamline, expedite, and improve federal funding processes, allowing it to best meet the community's local needs. Finally, the County aims to minimize the negative impacts of potential changes to the Housing Choice Voucher program on households with one or more members who lack citizenship status (i.e., Mixed Status Households), which may result in the termination of federal housing subsidy for the entire family.

Homelessness. The County supports expanded, dedicated, and ongoing funding for homelessness prevention programs, homeless services, and operations.

State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP). The County supports protecting and enhancing SCAAP funding, a key source of federal funding. The County will oppose efforts to restrict statutory language that would authorize the U.S. Department of Justice to transfer a significant percentage of SCAAP funding to other justice accounts and support its long-term reauthorization.

Victims of Crime Act Funding (VOCA). The County supports continued and increased funding for VOCA, which is allocated to counties through competitive grants administered by Cal OES. These funds help support domestic violence shelters, services for victims of human trafficking, and other services for victims of violent crimes.

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The County supports continued funding for VAWA grants, which fund direct services to women who are the victims of violent crime. Counties depend on VAWA funds for CBOs that provide housing, treatment, and other direct-victim services.

Cannabis, Tobacco, and Hemp. With the passage of Proposition 64 in November 2016, California has joined seven other states that have legalized cannabis for recreational purposes. As this change in the law is not consistent with federal policy on cannabis, several issues, primarily in banking, finance, and taxation, will need to be addressed. Additionally, the County supports legislation that mitigates the harmful effects of tobacco and vaping, including youth exposure and access, tobacco concentrations in vaping products, and unregulated products that contain THC from hemp.

Property Assessed Clean Energy Program (PACE). The County supports legislative and administrative remedies that would help improve residential PACE programs to incorporate protections for low-income homeowners and provide unbiased evaluations.

Energy & Environment. The County supports federal legislation, funding and other regulations to advance its environmental and sustainability goals. This includes activities to support clean air, clean energy, and clean water programs, emerging technologies development, green entrepreneurship and green workforce training and development, environmental justice and equity programs, building and transportation electrification, climate-resilient infrastructure, and programs to improve and sustain the built environment for business, residential and recreational areas within the County. The County supports funding for programs and activities that promote waste reduction, recycling and composting. This includes the expansion of edible food recovery programs, and extended supplier and producer responsibility, and the development of recycling and composting infrastructure and facilities. The County supports nature-based solutions to protect shoreline communities and natural areas from coastal flooding due to sea level rise. The County will oppose actions to defund science programs that provide critical information on climate change and will continue its participation in the global effort.

Infrastructure. The County supports dedicated federal funding for the nation's transportation needs, including local bridges, both on- and off-system, interstates, primary roads and public transportation; freight and pipeline safety; and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. The County also supports funding for transportation improvements for evacuation routes, especially for communities that have limited evacuation options. Funding should support disability access ramps, curb cuts and other modifications to ensure people with disabilities can evacuate safely. In addition, the County supports further streamlining of the regulatory and project delivery processes, promoting programs that increase safety on the existing transportation system, and initiatives that protect previous and future investments via system maintenance and preservation. The County also supports funding for incentives for electric vehicles, electric bikes, and micromobility options, and for adding electric vehicle charging to existing gas stations. The County supports funding for microgrids to increase the reliability and capacity of the electric grid. The County also supports funding and policies that support targeted electrification of buildings within geographic areas and corresponding decommissioning of natural gas infrastructure in those areas. The County supports investment, funding and legislative support for groundwater quality and supply and watershed health initiatives.

Pest Prevention Programs. The County will advocate for increased funding for invasive pest exclusion and pest prevention programs, an issue of interest to the County's Agriculture, Weights and Measures Commissioner. The County supports integrated pest management and reduced use of pesticides to improve environment and water quality and to support County Municipal Regional Stormwater permit requirements.

Weed and Invasive Plant Management. The County will support federal legislation and resources that would provide stable funding for Weed Management Area groups or programs for the control of harmful nonnative, invasive weed pests.

Parcel Inspection at USPS and Private Parcel Carriers. The County will support legislation or rulemaking actions that authorize county agricultural inspectors to conduct parcel inspection of "first class," "priority," or "Express" mail packages containing plant material profiled by pest detection canines.

Jet Fuel. The County will continue to monitor the Federal Aviation Administration's "Final Policy Amendment" to its "Policy and Procedures Concerning the Use of Airport Revenue," published 23 years ago in the Federal Register at 64 Fed. Reg. 7696, February 16, 1999 ("Revenue Use Policy"). The Amendment formally adopts FAA's interpretation of the Federal requirements for the use of revenue derived from taxes, including sales taxes on aviation fuel imposed by airport sponsors and governmental agencies, local and State, and non-airport operators. The rule restricts the use of local sales taxes to certain aviation-related purposes only, and its implementation is being negotiated with assistance from the state. The County will support legislation that would reverse the FAA's jet fuel tax revenue rule and support legislative efforts

designed to clarify that local voter-approved sales tax revenues derived from the sale of aviation fuel are not subject to provisions of federal law that require the proceeds of certain taxes to be spent on airport capital and operating costs.

Taxes. The County supports federal remote sales tax policies that allow state and local governments to secure tax collection and remittance from remote sellers. The County urges Congress and the Administration to fully restore the state and local tax (SALT) deduction as it would provide immediate fiscal relief for individuals and families and help alleviate the housing affordability crisis.

Municipal Bonds. The County supports preserving the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds, which provide critical funding for public facilities, infrastructure, and development. Provisions like the tax exemption for municipal bond interest have been part of the federal tax code for over 100 years, helping to efficiently and safely finance trillions of dollars in public works projects. They were extended in the tax reform law passed at the end of 2017.

Immigrant Protections. The County of San Mateo recognizes, values, and will continue to work to protect the rights of all San Mateo County residents, regardless of their ethnic or national origin, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or immigration status. Further, the County will continue to promote and enhance the community's health, safety and welfare, as well as and provide and ensure access to quality services that benefit and enrich the lives of all County residents. Specifically, the County supports positive health conditions and due process rights for immigrants detained in detention centers. The County will oppose efforts to require it to use its resources to enforce civil federal immigration law, or condition funding for county activities on such cooperation or enforcement, as it believes that enforcement of federal civil immigration law is the federal government's responsibility. The County urges Congress to continue to work towards a comprehensive immigration reform bill that creates a path to citizenship and protects DREAMERS—minors brought into the country by undocumented adults—from deportation. In addition, the County supports federal legislation that provides undocumented farmworkers and their family members, refugees and asylum seekers with a path to legal immigration status and citizenship. The County supports providing legal aid to immigrant and refugee communities under threat.

Veterans. The County will advocate for administrative changes to the VA to increase the processing rate of veterans' benefits such as disability compensation, pension, and survivor benefits. The County will also continue to support and seek increases in federal discretionary programs to assist its veterans with social service needs such as housing, workforce training, and health care for prevention, substance abuse, and mental health.

Education & Workforce Training. The County will continue its proactive outreach to support federal funding for its early childhood education programs, especially The Big Lift. The County will continue supporting federal efforts that provide ongoing and new opportunities for financing its current initiatives in early childhood, elementary, and secondary education, and it will continue advocacy for public education improvements. It will also seek further workforce support for teens, high school dropouts, underemployed young adults, adults with a history of incarceration who are low-income, and/or who have had fewer opportunities for high-road jobs.

Internet Connectivity. The County continues all efforts to increase internet access, especially for low-income and/or rural residents. These efforts include federal funding to support the construction, operations, and maintenance of reliable, high-speed broadband infrastructure; providing subsidized or free access to broadband infrastructure; creating digital literacy and education programs; and providing reliable equipment for residents and small businesses. Additionally, the County will support efforts to reauthorize the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP).

Net Neutrality. The County supports net neutrality—the principle that all online traffic should be treated equally—and laws and policies that restore all net neutrality protections.

Elections. The County supports a consistent, predictable, and dedicated federal funding stream to assist counties in meeting the significant federal requirements already imposed on local governments administering elections. The County also supports federal efforts to combat cybersecurity threats in a way that includes county elections and technology officials. The County opposes voter ID laws, or any other laws that have the effect of decreasing voter turnout including among historically disenfranchised groups.

Resilience. The County will advocate for federal assistance and pre-disaster mitigation funding to help prepare for and recover from devastating events. While Congress approved a major disaster reform bill in 2018, FEMA has yet to implement several significant provisions, including one that would assist state and local governments in building code implementation and enforcement.

The County supports federal programs that provide funds and resources to adapt and strengthen resilience to extreme heat and improve air quality, including resources for establishing cooling and clean air centers, resilience hubs, incorporating measures that mitigate heat into home weatherization programs, green infrastructure, and nature-based solutions to reduce extreme temperatures and heat exposure, emergency preparedness and heat education campaigns and targeted solutions for disadvantaged and vulnerable communities.

Disaster Preparedness. The County supports increased federal resources to counties for disaster planning, mitigation, and recovery. Counties often serve as the nation's first line of defense before and after disasters strike; thus, the County supports increased federal investment and support of local emergency management capabilities that improve public safety and environmental stewardship, along with social and economic security. The County also supports the Federal Emergency Management Agency's efforts to integrate equity in hazard mitigation, disaster preparedness, and response. Finally, the County supports rapid federal reimbursement of local costs associated with major disasters. It encourages the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to administer policies and regulations consistently during any presidentially declared disaster or emergency throughout the country.

National Flood Insurance Program. The County supports a long-term reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), as the current program was last authorized by Congress in 2012 and has been extended annually since 2018. The County would oppose any provisions in an NFIP reauthorization that would impose residual risk requirements.



A publication of the Intergovernmental and Public Affairs Unit

Connie Juárez-Diroll, Chief Legislative Officer, (650) 599-1341