

# County of San Joaquin



**Adopted  
2010**

## **Federal Legislative/Regulatory Platform & Policy Guidelines**

**January 2010**

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**Larry Ruhstaller, 2nd District**

**Steve Bestolarides, 3rd District**

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# County of San Joaquin Board of Supervisors



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**County of San Joaquin**  
***Adopted 2010 Federal Legislative/Regulatory***  
**Platform**  
**&**  
**Policy Guidelines**

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# County of San Joaquin

## *Adopted 2010 Federal Legislative/Regulatory Platform & Policy Guidelines*

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# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Fifth District

January 12, 2010

President Barack Obama  
Hon. Dianne Feinstein, and Hon. Barbara Boxer, United States Senators  
Hon. Dennis Cardoza, and Hon. Jerry McNerney, U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Mr. President, Senators, and Representatives:

The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors is pleased to share with you the County's federal policy priorities for 2010, and request your assistance in achieving these federal goals. This platform represents the views of thousands of County residents, County personnel, and others who have met with Members of the Board over the past few months to raise these issues, and to express their interest in maintaining the high quality of service which is the hallmark of our County.

Many of the services provided by San Joaquin County, such as healthcare, criminal justice, public works, and family assistance programs, involve a financial and administrative partnership with both the state and federal governments. We value these relationships very much and appreciate your important role in making this partnership effective and mutually beneficial. Our federal-state-county partnership has been severely tested in 2009 as the nation faced unprecedented economic conditions. Our County has been particularly impacted by the housing mortgage crisis, the State's budgetary reductions, and meeting the health and welfare needs of a growing number of unemployed persons. Your ability and willingness to assist us with funding from federal resources is essential to providing us with the ability to deliver vital services to our mutual constituents.

San Joaquin County is located at a crossroads in California. Water for nearly 30 million Californians flows into the County as it passes through the San Joaquin-Sacramento Rivers Delta. This fragile and essential environment must be protected to ensure the economic health of the entire state. In addition, the state's major north-south highways, Interstate 5 and U.S. Highway 99, pass through the County as do the principal passenger and freight rail lines. The County's Airport also provides a wonderful opportunity for regional economic growth.

The County's population and economic base, as well as essential infrastructure such as roads, pipelines, and communication facilities, are protected by over a thousand miles of levees. One of our top priorities is to secure funding to complete the feasibility study and commence construction of the County's urban flood protection project. We are seeking funds to complete the improvements to State Route 4 which connects the County to the Bay Area through the Delta. We are also seeking funding to improve the capacity at the Airport in

January 12, 2010

order to relieve overcrowding in the Bay Area. Another County priority is completion of a regional feasibility study to support construction of the MORE Water project, a national model groundwater recharge project designed to capture flood water and store it in a large local aquifer.

San Joaquin General Hospital (SJGH) is a source of pride for our Board and our citizens, but it is also a source of continuous fiscal challenge. In light of the ongoing debate over national healthcare reform, we look forward to working with your offices to ensure that the unique needs of public hospitals, such as ours, are resolved favorably. The County is also very enthusiastic about the prospects for improving the services available to our regional veteran population through the expansion of the current outpatient clinic, plus the co-location of the new VA regional health and long-term care facilities with SJGH.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to ensure that County residents receive the full measure of their federal, state, and local tax dollars, and the essential needs of our common constituents are addressed. We welcome your interest in these positions, and would be pleased to provide any additional information you may request.

Sincerely,

Carlos Villapudua, Chairman  
San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors

Enclosures

c: San Joaquin County's State Delegation  
Manuel Lopez, County Administrator  
County Department Heads  
International Government Relations, Federal Advocate  
Peterson Consulting, State Advocate





## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES ~ Flood Protection

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### 1. **Title: Lower San Joaquin River Urban Flood Protection - Feasibility Study**

**Issue:** The California – San Joaquin Central Valley levee system that protects invaluable infrastructure has been neglected for decades.

**Legislative Platform:** Seek, advocate, and support legislation, budgetary proposals, and regulations which would:

1. Provide funding to analyze, plan, design, construct, and maintain facilities to improve Delta levees and waterways in San Joaquin County for the protection of urban communities' critical water supplies and statewide levee system infrastructure.
2. Provide funding assistance of \$2.0 million for the Lower San Joaquin River Urban Flood Protection Feasibility Study.
3. Seek the federal's support for inclusion of the following language into the new Federal Water Resources Development Act:
  - a. Permit the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to credit, toward future non-federal project implementation costs, the cost of any contribution by the non-federal sponsors to the Feasibility Study that exceeds its required cost-share.
  - b. Permit the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to credit, toward future non-federal project implementation costs, the cost of any locally-funded flood protection project that is subsequently found to be consistent with a federally-approved project.
  - c. Include language into the Water Resources Development Act which would streamline the Section 408 permitting process, to allow permit approval by the respective U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineers.

**Appropriations Request:** \$2.0 million  
**Total Study Cost:** Projected at \$10.0 million – Multi-year Project



## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES ~ Flood Protection

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### **Lower San Joaquin River Urban Flood Protection Project - Feasibility Study** *(continued)*

**Background:** San Joaquin County levee systems protect invaluable infrastructure and over 250,000 residents. The current urban flood protection system generally provides a 100-year level of flood protection. In order to provide a minimum of 200-year urban protection, a thorough evaluation of existing levees, channels, and reservoirs is needed to identify flood protection enhancement options.

Major flooding in San Joaquin County could result in overwhelmingly negative economic impacts statewide. Such potentially long-lived impacts to homes, businesses, transportation, farms, and the environment may be avoided with proper planning, identification of levee deficiencies, and flood protection upgrades.


The Lower San Joaquin River Urban Flood Protection Feasibility Study (map below) will identify options for improved flood protection for existing urban areas, and whether there is a federal interest in pursuing preferred alternatives. San Joaquin County is seeking a \$2.0 million federal appropriation to assist the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) to advance the six-year Feasibility Study currently underway. The Feasibility Study includes an analysis of alternatives to provide improved flood protection and associated ecosystem restoration.

In 2006, San Joaquin County and the San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency initiated preliminary project coordination with the ACOE, Department of Water Resources, and the California Reclamation Board (now known as Central Valley Flood Protection Board). In 2008, the ACOE completed a project management plan and developed a Feasibility Cost Share Agreement for continuation of the study. The Cost Share Agreement was signed in March 2009.

San Joaquin County is also seeking that the new Federal Water Resources Development Act include language which would permit the ACOE to credit the cost of any local contributions by non-federal sponsors to the Feasibility Study that exceeds its required cost share. In relation to advanced work conducted by a non-federal sponsor, the Section 408 permitting process should be streamlined to ensure that the ACOE can issue permits for local agencies to accomplish work demonstrated to enhance flood protection by the existing federal projects.

*(Vicinity Map Below and Literature Available)*


**Lower San Joaquin River Urban Flood Protection Project - Feasibility Study (continued)**



### LOWER SAN JOAQUIN RIVER URBAN FLOOD PROTECTION FEASIBILITY STUDY

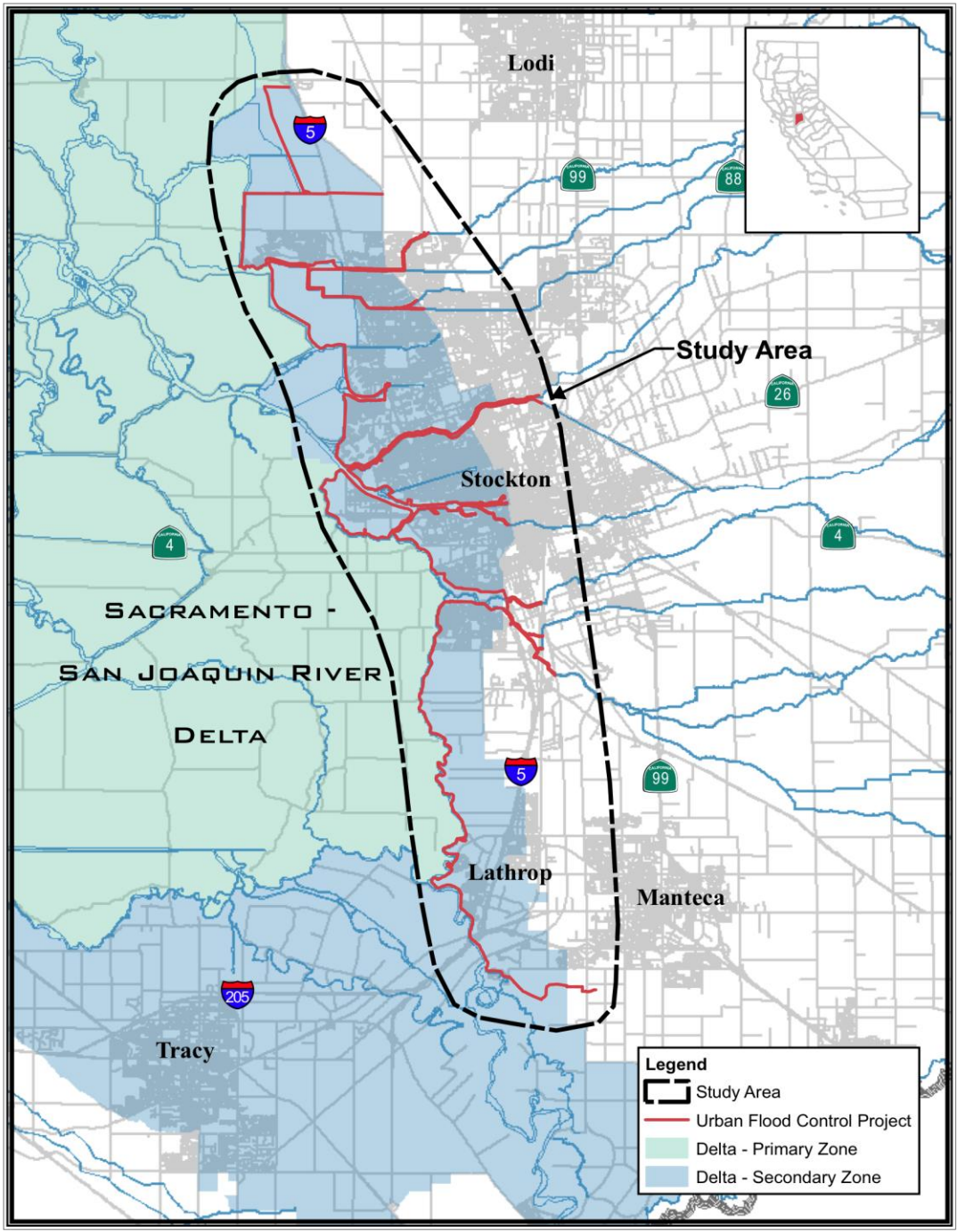
San Joaquin County Public Works Geographic Information Systems  
1810 East Hazelton Avenue, Stockton, CA 95205

The information on this map is based on the most current information available to San Joaquin County Geographic Information Systems.  
The County of San Joaquin does not warrant its accuracy or suitability for any particular purpose.  
The information on this map is not intended to replace engineering, financial or primary records research.



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## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES ~ Delta

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sigov.org](mailto:tflinn@sigov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### 2. Title: Delta Water Solution

**Issue:** San Joaquin County supports legislative and regulatory efforts toward a more sustainable water supply approach as developed in the Water Plan for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (Central Delta Water Agency) while opposing the development of a Peripheral Canal or a similar isolated water conveyance facility as the solution to the State's water supply needs.

#### **Legislative Platform:**

1. **Strongly seek and advocate in support of legislation, regulations, policies, budgetary appropriations, and related efforts and activities which would:**

- a. **Advance San Joaquin County's Delta Legislative Objectives (Pages 13-15), San Joaquin County's Better Way (Appendix A – Pages 81-84), the Delta Counties Coalition Statement of Principles (Page 16), and The California Partnership for San Joaquin Valley Resolution in Support of the Partnership-Sponsored Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Framework (Appendix B – Pages 85-86).**
- b. **Pursue regional water solutions, and limit exports of water from the Delta to only surplus water.**
- c. **Support the statewide water right priority system, Delta water rights and quality protection, riparian use, and local control and management of groundwater resources.**
- d. **Provide that new water supplies be developed through greater conservation, recycling, conjunctive use of ground and surface water, desalinization of brackish and ocean waters, local water storage, water reclamation, and improved management of flood waters for the recharge of over-drafted groundwater basins.**
- e. **Provide for the development of local and regional water resource management activities, and utilize local water projects for improved conjunctive use, recharge capability, and groundwater storage.**
- f. **Strengthen Delta levees, including the installation of gates and other facilities, at strategic locations, to improve sustainability of the Delta.**

2. **Aggressively oppose legislative, regulatory, and administrative efforts (including water plans) which would include the development of a Peripheral Canal or isolated water conveyance facility in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.**



## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES ~ Delta

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### Delta Legislative Objectives

#### 1. The specific areas of legislative interests for San Joaquin County are:

##### A. **Water:**

- 1) Water Rights, including, but not limited to, maintenance of common pool of water in the Delta, water rights priorities, area of origin protection;
- 2) Supply, including, but not limited to, defining Delta quantities and use, diversions; establishing minimum flows into and out of the Delta sufficient for all in-Delta needs; meeting needs for agriculture, species maintenance and enhancement, municipal and industrial operation; increased storage;
- 3) Quality, including, but not limited to, temperature, salinity, turbidity;
- 4) Conveyance: through Delta; no isolated facility.

B. **Flood Control**, including, but not limited to, urban flood control, channel maintenance, levee maintenance and improvement, flood plain management.

C. **Agricultural economy**, including, but not limited to, protection of property rights and tax base.

D. **Infrastructure**, including, but not limited to, levee maintenance and improvement.

E. **Governance**, including local governmental involvement/control of Delta land use, activities and operations.

F. **Funding**, including, but not limited to, Delta planning and maintenance efforts, habitat protection and maintenance efforts, emergency services, levees, flood control and water projects.

**Mitigation** of all negative effects of actions taken pursuant to any Federal, State, local or other public agency plan, project, operation or activity in or related to the Delta or the County.

#### 2. Potential near term actions to be pursued:

A. San Joaquin County's "Better Way" approach.

B. Completion of studies and related plans, projects and activities, including, but not limited to, flood control, Delta flows, salinity, temperature, water quantity and usage, flood plain management.



## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES ~ Delta

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### Delta Legislative Objectives *(continued)*

#### 3. Points for Legislation

A. Minimum flow quantities and usage in and from the Delta are determined by scientifically validated, peer reviewed studies approved by an appropriate governance body(s) such as Delta Protection Commission (DPC) and/or the Delta Conservancy and/or the Delta Stewardship Council, and incorporated into the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan.

B. Flood management, including the Central Valley flood plan, are determined by scientifically validated, peer reviewed, studies approved by an appropriate governance body(s) such as DPC and/or the Delta Conservancy and/or the Delta Stewardship Council, and incorporated into the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan.

C. Delta water in-flow and out-flow, temperature, and salinity studies necessary for aquatic and terrestrial species, agriculture, municipal, and industrial use in the Delta and Suisun Marsh are determined by scientifically validated, peer reviewed, studies approved by an appropriate governance body(s) such as DPC and/or the Delta Conservancy and/or the Delta Stewardship Council and incorporated into the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan.

D. Physical integrity and long term viability of Delta levees with the goal of long term protection of all interests in the Delta, including those which do not pertain to conveyance, is to be determined by scientifically validated, peer reviewed, studies approved by an appropriate governance body(s) such as DPC and/or the Delta Conservancy and/or the Delta Stewardship Council and incorporated into the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan.

E. Near term actions to improve the quality and quantity of the Delta waters, including, but not limited to, such projects as a proposed 2-gate solution, Delta Corridors, etc., completed and put into operation and results evaluated and incorporated into the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan.

F. Construction, permitting, and operation of storage capacity to create additional 5 million acre feet per year of firm water, surplus to the needs of the Delta, for use in the State Water Project, using a series of off-stream multi-purpose (flood control, ground water recharge, surface storage) reservoirs in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys.

G. Revise State system of water operations, including:

- i. appropriate separation of State Agencies' adjudicatory and regulatory authorities so that State Agencies have transparent and independent authority;



## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES ~ Delta

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### Delta Legislative Objectives *(continued)*

ii. creation of a State entity with utility-like authority and process, for governance of the operation of State Water Project and the Central Valley Project, as appropriate to and consistent with established water rights and area of origin protections;

iii. creation of a water master type of public official appointed by the California Supreme Court to independently inspect State and Federal water facility operations and to independently ensure that those operations are in conformity with existing water rights and priorities, area and watershed of origin law, common pool theory; diversion water from the Delta only in amounts surplus to the needs of the Delta; flow, salinity and temperature control necessary for aquatic and terrestrial species. The water master would be sufficiently and continuously funded by the State or State water facility users. The water master would have authority to hire staff, including legal counsel independent of State Attorney General. The water master would have authority to institute legal action in a special 5 member judicial forum having original jurisdiction with de novo hearing process. The special forum would consist of 5 Justices, one each from the 5 California Courts of Appeal, appointed by the Supreme Court.

H. Any Delta Plan shall be based, at a minimum, on recognition of, adherence to, and enforcement of existing water rights and priorities, area and watershed of origin law, common pool theory; diversion water from the Delta only in amounts surplus to the needs of the Delta; flow, salinity and temperature control necessary for aquatic and terrestrial species; protection of public and private property and infrastructure; continued State participation in maintenance and improvement of Delta levees; maintenance of economic viability of Delta agricultural land and agricultural land use, protection of local governance and County prerogatives, including land use, public revenues, public health and safety, economic development and agricultural stability; Delta as a Place concepts and goals.

I. Any Delta Conservancy shall adhere to the minimum standards set forth above for any Delta Plan and shall conduct its activities in a manner which supports local agriculture, tourism, economic sustainability, recreation and local governmental control. The State Secretary of Agriculture should be a member of any governing board of such a Conservancy.

J. Funding in the full amount necessary for water storage and conveyance projects, groundwater recharge projects, flood plain management projects, and flood control projects in the Mokelumne, Calaveras and Stanislaus Rivers watersheds.

K. Funding in the full amount necessary for emergency response and emergency levee maintenance efforts to deal with threats to the integrity of Delta levees.



## **Delta Counties Coalition**

Contra Costa County · Sacramento County · San Joaquin County · Solano County · Yolo County  
*"Working together on water and Delta issues"*

### **Statement of Principles Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (2009)**

The five counties of the Delta Counties Coalition (DCC) have each adopted the following principles that describe their joint interests on the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and Greater Bay-Delta Estuary. The DCC believes that the management of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and greater Bay-Delta Estuary must:

- 1.** Protect and improve water quality and water quantity in the Delta region and maintain appropriate Delta out-flow for a healthy estuary;
- 2.** Protect the existing water right priority system and legislative protections established for the Delta;
- 3.** Respect and safeguard Delta Counties' responsibilities related to land use, water resources, flood management, tax revenues, public health and safety, economic development, agricultural stability, recreation, and environmental protection in any new Delta governance structures;
- 4.** Represent and include local government in any new governance structures for the Delta;
- 5.** Protect the economic viability of agriculture and the ongoing vitality of communities in the Delta;
- 6.** Support rehabilitation, improvement, and maintenance of levees throughout the Delta;
- 7.** Support the Delta pool concept; in which the common resource provides quality freshwater supply to all delta users, requiring mutual responsibility to maintain, restore, and protect the common resource;
- 8.** Support immediate improvements to through-Delta conveyance;
- 9.** Require that any water conveyance plan for the Delta be aligned with the principles established by this resolution and supported by clearly demonstrated improvement to the entire state's water management;
- 10.** Protect and restore the Delta ecosystem, including adequate water supply and quality to support it in perpetuity; and
- 11.** use, and regional self sufficiency as part of a state-wide improved flood management and water supply system.





## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES ~ Delta

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### **Delta Water Solutions (continued)**

#### ***Regional Efforts:***

San Joaquin County continues to actively participate in local and regional efforts in seeking a comprehensive and sustainable solution to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The San Joaquin County's regional efforts include participation in the Delta Counties Coalition (DCC). The DCC, is a consortium of the California counties (Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo) working to give one voice to the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (Delta), advocating on behalf of the affected local governments and the four million residents of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The DCC's central tenet is that a comprehensive plan must provide for a secure, sustainable water supply, and ensure the quality and reliability of that supply, not just for Southern California, but for the four million Californians who reside in our five counties as well. A comprehensive solution must also include support for flood control and the maintenance of levees in the Delta, provide for the restoration of the Delta's ecosystem and the health of species native to the Delta, and sustain the communities and the economy of the Delta, most notably agriculture and recreation. Finally, a comprehensive plan must be based on validated and peer-reviewed science and represent and include an equal voice from local government in any new governance structures, if established, for the Delta, and will protect and affirm water right priorities and area-of-origin protections established under state law. These objectives, which are part of eleven adopted principles that form the basis of the DCC position will provide for a more sustainable water system and a healthy Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta in the future.

San Joaquin County is also a member of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership). Established in 2005, the Partnership includes eight San Joaquin Valley Counties - Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare. The Partnership's focus is on improving the region's economic vitality and quality-of-life in the region. The Partnership has 10 workgroups, one of which is: Water Quality, Supply and Reliability. On October 22, 2009, the eight San Joaquin Valley counties realizing that they have much more in common with regards to a sustainable water supply of adequate quality and commitment to sustained flood protection, adopted a resolution in support of Partnership-Sponsored Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Framework. (Appendix B - Page 85)



## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES ~ Delta

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### **Delta Water Solutions** *(continued)*

#### **Background:**

With nearly two-thirds of the Delta located in San Joaquin County, one of the County's priorities is the protection of the quantity and quality of water available within the Delta, and the significant negative impacts that a Peripheral Canal or similar facility would have on the County's infrastructure, economy, wildlife, recreation, and the fragile Delta environment. This issue has been further exacerbated by the Delta Vision Process, and the Preliminary Recommendations Report that includes two primary visions for the Delta, the Flexible Delta and the resilient Adaptive Delta. While this effort has outlined possible approaches that may help the Delta to meet future beneficial use demands, it also revives and calls for studies, modeling, and investigations into the benefits of an isolated water conveyance facility or Peripheral Canal.

San Joaquin County has long been concerned about the possible impacts of the construction of a Peripheral Canal or a similar isolated water transfer facility to carry the Sacramento River water around the Delta to State and federal pumps. Since 1982, the SJC Board of Supervisors (Board) has opposed the authorization, funding, and construction of what was then the proposed Peripheral Canal (SB 200-1982), and urged a "No" vote on Proposition 9 on the June 1982 ballot. The County's position was again re-asserted by the Board in 1992. The Board reaffirmed its opposition to the development of a Peripheral Canal, or other isolated water conveyance facility on September 18, 2007 (Resolution 07-534, Appendix C - Page 87).



## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES ~ Water

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### 3. **Title:** New Water Supplies for San Joaquin County – Mokelumne River Regional Water Storage and Conjunctive Use Project (MORE Water Project)

#### **Legislative Project Appropriations Request:**

1. **Seek and support a \$1.0 million budgetary appropriation to provide funding assistance for the MORE Water Project (Project authorized by Public Law 109-338 on October 12, 2006).**
2. **Seek inclusion of report language included in the Senate 2011 Energy & Water appropriations bill which would broaden the MORE Water study to include the entire Mokelumne River watershed, and to consider recommendations included in the Eastern San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan in examining the feasibility of providing additional water supplies, and improving water management reliability through the development of new water storage and conjunctive use programs.**

**Appropriations Request:** \$1.0 million

**Total Project Cost:** Not yet determined

**Background:** The reliability of the region's water supply is being threatened by groundwater pumping exceeding natural re-charge amounts in the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Basin (Basin). This pumping is causing groundwater elevations to progressively lower, the result of which may be a contributing factor to the saline water intrusion along the western boundary of the region. Eastern San Joaquin County relies on groundwater for much of its water supply, and plans to continue the use of groundwater into the future. The greatest depression in groundwater levels appears centered below Stockton East Water District's service area, and could be up to 90 feet below sea level. Damage to the aquifer system due to saline water intrusion, withdrawal of groundwater from storage, and potentially, subsidence and aquifer consolidation, could be irreversible. The loss of the Basin as a viable water source could damage the region's economy, including a multi-billion dollar agricultural industry, and growing commercial and residential developments.

Water agencies in San Joaquin County are developing projects to address the groundwater overdraft and saline intrusion issues, of which the MORE Water Project is one. The purpose of MORE Water is to capture unappropriated flows from the Mokelumne River, and regulate supply to an integrated system of conjunctive use projects to provide additional water supply and reliability for San Joaquin County, and potentially, throughout a greater inter-regional area.



## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES ~ Water

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### **Federal Action Taken:**

On October 12, 2006, the President signed Public Law 109-338 (S 203-109<sup>th</sup> Congress) authorizing the Secretary, through the Bureau of Reclamation, to complete “*a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a project to provide additional water supply and improve water management reliability through the development of new water storage and conjunctive use programs*”. S 203 includes a \$3.3 million federal cost-share to conduct studies to determine the feasibility of constructing the MORE Water Project.

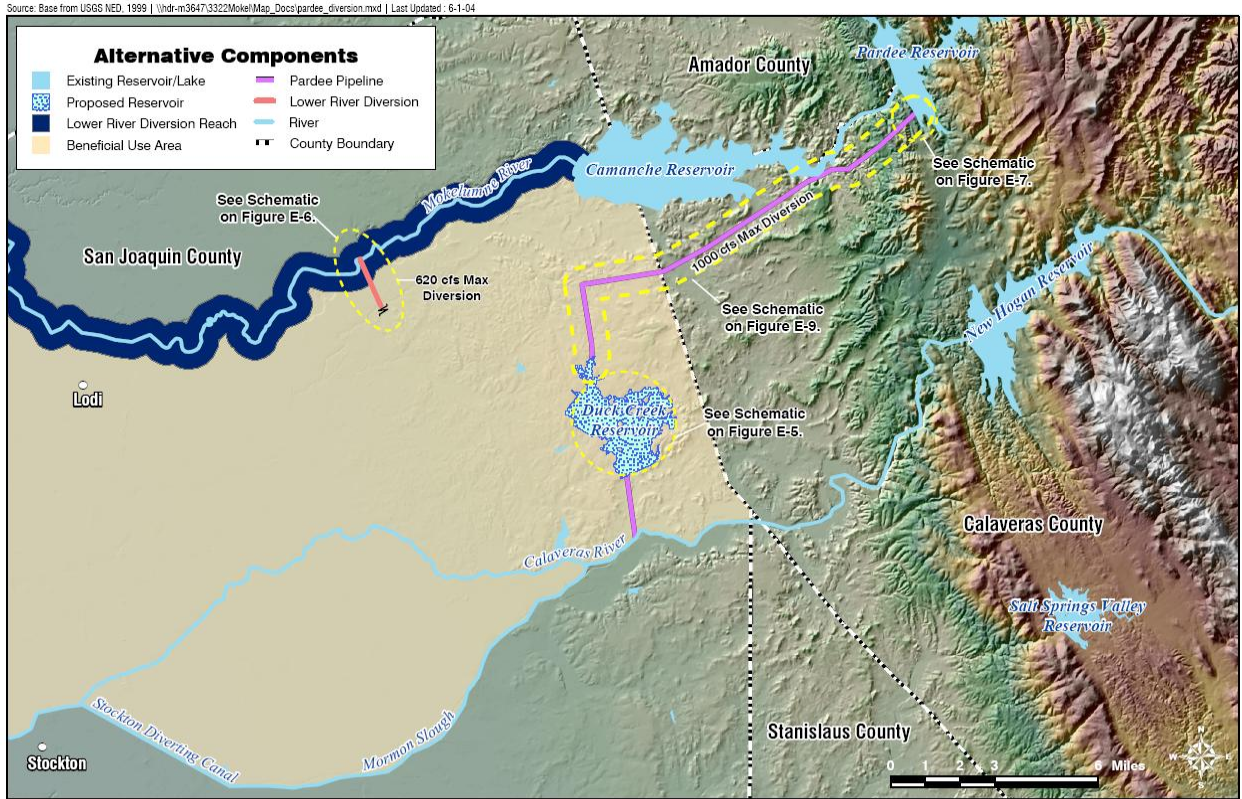
In August 2007, the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, released the MORE Water Project Appraisal Report. In summary, the findings of the Appraisal Report determined that:

1. “The MORE Water Project meets the requirements for advancing to a Feasibility Study.”
2. “The MORE Water Project is one of few surface water resource projects that can be developed within San Joaquin County to provide new supply.”
3. A range of economic benefits is possible with the MORE Water Project:
  - a) Reduced groundwater over-drafting;
  - b) Improved water quality; and
  - c) Additional benefits including reduced flood damages and improved ecosystem conditions.
4. The benefit-to-cost ratios suggest that benefits exceed costs and that the alternatives with the highest benefit-to-cost ratios are also among the more cost-effective.
5. There is a “Federal Interest” in the MORE Water Project.

The 2011 federal appropriation request of \$1.0 million will be utilized to initiate Reclamation’s participation in the MORE Water Feasibility Study, and will be directed to the first two tasks of their investigations – the Initial Alternatives Information Report, the Plan Formulation Report, and to start the full-year of biological surveys and other environmental analysis required for the Project’s Environmental Impact Study/Environmental Impact Report. The two tasks will be completed in a 12-18 month timeframe.

*(Project Literature Available)*

**MORE Water Project (Mokelumne River Regional Water Storage and Conjunctive Use Project) - (continued)**



**Duck Creek Dam & Reservoir Construction - Pardee Reservoir Diversion**



## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES ~ Airport

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ STOCKTON METROPOLITAN AIRPORT

Contact: Susan L. Palmeri, Airport Director; E-Mail: [spalmeri@sjgov.org](mailto:spalmeri@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-4709

#### 4. **Title:** Stockton Metropolitan Airport - Upgrade of Instrument Landing System

**Legislative Project Appropriations Request:** Seek, advocate, and support a \$5.1 million budgetary appropriation to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to support an upgrade to the Stockton Metropolitan Airport's Category I Instrument Landing System.

**Appropriations Request:** \$5.1 million  
**Total Project Cost:** Approximately \$5.1 million

**Background:** The Stockton Metropolitan Airport (Airport), located in the San Joaquin Valley, is uniquely poised to become a major commercial service, air cargo, and agricultural goods export hub for northern and central California. The Airport currently serves corporate, commercial, and general aviation aircraft. The Airport can accommodate large jet transports via a 10,650-foot primary instrument runway and a 4,458-foot general aviation runway.

During the fall and winter months a thick fog, known as tule fog, often develops in the San Joaquin Valley during the night and reduces visibility often making it difficult for aircraft to land. An upgrade to the current instrument approach will maximize the Airport's ability to increase accessibility during inclement weather conditions and reduce landing limits. This Project will upgrade the current Category I Instrument Landing System (ILS) to a Category II ILS. A Category II ILS will reduce the approach limits from 200 to 100 feet above the runway elevation, and reduce the visibility requirements from one-half to one-quarter mile back from the runway – a major improvement to the Airport's current instrument approach system.

The Airport will benefit from upgrading its ILS in that it will: 1) Be better able to attract aviation tenants requiring low visibility operations, specifically air cargo and passenger airlines; 2) Provide congestion relief for Bay Area airports (SFO/San Francisco, OAK/Oakland) that are expected to reach capacity in the near future; 3) Spur economic development in the Central Valley by generating additional high-paying aviation jobs; 4) Offer new opportunities which will aid in the County's economic recovery and future development; and 5) Provide the option for aviation to become a new target industry for the surrounding area.

In January 2009, the FAA conducted a study to investigate if the current Category I ILS at the Airport could accommodate Category II approach operations. The investigation resulted in the Airport being placed on the FAA's list, along with several other airports awaiting an upgrade.



## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES ~ Transportation

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### 5. Title: State Route 4 Corridor Improvements Project

**Legislative Project Appropriations Request: Seek, advocate, and support a \$5.0 million budgetary appropriation to provide funding assistance for the State Route 4 Corridor Improvements Project.**

**Appropriations Request: \$5.0 million**

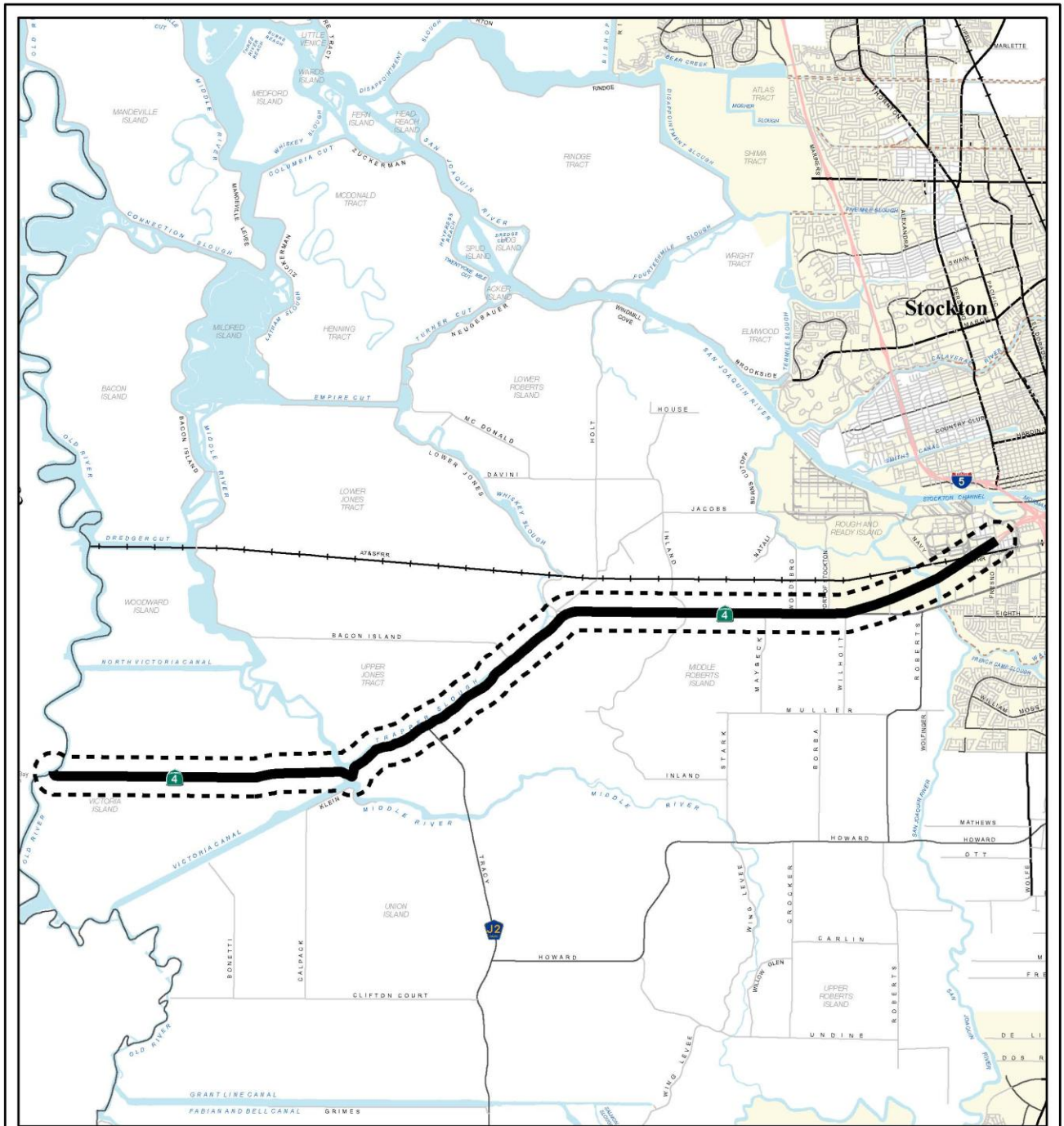
**Total Project Cost: \$20.0 million**

**Background:** State Route (SR) 4 is a state highway in California, routed from Interstate 80 in the San Francisco Bay Area to SR 89 in the Sierra Nevada. SR 4 begins in the City of Hercules (Bay Area) at which point it becomes a full freeway (the California Delta Highway) passing the cities of Concord, Pittsburg, and Antioch. After Antioch, the freeway becomes SR 160, and SR 4 separates to become a suburban and rural road passing through the Bay Areas outermost eastern suburbs (cities of Oakley and Brentwood). SR 4 continues to the City of Stockton, in San Joaquin County, where it briefly joins Interstate 5, then enters a separate freeway routing almost directly through downtown Stockton. SR 4 then runs concurrent with SR 99 before heading eastward into the Sierra, and ends at SR 89 on the California–Nevada border.

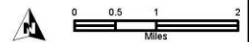
Currently, SR 4 in San Joaquin County is a two-lane rural road overburdened with automobile and truck traffic, causing congestion as well as operational and safety problems. In the event of a flood in the Delta, such as the one that occurred on Jones Tract in June 2004, SR 4 would be used as an evacuation route. The Project would widen SR 4 from a two-lane road to four lanes. The improvements to SR 4 in and near San Joaquin County would provide much needed commuting capacity for San Joaquin County and eastern Contra Costa County commuters, as well as safety and operational improvements to the corridor.

*(Vicinity Map Below, and Project Literature Available)*

**State Route 4 Corridor Improvements Project (continued)**



**Legend:**  Project  City Limits



**STATE ROUTE 4  
CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS**

**SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY**

Department of Public Works, 1810 E. Hazelton Ave., Stockton, CA 95205  
The County of San Joaquin does not warrant the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any particular purpose.  
The information on this map is not intended to replace engineering, financial or primary records research.







## **County of San Joaquin**

### **2010 Federal Legislative Platform**

#### **General Legislative Policy Guidelines**

##### **Administration**

- 1) Support a second economic stimulus/jobs proposal, which would provide assistance to the County in meeting the needs of our residents, including additional Medicaid funding and other resources for the provision of vital local government services, as well as a stimulus package, which would include funding for infrastructure projects essential to the sustainability of communities.
- 2) Advocate for maximum federal financial support and local flexibility in the administration of Federally-mandated programs.
- 3) Support funding to cover the costs of unfunded federal mandates on state and local governments, as well as legislation to reduce burdensome and unnecessary regulatory and administrative requirements of federal programs.
- 4) Advocate for, and support maximum flexibility, simplification, and financial support in federal legislative and regulatory requirements.
- 5) Seek federal reimbursement for the County's costs associated with services to undocumented immigrants, including incarceration, public safety, and medical services.
- 6) Maintain close relationships with San Joaquin County's legislative delegation to foster more effective advocacy and understanding of San Joaquin County's issues.
- 7) Respond as timely and effectively as possible to legislative issues both by Board action and, if time constraints exist, by the affected department heads with the concurrence of the County Administrator. If consideration by the Board of Supervisors is not feasible, the County Administrator will notify the Board.
- 8) Oppose legislation that would permit states to pass penalties imposed on them by the federal government onto local agencies unless the penalties were incurred by the local agencies.
- 9) Support legislative and administrative efforts to ensure protection of the deductibility of state and local taxes, as well as interest, on tax exempt bonds.

**Administration (continued):**

- 10) Oppose the Internal Revenue Service's proposed regulation (Section 511, PL 109-222) published on December 5, 2008, requiring local government to withhold a 3% tax for goods and services contracts beginning in 2011, and support legislative efforts to repeal the tax withholding requirement.

**Administration of Justice**

- 11) Support federal funding and equitable distribution of funding for local public safety efforts, including law enforcement, drug courts, juvenile justice, delinquency prevention and intervention, counter-terrorism programs, and construction and operation of incarceration facilities.
- 12) Support legislation and budgetary proposals to provide programs to address gang violence in San Joaquin County.

**Agriculture**

- 13) Support legislation and budgetary proposals which would provide funding assistance to local agencies for the development of strategies for prevention, preparedness, and combat Agro-terrorism and dangers posed by invasive species, imported pests, and other threats posed to our agricultural economy.

**Emergency Services ~ Flood Response**

- 14) Seek, advocate, and support regional coordination of federal, state, and local agencies' efforts to patrol levees to identify and respond to threats to levee integrity.
- 15) Encourage federal and state agencies to facilitate the development of systems for the centralization and dispatch of materials/supplies needed to prevent a levee failure or to minimize flooding in the event of a levee failure.
- 16) Encourage the Federal Emergency Management Agency to work with the State of California to remove regulatory and other administrative rules which currently impede local, state, and federal agencies in responding to a levee issue.

**Health Care**

- 17) Advocate for federal health care and public health funding formulas that equitably reflect the Central Valley of California's demographics, population characteristics, and health burdens.
- 18) Seek to preserve and expand Medicare, Medicaid, and other federal funding for health care programs, while aggressively opposing funding reductions in these programs.
- 19) Oppose legislation or regulations which would result in unfunded federal mandates, and/or decrease in funding of safety-net health care services provided by county government.

**Health Care (continued):**

- 20) Support legislative efforts and budgetary proposals, which would create new and expanded health-related training/education programs in the Central Valley to address critical shortages of licensed and/or ancillary health care staff, including physicians, nurses, and public health staff.
- 21) Support funding for health-training loans, grants, and scholarship programs, such as those provided for in the Public Health Service Act (Nurse Reinvestment Act of 2002), including nursing faculty; an increase in funding for workforce outreach and development in schools and the community.
- 22) Support budgetary proposals for local health programs which would: a) address chronic health conditions, b) support and enhance local disease control and prevention, c) provide a sustainable disease control and outbreak response infrastructure that would include epidemiology, surveillance, investigation, and response, and d) support emergency and bio-terrorism preparedness, response, and infrastructure development to address public health threats and emergencies.
- 23) Seek and support legislation and budgetary proposals for the enhancement of local health care information technology infrastructure to improve patient safety as well as the quality and efficiency of the local health care delivery system.
- 24) Advocate in support of policies, which promote healthy eating, and increase access to opportunities for physical activity.
- 25) Support legislation and/or budgetary proposals which would: a) provide increased State funding for maternal, child, and adolescent health programs, b) protect children from environmental risks to their health, such as unintentional injuries, lead poisoning, and air quality, and c) ensure that women and adolescents have access to the unique prevention and health care services needed.

**Human Services**

- 26) Support simplification, flexibility, and lessening of federal benefits restrictions pertaining to the requirements of income maintenance and social services programs.
- 27) Support legislation or budgetary actions which would allow for the pass-through of Federal Older Americans Act funding to local Area Agencies on Aging even though the State Budget is delayed past the start of the State fiscal year.

**Public Works**

- 28) Support maximum federal funding participation directly to local agencies for various infrastructure projects critical to the economic vitality of San Joaquin County.

**Public Works** *(continued)*:

*Flood Protection*

- 29) Advocate and support legislation which would require coordinated planning and funding levels to provide comprehensive levee evaluations and improvements (including project and non-project levees) to achieve enhanced urban flood protection statewide.
- 30) Aggressively oppose legislative efforts to shift federal and/or state flood control liability or obligations to local agencies.

*While it is necessary for local agencies to act responsibly when approving development in and near existing floodplains, it is inappropriate to subject local agencies, which approve development in a manner consistent with existing law, to liability for flood damages due to conditions over which the agencies have no control.*

- 31) Support legislation and/or regulations which would reduce local impacts related to Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate floodplain mapping changes.
- 32) Support legislation or regulatory changes which would mandate coordination between state and federal agencies relative to flood protection and floodplain management regulations.
- 33) Oppose legislative or regulatory efforts which would impose arbitrary increases in flood protection standards without sufficient feasibility studies, including financial impacts and identification of funding sources for local implementation.
- 34) Oppose legislation or regulatory changes which would result in a duplication of efforts between local, state, and federal floodplain administrators with regard to the evaluation of community development projects.
- 35) Support legislative, regulatory, and budgetary efforts to provide additional surface water storage projects that would provide improved flood control, water supply, and environmental uses.
- 36) Oppose amendments to the National Flood Insurance Program reauthorization to mandate flood insurance coverage in “residual risk” areas.

*Transportation*

- 37) Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budgetary appropriations which would provide increased federal and state roadway funding levels to local agencies.
- 38) Advocate for California’s fair share of contributions from the Federal Highway Trust Fund.
- 39) Advocate for counties and cities to share equitably in the growth of federal revenues available to California for the network of local roads.

**Public Works** *(continued)*:

- 40) Continue to support legislation and/or budgetary proposals which would provide dedicated funding to address local transportation needs, including bridge maintenance projects.

*Water*

- 41) Support legislation and/or regulatory reform which would address groundwater overdraft issues in the Northeastern region of San Joaquin County.
- 42) Support legislation and/or regulatory reform which would serve to restore the San Joaquin River in-stream flows to the Delta in accordance with the San Joaquin County Water Management Plan and the Northeastern San Joaquin Groundwater Basin Groundwater Management Plan.
- 43) Advocate and support legislative or regulatory efforts which would provide for the use of surface water to recharge critically over-drafted groundwater basins.

*Regulatory Reform*

- 44) Support regulatory changes which would require an economic evaluation and finding of a positive benefit-to-cost ratio before new regulations are implemented.

**Solid Waste**

- 45) Support legislation which would provide for extended producer responsibility or funding for the development and implementation of product recycling programs.
- 46) Support legislation which would provide incentives for development of “landfill gas to energy”, “waste to energy”, and streamline the permitting process.
- 47) Oppose legislation which would impose new solid waste disposal requirements on local government unless the funding mechanisms needed to implement are provided.
- 48) Oppose legislation or regulatory reform requiring municipal landfills (Class III) to accept semi-hazardous wastes, including medical or radioactive waste products.
- 49) Support legislation which would provide: a) local control of where locally produced wastes are disposed, for the purpose of assuring waste diversion mandates are met, and b) adequate funding for that legislation.
- 50) Support legislation which would require that state and federal facilities comply with state-imposed waste diversion mandates, or provide local jurisdictions relief from diversion mandates for waste over which they have no control.

**Veteran Services**

- 51) Support congressional efforts to expand Veterans Affairs health care benefits to include Priority 8 veterans.



## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS ~ Public Safety

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Contact: Jerry Becker, Information Systems Director; E-Mail: [jbecker@sjgov.org](mailto:jbecker@sjgov.org); (209) 468-3960

### 6. **Title: Public Safety Communication Project**

#### **Legislative Project Appropriations Request:**

**Seek, advocate, and support a \$2,858,500 budgetary appropriation to provide funding assistance for the San Joaquin County's regional Public Safety Communication Project.**

**Appropriations Request: \$2,858,500**

**Total Project Cost: \$26.3 million**

**Background:** First Responders/Public Safety entities within San Joaquin County have difficulty effectively communicating with each other during an emergency. Radio technology is the primary communication tool used by First Responders in San Joaquin County; however, the radio technologies and frequencies used by the various agencies within the County do not effectively support communications between the various agencies during an emergency.

To address this problem, all First Responders and Public Safety agencies in San Joaquin County have worked together to develop a Master Radio Communications Plan. The Master Radio Communications Plan articulates a vision for how all First Responders and Public Safety entities in the County would effectively communicate in an emergency involving multiple agencies and the steps necessary to achieve this vision. The Master Radio Communications Plan has been approved and adopted by all First Responders and Public Safety entities in San Joaquin County, and will be implemented in phases. The requested funding will help the region begin to realize the goals established in the Master Radio Communications Plan – goals that focus on delivering a fully interoperable radio system for all emergency responders in San Joaquin County.

The Master Radio Communications Plan will be implemented in stages. Since San Joaquin County geographically spans an area that covers the requirements for all agencies within the County boundaries, the first phase of the project is to establish communication sites as a building block for the digital radio system infrastructure. Phase II includes the provision and installation of digital radio equipment at existing and new communication sites for countywide coverage. Phase III is the conversion of the infrastructure to 450 mhz digital trunking technology to allow for the migration of other agencies to the system. Phase IV includes the implementation and installation of the subscriber radio units for agencies to join the system. Phase V consists of adding radio channels to allow all of the City of Stockton's public safety units access to the infrastructure to complete the project.

*(Project Literature Available)*



## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS ~ Agricultural Center

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Contact: Gabriel Karam, Director; E-Mail: [gkaram@sjgov.org](mailto:gkaram@sjgov.org) (209) 468-2181

### 7. **Title:** San Joaquin County Agricultural Center Solar Energy Project

#### **Legislative Project Appropriations Request:**

**Seek, advocate, and support a \$2.5 million budgetary appropriation to provide funding assistance for Phase II of the County's Agricultural Center Solar Energy Project.**

**Appropriations Request:** \$2.5 million

**Total Project Cost:** \$31.0 million

**Background:** San Joaquin County has constructed a new Agricultural Center to consolidate the Agricultural Commissioner, University of California (UC) Cooperative Extension, and the Office of Emergency Services. The Agricultural Commissioner's Office enforces the provisions of the California Food and Agricultural Code for the protection of public health, safety, and welfare, and to promote and protect the County's agricultural industry. The UC Cooperative Extension functions under a cooperative agreement between the University of California, Division of Agricultural and Natural Resources, and the County. The Office of Emergency Services is responsible for the planning and management of emergency and disaster situations.

The Agricultural Center Solar Energy Project includes the procurement and installation of a solar electric generating system designed to eventually produce approximately 85% of the Center's electrical usage. In 2008, the County received a \$490,000 federal appropriation which was utilized for Phase I of the Solar Energy Project. Phase I of the project is anticipated to offset approximately 15% of the Center's expected electric usage. The County's request for \$2.5 million is for Phase II of the Project which, together with Phase I, is anticipated to offset close to 100% of the Agricultural Center's expected electric usage. Phase I was designed to accommodate expansion of the Center's solar electric generating system. Therefore, Phase II is "ready-to-go", only pending funding. In addition, National Environmental Policy Act and California Environmental Quality Act environmental clearances have already been secured for both Phase I and Phase II.



## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS ~ Airport

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ STOCKTON METROPOLITAN AIRPORT

Contact: Susan L. Palmeri, Airport Director; E-Mail: [spalmeri@sjfov.org](mailto:spalmeri@sjfov.org) Ph. (209) 468-4709

### 8. **Title:** Stockton Metropolitan Airport – Taxiway Delta and Associated Cross Taxiways

**Legislative Project Appropriations Request:** Seek, advocate, and support a \$542,000 budgetary appropriation from the Federal Aviation Administration to support the design and engineering of a Taxiway Delta and associated cross taxiways at the Stockton Metropolitan Airport.

**Appropriations Request:** \$542,000

**Total Project Cost:** \$570,000

**Background:** San Joaquin County has entered into a development agreement to build upon approximately 550 acres of property including an estimated 250 acres of Stockton Metropolitan Airport property. Aircraft in the new development would need access to and from the runway. Therefore, it is necessary to complete the design and engineering for a Taxiway Delta and associated cross taxiways. The Taxiway Delta and Cross Taxiways Project will provide “roads” needed for aircraft traffic to flow between the runway and the other areas of the Airport.

The Stockton Metropolitan Airport currently serves corporate, commercial, and general aviation aircraft. The Airport can accommodate large jet transports via a 10,650-foot primary instrument runway and a 4,458-foot general aviation runway. Taxiway Delta will increase the safety and utility of the Airport and will be a critical catalyst for additional aviation development.





## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS ~ Law & Justice

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Contact: Patty Mazzelli, Chief Probation Officer • E-Mail: pmazzelli@cojsoy.org Ph: (209) 468-4063

### 9. Title: Construction of a New Juvenile Camp Project

**Legislative Project Appropriations Request:** Seek, advocate, and support a \$5.0 million budgetary appropriation to provide funding assistance for the construction of a new juvenile camp.

**Appropriations Request:** \$5.0 million

**Total Project Cost:** \$8.5 million

**Background:** San Joaquin County continues to experience a high juvenile crime rate. Based on the most recent year of available data (2007) from the California Department of Justice, the County's overall juvenile crime rate of 6,864 arrests per 100,000 juveniles was the second highest of any county in the State of California with a juvenile population in excess of 50,000. For juvenile felony arrests, the County rate was the second highest in the State for misdemeanor arrests per 100,000 in counties with a juvenile population in excess of 50,000.

To address this continuing problem, the County has introduced a number of collaborative juvenile crime prevention and intervention strategies, in addition to broadening its array of available sanctions. In 1998, the County expanded its continuum of graduated sanctions for juvenile offenders to include a 45-bed camp program on the grounds of Juvenile Hall. The Camp is designed for males ages 14 to 18 and operates as a 180-360 day commitment (post adjudication) program for the Juvenile Court. The camp program allows the County to keep juvenile offenders in the local community who might otherwise be placed in the California Division of Juvenile Justice or in expensive out-of-county or out-of-state offender programs.

Currently, the Juvenile Camp is available only for males. The Juvenile Camp Project would increase the Camp capacity from the current 45 to 60 beds, and allow the inclusion of females in the program. In recent years, State funds allocated for construction of juvenile facilities have emphasized the construction of high-security beds. The County constructed three high-security units over the past few years with assistance from State funding. The County has applied repeatedly for funding to replace the juvenile camp, but has not been funded due to the emphasis put on maximum-security facilities. Both maximum-security pre-disposition beds and post-disposition juvenile camp beds are needed. Additionally, San Joaquin County cannot offer the same continuum of sanctions for its female population as it does for its male population due to the design of the existing camp facility. A local camp program for female minors would provide the Court with another option prior to costly out-of-home placement and provide opportunity for family involvement at the local level.

*(Project Literature Available)*



## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY  
Contact: Kenneth Cohen, Director; E-Mail: [kcohen@sjgh.org](mailto:kcohen@sjgh.org); Ph. (209) 468-7031

### Overview

San Joaquin County's Health Care Services Agency (Agency) is the safety-net provider for the community. Due to fiscal constraints, the Agency is underinvested in information technology. Operating budgets have very limited capacities to fund major improvements and changes. The data infrastructure of the Agency has become less efficient in tracking the treatment of patients, maintaining accounts, and assuring appropriate revenue tracking. The Agency has developed a strategic plan for information technology services to guide the County's priorities given limited funding. State and federal government assistance toward technology improvements is essential in maintaining the viability of the Agency as a cost-effective safety-net provider. Following is the San Joaquin County's Health Care Services Agency's top health care technology project:

#### 10. **Title: Electronic Health Records System Project**

**Legislative Project Appropriations Request: Seek, advocate, and support a \$900,000 budgetary appropriations to fund the Electronic Health Records System Project.**

**Appropriations Request:** \$900,000

**Total Project Cost:** \$1.2 million

**Background:** The Clinical Data Repository is a web-enabled health care information system with wireless capabilities that brings together all clinical and financial data. This system provides a single point-of-entry for clinicians and other staff to obtain real-time information to support a patient's medical care. The system includes a Computerized Provider Order Entry system that allows for ordering tests and procedures and receiving results of those orders on-line. In short, this system creates patient-centric electronic medical records.

*(Project Literature Available)*



## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Contact: William Mitchell, Director; E-Mail: [wmitchell@sjcphs.gov](mailto:wmitchell@sjcphs.gov); Ph. (209) 468-3413

### 11. Title: Public Health Laboratory Project

**Legislative Project Appropriations Request: Seek, advocate, and support a \$5.0 million budgetary appropriation to provide funding assistance for a new local public health laboratory.**

**Appropriations Request:** \$5.0 million  
**Total Project Cost:** Approximately \$10.5 million

**Background:** A new state-of-the-art public health laboratory structure is needed on the Public Health Services complex. The San Joaquin County Public Health Laboratory has been designated as one of only a handful of Level B laboratories for the identification of agents that can be used as weapons of mass destruction. However, the existing facility is not sufficient for the necessary level of bio-containment capacity. The San Joaquin County Health Care Services Agency has developed, and is implementing, a bio-terrorism preparedness and public health infrastructure plan.

*(Project Literature Available)*

### 12. Title: Public Health Facility Expansion Project

**Legislative Project Appropriations Request: Seek, advocate, and support a \$5.0 million budgetary appropriation to provide funding assistance for new public health facilities.**

**Appropriations Request:** \$5.0 million  
**Total Project Cost:** Approximately \$17.6 million

**Background:** Many public health departments were constructed in the 1960s with Hill-Burton funds. These facilities are now outdated and insufficient to support current state-of-the-art public health efforts. The San Joaquin County Public Health facility was built 40 years ago and is far too small and in need of major repairs. The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors approved, in principle, the future building of Public Health facilities, giving priority to a new Public Health Laboratory (see item above). The primary objective is to: 1) Consolidate Public Health operations from currently leased space onto a single site, 2) Plan sufficient space for future growth, and 3) Partner with other stakeholders with regard to the programs and services offered.



## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES  
Contact: Kenneth Cohen, Director; E-Mail: [kcohen@sjgh.org](mailto:kcohen@sjgh.org); Ph. (209) 468-7031

### 13. **Title:** San Joaquin General Hospital Facility Replacement Project

**Legislative Project Appropriations Request:** Seek, advocate, and support a \$5.0 million budgetary appropriations to provide funding assistance for facility replacement for San Joaquin General Hospital.

**Appropriations Request:** \$5.0 million  
**Total Project Cost:** Approximately \$45.0 million

**Background:** The “Old Towers” Building at San Joaquin General Hospital was built in the early 1930’s and is well past the usual life span for a critical health facility. Although San Joaquin County requested and received an extension on the replacement of the building for seismic integrity until 2020, the continuous maintenance and deteriorating infrastructure of this facility is costly and inefficient to use. The replacement facility would provide state-of-the-art facilities for Neonatal Intensive Care and Obstetrics Post-Partum units.

### 14. **Title:** Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment Facility Project

**Legislative Project Appropriations Request:** Seek, advocate, and support a \$2.5 million budgetary appropriations to provide funding assistance for the construction of an Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment Facility.

**Appropriations Request:** \$2.5 million  
**Total Project Cost:** Approximately \$5.5 million

**Background:** For several years, San Joaquin County has identified a significant need for a residential substance abuse treatment facility for adolescents ages 14 to 18. Studies conducted conclude that methamphetamine appears to be the drug most used; however, alcohol is the major drug of choice among adolescents. It is estimated that approximately 2,000 San Joaquin County youths have a serious substance abuse problem and are in need of treatment. Currently, the only available option for adolescents is outpatient services. If an adolescent needs more than outpatient counseling, there are no available treatment options.

*(Project Literature Available)*



## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS ~ Facilities Management

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Contact: Gabriel Karam, Director; E-Mail: [gkaram@sjgov.org](mailto:gkaram@sjgov.org) (209) 468-2181

### 15. **Title:** Renewable Energy Project at the San Joaquin County Jail

**Legislative Project Appropriations Request:** Seek, advocate, and support a **\$10.0 million budgetary appropriation to provide funding assistance for the implementation of a renewable energy project at the San Joaquin County Jail.**

**Appropriations Request:** \$10.0 million  
**Total Project Cost:** Approximately \$20.0 million

**Background:** San Joaquin County is seeking federal funding assistance for the implementation of a renewable energy project at the County Jail. The proposed renewable energy project will lower the County's contribution to polluting greenhouse gas emissions and global warming, by creating clean, on-site power generation, lowering the County's dependence on California's utility grid, and providing the ability to directly match the size of the Project to meet the energy loads of the County.

The proposed Jail Renewable Energy Project consist of a 1 mega watt (MW) solar photovoltaic system to generate electricity on-site, and a 1 MW cogeneration system using fuel cells or reciprocating engines or micro turbines to also produce electricity and hot water on site. The Project is projected to provide approximately 80% of the expected annual electric usage of the San Joaquin County Jail Complex. The Project is expected to generate \$1.0 million per year in energy savings, and to create green jobs locally.



## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS ~ Top Ten Transportation Projects

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
 Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail, [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

All the San Joaquin County Top Ten Projects are of regional significance – all focus on roadway safety and improvements that serve to advance economic vitality in the California Central Valley Region.

#	PROJECT	FUNDING REQUEST	DESCRIPTION
1	<b>State Route 4 Corridor Improvements</b>	<b>\$5 m (Planning/ Environmental)</b>	Planning and engineering studies, right-of-way acquisition, and project design to widen SR 4 from 2 to 4 lanes. Project limits include 1 major bridge at Middle River. Project length is approximately 16 miles.
2	<b>Lower Sacramento Road Corridor Improvements</b>	<b>\$1m</b>	Widen existing 2-lane road to 4 lanes. Approximately 3 miles of this corridor remains to be widened. Several minor structures are located within the remaining areas to be widened.
3	<b>Interstate 5/French Camp (Arch-Sperry) Interchange</b>	<b>\$10m</b>	A City of Stockton project supported by San Joaquin County. Reconfigure the existing interchange to handle future General Plan traffic volumes and facilitate a connection to the pending Sperry Road extension. Work includes relocation of existing ramps and frontage roads.
4	<b>State Route 12/88 Improvements (Lockeford Bypass)</b>	<b>\$5m (Construction.)</b>	Provide 4 lanes (2 lanes east-bound and 2 lanes west-bound) from SR 12/88 west to SR 12/88 east. Ultimate alternatives selected may include multiple minor structures. Project length is approximately 9 miles.
5	<b>Eleventh Street Corridor Improvements</b>	<b>\$1m</b>	Construct median and intersection improvements through this 4-mile corridor. The cost estimate allows for the construction of a roundabout at each of the intersections in the corridor.
6	<b>Lower Sacramento Road Railroad Crossing Improvements</b>	<b>\$1m</b>	Improve safety and traffic operations at the Lower Sacramento Road railroad crossing near Woodson.
7	<b>State Route 132/Bird Road Interchange</b>	<b>\$1m</b>	Improve the existing at-grade intersection operations by constructing a modern interchange.
8	<b>Byron Highway (State Route 239)</b>	<b>\$1m</b>	Widen the corridor to 4 lanes and provide 2 potential overpass projects at Mountain House Parkway and Central parkway.
9	<b>Howard Road/Tracy Boulevard Widening Improvements</b>	<b>\$1 m</b>	Widen Howard Road and Tracy Boulevard from 2 to 4 lanes, and construct miscellaneous geometric and intersection improvements. Project limits include 4 bridges. Project length is approximately 17 miles.
10	<b>Turner Road Improvements</b>	<b>\$1m</b>	Widen the shoulder along Turner Road and add turn lanes at intersections. Project limits include 1 minor structure and 1 at-grade railroad crossing. Project length is approximately 4.5 miles.



## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS ~ Transportation

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### 16. **Title:** Lower Sacramento Road Corridor Improvements Project

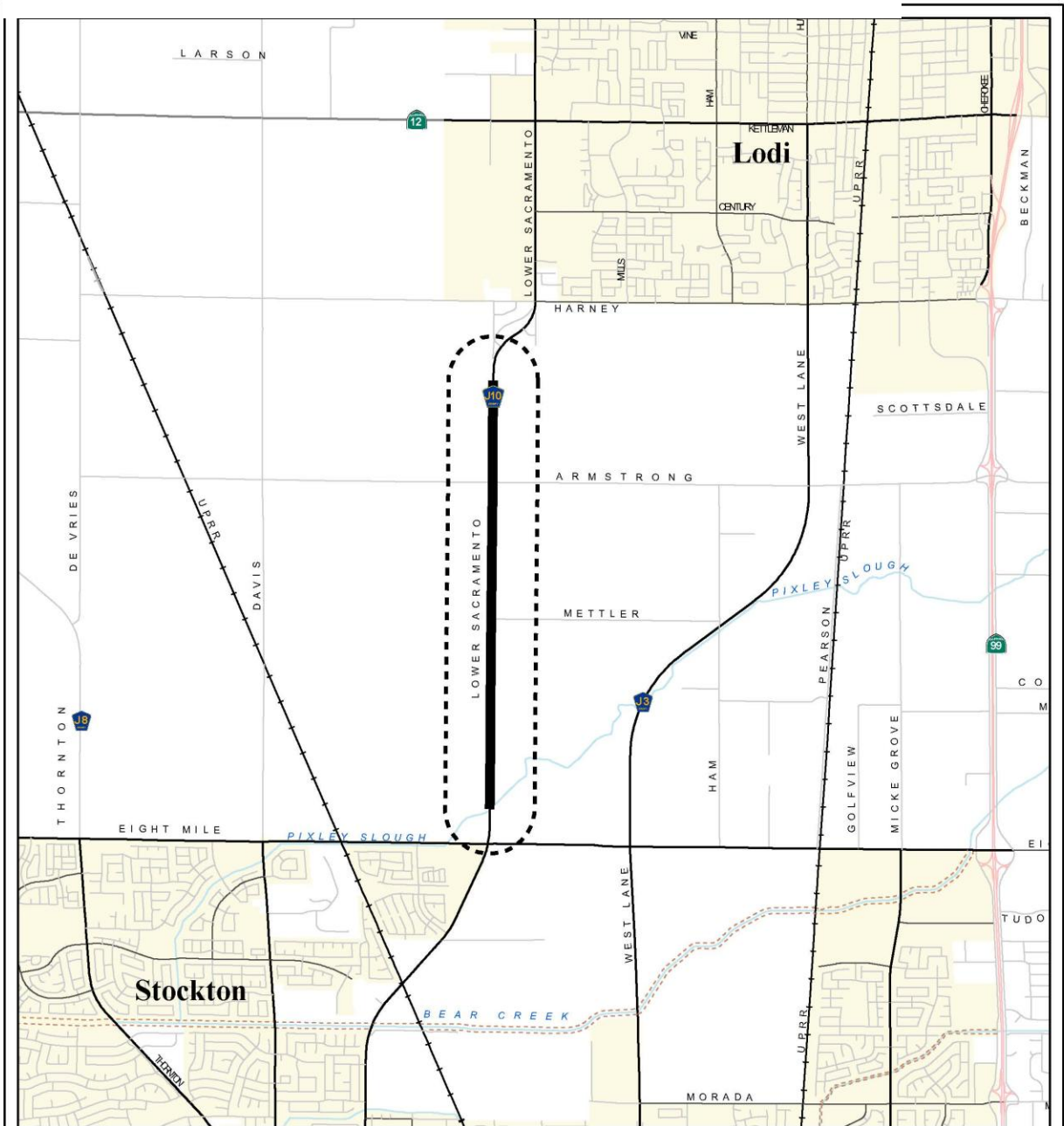
**Legislative Project Appropriations Request:** Seek, advocate, and support a \$1.0 million budgetary appropriation to provide funding assistance for the Lower Sacramento Road Corridor Improvements Project.

**Appropriations Request:** \$1.0 million  
**Total Project Cost:** \$20.5 million

**Background:** Lower Sacramento Road is a major connector running north-south in San Joaquin County, linking the cities of Stockton and Lodi. Lower Sacramento Road is centrally located between Interstate 5 and State Route 99, and enters Sacramento County north of Lodi. Although not originally designed for high capacity, Lower Sacramento Road is experiencing significantly heavier volumes of traffic than previously planned due to continued development in the surrounding area. Improvements to the corridor are identified in San Joaquin County's Special Purpose Plan which include capacity, operational, and safety enhancements.

*(Vicinity Map Below, and Project Literature Available)*

**Lower Sacramento Road Corridor Improvements Project (continued)**



**Legend:**  Project  City Limits



**LOWER SACRAMENTO ROAD  
CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS**

**SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY**  
 Department of Public Works, 1810 E. Hazelton Ave., Stockton, CA 95205  
 The County of San Joaquin does not warrant the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any particular purpose.  
 The information on this map is not intended to replace engineering, financial or primary records research.







## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS ~ Transportation

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### 17. Title: Interstate 5/French Camp (Arch-Sperry) Interchange Project

**Legislative Project Appropriations Request: Seek, advocate, and support a \$10.0 million budgetary appropriation to provide funding assistance for the Interstate 5/French Camp (Arch Sperry) Interchange Project.**

**Appropriations Request:** \$10.0 million  
**Total Project Cost:** Approximately \$41.0 million

**Background:** Interstate 5 (I-5), a major north-south route of the Interstate Highway System in California, has its southern terminus at the United States-Mexico border. I-5 heads north across the length of California before it crosses into Oregon. I-5 links the major California cities of Los Angeles, Redding, Stockton, Sacramento, and San Diego. Among the major cities not directly linked by I-5 is San Francisco/Bay Area, which is approximately 80 miles west.

The I-5/French Camp (Arch Sperry) Interchange Project is a City of Stockton led venture, and is supported by San Joaquin County. The I-5 interchange is needed to mitigate existing and forecasted industrial, agricultural, and commuter traffic in the Central Valley. The I-5 Interchange is the connection point for a planned expressway facility that will directly link State Route 99 (SR 99) and I-5 in the Central Valley. Furthermore, this Project, in concert with the Arch-Sperry Expressway, will improve air quality in the Central Valley by reducing congestion and providing a more direct transportation route for trucks between SR 99 to I-5.

*(Vicinity Map Below, Project Literature Available)*





## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS ~ Transportation

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### 18. Title: State Route 12/State Route 88 Improvements Project

**Legislative Project Appropriations Request**: Seek, advocate, and support a \$5.0 million budgetary appropriation that would provide funding assistance for State Route 12/State Route 88 Improvements.

**Appropriations Request**: \$5.0 million

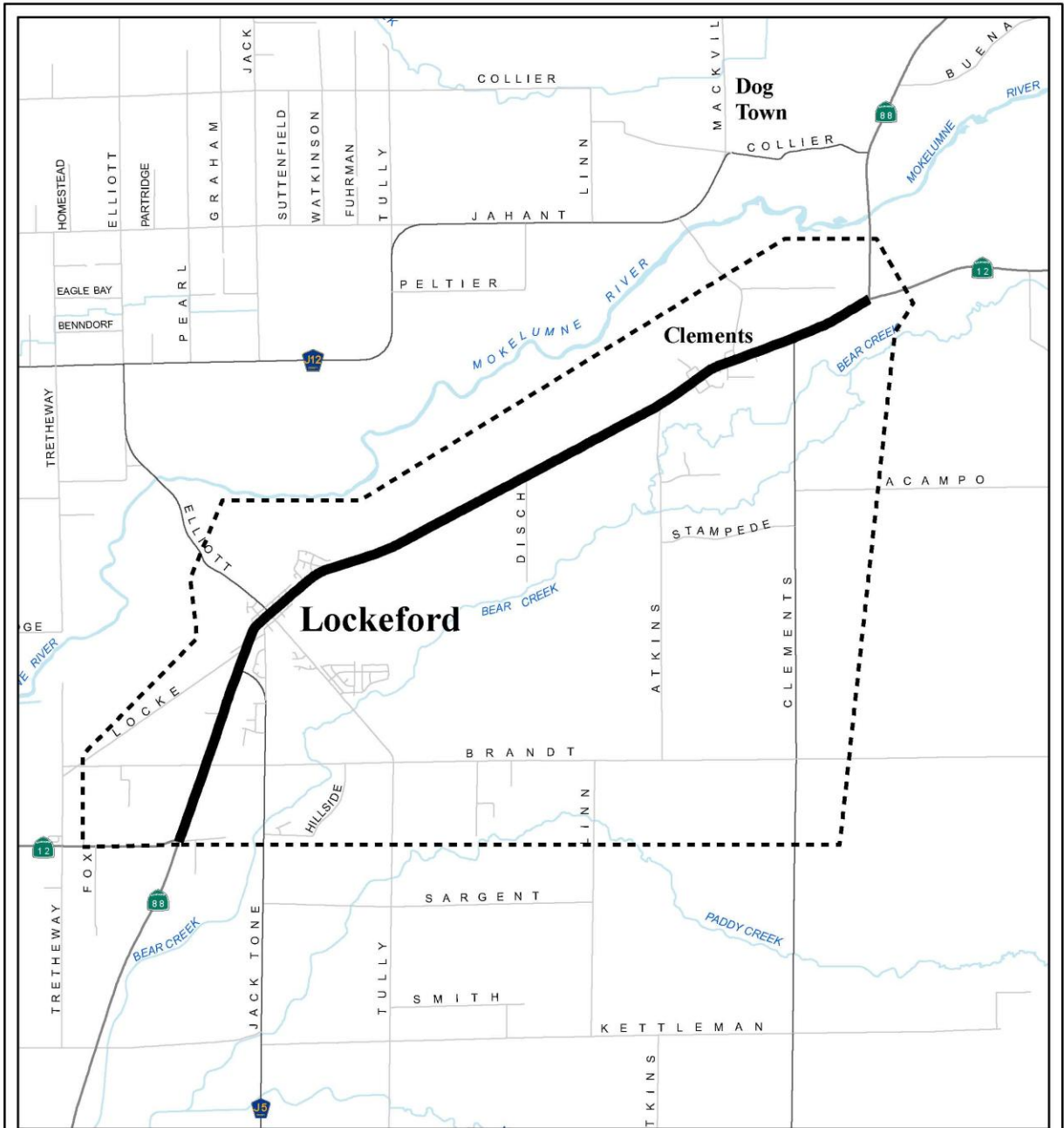
**Total Project Cost**: \$100.0 million

**Background**: State Route 12 (SR 12)/State Route 88 (SR 88) are principal arterials running east-west from the eastern San Francisco Bay Area counties in California to the Nevada State line. SR 88 is enjoined with SR 12 east of Lodi and separates just east of Clements. These highways are all-weather routes, part of the National Highway System; SR 88 is an important trans-Sierra route. SR 12 serves as an important route for goods movement, which compliments San Joaquin County's burgeoning warehouse industry.

SR 12/88 in the Lockeford and Clements area is a two-lane conventional highway with turn pockets to facilitate left turn movements. SR 12/88 generally functions as the "main street" for these communities and is characterized by adjacent highway commercial services, retail shopping, and restaurants. SR 12/88 is also a primary route for year-round tourist travel to and from the Sierra Nevada mountains and foothills, and also serves as a commuter route for residents of neighboring counties. Due to increased traffic congestion on SR 12/88, community residents have experienced difficulties accessing their property driveways, turning to and from the minor intersection legs, and with pedestrians crossing the highway.

*(Vicinity Map Below, Project Literature Available)*

**State Route 12/State Route 88 Improvements Project (continued)**

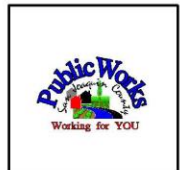


**Legend:** Project



**STATE ROUTE 12/88 IMPROVEMENTS  
(LOCKEFORD BYPASS)**

**SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY**  
 Department of Public Works, 1810 E. Hazelton Ave., Stockton, CA 95205  
 The County of San Joaquin does not warrant the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any particular purpose.  
 The information on this map is not intended to replace engineering, financial or primary records research.





## Legislative Issues ~ Administration of Justice

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE  
Contact: Steve Moore, Sheriff; E-Mail, [smoore@sjgov.org](mailto:smoore@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-4311

**19. Title:    Revise the Definition of Inmates Eligible for Reimbursement under the State Criminal Population Assistance Program**

**Issue:** The federal government recently re-interpreted the State Criminal Population Assistance Program enabling legislation to exclude pre-trial inmates. Counties have mostly pre-trial, rather than post-conviction inmates, thus losing substantial funding.

**Legislative Platform:** Seek and support legislative action which would:

- 1. Revise the definition of eligible inmates to include pre-trial *as well as* post-conviction for undocumented inmates; and**
- 2. Increase State Criminal Alien Assistance Program funding to ensure reimbursement to states and counties for the cost of housing both pre-trial and post-conviction alien inmates.**

**Background:** The State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP), through the Bureau of Justice Assistance, reimburses states and local governments for the cost of housing criminal undocumented persons. (It is important to note that states and counties are only reimbursed for a small fraction of these costs.) Until federal fiscal year 2002, local expense reimbursements were always made based on *all* (both accused as well as convicted) criminal undocumented persons bed-days. A routine federal legal review revealed that according to SCAAP statute limits, reimbursement was to be given for *convicted criminal aliens only*. Since counties house primarily pre-trial inmates, this change in reimbursement resulted in an enormous revenue loss to Sheriff's departments around the nation.



## Legislative Issues ~ Administration of Justice

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE  
Contact: Steve Moore, Sheriff; E-Mail, [smoore@sjgov.org](mailto:smoore@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-4311

### 20. **Title: Federal Funding to Combat Illegal Drugs**

**Issue:** There is a serious need to increase federal funding for the Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant and similar federal programs to combat the production, trafficking, and sales of methamphetamine, and other illegal drugs and narcotics.

**Legislative Platform:** Seek and support legislation and/or budgetary appropriation which would:

1. Increase funding to local law enforcement agencies to combat the production, trafficking, and sales of methamphetamine and other illegal drugs;
2. Increase federal funding for the Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant or similar programs targeted at combating illegal drug production and trafficking; and
3. Provide local government broad latitude and flexibility in allowable expenditure categories of program funds.

**Background:** Production and trafficking of methamphetamine continues to be a significant issue in San Joaquin County in spite of the decreased seizures of large-scale clandestine laboratories. It has been estimated that 99% of the “super-labs” – labs capable of producing more than 500 pounds of the drug a week – in the United States are located in Central California. Although federal and state laws have been enacted to curtail and restrict the sales of precursor chemicals, drug trafficking organizations have adapted and continue to transport larger quantities of methamphetamine into California. In addition, marijuana and cocaine trafficking is increasing in San Joaquin County. Increased federal and state funding is necessary to maintain high level enforcement to combat this issue, and to address the growing operating costs, including technological costs of keeping abreast of the sophisticated and elusive drug trafficking organization.



## Legislative Issues ~ Administration of Justice

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Contact: Patty Mazzilli, Chief Probation Officer; E-Mail, [pmazzilli@sjgov.org](mailto:pmazzilli@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-4070

### 21. **Title: Juvenile Delinquency**

**Issue:** Gang-related youth issues are a major problem in San Joaquin County.

**Legislative Platform:** Seek and support budgetary appropriation and/or legislation similar to HR 1064 and S 132 (2009), which would provide resources to address juvenile delinquency, including gang-related youth issues.

**Background:** Gangs and gang involvement are major law enforcement issues in San Joaquin County. Prevention of gang involvement is a major focus in dealing with youth in this area. Support should be given to programs that provide additional local resources to support anti-gang and gang prevention programs.

HR 1064 and S 132 propose to increase and enhance law enforcement resources committed to investigation and prosecution of violent gangs, to deter and punish violent gang crime, to protect law-abiding citizens and communities from violent criminals, to revise and enhance criminal penalties for violent crimes, to expand and improve gang prevention programs, and for other purposes.



## Legislative Issues ~ Agriculture

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Contact: Scott Hudson, Agricultural Commissioner; E-Mail: [shudson@sjgov.org](mailto:shudson@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 953-

### 22. **Title: Pierce's Disease/Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Program**

**Issue:** The Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) has entered the San Joaquin Valley, and has threatened the grape industry with a deadly grape disease for which currently, there is no cure. The maintenance or increase of federal funding is critical to prevent the spread of GWSS, and to find an effective control for Pierce's Disease.

#### **Legislative Platform:**

- 1. Support legislative efforts and budgetary proposals which would maintain or enhance the funding level of the California Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Program.**
- 2. Oppose legislation, budgetary proposals, or regulatory action which would decrease the present level of funding for the California Pierce's Disease Program.**

**Background:** The Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) has recently entered the grape growing areas of the southern San Joaquin Valley. The State's grape industry is threatened by GWSS because the pest rapidly spreads Pierce's Disease, a deadly grape disease with no cure. The disease also attacks other important fruit and nut crops. There has been an ongoing federal, state, and county partnership in place for the past eight years to prevent the spread of GWSS, and to fund research for an eventual control of Pierce's Disease.

Federal funding for the State's Pierce's Disease program is approximately \$20.0 million and has not changed since the inception of the program in 2001. An increase in funding is critical to meet the rising cost of the program and to prevent the spread of GWSS and Pierce's Disease. San Joaquin County presently receives \$355,699 annually in GWSS program funding to help protect its \$222 million grape crop. Loss of funding would put the program and the County's grape industry in jeopardy.





## Legislative Issues ~ Agriculture

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Contact: Scott Hudson, Agricultural Commissioner; E-Mail: [shudson@sjgov.org](mailto:shudson@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 953-

### 23. **Title: Light Brown Apple Moth Eradication**

**Issue:** Maintaining the Light Brown Apple Moth Eradication program is vital to San Joaquin County's agricultural industry.

**Legislative Platform:** Support legislation and budgetary proposals which would maintain or provide full funding for the Light Brown Apple Moth quarantine, and provide funding for related eradication activities.

**Background:** The Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM), is a new insect pest recently discovered in the Bay Area. The LBAM damages over 250 plant species, including stone fruits (almonds, cherries, peaches, plums, and apricots), pome fruits (apples and pears), grapes, vegetables (tomatoes, corn, and cucumbers), alfalfa, and nursery stock. If the LBAM impacted all of California's host crops, the total loss of production and control cost could reach as high as \$133 million. In addition to crop damage, an infestation of LBAM could potentially result in the loss of international and domestic markets, as plant quarantines are imposed on agricultural commodities originating from infested areas in San Joaquin County.

Presently, California's LBAM infested areas are under Federal quarantine. The quarantine regulates the movement of agricultural products and includes detection, containment, and eradication activities. Quarantine activities for this pest are handled cooperatively under a LBAM Quarantine Project consisting of the San Joaquin County Agricultural Commissioner's office, the California Department of Agriculture (CDFA), and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Currently, San Joaquin County has a LBAM infested area in the City of Manteca, which is under quarantine. Without Federal and state funding, the LBAM trapping and detection program could not be maintained.

San Joaquin County receives approximately \$65,774 in funding for the LBAM program to help protect the County's \$2.1 billion agricultural industry. Loss of funding or discontinuance of the LBAM quarantine would have significant negative impacts on the County's agricultural industry.



## Legislative Issues ~ Agriculture

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Contact: Scott Hudson, Agricultural Commissioner; E-Mail: [shudson@sjgov.org](mailto:shudson@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 953-

### 24. **Title**: Plant Pest and Disease Management Prevention Program

**Issue**: While the 2008 Farm Bill is now officially law, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is in the process of developing an implementation plan for the early plant pest detection and surveillance component of the Farm Bill, and full funding for pest exclusion activities is dependent on the annual Federal budget appropriation process.

#### **Legislative Platform**:

1. **Seek, advocate, and support budget proposals which would provide full funding for Title X, Section 10201 of the 2008 Farm Bill; and**
2. **Support regulatory efforts which would ensure full implementation of Title X, Section 10201 of the 2008 Farm Bill.**

**Background**: San Joaquin County is the seventh largest agricultural county in the State of California and the ninth largest in the nation. As a result, agriculture is a major factor in the County's economy and way of life. Therefore, passage of HR 6124, Food Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, otherwise known as the Farm Bill, is of particular importance to San Joaquin County. Section 10201 of the 2008 Farm Bill entitled Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention provides funding to states for early plant pest detection and eradication. The funding is to be used on the full range of activities available to find newly introduced plant pests.

The 2008 Farm Bill includes authorization of federal funding for implementing all 15 Titles of the Bill. Funding authorization for Title X, Section 10201 contained in the Farm Bill is as follows: \$12 million in 2009, \$45 million in 2010, and \$50 million in 2011 and each year thereafter. However, funding is dependent on the annual federal budget appropriation process.

The funding provided in Title X, Section 10201 of the Farm Bill is critical in strengthening the full range of pest exclusion and detection programs in California, and in protecting the nation's agriculture from foreign pests. Additionally, the funding is expected to provide much needed resources for county pest exclusion and trapping programs. Therefore, it is important that the full amount of funding provided in Title X, Section 10201 is appropriated by Congress annually. It is equally important that the funding is utilized to provide the full range of pest detection activities of Title X.



## Legislative Issues ~ Community Development

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
Contact: Kerry Sullivan, Director; E-Mail, [ksullivan@sjgov.org](mailto:ksullivan@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3140

### 25. **Title: Housing Foreclosure Prevention and Mitigation**

**Issue:** San Joaquin County ranks within the top five jurisdictions in California, and in the nation, as most severely impacted by the housing foreclosure crisis.

**Legislative Platform:** Support legislation or a budget proposal which would continue to provide local jurisdictions with federal funding for foreclosure prevention counseling programs, and for purchasing, redeveloping, and selling foreclosed properties to low income buyers.

**Background:** Since January 2007, San Joaquin County has experienced over 20,000 residential foreclosures, and there is no foreseeable end. This rate equates to almost one in every twenty homes being foreclosed upon, ranking the County within the top five jurisdictions in California, and in the nation, as most severely impacted by the housing foreclosure crisis.

Foreclosures impact families, neighborhoods, and communities through displacements, blight, increased crime, and reduced property values. Foreclosures impact local government through reduced property tax revenues and increased demand for social services and law enforcement. Delays in addressing the national home foreclosure issues will continue to have a significant impact on the County's budget in the form of reduced property tax revenues and increased demand for services.



## Legislative Issues ~ Community Development

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
Contact: Kerry Sullivan, Director; E-Mail, [ksullivan@sjgov.org](mailto:ksullivan@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3140

### 26. **Title:** Homelessness Prevention

**Issue:** San Joaquin County continues to experience high home foreclosures and unemployment rates, resulting in a significant increase in its homeless population.

**Legislative Platform:** Seek, advocate, and support legislation or budgetary proposals which would provide local jurisdictions with ongoing entitlement funding to operate homelessness prevention programs.

**Background:** The recent economic downturn has resulted in an increase in property foreclosures and job losses in San Joaquin County. Because of this, homelessness has significantly increased in the County. Homelessness is a very undesirable condition, both for the people it affects and for society in general.

A Homeless Prevention Program would provide assistance to avert housing loss through supportive services, mediation, and cash assistance for rent and mortgages. Furthermore, a Homeless Prevention Program would divert demand for social services, which continue to be heavily impacted by budget reductions. Most often, homeless persons have poor health, and homeless children experience developmental delays and behavioral problems and perform poorly at school. Failure to provide short-term financial assistance and social services to households facing homelessness will result in an increased demand for other county services, a breakdown of families, and potentially, the beginning of a long-term cycle of poverty and homelessness.



## Legislative Issues ~ Employment & Economic

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
Contact: John Solis, Director; E-Mail, [jsolis@sjworknet.org](mailto:jsolis@sjworknet.org); Ph. (209) 468-3511

### 27. Title: Workforce Investment Act

**Issue:** Since inception of the Workforce Investment Act in July 2000, San Joaquin County has lost millions of dollars in workforce development funding. These cuts have made it increasingly difficult to provide needed employment and training services, especially in San Joaquin County where unemployment rates typically exceed the state and national average.

**Legislative Platform:** Support legislation, including reauthorization or an economic stimulus package, which includes additional funding for the Workforce Investment Act.

**Background:** Between 2000 and 2008, California saw a reduction of 27% in Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds, translating to a 29% (\$4.3 million) reduction in San Joaquin County. WIA is insufficiently funded to effectively facilitate the re-entry of displaced workers and meet the needs of the employer community. San Joaquin County's annual funding for displaced workers has been reduced by 50% (\$2.7 million). These reductions have resulted in the closure of several one-stop employment centers, a decrease in training resources for job seekers, and have hampered the County's ability to meet the needs of the employer community. Reductions in overall funding have also negatively impacted collaboration efforts between partner agencies, such as education programs, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and the business community. The reduction in WIA funding has temporarily been offset with funding under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA); however, those funds are targeted for economic stimulus and the majority of the ARRA funds must be spent by June 30, 2010.

Under WIA, the youth funding to San Joaquin County has been reduced by more than 21%. These reductions in funding for youth programs have significantly decreased employment and training opportunities for youth. At the same time, juvenile delinquency, high school dropout rates, and gang activity have been steadily increasing. ARRA funding was provided for the County's 2009 Summer Youth Program, and the funding was fully expended.

With the rate of unemployment increasing and no foreseeable relief in sight, (U.S. Department of Labor) October 2009: Nationwide unemployment rate was 10%; California unemployment rate was 12.3%; and San Joaquin County's unemployment rate was 16.1%), the need to fully fund WIA and other employment and training programs is more critical than ever. Workforce preparation is critical to the economic well-being of this nation. Furthermore, if the United States is to maintain its competitive edge in the world economy, workforce development must be a priority.



## Legislative Issues ~ Employment & Economic

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
Contact: John Solis, Director; E-Mail, [jsolis@sjcworknet.org](mailto:jsolis@sjcworknet.org); Ph. (209) 468-3511

### 28. Title: Purchase of Property with Workforce Investment Act Funds

**Issue:** There are restrictions on the use of Workforce Investment Act funds for the construction and/or purchase of a property/building.

**Legislative Platform:** Seek and advocate in support of an amendment to:

1. **The Workforce Investment Act Program (20 CRF 667-260) to allow the use of Workforce Investment Act funds for the construction and/or purchase of a facility.**
2. **The Office of Management and Budget Circular A-87 to increase the depreciation rate from the current 2% to 5% per year.**

**Background:** With very limited exceptions, the purchase of property or construction of a building is prohibited for Workforce Investment Act (WIA) programs under 20 CRF 667-260. The County could purchase a building and charge the WIA program rent; however, the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-87 limits depreciation of a building to 2% per year. At this rate, it would take 50 years to fully recover the cost. This regulation makes it cost-prohibitive for the recipient of WIA federal funds to acquire a building in the hope of containing escalating lease costs. Consequently, federal programs, like the WIA One-Stop Service Delivery System, are faced with multiple lease agreements that continue to require a greater percentage of the program's budget. Prohibition on the use of WIA funds to construct a building or purchase property is counter-productive to program efficiency in the long-term. In addition, should the County purchase the building, the 2% depreciation rate makes the acquisition of a building cost-prohibitive and risky.



## Legislative Issues ~ Emergency Services

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ EMERGENCY SERVICES

Contact: Ronald Baldwin, Director; E-Mail: [rbaldwin@sjgov.org](mailto:rbaldwin@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 953-6206

### **29. Title: Emergency Management Performance Grant Funding for Flood Preparedness**

**Issue:** Emergency Management Performance Grant funding for flood preparedness activities and hazards has remained an important component of local emergency management programs, and continuation of this funding is essential to local government.

**Legislative Platform:** Seek and support an increase in Emergency Management Performance Grant funding, retaining flexibility in the use of funds for non-terrorism specific threats.

**Background:** The 1950 Civil Defense Act established a federal grant program intended to assist local governments to prepare for disasters. These matching grants (50% match) helped fund local emergency management staff, communications equipment, and enhancements to local emergency operations centers. Eligible costs and funding levels have fluctuated over the years, and the program name has been changed to Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program. This basic 50% federal funding match assistance program for local preparedness activities has remained an important component of local emergency management programs for nearly 55 years.

Homeland Security Grant programs have far overshadowed the EMPG program in funding levels and attention. While these grants can be used for dual-use purposes there must be a terrorism element in eligible activities. Local governments are constrained by future audit requirements to keep activities credibly related to terrorism. The lack of history for Homeland Security grants, along with continuing changes in allowed activities, allocation formulas, and funding levels, make these grants questionable sources of support for ongoing costs such as permanent emergency management staff.

In San Joaquin County, EMPG has been the only ongoing, reliable, and non-local source of funding for permanent emergency staff. The all-hazards orientation of the grant has made it a key resource for flood-related preparedness activities in the County. The potential for a catastrophic flood in the Central Valley is a major concern for local government and the community at large. This continuing and growing threat of staggering economic losses and potential loss of life from a major flood event in this area must receive ongoing preparedness work. As the region builds out and becomes increasingly populated, the potential loss exposure and threat to life will become a major factor in California's ability to ensure its citizens' quality of life.



## Legislative Issues ~ Emergency Services

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ EMERGENCY SERVICES

Contact: Ronald Baldwin, Director; E-Mail: [rbaldwin@sjgov.org](mailto:rbaldwin@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 953-6206

### 30. **Title:** Emergency Work Eligibility under Federal Emergency Management Assistance Regulations

**Issue:** Current Federal Emergency Management Assistance regulations limit emergency assistance/work eligible for disaster assistance/reimbursement. These limitations hinder the ability of counties and cities to commit funds and resources to assist levee failure prevention where the levee is legally maintained by an independent agency.

**Legislative Platform:** Change Paragraph (3a) of Section 206.223 of Chapter 1, Volume 1, of Title 44, Emergency Management and Assistance, to read as follows:

**(a) General. To be eligible for financial assistance, an item of work must be:**

1. **Required as the result of the major disaster event;**
2. **Located within a designated disaster area; and**
3. **The legal responsibility of an eligible applicant or served to prevent the catastrophic loss of life or property.**

**Background:** The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (PL 93-288), as amended, establishes programs for the federal government to assist locally in disaster costs. Subsequent Federal Emergency Management Assistance (FEMA) regulations have defined the conditions under which costs are eligible for assistance. One such criterion is that the emergency work listed in Section 206.223 of Chapter 1 of Title 44 be the legal responsibility of the applicant. In 1997, the County of San Joaquin provided assistance to local agencies in a joint effort to prevent levee failure. Because levee maintenance was not the legal responsibility of the County, FEMA inspectors disallowed assistance/reimbursement to the County. The County was obliged to bill the levee-maintaining agencies for those costs.

In addition, changes to FEMA policies and practices now require local agencies responsible for maintaining levees to fully pay eligible disaster costs prior to the receipt of federal reimbursement. The local agencies responsible for maintaining levees in San Joaquin County are not able to pay for costs that counties and/or cities incur in assisting with the prevention of levee failure prior to the receipt of federal reimbursement. These changes in requirements could leave counties, cities, and state agencies with costs for which even partial federal reimbursement cannot be obtained.

While federal interpretation of regulations change, legitimate emergency efforts by any public entity aimed at directly preventing loss of life and property, even in cases where the action is not the legal responsibility of the entity, should be eligible for federal financial assistance, provided the other regulatory criteria are met.





## Legislative Issues ~ Emergency Services

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ EMERGENCY SERVICES

Contact: Ronald Baldwin, Director; E-Mail [rbaldwin@sjgov.org](mailto:rbaldwin@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 953-6206

### **Emergency Work Eligibility under FEMA Regulations (continued):**

Particularly in the California Central Valley, maintaining the ability to rapidly mobilize all available resources to prevent levee failure and subsequent catastrophic losses should be an objective of the highest priority. Elimination of potential barriers to rapid commitment of resources by public agencies that are in a position to act to prevent loss of life and property will advance this objective. Clarification of federal regulations and the removal of real and perceived barriers will serve to improve response to floods and other disasters.



## Legislative Issues ~ Environmental Health

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Contact: Donna Heran, Director; E-Mail: [dheran@sjcehd.com](mailto:dheran@sjcehd.com); Ph. (209) 468-3429

### 31. **Title:** Recruitment and Retention of Public Health Workers

**Issue:** Lack of public health workers.

**Legislative Platform:** Seek and support the establishment of a Public Health Workforce Scholarship Program and a Public Health Workforce Loan Repayment Program as an incentive to increase the supply of public health and environmental health professionals in an effort to mitigate an anticipated public health preparedness workforce shortage.

**Background:** The ability of the public health system to prevent, respond to, and recover from bioterrorism, infectious disease outbreaks, and other health threats depends on the existence of adequate numbers of well-trained public health and environmental health professionals. The current public health system has an aging staff nearing retirement with no clear influx of highly-skilled and capable employees to fill the void.

An example of the type of legislation San Joaquin County would support includes S. 1882 (Hagel) introduced in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress. If S. 1882 would have been enacted, it would have provided payment for: 1) tuition and related educational expenses of the individual, 2) a stipend of not more than \$1,200 per month, and 3) up to \$35,000 in loan repayments for individuals who promise a level of employment in the public health sector for a prescribed number of years.



## Legislative Issues ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY  
Contact: Kenneth Cohen, Director; E-Mail, [kcohen@sjgh.org](mailto:kcohen@sjgh.org); Ph. (209) 468-7031

### 32. **Title: Medicaid and Medicare Funding Programs**

**Issue:** Proposals to reduce Medicaid and Medicare program funding include implementation of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services rule changes, changes in the Upper Payment Limit, Medicare Recovery Audit Contractor Program, and other mechanisms.

**Legislative Platform:**

- 1. Aggressively oppose reductions in reimbursement from Medicaid and Medicare, including any restrictions in Federal financing of Medicaid, which would result in a shift or increase in cost to county safety-net healthcare systems.**
- 2. Oppose Medicaid reform efforts which would result in decreased access to health care, and/or shift costs or risks to counties.**

**Background:** Medicaid and Medicare are the primary mechanisms for supporting the provision of health care coverage for the nation's low-income, disabled, and uninsured patients. Medicaid and Medicare are the primary sources of revenue supporting the safety-net health care systems that provide essential health care services in San Joaquin County. San Joaquin County's Health Care Services Agency is the health care safety-net provider for the County. Maintaining and increasing revenues is critical to the financial viability of the County's safety-net health care system, especially for the County's public hospital, which is a vital part of our community's safety-net health care delivery system. San Joaquin General Hospital specializes in health care delivery programs not otherwise available in the community, serves a disproportionate share of Medicaid and uninsured patients, and relies on approximately \$65 million a year in Medicaid funding for its inpatient care revenues. Reductions in Medicaid funding could lead to significant reductions in critical health care programs and could have an adverse impact on the overall health and well being of the low-income, disabled, and uninsured population in our community.



## Legislative Issues ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ SAN JOAQUIN GENERAL HOSPITAL

Contact: Kenneth Cohen, Health Care Services Director; E-Mail: [kcohen@sjgh.org](mailto:kcohen@sjgh.org); Ph. (209) 468-

### 33. **Title:** Disproportionate Share Hospital Funding Within the Medicaid Demonstration Waiver

**Issue:** Maintain Disproportionate Share Hospital funding program.

**Legislative Platform:** Support legislative and regulatory efforts which would:

1. Maintain or increase Disproportionate Share Hospital funding to reflect growth in the uninsured population.
2. Keep Disproportionate Share Hospital funds separate from other Medicaid funds to strengthen and protect the Disproportionate Share Hospital, while opposing reductions in Disproportionate Share Hospital payments to service providers.
3. Support the ability of counties to maximize their funding under any Medicaid Demonstration Waiver.
4. Strengthen and protect the Disproportionate Share Hospital program in any Medicaid reform proposal.
5. Oppose regulations or legislation which would diminish or negatively impact Disproportionate Share Hospital funding mechanisms, such as Certified Public Expenditures and the Safety Net Care Pool.

**Background:** Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments are designed to reimburse hospitals that serve a majority of patients who are uninsured, under-insured, low income, or indigent. Approximately 75% of the patient base at San Joaquin General Hospital, the County's public hospital, is low-income. Therefore, a significant amount of the County's hospital funding is received through the DSH program. (DSH funds approximately one-quarter of unreimbursed costs at the County's public hospital.) Medicare inpatient hospital payments are adjusted for this added burden; and under Medicaid, the state augments payments to DSH hospitals as well. DSH is an important and necessary component of hospital financing for the cost of providing health care to the low-income population in San Joaquin County.

The DSH program has been folded into the state's 2005 waiver for the Medicaid Demonstration Waiver. There are significant concerns that regulatory and/or legislative efforts may be underway, which would limit the available funding, limit any future growth in the Waiver, or impact the ability of public hospitals to maximize this funding mechanism.



## Legislative Issues ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ SAN JOAQUIN GENERAL HOSPITAL

Contact: Kenneth Cohen, Health Care Services Director; E-Mail: [kcohen@sjgh.org](mailto:kcohen@sjgh.org); Ph. (209) 468-

### **34. Title: Federal Reimbursement of Emergency Health Services Furnished for Undocumented Persons**

**Issue:** There is a limited federal reimbursement to local health care systems for services provided to undocumented persons.

#### **Legislative Platform:**

- 1. Continue funding for Section 1011 for providing emergency health care services to undocumented persons.**
- 2. Modify data required from health care providers for reimbursement under Section 1011.**

**Background:** HR 1, also referred to as the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003, was signed by President Bush in December 2003. HR 1 provides \$250 million each year to offset uncompensated care costs for emergency health care services provided to undocumented persons. Section 1011 of HR 1 describes the distribution of funds among states as \$167 million (or 2/3 of the funding) based on the number of the undocumented persons, and \$83 million (or 1/3 of the funding) based on the number of the apprehended undocumented individuals paid directly to the eligible providers within each state.

HR 1 is an initial step in providing support to the nation's safety-net health care system for emergency health care services to undocumented persons; however, the appropriated funds only marginally cover the costs incurred for providing these services. In addition, the data required for reimbursement for providing these emergency services is extensive (significantly more than what is needed for documented uninsured patients), often extremely difficult to gather, and sometimes not available. Consequently, emergency health care services provided to undocumented persons are ineligible for reimbursement, resulting in a cost that cannot be reimbursed to the local safety-net health care system. Most recently, San Joaquin General Hospital was unable to collect approximately \$4.9 million in charges for emergency care provided to undocumented patients.



## Legislative Issues ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ SAN JOAQUIN GENERAL HOSPITAL

Contact: Kenneth Cohen, Health Care Services Director; E-Mail: [kcohen@sjgh.org](mailto:kcohen@sjgh.org); Ph. (209) 468-

### 35. **Title: 340B Drug Purchasing Program**

**Issue:** Inpatient drugs are currently excluded from the “best price” calculations which dictate savings that drug manufacturers pass on to Medicaid providers. The addition of inpatient medications would allow eligible providers such as San Joaquin General Hospital and Behavioral Health Services to obtain 15-25% discounted drug pricing through the 340B Drug Purchasing Program.

**Legislative Platform: Seek legislative and administrative support to include inpatient drugs in the 340B Drug Purchasing Program.**

**Background:** In 1992, Congress created the 340B drug-discount program, which allows certain hospitals and clinics that serve vulnerable populations to purchase outpatient drugs at the Medicaid “best price” from pharmaceutical companies that participate in the Medicaid program. Eligible providers negotiate additional discounts from manufacturers as part of the program, obtaining prices that are approximately 25 percent lower than those available from group purchasing organizations or other buying arrangements.

Both the Senate and House versions of the Medicare Prescription Drug Bill of 2009 include an exemption from the Medicaid “best price” calculation for inpatient drugs charged to 340B hospitals. This provision would allow safety-net providers to negotiate better prices for inpatient drugs. While the provision would not require pharmaceutical companies to provide the same 340B discounts that are available on outpatient purchases, major disincentives would be removed that have made it very difficult for drug manufacturers to offer lower prices for inpatient drugs to 340B hospitals. Without exclusion from the “best price” calculation, drug manufacturers would have to provide the same discount pricing to the entire Medicaid drug market, comprising nearly 15% of the market. If this legislation is enacted, pharmaceutical manufacturers could offer significant discounts without offering the same discount to this large market. With annual expenditures of over \$4 million for inpatient pharmaceuticals, San Joaquin General Hospital could possibly reduce drug-purchasing costs by over \$500,000 per year.



## Legislative Issues ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY  
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### 36. **Title:** Expand Health Care

**Issue:** Millions of Americans (thousands of San Joaquin County residents) lack health care coverage.

**Legislative Platform:** Seek, advocate, and support legislation which would expand health care coverage and access.

**Background:** Millions of Americans lack health care coverage. There are numerous barriers to enrollment of eligible persons in existing federal and state programs. An increasing number of uninsured people rely on county health care services, or seek no care until health problems are so acute as to result in needless suffering, even death. Increased reimbursement to health care agencies for uninsured patients, and increased access to prevention and early intervention health services, would result in savings to the health care system.

The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors adopted General Policy Guidelines for Health Care Reform (or Universal Health). Those guidelines can be accessed at: [www.sjgeneralhospital.com/docs/HCSGuide.pdf](http://www.sjgeneralhospital.com/docs/HCSGuide.pdf)



## Legislative Issues ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY  
Contact: Kenneth Cohen, Director; E-Mail, [kcohen@sjgh.org](mailto:kcohen@sjgh.org); Ph. (209) 468-7031

### 37. **Title:** Shortages of Physicians, Nurses, and Ancillary Clinicians

**Issue:** San Joaquin County Health Care Services departments continue to experience a significant shortage of physicians, nurses and ancillary clinical staff.

#### **Legislative Platform:**

1. **Advocate and support legislation and budgetary efforts, which would expand health-related training programs for physicians, nurses and ancillary clinicians.**
2. **Support funding for health training loans and scholarship programs, including reauthorization of the Public Health Service Act as amended by the Nurse Reinvestment Act of 2002, for the purpose of providing funding.**
3. **Support legislation which would provide incentives to encourage and attract health care professionals to practice in California's Central Valley.**

**Background:** The healthcare industry continues to face a critical shortage of physicians, registered nurses, including public health nurses, and ancillary clinical staff (e.g., radiology, nuclear medicine, microbiology, ultrasound technology, respiratory therapy, physical therapy, and pharmacy). In past years, the state has provided funding for the expansion of nurse training programs. However, additional support to expand training programs, fund loan and scholarship programs, pursue career outreach and development programs, and incentivize location to underserved areas, is critical to address these career deficiencies in the healthcare industry.

All eight San Joaquin Valley counties have Medically Underserved Areas and Populations (MUA/P) designations. These counties also experience shortages in dental, mental health, and primary care professionals, as determined by the United States Health Resources and Services Administration, Bureau of Health Professionals. The Central Valley Health Policy Institute computed physician rates per 100,000 persons as of December 2005. Regionally, the Central Valley experienced greater shortages for all physicians, primary care physicians, and specialty physicians, than any other region in the state. Similar patterns can be observed for dentists, mental health practitioners and the spectrum of allied health professionals. For example:

- ✓ The ratio of dentists to residents is 48 per 100,000 in the Central Valley versus 80 per 100,000 in California.
- ✓ The ratio of mental and behavioral personnel is 94 per 100,000 in the Central Valley versus 327 per 100,000 in California.
- ✓ Only 19 child psychiatrists currently practice in the Central Valley, but the national standard is 14.8 per 100,000.





## Legislative Issues ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES  
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### 38. **Title: Parity for Mental Health and Substance Abuse in Insurance Coverage**

**Issue:** There is inequity in insurance coverage between mental and physical health disorders in that the new parity law does not require insurers to offer mental health insurance.

**Legislative Platform:** Seek and support legislation or regulatory changes which would require insurance companies to provide coverage for mental illness consistent with coverage for physical illness.

**Background:** The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act, signed into law in October 2008, includes the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (HR 1424). This new law requires that insurance companies which offer mental health benefits do so in parity with other specialty services in terms of co-payments, deductibles, covered hospital days, etc. Although this new law is a major achievement, the parity measure does not actually require insurers to offer mental health benefits. The new law only requires parity for those that do offer mental health insurance. For those without mental health benefits there are no provisions to serve the mental health needs of the covered individuals in their insurance plans. These individuals either do not have their mental health needs met, or they default to the safety-net, which is the County's Behavioral Health Services department. Use of County resources to meet the mental health needs of insured persons reduces the funding available to meet the needs of the truly indigent.



## Legislative Issues ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Contact: William Mitchell, Director; E-Mail: [wmitchell@sjcphs.org](mailto:wmitchell@sjcphs.org); Ph. (209) 468-3413

### 39. **Title:** Funding for Public Health Emergency Services

**Issue:** Continuation of fair and equitable funding is needed for public health emergency services.

**Legislative Platform:** Aggressively pursue and support:

1. An increase in federal funding to prepare for and respond to the medical/health consequences of terrorism, disasters, or other public health emergencies;
2. The development of funding formulas that consider proximity of jurisdictions to high-profile targets and that are not based solely on the presence of such targets within jurisdictional boundaries; and
3. Local flexibility in the administration of the public health emergency services with no fiscal penalties if staff is pulled from categorically-funded programs in order to respond to terrorism, disasters, or other public health emergencies.

**Background:** The terrorist activity occurring on and after September 11, 2001 identified the need to increase preparedness efforts and local public health jurisdiction response capabilities for dealing with terrorism, including bioterrorism, at the local level. Hurricane Katrina identified the impact of natural disasters on local, state, and federal medical/health response capabilities. Pandemic influenza threatens to overwhelm an already fragile medical and public health system. San Joaquin County is at a severe disadvantage in its ability to fund new programs to address these additional public health and safety issues.

Increases in federal funding are needed to augment local programs to be able to prepare for and respond to all forms of terrorism, natural disasters, and other related public health emergencies. Legislation is needed which would increase prevention and response capabilities, and strengthen the partnerships between federal, state, and local agencies to effectively identify, prevent, and respond to the medical/health consequences of terrorism, disasters, or other public health emergencies. Funding formulas should consider proximity to high profile, high impact targets; nearby jurisdictions to such targets will likely be severely impacted through the provision of mutual aid to the impacted jurisdiction or by the influx of large numbers of people seeking shelter and/or treatment. Currently, staff within local health jurisdictions is often funded by categorical grants and are perceived to be ineligible for participation in emergency preparedness and response activities. This mindset needs to be addressed to ensure a competent, trained workforce regardless of salary funding stream or program assignment.



## Legislative Issues ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Contact: William Mitchell, Director; E-Mail: [wmitchell@sjcphs.org](mailto:wmitchell@sjcphs.org); Ph. (209) 468-3413

### 40. **Title:** Controlling Tuberculosis

**Issue:** There is a lack of funds for monitoring, controlling, and treating Tuberculosis.

**Legislative Platform:** Pursue and support legislation that would provide domestic and international funding for continued monitoring, controlling, and treating Tuberculosis.

**Background:** Tuberculosis (TB) was thought to be held in check, but has made a resurgence in recent past. This resurgence is due not only to the lack of continued surveillance and control efforts, but also to increases in populations at risk (the homeless, people with compromised immune systems - especially AIDS, and people from countries where TB is a significant problem). San Joaquin County is one of the jurisdictions strongly impacted by the rise in TB activity. It is important that resources are available for surveillance and outbreak control and for providing treatment for those with active disease. California does not receive a share of federal funding consistent with the number of recent Hmong refugee arrivals or those expected from other countries over the next ten years. Support is needed for improved immigrant screening prior to arrival to the United States. San Joaquin County Public Health Services has a TB control program; and San Joaquin General Hospital treats cases of TB without adequate funding or any dedicated reimbursement.



## Legislative Issues ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES  
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### 41. **Title: Exclusion of Psychiatric Health Facility from Institute for Mental Disease**

**Issue:** The 40-bed psychiatric health facility operated by Mental Health Services does not qualify for Medicaid payments because it exceeds the 16-bed limit.

**Legislative Platform:** Support legislation or regulatory changes that would exclude the psychiatric health facility from the Institute of Mental Disease Exclusion for Medicaid funding and permit the psychiatric health facility to receive Medicaid payments.

**Background:** Federal law prohibits Medicaid payments to those facilities determined to be an Institute for Mental Disease. This type of facility is defined as psychiatric inpatient or residential facility that has more than 16 beds, unless the facility is licensed as an acute psychiatric inpatient facility. The original intent of this law was to avoid Medicaid payments to state hospitals; however, this limitation severely restricts the development of non-medical alternatives to acute psychiatric inpatient facilities. The 40-bed psychiatric health facility operated by Mental Health Services does not qualify for Medicaid payment because it exceeds the 16-bed limit. This clinically based and cost-effective program provides similar services to an acute psychiatric inpatient facility at approximately 50% of the cost. The annual budget of the psychiatric health facility exceeds \$7.3 million, with virtually no offsetting revenue. If the psychiatric health facility were eligible for Medicaid funding, it is estimated that annual revenue of \$1.5 to \$2.0 million would be realized. This eligibility would produce savings that could be reinvested in community programs serving the mentally ill.

### 42. **Title: Federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant**

**Issue:** There is an increased demand and need for methamphetamine treatment.

**Legislative Platform:** Support legislative efforts to increase funding for the Federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant.

**Background:** San Joaquin County supports an increase in the Federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant funding specifically targeted to counties heavily impacted by methamphetamine addiction. San Joaquin County continues to experience significant increases in the number of individuals seeking treatment for methamphetamine addiction.



## Legislative Issues ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ HEALTH PLAN OF SAN JOAQUIN

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### 43. **Title:** Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans Rates and Rate Reimbursement **Methodology**

**Issue:** Government rate setting mechanisms, including those for the establishment of Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California) payments, are not based on actuarial or other sound rate reimbursement methodologies.

**Legislative Platform:** Advocate in support of actuarially sound rate reimbursement methodologies to be utilized for plans developed under health care reform, including any Medicaid rate adjustments.

**Background:** On average, the medical cost associated to Medi-Cal equates to 94 percent of every dollar that the Local Initiatives (LI) receive. The vast majority of the LI's are running significant Medi-Cal deficits. With insufficient capitation rates paid to the LI's and anticipated medical inflation of 10 percent or more, the deficit will only continue to rise.

A new methodology, based upon an actuarial methodology developed by Mercer, is going forward for implementation by the Department of Health Care Services. Given the significant operating losses on Medi-Cal business at this point, there is concern over entering into the new fiscal year with a new and yet unproven model of reimbursement. In addition to the rate methodology change being actuarially sound, it has been stated by both Mercer and DHCS that budget limitations can reduce the amount of reimbursement to plans citing the American Academy of Actuaries.



## Legislative Issues ~ Health Care

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ HEALTH PLAN OF SAN JOAQUIN

Contact: John Hackworth, Ph.D., CEO; E-Mail: [jhackworth@hpsj.com](mailto:jhackworth@hpsj.com); Ph. (209) 461-2211

### 44. **Title: Support Designation of Public Plan Option by States**

**Issue:** Unlike most states, California currently offers public plans to its citizens and should continue to be able to offer those choices as the debate over national healthcare reform continues.

**Legislative Platform:** Support legislation or regulations which would allow states the option to allow a public plan option for providing insurance coverage, and provide appropriate Federal Medical Assistance Percentages funding to support the expanded population the public option will serve.

**Background:** When California implemented Medi-Cal Managed Care in 1997, it allowed participating counties to implement a public health insurance option to compete with private health plans for this line of business. Several counties, including San Joaquin opted to do so. The Health Plan of San Joaquin has been operating successfully for years and has provided an option for Medi-Cal beneficiaries, as well as providing significant support for safety net institutions.

If there is a Public Plan Option offered through a National Healthcare Reform bill, the Public Plan option should be left up to the individual states rather than the creation of a nationalized, federally controlled public option. The Secretary should have the authority to designate, as a public health insurance option operating within a state or sub-state region (as defined by the Secretary), any publicly-governed nonprofit entity experienced in contracting for and providing health plan choices to eligible individuals, and such other criteria as the Secretary may deem necessary to ensure choice, competition, and high-quality coverage.



## Legislative Issues ~ Human Services

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Contact: Joseph Chelli, Director; E-Mail: [jchelli@sjgov.org](mailto:jchelli@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-1651

### 45. **Title:** Temporary Assistance to Needy Families

**Issue:** Federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families is due to expire in September 2010. The new Temporary Assistance to Needy Families rules should focus on maintaining the federal, state, and local intergovernmental partnership to provide local agencies with the tools needed to move families from welfare to work rather than designing programs simply to meet burdensome administrative requirements.

**Legislative Platform:** Support legislation and/or regulatory reform which would provide maximum flexibility to local jurisdictions and broaden the definition of allowable exemptions (including accountable activities, hours, time limit of activities), and provide funding necessary to meet the new requirements.

**Background:** In December 1996, Congress enacted the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act that revolutionized welfare in the United States. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) is the federal statute governing Welfare-to-Work programs nationwide. California's program called California's Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids, or CalWORKs, has been very successful in moving families from welfare to work. Congress extended the original law on numerous occasions since the Act expired on September 30, 2002. TANF was reauthorized and became law as part of the Federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, through September 2010.

TANF reauthorization affects CalWORKs policy and the livelihood of the low-income population for years to come. In an effort to administer TANF and other human services programs efficiently and effectively, it is essential that state and federal rules and requirements are aligned, and do not include burdensome administrative requirements for front-line TANF service providers. Following are some of San Joaquin County's major policy issues surrounding TANF: 1) Allow separate state programs to be excluded from the Work Participation Rate, 2) Allow partial participation credit, 3) Allow broader definition of activities that can be counted in Work Participation Rate, 4) Extend the time limit of activities that will move families toward being self-sufficient in the long-term, 5) Allow increased flexibility in counting and documenting work participation, and 6) Allow a broader definition of exemptions from participation (i.e., a federal exemption for temporarily disabled people).



## Legislative Issues ~ Human Services

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Contact: Joseph Chelli, Director; E-Mail: [jchelli@sjgov.org](mailto:jchelli@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-1651

### 46. Title: Child Welfare Services

**Issue**: States and counties have not been provided with adequate funding to be able to meet the federal outcomes aimed at protecting children from abuse and neglect.

**Legislative Platform**:

1. **Strongly advocate in support of protecting existing funding levels while seeking adequate funding levels for mandated child welfare services.**
2. **Oppose budgetary proposals which would result in further reductions in funding for mandated child welfare services.**
3. **Strongly oppose legislation or budgetary proposals which include new child welfare services mandates without adequate funding.**
4. **Support legislation which would provide counties the resources needed in meeting mandated Child Welfare Services Outcome goals.**

**Background**: The State of California is under a Performance Improvement Plan with the Federal Department of Health and Human Services. California's 58 counties are all under System Improvement Plans with the California Department of Social Services. These plans focus heavily on the Federal outcomes which are: 1) Children first and foremost are protected from abuse and neglect, 2) Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate, 3) Children have permanency and stability in their living situations, without increasing re-entry into foster care, 4) The family relationships and connections of children served by Child Welfare Services will be preserved, 5) Children receive services adequate to their physical, emotional, and mental health needs, 6) Children receive services appropriate to their educational needs, 7) Families have the enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs, and, 8) Youth emancipating from foster care are prepared to transition to adulthood. In order for the federal mandated outcomes for children and families to be met, county government needs adequate resources to affect change.

Current funding levels do not adequately support these mandated services aimed at protecting children from abuse and neglect, providing family maintenance and reunification services, providing permanent child placement services (including long-term foster care, guardianship, and adoptions), and emancipation from foster care.





## Legislative Issues ~ Human Services

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Contact: Joseph Chelli, Director; E-Mail: [jchelli@sjgov.org](mailto:jchelli@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-1651

### 47. **Title: Adult Protective Services**

**Issue:** Funding for Adult Protective Services is static while the number of reports of elder abuse and neglect is on the rise.

#### **Legislative Platform:**

- 1. Support legislation which would establish a comprehensive Adult Protective Services, which would include investigation and reporting, outreach, intervention, education, and other supportive services to seniors and dependent adults in need of protection.**
- 2. Support budget appropriations which would provide for the coordination of Adult Protective Services with other resources, including care management, assisted living, in-home support services, and other essential services for seniors and dependent adults; and**
- 3. Support efforts to provide comprehensive training for professional staff providing protective services to seniors and dependent adults.**

**Background:** San Joaquin County attempts to provide a comprehensive investigation of all reports of elder abuse and neglect. State funding for Adult Protective Services (APS) has remained static while the demand for services as well as the cost of providing these services continues to increase. In addition, federal funding is available only for services provided by skilled medical professionals (such as registered nurses) and health-related services (such as applying for Medicaid) provided by social workers in APS, because essentially, all APS services are performed by social workers, and the greatest amount of time spent working with victims is not directly health-related, federal funding does not support the vast majority of services provided by and through APS.

In addition, the lack of funding to meet the demand of elder abuse services creates an undue social services burden on law enforcement agencies that rely on APS to assist in the investigation of elder/dependent adult abuse/neglect. Reduced support to law enforcement by APS results in fewer complete investigations, which increases the risk of serious injury and/or death of abused elderly persons and dependent adults. In addition, the lack of funding support often results in increased costs for Medicare and Medicaid and other federally-funded programs.



## Legislative Issues ~ Human Services

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Contact: Joseph Chelli, Director; E-Mail: [jchelli@sjgov.org](mailto:jchelli@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-1651

### 48. **Title: Community Services Block Grant Funding**

**Issue:** Insufficient funding to support critical community-based services has had serious consequences to San Joaquin County and its low-income population.

**Legislative Platform:** Support legislation and/or budgetary proposals which would maintain or increase Community Services Block Grant funding for safety-net services provided by County community centers.

**Background:** Elimination or lack of an increase in Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding would have very serious consequences to San Joaquin County and its low-income residents. In 2008-09, actual CSBG funding for San Joaquin County covered 36.6% or \$869.86 of the total operating costs for the County's eight community centers. Without a significant augmentation in CSBG funding, critical community-based services provided to the County's low-income population will no longer be available.

The eight community centers provide vital community-based services to low-income residents of San Joaquin County. Community center services include emergency food and clothing assistance, wellness clinics and health access van, senior, adult, youth, and children's programs, job search programs, and information and referral.

An augmentation of funding would allow increased support for employment, health, education, shelter, and other essential services provided by the community centers for the low-income population of San Joaquin County. The focus of these services is to decrease dependence on public assistance, reduce crime, improve the success of children/families, increase employment, and provide safety-net services to those unable to provide for their own basic needs.



## Legislative Issues ~ Human Services

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Contact: Joseph Chelli, Director; E-Mail: [jchelli@sjgov.org](mailto:jchelli@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-1651

### 49. **Title:** Pass-Through of Older American Act Funding to Local Area Agencies on Aging

**Issue:** Federal funding for critical Older American Act programs is not made available to Local Area Agencies on Aging in the absence of a State Budget.

**Legislative Platform:** **Support legislation or administrative rules, which would require state governments to pass-through Federal Older American Act funding to Local Area Agencies on Aging in the absence of a State Budget.**

**Background:** Congress passed the Older American Act (OAA) in 1965. The purpose of the OAA was to serve elderly persons with the greatest social and economic need, giving particular attention to low-income minority individuals and providing services and programs that assist them in maintaining their independence as well as their dignity. OAA is considered to be the major vehicle for the organization and delivery of social and nutritional services to this group and its caregivers.

Unfortunately, in the absence of a California State Budget, the state does not provide federal OAA funds for the continuation of OAA services provided by Local Area Agencies on Aging. If County funds are not provided to continue OAA programs during the absence of a State Budget, vital services to our vulnerable senior population would be discontinued. While counties are provided the funds upon the passage of a State Budget, the holding of OAA Federal funding to Local Area Agencies on Aging places an unnecessary burden on counties to either fund the continuation of services or discontinue the vital services.



## Legislative Issues ~ Human Services

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Contact: Joseph Chelli, Director; E-Mail: [jchelli@sjgov.org](mailto:jchelli@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-1651

### 50. **Title:** The Elder Justice Act of 2009 (S. 795)

**Issue:** There is no federal funding dedicated to supporting the prevention, investigation or prosecution of elder abuse.

**Legislative Platform:** Support legislation or regulatory changes which would provide funding for services and programs for the elderly in an effort to prevent and enhance treatment of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

**Background:** The number of older Americans continues to grow at a rapid pace, and so is the problem of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation. This, often invisible treatment, is among the gravest issues facing millions of American families. The Elder Justice Act as proposed in S. 795, would provide federal resources to support state and local front line efforts in fighting elder abuse. The Elder Justice Act, as currently drafted, would: a) create Offices of Elder Justice at the Departments of Health and Human Services and Justice; b) improve the quality, quantity, and accessibility of information about elder abuse; c) increase knowledge and support for projects that will enhance elder justice related programs; d) develop forensic capacity for the detection of elder abuse; e) support victim assistance, "safe havens," for at-risk elders; f) support for prosecution of elder justice cases; and g) provide training to combat elder abuse.



## Legislative Issues ~ Human Services

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Contact: Joseph Chelli, Director; E-Mail: [jchelli@sjgov.org](mailto:jchelli@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-1651

### 51. **Title:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index

**Issue:** A significant number of elders are facing rising costs of living, and the existing Federal Poverty Level criteria no longer provides an accurate measure of income necessary for an elder to live independently.

**Legislative Platform:** Support legislation or regulatory changes which would require the California State Department of Aging to include the Elder Index in its State Plan, and ensure that Area Agencies on Aging include the Elder Index in their plans.

**Background:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index (Elder Index), developed by the University of Massachusetts, Boston, is a measure of income adequacy for older adults. The Elder Index benchmarks basic costs of living for elder households. It illustrates how costs of living vary geographically, and are based on the characteristics of elder households: household size, homeownership or renter, mode of transportation, and health status. The costs are for basic needs of elder households; they are based on market costs and do not assume any subsidies. The Elder Index, with its respective “tracks” for seniors living in different circumstances, shows how elders with low- and modest-incomes are challenged to cover their living costs today, as costs for basic needs are rising much faster than their incomes. In addition, it illustrates how seniors with moderate and somewhat higher incomes may be prepared for the present, yet face an uncertain future when living costs outpace their incomes, or when costs rise markedly as their life circumstances change. The University of California Los Angeles has calculated the Elder Index for each California county using 2007 data.

The Elder Index provides a framework to help guide public, private, and elders’ decisions. Using the index in preparing area agency plans will enable state government to have a more complete and accurate picture of the numbers of elderly people who lack the basic income, and the extent of their income shortfalls.



## Legislative Issues ~ Library Services

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ LIBRARY SERVICES

Contact: Pamela Sloan, Director of Community Services; E-Mail: [pamela.sloan@ci.stockton.ca.us](mailto:pamela.sloan@ci.stockton.ca.us);

(209) 937-8362

### 52. **Title: E-Rate Funding for Libraries**

**Issue:** Continued reductions in E-rate funding to schools and libraries would impair the library's ability to continue to provide the public with up-to-date technology.

**Legislative Platform:** Support legislation and/or budgetary proposals which would maintain the current level of E-rate funding to libraries.

**Background:** The Schools and Libraries Division of the Universal Service Administrative Company provides affordable access to telecommunications services through E-rate discounts for all eligible schools and libraries in the United States. The E-rate was created by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to provide discounted telecommunications connections and services to the nation's schools and libraries as part of the universal service framework. Funded at up to \$2.25 billion annually, the E-rate provides discounts on telecommunications services, Internet access, and internal connections. The E-rate discounts range from 20% to 90% with the deepest discounts going to those communities with the greatest need based upon the local eligibility levels for participation in the National School Lunch Program.

The E-rate has played a pivotal role in helping libraries connect their users to the Internet. More than 95% of our nation's libraries offer Internet access to the public, compared to 1996, when 28% of library systems offered public access to the Internet in at least one branch. With more than \$350 million in discounts since 1998, the E-rate has helped change the public libraries' information technology landscape.



## Legislative Issues ~ Transportation

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### 53. **Title: Transportation Funding**

**Issue:** County transportation financing needs exceed existing and foreseeable revenues, and additional funding is required to respond to the significantly growing transportation needs.

**Legislative Platform:** Advocate in support of an increase in the Highway Trust Fund and/or indexing of the federal gas tax.

**Background:** Local jurisdictions, cities, and counties have the sole responsibility of operating and managing over 80 percent of the maintained road miles in California. The local or secondary road network is a critical component to a seamless transportation system.

For the past 50 years, surface transportation programs have been funded by the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) (as opposed to the Treasury general fund). The primary revenue source for the HTF is the 18.4 cent per gallon tax on gasoline and a 24.4 cent per gallon tax on diesel fuel. Annually, California receives a share of these funds through the Federal Transportation program (currently SAFETEA-LU), which authorizes \$241 billion for highways, transit, and transportation safety projects nationwide from 2005 through 2009. For most of its history, the HTF has collected more revenue than had been expended. This has changed in the last few years. Most recently, an infusion of approximately \$8.0 billion from the U.S. Treasury into the HTF was required to ensure solvency of the HTF through 2009.



## Legislative Issues ~ Transportation

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ~ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Contact: Thomas R. Flinn, Director; E-Mail: [tflinn@sjgov.org](mailto:tflinn@sjgov.org); Ph. (209) 468-3100

### 54. **Title:** Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)

**Issue:** The SAFETEA-LU expired on September 30, 2009.

**Legislative Platform:** Seek, advocate, and support continued reauthorization of the SAFETEA-LU or a new federal transportation bill which would include adequate funding and ensure that California receives a fair share of its contributions to the Highway Trust Fund.

**Background:** SAFETEA-LU, signed by President Bush on August 10, 2005, authorized an investment of \$286.4 billion for federal highway, transit, and safety projects over a five-year period through September 30, 2009. Under the Act, funding for highway and safety programs would not be reduced when tax revenues decline, provided the Highway Trust Fund balance exceeds \$6 billion. On September 15, 2008, an amendment (Public Law 110-318) to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 appropriated \$8.0 billion to restore the Highway Trust Fund balance in order to ensure the solvency of the Highway Account of the Trust Fund for the remainder of SAFETEA-LU. Congress is anticipated to continue efforts of drafting the reauthorization legislation in 2010.

Objectives for reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU or a new transportation bill should be aimed at providing for the most cost-effective use of federal transportation revenues to preserve and enhance the nation's transportation system while ensuring California receives a fair-share contribution from the federal Highway Trust Fund. In addition, new transportation legislation should include, as a basic objective, an increase in funding and direct subventions to local agencies for safety improvements and maintenance on local roadways. The new legislation should provide a more streamlined and flexible approach to allocating federal funds for highway, transit, local road, and bicycle/pedestrian improvements based on need, and by reducing the number of core programs to smaller flexible programs. Due to congestion on the State Highway System, the local federal aid network of roads is experiencing increased traffic, and is functioning as secondary highways. A safety and maintenance component similar to State Highway Operation and Protection is required for local agencies to address current and future transportation capacity and maintenance needs. The revision of federal regulations to emphasize the need for roadway infrastructure safety and maintenance funding remains a high priority.

San Joaquin County supports the reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU or a new transportation bill that would build upon current successes of SAFETEA-LU, and focus on the following priorities: 1) Protect and enhance transportation revenues and expenditures, 2) Protect previous and future investments via system maintenance and preservation, 3) Increase safety on existing transportation systems, 4) Improve environmental stewardship and address climate change concerns, 5) Streamline the regulatory and project delivery process, and 6) Increase state regional, and local agency flexibility.





## APPENDIX ~ A

(January 2009)

### SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY'S "BETTER WAY" Solutions for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

San Joaquin County proposes that there is a "Better Way" to support a vision for a vibrant and sustainable Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta in the near and distant future. San Joaquin County's vision for a Better Way begins with the recognition that the Delta is a vibrant ecosystem which supports diverse fish and wildlife species and passionate recreational enthusiasts. We must also recognize the proud tradition of the Delta in agriculture and maritime commerce. Miles of utility lines, roads and other infrastructure traverse through the Delta and support urban communities far and near. The unique splendor of the estuary, its history, and the lifelines that traverse through it makes the Delta a special place for all Californians especially to those who live, work and play here.

### Spreading the Message...

#### California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

San Joaquin ~ Stanislaus ~ Merced ~ Madera ~ Fresno ~ Kings ~ Tulare ~ Kern

Since 2005, California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley has focused on improving the region's economic vitality and quality of life for the region's 4 million residents. The Partnership's efforts are broad and encompass several work groups which specialize in areas such as transportation, education, energy, and water. The Partnership's Water Work Group had recently presented a resolution to the Partnership Board of Directors. Despite the polar nature of the Peripheral Canal issue, the eight San Joaquin Valley Counties found that they have much more in common with regards to a sustainable water supply of adequate quality and a commitment to sustained flood protection efforts. On October 22, 2009, the historic resolution was passed unanimously by the Partnership Board of Directors.

"Let's build on the 90% we can agree upon and stop fighting over the 10% we can't."

~ Fritz Grupe,  
Deputy Chairman  
California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley





## APPENDIX ~ A (*continued*)

### SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY'S "BETTER WAY" Solutions for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

In June 2008, the Counties of Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo recognized the need for a coalition to advocate for the common interests of the 5-Delta Counties with the adoption of a multi-county resolution. The Delta Counties developed a joint resolution which outlines 11 basic principles of mutual interest concerning water quantity, water quality, Delta ecosystem, water rights, local economies, governance, levee maintenance, through-Delta conveyance, improved Statewide water demand management, and maximum recycling and reuse. The Delta Counties Coalition will continue to meet and advocate in accordance with the adopted principles.

**The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta** is the largest estuary in the western United States. The Delta is also home to two major shipping ports, four major highways, various railroads, water pipelines, power transmission and natural gas storage facilities; and more than 750 plant and animal species, many of which are endangered. Water diverted from the Delta is used to support 28 million Californians and 7 million acres of farmland. **Two thirds of the Delta lies in San Joaquin County** while the remainder of the Delta overlies the Counties of Contra Costa, Sacramento, Solano and Yolo.



## Thinking out of the Box...

***A Water Plan For The 21st Century: Regional Self-Sufficiency*** – It is no coincidence that increased exports out of the Delta has caused the drastic decline in the health of the Estuary. As communities and farms throughout California struggle to find new and reliable water supplies, sustainability is a concept that must be made a priority to ensure that future generations may continue to enjoy the riches of California. Self-sustaining water regions throughout California—the concept is not new. What if we reactivate historical floodplains to lessen flood peaks, enhance wildlife habitat, and replenishes depleted groundwater basins? What if we built new reservoirs to increase flood control and water storage potentials? What if we recycled or desalted as much water as we could?

“You can’t operate the Delta like a sponge, soaking in the spills from our reservoirs and then wringing it dry to quench our thirsts.”

~ Tom Zuckerman,  
Delta Advocate



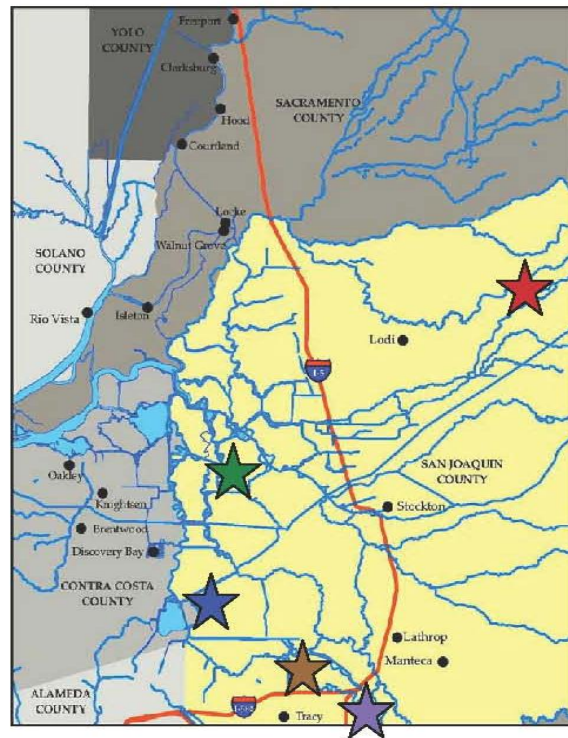


## APPENDIX ~ A (continued)

### SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY'S "BETTER WAY" Solutions for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

**MORE WATER Project** - Flood water is a liability and is only available in certain months during wet years. How do we turn this liability into a resource? The MORE WATER Project proposes to divert flood water off the Mokelumne River in Wet years during the months of December to June. The water will be diverted into the proposed Duck Creek Reservoir, an off-stream reservoir, for use during the irrigation season. The use of surface water in-lieu of groundwater will help to combat conditions of overdraft in Eastern San Joaquin County. Conjunctive use is the key to turning straw into gold.

**South Delta Bypass** - A south delta flood bypass and habitat restoration area in the vicinity of Paradise Cut could reduce the flood risk in the lower San Joaquin River for the residential areas of Lathrop, Manteca, and Stockton.



## Delta Management is about Water Quality not Quantity...

Thinking about alternative ways to manage the Delta, we must recognize that fish, including salmon and Delta Smelt, prefer a certain water quality which can fluctuate tremendously throughout the Delta and is also dependant on seasonal runoff and export pump operations. Fish have not done well in the Delta because it has historically been primarily managed as a water supply switch yard. What if we could manipulate the flow in Delta channels to mimic preferable water quality conditions in certain parts of the Delta away from the export pumps? This scenario could potentially provide an opportunity for salmonid and Delta Smelt populations to recover with less severe Delta export restrictions.



## APPENDIX ~ A (*continued*)

### SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY'S "BETTER WAY" Solutions for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

**Delta Corridors Project** – The concept of the Delta Corridors Project is to avoid mixing salinity with fresh water near the export pumps. The proposal is to reconnect Old River with the San Joaquin River to provide more nutrients often needed by fish and to redirect the Delta's fresh water pool through Middle River to the export pumps. A total of 12 flood gates, barriers and/or pumping facilities would need to be constructed throughout the Delta.

**Two-Gate Project** – Delta Smelt like turbid water typical of high runoff conditions in the winter and spring months. Physical flow barriers at Old River and Connection Slough could keep the more turbid Sacramento River flows of the spring winter months and therefore the Delta Smelt in the western and central portions of the Delta thus enabling less severe export restrictions. Project proponents are proposing a 5-year study where temporary operable gates would be installed at a total cost of \$80 million. Boater interests and safety remain a major concern for local entities.

## Act Now...

**Levee Subventions** – "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound in cure." Levee maintenance entities have for years accomplished the herculean task of maintaining the levee systems in the Delta with very limited funding sources. A renewed investment in levee improvements, emergency management, and a more coordinated approach to flood protection would allow flood managers to actually reduce the risks of levee breaks instead of fretting over the consequences.

**Delta Recirculation** – The Lower San Joaquin River continues to be a major source of imported salinity to the South Delta. The concept of Delta recirculation is to freshen Lower San Joaquin River flows with water from the Delta-Mendota Canal. Recirculation improves water quality entering South Delta and the export pumps. Improved salinity concentrations in the Lower San Joaquin River also could potentially reduce the Bureau of Reclamation's reliance on New Melones Reservoir, a major source of surface water for Eastern San Joaquin County, to meet Delta water quality objectives.





## APPENDIX ~ B

Adopted: October 22, 2009

The California Partnership for San Joaquin Valley – Resolution in Support of the Partnership-Sponsored Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Framework

1. **WHEREAS** the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley ("Partnership") was established by Executive Order S-22-06 to focus attention on one of the most vital, yet challenged regions of the State and implement changes that would improve the economic well-being of the Valley and the quality of life of its residents. The Partnership has crafted a Strategic Action Proposal that will achieve those goals and has been charged by Governor Schwarzenegger to implement that Strategic Action Proposal; and
2. **WHEREAS** the growing population and expanding economy of the San Joaquin Valley require an adequate water supply of sufficient quality that is reliable for all sectors, including the environment. Current water supplies may be vulnerable to sudden disruption and reoccurring droughts. Groundwater supplies have been drawn down faster than they have been replenished; and current infrastructure is insufficient to address water storage and conveyance needs anticipated under current and future demand patterns and protecting the fragile Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta ecosystem. Each of these challenges must be addressed; and
3. **WHEREAS** the Strategic Action Proposal's recommendations for Water Quality, Supply and Reliability focus on; a) developing an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the San Joaquin Valley that incorporates inter-regional cooperation between the San Joaquin and Tulare hydrologic regions; b) incorporating major levee enhancements in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and San Joaquin Valley to safeguard and enhance regional water quality and water supply as well as provide for flood control; c) augmenting surface water and groundwater banking programs and recycled water projects; d) improving water quality and expanding inland saline water management; e) expanding environmental restoration and conservation strategies; and f) expanding agricultural and urban water use and energy efficiency programs; and
4. **WHEREAS** implementation of the Water Supply, Quality and Reliability recommendations require development of a convergence of interest among the eight counties of the San Joaquin Valley; and
5. **WHEREAS** this resolution takes no position on an isolated conveyance (peripheral canal) around and/or through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta; and
6. **WHEREAS** a major goal of the Partnership is to build bridges of understanding and shared vision between interests and regions of the San Joaquin Valley and California that meld together to provide for the economic well being and quality of life for all its citizens; and
7. **WHEREAS** the Partnership Water Policy Working Group has been engaged in a structured, collaborative dialogue since September 2007 to bring the interests and regions together to develop a shared vision for reliable water supply for all the San Joaquin Valley that protects water quality and reliability; and



## APPENDIX ~ B (*continued*)

The California Partnership for San Joaquin Valley – Resolution in Support of the Partnership-Sponsored Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Framework

8. **WHEREAS** the California Water Institute and Water Plan Advisory Committee have been engaged in a 2-year collaborative process to prepare a San Joaquin Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Framework that effectively addresses the key elements contained in the Partnership Strategic Plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley unanimously supports the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Framework and encourages local, State and Federal resource agencies, as well as Central Valley Cities, Counties, and the public to embrace and implement concepts that address current and future sources, uses and management of water, including;

- a) Necessary infrastructure to capture, control, store and move water consistent with the law and water rights.
- b) Employment of best management practices to ensure that conservation, recycling, reuse, groundwater reclamation and desalination represent the maximum yet realistic portion of water supplies.
- c) Ensuring the safety and quality of current and future water supplies.
- d) Protection and restoration of aquatic ecosystems.
- e) Preventing and minimizing damaging floods.
- f) Encouraging regional self sufficiency for water supplies.
- g) Equitable responsibility among beneficiaries for funding the elements of a successful water management strategy, and
- h) Developing priorities with a commitment to complete the long-range strategy within reasonable timeframes.



## APPENDIX ~ C

Adopted: September 18, 2007

R-07-534: Resolution Opposing the Development of a Peripheral Canal, or Isolated Water Conveyance Facility by California Water Interest

**WHEREAS**, in 1982, the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors approved a Resolution opposing the authorization, funding and construction of the proposed Peripheral Canal, or similar isolated water transfer facility to carry Sacramento River water around the Delta to the State and Federal pumps, as authorized by then Senate Bill 200; and,

**WHEREAS**, that position was re-asserted by additional actions taken by the Board in 1992, and again in 1998, under the CALFED Program; and,

**WHEREAS**, the State Water Project has not developed the five million acre-feet of water from North Coast watersheds, which was planned to supplement water supplies in the Delta for in-basin and export use; and,

**WHEREAS**, excessive exports of water from the Delta occur at times and amounts which cause injury to in-Delta water users and the environment, including endangered species; and,

**WHEREAS**, on September 28, 2006, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger established the Delta Vision Committee, a Blue Ribbon Task Force and a Stakeholder Coordination Group to help develop a Delta vision and strategic plan. This visioning process has progressed to the point where the Coordination Group recently submitted a Preliminary Recommendations Report that includes two primary options, the Flexible Delta and the Resilient Adaptive Delta. While this effort has outlined possible approaches that may allow the Delta to meet future beneficial needs, it also revives and calls for the studies, modeling, investigations, and potential development of an isolated water conveyance facility such as the Peripheral Canal, singularly or as a part of a dual conveyance system; and,

**WHEREAS**, the construction and operation of a Peripheral Canal, or a similar facility would require the taking of prime agricultural land and possibly urban areas for the construction of the canal itself, and the loss of additional acreage from seepage from that canal will cause severance damage to additional prime agricultural land; will sever and impair utilities and local road systems; will create significant new flood dangers to agricultural lands and urban areas within the City of Stockton and San Joaquin County; will adversely affect the water rights of water users within San Joaquin County; will circumvent the Delta common pool; and will seriously impair Delta water quality and an adequate supply for all beneficial uses; and the protection of fish, wildlife, and other recreational resources within this County; and,

**WHEREAS**, there are other more viable alternatives to a Peripheral Canal, which would continue the transfer of water from the Sacramento River through the existing channels of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to Clifton Court Forebay that can be constructed much more rapidly and at substantially less cost, and will not create all the damage and problems that would be created by the construction of an isolated water conveyance facility; and,



## APPENDIX ~ C (continued)

R-07-534: Resolution Opposing the Development of a Peripheral Canal, or Isolated Water Conveyance Facility by California Water Interest

**WHEREAS**, the State of California itself, through the California Water Plan Update 2005, has stressed the need for more integrated regionally focused water resource solutions, including greater conjunctive use, desalinization, conservation, recycling, and improved flood plain management to establish greater regional self sufficiency in areas of the State that rely on imported water supplies; and,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors opposes the development of a Peripheral Canal, or any other isolated water conveyance facility in the Delta, and hereby urges the following:

1. That State water interests pursue regional solutions and limit exports from the Delta to water which is truly surplus to all present and future beneficial needs including environmental needs of the Delta and other areas of origin.
2. That the Delta be maintained as a common pool of good quality water for local and export water use.
3. That new water supplies in the State of California be developed through greater conservation, recycling, conjunctive use of ground and surface water, desalinization of brackish and ocean waters, local water storage, water reclamation and improved management of flood waters for recharge of overdrafted groundwater basins.
4. That local and regional water resource management activities be supported to develop and utilize local regulatory storage and other projects for improved conjunctive use, recharge capability and groundwater storage.
5. That Delta levees strengthened and gates and other facilities installed at strategic locations to improve Delta sustainability and facilitate recovery from flood, seismic and other emergencies.
6. That emergency response plan be developed, financed and implemented to provide improved State and local capability to respond to flood, seismic and other emergencies in the Delta.





## APPENDIX ~ D

Adopted: May 13, 2008

R-08-269: Resolution Opposing the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force Recommendations for the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta

**WHEREAS**, on September 28, 2006 under Executive Order S-17-06, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger established the Delta Vision Committee, a Blue Ribbon Task Force and Stakeholder Coordination Group to help develop a durable vision for sustainable management of the Delta with the goal of managing the Delta over the long term to restore and maintain identified functions and values that are determined to be important to the environmental quality of the Delta and the economic and social well being of the people of the State; and,

**WHEREAS**, the planning process has progressed to the point where, on November 30, 2007, the Task Force released their Delta Vision Report (Report) entitled, "Our Vision for the California Delta." In the report it describes both short- and long-term recommendations that propose changes to a wide array of issues affecting the Delta including water supply, water quality, flood control, land use, habitat, and local governance; and,

**WHEREAS**, while this planning effort together with the several Report recommendations has outlined ideas that may allow the Delta to meet future beneficial needs in a sustainable way, it also supports and calls for the studies, modeling, investigations, and potential development of an isolated water conveyance facility, Peripheral Canal singularly or as a part of a dual conveyance system; and,

**WHEREAS**, the construction and operation of a Peripheral Canal or a similar facility would require the taking of prime agricultural land and possibly urban areas for the construction of the canal itself and the loss of additional acreage from seepage from that canal, will cause severance damage to additional prime agricultural land, will sever and impair utilities and local road systems, will create significant new flood dangers to agricultural lands and urban areas within the City of Stockton and San Joaquin County, will adversely affect the water rights of water users within San Joaquin County, will circumvent the Delta common pool, and will seriously impair Delta water quality and an adequate supply for all beneficial uses, and the protection of endangered fish populations, wildlife, and other recreational resources within the County; and,

**WHEREAS**, given the fact that the Report acknowledges on page 13 that there is not currently sufficient information to determine whether an isolated facility, dual conveyance system or through-Delta conveyance is the best solution for the Delta, the recommendation on page 14 of the Report that an "assessment of a dual conveyance system proceed as the preferred direction" cannot be supported; and,

**WHEREAS**, San Joaquin County is concerned that the Seventh Principle of the Report, which provides that a "revitalized Delta ecosystem may require reduced diversions, or changes in patterns of diversion upstream, within and exported from the Delta," does not specifically consider and respect California's water right priority system and statutory protections for watershed protection areas and areas of origin; and,



## APPENDIX ~ D (*continued*)

R-08-269: Resolution Opposing the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force Recommendations for the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta

**WHEREAS**, San Joaquin County is concerned that the Report considers upstream diversions and diversions within the Delta for local use as a problem to be addressed when these uses must be included within the Delta ecosystem that the State must strive to protect the County from the adverse impacts of Delta exports; and,

**WHEREAS**, San Joaquin County is concerned that the Report focuses on the Public Trust Doctrine as principles of State law to be recognized, while ignoring other equally important principles of State law, including, but not limited to, the water right priority system, and the protection of areas of origin and watershed protection areas; and,

**WHEREAS**, other more practical alternatives exist as outlined under a locally-supported proposal for greater regional self-sufficiency than a Peripheral Canal that can be constructed more rapidly at substantially less cost and will not create the destruction and problems that would be created by an isolated water conveyance facility; and,

**WHEREAS**, the State of California Water Plan has also promoted the need for more integrated and regionally-focused water resource solutions including greater efficiency in the use of available surface supplies, expansion of conjunctive use programs, better management of groundwater resources, desalination, conservation and recycling to establish greater self-sufficiency in areas of the State that rely on imported water supplies; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Blue Ribbon Task Force has apparently pre-supposed the need for a Peripheral Canal, isolated or dual conveyance facility in the Delta despite the lack of consideration for other more viable alternatives and without sound science and technical analysis needed for an informed decision. County representatives have worked cooperatively with Delta interests and other local water agencies to inform the Delta Vision process of other more viable alternatives with only limited success; and,

**WHEREAS**, on April 16, 2008, the 19-member agency San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Advisory Water Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of this resolution.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors does not support the Blue Ribbon Task Force's Delta Vision Report recommendations and the continued strategic planning process so long as this effort supports and promotes the development of a Peripheral Canal or any other isolated water conveyance facility in the Delta; and hereby urges the following:



## APPENDIX ~ D (*continued*)

R-08-269: Resolution Opposing the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force Recommendations for the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta

1. That the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, not California Delta as listed in the Report, be sustained as a unique and valued area, warranting continued investment, preservation, maintenance and special legal protections wherein the State must adopt explicitly in policy that the over-arching goal is the continuous and simultaneous improvement in health of the Delta, the Bay/Delta Estuary and other Northern California tributaries through improved water supply, reliability, water quality, and flood protection by sustaining priorities for the Delta, areas of origin and other watershed protection areas in California.
2. That the priority for meeting the needs in the Delta and Northern California tributaries from which water is exported should be acknowledged and forthrightly honored by both the Central Valley Project and State Water Project to comply with the San Joaquin River, Watershed and Delta Protection Statutes and the continuation of the Delta as a common pool to the maximum extent possible for all local beneficial uses and export as described in Water Code Section 12200 et seq.
3. That in order for the recommendations in the Report to be consistent with the technical findings acknowledged in the Report, the Task Force should also recommend assessment of Through-Delta conveyance.
4. That regardless of what Delta improvements are ultimately supported by the State, any Delta improvements must acknowledge that water users and interests within San Joaquin County are entitled to priority water use and protection from exports under existing California law, and insure that State actions are consistent with those rights and protections.
5. That the foundation for recommendations by the Report for any new water resource policy must: 1) recognize the priority for the water needs in the Delta and other areas of origin and watershed protection areas; 2) provide for the protection of California's water rights priority system; 3) provide for Delta salinity control; and 4) recognize the established fundamentals of California water law wherein the California State Constitution Article X, Section 2 prohibits waste, unreasonable use, and unreasonable method of use of water resources and it further provides that the "conservation of such waters is to be exercised with a view to the reasonable and beneficial use thereof in the interest of the people and for the public welfare."
6. That future water supplies for the State of California be developed through greater regional self-sufficiency as prescribed by "A Water Plan for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Regional Self-Sufficiency" to include increased conservation, recycling, efficiency, conjunctive use, desalination, surface and groundwater storage and reclamation.
7. That the State set a priority to support self-sufficiency through improved Integrated Regional Water Management planning and implementation activities throughout the State to



## APPENDIX ~ D (*continued*)

R-08-269: Resolution Opposing the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force Recommendations for the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta

develop and utilize local water storage for the capture and management of available flood waters or other projects for improved conjunctive use, recharge, banking and groundwater storage in California.

8. That Delta levees be strengthened and operable gates or other facilities installed at strategic locations to improve future Delta sustainability, urban flood protection, ecosystem integrity, agricultural health and facilitate recovery from seismic or other emergency to optimize through-Delta conveyance and work in cooperation with other agencies to develop additional supplies to address the needs for the entire State.

9. That the primary and secondary boundaries of the Delta remain as established under California law and that any new governance proposal in the Report must first recognize and support: 1) the vested private property rights of land owners and the constitutionally recognized land use controls of local governments that encompass the Delta; 2) provide for the protection of California's water rights priority system; and 3) provide for the protection of watershed protection and area of origin rights.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that in conjunction with these declarations, the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors further urges recognition of the following:

1. That the failure of the State Water Project to develop the promised 5 million acre-feet of supplemental water supply for California from North Coast rivers, as listed in Department of Water Resources Bulletin 76, limits the export of only surplus water from the Delta to periods and times when senior water rights, areas of origin and other beneficial uses are not adversely impacted.

2. That the San Joaquin River should also be recognized as a unique and valued watershed to be restored and protected as a vital element of a healthy Delta to provide for the reestablishment of sufficient in-stream flows for all beneficial uses and fishery habitat from the Friant Dam to the Delta.

3. That a long-term sustainable drainage solution in San Joaquin Valley that incorporates ocean outfall must be implemented so agricultural tail water and groundwater accretions high in salinity from lands in the Westside Service Area, Grasslands and wildlife refuges does not drain into the San Joaquin River. This solution should result in the preservation of our valued agriculture economy in the Valley and in greater regional water supply, improved water quality and sustainability through the conservation of hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of water released annually from the Stanislaus River or other Eastside tributaries to comply with the Vernalis and South Delta Salinity Standards.



## APPENDIX ~ E

Adopted: June 24, 2008

### R-08-363: Multi-County Resolution on Water and Delta Related Issues

**WHEREAS**, the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta is at risk from many factors, and in addressing these threats the State may make large-scale changes to the Delta's legal boundaries and ecosystem, land use authority within the Delta, water conveyance through and around the Delta, water rights, management Statewide and many other aspects related to the Delta; and,

**WHEREAS**, the COUNTIES believe there is value in developing a coalition on issues concerning the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and greater Bay/Delta Estuary; and,

**WHEREAS**, the COUNTIES wish to collectively articulate the issues and interests from the perspective of the Delta region itself, from the people who call the Delta home, and perhaps best understand the tremendous resource the Delta represents; and,

**WHEREAS**, the COUNTIES have identified a need for joint action and advocacy in areas of mutual interest on Delta-related issues; and,

**WHEREAS**, the COUNTIES wish to educate and maintain positive working relationships with regional, State and Federal governmental agencies and the public on Delta-related issues; and,

**WHEREAS**, through this Resolution, the COUNTIES have adopted a statement of basic principles describing their joint interests which may be refined over time.

**NOW THEREFORE, the COUNTIES agree that:**

The COUNTIES adopt this Resolution for the purpose of articulating mutual interests on Delta issues. Furthermore, the COUNTIES resolve to work together to better understand Delta-related issues from a regional perspective and to use their unified voice to advocate on behalf of local government in available forums at the Federal and State levels. Our mutual interests are as follows.

Management of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and greater Bay/Delta Estuary must:

1. Protect and improve water quality and water quantity in the Delta region and maintain appropriate Delta outflow for a healthy estuary;
2. Protect the existing water right priority system and legislative protections established for the Delta;



## APPENDIX ~ E (*continued*)

### R-08-363: Multi-County Resolution on Water and Delta Related Issues

3. Respect and safeguard Delta Counties' responsibilities related to land use, water resources, flood management, tax revenues, public health and safety, economic development, agricultural stability, recreation, and environmental protection in any new Delta governance structures;
4. Represent and include local government in any new governance structures for the Delta;
5. Protect the economic viability of agriculture and the ongoing vitality of communities in the Delta;
6. Support rehabilitation, improvement, and maintenance of levees throughout the Delta;
7. Support the Delta pool concept, in which the common resource provides quality freshwater supply to all Delta users, requiring mutual responsibility to maintain, restore, and protect the common resource;
8. Support immediate improvements to through-Delta conveyance;
9. Require that any water conveyance plan for the Delta be aligned with the principles established by this Resolution and supported by clearly demonstrated improvement of the entire State's water management;
10. Protect and restore the Delta ecosystem, including adequate water supply and quality to support it in perpetuity; and
11. Include the study of storage options and implementation of conservation, recycling, reuse, and regional self-sufficiency as part of a Statewide improved flood management and water supply system.