



# SAN JOAQUIN

—COUNTRY—

*Greatness grows here.*

Adopted 2019-2020 Legislative/Regulatory  
**Platform and Policy Guidelines**

# FEDERAL

December 4, 2018

# SAN JOAQUIN — COUNTY —

## Board of Supervisors



BOB ELLIOTT, CHAIRMAN  
DISTRICT 5



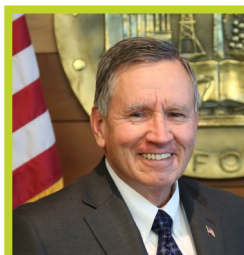
KATHERINE M. MILLER, VICE CHAIR  
DISTRICT 2



MIGUEL VILLAPUDUA, SUPERVISOR  
DISTRICT 1



TOM PATTI, SUPERVISOR  
DISTRICT 3



CHUCK WINN, SUPERVISOR  
DISTRICT 4

# San Joaquin County

Adopted 2019 and 2020 Federal Legislative/Regulatory  
Platform and Policy Guidelines

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**ADOPTED 2019 AND 2020 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY PLATFORM AND  
POLICY GUIDELINES**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message From The Board of Supervisors ..... 8

Board of Supervisors’ Board Strategic Priorities 2016-2019 ..... 10

**San Joaquin County Legislative/Regulatory Policy Guidelines:**

- Administration ..... 12
- Administration of Justice ..... 12
- Agriculture ..... 13
- Airport..... 13
- Economic Development ..... 13
- Environmental Health..... 13
- General Services—Facilities Management ..... 13
- General Services—Office of Emergency Services ..... 14
- Health Care ..... 14
- Homelessness ..... 15
- Human Services ..... 15
- Public Works—General ..... 15
- Public Works—Flood Protection ..... 16
- Public Works—Regulatory Reform..... 16
- Public Works—Solid Waste ..... 16
- Public Works—Transportation ..... 17
- Public Works—Water ..... 17
- Veteran Services ..... 17

**Legislative Projects:**

**Administration of Justice:**

1. Public Safety Interoperability Communication System..... 18

**Airport:**

2. 2019-2024 Stockton Metropolitan Airport Capital Improvement Projects..... 19

3. Cargo Ramp Expansion ..... 22

**Health Care:**

4. Health Care Information Technology Infrastructure..... 23

5. Public Health Facility Replacement/Expansion ..... 25

6. Adolescent Substance Abuse Facility ..... 26



**ADOPTED 2019 AND 2020 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY PLATFORM AND  
POLICY GUIDELINES**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**  
*(CONTINUED)*

**Information Systems:**

7. Cybersecurity ..... 27

**Public Works:**

8. Top Ten Transportation Projects ..... 28

**Legislative Issues:**

**Administration of Justice:**

9. Revise the Definition of Inmates Eligible for Reimbursement Under the State Criminal  
Population Assistance Program ..... 31
10. Federal Funding to Combat Illegal Drugs ..... 32
11. Gangs and Gang Involvement ..... 33

**Agriculture:**

12. Pest Prevention and Surveillance ..... 34

**Airport:**

13. Passenger Facility Charges ..... 35
14. Federal Aviation Administration Discretionary Funds ..... 36
15. Terminal Modernization and Expansion ..... 37

**Community Development:**

16. Affordable Housing ..... 38
17. Homelessness ..... 39

**Economic Development:**

18. Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act ..... 40

**Emergency Response:**

19. Emergency Management Performance Grant Funding for Flood Preparedness ..... 41

**General Services:**

20. Land and Water Conservation Fund ..... 42

**Health Care Services Agency: San Joaquin General Hospital:**

21. Medicaid and Medicare Funding Programs ..... 43



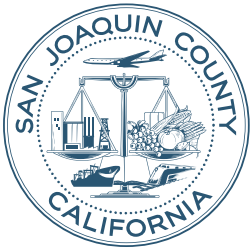
**ADOPTED 2019 AND 2020 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY PLATFORM AND  
POLICY GUIDELINES**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**  
*(CONTINUED)*

22.	340B Drug Purchasing Program.....	45
23.	Shortages of Physicians, Nurses, and Ancillary Clinicians .....	46
24.	Exclusion of Psychiatric Health Facility from Institute for Mental Disease.....	47
25.	Mental Health Treatment and the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant.....	48
26.	Services and Facilities for Veterans .....	49
27.	Funding for Public Health Emergency Services .....	51
28.	Controlling Tuberculosis .....	52
29.	Behavioral Health Continuum of Care.....	53
<b>Human Services:</b>		
30.	Family First Prevention Services Act.....	54
31.	SNAP Provisions in the Farm Bill.....	56
<b>Information Systems:</b>		
32.	Help America Vote Act.....	58
<b>Library:</b>		
33.	E-Rate Funding for Libraries .....	59
34.	Expanding Access to Broadband in Libraries.....	60
<b>Public Works:</b>		
35.	Transportation Funding .....	61
36.	Local Road and Bridge Maintenance Backlog.....	62
37.	Improved Flood Protection.....	63
38.	Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta .....	66
39.	Clean Water Act: Environmental Protection Agency Rule Making, Navigable Waters.....	69
40.	Invasive Weeds .....	71
41.	New Water Supplies for San Joaquin County: Mokelumne River Regional Water Storage and Conjunctive Use (MORE Water Project) .....	72







ADOPTED 2019 AND 2020 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY PLATFORM AND  
POLICY GUIDELINES

# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

January 3, 2019

President Donald J. Trump  
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
The Honorable Kamala Harris  
The Honorable Jerry McNerney  
The Honorable Josh Harder

Dear Mr. President, Senators Feinstein and Harris, and Representatives McNerney and Harder:

On behalf of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors, I am pleased to provide you the County's 2019-2020 Federal policy priorities. This Board-adopted platform focuses on policy and funding requests we believe to be absolutely critical to the health and well-being of our residents.

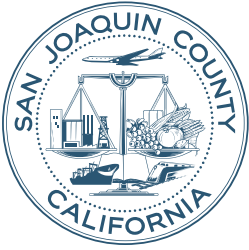
San Joaquin County is committed to supporting our common constituents in a variety of programmatic areas. As you know, the many important services and protections our County provides require a Federal partnership to sustain health care services, modernize our infrastructure, support our criminal justice system, and protect our water resources. We also appreciate those programs that support our County's agricultural economy, train our workforce, maintain employment, and provide the social safety net that supports many County residents. We continue to face challenges implementing comprehensive solutions and obtaining funding to address homelessness and public health concerns, including the opioid addiction crisis. As you address these and other issues, we ask you to support maximum local flexibility and to oppose unfunded mandates and burdensome requirements, including those that could be prompted through budget sequestration.

The water supply for 30 million Californians flows through San Joaquin County on its way to the Bay Area and Southern California. This water resource is dependent on the fragile and important Delta of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Rivers, much of which is in our County. Harm to the Delta would affect the economic health of the entire State. San Joaquin County is also a crossroads for the major north-south corridors of commerce – highways, rail, pipelines, and communication facilities. This essential regional infrastructure, as well as the safety and economic welfare of our residents, remains an important issue that must be addressed through the completion of a comprehensive flood protection and levee improvement plan. This plan is important not just for our County, but for the entire State of California.

San Joaquin General Hospital (SJGH) has provided health care to our citizens for 150 years. We are the only remaining Central Valley County with a public hospital and a designated Level III trauma center. Current law enforcement resources and Medicaid funding have helped us to stabilize SJGH and significantly lower costs, while expanding access to patients seeking services within the County health care system. Federal budgeting and reform initiatives must continue to recognize the current health care delivery infrastructure and its financial underpinnings at the County's level.

At the same time, we need your continued assistance regarding the Veterans Administration (VA) Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) to be built in French Camp. Valley veterans are growing increasingly impatient with the project's slow progress. The project is fully authorized and funded, yet Federal construction management issues have led to repeated delays. Valley veterans deserve access to high-quality care in proximity to their homes, which they do not have today. We need your help to expedite the final project review and approvals so that construction can begin. In addition, we ask for your continued help in maintaining the County's and SJGH's existing medical services relationship with the VA.

San Joaquin County is located at a vital crossroads in California with major transportation, seaport, airport, and water conveyance facilities. We are very pleased with the increased attention being given to infrastructure investments and know that our County and the regional economy will benefit greatly from increased infrastructure funding and program efficiencies. We are poised for increased economic growth through these County assets.



ADOPTED 2019 AND 2020 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY PLATFORM AND  
POLICY GUIDELINES

**MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
(CONTINUED)

These issues and others are discussed more fully in the attached Platform. We invite your questions and look forward to building upon our established and successful partnership to solve these issues.

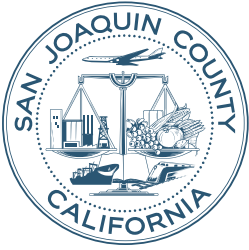
Thank you again for your continuing support for San Joaquin County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Robert V. Elliott".

Robert V. Elliott, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors

- c: San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors  
Robert Swift, Mayor, and Council Members, City of Escalon  
Sonny Dhaliwal, Mayor, and Council Members, City of Lathrop  
Mark Chandler, Mayor, and Council Member, City of Lodi  
Benjamin Cantu, Mayor, and Council Members, City of Manteca  
Leo Zuber, Mayor, and Council Members, City of Ripon  
Michael Tubbs, Mayor, and Council Members, City of Stockton  
Robert Rickman, Mayor, and Council Members, City of Tracy  
Monica Nino, County Administrator  
San Joaquin County Department Heads



**ADOPTED 2019 AND 2020 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY PLATFORM AND  
POLICY GUIDELINES  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' BOARD STRATEGIC  
PRIORITIES 2016-2019**

On December 15, 2015, the Board adopted three-year Strategic Priorities covering fiscal years 2016-2017 through 2018-2019. This is the final year of the Board established strategic priorities. The County Administrator will lead in the coordination of scheduling and developing an opportunity for the Board to revisit and update its strategic priorities early in the calendar year 2019. Until such time new priorities are developed, these Strategic Priorities will continue to be used as a guide when bringing new programs or initiatives to the Board.

**1. Ensure Fiscal Responsibility**

- a. Maintain a structurally-balanced budget.
- b. Responsibly consider resources to address the County's pension obligations and labor related costs.

**2. Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities**

- a. Encourage collaboration internally among County departments and externally with other governmental and/or community organizations that provide opportunities for disadvantaged; i.e., homeless, victims, and youth.
- b. Implement a Succession Plan, include training of the workforce, retention, recruitment and hiring.
- c. Develop and install technologies that broaden public access to County services and information more timely and efficiently.

**3. Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System**

- a. Improve all aspects of the County's criminal justice system.
- b. Employ a case management approach to increase public safety focused on reducing recidivism.
- c. Expand support services and programs that prepare incarcerated individuals to successfully transition back to the community.
- d. Maximize uses of technology that advance public accountability and employee safety.

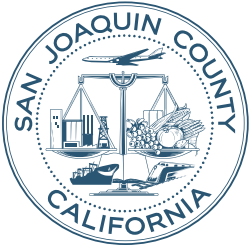
**4. Promote Economic Development**

- a. Focus on recruiting new businesses and industries and retaining existing businesses and industries that provide jobs with living wages and in support of local/new industry growth.
- b. Partner with local educational institutions to prepare workers to meet local job market demand.
- c. Improve those factors that are inhibitors; i.e., image, marketing.

**5. Stay Informed and Proactive in Dealing with Water Issues**

- a. Protect and strengthen the County's position in opposition to the Governor's California Water Fix/EcoRestore projects.
- b. Manage and maintain the availability and quality of water.





# LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

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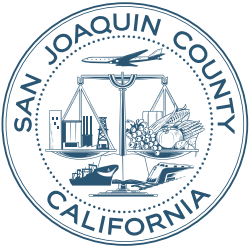
*The top legislative directive for all San Joaquin County departments is to make every effort to maintain or increase funding for the continued provision of critical local services to the residents of the County. In addition, the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors, through appropriate County departments shall:*

## ADMINISTRATION

1. Support economic stimulus/job proposals which would assist the County in providing vital local government services to its residents, as well as funding for economic development, including 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 legislation and/or budgetary proposals which would prevent future “sequestration”, or similar across-the-board funding reductions.
4. 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.
5. Advocate for and support maximum flexibility, simplification, and financial support in Federal legislative and regulatory requirements.
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. Seek Federal reimbursement for the County’s costs associated with services to undocumented immigrants, including incarceration, public safety, and medical services.
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 tax exempt bonds, and oppose proposals to reduce or eliminate Federal exemption for interest on municipal bonds.
10. Respond as timely and effectively as possible to legislative issues both by Board of Supervisors action and, if time constraints exist, by the affected department heads with concurrence of the County Administrator. If consideration by the Board of Supervisors is not feasible, the County Administrator will notify the Board.
11. Support legislation and budgetary proposals to fund the costs for counting everyone once, for the 2020 census.
12. Support legislation or regulatory changes that would give greater flexibility for the County to implement pension reform based upon sustainability and affordability of the plan’s fiscal health.

## ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

13. 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.
14. Support legislation and budgetary proposals to provide programs to address gang violence in San Joaquin County.



# LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

(CONTINUED)

15. Support legislative and administrative funding opportunities, which provide ongoing resources and funding streams to sustain a Family Justice Center.
16. Advocate for legislative and administrative funding to expand opportunities for restorative justice programs.
17. Support legislative and administrative funding opportunities, which develop programming opportunities to combat human trafficking and the commercial exploitation of children.
18. Advocate for the development of programs, which support the coordination of response efforts to events involving mass casualties and other critical incidents amongst local, State and Federal services and programs.

## **AGRICULTURE**

19. Support legislation and budgetary proposals which would provide funding assistance to local agencies for the development of strategies for prevention, preparedness, and combating agro-terrorism and dangers posed by invasive species, imported pests, and other threats posed to the San Joaquin County agricultural economy.

## **AIRPORT**

20. Oppose any legislative or administrative actions that would temporarily or permanently divert Federal program resources, such as Airport Improvement Program, Passenger Facility Charges, Law Enforcement Officer Reimbursement program, etc., that support the economic viability of the County's Stockton Metropolitan Airport.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

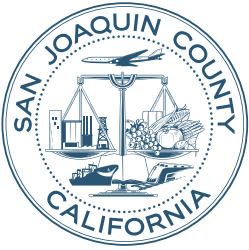
21. Seek, advocate, and support the reinstatement of critical unemployment and mass layoff statistical information gathering which was excluded by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in 2006.
22. Seek and advocate in support of Federal funding and other economic development related incentives for the development and enhancement of the Innovation Hub (iHub) San Joaquin program.
23. Seek and advocate in support of Federal incentives (i.e. grants), including regulatory, administrative and legislative proposals that would sustain and accelerate economic development in San Joaquin County.
24. Support legislation and budgetary proposals which would address regional economic development and transportation challenges by planning, developing and delivering cost effective and responsive solutions.
25. Pursue legislation that would support economic development in San Joaquin County.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

26. Support legislation or regulatory action which promotes the recruitment and retention of Environmental Health workers.

## **GENERAL SERVICES—FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**

27. Support legislation or budgetary proposals, which would provide funding assistance to local governments to retrofit existing facilities to reduce energy consumption and/or for renewable energy projects.



# LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

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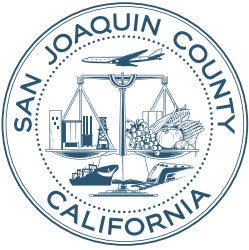
28. Support legislation or budgetary proposals which would provide funding assistance to local governments for electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

## GENERAL SERVICES—OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

29. Support efforts to provide access to affordable flood insurance for property and business owners including agriculture and legacy communities located in the floodplain.

## HEALTH CARE

30. 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.
31. Seek to preserve and expand Medicare, Medicaid, and other Federal funding for health care programs, while aggressively opposing funding reductions in these programs which would result in decreased access to health care and/or would shift costs or risk to the County. Advocate for the ability of San Joaquin County to maximize Federal funds for health care programs and services, which result in direct payments to the County.
32. Support legislative efforts and budgetary proposals which would create new and expanded health-related training/educational programs, and funding for enhanced health career-related training tools, such as loans, grants and scholarship programs for use in schools and communities in the Central Valley to address critical shortages of health care professionals.
33. Support legislative and budgetary proposals for local health department programs which would: a) address prevention of chronic health conditions, b) fund injury and violence prevention, c) support and enhance local disease control and prevention, d) provide a sustainable disease control and outbreak response infrastructure that would include epidemiology, surveillance, investigation, and response, e) support public health infrastructure development to enable national accreditation and f) support emergency, bioterrorism, and pandemic influenza preparedness, response, and infrastructure development to address public health threats and emergencies.
34. Advocate in support of funding for health care information technology infrastructure to enhance the quality of patient safety, the reporting of diseases to public health to improve surveillance, emergency response and population health, and the delivery of health care services.
35. Advocate in support of policies, which promote healthy eating, and increase access to opportunities for physical activity.
36. Support legislation and/or budgetary proposals which support maternal, child and adolescent programs that: a) provide increased funding, b) protect children from environmental risks to their health, such as unintentional injuries, lead poisoning, and poor air quality, and c) ensure that women and adolescents have access to the unique prevention and health care services needed.
37. Seek to preserve Prevention and Public Health Funds. Advocate for allocation of funds (rather than competitive grants) to local governmental health departments in a manner that includes consideration of health disparities and burden of disease in jurisdiction.
38. Support the County's established Federally Qualified Health Center Look-A-Like Clinics (FQHC-LAL); ensure appropriate and equitable treatment of County affiliated FQHC's regarding payments, reporting and operational requirements.



# LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

(CONTINUED)

39. Advocate for policies that reduce health inequities within the communities by ensuring equal opportunities in everyday choices, especially those environmental and social-economic factors that impact personal and public health. These include housing, education, training, jobs, transportation, safe neighborhoods, and places for daily physical activity.
40. Ensure full implementation of Mental Health Parity, which requires that states select an essential health benefits package that includes mental health and substance use disorders treatment. Implementation of parity must fulfill the intention to provide behavioral health services on par with physical health services.
41. Support health care reform that does not jeopardize the current health care delivery infrastructure and its financial underpinnings at the County's level, and urge careful deliberation to ensure that all of our residents have access to affordable and meaningful health care.
42. Oppose efforts to rescind the enhanced funding resulting from the 2015-2020 1115 Medicaid Waiver including the Public Hospital Redesign and Incentives in Medi-Cal (PRIME) program which supports SJGH and County outpatient services and the Organized Delivery System for Drug Medi-Cal to support substance abuse treatment.

## HOMELESSNESS

43. Support legislation, regulatory changes, and/or administrative efforts that would provide funding for San Joaquin County to address homelessness. This includes initiatives that would: improve the quality and quantity of data collected, expand rental assistance, expand job readiness programs, and would encourage and facilitate collaboration between the County, cities, agencies, the Continuum of Care and the private sector to address the permanent housing crisis, with the goal of making homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring in San Joaquin County.

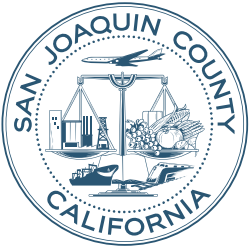
## HUMAN SERVICES

44. Support simplification, flexibility, and lessening of Federal benefits restrictions pertaining to the requirements of income maintenance and social services programs.

## PUBLIC WORKS—GENERAL

45. Support maximum Federal funding participation directly to local agencies for various infrastructure projects critical to the economic vitality of San Joaquin County.
46. Seek, advocate, and support legislative action that supports and/or funds innovation and deployment/use of new and emerging technologies for the purposes of improving mobility and/or safety.
47. Seek, advocate, and support legislation for National Environmental Policy Act reform that streamlines the environmental compliance process and related permitting.
48. Oppose legislation or administrative proposals that would unreasonably limit the County's discretion in reviewing, imposing conditions and mitigations upon, and permitting private telecommunications and other equipment within the public right-of-way or on private property, including but not limited to prohibiting aesthetic and other environmental considerations; eliminating the ability to require public benefits in exchange for use of public infrastructure; imposing unreasonable review timelines; and circumventing conventional local agency review and public input processes.





# LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

(CONTINUED)

## **PUBLIC WORKS—FLOOD PROTECTION**

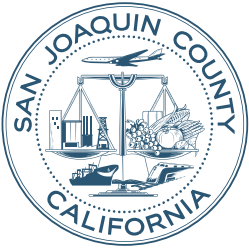
49. Advocate and support legislation which would require coordinated planning and funding levels to provide comprehensive levee evaluations and improvements (including project and non-project levees) to achieve enhanced urban flood protection Statewide.
50. Aggressively oppose legislative efforts to shift Federal and/or State flood control liability or obligations to local agencies.
51. Support legislation and/or regulations which would reduce local impacts related to Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate floodplain mapping changes.
52. Support legislation or regulatory changes which would mandate coordination between State and Federal agencies relative to flood protection and floodplain management regulations.
53. Support legislative, regulatory, and administrative proposals which would improve coordination between Federal and State levee inspection programs to eliminate redundancies and accelerate correction of problems by requiring: a) joint Federal, State, and local inspections, b) single inspection criteria be applied, c) coordination to secure the necessary permits, and d) recognition of time requirements needed to complete the desired correction work.
54. 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.
55. 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.
56. Support legislative, regulatory, and budgetary efforts to provide additional surface water storage projects that would provide improved flood control, water supply, and environmental uses.
57. Oppose amendments to the National Flood Insurance Program reauthorization to mandate flood insurance coverage in “residual risk” areas.

## **PUBLIC WORKS—REGULATORY REFORM**

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

## **PUBLIC WORKS—SOLID WASTE**

59. Support legislation which would provide for extended producer responsibility or funding for the development and implementation of product recycling programs.
60. Support legislation which would provide incentives for development of “landfill gas-to-energy”, “waste-to-energy”, and streamline the permitting process.
61. Oppose legislation which would impose new solid waste disposal requirements on local government unless the funding mechanisms needed to implement the requirements are provided.
62. Oppose legislation or regulatory reform requiring municipal landfills (Class III) to accept semi-hazardous wastes, including medical or radioactive waste products.
63. 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.



# LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

(CONTINUED)

64. 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.
65. Support legislation and/or regulations which would establish transparent and fair principles and procedures to manage end-of-life costs of universal and other waste products.

## **PUBLIC WORKS—TRANSPORTATION**

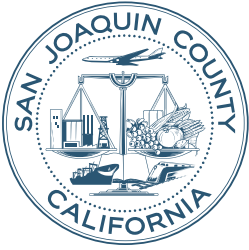
66. Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budgetary appropriations which would provide increased Federal and State roadway funding levels to local agencies.
67. Advocate for California's fair share of contributions from the Federal Highway Trust Fund.
68. Advocate for counties and cities to share equitably in the growth of Federal revenues available to California for the network of local roads.
69. Continue to support legislation and/or budgetary proposals which would provide dedicated funding to address local transportation needs, including bridge maintenance projects.

## **PUBLIC WORKS—WATER**

70. Support legislation and/or regulatory reform which would address groundwater overdraft issues in the Northeastern region of San Joaquin County.
71. 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.
72. Advocate and support legislative or regulatory efforts which would provide for the use of surface water to recharge critically over-drafted groundwater basins.
73. Support in concept the designation of a National Heritage Area (NHA) for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta provided such designation will not limit, impact, or prohibit present and future agricultural resources and activities, flood protection facilities, and other public infrastructure, and considers them as important resources to be preserved, maintained, restored, managed, protected, promoted, and encouraged within the boundaries of the NHA, and will provide ongoing Federal funding for the protection, preservation, maintenance, restoration, and management of the Delta, and that the NHA Plan would be written by and managed by the Delta Protection Commission.

## **VETERAN SERVICES**

74. Continue to advocate in support of funding for the construction and opening/operation of the new Veteran Affairs (VA) expanded health care facilities and Community Living Center adjacent to the San Joaquin General Hospital campus in French Camp.
75. Support congressional efforts to expand Veterans Affairs health care benefits to include Priority 8 veterans.
76. Aggressively seek to maintain the ability of County public hospital to continue partnering with the VA in providing services to veterans and their families. Oppose any new VA regulations, such as the draft Request for Proposal from the VA (Draft RFP VA 791-12-R-0009, Medical – Surgical Services, Patient Centered Community Care) to establish a standardized healthcare contracting system, which would prevent public hospitals from being able to continue working with VA regional offices.



# 1. PUBLIC SAFETY INTEROPERABILITY COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS

### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budget appropriations which would provide funding assistance for a Public Safety Interoperability Communication System.

### BACKGROUND:

San Joaquin County (SJC) is seeking State and Federal assistance to complete the implementation of a Public Safety Interoperability Communication System to provide emergency radio communications interoperability for all public safety agencies within SJC.

San Joaquin County and public safety agencies within the County use different radio frequencies to communicate and, consequently, do not have the capability to directly communicate with each other.

Consistent with the Board's Strategic Priority "Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System", SJC is prepared to consolidate the region's radio frequency resources to a trunked radio communications technology. Through targeted investments utilizing State and Federal grant funds as well as County funds, SJC has successfully built the foundation for a Public Safety Interoperability Communication System. SJC has completed the construction of needed radio communication tower sites, upgraded the capacity and resiliency of existing radio communication tower sites, and successfully implemented core radio communications equipment necessary to operate an interoperable radio communication system.

Once completed, the Public Safety Interoperability Communication System will provide full radio system interoperability for first responders in SJC. This project is consistent with the SJC Radio Communications Master Plan (Master Plan), which was developed by a committee comprised of representatives from the public safety agencies within the County. Agencies represented on the committee included Emergency Medical Services, City and Rural Fire Districts, Sheriff and City Police Chiefs, Office of Emergency Services, and other County public safety agencies. All of these agencies have adopted the Master Plan and have agreed to operate on a public safety trunked radio system. Agencies have also agreed to share resources to accomplish this goal. When completed, this public safety radio communication system will improve the safety and response capability of first responders.

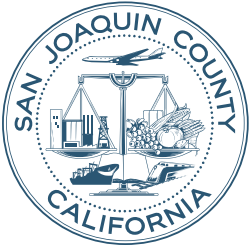
To complete the implementation of the Public Safety Interoperability Communication System, approximately \$9,160,205 of additional funding would be necessary.

**APPROPRIATION REQUEST:** \$9.2 million    **TOTAL PROJECT COST:** \$20.5 million

**(PROJECT LITERATURE AVAILABLE)**

**Sheriff:** Steve Moore, Sheriff | [smoore@sjgov.org](mailto:smoore@sjgov.org) | (209) 468-4311

**Information Systems Division:** Jerry Becker, Assistant County Administrator | [jbecker@sjgov.org](mailto:jbecker@sjgov.org) | (209) 468-3960



## 2. 2019-2024 STOCKTON METROPOLITAN AIRPORT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

### LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS

**BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:**

*Promote Economic Development*

**LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:**

Seek, advocate, and support a \$38 million budgetary appropriation to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for capital improvement projects.

The Stockton Metropolitan Airport has multiple airport related projects totaling over \$49.5 million included in the 2019 – 2024 Airport Capital Improvement Plan (ACIP) detailed below. The following projects identified in the ACIP have been characterized as high-priority projects by the airport essential to safety, efficiency, and financial viability:

1. Cargo Apron Expansion (\$7,702,000)  
[Environmental Assessment is complete. Design and engineering in progress.]
2. Terminal Modernization and Expansion (\$16.5 million)  
[Terminal Needs Assessment in progress to determine specific requirements which could possibly exceed \$30 million.]

Projects are listed by several categories: runway/pavement, security, and equipment needs.

1) Runway/Pavement Priorities (includes engineering and construction)

(A) Widen Cargo Apron (Environmental and Construction) .....	\$7,701,822
(B) Apron Reconstruction (Hangar Areas 4,5,6,7,8,10 and AC) .....	2,173,120
(C) Pavement Management Maintenance Play.....	181,320
(D) East and West Apron Reconstruction (Design and Construction) .....	11,319,172
(E) Taxiway M and L Decommissioning and Taxiway Nomenclature .....	133,361

**TOTAL RUNWAY/PAVEMENT .....\$21,508,795**

2) Terminal Modernization and Expansion

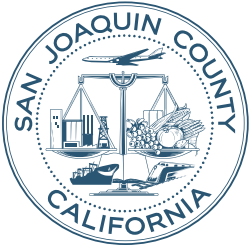
(a) Environmental/Design and Construction.....	\$16,462,698
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**TOTAL.....\$37,971,493**

**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 is a foreign trade zone and has port of entry status from U.S. Customs and Border Patrol and is conveniently located and easily accessible by two major north-south arterials in California – Interstate 5 and U.S. Highway 99. The soon-to-be widened and improved influx of roadways create an ideal passenger and cargo air-transport center for the recreational traveler, the business commuter, the agricultural producer, and Central Valley residents. The Airport, in addition to providing facilities for

**Airport:** Russell Stark, Airport Director | [rstark@sjgov.org](mailto:rstark@sjgov.org) | (209) 468-4709



## 2. 2019-2024 STOCKTON METROPOLITAN AIRPORT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

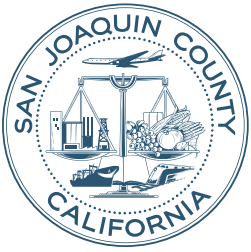
### LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS (CONTINUED)

general aviation activities to support local business and recreational flying, provides commercial passenger air service and cargo operations. Contrary to most of the other airports throughout the nation, passenger enplanements at the Airport have continuously increased over the past several years and are expected to continue to increase.

Planning for increased air carrier traffic, increased air cargo operations, and expansion of the resident flight school, in addition to general airport maintenance requires a sizable capital improvement program. In order to ensure the Airport is able to maximize the use of limited funding opportunities, it is applying for and accepting FAA grants through the Airport Capital Improvement Program. An annual entitlement grant of \$1 million is inadequate to meet the demands being placed on the Airport in order to sustain current activity and prepare for near-term demand. The Airport has proposed an aggressive \$48 million Capital Improvement Program which will meet these demands. An appropriation request of \$38 million will be needed from FAA in order to leverage local funding. Future Airport Capital Improvement Program grants in addition to discretionary FAA grant funding will be needed to meet current and future requirements.

**APPROPRIATION REQUEST: \$37,971,493**

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$48,128,672  
(INCLUDING AIRPORT MATCHING FUNDS)**

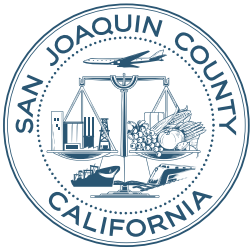


## 2. 2019-2024 STOCKTON METROPOLITAN AIRPORT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS (CONTINUED)

### Stockton Metropolitan Airport





## 3. CARGO RAMP EXPANSION

### LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

*Promote Economic Development*

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support a \$7.7 million budgetary appropriation to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for additional FAA funding to provide needed revenue to expand the Stockton Metropolitan Airport's (Airport) cargo ramp.

#### BACKGROUND:

For over three (3) years, two companies have been flying cargo into the Airport for Amazon, Inc. These companies operate two to four Boeing 767s daily with both companies desiring to expand (double) additional daily flights.

At this time, the Airport's cargo ramp can only accommodate three aircraft on the ground at one time since ramp space is also being utilized for storage containers and truck maneuvering space to unload aircraft. The Airport has saturated all available space to park and operate cargo aircraft on its designated cargo ramp. In order to meet current demand, the Airport requires the doubling of its existing cargo ramp.

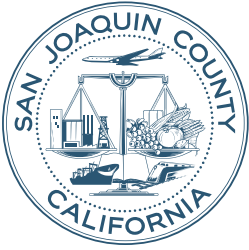
Modernizing and expanding the Airport's infrastructure is the best option for meeting the growing needs of this major transportation hub.

The current estimate for design, construction, and environmental documentation for this project is \$9.85 million.

**APPROPRIATION REQUEST:** \$7.7 million

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** \$9.85 million (approximate)

**Airport:** Russell Stark, Airport Director | [rstark@sjgov.org](mailto:rstark@sjgov.org) | (209) 468-4709



## 4. HEALTH CARE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE

### LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities*

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budgetary appropriations to fund the Information Technology Infrastructure Project and to ensure continued implementation.
2. Seek, advocate and support legislation to amend 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 2 to permit information sharing between health care providers.

#### BACKGROUND:

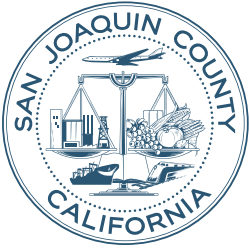
San Joaquin County's Health Care Services Agency (HCSA) and San Joaquin General Hospital (SJGH) are the safety net providers for San Joaquin County (SJC). Due to fiscal constraints, the HCSA and SJGH have historically underinvested in information technology. Although SJGH is making a considerable investment in the Cerner system (a comprehensive Health Information System), annual operating budgets continue to have very limited capacities to fund improvements to SJC's health information technology infrastructure. The County seeks additional State and Federal government assistance toward technology improvements in order to maintain the viability of SJC as a cost-effective safety net provider.

Health Information Exchange (HIE) - \$500,000: SJC Safety Net Partnership (SNP) will develop and implement a HIE among safety net providers in SJC. The SNP consists of the SJC HCSA, Behavioral Health Services, SJGH, and Health Plan of San Joaquin and Community Medical Centers, Inc. Individually and collectively, the SNP provides critical access to a wide array of medical and behavioral health services for the majority of safety net patients in SJC. The SNP also serves the majority of Medi-Cal, uninsured and under-insured individuals in the County. In SJC, which has fewer resources than its more urban counterparts, health information technology has historically been underfunded. This has resulted in the development of organizationally unique but often incompatible systems that currently lack the necessary infrastructure to share patient information.

A collaboration with our partner Manifest MedEx has enabled the SNP to join an established HIE based on an enhanced and coordinated shared information technology which we are using to improve quality and yield greater cost efficiencies than that which can be obtained as individual organizations. The HIE provides a platform for sharing relevant clinical information between the entities. In turn, we expect this will lead to better access, better outcomes, and a healthier community and are developing population health analytics tools with Manifest MedEx to measure this through the data collected in the HIE. The ability to include substance use disorder treatment information would significantly enhance the potential for fully integrated health care services and more positive outcomes. The SNP was able to secure a start-up grant from the Blue Shield Foundation of California. This funding allowed the HIE project to go from a concept phase to a limited implementation phase. Additional funding would provide sufficient resources for a Countywide rollout within twelve months. The true benefit of a HIE only occurs when a critical mass of provider participation occurs.

**Health Care Services Agency:** Greg Diederich, HCSA Director | [gdiederich@sjgh.org](mailto:gdiederich@sjgh.org) | (209) 468-7031  
**San Joaquin General Hospital:** David Culberson, SJGH CEO | [dculberson@sjgh.org](mailto:dculberson@sjgh.org) | (209) 468-6042





## 4. HEALTH CARE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE

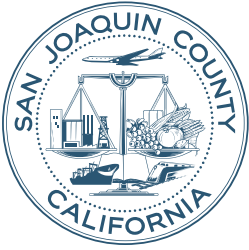
### LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS (CONTINUED)

Infrastructure Enhancements - \$500,000: New internal data needs are stressing the network backbone in terms of available bandwidth and reasonable redundancy to accommodate system maintenance with minimal interruption to clinical system access. Funding is needed to upgrade capability in high traffic segments - improving response time for all network users, support the delivery of diagnostic imagery in addition to the current radiology reports to remote physicians, and introduce routing redundancy in the network to provide business continuity in the event of scheduled network maintenance or individual component failures.

Data Loss Prevention and Information Security Monitoring - \$250,000: The introduction of an electronic medical record is certainly simplifying clinician access to critical patient information when and where they need it. This movement away from paper records also elevates the potential risk of a data breach as a compromised system could provide access to literally thousands of patient records. Two technologies have been identified to help mitigate this risk, one for front-end access management and one for back-end detection of unusual network behavior. The first technology will allow us to evaluate the effective permissions a specific user or security group has been granted through Active Directory. It will also allow the County to only provide the access permissions needed by staff to do their job and will help reduce staff being granted access to information that is outside their scope of operation. The second technology will allow the County to be alerted to workstations or servers that are behaving in a manner that is not consistent with their role. This would serve to identify systems that have been compromised or an internal user that is engaging in activity outside their scope of operation. Implementing these two new technologies will provide for a tightening of existing access management credentials and help detect inappropriate system activity that could lead to a serious data breach. For the second technology, we have initially acquired a product from CrowdStrike which has proven very successful at detecting and blocking attempts to compromise Health Care Systems computer assets including outside efforts to introduce ransomware into our network.

**APPROPRIATION REQUEST:** \$750,000

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** \$1.25 million (approximate)



## 5. PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITY REPLACEMENT/ EXPANSION

### LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities, Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation which would create a funding program to construct new public health facilities, including a regional public health laboratory.

#### BACKGROUND:

The San Joaquin County Public Health Services facility was constructed over 50 years ago, in the 1960s, with Hill-Burton funds. Since that time, the County population has increased by more than 180%. The current building lacks the space necessary to provide critical disease prevention services to the continually expanding number of County residents. Over 10 years ago, it was determined that the building had reached the end of its useful life. There are significant structural barriers to implement safety features in the building. Additionally, costs to maintain and upgrade building infrastructure exceed appropriate fiscal allowances.

The San Joaquin County Public Health Laboratory has been designated as a Level B laboratory 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, or the increasing use by other counties as it serves as a regional public health laboratory. The San Joaquin County Health Care Services Agency has developed and is implementing a bio-terrorism preparedness and public health infrastructure plan.

The County seeks to:

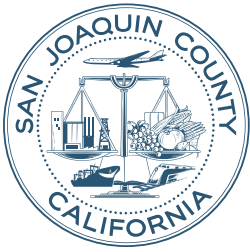
1. Obtain sufficient space to provide health services in a safe and efficient manner;
2. Consolidate Public Health operations onto a single site; and
3. Plan sufficient space for future growth.

**APPROPRIATION REQUEST:** \$5.0 million

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** \$48.7 million (approximate)

**Health Care Services Agency:** Greg Diederich, HCSA Director | [gdiederich@sjgh.org](mailto:gdiederich@sjgh.org) | (209) 468-7031

**Public Health Services:** Tamara Evans, PHS Director | [tevens1@sjcphs.org](mailto:tevens1@sjcphs.org) | (209) 468-3410



## 6. ADOLESCENT SUBSTANCE ABUSE FACILITY

### LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities, Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budgetary appropriations to provide funding assistance for an Adolescent Substance Abuse Facility.

#### BACKGROUND:

San Joaquin County (SJC) has identified significant needs 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, while marijuana, opioids and alcohol are also major drugs of choice among adolescents. It is estimated approximately 2,500 SJC youth are in need of treatment for alcohol abuse, and approximately 3,300 are in need of treatment for illicit drugs. The County seeks additional funds to provide a facility for these critical services. The only available option for adolescents needing treatment for alcohol abuse and illicit drug use is outpatient counseling services. If an adolescent needs more than outpatient counseling, no other treatments are available.

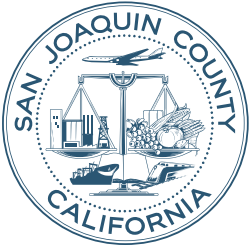
**APPROPRIATION REQUEST:** \$2.5 million

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** \$5.5 million

**(PROJECT LITERATURE AVAILABLE)**

**Health Care Services Agency:** Greg Diederich, Director | [gdiederich@sjgh.org](mailto:gdiederich@sjgh.org) | (209) 468-7031

**Behavioral Health Services:** Tony Vartan, BHS Director | [tvartan@sjcbhs.org](mailto:tvartan@sjcbhs.org) | (209) 468-8752



## 7. CYBERSECURITY

### LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS

**BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:**

*Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities*

**LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:**

Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budget appropriations which would provide funding assistance to enhance and improve cybersecurity capabilities for San Joaquin County.

**BACKGROUND:**

San Joaquin County (SJC) is seeking State and Federal assistance to provide SJC with the necessary tools to protect critical infrastructure from cyberattacks.

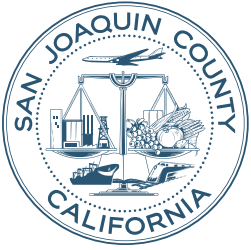
Consistent with the Board's Strategic Priority "*Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities*", SJC is constantly evaluating methods to protect its critical infrastructure that includes elections systems, telecommunications, information systems, and sensitive constituent data from being compromised. As identified in the latest Department of Homeland Security Grant guidance and with the establishment of the Cybersecurity Taskforce within the California Office of Emergency Services, cyberattacks have been deemed a major threat to critical infrastructure at both the Federal and State levels.

SJC's cybersecurity team constantly monitors its critical infrastructure to prevent, detect, identify, and mitigate potential threats. As the cyberattacks evolve and change in nature, so must the tools and procedures used to combat them. SJC has performed extensive analysis leveraging partners within the cybersecurity industry as well as State and local agencies to identify improvements to SJC's cybersecurity systems. SJC has developed a comprehensive plan to upgrade its cybersecurity systems that will require additional investments in technology and training to ensure that the County's critical infrastructure is protected from cyberattacks.

**APPROPRIATION REQUEST:** \$1.3 million

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** \$1.3 million

**(PROJECT LITERATURE AVAILABLE)**



## 8. TOP TEN TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

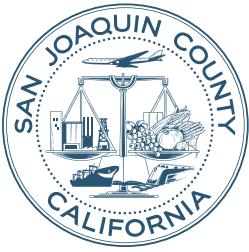
### LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

#### *Promote Economic Development*

San Joaquin County's Top Ten Transportation projects are of regional significance, focusing on roadway safety and improvements that serve to advance economic vitality in the Central Valley region. Which would be consistent with the Board's Strategic Priority to "Promote Economic Development".

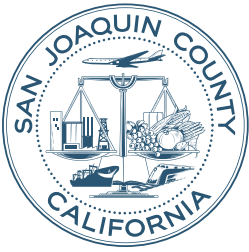
**Public Works:** Kris Balaji, Director | [kbalaji@sjgov.org](mailto:kbalaji@sjgov.org) | (209) 468-3100



## 8. TOP TEN TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

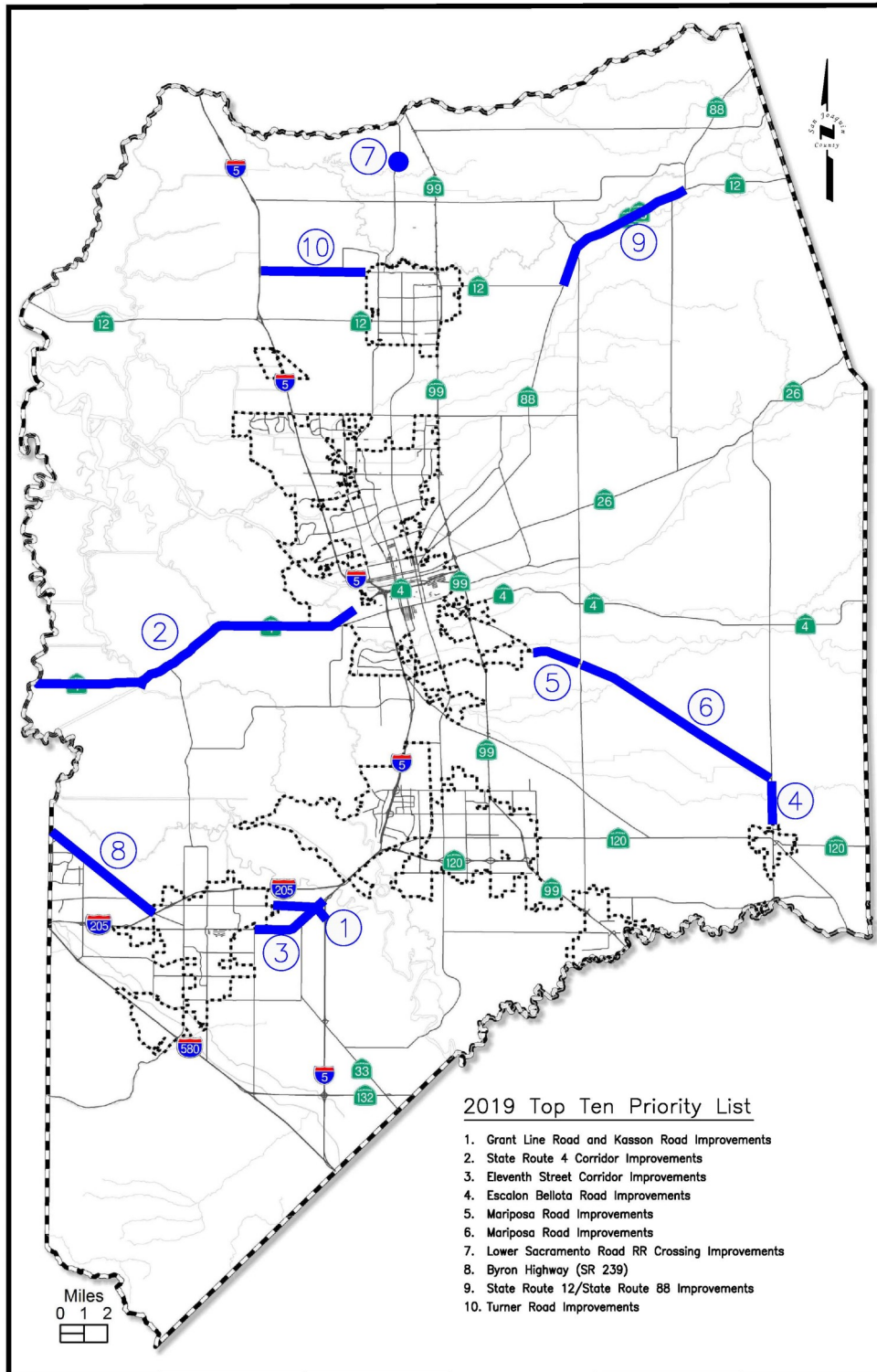
### LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS (CONTINUED)

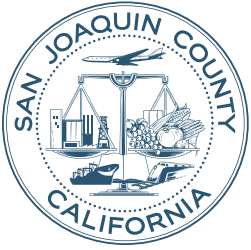
#	PROJECT	FUNDING REQUEST	DESCRIPTION
1	Grant Line Road and Kasson Road Improvements	\$20 million	Widen from 2 to 4 lanes, add curb, gutter and sidewalk in select locations in Banta, and add paved shoulders for a Class III Bike Route as shown in the San Joaquin County Bike Plan.
2	State Route 4 Corridor Improvements	\$5 million	Planning and Engineering studies, right of way acquisition and project design to widen State Route 4 from 2 to 4 lanes. Project limits include 1 major bridge at Middle River. Project length is approximately 16 miles.
3	Eleventh Street Corridor Improvements	\$9.5 million	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.
4	Escalon-Bellota Road	\$2.7 million	Widen from 2 to 3 lanes/5 lanes and add 8' shoulders.
5	Mariposa Road (Jack Tone Road to Austin Road)	\$2.6 million	Widen from 2 to 3 lanes/5 lanes and add 8' shoulders.
6	Mariposa Road (Escalon-Bellota Road to Jack Tone Road)	\$2 million	Widen from 2 to 3 lanes/5 lanes and add 8' shoulders.
7	Lower Sacramento Road Railroad Crossing Improvements	\$25 million	Improve safety and traffic operations at the Lower Sacramento Road railroad crossing near Woodson.
8	Byron Highway (State Route 239)	\$1 million	Includes widening the corridor to four lanes and two potential overpass projects at Mountain House Parkway and Central Parkway. TIER II - 2004 SJCOG RTP PROJECT LIST (Overpasses are Tier II - 2007 SJCOG RTP Project List, but considered Mountain House jurisdiction)
9	State Route 12/88 Improvements (Lockeford Bypass)	\$10 million	Project to provide 4 lanes (2 lanes EB and 2 lanes WB) from State Route 12/88 west to State Route 12/88 east. Ultimate alternative selected may include multiple minor structures. Project length is approximately 9 miles.
10	Turner Road Improvements	\$3.2 million	Project will widen the shoulders along Turner Road and add turn lanes at the intersections. Project limits include 1 minor structure and 1 at-grade railroad crossing. Project length is approximately 4.5 miles.



# 8. TOP TEN TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

## LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS (CONTINUED)





## 9. REVISE THE DEFINITION OF INMATES ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT UNDER THE STATE CRIMINAL POPULATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

#### 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:

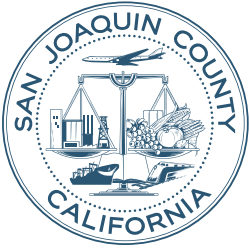
1. Revise the definition of eligible inmates to include pre-trial as well as post-conviction for undocumented inmates; and
2. Increase State Criminal Alien Assistance Program funding to ensure reimbursement to states and counties for the cost of housing both pre-trial and post-conviction alien inmates.

#### 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 Sheriffs' departments around the nation.

Sheriff: Steve Moore, Sheriff | [smoore@sjgov.org](mailto:smoore@sjgov.org) | (209) 468-4311





## 10. FEDERAL FUNDING TO COMBAT ILLEGAL DRUGS

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

#### ISSUE:

There is a serious need to increase Federal funding to combat the production, trafficking, and sales of methamphetamine, and other illegal drugs and narcotics.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

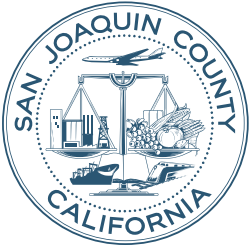
Seek and support legislation and/or budgetary appropriation which would:

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 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. 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 large 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.

Sheriff: Steve Moore, Sheriff | [smoore@sjgov.org](mailto:smoore@sjgov.org) | (209) 468-4311



# 11. GANGS AND GANG INVOLVEMENT

## LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

### ISSUE:

Gang-related issues are a major problem in San Joaquin County.

### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

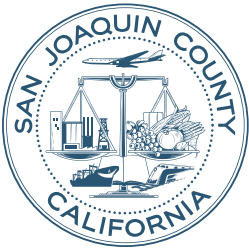
Seek and support budgetary appropriation and/or legislation similar to H.R. 1064 and S.B. 132 (2009), which would provide resources to address juvenile delinquency, including gang-related youth issues.

### 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.

H.R. 1064 and S.B. 132 (2009) proposed 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.

**Probation:** Stephanie L. James, Chief Probation Officer | [sjames@sjgov.org](mailto:sjames@sjgov.org) | (209) 468-4077



## 12. PEST PREVENTION AND SURVEILLANCE

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Promote Economic Development*

#### ISSUE:

Insufficient funding for pest prevention and surveillance detection.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation and budget proposals, which would restore and provide full State and Federal funding of County pest prevention programs, and identify alternative sources of funding for County pest prevention programs.

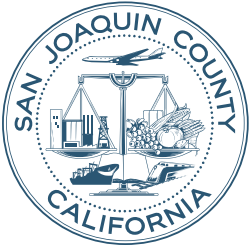
#### BACKGROUND:

San Joaquin County (SJC) is the seventh largest agricultural county in the State of California and ranks higher than fifteen states nationally. Agriculture is a major factor in the County's economy and way of life; therefore, funding for early plant pest detection and surveillance is of priority importance to SJC.

Due to severe budget cuts at both the State and Federal levels, funding has remained stagnant since the recession beginning in 2008 for local pest exclusion and pest detection programs. The Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Prevention program and the High Risk Pest Exclusion program experienced an 89.2% decrease in 2008 as compared to previous years and the funding level still remains unchanged. As of 2018-2019, funding has yet to be re-instated, significantly limiting the Agricultural Commissioner's ability to detect incoming pests. In addition, the County has lost its pest exclusion dog team funding requiring San Joaquin County to now rely on surrounding counties to provide their services after inspection needs at post office distribution locations are met. With the anticipated continued growth of FedEx, UPS and now Amazon shipping points, this exposes the County's agricultural industry to significant risks of being placed under State and Federal quarantines, restricting the industry's ability to market their products to other countries and states.

The SJC agricultural industry continues to battle invasive plant pest infestations. In 2009, the County experienced its first plant pest quarantine in 28 years with the detection of Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM). Since then, the SJC Agricultural Commissioner's Office has detected a European Grapevine Moth infestation in 2010, an Oriental Fruit Fly infestation in 2011, an Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) infestation in October 2014, which resulted in over half of the County being placed under quarantine. The County continues to find other pests including single finds of both the Peach and Oriental Fruit Flies in May 2016. Beginning in 2017-2018, the County has begun receiving airfreight shipments from the Eastern United States, which has introduced over 400 Japanese beetles and an Emerald Ash Borer over the last two years causing one grower having to be placed under quarantine for soil movement. Other exotic pest finds include Branch Broom Rape and Cucumber Green Mottled Mosaic Virus, which have caused quarantines in several production areas within the County seriously limiting what can be planted in the affected areas. Each of these detections has resulted in State and Federal plant pest quarantines that have seriously impacted SJC's agricultural industry and economy.

**Agricultural Commissioner:** Tim Pelican, Ag. Commissioner | [tpelican@sjgov.org](mailto:tpelican@sjgov.org) | (209) 953-6007



## 13. PASSENGER FACILITY CHARGES

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility and Promote Economic Development*

#### ISSUE:

Nationally, Passenger Facility Charges (PFC) are collected under Federal authority by airports. The current PFC collected (\$4.50 per passenger), has not been modernized since 2000 and has failed to keep up with inflation, leading to delayed airport capital and facilities improvements.

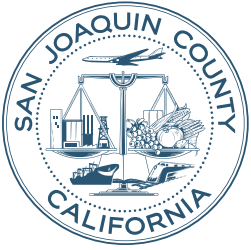
#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support Congressional regulatory and/or budgetary actions to increase the Passenger Facility Charges to \$8.50 per passenger and implementation of a cycling index.

#### BACKGROUND:

One of the primary sources of revenue for airports is through a PFC. The PFC is a source for an airport's local cost share to the Federal Aviation Administration's Airport Capital Improvement Program, which includes discretionary and entitlement funding. As a stable source of revenue, many airports leverage the PFC by issuing bond debt based on this revenue stream. With inflation, airports continue to lose ground and have suffered, as needs for capital improvements have increased. Modernization of the PFC would have a significant impact on airport revenue and increase the ability to initiate much needed capital improvements. It is expected that implementation of a cycling index will create greater flexibility than the current annual index. These measures would give the airport the tools it needs to ensure the continued safety, security, and modernization of our facilities.

**Airport:** Russell Stark, Airport Director | [rstark@sjgov.org](mailto:rstark@sjgov.org) | (209) 468-4709



## 14. FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System, and Promote Economic Development*

#### ISSUE:

The Stockton Metropolitan Airport (Airport) receives \$1 million annually from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as an entitlement grant. However, additional Airport capital is required beyond this level of funding. The FAA has previously made available discretionary funding that would serve as another source for Airport capital project funds.

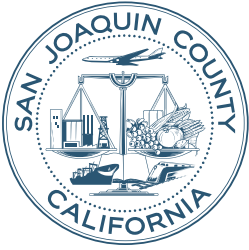
#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek Congressional support for additional FAA Discretionary funding to provide revenue to implement the Airport's adopted five-year Capital Improvement Program.

#### BACKGROUND:

The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors annually approves a rolling five-year Capital Improvement Program for the Stockton Metropolitan Airport. For 2019 through 2024, the Airport has identified over \$48 million in capital improvements. These projects are prioritized on an annual basis, allowing the Airport to submit grant funding requests to FAA. Local and Federal entitlement funding remains inadequate to meet project needs as outlined in the Airport Capital Improvement Program. Modernizing the Airport's infrastructure is the best option for meeting the growing needs of this major transportation hub.

**Airport:** Russell Stark, Airport Director | [rstark@sjgov.org](mailto:rstark@sjgov.org) | (209) 468-4709



# 15. TERMINAL MODERNIZATION AND EXPANSION

## LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

*Promote Economic Development*

### ISSUE:

Stockton Metropolitan Airport seeks to modernize its aging Terminal to attract additional air service, and better serve the traveling public, tenants and staff. In order to remain an attractive component for our existing airline and to attract future airline service, Stockton Metropolitan requires a Terminal Modernization and upgrade. The current estimate for environmental documentation, planning, design, and construction for this project is \$30 - \$50 million. A more accurate estimate can be made after the completion of a terminal needs assessment.

### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

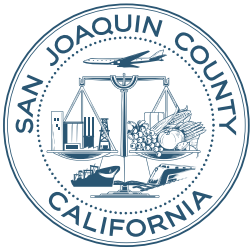
Seek Congressional support to obtain sufficient level of funding to accomplish the necessary modernization efforts.

### BACKGROUND:

A primary mission of the Airport is to facilitate air transportation and provide an economic development engine for the community that we serve. The current terminal was constructed and began operation in 1960. Unfortunately, the air service demands of the 1960s did not have the same dynamic requirements of today and the terminal is in need of a complete modernization effort. The utilization of the existing facility in its current configuration will not meet the operational needs and demands of future airside and landside growth and utilization and still meet operational and security considerations.

This modernization effort is needed to ensure the long term viability of commercial operations at the airport while providing visitors, tenants and staff with a modern gateway into our fantastic community.

**Airport:** Russell Stark, Airport Director | [rstark@sjgov.org](mailto:rstark@sjgov.org) | (209) 468-4709



## 16. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

*Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities*

#### ISSUE:

San Joaquin County has seen an increase in the need to locate affordable housing units for tenant-based project programs and for the first-time homebuyer's program.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation or a budgetary proposal that would continue to provide local jurisdictions with funding to provide rental assistance and down payment assistance for affordable housing units and homes.

#### BACKGROUND:

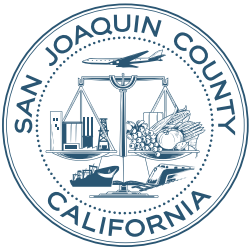
San Joaquin County has experienced an increased demand for rental housing and homeownership in our area. This demand has made it difficult for low-income tenants and low-income first-time homebuyers to locate affordable housing. Because of the demand for housing, the rents and the median price for a house has steadily increased since the Recession of 2006-2007.

Some of the demand for housing has come from the San Francisco Bay Area. Because housing costs have increased astronomically in the Bay Area, many of their residents are moving to San Joaquin County in search of "affordable" housing. This demand is having the effect of increasing the average rents and home prices in the County, making housing more and more unaffordable for our local residents.

The lack of affordable rental housing and homes for purchase may also be a contributing factor to the increase in the homeless population. This in turn can lead to an increase in crime and blight throughout the area.

Federal funding to support the County's affordable housing programs comes from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, specifically under the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) and HOME (HOME Investment Partnerships) Programs. Without the Federal funding, the County's programs currently being used to address affordable housing in the area would be eliminated.

**Community Development:** Kerry Sullivan, Community Development Director | [ksullivan@sjgov.org](mailto:ksullivan@sjgov.org) | (209) 468-3140



## 17. HOMELESSNESS

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

*Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities, and Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

#### ISSUE:

California is in the midst of a housing crisis. In San Joaquin County, the rising cost and low availability of housing has resulted in increased rates of homelessness.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation or budgetary proposals that would provide local jurisdictions with ongoing funding to develop and operate emergency shelter and permanent supportive housing programs, prevention and rental assistance, rapid rehousing, substance abuse and behavioral health treatment, transitional programs, domestic violence shelters, and data collection systems.

#### BACKGROUND:

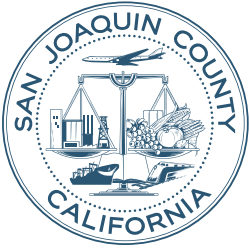
Over the past several years, San Joaquin County has experienced a steady increase in rates of homelessness across multiple demographics. The issue has become even more evident as homeless encampments spring up in urban and unincorporated areas, parks, and along County waterways. Reasons for homelessness are varied, which underscores the need for a multi-faceted approach to solutions.

Homelessness is primarily the result of a lack of affordable housing. Factors such as the sudden loss of employment or other income, physical and mental health issues, incarceration, and addiction all contribute to a cycle of poverty and homelessness that can be difficult to break. Without assistance in the form of treatment, job services, and emergency housing, these factors often become an insurmountable barrier to re-establishing self-sufficiency. The development of a broad range of housing solutions that include supportive services would allow the homeless to work toward solutions to these factors while living in stable housing instead of in emergency shelters or on the street.

Federal funding for homelessness programs comes from the Department of Housing and Urban Development specifically under their Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Continuum of Care (CoC) programs. State funding comes from the Department of Housing and Community Development under the State ESG program, and from temporary, limited funds through the California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program (CESH) and the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP). Without Federal and State funding, the County's programs currently being used to alleviate the issues of homelessness would be eliminated.

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## 18. WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITIES ACT

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Promote Economic Development*

#### ISSUE:

Funding for Federal Workforce Development Programs in San Joaquin County has declined by 39% since inception of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) in July 2000. Ultimately, reduced funding for local workforce development and training programs adversely affects poverty and public assistance rates, and hinders economic development efforts when businesses are unable to access a trained workforce.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support legislation which would:

1. Invest additional funding for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to ensure employers have access to a trained workforce;
2. Incentivize employer attraction in high unemployment/high poverty/high public assistance areas, like San Joaquin County; and
3. Increase local flexibility needed to more efficiently and effectively promote economic development in San Joaquin County.

#### Background:

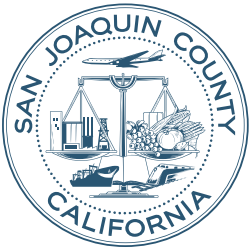
In 2015, WIA was replaced by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), but, funding levels have had no significant increases, leaving some of the most challenged workforce development areas, like San Joaquin County, at greater risk. Since Fiscal Year 2010, local workforce development funding has declined by approximately 19% (\$10.53 Million compared to \$8.56 Million), all at a time when local unemployment rates consistently exceed 150% of the State's rate and 200% of the national level.

In the past year, the unemployment rate in San Joaquin County has reached an unprecedented all-time low. It was still however, 36% above the State average and 46% above the National average.

Between 2000 and 2018, California saw a reduction of 53% in Workforce Investment Act (WIA)/WIOA funds, translating to a total of \$5.5 million in reductions in San Joaquin County. These reductions have a direct economic impact on the community when unemployed and underemployed individuals are unable to access training opportunities and other supportive services to facilitate upward mobility. Moreover, a lack of an adequately trained workforce hinders the overall economic expansion efforts in our area.

On July 24, 2014, WIOA was signed into law, committing to the restoration of funding for workforce development programs back to 2010 levels for San Joaquin County that would be an increase of approximately \$2.5 million. However, appropriated funding levels have fallen far short of that goal.

**Employment and Economic Development:** John Solis, EEDD Director | [jsolis@sjcworknet.org](mailto:jsolis@sjcworknet.org) | (209) 468-3511



# 19. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT FUNDING FOR FLOOD PREPAREDNESS

## LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility and Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities*

### ISSUE:

Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) funding for flood preparedness activities and hazards is a vital component of local emergency management programs and the continuation of this funding is essential to assist in ensuring the long-term preparedness and protection of our citizens from potentially devastating flooding in San Joaquin County.

### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support legislation that increases or maintains grant funding for the Emergency Management Performance Grant, retaining flexibility in the use of funds for non-terrorism specific threats.

### BACKGROUND:

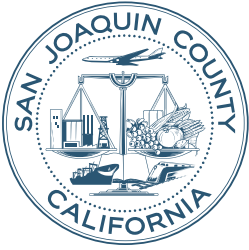
The 1950 Civil Defense Act established a Federal grant program intended to assist local governments to prepare for disasters. These matching grants (50% match) are designed to enhance and sustain the all-hazards core capabilities of State, Local, Tribal, and territorial Governments, by funding planning operations for local emergency management staff, maintaining and/or purchasing communications equipment, and providing training and exercises.

The EMPG program funding amounts, which have varied over the years, have been significantly less than similar Homeland Security Grants which must include a terrorism element. For San Joaquin County the EMPG has been the only ongoing and non-local source of funding for permanent emergency staff. The all-hazard orientation of this grant has made it a key resource for flood-related preparedness activities in San Joaquin County over the years. The potential for a catastrophic flood in the Central Valley is a critical concern for local government and the community at large. As the region becomes increasingly populated, the potential loss exposure and threat to life will become a major factor in California's ability to ensure citizens quality of life.

Consistent with two of the Board's Strategic Priorities, ensuring fiscal responsibility and promoting good governance and increasing organizational capabilities, the EMPG helps to off-set costs associated with preparedness activities for the citizens of San Joaquin County.

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**Emergency Services:** Shellie Lima, OES Deputy Director | [slima@sjgov.org](mailto:slima@sjgov.org) | (209) 953-6208



## 20. LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Promote Economic Promotion*

#### ISSUE:

Authorization has expired for a second time on the Land and Water Conservation Fund at U.S. Treasury used for Federal, State and local governments to acquire land and water for the benefit of Americans. The Land and Water Conservation Fund is an important program to conserve lands and improve outdoor recreation opportunities.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Seek and support legislation for permanent funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
2. Increase funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

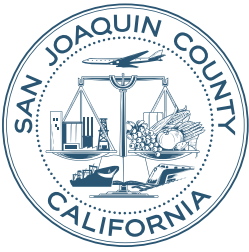
#### BACKGROUND:

Public Law 88-578 Congress established the Land and Water Conservation Fund in 1964 to fulfill a bipartisan commitment to safeguard our natural areas, water resources, and cultural heritage, and to provide recreation opportunities to all Americans. Using zero taxpayer dollars, the fund invests earnings from offshore oil and gas leasing to help strengthen communities, preserve history and protect national endowment of lands and waters. The Land and Water Conservation Fund program can be divided into the "State Side" which provides grants to State and local governments, and the "Federal Side" which is used to acquire lands, waters, and interests therein necessary to achieve the natural, cultural, wildlife, and recreation management objectives of Federal land management agencies. Reduced grant-funding opportunities for parks development and expansion will result in fewer options for Parks and Recreation to turn to for resource funding.

Parks and Recreation departments are significant employers, and their operations and capital spending generate significant economic impacts on local communities. Investments in improving a community's quality of life create a virtuous cycle: high quality-of-life locations attract workers, which attract employers, which in turn attract even more investments and jobs. High-quality parks and recreation can play a pivotal role in attracting and retaining quality businesses. This complements ongoing efforts to promote San Joaquin County for economic development.

If timely action does not take place, there will be fewer available grants to develop or expand San Joaquin Regional Park System.

**General Services:** Marcia Cunningham, GSD Director | [mcunningham@sjgov.org](mailto:mcunningham@sjgov.org) | (209) 468-3664



## 21. MEDICAID AND MEDICARE FUNDING PROGRAMS

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Promote Economic Development*

#### ISSUE:

Proposals to reduce Medicaid and Medicare program funding include budgetary measures, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services rule changes, changes in the Upper Payment Limit, Medicare Recovery Audit Contractor Program, and other mechanisms.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support legislative and/or regulatory efforts which would:

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 health care systems;
2. Oppose Medicaid reform efforts which would result in decreased access to health care, and/or shift costs or risks to counties;
3. Maximize Federal Medical Assistance Program which provides matching funds for Medicaid, while ensuring that the enhanced funding is directed to counties;
4. Oppose efforts which would negatively impact cost-based rates for San Joaquin County clinics designated as Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Look-A-Likes; and
5. Support adding dental benefits to Medicare Coverage, and enhance and ensure Federal participation in Medicaid for dental services for covered population.

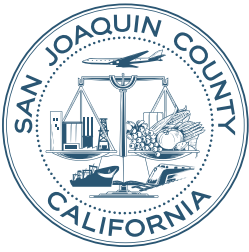
#### BACKGROUND:

Medicaid and Medicare are the primary mechanisms for supporting the provision of health care coverage for the nation's low-income, disabled, uninsured patients and the population over age 65. 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 (SJC).

SJC's Health Care Services Agency and San Joaquin General Hospital are health care safety net providers for SJC. 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. Recently added to the safety net is the designation of existing County primary care clinics as FQHC Look-A-Likes. This designation will enhance access to care for low-income persons, and the Medicaid cost-based payment program is essential to retaining and expanding these services.

The expansion of health care coverage has significantly reduced the County's mandate for indigent care, provided opportunities to redirect County General Funds into other supportive programs and has expanded health care employment in the community. Health care coverage for residents helps to ensure a healthier community and workforce.

**Health Care Services Agency:** Greg Diederich, HCSA Director | [gdiederich@sjgh.org](mailto:gdiederich@sjgh.org) | (209) 468-7031  
**San Joaquin General Hospital:** David Culberson, SJGH CEO | [dculberson@sjgh.org](mailto:dculberson@sjgh.org) | (209) 468-6042



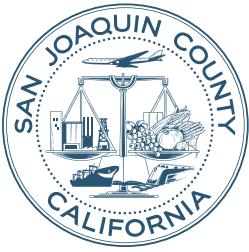
## 21. MEDICAID AND MEDICARE FUNDING PROGRAMS

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES (CONTINUED)

Medicaid and Medicare funding measures need to ensure SJC is protected from unforeseen liability and/or unfunded service obligations, insufficient funding for new and undefined populations, and increased requirements to fund these new obligations.

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 over \$90 million a year in supplemental Medicaid funding for its patient 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.

Currently, dental care is excluded from Medicare coverage. Congress has not amended the dental exclusion since 1980, when it made an exception for inpatient hospital services when the dental procedure itself made hospitalization necessary. The low-income population, particularly seniors, cannot afford the out-of-pocket cost of dental care, and poor dental health can result in significant cost to the Medicare program. Dental care is a critical component to overall health and should be included in the Federal Medicaid program for all covered populations.



## 22. 340B DRUG PURCHASING PROGRAM

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility*

#### ISSUE:

The 340B Program has been a critical factor in reducing the cost of drugs prescribed to patients in San Joaquin County for both patients of San Joaquin General Hospital (SJGH) and the County clinics, designated as Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Look-A-Likes. Inpatient drugs are currently excluded from “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 SJGH and Behavioral Health Services to obtain 15-25% discounting on drug pricing through the 340B Drug Purchasing Program.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Continue to support the 340B Drug Purchasing Program for entities that serve uninsured and Medicaid populations.
2. Expand the 340B Drug Purchasing Program to include County correctional facilities and behavioral health psychiatric health facility and clinics.
3. Seek legislative and administrative support to include inpatient drugs in the 340B Drug Purchasing Program.
4. Ensure continued access to the 340B Program for FQHC Look-A-Likes.

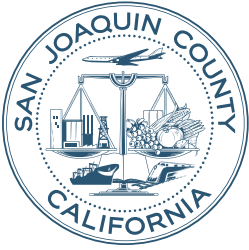
#### BACKGROUND:

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% lower than those available from group purchasing organizations or other buying arrangements.

This program has provided significant savings to the patients of SJGH for several years. Other County owned and operated facilities and clinics that also serve this population could also benefit from these discounts as they have few other options to leverage large pharmaceutical firms to offer them price relief. Both the Senate and House versions of the Medicare Prescription Drug Bill of 2009 included an exemption from the Medicaid “best price” calculation for inpatient drugs charged to 340B hospitals.

With annual expenditures of over \$4 million for inpatient pharmaceuticals, SJGH could possibly reduce drug purchasing costs by over \$500,000 per year. The County will seek continued and expanded access to the 340B program.

**San Joaquin General Hospital:** David Culberson, SJGH CEO | [dculberson@sjgh.org](mailto:dculberson@sjgh.org) | (209) 468-6042  
**Health Care Services Agency:** Greg Diederich, HCSA Director | [gdiederich@sjgh.org](mailto:gdiederich@sjgh.org) | (209) 468-7031



## 23. SHORTAGES OF PHYSICIANS, NURSES AND ANCILLARY CLINICIANS

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Promote Economic Development, Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities*

#### ISSUE:

San Joaquin County Health Care Services Agency and San Joaquin General Hospital continue to experience a significant shortage of physicians, nurses, and ancillary clinical staff.

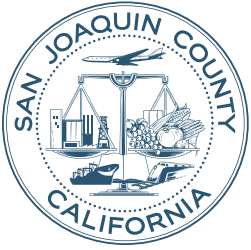
#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Advocate and support legislation or budgetary efforts which would expand health-related training programs, especially for psychiatrists and other physicians, nurses, and ancillary clinicians.
2. Support funding for health-training loans and scholarship programs which target Central Valley needs and shortages, as well as funding for workforce outreach and development in schools and the community.
3. Support legislation which would provide incentives to encourage and attract health care professionals to practice in the Central Valley.
4. Oppose legislation which would impose new staffing ratios or increase demand for health care professionals without adequately addressing the supply of available licensed and/or ancillary clinical staff.

#### BACKGROUND:

The health care industry continues to face a critical shortage of physicians, psychiatrists, registered nurses, public health nurses, nurse practitioners, and ancillary clinical staff (e.g. radiology, nuclear medicine, microbiology, ultrasound technology, respiratory therapy, physical and occupational therapy, and pharmacy). Shortages also exist for other clinical providers such as Licensed Clinical Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists. Expansion of training programs, funding for loan and scholarship programs, career outreach and development programs, and incentives for practice in underserved areas is critical to address these career deficiencies in the health care industry. The County advocates for funding and programs which will increase the available pool of health professionals. Legislative efforts continue to attempt to add ratios for other health care ancillary staff, without recognition of the critical shortages for these professionals. Requiring staffing levels, when staff is not readily available, creates undue liability for the County.

**Health Care Services Agency:** Greg Diederich, HCSA Director | [gdiederich@sjgh.org](mailto:gdiederich@sjgh.org) | (209) 468-7031  
**San Joaquin General Hospital:** David Culberson, SJGH CEO | [dculberson@sjgh.org](mailto:dculberson@sjgh.org) | (209) 468-6042



## 24. EXCLUSION OF PSYCHIATRIC HEALTH FACILITY FROM INSTITUTE FOR MENTAL DISEASE

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities*

#### ISSUE:

Behavioral Health Services had operated a 40-bed Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) for several years that did not qualify for Medicaid payments because it exceeded the Federal 16-bed limit, known as the Institute of Mental Disease Exclusion. The facility reconfigured its bed capacity and the PHF now meets the 16-bed limit, but this size will not be adequate for future needs.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

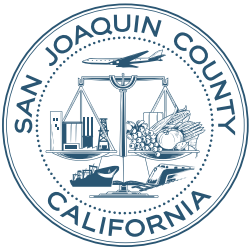
1. Support legislation or regulatory changes that would exclude the County's psychiatric health facility from the Institute of Mental Disease Exclusion for Medicaid funding and permit the psychiatric health facility to receive Medicaid payments.
2. Support legislation or regulations that would allow Medicaid payments for multiple 16-bed facilities owned and operated by the County.

#### 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. This limitation severely restricts the development of non-medical alternatives to acute psychiatric inpatient facilities. The County Behavioral Health Services' 40-bed PHF was redesigned and the beds reduced to 16. The PHF now qualifies for Medicaid payment; however, 16 beds will not meet San Joaquin County's future needs. Through the PHF the County offers clinically-based and cost-effective care which provides services similar to an acute psychiatric inpatient facility at approximately 50% of the cost. The County seeks eligibility for Medicaid payments for additional psychiatric health facilities or residential treatment programs for substance abuse, operated by counties to produce savings that could be reinvested in behavioral health community programs.

**Health Care Services Agency:** Greg Diederich, Director | [gdiederich@sjgh.org](mailto:gdiederich@sjgh.org) | (209) 468-7031  
**Behavioral Health Services:** Tony Vartan, BHS Director | [tvartan@sjcbhs.org](mailto:tvartan@sjcbhs.org) | (209) 468-8752





## 25. MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT AND THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BLOCK GRANT

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities, Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

#### ISSUE:

There is an increased demand and need for mental health and co-occurring substance use disorder treatment.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Support legislation and budgetary proposals to combat the increasing opioid and methamphetamine addiction.
2. Support efforts to amend 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 2 to permit information sharing between health care providers.
3. Support efforts to ensure continued Medicaid funding for all forms of substance use disorder treatment.

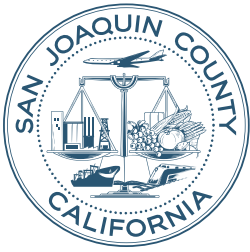
#### BACKGROUND:

The past two years has seen a significant interest by Congress in addressing mental health and related or co-occurring substance abuse issues. Enhanced access to treatment should not be forced on patients; other intensive outreach strategies are effective for many non-compliant patients without involving an overwhelmed justice system.

San Joaquin County supports the continuation of Medicaid funding for all forms of substance use disorder treatment. The County continues to experience significant increases in the number of individuals seeking treatment for methamphetamine, alcohol, and opioid addiction.

Due to the stigma associated with substance use disorder, the Federal government enacted extremely strict provisions regarding the privacy of patient treatment records. However, these standards actually impede the care of these patients with co-occurring mental health or physical health issues. Therefore, 42 CFR part 2 must be amended in order to provide better health care to these individuals. Patients still must have a say in who may access their medical records; the existence of mental illness or substance use should not be used as justification to access those records without consent.

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## 26. SERVICES AND FACILITIES FOR VETERANS

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Promote Economic Development*

#### ISSUE:

Long awaited appropriate health care facilities and clinical and mental health services to be provided in French Camp for Central Valley Veterans reduce homelessness, and improve health outcomes for County Veterans.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support legislation, administrative actions and/or budgetary proposals which would:

1. Advocate for the speedy initiation and completion of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals, clinics, and other buildings to meet the needs and demands of the growing Veteran populations and expedite the construction of modernized healthcare facilities in the Central Valley;
2. Promote collaboration with Federal, State and local agencies; employers; housing providers, faith-based and community nonprofits; and others to expand employment and affordable housing options for Veterans exiting homelessness;
3. Develop alternate means of providing Veterans' health care, behavioral health and related supportive services to Veterans and their families through joint venture agreements and appropriate rate structures with the VA Healthcare System Administration, San Joaquin General Hospital and Health Care Services Agency; expand education and promotion of the VA Mission Act; and to authorize use of the County services and facilities to address immediate behavioral and mental health needs and to manage chronic illnesses for county Veterans; and
4. Widen the eligibility criteria for Veterans to meet Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) program requirements.

#### BACKGROUND:

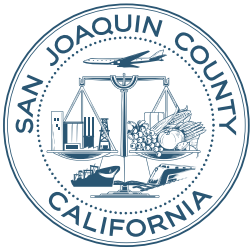
Within the Livermore Realignment and Closure Project, the top priority should be construction of the Central Valley Outpatient Clinic and Community Living Center in French Camp. Congress appropriated \$55 million in 2010 for Realignment and Closure of the Livermore Campus. The VA purchased 52 acres of land in French Camp for the Central Valley Project with a portion of the 2010 appropriated funds. The Concept Design Phase I review was completed with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), VA Office of Construction and Facilities Management (OCFM), and VA Palo Alto in December 2017. According to the VA Office of Construction and Facilities Management, all necessary design, development and construction documents for the Project were completed in April 2018.

The County advocates that the Livermore Realignment and Closure Project must be included in the category of need described as "Prioritizing Major Construction Projects according to impact on outpatient access and positive outcomes". The Livermore project is one of five projects designated as Major Construction Projects having a significant impact on access and positive health outcomes within the Central Valley.

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**San Joaquin General Hospital:** David Culberson, SJGH CEO | [dculberson@sjgh.org](mailto:dculberson@sjgh.org) | (209) 468-6042



## 26. SERVICES AND FACILITIES FOR VETERANS

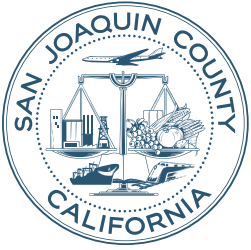
### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES (CONTINUED)

Wait times for Central Valley Veterans for both clinical and mental health services continue to be a significant concern to San Joaquin County. County health and mental health services continue to treat Veterans after hours and on weekends for emergency medical and behavioral health issues due to the obstacles they face accessing services at the Livermore or Stockton VA facilities managed by the VA Palo Alto Health Care System.

The newly established VA Mission Act requires access to community care if VA does not offer the care or services the Veteran requires, VA does not operate a full-service medical facility in the state a Veteran resides, the Veteran was eligible for care in the community under the 40-mile rule in the Veterans Choice (VA CHOICE) Program, or a Veteran and the Veteran's referring clinician agree that furnishing care or services in the community would be in the best medical interest of the Veteran.

San Joaquin County's Behavioral Health Services and San Joaquin General Hospital (SJGH) are prepared to partner with the VA to ensure timely and quality clinical, specialty, and mental health services to Veterans. On August 12, 2014, SJGH was able to finalize an agreement with TriWest for medical services as part of the VA's Patient Centered Community Care Program. However, due to the TriWest referral process and interpretation of the VA CHOICE program, utilization of SJGH services may be limited. The VA CHOICE program mandates that in order to seek services outside the VA system, a Veteran must live 40 miles from any VA facility, whether or not that facility can provide the needed services. Therefore, a Veteran from San Joaquin County still must travel to Palo Alto or Livermore if the service needed is not offered in the French Camp VA clinic. Although attempts have been made to clarify the VA CHOICE program, local Veterans still report barriers when attempting to use SJC facilities.

A direct agreement between the VA and the County would mitigate for the behavioral health rates that TriWest is unable to meet and could accelerate the delivery of services through SJGH and County Behavioral Health Services for both medical and behavioral health services immediately enhancing the VA's capacity and capability. Additionally, through a direct agreement with the VA, the County can assist in mitigating some of the lengthy wait times and backlogs currently experienced by the VA and eliminate the hardships for Central Valley Veterans who would otherwise have to travel to Livermore or Palo Alto for VA services.



## 27. FUNDING FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY SERVICES

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

#### ISSUE:

To ensure adequate safety and protection of the public, there needs to be a continuation of fair and equitable funding for public health emergency services.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Aggressively pursue and support:

1. Sustained State funding for planning and responding to the medical/health consequences of terrorism, disasters, and other public health emergencies;
2. Development of equitable funding formulas which would consider the proximity of jurisdictions to high-profile targets, but are not based solely on the presence of such targets or County population; and
3. Policies that ensure there will be no fiscal penalties to counties if staff is pulled from categorically-funded programs in order to respond to terrorism, disasters, and/or other public health emergencies.

#### BACKGROUND:

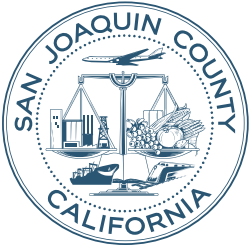
Sustained funding is needed to augment local programs to prepare for, respond to, and recover from all forms of terrorism, including bio-terrorism and natural disasters. Recent hurricanes and California wildfires have underscored the impact of natural disasters on local, State, and Federal medical/health response capabilities. Pandemic influenza threatens to overwhelm an already fragile medical and public health system. County government is at a severe disadvantage in its ability to obtain new funding sources to address these additional public health and safety issues.

Legislation is needed which would increase prevention and response capabilities and strengthen the partnerships between State, Federal, local agencies and community groups to effectively identify, prevent, and respond to the medical/health consequences of terrorism, disasters and/or other public health emergencies. Funding formulas should consider the proximity to high-profile, high-impact targets. Nearby jurisdictions to such targets would 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 are often funded by categorical grants. These staff must be trained and, when appropriate, engaged in emergency preparedness and response activities. Federal policies must be flexible to ensure a competent, trained workforce regardless of salary funding stream or program assignment.

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## 28. CONTROLLING TUBERCULOSIS

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities, Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

#### ISSUE:

There is a lack of funds for preventing, monitoring, controlling, and treating Tuberculosis.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Pursue and support legislation that would increase domestic and international funding for continued prevention, monitoring, controlling, and treating Tuberculosis (TB) infection and disease.

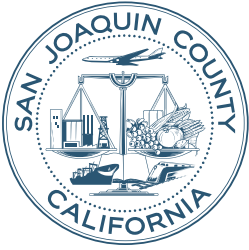
#### BACKGROUND:

TB remains a persistent global health threat, with 10.4 million cases of active TB and 1.7 million deaths attributed to TB each year worldwide. California continues to report 20% of the active TB cases diagnosed in the United States annually, reporting 2,056 people with active TB in 2017. TB programs within health departments play a critical role in treatment, containment, and prevention. Across California, they evaluate 10,000 persons suspected to have TB, and nearly 20,000 contacts of people with TB each year. The rate of TB in San Joaquin County is higher than California due to many factors including the influx of immigrants from Southeast Asia in the late 1970s and 1980s who are now aging, and the high rate of poverty. In January 2016, San Joaquin County had more TB cases associated with outbreaks and the highest percentage of TB cases attributable to recent transmission than any other County in California. To stop the spread of TB, public health departments oversee identification of active, infectious TB cases, investigation of contacts, and ensure adequate treatment of TB disease which takes up to 12 months of daily visits for drug susceptible TB and 18 months minimum for drug resistant TB.

The incidence of active TB disease will not decrease substantially until emphasis is placed on treating TB infection. Approximately 2.4 million Californians are infected with TB including an estimated 45,000 people living in San Joaquin County, and treatment is essential to prevent those infections from becoming active and spreading TB to others in our County. The County seeks support for all aspects of TB control, including improved immigrant evaluation and treatment on arrival to the United States and improved treatment of contacts to active TB identified through contact investigation. Further, support for improved TB infection and disease identification and treatment internationally will greatly help in controlling TB here.

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## 29. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONTINUUM OF CARE

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities, Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

#### ISSUE:

In order to treat behavioral health clients at all levels, it is necessary to support interventions and treatment facilities throughout the continuum of care and ensure that behavioral health patients have access to housing.

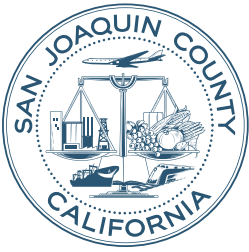
#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Support developing infrastructure and increasing capacity for crisis services, including triage personnel, mobile crisis teams and crisis residential options.
2. Support funding for facilities that serve consumers in need of a higher level of care, including expansion of beds in Institutes of Mental Diseases and state psychiatric hospitals.
3. Support funding housing construction, operating subsidies, and supportive services in order to create permanent supportive housing, and/or increase housing affordability for clients with behavioral health conditions.

#### BACKGROUND:

County mental health plans must provide inpatient and post-stabilization outpatient care to their emergency room patients. However, there is a shortage of crisis and inpatient mental health beds in San Joaquin County and Statewide. Hospitals, law enforcement, and the courts are making efforts to ensure that individuals are not placed in jail because of a lack of adequate crisis intervention and supports. It is important to ensure that San Joaquin County has adequate crisis intervention, treatment services, and housing for behavioral health clients and that supports are in place to treat this population.

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## 30. FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES ACT

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities, Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

#### ISSUE:

On February 9, 2018 current Administration signed the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (H.R. 1892). Included in the Act was the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), which has the potential to dramatically change child welfare systems across the country.

#### APPROPRIATION REQUEST:

Advocate for amendments to the Family First Preventative Services Act, which align Federal law and financial participation with California's Continuum of Care Reform efforts underway since 2015. Support targeted amendments to the FFPSA to maximize Federal financing for child welfare in an effort to support families and limit the use of congregate care and to support California's multi-year effort to better meet child and family needs through its Continuum of Care Reform (AB 403) (2015).

#### BACKGROUND:

The FFPSA reforms the Federal child welfare financing streams, Title IV-E and Title IV-B of the Social Security Act, to provide services to families who are at risk of entering the child welfare system. The bill aims to prevent children from entering foster care by allowing Federal reimbursement for mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and in-home parenting skill training. It also seeks to improve the well-being of children already in foster care by incentivizing states to reduce placement of children in congregate care, also known as group homes or Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTP) in California.

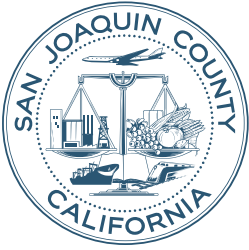
The incentive in the FFPSA for states is to reduce placement of children in congregate care. This incentive resides in a new cap of Federal funding. The Federal government will not pay for a child to stay in a group home longer than two weeks, with some exceptions, such as teens who are pregnant or parenting.

In California, Assembly Bill 403 (2015), known as Continuum of Care Reform (CCR), provided the statutory and policy framework to ensure services and supports provided to the child or youth and his or her family are tailored toward the ultimate goal of maintaining a stable permanent family. CCR was designed to comprehensively reform the placement and treatment options for children in foster care by ensuring that families providing care receive targeted training and support. Furthermore, CCR advanced the State's effort to move away from the use of long-term group home care and to transition existing congregate care into STRTPs.

The problem resides in the conflict between the Federal FFPSA and California's CCR, including:

FFPSA requirements that Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTP), congregate care as defined by the Federal government, have registered or licensed nursing staff and licensed clinical staff on-site during business hours and available 24 hours a day and 7 days per week. Federal funding is limited to two weeks for any placement not meeting this strict and unnecessary requirement.

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## 30. FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES ACT

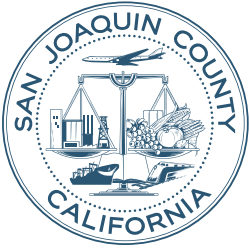
### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES (CONTINUED)

Strict timeframes contained in the FFPSA for child assessments which, if not met, jeopardize Federal funding for the duration of the placement.

The FFPSA allows families, including relative placements, to receive up to 12 months of Federally-funded preventative services. In the case of a child residing with a relative or other known adult, should those preventative services not be effective and the child later needs to enter foster care, the child will not be eligible to Federal foster care benefits based upon not having been physically residing in the home of a parent within 6 months prior to entering foster care. Instead, CCR seeks to establish policy and practice which does not financially penalize Counties when preventative services are not effective. Federal funds should be available to maximize the ability to place children in home-based family care settings with relatives and other known adults, where outcomes are more positive over the long term.

The fiscal impact to the County is largely unknown at this time. In fiscal year 2017-2018, the Federal reimbursement for Child Welfare programs was \$28,183,331 (\$12,994,499 for Foster Care assistance payments and \$15,188,832 for Child Welfare Program Administration).





## 31. SNAP PROVISIONS IN THE FARM BILL

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility*

#### ISSUE:

The Agricultural Act of 2014 (H.R. 2642), or Farm Bill, is an omnibus legislation passed by the United States Congress, and signed into law by past administration on February 7, 2014. The current version expired on September 30, 2018.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Advocate for legislation and budgetary provisions which ensure families, persons with disabilities, and older adults receive relief from food insecurity through SNAP. Additionally, support the SNAP provisions in the Senate's Agriculture Improvement Act (S. 3042) and oppose SNAP provisions in the House's Agriculture and Nutrition Act (H.R. 2).

#### BACKGROUND:

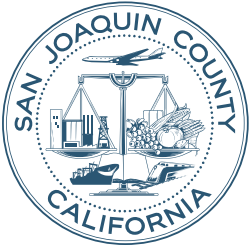
The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the largest expenditure in the Farm Bill, is a Federally mandated, State supervised, and county-operated entitlement program that provides monthly food benefits to assist low-income households in purchasing the food they need to maintain adequate nutritional levels. Known as CalFresh in California, 45,904 San Joaquin County households received benefits in July 2018.

At the Federal level, SNAP is administered by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) which is an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). At the State level, California's version of SNAP is called CalFresh and is overseen by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) which is a department of the California Health and Human Services Agency.

The House and Senate versions of the Farm Bill differ in numerous areas, with the primary focus of the increased work requirements and sanctions included in the House version. Among the most significant provisions of the House's Agriculture and Nutrition Act (H.R. 2), would impose new, nationwide mandatory work requirements on millions of SNAP participants. It would require SNAP participants ages 18 through 59, who are not disabled or raising a child under 6, to prove every month that they are working at least 20 hours a week, participating at least 20 hours a week in a work program, or a combination of the two. The typical individual who would be subject to the new requirements receives about \$150 to \$185 a month in SNAP benefits.

Those who cannot comply would face sanctions. The first sanction for non-compliance would mean a loss of the individual's share of the household benefit for 12 months. An additional sanction would impose a 36 month loss of benefits. Individuals could regain their eligibility only by working at least half-time for a month or requalifying through an exemption, such as a disability. While the work requirements may cause a small number of individuals to leave SNAP earlier than otherwise because they have found a job, the vast bulk of the savings very likely would come from households having their benefits sanctioned.

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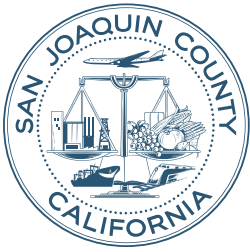
## 31. SNAP PROVISIONS IN THE FARM BILL

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES (CONTINUED)

The Senate's Agriculture Improvement Act (S. 3042) includes specific provisions which benefit older adult households, increases funding and flexibility for employment and training pilot projects, and requires greater Federal coordination of the SNAP education services.

The Senate bill's provisions improve the foundation of SNAP while the House bill increases food insecurity and unnecessarily increases the complexity of administrative activities, including eligibility determination and case management, performed by Counties on behalf of the State and Federal governments.

The fiscal impact to the County is undetermined. It is likely that the impact would materialize in additional administrative complexity and inadequate funding to offset the additional cost. It is estimated that 8% of households nationwide could lose their benefits if the House provisions are implemented, potentially impacting 3,672 San Joaquin County households.



## 32. HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities*

#### ISSUE:

Over a decade ago, San Joaquin County purchased what was then a state-of-the-art voting system, which allowed voters to vote privately and independently, regardless of disability status. The County's existing voting technology is outdated and has reached the end of its useful life. New systems are available; these new systems improve services to voters and have additional security and auditing safeguards.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support legislation, budgetary, and/or funding proposals that would facilitate the replacement of aging voting systems and infrastructure for improved efficiency, security, and accessibility.

#### BACKGROUND:

On October 29, 2002, Congress passed the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) to make sweeping reforms to the nation's voting process. Through HAVA, California was allocated approximately \$200 million to improve its voting systems and enhance voter access. San Joaquin County currently has funding available through the HAVA grant.

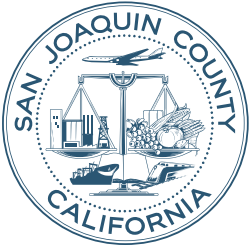
On March 23, 2018, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 was signed into law, allocating \$380 million through the 2018 HAVA Election Security Fund. Grants were awarded to the State of California to upgrade voting system technology and to make a number of election security improvements, such as implementing rigorous post-election audits and addressing computer system vulnerabilities.

States and counties throughout the United States need to replace their aging voting systems and enhance election security infrastructure. Many voting systems currently in use are no longer actively supported by the manufacturer, with replacements parts often unavailable.

In addition, the security of voting systems and election infrastructure is often based on older technology that has not been upgraded since its original certification. There have been no changes or technical improvements to the voting system used in San Joaquin County since the system's recertification in 2007. These systems are critical to the election process; a failure of voting systems during an election would negatively impact the voting process and public confidence.

To address this operational weakness and to support the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Priority "Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities", the County is requesting the allocation of Federal funding to purchase a commercially available voting system and infrastructure related to election security.

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## 33. E-RATE FUNDING FOR LIBRARIES

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, and Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities*

#### 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 .

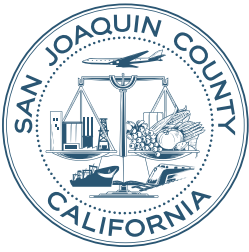
#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support legislative and administrative efforts and/or budgetary proposals which would maintain the current level of E-Rate Program funding to libraries, raise the funding cap, and continue simplification of the application and distribution process, while opposing efforts to reduce funding for the Program.

#### BACKGROUND:

E-Rate is the commonly used name for the Schools and Libraries Program of the Universal Service Fund, authorized as part of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The E-Rate Program provides discounts to assist most schools and libraries in the United States to obtain affordable telecommunications and Internet access. Funded at \$2.25 billion annually, the E-Rate Program provides funding under four categories of service: telecommunications services, Internet access, internal connections, and basic maintenance of internal connections. E-Rate discounts for support depend on the level of poverty and the urban/rural status of the population served and range from 20% to 90% of the costs of eligible services, 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 Program has played a pivotal role in helping libraries connect their users to the Internet. More than 95% of the nation's libraries offer Internet access to the public, compared to 1996, when 28% of the library systems offered public access to the Internet in at least one branch. Without the E-Rate Program, libraries would not have access to critical resources such as online job information, government information, and educational resources. As technologies evolve and budgets remain tight, libraries depend more and more on E-Rate discounts, and increased funding will be required in the future to meet library needs.



## 34. EXPANDING ACCESS TO BROADBAND IN LIBRARIES

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, and Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities*

#### ISSUE:

Libraries are experiencing an increasing reliance upon and need for expanded broadband telecommunications services, which require greater broadband deployment and build-out in our communities.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support legislative and administrative efforts and/or budgetary proposals which would advance accessibility, affordability and universal service programs and oppose legislation that would inhibit the growth of any public broadband efforts on the State or national level.

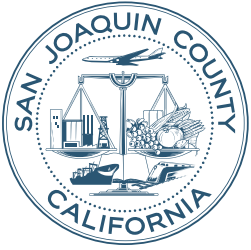
#### BACKGROUND:

Broadband generally described as high-speed telecommunications, more specifically, high-speed Internet.

Despite the recognized benefits of and increasing demand for innovative library programs to San Joaquin County residents, limited connectivity prevents California librarians from offering programs and services that would be of value to their users. Videoconferencing, streaming media, content creation, specialized software, longer sessions on terminals, and unlimited wireless access are badly needed by many of California's libraries, but insufficient bandwidth remains a barrier for libraries' efforts to fulfill their vital roles in community research and education. In order to empower libraries — particularly in challenged areas — to play these roles, better connectivity is critical.

These issues are raised primarily in regulatory venues, specifically the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), and during legislative proceedings with numerous Congressional offices. Public debate regarding broadband deployment is most likely to be before the FCC rather than Congress.

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## 35. TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility and Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

#### 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:

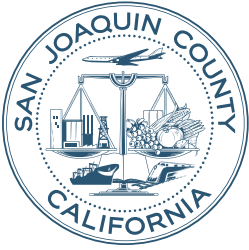
Advocate in support of a sustainable long-term solution to ensure the solvency of the Highway Trust Fund. Additionally, raise and index the Federal Gasoline Tax; implement of a user fee, such as Vehicle Miles Traveled or other fees that more accurately charges motorists for their use of the transportation system; and assessment on alternative fuel vehicles.

#### BACKGROUND:

Local jurisdictions, cities, and counties have the sole responsibility of operating and managing over 80% 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, FAST Act), which authorizes \$305 billion for highways, transit, and transportation safety projects nationwide for 2016 through 2020. For most of its history, the HTF has collected more revenue than had been expended. This situation has changed in the last several years. On January 16, 2016, an infusion of approximately \$51.9 billion was made from the U.S. Federal General Fund into the HTF to ensure solvency of the HTF.

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## 36. LOCAL ROAD AND BRIDGE MAINTENANCE BACKLOG

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

**BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:**

*Ensure Fiscal Responsibility and Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System*

**ISSUE:**

County transportation financing needs exceed existing and foreseeable revenues, requiring additional funding to respond to significant growth in transportation needs.

**LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:**

Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budget appropriations that would serve to address/provide funding for the backlog of local road and bridge maintenance projects.

**BACKGROUND:**

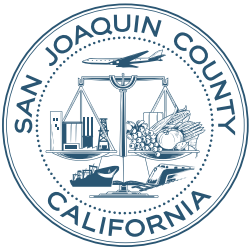
Currently in San Joaquin County, the backlog of deferred road maintenance includes an estimated:

1. \$188 million in pavement maintenance;
2. \$236 million in bridge maintenance; and
3. \$229 million in essential components (signs, signals, sidewalks, storm drains etc.)

This shortfall reflects funds needed in order to maintain the current local roads and bridges in good condition. The shortfall does not include system expansions such as those required to address existing congestion or population growth. Continued delay of this work will result in further declining road conditions and increasing the County's roadway maintenance backlog. The County seeks to be proactive in legislative and policy remedies to address the transportation funding issues impacting the road maintenance backlog.

**(PROJECT LITERATURE AVAILABLE)**

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## 37. IMPROVED FLOOD PROTECTION

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Stay Informed and Proactive in Dealing with Water Issues*

#### ISSUE:

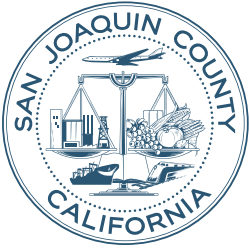
San Joaquin County relies on a system of levees, reservoirs, channels, ditches and other structures for the protection of lives, property, and critical infrastructure. State and Federal flood protection standards have become more stringent in recent years which impose additional obligations on local governments to improve the level of flood protection and to increase maintenance of levees and channel along with meeting ever-increasing environmental protection requirements. Current State laws require local governments to generate revenues specific to the flood protection services provided which are currently insufficient to meet increasing needs and mandates.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Seek, advocate, and support legislation, regulations and administrative efforts and/or projects that:
  - a. Fund engineering design and construction of features approved in the Lower San Joaquin River Feasibility Study (LSJRFS) and other flood protection infrastructure;
  - b. Ensure that State and Federal obligations in the operation, maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, and replacement (OMRR&R) of Project levees and channels within the State Plan of Flood Control are met, including a coordinated effort to consolidate both State and Federal inspections;
  - c. Repair and restore levees and channels after a flood event under PL84-99 or similar program;
  - d. Provide funding for local levee maintenance activities and relief from certain environmental restrictions for maintenance activities;
  - e. Achieve multiple benefits including flood protection, groundwater recharge, and/or reservoir storage;
  - f. Expedite the completion of a Federal feasibility study and all State and Federal permits to provide 200-year flood protection for the Mossdale Tract area;
  - g. Ensure communities in San Joaquin County continue to maintain or establish 100-year flood protection to eliminate and/or reduce the cost of flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP); and
  - h. Result in practical reforms to NFIP programs, including maintaining and/or enhancing affordability of flood insurance premiums and ensuring reasonableness and practicality of administering the Federal Emergency Management Agency's model Flood Hazards Ordinance.
2. Seek, advocate, and support legislative and administrative efforts which would provide funding to analyze, plan, design, construct, and maintain facilities to improve Delta levees and waterways in San Joaquin County for the protection of communities, water supplies, agriculture and other local businesses.

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## 37. IMPROVED FLOOD PROTECTION

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES (CONTINUED)

#### **BACKGROUND:**

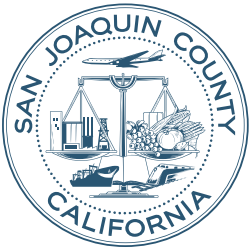
Levee systems in San Joaquin County (SJC) protect over 400,000 residents and essential infrastructure that is critical to the region's economy and the State's well-being. Major flooding in SJC could result in overwhelming negative economic impacts Statewide. Potential impacts to homes, businesses, transportation, farms and agriculture, municipal sewer and water systems, energy infrastructure, and the environment can be minimized with the proper planning, construction, and maintenance of flood protection improvements.

Local governments must participate in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to remain eligible for Federal funding. Under the NFIP, flood insurance is required for federally backed mortgages on properties within Special Flood Hazard Areas (generally those with less than 100-year flood protection). Flood insurance is optional outside of Special Flood Hazard Areas. Congress is required to reauthorize and fund the NFIP with changes to the program proposed from time to time. Additionally, reforms are needed in some areas of the NFIP, such as adding reasonable flexibility in the requirements for structures related to agricultural uses and to ensure that proposed changes keep flood insurance rates affordable for local constituents.

#### ***"Non-Project" Levees***

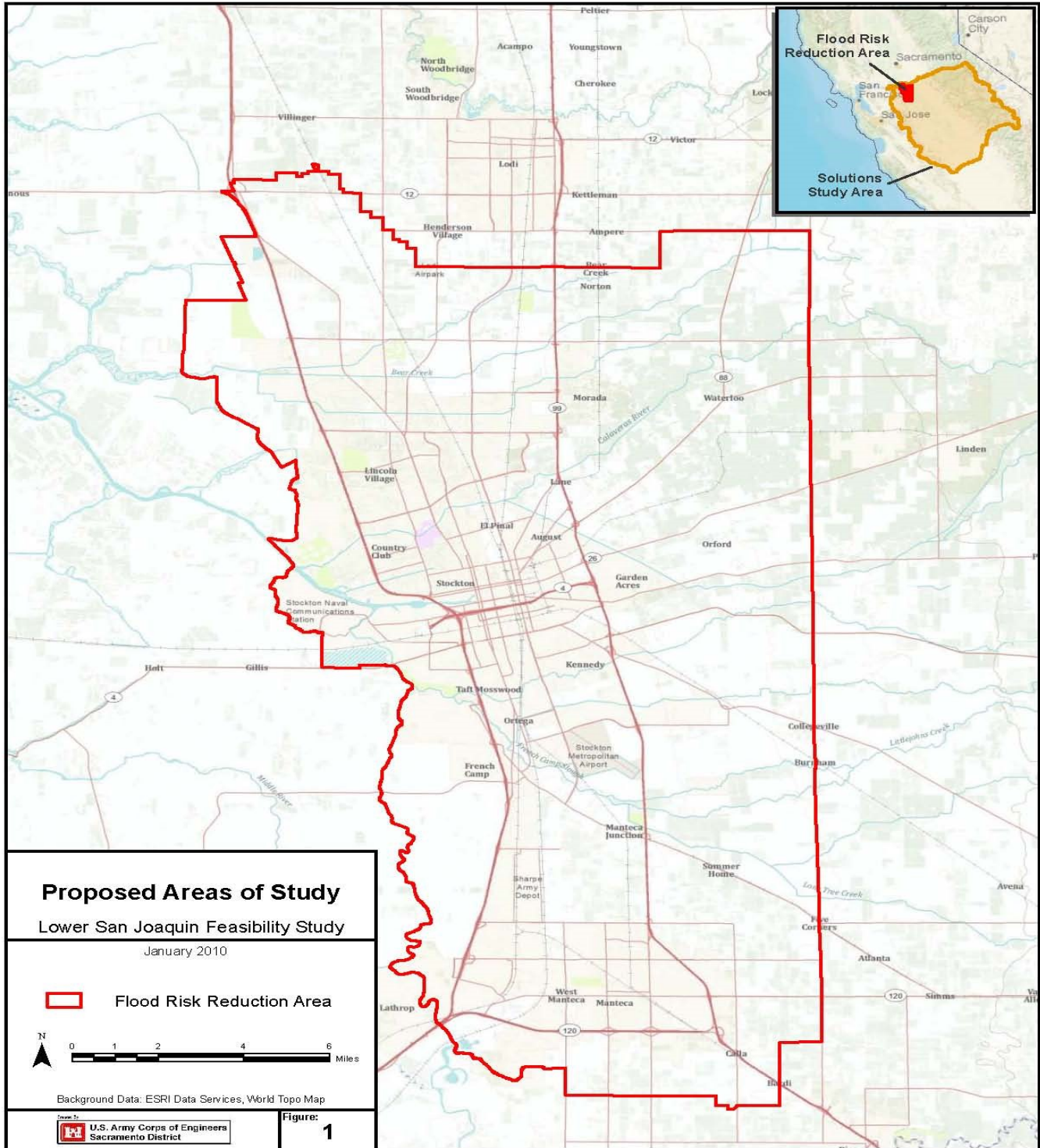
Non-project levees are essential features in the overall system of levees protecting parts of San Joaquin County. Non-project levees are levees that are not built as part of a federally authorized project. While the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the State are not involved in the operation and maintenance of non-project levees, many of these levees protect urban areas subject to the State's 200-year protection requirement. Consequently, communities within the County could be faced with a significant unfunded State mandate, and as a result, development, re-development and critical infrastructure improvements could be halted if funding for both project and non-project levees is not available. Given the importance of non-project levees to this area, future State planning efforts and funding programs to implement the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan should incorporate the improvement needs of both project and non-project levees.

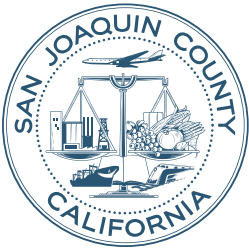
**(PROJECT MAP ON PAGE 65; LITERATURE AVAILABLE)**



# 37. IMPROVED FLOOD PROTECTION

## LEGISLATIVE ISSUES (CONTINUED)





## 38. SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Stay Informed and Proactive in Dealing with Water Issues*

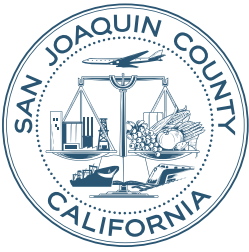
#### ISSUE:

Since the passage of the Delta Reform Act of 2009, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta has been a top State and Federal legislative issue for the Board of Supervisors. The California WaterFix and EcoRestore Projects, the latest monikers for the Twin Tunnels isolated conveyance and the conversion of agricultural land into shallow water habitat formally known as the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), threaten the economic, social and environmental viability of the Delta. The Board has engaged with a variety of interests to defend the Delta in the following areas: 1) improving and maintaining the system of levees that protect life and property for both agricultural and urban areas and which also support the current system of through Delta exports, 2) advocating for continued access to Delta water supplies of sufficient quantity and quality for farmers, urban users, and the environment, 3) supporting efforts to have a healthy and viable Bay-Delta Estuary, and 4) enhancing Delta maritime commerce, recreation, and recognition of the Delta as a place. The Board of Supervisors supports the development of a comprehensive Statewide Plan which includes a robust water portfolio which is a) consistent with the best interests of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta within San Joaquin County, b) consistent with the Co-Equal Goals of the Delta Reform Act of 2009 and the policy of the State to reduce reliance on the Delta for future California water needs, and c) protective of the local economy, habitat, water rights, water quality, land-use governance, and way of life in San Joaquin County.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Seek legislative and administrative support for advancement of the following with regard to the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan and the California WaterFix/EcoRestore Projects:
  - a. Actions associated with the Delta ecosystem and water supply reliability for areas outside of the Delta must not redirect unmitigated adverse environmental, economic, or social impacts to San Joaquin County;
  - b. Actions and activities associated with the Delta must honor and adhere to water rights, priorities, and area-of-origin protections. San Joaquin County opposes water user fees that would tax water users in the areas of origin and/or general taxpayers for the cost of mitigation efforts in the Delta, or to provide a water supply for those outside of the Delta;
  - c. Water conveyance facilities routed through San Joaquin County must have no adverse effect on the existing and future agricultural operations in the County. Other adverse impacts of water conveyance facilities routed through the County must be fully mitigated. The County must be fully involved in routing and operational issues of water conveyance facilities located within the County;
  - d. The Delta Stewardship Council's definition of "Covered Actions" must continue to be narrowly defined as set forth in the Delta Reform Act of 2009 as opposed to being broadly interpreted by the Council. Legislative solutions may be necessary to clarify ambiguous statutory provisions regarding "Covered Actions";

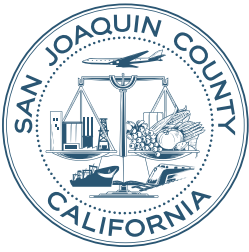
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## 38. SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES (CONTINUED)

- e. Implementation of the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan and future development and implementation of other planning documents must ensure that those documents do not conflict with San Joaquin County land use planning, economic development, agriculture and recreational opportunities;
  - f. Financial resources must be committed by the State to maintain and enhance vital transportation and flood control infrastructure in areas of the Delta within San Joaquin County. Financial resources also need to be committed to improve emergency response within the Delta; and
  - g. The set of strategies to address problems in the Delta must be comprehensive, accounting for the multitude of causes of the Delta's decline and not simply focusing on one or a limited number of causes.
2. Support legislative and administrative efforts, including budget proposals, which would provide:
    - a. Funding for near-term projects which do no harm to San Joaquin County and its constituents and help further the long-term sustainability of the Delta and its unique economy and environment;
    - b. Funding to continue the Delta Counties Coalition, Coalition to Support Delta Projects, California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, and other such coalitions or processes that enable the continuation of these efforts or other similar efforts/coalitions, advance a healthy dialogue among stakeholders Statewide, and identify and/or prioritize viable near-term projects which further the co-equal goals of improving Statewide water supply reliability and restoring and enhancing the Delta ecosystem in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place; and
    - c. Funding from Propositions 1, 1E, and 84 to be disbursed for projects and proposals consistent with the adopted County Legislative Platforms and does not advance or support the adoption or implementation of California WaterFix/EcoRestore.
  3. Seek legislative and administrative support in:
    - a. Protecting San Joaquin County's governmental prerogatives in the areas of local land use authority, tax and related revenues, public health and safety, economic development, and agricultural stability;
    - b. Protecting San Joaquin County's ability to govern, as an elected body, from proposed usurpation through governance by a non-elected, appointed board or council. Any and all councils, commissions, or boards established to "govern" the Delta must include voting membership for elected representatives from the County; and
    - c. Working with the State's representatives implementing California WaterFix/EcoRestore, the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan, and the development and implementation of other future planning documents to ensure that those Plans do not conflict with San Joaquin County land use planning and economic development, including agriculture, or any other County interests.
  4. Aggressively oppose legislative, regulatory and administrative efforts including water plans and infrastructure proposals that would negatively impact San Joaquin County's urban communities, vital agricultural economy and the Delta, such as isolated conveyance as proposed under California WaterFix.



## 38. SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES (CONTINUED)

#### BACKGROUND:

Nearly two-thirds of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (Delta) comprises approximately one-third of the County area. In total, Delta agricultural production is valued at approximately \$1.4 billion annually, which in turn results in over \$5.4 billion in additional State economic benefit. The Delta is also a critical thoroughfare for infrastructure such as highways; natural gas storage and transmission; and water supply conveyance. The Delta's maze of navigable waterways supports maritime commerce and the transportation of goods; boating and recreation; numerous fish and wildlife species; and is a source for local drinking water, as the City of Stockton has recently brought into operation the Delta Water Supply Project.

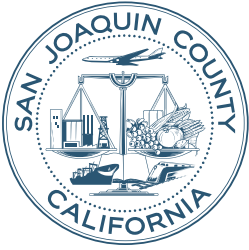
San Joaquin County (SJC) is unquestionably tied to the long-term economic, social, and environmental viability of the Delta. Current proposals, including the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan (DP) and the California WaterFix/EcoRestore, could have significant adverse effects on communities in the Delta and within the Delta watershed. Examples that conflict with the long-term economic, social, and environmental viability of the Delta, and SJC as a whole include:

1. Limiting the sovereignty of local agencies to make land use decisions;
2. The diminution of water rights to the detriment of senior water right holders and the area of origin;
3. The conversion of agriculture in the Delta to shallow water habitat in-lieu of direct mitigation for export pumping and endangered species takings; and
4. Potential for continued deterioration in Delta water quality and quantity, resulting in impacts to agriculture, wildlife, recreation and commerce in the Delta.

Since the passage of the 2009 Comprehensive Water Package, including the Delta Reform Act of 2009 (SBX7-1), the need for SJC's efforts to react to and influence the processes, policies, and projects created or proposed by the 2009 Comprehensive Water Package have increased greatly. Consistent with the Board of Supervisors' policy direction, SJC staff has worked to represent the County's position, defend the County's interests, and constructively participate in many of the ongoing State and Federal activities surrounding the Delta. SJC has engaged with local, State and Federal agencies, public entities, State and Federal legislators, environmental groups, and private businesses on several fronts to ensure that the County's position and interests would be represented in any action or policy affecting the Delta.

SJC continues to participate in the 5-Delta Counties Coalition (DCC), comprised of Contra Costa, Sacramento, Solano, Yolo and San Joaquin Counties. The DCC was formed to advocate with one voice on behalf of the affected 5-Delta County local governments and the total of approximately four million people residing in the Delta counties. The DCC will continue working cooperatively to advocate for common issues such as governance, land use, and water supply and quality impacts to Delta communities with State and Federal legislators and agencies. Additionally, the Delta Coalition, consisting of the seven cities within SJC and other local business and environmental interests, continues to engage the greater SJC community to protect local interests in the Delta.

SJC also worked to support several coalition building and consensus based efforts, including the Coalition to Support Delta Projects and the DCC/California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley 12-County Water Work Group effort. The 12-Counties of the Delta and the San Joaquin Valley were able to come to consensus on a list of near-term "no regrets" projects that benefit both regions.



## 39. CLEAN WATER ACT: EPA RULE MAKING, NAVIGABLE WATERS

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Stay Informed and Proactive in Dealing with Water Issues*

#### ISSUE:

The current administration has commenced a rulemaking process to repeal the Previous Administration's Clean Water Rule regarding the definition of "Waters of the United States" (WOTUS Rule) and reinstate the 1986 Clean Water Act (CWA) rule in place prior to the final WOTUS Rule, which would have redefined lands and waters subject to regulation by the Federal government under the Clean Water Act. The current Administration is also currently vetting a new draft WOTUS rule, due out soon. As written, the current WOTUS Rule developed by the previous administration would expand the definition of WOTUS and also would expand Federal jurisdiction over all activities on public and private lands by private individuals or local and State government in and around waterways and tributaries including canals, culverts, and ditches. The current WOTUS Rule has been legally challenged in the Federal courts and is awaiting judgment as to whether the expansion of Federal jurisdiction is within the scope of the CWA. As of 2018, the implementation of the current WOTUS Rule is currently stayed in 28-states, and is in effect in 22-states, mostly based on varying district court rulings. Some in Congress have tried to block the WOTUS Rule legislatively from being implemented, but have not been successful. This legislative issue is directly related to Board Strategic priority 5.) Stay Informed and Proactive in Dealing with Water Issues.

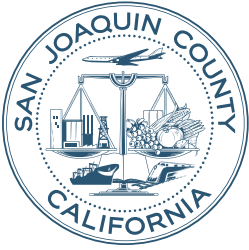
#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Oppose legislative and/or administrative efforts, including the issuance of guidance or a formal rulemaking, to broaden the application of the Clean Water Act to include small isolated wetlands, ephemeral and intermittent streams, and other marginal waters that are not directly adjacent to "navigable waters".
2. Support legislative efforts to bar the Environmental Protection Agency and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers from exceeding the jurisdiction of the Federal Government under the Clean Water Act.
3. Support administrative efforts to repeal the Previous Administration's Clean Water Rule over WOTUS and reinstate the 1986 rule under the Clean Water Act.

#### BACKGROUND:

The current administration's U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (EPA and USACE) have jointly proposed a rulemaking to repeal the previous administration's Clean Water Rule over WOTUS Rule that was supposed to clarify protection under the CWA for streams and wetlands that form the foundation of the nation's water resources. Determining CWA protection for streams and wetlands became confusing and complex following Supreme Court decisions in 2001 and 2006. The WOTUS Rule described how the EPA and USACE would have identified waters subject to jurisdiction under the CWA and implement the U.S. Supreme Court's decisions in *Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers* and *Rapanos v. United States* concerning the extent of waters covered by the Act.

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## 39. CLEAN WATER ACT: EPA RULE MAKING, NAVIGABLE WATERS

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES (CONTINUED)

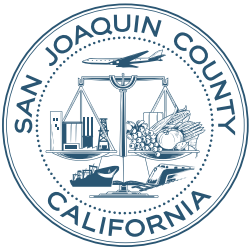
The final version of the previous administration's WOTUS Rule showed that the EPA and USACE would have expanded Federal CWA jurisdiction over tributaries, including canals, culverts and ditches. Specifically, the WOTUS Rule advanced a broad interpretation of Justice Anthony Kennedy's opinion in *Rapanos, et al. v. United States*, which held that waters sharing a "significant nexus" with jurisdictional waters can also be subject to CWA regulation. On August 28, 2015, the Final WOTUS Rule took effect and was immediately challenged in several Federal district courts nationwide. The 6th Circuit Court of Appeals initially took jurisdiction over all legal challenges nationwide and issued a nationwide stay of the WOTUS Rule, but the Supreme Court overturned the appellate court and gave jurisdiction back to the district courts. The implementation of the previous administration's WOTUS Rule is currently stayed in 28 states and is in effect in 22 states (including California) based on rulings from various district courts. Plaintiffs challenging the WOTUS Rule continue to call for a nationwide stay of the rule until either the courts act or the WOTUS Rule is withdrawn and/or replaced administratively.

In drafting the original Clean Water Act, Congress clearly recognized that not all waters should be subject to Clean Water Act jurisdiction. Congress distinguished between water bodies that are "jurisdictional" and those that are not by limiting the Act's authority to "navigable waters." By definition, any move away from "navigable waters" to some broader definition could include virtually any wetlands, irrigation canals, roadside ditches, ephemeral pools, and other non-navigable waterways.

The potential implications of the previous administration's WOTUS Rule are significant as the Clean Water Act affects many public and private activities in San Joaquin County. Farming practices could be significantly impacted in attempting to improve marginal range land to irrigated pasture. Roadside or private irrigation ditches (some are jurisdictional, but many are not) could all become jurisdictional under the WOTUS Rule. Many routine but vital maintenance operations in small stream channels, dry washes and man-made water conveyances could be subjected to costly and time-consuming permitting processes, even though such operations have no real effect on water quality. As a consequence, residents could see their water and power rates increase with no improvement in reliability and little or no enhancement of the environment.

In addition, California faces a major challenge in meeting the water and power needs of a growing population, while ensuring the vitality of its environmental resources. Adoption and implementation of the WOTUS Rule could make that task much more difficult.

Other potential impacts include the County's operations and maintenance of critical infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and utilities which are often located in close proximity and/or drain in to ditches or channels. Any expansion of the definition could add significant time and expense to these maintenance efforts.



## 40. INVASIVE WEEDS

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Stay Informed and Proactive in Dealing with Water Issues*

#### ISSUE:

Invasive weeds choke Delta waterways and impede flow causing degradation of water quality and quantity in waterways. Large mats of water hyacinth are also extremely good breeding grounds and hiding places for mosquitoes, which has challenged local mosquito and vector control agencies to control the spread of the West Nile Virus and other dangerous mosquito-borne illnesses. The spread of water hyacinth, *Egeria densa* (Brazilian waterweed), *Arundo donax* (giant cane/reed) and other invasive weeds in and around local waterways has reduced channel capacities for flood water conveyance, complicated levee maintenance, hindered marine navigation and boater access, and compromised operation of water intakes for agricultural, municipal, and industrial use. Local, State and Federal agencies, private water interests such as Delta Farmers, and marina operators, as well as the State and Federal Water Projects are spending millions of dollars annually to combat this problem.

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Advocate and support increased funding for research and the development and implementation of a sustainable, long-term invasive weeds management strategy.

#### BACKGROUND:

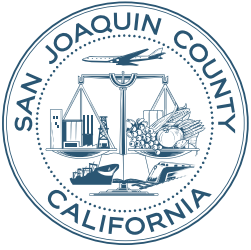
San Joaquin County continues to advocate for a comprehensive long-term strategy for eradication of invasive weeds. Invasive aquatic weeds such as submerged Brazilian waterweed (*Egeria densa*), floating water hyacinth (*Eichhorhria crassipes*) and emergent giant reed (*Arundo donax*), are a few of the most prolific and damaging invasive plant species in the Delta.

The California Department of Boating and Waterways has limited resources and permissions to control and eliminate the threat of these invasive aquatic weeds. In recent years, water hyacinth mats occupied several miles of channels and canals and in some cases from bank to bank, literally choking off access to irrigation. Currently, herbicides are applied at key times of the year under strict conditions from State and Federal regulators.

Cooperation between the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Department of Boating and Waterways, and other regulatory agencies have been focused mainly on permitted spraying programs throughout the Delta. Recent inclusion of USDA and National Aeronautics Space Administration researchers has been crucial to developing a science-based, comprehensive management approach to integrated pest and invasive weed management. Efforts to implement these strategies must be increased and include additional coordination across multiple disciplines, jurisdictions, and stakeholder, culminating in a sustainable, long-term Delta-wide integrated pest and invasive weed management strategy.

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## 41. NEW WATER SUPPLIES FOR SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY: MOKELUMNE RIVER REGIONAL WATER STORAGE AND CONJUNCTIVE USE (MORE WATER PROJECT)

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

*Stay Informed and Proactive in Dealing with Water Issues*

#### ISSUE:

San Joaquin County continues to support the development of locally-supported water supply projects in Eastern San Joaquin County. The County has worked with local stakeholders to:

1. Develop and maintain the Eastern San Joaquin County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP);
2. Facilitate the implementation of projects in the IRWMP;
3. Apply for grant funding on behalf of member agencies; and
4. Develop a strategy for implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA).

#### LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budgetary proposals which would:

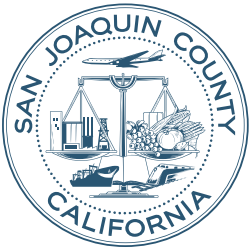
1. Provide local, State, and Federal support for the project concepts described in the County's amended Water Right Applications 29835 and 29657;
2. Seek State and Federal grant funding for local and regional conjunctive use projects on the Mokelumne River, and also from other water supply sources including the Stanislaus, Calaveras, Sacramento, and American Rivers, and local creeks and sloughs;
3. Advocate for the utilization and protection of surface water rights and entitlements from the Mokelumne River and other water sources, to enhance recovery of groundwater levels and to increase groundwater storage in the underlying basin;
4. Oppose State and Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers designations and/or similar legislation that would unreasonably restrict stream segment utilization and prevent the development of future water supply, flood protection and ecosystem needs of San Joaquin County and other communities throughout the Mokelumne River Watershed; and
5. Seek and support legislative and/or regulatory efforts promoting policy(ies) and/or project(s) that provide flood protection, groundwater recharge, and/or reservoir storage benefits.

#### BACKGROUND:

The underlying groundwater basin in eastern San Joaquin County is the primary source of water for farms and residents. In 1980, the Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Basin was at one time characterized by the State Department of Water Resources as being in "critical groundwater overdraft" and unsustainable. Since then, investments totaling over \$700 million in projects and water use efficiency have resulted in more efficient use of groundwater and surface water. Groundwater pumping today is approximately 70% of the historical average.

The Mokelumne River Regional Water Storage and Conjunctive Use Project (MORE Water Project) seeks to

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## 41. NEW WATER SUPPLIES FOR SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY: MOKELUMNE RIVER REGIONAL WATER STORAGE AND CONJUNCTIVE USE (MORE WATER PROJECT)

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES (CONTINUED)

divert un-appropriated flows from the Mokelumne River to provide a source of surface water for groundwater recharge which can then be used in future drought years. The MORE Water Project provides additional storage capability and improves water supply reliability for project participants both locally and regionally. Past San Joaquin County Federal Platforms focused in on the proposed Duck Creek Reservoir Alternative for Federal advocacy.

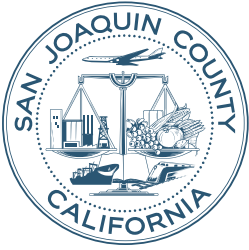
In 2013, the County initiated an evaluation entitled Groundwater Resources Management Report: Documentation of Duck Creek Reservoir Feasibility and Recommended Surface Water Entitlement Program (Management Report), in order to evaluate the feasibility of Duck Creek Reservoir and to recommend a strategy going forward for both Water Right Applications 29835 and 29657, which was the basis for the MORE Water Project.

The Management Report concluded that diversions from the Mokelumne and American Rivers have significant technical, environmental, institutional and legal issues and that proceeding with Duck Creek Reservoir appears to be infeasible at this time due to a number of identified issue areas: protected and endangered species in the reservoir area; the junior priority of the County to divert only after the senior water rights of East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) are fulfilled; high dam construction costs due to leaky native soils; and the high cost of planning and engineering prior to construction.

The Management Report also suggests that additional groundwater management actions including the use of additional surface supplies are necessary when taking into account a range of future conditions including:

1. *Prolonged Droughts* – Extended drought periods could reverse recent gains in groundwater levels and induce groundwater level declines that would require additional groundwater management actions and/or projects in the future;
2. *Regulatory Induced Droughts* – Curtailment of existing surface water right entitlements or contracts including non-renewal or reallocation to another purpose could reduce surface water deliveries. This scenario would trigger a direct increase in groundwater pumping to meet agricultural and urban demands. The State Water Board proposes to increase the amount of flow required in the Stanislaus River to better mimic natural runoff patterns for the benefit of fish. This proposal, if implemented, jeopardizes water supply contracts for New Melones Reservoir water held by Stockton East Water District (SEWD) and Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District; and
3. *Conversion of Grazing Land to Irrigated Agriculture* – It is estimated that dormant groundwater demand exists for approximately 70,000 acres of unirrigated pasture land in eastern San Joaquin County; conversion may result in the planting of vines or olives in the future. An estimated water demand of 1.5 acre-feet of water per acre could increase groundwater demands by approximately 105,000 acre-feet per year. The potential increase due to future exercise of dormant groundwater pumping would still represent groundwater demands at 75% of the historical 1976-1996 average.

Both Water Right Applications 29835 and 29657 have been amended to pursue more affordable and implementable diversion alternatives on the Mokelumne and American Rivers for recharging the underlying groundwater basin. County water interests have also identified significant opportunities for surface water diversions to direct use in-lieu of groundwater and also for direct groundwater recharge on



## 41. NEW WATER SUPPLIES FOR SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY: MOKELUMNE RIVER REGIONAL WATER STORAGE AND CONJUNCTIVE USE (MORE WATER PROJECT)

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES (CONTINUED)

the Stanislaus, Calaveras, Sacramento, and American Rivers, and local creeks and sloughs. Pursuing funding from a variety of sources including Federal funding is critical to implement projects that take advantage of these opportunities.

Projects envisioned to take advantage of locally available surface water flows not only benefit San Joaquin County interests but also regional partners such as EBMUD. On September 24, 2013, EBMUD and the County entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the development of Demonstration Recharge, Extraction, and Aquifer Management (DREAM) Project. EBMUD and the County may be uniquely positioned to seek State and Federal funding for future phases of the DREAM Project citing the inter-regional and groundwater storage aspects of the Project.

EBMUD has agreed to provide up to \$4 million for the DREAM Project with \$1.75 million going towards improvements to North San Joaquin Water Conservation District's (NSJWCD) conveyance system. The Demonstration Project development phase is underway with permitting and design commencing in 2017 with possible construction and operation in 2018. The County also supports efforts for NSJWCD to compete for Federal funding to improve on its current system of surface water deliveries. If successful, future project partnerships with agencies seeking to bank groundwater in Eastern San Joaquin County may be possible which will result in bringing additional water supplies and revenue for infrastructure to the community. Additional legislative support for additional State and Federal funding may also be pursued.

In 2012, the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority and the Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Basin Authority were awarded an \$878,605 Proposition 84 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant for the Mokelumne Watershed Investigation and Sustainability Evaluation Program (MokeWISE). The MokeWISE effort lasted for almost two years with monthly meetings and has yielded a list of broadly-supported water resources program elements that includes comprehensive and sustainable approaches to water resources management in the Mokelumne River watershed. In addition, the MokeWISE effort has identified a number of areas needing additional dialogue between competing interests who have a solid foundation of dialogue to build upon. The County will need to build on the relationships created during the MokeWISE effort including with stakeholders in the upcountry areas as well as with environmental interest groups with interests on the Mokelumne River.

(See [www.mokewise.org](http://www.mokewise.org))





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