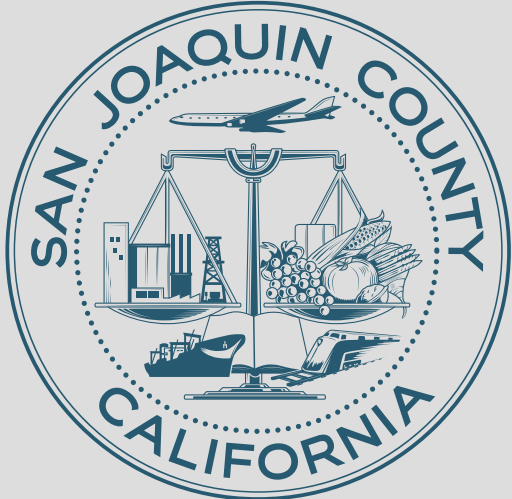




Adopted 2021-2022
Legislative/Regulatory
Platform and Policy Guidelines

STATE
DECEMBER 8, 2020



SAN JOAQUIN — COUNTY —

Board of Supervisors



KATHERINE M. MILLER, CHAIR
DISTRICT 2



TOM PATTI, VICE CHAIR
DISTRICT 3



MIGUEL VILLAPUDUA, SUPERVISOR
DISTRICT 1



CHUCK WINN, VICE-CHAIR
DISTRICT 4



BOB ELLIOTT, SUPERVISOR
DISTRICT 5

COVER PHOTO

NEW PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES FACILITY—GROUNDBREAKING 2020

San Joaquin County

Adopted 2021 and 2022 State Legislative/Regulatory
Platform and Policy Guidelines

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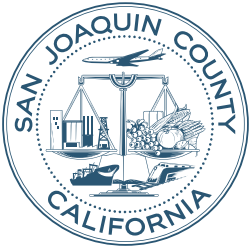


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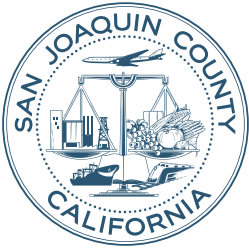


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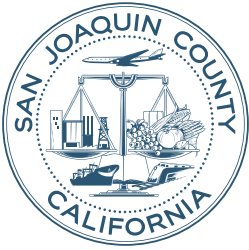


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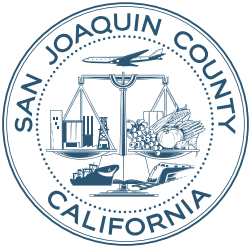


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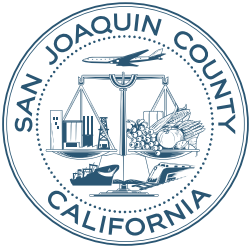
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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

April 2, 2021,

The Honorable Governor Gavin Newsom
The Honorable Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman
The Honorable Assembly Member Jim Cooper
The Honorable Assembly Member Heath Flora
The Honorable Assembly Member Carlos Villapudua

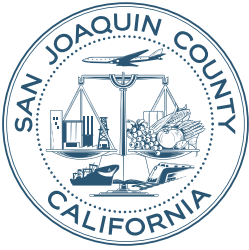
Dear Governor, Senator and Assembly Members:

The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors is pleased to provide you with the County's State Legislative Platform for the 2021-2022 Legislative Session. The Board has developed legislative proposals focused on policy and funding requests that the County deems absolutely critical to the health and well-being of our residents and shared constituents. San Joaquin County remains dedicated to efficiently and effectively providing needed public services even though demands for services continue to increase at a more rapid pace than the revenue needed to provide them.

The recent Novel Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) has emphasized the importance of the State-County relationship and the importance of County services and supports. One of the County's top priorities is to continue to advocate for resources for the response to COVID-19, and to improve the communication with counties before any significant changes related to the virus such as changes to the tiers or State-wide orders. Our County has been hard hit by the pandemic both economically and through the number of cases and deaths. We greatly appreciate the assistance from the State and our Legislators but we need to be mindful of how to assist our businesses and community recover from the pandemic to continue to thrive and survive.

Besides resources for COVID-19, one of the County's main focuses is that any additional proposals to realign services from the State to counties must be accompanied by adequate funding. The Board of Supervisors will oppose any proposal which reduces or impacts funding for mandated services that the County must already provide. New responsibilities should come with new funding, not redirected funding, and County flexibility should be increased, not reduced. With that in mind, one of the County's priorities in 2021 is the implementation of SB 823 (Cmte on Budget, 2020) which realigns the Division of Juvenile Justice to counties by July 1, 2021, to be sure this transition is seamless and that Counties are provided flexibility to implement at the local level.

Another legislative focus of the County continues to be the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, including flood protection, emergency response, and preservation of agriculture. As San Joaquin County is home to approximately two-thirds of the Delta and constitutes the largest portion of the Delta's total agricultural land base at 55% - contributing over \$5 billion to the regional and State economy - we must participate extensively in all legislation, regulations, and policies regarding local water rights, water quality and quantity, governance, land use, flood



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

(CONTINUED)

management, sustainable river flows, agriculture, economy, and environmental issues relating to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

As the operator of a general acute care hospital, as well as the provider of clinical care for many residents, San Joaquin County is concerned about the potential of upcoming changes to the delivery of health care services at the Federal level which could threaten existing funding streams and the potential for additional realignment discussions between the counties and the State.

Homelessness and housing continue to be a major focus of the County, with the Board declaring it a focus of all county departments. While Project Roomkey and Homekey resources have assisted in this effort, and San Joaquin County has many projects in the pipeline, more State change is needed to streamline and obtain faster housing approvals to make housing affordable in California. This includes a new proposal by our County to incentivize development by making some developer fees streamlined statewide.

San Joaquin County, as in many counties, wants to ensure that behavioral health funding is maintained at the local level and wants to work with all of our legislative representatives to ensure that adequate funding is provided during this difficult time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of our residents are struggling economically, emotionally, and physically and as a County, we have seen an increase in the number of suicides and an increased need for assistance.

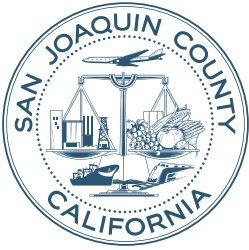
The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors will continue to advocate for maximum local control and flexibility in the allocation of resources and the administration of County programs and will continue to oppose any reductions in the current level of State funding for our County programs. More local flexibility is critical for the County to effectively and efficiently deliver services to our shared constituents. Please refer to the attached document, which has been thoughtfully and carefully crafted, while deliberating and developing legislation in 2021 and 2022.

We appreciate your continued support for the vital services that San Joaquin County provides, and look forward to working with you to ensure they continue to be provided in a manner that provides outstanding support to our constituents. If you have questions about the Legislative Platform please contact me or our Legislative Coordinator, Jolena Voorhis at (209) 468-2997.

Sincerely,

Supervisor Katherine M. Miller, Chair
San Joaquin Board of Supervisors

c: San Joaquin Board of Supervisors
Mayor and Council Members
San Joaquin County Department Heads



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2019-2022

On April 9, 2019, based on the outcome of the January 30, 2019 Board Strategic Workshop and modified by Board direction at the March 12, 2019 Board of Supervisors Meeting, the Board adopted its three-year Strategic Priorities covering fiscal years 2019-2020 through 2021-2022 as modified by the Board at the March 12, 2019 Board Meeting. In addition, the Board adopted a directive that all departments establish homelessness as an operational priority in July 2019.

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.
- c. Establish measurable outcomes for new or expanding programs.
- d. Optimize County departmental staffing levels to ensure an appropriate balance between service capacity and cost.

2. Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities

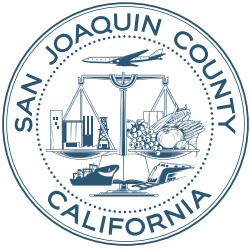
- a. Encourage collaboration internally among County departments and externally with other governmental and/or community organizations that provide opportunities for residents.
- b. Implement a Succession Plan, include training of the workforce, retention, recruitment and hiring.
- c. Develop and install technologies that broaden public access to County services and information more timely and efficiently.
- d. Support investments in health care-related infrastructure and service delivery that improve public access to physical and mental health services, ensure fiscal viability, and contribute to the improvement of the public's physical and mental health.

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.
- e. Address quality of life, health, public safety, and homelessness issues through early intervention, education, and blight remediation.

4. Promote Economic Development

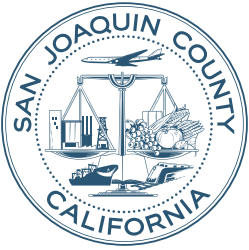
- a. Focus on recruiting new businesses and industries and retaining existing businesses and industries that provide jobs with living wages and in support of local/new industry growth.
- b. Partner with employers, local organizations, and educational institutions to prepare workers to meet local job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



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2019-2022

5. Stay Informed and Proactive in Dealing with Water Issues

- a. Support and advocate for sustainable water solutions that protect the Delta, improve the existing water delivery system, upgrade water-related infrastructure, and oppose proposals involving isolated water conveyance by tunnels or canals that would adversely impact delta water quality, water users, ecosystems, and communities.
- b. Manage and maintain the availability and quality of water, improve system-wide levees and flood protection, advocate for regional water self-sufficiency, promote the expansion of surface and groundwater storage, and ensure that all stakeholders are fairly and effectively represented



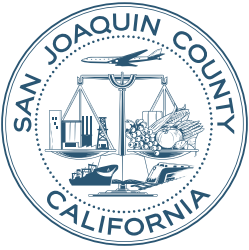
LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

CONTACT : Jerome C. Wilverding, County Administrator
jwilverding@sigov.org
(209) 468-3203

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. Continue to monitor legislation, budgetary proposals, administrative and regulatory action which impacts County government, while advocating for maximum local control and flexibility in the allocation of resources, the administration of county programs, and delivery of community services.
2. Closely monitor legislative and administrative proposals, including a continued “shift in the State-local relationship” for State-local realignment, which would result in new responsibilities to the County, while advocating for adequate levels of ongoing funding to meet existing State mandates, as well as the new responsibilities.
3. Seek to ensure that any additional realignment of County and State services protects the County from unknown or unforeseen financial, administrative or risk liabilities.
4. Oppose any reductions to the current level of State funding for County programs.
5. Support maximum State and Federal funding participation directly to local agencies for various infrastructure projects critical to the economic vitality of San Joaquin County.
6. Support proposals which would provide the tools needed by San Joaquin County to attract economic development and create jobs in the County.
7. Aggressively oppose attempts by the Legislature to shift costs from the State to the County for mandated and/or non-mandated programs.
8. Oppose attempts by the Legislature and/or Executive Branch to take away, restrict revenue sources, or impose costly program changes without adequate funding.
9. Strongly oppose the transfer of County property tax dollars to any other entity.
10. Continue to oppose Federal and State fiscal sanctions against counties for failure to comply with State and/or Federal laws when the errors are beyond the County’s control.
11. Strongly oppose legislation which would reduce management rights as defined in the San Joaquin County Employer-Employee Relations Policy.
12. Oppose legislation which would result in rollbacks to Workers’ Compensation Reform enacted by SB 899 (2004), and/or would expand current leave entitlements for employees beyond existing benefits.
13. Support legislation which would allow counties to recover fees, set by the State, that reflect the actual cost of providing service, similar to SB 676 (2009), which authorized the adjustment of statutory limits that counties, cities, or court services can charge for specified services.
14. Support departmental pursuit of additional funding opportunities associated with the State Budget process, and 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 the concurrence of the County Administrator. If consideration by the Board of Supervisors is not feasible, the County Administrator will notify the Board.
15. Maintain close relationships with San Joaquin County’s legislative delegation to foster greater advocacy and understanding of the County’s issues.



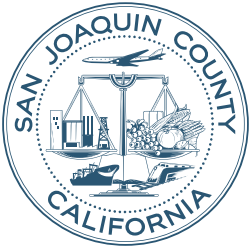
LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

(CONTINUED)

16. Advocate for State organizational structures to maximize leadership and support for County services and programs.
17. Oppose any efforts to diminish Proposition 10 (First 5) and Proposition 63 (Mental Health Services Act) funds, or to impose restrictions on local expenditure of the funds. Oppose efforts to lower, or eliminate the State's fiscal support for County programs, with the expectation that the State will backfill the loss of Proposition 10 and Proposition 63 revenues.
18. 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.
19. Continue to monitor collaborative proposals for multi-agency participation to protect the fiscal and programmatic interests of San Joaquin County.
20. Support cost-effective, State-funded efforts to provide for the health and safety of public employees in the administration of their duties.
21. Monitor legislation which would impact land use, building standards, and housing requirements.
22. Seek and advocate in support of budget proposals to reimburse counties for any and all State-mandated elections, including costs for mail ballots and special elections called by the Governor.
23. Support legislation, regulatory changes, and/or administrative efforts which would authorize San Joaquin County to conduct an all-mailed ballot election for any election, including special elections called by the Governor.
24. Support legislation, regulatory changes, and/or administrative efforts that would provide funding to San Joaquin County in order to address the serious issue of homelessness. This includes funding that would: improve the quality of data collected, provide rental assistance and job readiness programs, and would encourage and improve collaboration between the County, cities, agencies, and the private sector to reduce and eliminate the permanent housing crisis that plagues many Central Valley counties, including San Joaquin County.
25. Support legislation or budgetary proposals which would provide funding assistance to local governments for renewable energy projects.
26. Support legislation or budgetary proposals which would provide funding assistance to local governments for electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
27. Support legislation and budgetary proposals to fund the costs for counting everyone once for the 2020 census.
28. Monitor all proposed State ballot initiatives for impact on County operations but as a general policy the County does not take positions on ballot initiatives.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

29. Support a State program that would provide funding for start-up costs including staffing costs for the expansion of jail beds, including health-related beds, at the San Joaquin County Jail facilities.
30. Advocate in support of State funding for the development of information technology infrastructure.
31. Seek that counties be given the opportunity to analyze the impact, assess the feasibility, and determine the acceptability of any juvenile justice proposal that would realign services from the State to the local level. As with any realignment, responsibility and authority must be connected, and sufficient resources, with a built-in growth factor adjustment, must be provided.



LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

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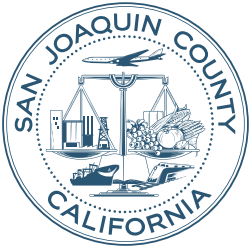
32. Advocate in support of funding for local governments to provide facilities for additional programming options for juveniles who are no longer under the jurisdiction of the Department of Juvenile Justice, including funding to construct or refurbish juvenile camps, ranches, and related facilities for treatment services and programs.
33. Advocate that the enforcement of minimum facility standards be dependent upon State financial assistance.
34. Support legislative and administrative efforts which would reduce overcrowding of juvenile detention facilities and improve the chances for treatment and rehabilitation of lesser offenders.
35. Support legislative and administrative funding opportunities which provide ongoing resources and funding streams to sustain a Family Justice Center.
36. Advocate for legislative and administrative funding to expand opportunities for restorative justice programs.
37. Support legislative and administrative funding opportunities which develop programming opportunities to combat human trafficking and the commercial exploitation of children.
38. 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.
39. Support legislation and administrative efforts that would provide funding to counties, in partnership with Department of Justice, to dismiss and seal past convictions in a timely manner.
40. Support legislation and administrative efforts that provide funding to implement changes to officer involved critical incidents by creating community-based partnerships with law enforcement.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

41. Seek, advocate, and support State funding of economic development financial incentive programs.
42. Seek and support legislation, budgetary proposals, regulatory and/or administrative action that would further the development and enhancement of the Innovation Hub (iHub) San Joaquin program.
43. Seek and advocate in support of State incentives, including regulatory, administrative and legislative proposals, and pursue legislation to accelerate economic development in San Joaquin County.
44. Support legislation that would incentivize participation in High School Apprenticeship programs by the private sector.
45. Support legislation that would incentivize the hiring of unemployed job seekers from high-risk populations, including the homeless, individuals coming out of jails, the long-term unemployed like welfare recipients, individuals with disabilities and economically disadvantaged youth with barriers to employment.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

46. Oppose legislation or regulatory action which would weaken existing or future San Joaquin County ordinances relating to the local regulation of bio-solids as a soil amendment or fertilizer.
47. Oppose legislation or regulatory action related to the land application of organic materials unless the health and safety of the public and the environment are protected.



LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

(CONTINUED)

48. Support legislation or regulatory action which promotes the recruitment and retention of Environmental Health workers.
49. Support legislation or regulatory action which provide access to locally-derived data required to be stored in State-maintained databases and which promote local input into the development and maintenance of these database systems.
50. Support legislative efforts which provide tools and resources to enhance the County's efforts to manage and maintain the availability and quality of water.
51. Oppose legislation which does not adequately provide for the protection of public health and safety, especially relating to food production, storage, delivery, and minimum housing standards.
52. Oppose legislation or regulatory actions that impose new mandates or additional mandates to existing programs without adequate and ongoing funding sources or mechanisms or adequate enforcement processes.

GENERAL SERVICES—FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

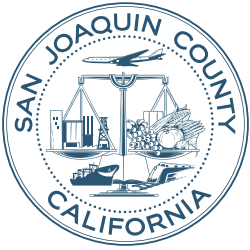
53. Oppose attempts by the Legislature and Executive Branch to propose unreasonable impacts to customer utility rates and bills and/or an unfunded State-mandated local program with the implementation of SB 100 and Executive Order B-55-18 and the goal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045.
54. Support attempts by the Legislature to provide funding assistance to local governments to retrofit existing facilities to reduce energy consumption with the implementation of SB 100 and Executive Order B-55-18 and the goal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045.
55. Oppose further attempts by the Legislature to propose that utility ratepayers pay for costs associated with fires when electric companies have not reasonably acted to maintain its equipment and infrastructure before the fires.

GENERAL SERVICES—OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

56. Support legislative or regulatory efforts by Encourage the State to work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to remove regulatory and other administrative rules which currently impede local, State, and Federal agencies in responding to a levee issue.
57. Regional Flood Contingency Planning — Advocate in support of coordination of State and local efforts to complete specific planning for responding to Delta levee issues and/or failure.
58. Support efforts to provide access to affordable flood insurance for property and business owners in the County including agriculture and legacy communities located in the floodplain.
59. Support efforts that ensure prompt emergency action is taken to prevent and mitigate levee failure in the San Joaquin Delta.
60. Oppose legislation that would reduce emergency funding for the quick repair of failed levees in San Joaquin County.
61. Support measures that enable the County to better exercise its responsibility to plan for, respond to, and receive reimbursement and property tax relief for emergencies and disasters.

HEALTH CARE

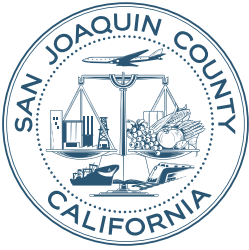
62. Advocate for maximum local control and flexibility in the administrative responsibilities for health care services for which San Joaquin County has been transferred authority.



LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

(CONTINUED)

63. Support simplification of regulations, contract requirements, and reimbursement claim mechanisms to ensure flexibility and maximum financial support of local health care delivery systems.
64. Aggressively oppose reductions in Medi-Cal, and other health care funding which would result in decreased access to health care and/or would shift costs or risk to the County. Ensure that State programs protect the County from unknown or unforeseen financial, administrative, or risk liabilities.
65. Oppose legislative, administrative, realignment and/or regulatory efforts that would impose unfunded mandates or regulations impeding the efficient and effective delivery of health care services at the local level, including health facility standards.
66. Advocate for the protection of County safety net functions and facilities in the changing market under State and Federal health care reform.
67. Advocate that the Legislature and State Administration consider potential impacts of health care legislation, regulations, and/or guidelines to the local health care delivery systems, economy, resources, and job market prior to adoption.
68. Advocate for health care and public health funding formulas that equitably reflect San Joaquin County's demographics, health burdens and support of the County safety net.
69. Advocate in support of policies which promote healthy eating and increase access to opportunities for physical activity.
70. 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.
71. Support budgetary appropriations to local public health department programs for the control of communicable diseases, including tuberculosis, and advocate that Medi-Cal funding for tuberculosis is exempt from State funding reductions to Medi-Cal.
72. 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, and the delivery of health care services.
73. Advocate for health system integration efforts to ensure safe, secure and appropriate data sharing, seamless care delivery and enhanced outcomes.
74. Advocate for policies that reduce health inequities within our 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.
75. Ensure full implementation of mental health parity, which requires health plans to cover and authorize mental health and substance use disorders treatment on par with physical health services.
76. Support the authority of the County to determine the appropriate assessment, treatment and placement of psychiatric patients, including treatment in Emergency Departments.
77. Oppose legislation or regulations which seek to alter the transportation, destination, or medical



LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

(CONTINUED)

screenings for psychiatric patients which will unduly burden the limited number of psychiatric beds available in the community.

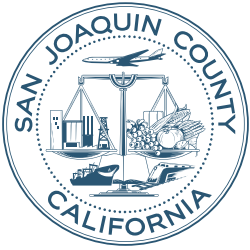
78. Support the Organized Delivery System for Drug Medi-Cal to address Substance Abuse Disorders to ensure counties have the ability to effectively manage the delivery system to provide accessible, effective treatment services and the authority to provide the oversight required to ensure high quality, cost effective services through such tools as selective contracting.
79. Support legislation or regulations which would serve to sustain or improve reimbursement for Local Initiative Health Plans participating in the State's health care programs and to ensure the Local Initiative continued support of the County safety net health system.
80. 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, cost-based services, reporting and operational requirements.
81. Support efforts that promote integration of primary care and behavioral health and allow for appropriate payment for such services or visits.
82. 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.
83. Oppose legislative or administrative efforts to place new requirements on local public health departments to regulate recreational day camps.
84. Support legislation or other administrative proposals to support and maintain the appropriate labor workforce to operate the San Joaquin General Hospital during times of emergencies including, but not limited to, a public health emergency, pandemic, and other natural disasters or terrorist events.

HUMAN SERVICES

85. Oppose legislation or budgetary proposals that would impact the ability of the County to deliver In Home Supportive Services.
86. Support legislation that would provide simplification or flexibility in the delivery of social services programs.

PUBLIC WORKS—FLOOD PROTECTION

87. Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budgetary proposals which would require coordinated planning and funding levels for comprehensive levee evaluations and flood protection, and improvements to existing flood protection/levee systems (project and non- project levees) to achieve enhanced urban flood protection statewide.
88. Aggressively oppose legislative efforts to shift State and Federal liabilities and obligations to local land use and levee maintenance agencies. While it is necessary for local agencies to act responsibly when approving development in and near existing floodplains, it is inappropriate to subject local agencies, which approve development in a manner consistent with existing law, to liability for flood damages due to conditions over which the agencies have no control.
89. Support legislation or regulatory changes which would mandate coordination between State and Federal agencies relative to flood protection and floodplain management regulations.



LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

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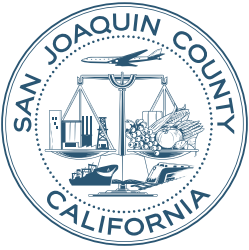
90. Oppose legislation or regulatory efforts which would impose arbitrary increases in flood protection standards without sufficient feasibility studies, including financial impacts and identification of funding sources for local implementation.
91. Oppose legislation or regulatory efforts which would result in a duplication of efforts between local floodplain administrators and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board with regard to the evaluation of local development projects.
92. Oppose arbitrary imposition of enhanced flood protection standards which apply only to the Delta and/or the Central Valley and are inconsistent with other Statewide standards.
93. Support legislative, administrative or regulatory efforts which would streamline the permit process for the removal of silt from rivers, flood control channels, and Delta waterways, and provide the required funding.
94. Support legislation that provides reasonable extensions of the timeframe for which adequate progress findings toward providing 200-year flood protection pursuant to SB 5 (2007) may be made.

PUBLIC WORKS—GENERAL

95. 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.
96. 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.
97. Seek, advocate, and support legislation for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) reform that streamlines the environmental compliance process and related permitting. Support legislative and administrative proposals to streamline regulatory permitting processes.
98. Support legislative, administrative, and budgetary proposals that would provide resources for and/or facilitate management or eradication of invasive plant, animal, and insect species.

PUBLIC WORKS—SOLID WASTE

99. Support legislative and administrative efforts which would require an economic evaluation and finding of a positive benefit-to-cost ratio before new regulations are implemented.
100. Oppose legislation or changes to current regulations which would allow the processing of radioactive and semi-hazardous wastes at Class III landfills.
101. Advocate and support legislation, administrative and regulatory proposals which would provide for the development and implementation of waste diversion, alternative disposal technology, and recycling programs, including recycling market development, which provide local benefits.
102. Support legislation which would provide incentives for development of "landfill gas to energy" and "waste to energy", and streamline related permitting processes.
103. Oppose legislation which would impose new solid waste disposal requirements on local government unless the funding mechanisms needed for implementation are provided.



LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

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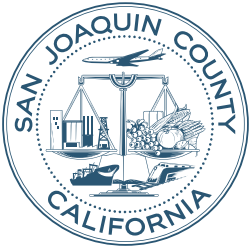
104. Support legislation which would require that State and Federal facilities comply with State-imposed waste diversion mandates, or provide local jurisdictions relief from diversion mandates for waste over which they have no control.
105. Oppose legislation which would increase State disposal fee surcharges on local landfills.
106. Oppose legislation which would ban landfill disposal of new categories of products, unless an alternative disposal plan and related programs and infrastructure are in place (“ban without a plan”).
107. Support legislation which would require development of balanced sustainable plans for community growth that incorporate waste diversion principles and enhanced use of “green” technologies.
108. Support legislation and/or new regulations which would promote the development of cost-effective programs to increase the use of rubberized asphalt.
109. Oppose legislation and/or regulatory changes which would increase post-closure requirements for landfills.

PUBLIC WORKS—TRANSPORTATION

110. Seek, advocate, and support legislative action which would serve to: ensure a stable source of transportation funding to counties; protect and secure local transportation funds from being eliminated, delayed or diverted away from counties; provide flexibility in administering local transportation programs and services; and increase funding for local transportation projects.
111. Continue to advocate that California receive its fair share of contributions from the Federal Highway Trust Fund.
112. Advocate for cities and counties to share equitably in the growth of Federal revenues available to California for the network of local roads which are experiencing increased traffic and functioning as secondary highways.
113. Continue to support legislation and/or budgetary proposals which would provide dedicated funding to address local transportation needs, including bridge maintenance projects, safety projects, and bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure improvements.

PUBLIC WORKS—WATER

114. Support legislation, regulatory reform, funding, and/or budgetary proposals which would address groundwater overdraft, water quality and supply issues in San Joaquin County.
115. Support legislation and/or regulatory reform which would serve to restore the San Joaquin River in-stream flows to the Delta in accordance with adopted resolutions and water resources planning documents in the County.
116. Advocate and support legislation or regulatory efforts which would provide for the use of surface water to recharge critically over-drafted groundwater basins, and to define and streamline State regulatory permitting processes for aquifer storage and recovery.
117. Seek and support State policy and planning which would provide for comprehensive flood protection projects, including the development of additional surface water storage facilities as defined under adopted Integrated Regional Water Management Plans.
118. Support legislation which would provide new water supplies in the State to be developed through greater conservation, recycling, conjunctive use of ground and surface water, desalination of brackish and ocean

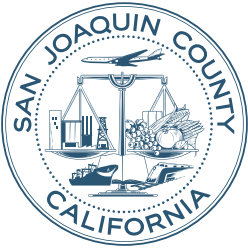


LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY GUIDELINES

(CONTINUED)

waters, additional local water storage facilities, water reclamation, and improved management of flood waters.

119. Support legislation which would provide for local and regional water resource management activities to develop projects for improved conjunctive use, recharge capability, and groundwater storage and use.
120. Seek and support legislation which would facilitate prevention of and recovery from flood, seismic, and other potential emergencies in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta levee system.
121. Support State and Federal programs that provide assistance to water customers in disadvantaged communities, ensuring that these populations are not denied essential services.



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.

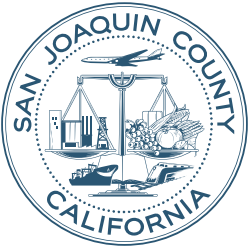
APPROPRIATION REQUEST: \$9.2 million

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$20.5 million

(PROJECT LITERATURE AVAILABLE)

Sheriff: Patrick Withrow, Sheriff | pwithrow@sjgov.org | (209) 468-4319

Information Systems Division: Chris Cruz, Director | ccruz@sjgov.org | (209) 468-0215



2. 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.

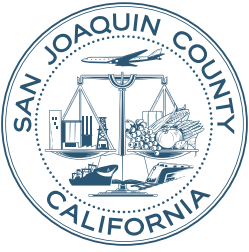
APPROPRIATION REQUEST: \$2.5 million

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$5.5 million

(PROJECT LITERATURE AVAILABLE)

Health Care Services Agency: Greg Diederich, Director | gdiederich@sjchcs.org | (209) 468-7031

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



3. 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.

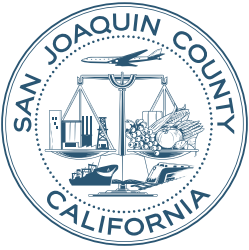
BACKGROUND:

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 the 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 County-wide 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@sjhcs.org | (209) 468-7031
San Joaquin General Hospital: David Culberson, CEO | dculberson@sjgh.org | (209) 468-6042



Health Care Information Technology Infrastructure (Continued)

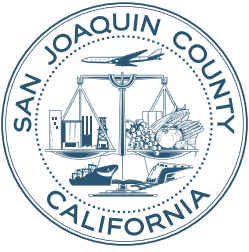
LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS

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 us 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 us 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)



4. 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.

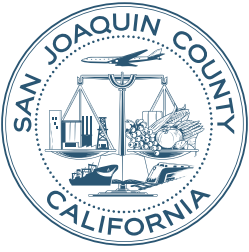
The County seeks to:

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 million

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$48.7 million (approximate)

Health Care Services Agency: Greg Diederich, Director | gdiederich@sjhcs.org | (209) 468-7031
Public Health Services: Zienna Blackwell-Rodriguez, Director | zrodriguez@sjcphs.org | (209) 468-3413



5. Recovery House Replacement

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 funding for the construction of a substance use disorder treatment facility.

BACKGROUND:

The San Joaquin County Substance Abuse Services Recovery House facility was constructed prior to the 1960's on the grounds of San Joaquin General Hospital. It is a co-ed residential facility that now serves a county where the population has increased approximately 180% since its construction.

The existing facility is not conducive to the provision of current evidence based practices for the treatment of substance use disorders and is in need of repairs and renovations that would exceed the cost of its replacement. The mixing of populations from the justice system with those that have serious mental illness and or compounded physical health needs is inefficient and research shows detrimental to the low risk clients in the current setting. San Joaquin County needs to increase access and capacity of treatment in the community to meet regulatory standards and reduce those incarcerated for their behavioral health disorders.

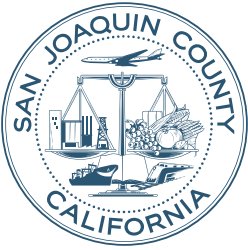
The County seeks to:

1. Obtain sufficient space to provide substance use disorder treatment in a safe and effective manner;
2. Provide a facility that can service a diverse population appropriately on the same site; and
3. Have a plan that allows for growth as warranted.

APPROPRIATION REQUEST: \$4.5 million

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$9.0 million

Health Care Services Agency: Greg Diederich, Director | gdiederich@sjchcs.org | (209) 468-7031
Behavioral Health Services: Tony Vartan, Director | tvartan@sjcbhs.org | (209) 468-8752



6. 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 State and Federal levels.

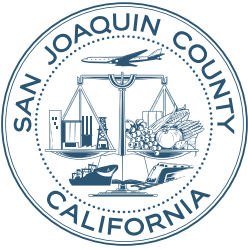
SJC's cybersecurity team constantly monitors its critical infrastructure to prevent, detect, identify, and mitigate potential threats. As the cyberattacks evolve and change in nature, so must the tools and procedures used to combat them. SJC has performed extensive analysis leveraging partners within 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: \$1.1 million

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$1.1 million

(PROJECT LITERATURE AVAILABLE)

Information Systems Division: Chris Cruz, Director | ccruz@sjgov.org | (209) 468-0215



7. Assistance for Sex Offender Registration Act

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System

ISSUE:

The passage of Senate Bill 384 (SB 384) to change the requirement of sexual offenders from a life registry to a tiered system by filing a petition with the court is expected to significantly increase the workload of impacted agencies.

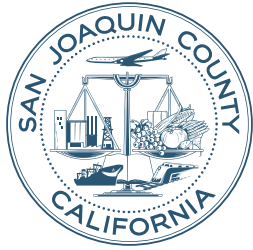
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budget appropriation, which would provide sufficient funding to counties to address the great impact that SB 384 will have beginning January 1, 2021.

BACKGROUND:

California is one of four states that still requires all sexual offenders to register for life. With the passing of SB 384, known as the Sex Offender Registration Act, on October 6, 2017, Governor Jerry Brown signed legislation that would change the present structure into a three-tiered system. Beginning January 1, 2021, SB 384 will dramatically change how California manages its sex offender registry system by moving from lifetime registration for sex offenders to a new-tiered registration system that allows for termination from the registry depending on tier assignment. In addition, beginning on July 1, 2021, individuals seeking discharge from the registration requirement may file a petition with the court to remove a Penal Code Section 290 registrant from the requirement to register as a Sexual Offender. With the ability for sex offenders to petition to be removed from the public and police registries, it is anticipated to greatly impact and increase the workload of many agencies.

Public Defender: Miriam Lyell, Public Defender | mlyell@sjgov.org | (209) 468-2756



8. Body Worn Cameras

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System

ISSUE:

The use of Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) has dramatically increased the workload of Public Defenders who have an ethical obligation to review all discovery provided, including many hours of recordings from BWCs.

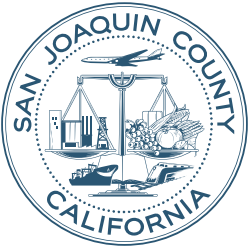
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budget appropriation, which would provide sufficient funding to counties to address issues related to the use of BWCs by law enforcement agencies.

BACKGROUND:

San Joaquin County supports the deployment of new and emerging investigation technology. However, the use of BWCs has significantly increased the workload in the Public Defender's Office. BWCs are electronic recording devices that capture audio and video when activated. Law enforcement agencies use these devices to record statements by witnesses, victims and suspects, document crime scenes and for other investigative purposes. Stockton Police Department purchased 275 BWCs in 2015 and as of July 2017, require BWCs be worn by all officers responding to calls or enforcement. Other law enforcement agencies such as San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department, Tracy Police Department and Lodi Police Department have also outfitted some of their officers. All law enforcement agencies who record interviews often only briefly summarize statements in the crime report and direct the reader to refer to the BWC recording for a complete statement. Prior to BWC technology, interviews were videotaped or audio recorded primarily in homicides and high profile or serious cases. With the implementation of BWCs, almost every encounter is now recorded. This has dramatically increased the workload of deputy public defenders who have an ethical obligation to review all discovery provided, including many hours of BWC recordings. In addition to the many more hours spent reviewing BWC recordings, California Rules of Court Rule 2.1040 (b) requires that, unless good cause is found, the party offering the recording must provide a transcript of the electronic recording. The workload to the Department has dramatically increased by the need to transcribe the statements captured on the BWC recording.

Public Defender: Miriam Lyell, Public Defender | mlyell@sjgov.org | (209) 468-2756



9. California Multi-Jurisdictional Methamphetamine Program

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System

ISSUE:

The proliferation and trafficking of methamphetamine drug laboratories and other illegal drugs continues to be a serious problem in San Joaquin County.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

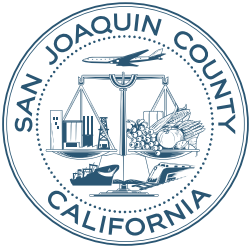
Seek, advocate, and support efforts which would:

1. Increase funding for local law enforcement agencies to combat the production, trafficking, and sale of methamphetamine and other illegal drugs;
2. Increase funding for the California Multi-Jurisdictional Methamphetamine Program and other programs targeted at combating illegal drug production and trafficking; and
3. Support legislative efforts and/or budgetary proposals that would sustain the current level of funding to combat illegal drugs, and oppose budget reductions to the Methamphetamine Program.

BACKGROUND:

Production and trafficking of methamphetamine continues to be a significant issue in San Joaquin County in spite of the increased seizures of large quantities of methamphetamine and 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, cocaine, fentanyl, and heroin trafficking are 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 organizations.

Sheriff: Patrick Withrow, Sheriff | pwithrow@sjgov.org | (209) 468-4319



10. Capping of Telephone Fees

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System

ISSUE:

Proposals by the Legislature to cap telephone and other fees currently being charged by the Sheriff which could negatively impact the Inmate Welfare Fund.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Oppose legislation that would have a negative impact on the Inmate Welfare Fund by capping phone charges and other commissary items that are then used to provide services to inmates.

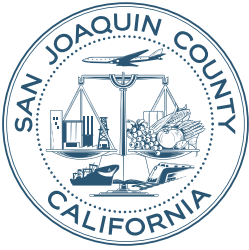
BACKGROUND:

Under existing law (Penal Code 4025), the Sheriff's Inmate Welfare Fund received receive through various fees to fund inmate services including educational and rehabilitative services. For fiscal year 2019-2020, the Inmate Welfare Fund in San Joaquin County generated \$2,672,482 in revenue from telephone use and commissary sales. As regulated by CA Penal Code 4025-all funds are required to be spent for the benefit of the inmates and cannot be used to supplant funding for items or services.

Senate Bill 555 (Mitchell, 2020) would have made changes to the Inmate Welfare Fund and capped some of the fees. Specifically, this bill would have capped all inmate phone call costs to \$0.05 per minute and limited costs on inmate commissary items to no more than 10% above what the vendor charges for the item. All revenue currently received from these fees are placed into the inmate welfare fund per regulations and are used for inmate services such as education, rehabilitative programs, televisions, board games, reading materials, vocational programs, reward incentives, Community Corp programs, and other inmate benefits. Elimination of the funding source of these programs will eliminate these programs unless other funding is appropriated. Loss of this funding will impact county employees, inmate education/rehabilitative programs, and the Community Corp Program (which creates a cost savings to other county entities that utilize the inmate work crews for work that would otherwise require a paid employee).

Governor Newsom vetoed SB 555, noting that while he was in support of the concept he was concerned about the impact to various rehabilitative programs that the bill would have but that he would work with the author's to address these issues in the next Legislative session.

Sheriff: Patrick Withrow, Sheriff | pwithrow@sjgov.org | (209) 468-4319



11. Cold Case Funding

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System

ISSUE:

Seek funding for Cold Case investigations.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budget appropriations that would provide additional funding to local law enforcement agencies to investigate Cold Cases and to create funding for a Countywide Cold Case Task Force to investigate these cases.

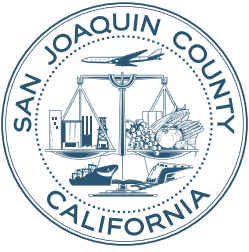
BACKGROUND:

Currently, there are approximately 200 homicide cold cases at the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office. These cases date back to the 1960s. Many families have never been given any closure and continue to suffer wondering who is responsible for killing their loved ones.

In 2019, the Grand Jury offered a finding that there needed to be a more concerted effort in San Joaquin County toward investigating cold cases. The Sheriff's Office developed and maintains a Cold Case Investigations Unit with three investigators and a sergeant, however, this is not enough staffing as these cases take an immense amount of time researching and investigating.

During the investigation of these cases, there is a significant impact to the criminal justice system requiring the assistance of the District Attorney's Office, Victim Witnesses, the Department of Justice, and other law enforcement agencies.

Sheriff: Patrick Withrow, Sheriff | pwithrow@sjgov.org | (209) 468-4319



12. Early Release of State Prisoners

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System

ISSUE:

The State of California continues to be under significant pressure to reduce the State's prison population.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

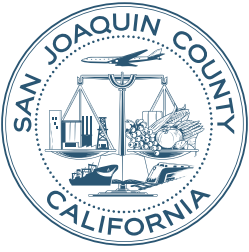
Seek, advocate and support legislation and/or budget appropriation which would provide sufficient funding to counties to address issues related to:

1. The Public Safety Realignment Program; and
2. The early release of State Prison inmates through any other programs enacted by the State.

BACKGROUND:

Under Assembly Bill 109 (AB 109) (2011), the State realigned release of State prison inmates to local "Post Release Community Supervision". New non-violent/non-serious/non-sex offenders sentenced after October 1, 2011 must now serve their State Prison sentence in local county jails. In addition, parole violators are no longer eligible to serve their revocation in local county jails. This local community supervision has placed significant demand on local services, including Probation, Sheriff Custody, Behavioral Health, District Attorney, Public Defender, Court and a variety of other local services and agencies. Current demand for programming under AB 109 exceeds realignment funds allocated to San Joaquin County. In order to meet benchmarks set by the courts, the State has implemented a variety of measures, one of which has been to change custody credits. While this measure taken in spring 2014 did result in the early release of some offenders, the State financially compensated counties for this increase in supervision terms. Additionally, with the passage of Proposition 57, the State implemented significant changes as part of a durable solution, which includes the expansion of parole consideration and credit earning, which results in additional inmates being released early and/or shifted to local jurisdiction. Funding has been included in the State Budget for Probation Departments to supervise this population earlier than expected under prior credit earning schemes. While the State of California has currently met the population cap, it continues to be under a population reduction order. It is imperative that the State continue to provide resources to counties for services needed to meet the demands of these ongoing population shifts from State to County jurisdiction.

Probation: Steve Jackson, Chief | scjackson@sjgov.org | (209) 468-4070



13. Funding for Reintegration Programs

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System

ISSUE:

People who have criminal records experience barriers to reintegration into society and there is a lack of sufficient programs to support community reentry for many individuals and their families.

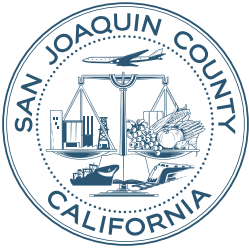
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate and support legislation and/or budget appropriation, which would provide sufficient funding to counties for Clean Slate and Second Chance remedies.

BACKGROUND:

A criminal record follows clients around for years and has a negative impact on the social life, career path, and family life of clients. In the last few decades, the collateral consequences of having felony convictions have worsened. There are hundreds of laws restricting the types of jobs or professional trades open to people with felonies, and restrictions that prevent access to housing, loans and childcare assistance. The results have been devastating. Even after people have completed their sentences, they face substantial barriers to becoming stable and productive community members. The Public Defender is dedicated to serving the diverse needs of the community and its justice system by furnishing clients with competent, effective, loyal, ethical, compassionate, and efficient advocacy and this work is legally mandated. Penal Code Section 4852.08 states that a petitioner shall be represented by the public defender if s/he does not have counsel after filing to seek a certificate of rehabilitation and pardon. The Clean Slate Program would improve the County's criminal justice system by allowing people who have had contact with the criminal justice system to be successful in rejoining their community by cleaning up their criminal record and removing or reducing the collateral consequences of criminal convictions, including barriers to employment, housing, education and licensure. People who have jobs, access to professional trades, licensures and housing have a lower recidivism rate. It is imperative to invest in Clean Slate and Second Chance programs to help people successfully reintegrate into families, communities, and society.

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14. Human Trafficking

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System

ISSUE:

Human trafficking has been an ongoing issue within San Joaquin County for the last several years and additional funding is needed to combat human trafficking and help victims.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support efforts which would:

1. Increase funding to local law enforcement agencies to combat human trafficking.
2. Create funding for a regional taskforce to combat human trafficking.

BACKGROUND:

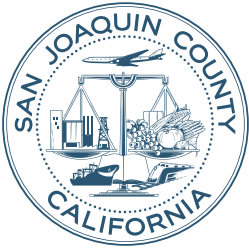
Human trafficking is an umbrella term encompassing all forms of exploitation occurring locally, nationally, and abroad. Jurisdictional and geographic boundaries are often crossed by traffickers and their victims. Human trafficking knows no borders. Though many believe human trafficking occurs only in foreign countries, 83% of all confirmed sex-trafficking victims in the United States are from the United States. Trafficking takes many forms but is most commonly separated into sex and labor trafficking, and people can be victims of both.

Most people think of Human Trafficking from a sexual exportation viewpoint but many times victims are also trafficked and exploited for their labor, possibly as a road side vendor. When victims are located, the following resources could be impacted: Victim/Witness, Mary Graham Children's Shelter, Women's Center, County Hospital (SART Exams), the offices of the District Attorney, Public Defender, Sheriff, and County Jail.

Although, the Sheriff's Office has engaged with other Law Enforcement Agencies in this County in joint operation, there is a need for a more concerted effort across the board to share information and strategize to minimize the economic opportunities and victims.

A commitment to combating Human Trafficking will help victims by increasing the amount of resources available in San Joaquin County.

Sheriff: Patrick Withrow, Sheriff | pwithrow@sjgov.org | (209) 468-4319



15. Juvenile Justice Realignment

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System

ISSUE:

On September 30, 2020, Governor Newsom signed SB 823 (Committee on Budget) which realigns the Division of Juvenile Justice to counties. However, this realignment was opposed by most counties because it was done at the last minute and has several implementation issues including the lack of facilities in all counties to house these individuals.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation that would provide sufficient and sustainable funding to address issues related to realignment of the State's Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to counties, as well as to address key implementation issues with SB 823 (Committee on Budget). Specifically, San Joaquin County is asking for the following:

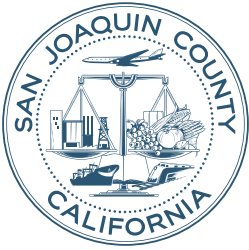
1. Address deficiencies in the funding formula to ensure that counties have sufficient funding to operate this new mandated program and ensure that the funding source is protected in the long term.
2. Seek and advocate for a regional approach for the placement of the youth from DJJ to allow for flexibility and reduce costs for counties that do not have the facilities to house these individuals.
3. Seek and advocate for a longer implementation period so that counties have the necessary staff, infrastructure, and programming in place prior to the implementation date of July 1, 2021.

BACKGROUND:

SB 823 realigns the Division of Juvenile Justice to counties and was signed in 2020 after being amended in the last week of the legislative session with little public hearing or input from counties. This bill would do the following:

1. Stop intake at DJJ on July 1, 2021.
2. Create a new State Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) that will be under the Department of Health and Human Services. The OYCR will be in charge of oversight and providing grants to counties.
3. Require a Juvenile Justice sub-committee is to be created in each county, which will submit local plans to the OYCR in order to obtain any grant funding.
4. Local Plans are required to be submitted and approved by the OYCR during the 2nd year of implementation. The County Board of Supervisors must also approve the initial DJJ realignment plan.
5. Funding at full implementation (Fiscal Year 2024 -2025) is \$208.8 million Statewide.
6. A new disposition track for youth is to be created by March 2021.

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16. Public Safety Reform

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System

ISSUE:

Proposals by the Legislature to change various long-standing operating protocols by peace officers including the definition of use of force, crowd tactics, immunity standards, and other proposals.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Oppose legislation that would eliminate protections for peace officers and public entities, change other standards and protocols that could have a negative impact on the operation of the County Sheriff, or increase costs to the County.

BACKGROUND:

During the 2019-2020 Legislative Session, several legislative proposals were introduced to make changes to police procedures, protocols, and other standards. Many of these bills would have been detrimental to County operations, however, many of these measures did not make it to the Governor's desk.

These measures included the following:

AB 1652 (Wicks) – Law enforcement agency policies: use of force: protests

This bill would have required all law enforcement agencies to adopt new procedures on crowd control and protests and would have prohibited the arrest of certain individuals at a protest. This bill was held in the Senate Public Safety Committee.

AB 1709 (Weber) – Law enforcement: use of force

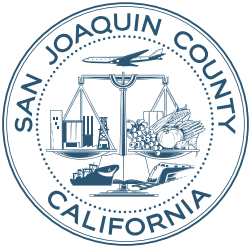
This bill would have changed the standard definition for use of force from the nationally-recognized standard of "reasonable" to the "necessary" standard. This change would have resulted in implementation issues related to training, case law, and increasing litigation. This bill was held in the Senate Public Safety Committee.

SB 731 (Bradford) - Peace Officers: certification: civil rights

This bill would have provided that certain State immunity provisions would not apply to any cause of action brought under the Tom Bane Civil Rights Act against a peace officer or the department or agency employing the peace officer, and would have allowed for a decertification of a peace officer.

This is just a sample of the many bills that were introduced in 2019-2020 to make changes to police procedures and operations, and it is expected that these and others will be introduced in the 2021-2022 Legislative Session.

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17. Stabilization of Funding for the California Community Corrections Performance Incentives Act (SB 678)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System

ISSUE:

The funding stream needs to be stabilized in order for county probation departments to put the necessary programs and services into place to have long-term success at addressing the needs of the offenders and reducing recidivism.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support legislation and budget proposals that would provide a stable funding source to incentivize counties to reduce State Prison population through improved local population and supervision practices and capacities, and to reduce the percent of adult probationers sent to prison for a probation failure or for a commission of a new crime.

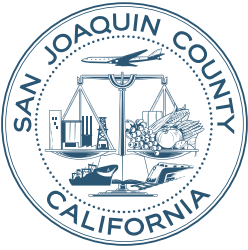
BACKGROUND:

The California Community Corrections Performance Incentives Act (SB 678) was enacted in 2009. This was the State's first attempt at reducing the State Prison population by incentivizing counties to improve local probation supervision practices and capacities in an effort to reduce the percentage of adult probationers sent to prison for a probation failure or for a commission of a new crime. The State determines the county's probation failure rate (compared to the county's average adult felony probation population during the same period) and compares it to the baseline probation failure rate that was established in 2006-2008. A portion of the "State savings" is then shared with the county.

In 2011-2012, the San Joaquin County Probation Department was allocated \$1.2 million and in 2012-2013, \$3 million. In 2013-2014, the SB 678 formula was changed to include any person convicted of a felony offense under probation supervision, mandatory supervision, or post release community supervision and included those sentenced to State Prison or a local prison sentence or had supervision revoked and were sentenced to the County jail for that revocation. In 2014-2015, the "State savings" that is shared with counties equates to the cost to the State to incarcerate an inmate in a contracted facility (\$27,309). Since the passage of the new SB 678 funding formula, San Joaquin County's allocation has stabilized. In 2013-2014, the San Joaquin County Probation Department was allocated \$2.1 million; in 2014-2015, \$3.1 million; in 2016-2017, \$2.3 million; and in 2017-2018, \$2.27 million.

However, at any time, if the County does not meet its baseline projections, funding is reduced to \$200,000. A variance in funding hinders probation departments from spending all of their allocations in hiring additional probation officers and expanding programs and services. The reduced revenue could force programs and staffing to be eliminated. It is important to note that Statewide for 2014-2015, 17 counties did not meet baseline numbers and subsequently only received \$200,000. San Joaquin County was identified as one of six counties that received a "High Performance Grant". If funding was reduced to \$200,000, the specialized programs and services provided through SB 678 funding would be at risk for elimination. Should the funding formula again be changed, special consideration will need to be made to ensure stability in the funding stream.

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18. Unreimbursed Trial Court Expenditures

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Improve Public Safety and Enhance Overall Criminal Justice System

ISSUE:

Rule 10.810 of the California Rules of Court specifically excludes some costs which are clearly court-related, thus shifting those costs to the counties. Furthermore, the Sheriff is mandated to provide courtroom security. Therefore, the State should fund all costs associated with court security.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate and support legislation and/or budget appropriation which would provide sufficient funding to counties to:

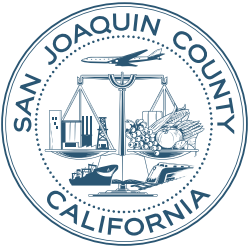
1. Expand the definition of “allowable” trial court expenditures under Rule 10.810 of the California Rules of Court to include all court-related costs that are currently paid by counties;
2. Provide a budget appropriation to fund “allowable” costs under the Superior Court Law Enforcement Act of 2002 (SB 396); and
3. Cover local courts actual cost provisions for security services or authorize the Sheriff to reduce services as necessary to meet budget reductions made necessary by a local court.

BACKGROUND:

Rule 10.810—Local trial courts receive funding only for expenditures falling under categories listed in Rule 10.810 of the California Rules of Court prepared by Judicial Council. Rule 10.810 specifically excludes some costs which are clearly court related, thus shifting those costs to the counties. Examples include the courts’ fair share of building and grounds maintenance in the courthouses, juror parking, bus passes, office overhead, in-custody defendant transportation, and holding cell personnel necessary for the court security function. The Superior Court Law Enforcement Act of 2002 (SB 396), Section 69927 (4), defines, among other things, the cost of support staff for the court security function as “allowable” costs; however, provisions for funding were not provided by the Legislature.

Court Security—Local trial courts receive funding through the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to operate. One of the areas funded in this method is the provision of Court Security Services by the Sheriff to the local courts. Pursuant to Government Code Section 69927, certain costs are reimbursable only to the extent funds are made available by the Legislature. In July 2009, the Legislature reduced the amount reimbursed to the Sheriff by 4.62%; however, the Legislature requires the Sheriff to continue to provide the same level of services to the Courts. This same legislation gave the local court the ability to refuse to pay for any post-employment health care costs for Sheriff staff. In effect, the Legislature has shifted these costs to the Sheriff, and ultimately to the counties. To the extent a court cannot pay the costs, the Sheriff shall not be required to provide the service.

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19. Hemp

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

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

ISSUE:

The County needs to have a voice in the development of State legislation and regulations pertaining to production of industrial hemp.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Advocate and support legislative and regulatory development at the State and Federal level that allows for the responsible development of a new agricultural industry, including effective County oversight.

BACKGROUND:

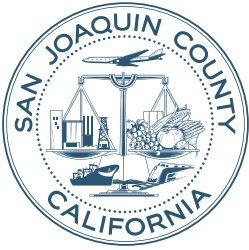
On February 7, 2014, the 2014 Agricultural Act, known as the “U.S. Farm Bill,” was signed into law. The 2014 U.S. Farm Bill included section 7606, entitled Legitimacy of Industrial Hemp Research, which allowed for growing or cultivation of industrial hemp by an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965) or a state department of agriculture if the growing or cultivation was conducted as research under a pilot program and the state law allowed for such growing or cultivation.

On November 8, 2016, California Proposition 64, known as the “Adult Use of Marijuana Act,” was passed by voters allowing for the legalization and regulation of recreational cannabis. Proposition 64 distinguished industrial hemp from cannabis, making clear that industrial hemp was defined by section 11018.5 of the California Health and Safety Code. Pursuant to such authority, industrial hemp is defined as:

“... fiber or oilseed crop, or both, that is limited to types of the plant *Cannabis sativa* L. having no more than three-tenths of 1 percent tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) contained in the dried flowering tops, whether growing or not; the seeds of the plant; the resin extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds or resin produced therefrom.”

On January 1, 2017, Division 24 of the California Food and Agriculture Code (hereinafter “FAC”) became operative. Pursuant to Division 24 of the FAC, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (hereinafter “CDFA”) is tasked with regulating the cultivation of industrial hemp in accordance with the provisions of Division 24 (sections 81000-81010). Such regulation includes the development and implementation of requisite hemp seed laws, a regulatory scheme, and enforcement mechanisms. In July 2017, the Industrial Hemp Advisory Board began meeting to begin development of regulations for the oversight of industrial hemp production as tasked by Division 24 of the FAC. The Board is still in the rule writing process as of October 2018 and will most likely have to pass emergency regulations to make the 2019 deadline set by statute.

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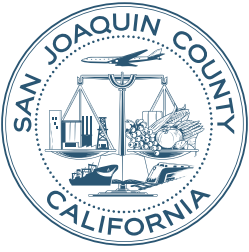
Hemp (Continued)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

On September 26, 2017, due to: (1) the exemptions afforded to an “Established Agricultural Research Institution” from various regulations mandated by Division 24 of the FAC; (2) the vague definition of an “Established Agricultural Research Institutions” and “agricultural or academic research;” and, (3) an “Established Agricultural Research Institution’s” ability to cultivate and possess industrial hemp with a greater than 0.3% THC level, the Board of Supervisors adopted Interim Urgency Ordinance No. 4497 establishing a temporary moratorium on the cultivation of industrial hemp by “Established Agricultural Research Institutions.” Interim Urgency Ordinance No. 4497, addresses the threat to health, safety and welfare that are caused by the unregulated cultivation of industrial hemp by “Established Agricultural Research Institutions.”

On September 30, 2018, Senate Bill No. 1409 was signed into law by the Governor. This bill was intended to serve as “cleanup legislation” amending Sections 81002, 81003, 81004, 81005 and 81006 while adding Sections 81007 and 81011 to the FAC. While this bill gives counties the ability to collect fees to recover costs associated with local regulation and enforcement, it does not further define an “Established Agricultural Research Institution” nor what activities constitute “agricultural or academic research.” This bill also does not address how a grower will register with the County, who will be responsible for the abatement of a crop found to possess a THC level over 0.3%, or who will oversee the testing of industrial hemp.

Due to the probability that additional “cleanup legislation” will be required and that the rule making process will continue to be exercised by the CDFA’s Industrial Hemp Advisory Board, legislative activity should continue through the next legislative session. It is imperative that San Joaquin County stay engaged in these processes in order to assure the highest level of local involvement and reasonable regulation as possible as this new industry progresses to ensure that such cultivation does not pose threats to the health, safety, and general welfare of San Joaquin County residents.



20. Nutria Survey and Eradication Funding

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities, Stay Informed and Proactive in Dealing with Water Issues

ISSUE:

Inadequate funding limits the ability to successfully survey and eradicate the exotic vertebrate pest “Nutria” in the San Joaquin River Basin and Delta Region.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation and budget proposals, which would provide additional and extended State and Federal funding sources for the California Fish and Wildlife Nutria Survey and Eradication Program, and identify long-term funding sources that will be required to assure a successful program.

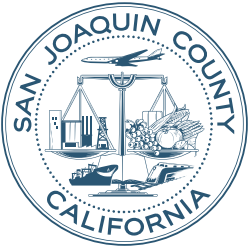
BACKGROUND:

In March 2017, a female nutria pregnant with seven young was captured in a private wetland southeast of Gustine, Merced County. Nutria (*Myocastor coypus*) are large, semi-aquatic rodents, which are native to South America and highly invasive in the United States; nutria are regulated as an A-rated pest by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and as a live restricted animal by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) (14 CCR § 671). Following this detection, an Interagency Nutria Response Team was convened and has since captured 1,621 nutria and documented additional confirmed and unconfirmed sightings. As of July 2020, there has been 102 nutria captured and two additional sightings in San Joaquin County.

Nutria are capable of rapidly expanding populations, both in size and geographic distribution. Female nutria are reproductive by six months of age, breed year-round, and can produce three litters in 13 months. Within approximately one year of reaching reproductive maturity, one female nutria can result in more than 200 offspring, which can disperse as far as 50 miles. Thus far, there have been 1,515 necropsies performed on captured adult and juveniles finding an additional 1,717 fetal nutria. Populations in other states (e.g. Oregon, Louisiana, Texas,) have reached numbers into the millions and in some locations persist in the hundreds of thousands; Oregon sees densities up to 56 nutria per acre, while Louisiana harvests 450,000 nutria annually.

The CDFW and its partner agencies are implementing an eradication project to prevent further impacts to the State’s resources. The existence and spread of nutria in California will undoubtedly result in substantial ecological and economic impacts, including loss of wetland and riparian habitat, soil and bank erosion, levee failures, agricultural losses, degraded wildlife and fish habitats, damaged revegetation (restoration) sites, and exacerbated spread of invasive plants. This rapid response project will minimize the negative impacts of nutria to California’s resources while maximizing the cost-efficiency of eradication efforts. Left unchecked the damage caused by nutria to the San Joaquin River

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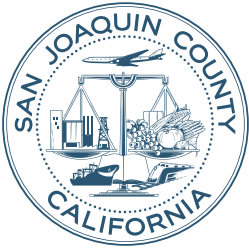
Nutria Survey and Eradication Funding (Continued)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Delta levies would have a detrimental state wide effect to both the economy and wildlife. The crop production value of the San Joaquin County Delta alone amounts to over \$500 million per year. The damage to fish and wildlife habitat and fresh water conveniences would be devastating.

CDFW originally received a two-year grant of \$1.2 million and CDFA received an additional grant of \$800 thousand for a two-year delimitation project lasting through fiscal year 2019-2020. The funds for the CDFA project have not been replaced. CDFW did receive additional funding of \$1,949,000 for Fiscal 2019-2020, and an additional \$1,624,000 for the next five fiscal years. While these funds are a good start, it still does not provide enough “boots on the ground” to ensure a quick eradication.

Even if CDFW is able to eradicate nutria in all known infested areas these types of efforts can take decades before they can be successful. It is important that all financial State and Federal funding avenues be pursued in order to insure the safety of not only the San Joaquin River system, our fresh water convenience systems, but the integrity of the Delta itself.



21. 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:

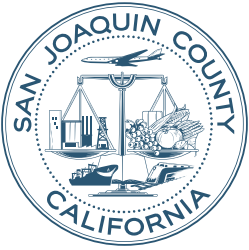
San Joaquin County (SJC) is the seventh largest agricultural county in the State of California and ranks higher than fifteen states nationally. Agriculture is a major factor in the County's economy and way of life according to a recent study "Economic Contributions of San Joaquin County Agriculture" it is responsible for \$5.732 billion per year to the County's economic output; 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 and the High Risk Pest Exclusion programs experienced an 89.2% decrease in 2008 as compared to previous years, and the funding levels remain unchanged. As of fiscal year 2018-2019, funding has yet to be re-instated, significantly limiting the Agricultural Commissioner's ability to detect incoming pests. The County's loss of its pest exclusion dog team funding requires San Joaquin County to rely on surrounding counties to provide canine inspection services after meeting the inspection needs at post office distribution locations. With the anticipated continued growth of FedEx, UPS, DHL, 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 its \$2.6 billion in agricultural commodities to other countries and states.

The County's 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. Since then, the Agricultural Commissioner's Office has detected a European Grapevine Moth infestation in 2010, an Oriental Fruit Fly infestation in 2011, an Asian Citrus Psyllid infestation in October 2014, which resulted in over half of the County being under quarantine. The County continues to find other pests including single finds of both the Peach and Oriental Fruit Flies in May 2016 and October 2019. Beginning in fiscal year 2017-2018, the County began receiving air freight shipments from the Eastern United States which has introduced over 400 Japanese Beetles, Emerald Ash Borer, and most recently Spotted Lantern Fly in 2019.

Another pest of great concern is the Spotted Lantern Fly. This pest has shown itself to be especially destructive to grape vines and it has no known natural predators in the continental United States. Ways of

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Pest Prevention and Surveillance

(Continued)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

early detection and eradication for this pest are still underdevelopment and there is inadequate funding to provide an early detection program. This pest has the ability to destroy a vineyard in a matter of days. San Joaquin County is the number one producer in volume of wine grapes in California per year. In 2019, the County had 95,900 acre of wine grapes in production with a value of \$373 million of un-processed grapes.

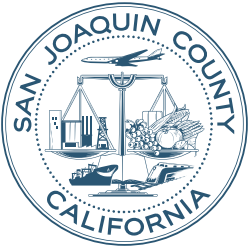
Other exotic pest finds include Branch Broom Rape and Cucumber Green Mottled Mosaic Virus, which have caused quarantines in several production areas within the County seriously limiting what can be planted in the affected areas. Each of these detections has resulted in State and Federal plant pest quarantines that have seriously impacted SJC's agricultural industry and economy.

The County Agricultural Commissioner's Office has two main programs aimed at preventing invasive pests, the Pest Exclusion Program and the Pest Detection Program. The Pest Exclusion Program is the first line of defense aimed at preventing pest entry into the state through plant and commodity inspections at their point of entry into the State and County, the inspection of shipping and receiving locations such as FedEx, UPS, DHL and Amazon. Most recently, Amazon has begun offering prepared and raw commodity delivery service, as well as seeds and other plant materials that largely go uninspected. The majority of foreign pest are moved by people who ship home-grown commodities to friends and relatives from other states and countries, as well as bulk floral shipments from Hawaii through these entry ways, which makes it imperative that these programs are robustly funded.

Also included in this program are the inspection of shipments moved through the border crossings which include; feed grain, hay, moving pods and apiaries from other states. These shipments can include insect pests not known to exist in California, weed seeds and Red Imported Fire Ant. Apiary shipments can also arrive with insect pests and diseases that can be devastating to our apiary industry, which is so important for pollinating our commodities sold throughout the world.

The Pest Detection Program is the second line of defense which maintains a countywide network of insect traps and other detection tools to serve as an early warning system against serious agricultural pests. The program is designed to detect a pest before it can cause wide spread damage and economic losses. The earlier a foreign pest infestation can be detected, the easier and less costly it is to eradicate. Climate change is causing a change in behavior of many invasive species such as the 2018 the finds of Oriental Fruit Flies in El Dorado and Shasta Counties where they have never been found before. Insects are also being found later in the trapping season. This shows the need to expand trapping seasons at a denser trap density per square mile for an extended period of time. With current static funding and the anticipated increase in part time labor costs we will in actuality see a decrease in services to current programs due to higher costs.

New agricultural pest introductions significantly impact our industry as additional resources must be spent to control pest and market crops. Additionally, once an invasive pest becomes established in California, or the region, millions of dollars are spent on eradication and millions more are lost due the inability to market commodities to other states or countries once quarantines are established. Producers of San Joaquin County have lost millions of dollars due to the cost of treatment and crop destruction also causing an inability to sell commodities due to quarantines, which also means the loss of millions of more dollars to the local economy.



22. Williamson Act

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Ensure Fiscal Responsibility

ISSUE:

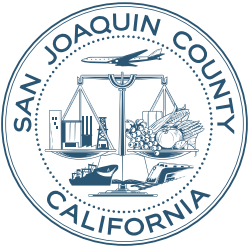
The Williamson Act is economically and environmentally important to San Joaquin County. The elimination of funding and further weakening of the Act create a significant fiscal hardship for counties with substantial acreage enrolled in the Act.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Support full restoration of subventions to fund the loss of property tax as a result of State-eliminated funding for the Williamson Act program.
2. Support legislation and administrative action that would enhance the program and improve the ability of both the State and the County to enforce Williamson Act contracts through uniform control measures.
3. Oppose any further weakening of the Act.

BACKGROUND:

There are nearly 6,829 properties with more than 511,620 acres under contract in San Joaquin County. For the 2018-2019 tax year, the Williamson Act reduced revenue from property taxes by over \$17.1 million. The County's share of that would have been \$3.1 million. If the County had received a fully-funded subvention from the State it would have been eligible for \$1.9 million.



23. Child Support—CalFresh Referrals from CalWorks

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

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

ISSUE:

Currently, the Local Child Support Agency (LCSA) does not receive referrals from the county welfare department for CalFresh cases. These referrals will help provide assistance to thousands of families who may be unaware of the services available to them through the LCSA.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support legislation to require the referral of CalFresh recipients from the county welfare department to the Child Support Program.

BACKGROUND:

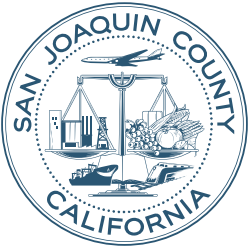
Under existing law, the county welfare department must refer all cases in which a parent is absent from the home, or in which the parents are unmarried and parentage has not been established to the local child support agency immediately at the time the application for public assistance, including Medi-Cal benefits, or certificate of eligibility, is signed by the applicant. However, there is no current requirement for CalFresh referrals to the child support program.

Single parent recipients of CalFresh only benefits face economic challenges. They have too much income to qualify for CalWORKs, but are still struggling financially. Child support can provide a steady, reliable source of income to the home, resulting in better outcomes for families. Since the money will not be recouped by the County/State, all funds will go directly into the hands of the family.

In San Joaquin County:

1. The median income of households currently **on** CalFresh assistance is \$25,300.
2. The median income for households **not** on CalFresh is \$61,600.
3. 32,000 Households receive CalFresh benefits.
4. 34.3% CalFresh receipts are single mothers.

Source: <https://statisticalatlas.com/county/California/San-Joaquin-County/Food-Stamps>



24. Child Support Funding Equity

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

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

ISSUE:

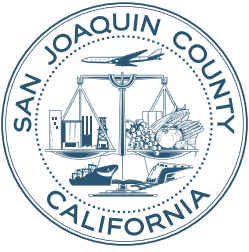
In 2019, the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) adopted an equitable funding methodology, resolving the historically unequitable funding for the San Joaquin County Department of Child Support Services. Due to 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) related budget cuts, funding reverted to 2018 levels, significantly impacting the Department.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Continue to support new and ongoing funding for the child support program.
2. Continue to support the DCSS funding methodology that equitably funds all Local Child Support Agencies (LCSAs).

BACKGROUND:

Due to the efforts of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors and Department of Child Support Services, the DCSS adopted a funding methodology that equitably funds all LCSAs. Subsequently, an additional \$56 million was included in the Governor's 2019-2020 budget. The resulting Federal match increased total funding to DCSS to over \$112 million. Due to COVID-19 related budget cuts, the \$56 million and the Federal matching funds were revoked and funding for LCSAs reverted to 2018 levels, resulting in a significant financial impact to all LCSAs, including San Joaquin County.



25. Child Support Orders—Extension of Court Filing

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

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

ISSUE:

The current 30-day timeframe provided by the court to amend a proposed child support order is often exhausted by the time new information is provided that may significantly impact the amount of the court order.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support legislation extending the timeframe a Local Child Support Agency (LCSA) has to file an Amended Proposed Judgment with the court.

BACKGROUND:

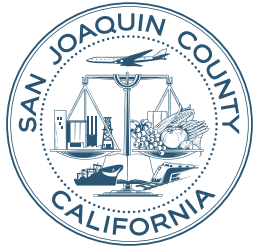
Under existing law (Family Code Section 17430 (c)), if the local child support agency receives additional financial information within 30 days of service of the complaint and proposed judgment on the defendant, and the additional information would result in a support order that is different from the amount in the proposed judgment, the LCSA must file a declaration setting forth the additional information and an Amended Proposed Judgment.

The declaration and Amended Proposed Judgment must be served on the defendant in compliance with Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure. The defendant's time to answer or otherwise appear shall be extended to 30 days from the date of service of the declaration and Amended Proposed Judgment.

An Amended Proposed Judgment is a powerful tool that the LCSA may use to ensure the child support order requested from the court is appropriate. The 30-day timeframe is often exhausted by the time the LCSA obtains new information that may significantly impact the proposed child support order.

There is currently no legislation or movement to amend existing law to allow additional time for filing an Amended Proposed Judgment. Obtaining appropriate child support orders increases the likelihood a parent will comply with the order and more money will be distributed to families.

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26. 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 do the following:

1. Continue to provide local jurisdictions with funding to provide rental assistance and down payment assistance for affordable housing units and homes.
2. Reduce development impact fees for affordable housing projects statewide.

BACKGROUND:

San Joaquin County has experienced an increased demand for rental housing and homeownership. 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.

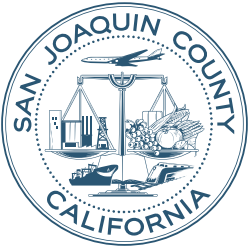
Some of the demand for housing has come from the San Francisco Bay Area. Because housing costs have increased astronomically in the Bay Area, many of its residents are moving to San Joaquin County in search of "affordable" housing. This demand is having the effect of increasing the average rents and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

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 Federal funding, the County's programs currently used to address affordable housing in the area would be eliminated.

In addition, most jurisdictions have charged development impacts fees (public facilities fees) on housing projects, including affordable housing projects. In recent years, some jurisdictions have opted to provide an incentive to affordable housing developers by reducing or eliminating these development impacts fees for multi-family and single-family regulated affordable housing projects. This proposed action is one more incentive to reduce costs for affordable housing developers and provides all jurisdictions the ability to promote affordable housing needs with policy and legislative action at the local level to encourage and facilitate the actual construction of affordable, regulated housing. The incentive to reduce development impact fees for affordable, regulated housing is similar to the implementation of Accessory Dwelling Units

Community Development: David Kwong, Director | dkwong@sjgov.org | (209) 468-9518

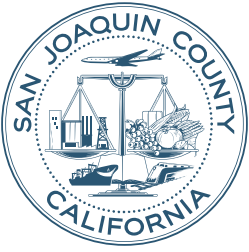


Affordable Housing (Continued)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

(ADU) with eliminated development impact fees for ADU's 750 square feet or less. This concept is an element of economic development and housing element reform consistent with many city and county general plans.

With the current affordable housing crisis and ever increasing costs of affordable housing construction, the reduction of developer impact fees would provide an incentive to build affordable housing. In practice, affordable housing projects do have less actual impacts (i.e. parking and traffic) than an average market rate housing development. Implemented statewide, this law would provide for an equal application across all jurisdictions and an equal playing field as all jurisdictions have housing affordability needs based upon the jurisdictions adopted Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA).



27. 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.

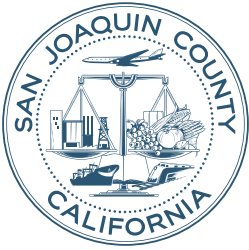
BACKGROUND:

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 and the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council under the State ESG program, and from temporary, limited funds through the California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program (CESH), the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP), and the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP). Additionally, in response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the related impacts on communities experiencing homelessness, emergency funds have been made available through the Coronavirus Relief Fund (SB 89), Project Roomkey, Project Homekey, and Housing for the Harvest to expand isolation capacity for vulnerable groups experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness. 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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28. Regional Housing Needs Allocation

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities

ISSUE:

The methodology used to determine the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) numbers for the unincorporated San Joaquin County is flawed and does not consider the nature and policies of growth for that area of the County, thus assigning a relatively large housing number onto the County.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Advocate to the California Department of Housing and Community Development and the San Joaquin Council of Governments during the next RHNA cycle in 2023 to develop a methodology that considers the nature and limitations of growth in agricultural and rural counties as opposed to more urban counties.

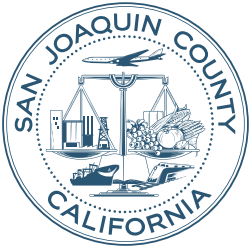
BACKGROUND:

Preparation of the RHNA is mandated by California Government Code section 65584. The law requires that the California Department of Housing and Community Development, in consultation with the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG), establish a countywide housing construction target.

SJCOG is mandated to develop the methodology and adopt the allocation outcomes of the housing targets for the incorporated cities and the unincorporated areas within the County by family income categories over the ten-year period of 2014 to 2023. SJCOG's responsibility includes identifying the areas within the region that can sufficiently meet the regional housing need. Furthermore, the RHNA must allocate housing units within the region consistent with the development pattern included in the Sustainable Communities Strategy.

San Joaquin County is primarily an agricultural county. This has consistently been acknowledged by the decision-makers in the County and most recently in the County's General Plan 2035, adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2016. General Plan policies direct urban growth to cities, city fringe areas, or urban communities where infrastructure and urban level of services can accommodate this growth. County policies discourage urban sprawl and promote compact development patterns, mixed-use development, and higher development intensities that conserve agricultural land resources, protect habitat, support transit, reduce vehicle trips, improve air quality, make efficient use of existing infrastructure, conserve energy and water, and diversify San Joaquin County's housing stock. Outside of the community of Mountain House and based on County policies, it is not realistic for the unincorporated San Joaquin County to absorb a large portion of the RHNA housing numbers.

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29. Water Quality Standards for Recreational Use of Fresh Waters

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Stay Informed and Proactive in Dealing with Water Issues

ISSUE:

There are no State enforceable minimum standards or requirements for monitoring freshwater recreational bathing areas and beaches at inland rivers, lakes, the Delta, and other freshwater bodies that promote and allow swimming and other body-contact sports.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Support legislation which would set enforceable minimum bacteriological standards for freshwater bodies, such as public access lakes, rivers, and the Delta.
2. Support legislation or budgetary proposals which would provide sufficient funding to establish and administer a local water quality monitoring program.

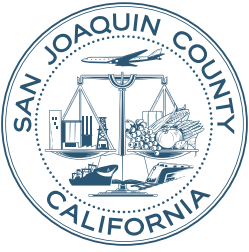
BACKGROUND:

Since 1998, the State has had enforceable minimum standards for bacteriological monitoring of ocean beaches. Legislation signed by the Governor in 2004 requires water quality monitoring at San Francisco Bay beaches. However, there are no State enforceable minimum standards or requirements for monitoring of freshwater recreational bathing areas and beaches at inland rivers, lakes, or the Delta.

Health risks associated with recreational use of freshwater bodies warrant establishing an enforceable standard framework for monitoring. Such legislation would provide regulatory certainty and clarity for the State and local regulators of freshwater bathing areas, and would serve to control the spread of costly and dangerous outbreaks that could negatively affect the well-being of California's most vulnerable population.

The California Department of Public Health's website (<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/environhealth/water/Pages/Beaches.aspx>) includes draft guidelines for freshwater beaches; however, no State enforceable minimum standards (regulations) exist for bacteriological monitoring and testing. Additionally, neither a State funding source nor a public notification criteria (i.e., requirements for posting, closing, and the reopening of public freshwater bathing areas after bacteriological problems are identified) have been established.

Environmental Health: Jasjit Kang, Director | jkang@sjgov.org | (209) 468-3912



30. California Children's Services

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities

ISSUE:

The State Department of Health Care Services' funding formula places a cap on administrative allocations for the California Children's Services Program (CCS). The funding structure for CCS diagnostic, treatment, and therapy services is based on 1990-1991 expenditure levels. As a caseload-driven program, these funding issues may force counties to curtail services to disabled children, reduce payments to providers, or incur additional County general fund costs to maintain services.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek alternative funding or change in administrative structure for CCS to mitigate the growth in this unfunded mandate to counties, or require the State to fully fund its statutory obligation for CCS.

BACKGROUND:

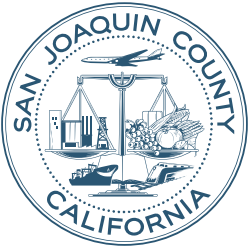
The CCS program provides diagnosis and treatment services, medical case management, and physical and occupational therapy services to children under age 21 with CCS-eligible medical conditions, such as cystic fibrosis, hemophilia, cerebral palsy, heart disease, cancer, and traumatic injuries. CCS also provides medically-necessary physical and occupational therapy to special education students. The CCS program has been in existence since the 1920s, and pre-dates Medi-Cal and Healthy Families.

Counties have historically been responsible for eligibility determination and case management services. Counties have had a long-standing share of cost for the non-Medi-Cal portion of the CCS program. The 1991 Realignment requires counties to provide contributions to fund diagnosis, treatment, and therapy up to the level of their actual expenditures unless the State CCS program certifies that a lower level of funding is sufficient. The State is required to match dollar-for-dollar a county appropriates for CCS expenditures above its Maintenance of Effort level "to the extent that funds are available". The County seeks appropriate funding and administrative structures for this program.

The State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has not provided any guidance on reduction of service levels commensurate to the State budget allocation for CCS. Although statute governing CCS is laden with "to the extent funds are available" language, the State generally administers the program as an entitlement with no guidance regarding adjustments to program eligibility or services if there are insufficient State or county funds. State CCS personnel have advised counties that the State CCS must continue to conduct eligibility determination and authorize treatment even if there are insufficient funds in the county CCS account.

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Public Health Services: Zienna Blackwell-Rodriguez, Director | zrodriguez@sjcphs.org | (209) 468-3413



31. County Jail and Medical and Behavioral Health Services

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:

County General Fund resources required to provide necessary jail medical services are under increasing pressure to fund new and enhanced mandated services.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support legislation which would:

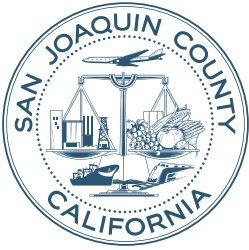
1. Require the inclusion of medical and behavioral health services and health care facility costs in projections for overall facility/operational costs as part of public funding for new and/or expanded county detention facilities;
2. Ensure or provide appropriate State funding of health care facilities, medical, and behavioral health care services for inmates in county correctional and juvenile facilities including any further programmatic or “realignment” shift of these responsibilities to the local level;
3. Authorize County health care services to charge private health insurance plans for health care services provided to the enrollee while in custody;
4. Simplify the Medi-Cal claiming process for those inmates treated outside of a correctional facility and clarify the status of those inmates who are placed in Community Corrections Facilities/Residential Re-Entry Centers as not “in custody” for the purposes of Title 15 and allow them to be deemed eligible for Medi-Cal;
5. Require Medi-Cal contracted facilities to accept Medi-Cal rates for services provided to County inmates;
6. Provide funding for Hepatitis C treatment for inmates;
7. Provide funding for counties to expand diversion programs including funding for housing resources for diverted individuals; and
8. Increase funding for jail facilities improvements to adequately address population management and the needs of AB 109 inmates, especially those with chronic illness and severe mental illness.

BACKGROUND:

County costs for providing jail medical services continue to rise due to court-mandated standards for care and the increasing prevalence of medical and mental health problems among inmates. Counties have a substantial financial commitment for jail medical services, emergency hospitalization of individuals in the custody of police or Sheriff, medical screening of all inmates after booking, and outpatient and inpatient medical care of individuals in the custody of the Sheriff after booking. Jail medical responsibilities changed with the adoption of AB 109 (2011) which realigned funding for the incarceration of State prisoners. State prisoners, who would have been returned to State prison for

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Correctional Health Services: Stacey Hernandez, Deputy Director | sahernandez@sjgov.org | (209) 468-4487



County Jail and Medical and Behavioral Health Services

(Continued)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

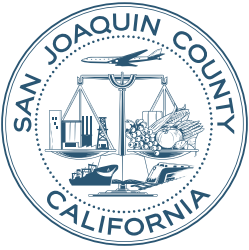
parole violations and inmates who would have served their sentence in State prison, are now serving terms in the county jail. These populations have considerable medical, dental, mental health, and pharmaceutical requirements. They will be in county jail for longer periods of time, therefore, will require a vastly different scope of medical services that previously were not required of county jail medical facilities. County jail medical facilities may now be required to provide a wider range of services for chronic illness as well as preventive and health management services.

Recent changes in State law now mirror Federal law and provide for Medi-Cal benefits to be suspended, not discontinued, while the recipient is incarcerated, and immediately reactivate the Medi-Cal benefits upon the recipient's release from incarceration. This allows him/her to quickly obtain needed mental health and substance abuse treatment, and to help break the expensive cycle of re-incarceration or hospitalization. Innovative corrections practices are creating a range of options for community corrections facilities, yet the status of those residing in these facilities is unclear in terms of obligations under Title 15, Medi-Cal eligibility, and reimbursement to providers. Medi-Cal benefits generally cannot be provided to incarcerated individuals.

The lack of access to medical care is an acute issue for many individuals with mental health and/or substance abuse issues when they are released from State and/or county detention facilities. These individuals are often in need of medical care for severe mental health and/or substance abuse conditions. Delays in securing mental health treatment often has a devastating effect on the individual's ability to successfully adjust to society, and may contribute to the individual being quickly re-incarcerated or hospitalized. Medi-Cal eligibility is a necessary tool in the development of Community Corrections Facilities.

Recent changes to State law have authorized the claiming of Medi-Cal costs for inmates who receive medical services lasting more than 24 hours outside of County jail. Although these inmates are Medi-Cal beneficiaries when treated in these outside facilities, counties may still be charged higher than Medi-Cal rates due to their inmate status. Being able to claim Medi-Cal when actual costs are much higher, coupled with a complicated claiming process, is inefficient and undercuts fiscal relief this change in State law had intended.

The investment in hepatitis C treatment in County jail facilities is fiscally sound and will greatly improve the lives and health of some of the most vulnerable population. Curing hepatitis C reduces long-term medical costs by preventing advanced liver disease and liver-related deaths, as well as reducing the risk of transmission.



32. Emergency Medical Services

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

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

ISSUE:

Efforts exist to reduce or eliminate County authority regarding the governance of emergency medical services.

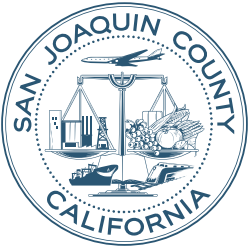
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Aggressively support legislation, regulatory, and other efforts to maintain and increase:
 - a. The authority and governing role of counties and their local emergency medical services agencies to plan, implement, and evaluate all aspects and components of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system; and
 - b. Funding for emergency medical services oversight.
2. Support legislative efforts to maintain:
 - a. The administration and medical control of EMS, pre-hospital emergency medical care, and ambulance services at the county level; and
 - b. An independent State EMS Authority aligned with the California Department of Public Health.
3. Aggressively oppose legislative, regulatory, or other efforts which would:
 - a. Threaten or weaken the authority and governing role of counties over EMS;
 - b. Result in fragmentation of the EMS systems and the delivery of pre-hospital emergency medical care;
 - c. Allow cities and special districts to provide EMS independent of the county's administration and medical control;
 - d. Limit or diminish the authority of the local EMS agency medical director to maintain medical control of the EMS system; and
 - e. Shift responsibility for regional trauma planning away from counties and local EMS agencies.

BACKGROUND:

Under current law, counties have an obligation to ensure public health and medical care for its citizens including ambulance service. EMS and ambulance services planned for and provided on a Countywide basis ensure system integrity and the delivery of optimal patient care. While neither cities nor fire districts have any health care obligations under State or Federal law, some have sought to overturn the EMS Act (Division 2.5 of the Health and Safety Code) and obtain authority to establish city managed and/or fire service control of EMS and ambulance services. The County seeks to avoid the fragmentation of the EMS system or any effort to allow cities and special districts to self-govern its EMS participation, which work against the delivery of optimal patient care and efficient system designs for the County over all.

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33. Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Care Funding

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Ensure Fiscal Responsibility

ISSUE:

Secure a sustained source of funding to support emergency medical services and trauma care.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

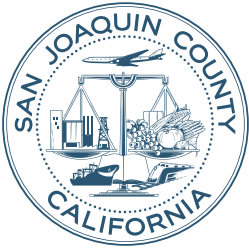
1. Support legislation or an initiative which would create or designate new funding for uncompensated emergency, trauma services, and on-call coverage.
2. Support legislative efforts and/or an initiative to increase funding for hospital emergency rooms and trauma centers, County emergency medical services systems and agencies.
3. Oppose the redirection of any existing indigent care funding from public hospitals to compensate community physicians for uncompensated emergency care.
4. Oppose legislation which would increase the administrative burden of managing the distribution of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Maddy funds, or would change the distribution methodology to redirect funds from local EMS agencies and public hospitals.

BACKGROUND:

Despite the recent expansion of health care coverage, hospitals throughout the State provide a significant volume of emergency care to patients who do not have third-party insurance coverage. The financial impact is often greater on designated trauma centers. Over 50% of hospital emergency rooms operate at a net operating loss due to the significant volume of uncompensated care. During the past several years, there have been multiple legislative efforts to restructure existing indigent care funding programs, such as Proposition 99 and the EMS Maddy funds, to redirect existing funds to reimburse private community physicians for providing uncompensated emergency care, thereby reducing available funding to local EMS agencies and public hospitals such as San Joaquin General Hospital. The County seeks to oppose those efforts and advocates for a new, dedicated funding for uncompensated care in emergency departments.

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34. 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 is a need for continuation of fair and equitable funding for public health emergency services.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Aggressively pursue and support:

1. Sustained State and Federal funding for planning and responding to the medical/health consequences of terrorism, disasters, and/or other public health emergencies;
2. Development of equitable funding formulas which would consider the proximity of jurisdictions to high-profile, high-impact 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.

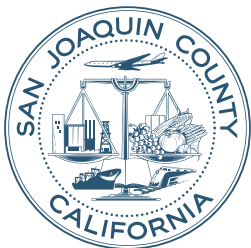
BACKGROUND:

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. California's widespread and life-threatening wildfires underscores the impact of natural disasters on local, State, and Federal medical/health response capabilities. Pandemics stemming from influenza and novel viruses like the 2019 Coronavirus (COVID-19) threaten to overwhelm an already fragile medical and public health system. Such resource inadequacies were evident with the COVID-19 response efforts. 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. This ongoing capacity is especially critical to be able to address a surge in which trained staff must respond immediately to contain and/or to mitigate impacts. State policies must be flexible to ensure a competent, trained workforce regardless of salary funding stream or program assignment.

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35. Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health

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:

Protection of the health of vulnerable populations, including children, teens, and pregnant women, is a continuing need that local health departments address through monitoring, assessment, and assurance activities. These activities include the provision of support services to persons at high-risk of poor health outcomes or premature death.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

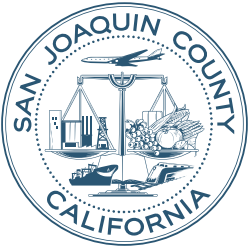
Support legislation and/or budgetary proposals which would:

1. Provide increased State funding to local public health departments for maternal, child, and adolescent health programs;
2. Reduce inequities in maternal, infant, and child health and maximize the health and quality of life for all women, infants, children, adolescents, and their families; and
3. Integrate trauma informed practices into both newly proposed or existing programs and services provided to women, infants, children, and adolescents.

BACKGROUND:

In the State, San Joaquin County ranks in the bottom quartile for infant mortality, late entry to and adequacy of prenatal care, health disparities and various other measures of community health. Community-based and individual services are intended to reduce morbidity and mortality that are preventable, such as hospitalization, disabilities and deaths from intentional and unintentional injuries. The State distributes funds to local health departments to support these activities. These funds are derived from various Federal and State sources. The current funding does not adequately support education or home visitation services to families at risk. Maternal, child and adolescent health are some of the core functions of public health. These programs include Black Infant Health, breastfeeding support, Women, Infants and Children (WIC), childhood lead poisoning prevention, teen pregnancy prevention, family planning services, children's health initiatives, and newborn screening. There is inadequate funding to meet many needs in these areas. The County seeks additional allocation of State funds based on the burden of disease, and disparity of access in SJC. This would draw more Federal match and fund expanded services for a healthier community.

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36. Provision of Community Mental Health Services – Diversion of Proposition 63 Funds

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:

Proposals to divert Mental Health Services Act funds (Proposition 63) away from community mental health systems in order to fill the State's budget gap is of significant concern to San Joaquin County. In addition, San Joaquin County continues to be concerned about the erosion of State funding and support for core mental health services.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Seek a written determination from the Department of Health Care Services that Proposition 63 funds can be used flexibly, including for core local mental health services.
2. Oppose legislation, administrative efforts, and/or budgetary proposals, which would serve to divert Proposition 63 funds from counties to address the State's budget shortfall.
3. Oppose additional reductions in State funding for mental health services that will result in the State shifting its costs to the County.
4. Support legislative and budgetary efforts, which would enhance comprehensive community-based treatment of mental health illness.
5. Support legislative and administrative efforts to provide more flexibility within the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). This includes the counties' ability to use MHSA funds for service categories funded by Community Services and Supports (CSS) and Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) to meet local needs in response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), flexibility in using unallocated innovation funds to maintain CSS and PEI services, and the ability to use funds subject to reversion to fund gaps caused by the year-over-year decline in MHSA funding.

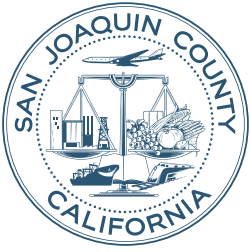
BACKGROUND:

In 2004, California voters passed Proposition 63 (Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)) to expand mental health services. County mental health services have consistently demonstrated effective results serving individuals with unmet mental health needs off the streets into housing, employment, and out of the criminal justice system. The County seeks to protect and preserve MHSA funds to avoid the elimination of vital mental health services for children and adults with serious mental illness currently served by the County's mental health programs.

County mental health programs have been chronically underfunded with fluctuations in funding due to changes in revenues from State sales tax, vehicle license fees, and Medi-Cal funding. While there have been some modest increases in revenues, MHSA funding is used to fill critical gaps.

In early 2020 prior to the onset of COVID-19, there were discussions of reverting Proposition 63 funds from counties by both the Administration and by the Steinberg Institute. This led to the California State

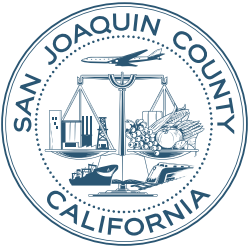
Health Care Services Agency: Greg Diederich, Director | gdiederich@sjhcs.org | (209) 468-7031
Behavioral Health Services: Tony Vartan, Director | tvartan@sjcbhs.org | (209) 468-8752



Provision of Community Mental Health Services – Diversion of Proposition 63 Funds *(Continued)*

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Association of Counties and a variety of stakeholders adopting principles and alternatives to placing changes to Proposition 63 before the voters and instead providing more flexibility within MHSA to allow counties to spend these funds efficiently and effectively.



37. Public Guardian/Conservator

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Ensure Fiscal Responsibility

ISSUE:

Secure a sustained source of funding to support the Public Guardian/Conservator, as well as State reimbursement for mandates imposed on local Public Guardian/Conservators by the Omnibus Conservatorship and Guardianship Reform Act of 2006.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

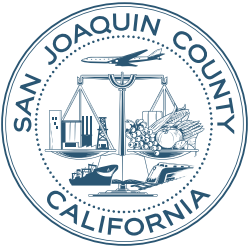
1. Support legislative efforts and/or initiatives which would create and designate funding for current and future mandates placed on the Public Guardian/Conservator, while opposing any unfunded mandates.
2. Support changes to the California Code of Regulations Title 22, Section 50549.3 which would allow Public Guardian/Conservators to collect fees via the Medi-Cal share-of-cost program.
3. Support legislation which would increase the Public Guardian/Conservator's existing fee structure outlined in the Probate Code.
4. Support legislation that would allow Public Guardian/Conservators to recoup mandated program costs via the SB90 claims process.
5. Oppose legislation that imposes any unfunded mandates on Public Guardian/Conservators .

BACKGROUND:

Public Guardians/Conservators are responsible for the estates of people who cannot care for themselves as a result of a serious physical illness, mental illness, or other disability. When a court determines that an individual is not capable of providing for his or her personal financial needs, the court assigns the Public Guardian/Conservator to manage those needs.

The Omnibus Conservatorship and Guardianship Reform Act was signed into law in September 2006. The legislative intent is to improve court oversight of Conservators (private and public) primarily through increasing the number of court reviews and the frequency and scope of court investigations.

The Act requires Public Guardians to undertake additional activities as part of their duties without reimbursement from the State for the cost of these additional responsibilities and tasks. Currently, Public Guardians receive no funding from the State. In the preamble to the Act, the Legislature found and declared: "Public Guardians do not have adequate resources to represent the best interests of qualifying Californians and, therefore, many in need of the assistance of a Conservator go without." However, numerous legislative attempts have been made to significantly expand the role of the Public Guardian/Conservators. The County seeks to ensure no additional unfunded mandates are imposed, and additional responsibilities are commensurate with adequate additional funding.



38. Public Health

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:

Ensure the adequate funding of public health services for San Joaquin County residents.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Support efforts to address the prevention of chronic disease and promotion of wellness, including a dedicated funding stream to fund preventive health services or activities that improve community health outcomes.
2. Support increased and flexible state and federal funding and resources directed at building the capacity of local public health departments to combat and control communicable diseases, including funds to support the operations of Public Health regional laboratories.
3. Oppose efforts to reduce state and federal funding streams which would create cost shifts to local health departments.
4. Advocate for efforts to increase cannabis surveillance, education, youth prevention, responsible adult use, and drugged driving prevention. Seek to ensure local health departments are adequately resourced as regulations and state law are implemented.

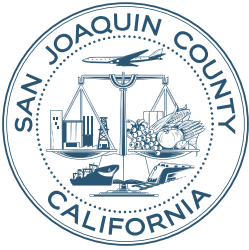
BACKGROUND:

In 2010 as part of the federal Affordable Care Act, Congress created the Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF) that was designed to expand and sustain the necessary infrastructure to prevent disease, detect it early, and manage conditions before they become severe. This fund created an unprecedented opportunity for local health departments to augment and expand existing chronic disease programs or to participate in new programs to address longstanding chronic disease issues in their communities. However, over the years, the PPHF has become increasingly vulnerable and has been diverted to fund other purposes, such as the 21st Century Cures Act passed in December 2016 and a shift of \$750 million to the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in January 2018. Congress also cut an additional \$1.35 billion over ten years from PPHF in February 2018.

Chronic diseases in California, such as heart disease, cancer, lung disease, stroke, diabetes and asthma, continue to plague our communities in ever larger numbers, particularly in low-income communities and communities of color. In addition, 40.7% of children in California ages 12-17 are overweight.

Children who are overweight increase their risk for type 2 diabetes mellitus, asthma, and orthopedic problems. They are also more likely to have risk factors for cardiovascular disease. Weight problems are complex with many causes including a person's diet and physical activity level.

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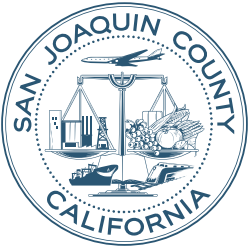


Public Health (Continued)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

The control of infectious disease, through immunizations, surveillance, disease investigation, laboratory testing, and response activities has long been a fundamental and statutorily required responsibility assigned to local government public health agencies. However, resources to support these essential activities have been insufficient for years. Preventing and controlling communicable diseases such as sexually transmitted diseases, seasonal influenza, vaccine preventable diseases such as measles and pertussis, hepatitis, HIV/AIDS, and tuberculosis remain ongoing challenges for local health departments. In addition, new and re-emerging infectious diseases, including pandemic influenza, multi-drug resistant tuberculosis, West Nile Virus, Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA), Meningococcal Disease, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), Ebola, Valley Fever, Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), Zika, Dengue, and Chikungunya have increased the need to build capacity.

In 1996, California voters approved Proposition 215 which allows patients or their caregivers to possess or cultivate cannabis for medical purposes if recommended by a physician. In 2016, voters passed Proposition 64, which legalized the adult use of cannabis in California. Ensuring the equitable enforcement and implementation of cannabis regulations to mitigate community-level harms could help rectify these inequities and prevent widening them.



39. 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.

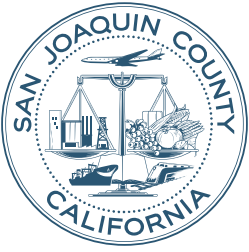
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

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.

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40. State Implementation of Federal Health Care Reform

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Promote Economic Development

ISSUE:

Ensure the retention of San Joaquin County residents' health care coverage.

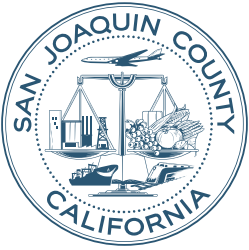
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Advocate and support legislation and regulations which would provide expanded health care, including preventive and treatment services; and ensure that San Joaquin County is protected from unforeseen liability and/or unfunded service obligations resulting from health care reform.
2. Oppose new unfunded mandates for expansion of health and mental health services.
3. Support inclusion of county safety net facilities and programs, including appropriate reimbursement, in health care coverage programs.
4. Ensure adequate funding from Health Realignment or other sources to provide care for the uninsured in the safety net system.
5. Oppose measures which divert the pool of funds derived from County or public sources to non-public health care facilities, including the expansion of the definition for a designated public hospital.
6. Protect access to care at the San Joaquin County Clinics Federally Qualified Health Center Look-A-Likes by ensuring cost-based service reimbursements.

BACKGROUND:

The expansion of health care coverage under Medi-Cal 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 reform efforts/measures need to address specific issues to ensure San Joaquin County (SJC) is protected from unforeseen liability and/or unfunded service obligations for new and undefined populations, and increased requirements to fund these new obligations.

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41. Substance Use Disorder Prevention and Treatment

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:

Ensure that effective programs and funding are in place to provide for the prevention and treatment of substance use disorders.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Support the continuation of the Federal 1115 Medicaid Waiver in order to continue the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System and other system improvements pertaining to quality and outcomes throughout the substance use disorder service system.
2. Support funding for alcohol and drug prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery services that provide county flexibility and discretion for local planning purposes.
3. Support funding a substance use disorder continuum of care for adolescents, including youth in the juvenile justice system as well as youth transitioning out of foster care.
4. Support expanding community-based prevention coalitions that promote environmental approaches to preventing alcohol and drug related problems in the community as well as individual and primary prevention programs.
5. Support improving Drug Medi-Cal collaboration and communication between the state and counties.
6. Support eliminating same-day billing restrictions for Drug Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are receiving more than one treatment or recovery support service on a single day in an Federally Qualified Health Center or Federally Qualified Health Center Look-Alike.

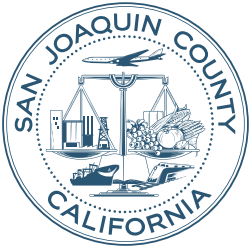
BACKGROUND:

Alcohol and drug addiction is a major problem contributing to economic and social burdens within San Joaquin County. The California system of substance use disorder treatment services has been underfunded historically despite the abuse of drugs and alcohol being a major factor and cost driver of many systems including criminal justice, behavioral health, public health and social welfare.

Prevention, early intervention and treatment have proven to be effective strategies to address substance abuse disorders. Enhanced medical and public health approaches are the most effective method of reducing harmful use of alcohol and other drugs. Because substance abuse disorders often co-occur with mental health and physical illnesses, treatment is most effective when integrated with physical and mental healthcare. California's implementation of the Federal 1115 Waiver for Drug Medi-Cal provides additional Federal and State funding for substance abuse disorder treatment and supports an organized delivery system which ensures access to a full continuum of care from assessment and early intervention to recovery supports and which supports activities to ensure the quality of services. Many substance use disorder treatment facilities operate in substandard facilities. As substance use disorder treatment services are reimbursed to counties on a rate-based system, the ability to upgrade infrastructure is very limited. Opportunities for counties to obtain funding for facility purchase and/or renovation would allow counties to operate safe facilities for substance use disorder treatment.

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42. Veterans Services

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities

ISSUE:

The County Veterans Services Office (CVSO) needs resources to advocate and assure services and facilities for Veterans in San Joaquin County.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

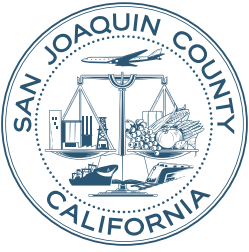
Support legislation and/or budgetary proposals which would:

1. Support and expand suicide prevention, intervention and post-intervention activities throughout the County and Veterans' communities by engaging with behavioral health services, judicial personnel, Veteran's service providers, law enforcement agencies, and other caregivers; and train families, friends, caregivers, and veterans in providing mental health, suicide first aid, and intervention skills to decrease the suicide rate amongst Veterans and service members;
2. Increase the State's annual local assistance for the CVSO by permanently appropriating \$16 million statewide and encourage continued support from the California Department of Veterans Affairs to the CVSOs. The goal is to fully fund CVSOs by appropriating the full local assistance funding as reflected in Military and Veterans Code Section 972.1 (d);
3. Address, prevent, and decrease Veteran homelessness, and provide comprehensive services to assist homeless or at-risk Veterans move from transitional housing to independent living or suitable low-income housing. Increase, inspire, and support new and renovated construction of low-income and affordable housing projects to adequately house and address Veterans' homelessness. Focus efforts and support on rapid rehousing for displaced military and Veteran families. Increase Veterans' reintegration programs for job training, counseling, and placement services through solicitation of grants and other governmental and/or non-governmental funding and support;
4. Support enhancement of Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) services for women's health care and mental health services to include Military Sexual Assault, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury, and substance abuse as well as peer outreach services, peer support and readjustment counseling. Increase awareness and provide support to family and others who care for disabled, ill, or injured women Veterans; and
5. Enhance the efforts of the CVSO in comprehensive administration of Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) by supporting increased training, service capacity, and continued legal advocacy for justice-involved Veterans. Support and seek additional grants, legislation, and advocacy of diversion programs to connect with family courts and continue expansion of VTC and incarcerated Veteran programs.

BACKGROUND:

The core mission of the CVSO is to provide professional services to military Veterans as well as their dependents and survivors who are entitled to benefits from the VA, the State of California, and other

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Veterans Services Office: Virginia Wimmer, Director | vwimmer@sjgov.org | (209) 468-2916



Veterans Services (Continued)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

agencies as applicable. Courtesy, respect and sensitivity are afforded to every Veteran and eligible dependent whom the CVSO serves.

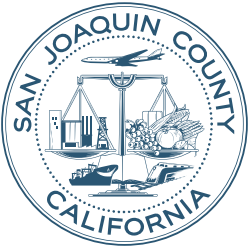
Suicide is a national health concern that affects all Americans, particularly Veterans. Everyone has a role to play in preventing suicide. That's why the CVSO has partnered with BHS and community partners — including faith organization, employers, schools, and health care organizations — to provide suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention trainings for Veterans, family members, and service providers.

Support legislation to raise the state's Local Assistance to counties for CVSO offices with the eventual goal to fully fund Local Assistance Funding to CVSOs, which would bring the state in line with paying half of the funding actually needed to operate CVSOs throughout the state. Currently, the counties pick up the majority of the funding. It was originally intended that the state and counties equally share in this cost.

The CVSO is a critical link to services for homeless Veterans and the planning and participation in the annual Homeless Veterans Stand Down is a major event for the Office. The CVSO works closely with County Behavioral Health Services and community-based organizations to provide needed services.

Women Veterans are an underserved population within our society. In fact, many women do not think they qualify for Veterans' benefits. There are no support programs within this County for them; no transitional housing for women Veterans, no peer support programs for women Veterans, especially for women Veterans with children. Community programs that serve Veterans are geared toward men. Statistically, women Veterans are a fast growing population within the Veterans and civilian groups and their needs and challenges are far more specific and perplexing.

The CVSO co-founded and implemented the San Joaquin County Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) in February 2015. This collaborative effort between Superior Court, CVSO and other County departments offers alternatives to incarceration for Veterans by linking participants with vital rehabilitation and treatment resources. San Joaquin County's VTC provides structured services and support based upon research and evidence-based interventions that links substance abuse and military related mental illness. Eligible Veterans enrolled in VTC must be diagnosed with substance abuse, traumatic brain injury, PTSD, military sexual trauma and/or a mental health disorder in accordance with Penal Code 1170.9.



43. California Election Reform

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Promote Good Governance and Increase Organizational Capabilities

ISSUE:

Voting by mail is a popular choice for voters who want to vote whenever and wherever they find most convenient. Expansion of voting by mail has increased the need to provide more vote-by-mail options and services. The State required counties to mail a ballot to every registered voter and provide in-person voting for four days at Vote Centers for the November 3, 2020 Presidential General Election. This change to the voting model was made just months prior to the election. San Joaquin County's resources were significantly strained. The State is promoting this voting model under the Voters Choice Act (VCA) and the recent experience with the 2020 Presidential General Election has increased the likelihood of the counties no longer having an option to adopt the VCA, but rather it becoming law.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

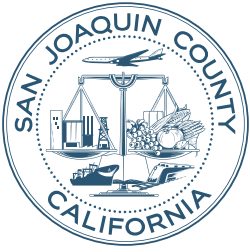
Support legislation, budgetary, and/or funding proposals that would facilitate the expansion voting by mail and/or voting center options with greater local control over implementation; facilitate the efficient configuration and supply requirements of precincts and polling locations by taking into consideration the number of vote-by-mail voters; facilitate the full and timely reimbursement for State and Federal mandates, including Secretary of State directives, regulations, and elections called by the State.

BACKGROUND:

In 2002, California eliminated the requirements to request a vote-by-mail ballot due to disability or physical absence. From 2000 to 2018, vote-by-mail voting has grown in California from less than 3% to about half of all registered voters. This dramatic increase was mirrored in San Joaquin County. The County has encouraged voting by mail as a convenient option and now over 66% of registered voters in San Joaquin County are permanent vote-by-mail voters. Of the voters who cast ballots in the 2018 Statewide Direct Primary, 76% cast a vote-by-mail ballot.

Assembly Bill 216 requires counties to provide prepaid postage for all voters returning ballots by mail beginning in 2019. Assembly Bill 1013 requires counties to provide a Remote Accessible Vote by Mail voting system for voters with disabilities, military, and overseas voters beginning in 2020.

The State is encouraging counties to adopt a new voting model under the VCA. This would eliminate traditional neighborhood polling places, requiring counties to mail a ballot to every registered voter and provide numerous vote centers throughout the County.



44. Bond Funding for Public Libraries

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

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

ISSUE:

There is a considerable need to build new and renovate existing public libraries in San Joaquin County.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek and support bond funding for the construction of new libraries and the renovation of existing public libraries in San Joaquin County.

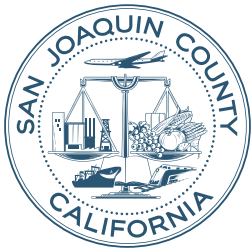
BACKGROUND:

According to the “California Public Library Facility Needs Assessment,” produced by the California State Library (2007), there is an \$8 billion need for library construction (662 projects) over the next 10 years. Of that amount, \$5.8 billion is needed within the next five years for library construction and renovation projects. The last library construction bond, California Reading and Literacy Improvement and Public Library Construction and Renovation Bond Act of 2000 (SB 3 - 1999) provided \$350 million for library construction projects Statewide. Those funds were quickly expended, and three-fourths of the project applications were denied due to the limited amount of bond funding available under the Act.

In 2007, the need for additional construction and remodeling for Stockton-San Joaquin County Public Library facilities was estimated at \$124.4 million. Preliminary construction and remodeling projections through 2025 established through an updated Facilities Master Plan are estimated at more than \$500 million, based on population growth within the County.

Clearly, the State has not been able to keep pace with the rising needs at the local level for library construction. Currently, counties do not have the financial resources to operate State programs and also meet local needs. In order to meet each community's unique needs, counties must be given the authority to offer the voters the option of approving revenues at a level sufficient to provide the degree of local services the community desires. Furthermore, the current demands upon libraries is ever increasing, particularly in regard to the areas of adult literacy services, helping to bridge the digital divide, and serving the County's growing unemployed population. Thus, it is important to meet this need with adequate library facilities for San Joaquin County residents.

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45. Broadband Access for Public 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.

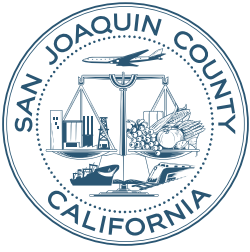
BACKGROUND:

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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46. California Library Literacy Services

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

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

ISSUE:

The California Library Literacy Services, including Adult Literacy Services Program, has experienced significant reductions in State funding. The impact of these funding reductions are compounded by the ever increasing demand for adult literacy services in San Joaquin County, a region of historical above average unemployment rates in California.

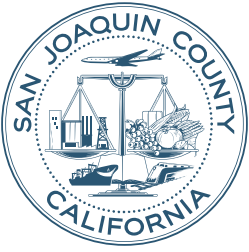
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support legislative efforts and/or budgetary proposals which would sustain the current level of California Library Literacy Services program funding, and oppose further budget reductions to the program.

BACKGROUND:

For a number of years, California's public libraries have provided literacy services to low-literate adults and their families, services helping Californians of all ages reach their literacy goals. In addition to services for adults, California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) also extends support for literacy through other programs, including Families for Literacy, English Language and Literacy Intensive, and Mobile Library Literacy Services. The State Library provides oversight and technical assistance in support of CLLS. Library Literacy Services reaches tens of thousands of adult learners and children through the 105 public library jurisdictions. These adults were able to achieve life changing goals such as getting a driver's license, writing a resume, or reading a book to their child for the first time.

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47. Resource Sharing Programs for California Library Services Act

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

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

ISSUE:

For years, the California Library Services Act/Transaction Based Reimbursement program has not been funded at the rate approved by the State Department of Finance; since 2011 this State-mandated program has been funded at a 38% reimbursement rate - 62% lower than the State-approved reimbursement rate.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

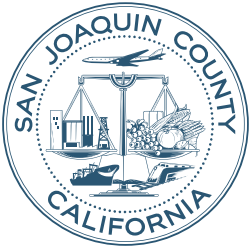
Support legislative efforts and/or budgetary proposals which would, at minimum, maintain current funding levels for the California Library Services Act/Transaction Based Reimbursement program, oppose further efforts to reduce funding, and seek an increase in funding for library resource sharing programs.

BACKGROUND:

For nearly 32 years, Californians have had the opportunity to use any library in the State to check out books and materials through the California Library Services Act (CLSA)/Transaction Based Reimbursement (TBR) program. TBR allows library customers who reside in one city or county to use the services of another city's or county's library system. Similarly, a public library in one jurisdiction can borrow from another jurisdiction. There is no fee to the customer for these loan services.

The TBR program is a State-mandated program approved by the State to reimburse local libraries for providing these loan services. Program costs for both over-the-counter (direct loan) and inter-library loans are reimbursable. For years, the TBR program has not been funded at the reimbursement rate approved by the State Department of Finance. In 2007-2008, libraries were reimbursed 43.8% of their costs. In 2008-2009, since TBR budgets have reduced by an additional \$1.4 million (from \$11.6 million to \$10.2 million), to an estimated 38% reimbursement rate to participating libraries. The 2010-2011 State Budget maintained the TBR program at the 2008-2009 funding level. A State investment of an additional \$29 million would provide libraries 100% of the cost of providing this valuable Statewide service.

There is serious concern that further reductions in State funding for the CLSA/TBR program would diminish support for the 49-99 Cooperative Library System at the regional level. The 49-99 Cooperative Library System includes the Stockton-San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Calaveras, Amador, and Tuolumne County Libraries, and the City of Lodi Library. Finally, funding reductions to the CLSA program results in decreases in other local library programs Statewide, including advanced library reference services, a demise of the delivery system between libraries, as well as other cooperative library system services throughout the State.



48. State Funding for Public Library Services

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

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

ISSUE:

The Public Library Fund Act authorizes the Legislature to appropriate an amount up to 10% of a target “foundation” level of services. However, the Public Library Fund for State appropriations has never reached the target level; therefore, libraries’ ability to provide a collection of materials that reflects the ongoing and current needs of the community has been negatively impacted.

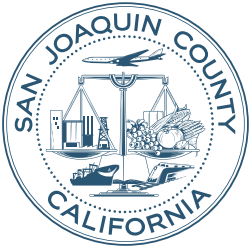
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Support legislative efforts and/or budgetary proposals which would sustain or increase the current level of funding, and oppose further budget reductions to the Public Library Fund.

BACKGROUND:

The Public Library Fund Act, established in 1983, provides direct State aid to California public libraries for basic public library services, including new materials. The funds are appropriated annually in the State Budget. This Act authorizes the Legislature to appropriate an amount up to 10% of a target “foundation” level of library services based on a per capita cost each year. This foundation level is adjusted annually. The State appropriation has never reached the target level. Rather, State funding for public library services has experienced significant decreases over the past several years. The continued lack of funding has resulted in an overall reduction in the Library’s ability to provide needed library services to the residents of San Joaquin County.

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49. Job Order Contracting

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Ensure Fiscal Responsibility

ISSUE:

Job Order Contracting (JOC) currently allows for repair, renovation/remodeling, and maintenance type work; however, counties need flexibility for JOC to be utilized for multiple years and on small (\$1 - \$250,000) to medium (\$250,000 - \$1,000,000) new construction projects.

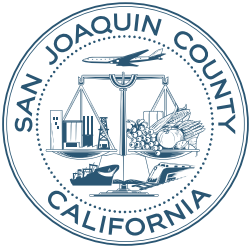
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budgetary proposals that would facilitate changes to the statutory language in the California Public Contract Code Section 20128.5 authorizing counties to award multi-year contracts and to utilize JOC for all projects to include new construction and other minor non-repetitive work.

BACKGROUND:

Job Order Contracting (JOC or sometimes referred to as “unit price” contract) is an annual contract, which is a competitive bid that enables agencies to accomplish multiple small to medium projects of a repair, renovation, or maintenance nature. JOC is based on a unit cost, unspecified-quantity and non-determinate locations. By establishing fixed unit costs, it reduces the time and expense of designing, bidding, and constructing projects. A job order contract may be awarded up to \$3.0 million plus an annual Consumer Price Index (from the enactment of California Public Contract Code 20128.5), currently totaling \$4.4 million. Job order contracts are authorized for use in repair, remodeling or other repetitive work and cannot be utilized for new construction. If approved, this would reduce contract advertisement costs and timeframes, and provide another option to the County for new construction projects in addition to the current purchase order, force account, and design/bid/build options.

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50. Shortage of Engineering Professionals

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

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

ISSUE:

San Joaquin County Public Works continues to experience a significant shortage of engineering professionals.

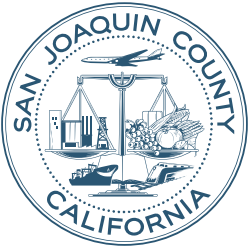
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

1. Advocate and support legislation or budgetary efforts which would expand engineering and technology-related training programs, especially for civil engineering and construction technology;
2. Support funding for engineering 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; and,
3. Support legislation that would provide incentives to encourage and attract engineering professionals to practice in the Central Valley.

BACKGROUND:

Due to increasing demands for engineers to support public works projects in the region, San Joaquin County continues to face a critical shortage of engineering professionals. Expansion of engineering and technology-related training programs, especially for civil engineering and construction technology is necessary to address the shortage of qualified engineers. The County advocates for funding engineering training loans and scholarship programs that target Central Valley needs and shortages, as well as funding for the workforce outreach and development in schools and the community. Furthermore, the County supports legislation that would provide incentives to encourage and attract engineering professionals to practice in the Central Valley.

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51. Improved Flood Protection

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Stay Informed and Proactive in Dealing with Water Issues

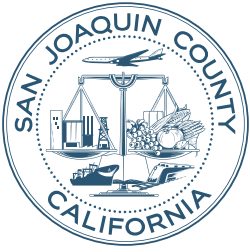
ISSUE:

Much of 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 Food 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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Improved Flood Protection (Continued)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BACKGROUND:

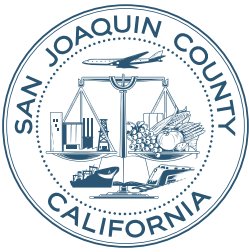
Levee systems in San Joaquin County (SJC) protect over 400,000 residents and essential infrastructure that is critical to the region's economy and the State's well-being. Major flooding in SJC could result in overwhelming negative economic impacts Statewide. Potential impacts to homes, businesses, transportation, 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 and 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

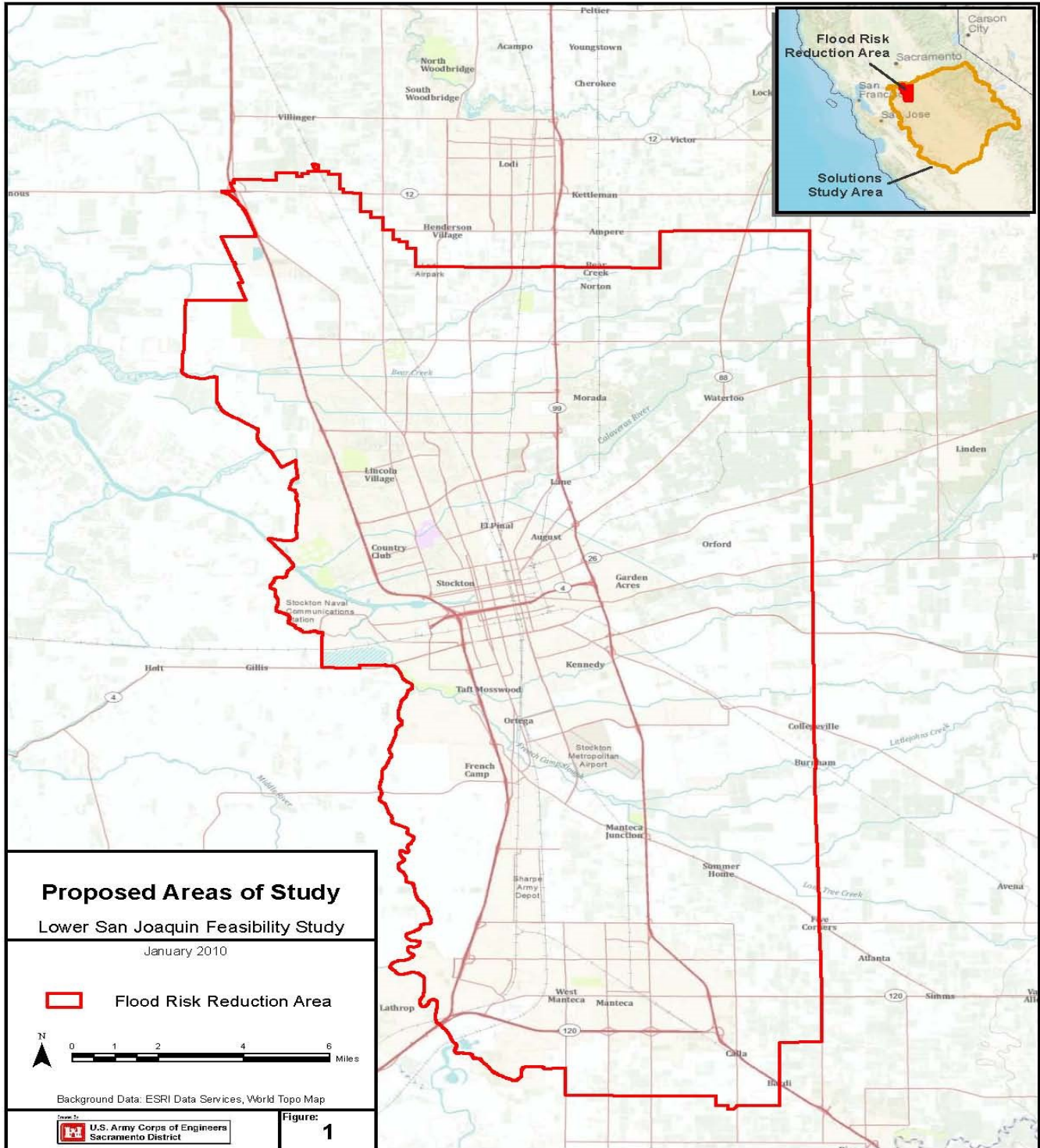
Non-project levees are essential features in the overall system of levees protecting parts of San Joaquin County. Non-project levees are levees that are not built as part of a federally-authorized project. While the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) and the State are not involved in the operation and 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 83; LITERATURE AVAILABLE)

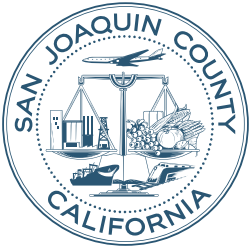


Improved Flood Protection (Continued)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES



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52. Proposition 218 Revisions: Small Water and Sanitary Sewer District Charges and Fees

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Stay Informed and Proactive in Dealing with Water Issues

ISSUE:

Proposition 218 requirements can prevent adequate funding of essential services in some water and sewer districts where the small number of property owners makes it easy to prevent fee increases by majority protest.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Seek and support legislative and/or regulatory action which would:

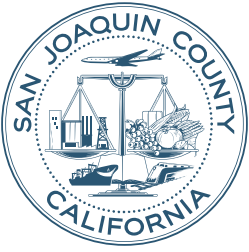
1. Define small water and sewer districts;
2. Allow some means of raising fees adequate to cover actual costs of providing essential health and safety services after a fee increase is defeated by a majority protest, or alternatively;
3. Establishing a streamlined process for privatizing services, reducing services levels, or dissolving a special district when property owners refuse to approve a rate structure adequate to fund provision of water and sewer service; and
4. Fund water and sanitary sewer services through Community Facilities Districts formed under the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982 (Government Code Section 53311 et seq.).

BACKGROUND:

Proposition 218, the “Right to Vote on Taxes Act” approved in November 1996, requires that new and increased local taxes, fees and charges be approved by voters/property owners.

Proposition 218 recognizes the essential nature of water and sanitary sewer service by establishing a special protest process for proposed fee or charge increases. The protest procedure works well for large utilities because it is relatively difficult to mount a majority protest to prevent the governing body from approving a proposed fee or charge increase. This does not hold true for small districts, where it only takes small number of district participants to register a majority protest. This has led to some districts being unable to increase fees as expenses increase, which results in insufficient revenue to provide essential services. Many of these districts have aging infrastructure, and require either capital replacement or intensive maintenance and repair. If the constituents of a small water or sewer district repeatedly mount a majority protest to prevent the governing body from raising sufficient revenue to provide water or sanitary sewer service, the governing body must either be able to relieve itself of the responsibility to provide these services or have an alternative process to raise fees despite the majority protest.

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53. Extended Producer Responsibility for Product Disposal

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Ensure Fiscal Responsibility

ISSUE:

Currently, local governments are required to manage various universal and other waste products at time of disposal, resulting in significant annual costs to counties.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Advocate and support legislative and regulatory efforts to address end-of-life costs and management of problematic discarded products and materials.

BACKGROUND:

California local governments are required to collect and manage banned and often expensive discarded products and materials. To date, legislative and voluntary initiatives in California that involve producers in the design and end-of-life management of products have focused on one product or product category at a time. The result has been a patchwork of product-specific (e.g. lighting, computers, tires) or substance-specific (e.g. mercury, lead, brominated flame retardants) legislation for the disposal of problematic products, typically with no financial support for end-of-life management.

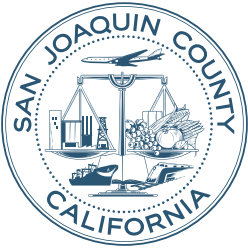
California's list of hazardous products banned from land disposal continues to grow, and other problematic products, such as tires, mixed-material, and bulky packaging are especially difficult to recycle and ever more prevalent. The costs to manage discarded products will increase substantially in the short-term unless policy changes are made.

San Joaquin County (SJC) estimates that it would cost \$4 million to handle 50% of one year's generation of common problematic products.

The California Integrated Waste Management Board has adopted a framework approach to implement Extended Producer Responsibility in California in order to guide proposals to seek statutory changes. The framework establishes a government role in setting targets, developing appropriate regulations, establishing reporting and tracking requirements, and selecting products for new product stewardship programs.

SJC strongly supports Extended Producer Responsibility framework legislation that would establish transparent and fair principles and procedures to manage universal and other waste products for which improved design and management infrastructure are in the public interest, and that would shift waste management costs from local government to the producer of the product, which would give producers an incentive to redesign products to reduce their health and environmental impacts.

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54. Illegal Dumping

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Ensure Fiscal Responsibility

ISSUE:

Illegal dumping is a significant problem in San Joaquin County. Illegal dumping has resulted in increased costs to the County for cleaning up illegally disposed waste.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Advocate and support legislation, which would address illegal disposal of waste including the establishment of a statewide illegal dumping prevention program in coordination with existing cleanup programs administered by the California Integrated Waste Management Board. The proposed illegal dumping prevention program should include:

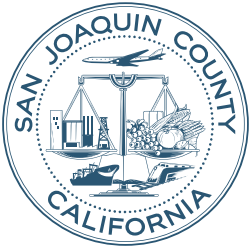
1. Flexible funding for illegal dumping enforcement and related judicial processes;
2. Public outreach, education, and training; and,
3. Support statewide standardization of acceptable evidence and prosecution.

BACKGROUND:

According to the California Integrated Waste Management Board website, illegal dumping of waste is one of the most pervasive problems for cities and counties now and for at least the past 16 years. Illegal dumping on county roadways in San Joaquin County (SJC) is a significant problem. In addition to being unsightly, it increases health and safety hazards and requires significant resources in response to illegal dumping. The economic impacts of illegal dumping to local governments are significant. SJC alone expended in excess of \$1.0 million on illegal dumping in the past year. Unlike most county and city programs, illegal dumping usually does not fall into a specific program area. As a result, it does not receive adequate funding, and most funding is targeted to a specific item such as tires or mattresses limiting its use for illegal dumping, which is normally composed of many different items.

In November 2004, the County adopted a local ordinance to increase the fines and punishments for illegal dumping of waste up to the maximum allowable by State law. The ordinance included high-profile signage and initial efforts to establish a random camera enforcement program at high-frequency dumping locations. In November 2007, the Board of Supervisors established an Illegal Dumping Prevention/Enforcement Task Force (with representation from Public Works, Community Development, Environmental Health, Sheriff's Office, District Attorney, Information Systems and the County Administrator's Office) to research and to recommend a plan for focusing on illegal dumping prevention, apprehension, and prosecution of illegal dumpers. At this time, there is no funding mechanism for illegal dumping enforcement.

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55. 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.

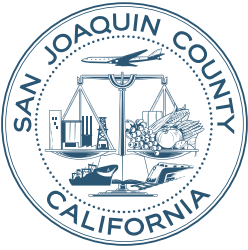
BACKGROUND:

Currently in San Joaquin County, the backlog of deferred road maintenance includes an estimated \$201 million in pavement maintenance and \$192 million in bridge maintenance needs. In addition, there is a 10-year capital replacement need totaling \$239 million for essential components (signs, signals, sidewalks, storm drains, etc.).

This shortfall reflects funds needed in order to bring the current local roads and bridges to a state of good condition, and does not include system expansions such as those required to address existing congestion or population growth. Continued delay of deferred road maintenance will result in further declining road conditions and increases in 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 deferred road and bridge maintenance backlog.

(Project Literature Available)

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56. 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 *Eichhorhria crassipes* (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.

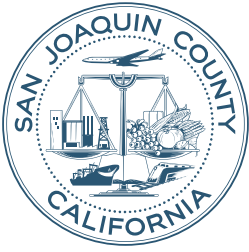
BACKGROUND:

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 stakeholders, culminating in a sustainable, long-term Delta-wide integrated pest and invasive weed management strategy.

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57. New Water Supplies for San Joaquin County

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. Implement the East San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (ESJ GSP) prepared pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA); and
5. Develop and implement the Tracy Groundwater Sustainability Plan (Tracy GSP) being prepared pursuant to SGMA.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

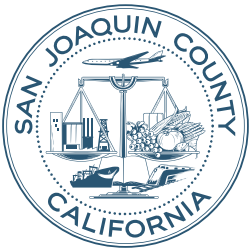
Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budgetary proposals which would:

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 Calaveras, Sacramento, Stanislaus, and American Rivers, and local creeks and sloughs;
3. Provide funding to develop and implement projects and management actions as identified in the adopted Groundwater Sustainability Plans;
4. 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;
5. 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
6. 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:

Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) is a collaborative effort to identify and implement water management solutions on a regional scale that increase regional self-reliance, reduce conflict, and manage

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New Water Supplies for San Joaquin County (Continued)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

water to concurrently achieve social, environmental, and economic objectives. The Regional Water Management Act (SB1672) was passed in 2002. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is coordinating the State's IRWM program, distributing related bond funds, and ensuring IRWM Plans (IRWMPs) comply with State requirements and guidelines. The County had multiple iterations of the IRWM planning process and produced a number of IRWMPs and plan updates, with the most recent being in 2014. The 2014 IRWMP was prepared under direction of the Groundwater Basin Authority superseded by the San Joaquin County IRWM Coordinating Committee. DWR updated the IRWM guidelines in 2016 and the Coordinating Committee is in the process of preparing the 2019 IRWMP Addendum. This work is slated to be completed in 2021, and once adopted, will allow projects in the region to compete for available statewide grant funding. This update included outreach to Disadvantaged Communities (DACs), formation of a DAC Task Force to review and recommend funding priorities for DAC projects, and work to make the IRWMP compliant with 2016 DWR guidelines. The ESJ GSP project discussed below, and Lower San Joaquin River Flood Management Plan projects are included in the IRWMP update so that they may be eligible for bond funding from the IRWM program.

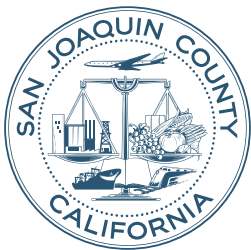
The underlying groundwater basin in eastern San Joaquin County is the primary source of water for farms and residents. The Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Basin has been characterized by DWR as being in "critical overdraft" and designated a high priority pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) passed in 2014. To comply with SGMA and preserved local control, the ESJ Groundwater Authority (GWA) formed as a Joint Powers Authority of 16 local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs). The GWA has worked over the past three years to prepare, adopt, and submit a final ESJ GSP, which was submitted to DWR on January 31, 2020 to meet the statutory deadline. DWR now has two years to review the plan. The ESJ GSP contains conjunctive use and other projects needed to achieve sustainability over a 20 year planning horizon. The GSAs and ESJ GWA are working to further design, fund, and implement the ESJ GSP projects.

The County is working with the Tracy Subbasin Coordinating Committee to prepare the Tracy GSP. This area covers the western part of San Joaquin County and is considered a moderate priority basin by DWR. As such, the Tracy GSP will be due by the January 2022 statutory deadline.

The Mokelumne River Regional Water Storage and Conjunctive Use Project (MORE Water Project) seeks to 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 State Platforms focused 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 County Water Right Applications 29835 and 29657.

The Management Report concluded that the Duck Creek Reservoir was infeasible. The County continues to maintain County Water Right Applications 29835 and 29657 and plans projects consistent with the ESJ GSP which may be eligible for Federal funding.



New Water Supplies for San Joaquin County (Continued)

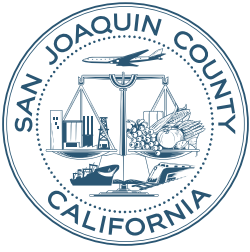
LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

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.
4. 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 the Calaveras, Sacramento, Stanislaus, and American Rivers, and local creeks and sloughs. Pursuing funding from a variety of sources, including State 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 benefits the County's 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. This Project is moving forward with support from North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD), EBMUD, the County, and local growers. 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

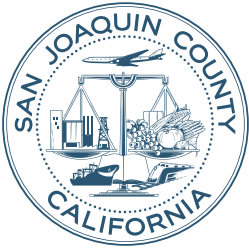


New Water Supplies for San Joaquin County *(Continued)*

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

(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, which are supported by the ESJ GSP. 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)



58. Sacramento—San Joaquin Delta

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Stay Informed and Proactive in Dealing with Water Issues

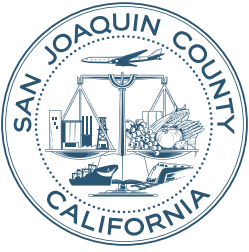
ISSUE:

Since the passage of the Delta Reform Act of 2009, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta has been a top State and Federal legislative priority for the Board of Supervisors. The Newsom Administration is proposing a single-tunnel isolated Delta conveyance, a successor to the failed California WaterFix/EcoRestore Project and the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan, which is the latest threat to 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 that also supports the current system of 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 that 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 in accordance with the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan and the single-tunnel Delta conveyance project:
 - 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";
 - e. Implementation of the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan and future development and

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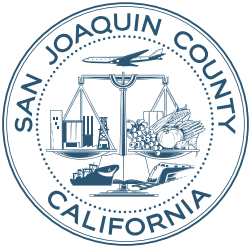


Sacramento—San Joaquin Delta

(Continued)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

- 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. State and Federal funding is 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 the single-tunnel Delta conveyance project.
 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. Preventing San Joaquin County's ability to govern, as an elected body, from being usurped 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 the single-tunnel Delta conveyance project, 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.



Sacramento—San Joaquin Delta

(Continued)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

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 \$1.5 billion annually, which in turn results in more than \$5.0 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; and numerous fish and wildlife species. The Delta is also a source for local drinking water, as the City of Stockton diverts Delta water into its Delta Water Treatment Plant.

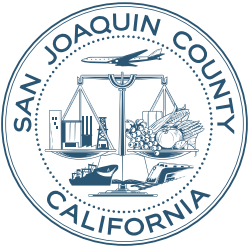
San Joaquin County is unquestionably tied to the long-term economic, social, and environmental viability of the Delta. Current proposals, including the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan and the California WaterFix/EcoRestore, could have significant adverse effects on communities in the Delta and within the Delta watershed. Examples that conflict with the long-term economic, social, and environmental viability of the Delta, and the County 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 San Joaquin County's efforts to react to and influence the processes, policies, and projects created or proposed by the Water Package have greatly increased. Consistent with the Board of Supervisors' policy direction, 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. San Joaquin County has engaged with local, State, and Federal legislators, public entities, State and Federal agencies 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.

San Joaquin County continues to participate in the 5-Delta Counties Coalition, comprised of Contra Costa, Sacramento, Solano, Yolo, and San Joaquin Counties. The Coalition 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 Coalition 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 San Joaquin County and other local business and environmental interests, continues to engage the greater SJC community to protect local interests in the Delta.

The County also worked to support several coalition building and consensus-based efforts, including the Coalition to Support Delta Projects and the Delta Counties Coalition/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.



59. California Labor Code 1771

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Ensure Fiscal Responsibility

ISSUE:

Public agencies are unable to proceed with acquiring needed minor public work projects without the requirement to pay prevailing wage for any project costing over \$1,000.

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM:

Pursue and support legislation which would amend California Labor Code Section 1771 changing the dollar limitation from \$1,000 to \$10,000 before payment of prevailing wage is required.

BACKGROUND:

Current California Labor Code 1771 states that *“except for public works projects of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or less, not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for work of a similar character in the locality in which the public work is performed, and not less than the general prevailing wage of per diem wages for holiday and overtime work fixed as provided in this chapter, shall be paid to all workers employed on public works.”* The limit of \$1,000 has not been increased in spite of significantly reduced buying power from the initial wage establishment to current date. The intent of establishment of project cost greater than \$1,000 to have prevailing wage applied has been severely eroded due to inflation and increased costs of public works construction and repair, reducing the intended relative amount of services and materials that can be authorized without prevailing wage. The contractual burden and cost associated with payment of prevailing wage for small projects results in less scope of work able to be performed and/or fewer projects that can be accomplished due to unreasonably high labor rates required for these small projects.

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