



COUNTY of VENTURA

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Sevet Johnson, PsyD
County Executive Officer

Mike Pettit
Assistant County Executive Officer

Kaye Mand
County Chief Financial Officer

Shawn Atin
Assistant County Executive
Officer/
Human Resources Director
Labor Relations

December 19, 2023

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

**SUBJECT: Proposed 2024 Ventura County State and Federal Legislative
Agenda and Platform**

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that your Board approve the proposed Ventura County 2024 State and Federal Legislative Agenda and Platform.

BACKGROUND

Ventura County's legislative program has as its goal the development and maintenance of good, sound, and effective local government. The purpose of the legislative program is to secure legislation that benefits the County and its residents while seeking to mitigate or oppose legislation that would adversely impact the County's delivery of service; to secure State and Federal funding through the grant process; and to shape public policy in priority areas that impact County government.

Each year prior to the State and Federal legislative sessions, your Board provides specific issue direction and overall policy guidance for the County legislative advocacy program. This year's program is outlined in the State and Federal Legislative Agenda and Platform (Exhibit 1). They have been developed in coordination with Board offices, County departments, and our State and Federal advocates, and they are intended to be the foundation for how we proceed in both Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

Due to the continuing budget demands on the County General Fund, the starting point for formation of the proposed legislative agenda and platform must be the County's budget process. Most of the issues provided for your Board's endorsement address present or expected future demands on the County General Fund. However, special needs of non-General Fund departments, such as the Department of Airports, the Health Care Agency, and Harbor Department, are also addressed.

DISCUSSION

The State and Federal Legislative Agendas and Platforms are intended to effectively convey your Board's position on legislative and funding priorities to the County's representatives in Sacramento and Washington D.C. These policies and proposals outlined in Exhibit 1 are not intended to be exclusive of other positions your Board may adopt, and the order in which each item is outlined is not meant to reflect a prioritized list but rather used as a tool to track each item.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The 2024 Legislative Agenda and Platform has undergone extensive reorganization and edits to align the legislative program with the County of Ventura 2024-2027 Strategic Plan that was adopted earlier this year. Additionally, to provide a more streamlined document, the State and Federal versions have been compared and combined. The past versions have been included (see Exhibit 2 and 3) for reference.

This Board letter has been reviewed by County Counsel and the Auditor-Controller's Office. If you have questions concerning this item, please contact Michele Guzman, CEO Legislative Analyst, at (805) 654-3836.

Sincerely,



Michele Guzman, DSW
CEO Legislative Analyst



Sevet Johnson, Psy.D
County Executive Officer

Exhibit 1: 2024 Ventura County State and Federal Legislative Agenda and Platform
Exhibit 2: 2023 Ventura County State Legislative Agenda and Platform
Exhibit 3: 2023 Ventura County Federal Legislative Agenda and Platform

- c. Ventura County State and Federal Legislative Delegation
 - Ventura County Board of Supervisors
 - CEO Senior Staff/Analysts
 - Agency/Department Heads
 - Hurst Brooks Espinosa
 - Thomas Walters & Associates
 - California State Association of Counties
 - Urban Counties of California
 - SEIU Local 721
 - Ventura County Taxpayers Association