



AGENDA

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Advisory Council on Aging

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

10:00 AM

500 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill, CA
Ice Breaker Room

Executive Committee

<https://cccouny-us.zoom.us/j/85300066691>

PUBLIC ACCESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

The public may attend this meeting in person at the above location. The public may also attend this meeting remotely via webinar. Login information is provided above. ACOA members will also be participating from the following locations: 28 Orinda Way, Orinda | 150 S 45th St., Unit 131, Richmond | 1001 Goldent Rain Road, Walnut Creek | 3014 Grey Eagle Dr., Walnut Creek

10:00 Call to Order | Roll Call | Introductions – Lorna VanAckeren, President

10:05 Approval of October 2025 Minutes

Executive MINUTES 10-01-25 DRAFT REV

[25-4989](#)

Attachments: [Executive MINUTES 10-01-25 DRAFT REV](#)

10:10 Area Agency on Aging Report – Tracy Murray, AAA Director and/or Alicia Espinoza, AAA Program Manager

- Staffing
- CDA Future Readying
- 2025 ACOA Annual Report
- Budget/Changes to County Funding/H.R 1/OTO/ARPA Survey Outcomes

CA 2030 Future Readying _ ACOA (FINAL) | 2025 ACOA Annual Report
FINAL | ARPA Community Input Survey Results 11.2025 | Major Impacts of
H.R. 1 and the State Budget

25-5017

Attachments: CA 2030 Future Readying _ ACOA (FINAL)
2025 ACOA Annual Report FINAL
ARPA Community Input Survey Results 11.2025
Major Impacts of H.R. 1 and the State Budget

- 10:30 President's Report – Lorna VanAckeren
- California Senior Legislature Priorities
 - Shirley Krohn's CSL Resignation
 - Voting procedures to fill CSL vacancies
 - December 2025 ACOA General meeting
 - City Reports
 - 2026 Elections
 - SB 707
 - Speakers for 2026 ACOA General Meetings

2026 CSL Legislative Priorities Press Release with MPA goals 10.24.25

[25-4991](#)

Attachments: [2026 CSL Legislative Priorities Press Release with MPA goals 10.24.25](#)

11:05 Break

11:15 Committee Reports

- Membership & Nominating Committee: Jill Kleiner | Kathryn Monroy-Dexter
- Planning Committee: Jill Kleiner
- Housing Committee: Kevin Donovan
- Health and Elder Abuse Awareness Committee: Mike Wener and Terri Tobey
- Legislative Committee and California Senior Legislature Update: Steve Lipson
- Technology Committee – Steve Lipson
- Senior Mobility Action Council (S.M.A.C./Transportation Committee)/Chair's request for event endorsement : Candace Evans | Bryan Harris

11:40 Consent Items

- Approve 2025 ACOA Annual Report
- Leave of Absences:
 - Candace Evans, October 2025
 - Sarah Green, October

11:45 Public Comment

Next Executive Committee Meeting:

- Wednesday, January 7, 2026, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Adjourn

The Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 500 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible online at www.contracosta.ca.gov. If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the committee will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact:

Alicia Espinoza at 925 655-0771 or aespinoza@ehsd.cccounty.us



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-4989

Agenda Date: 12/3/2025

Agenda #:



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Committee Meeting Minutes - Draft

Advisory Council on Aging

Wednesday, October 1, 2025

10:00 AM

500 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill, CA
Ice Breaker Room

Executive Committee

<https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/85300066691>

PUBLIC ACCESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

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10:00 Call to Order/Roll Call/Introductions – Lorna VanAckeren, ACOA President, called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

Roll call was conducted, and 7 out of 10 members qualified to be counted toward a quorum. Therefore, a quorum was established.

Present	Kevin Donovan, Candace Evans, Michelle Hayes, Steve Lipson, Kathryn Monroy-Dexter, Lorna Van Ackeren, and Michael Wener
Excused	Terri Tobey
Absent	Jill Kleiner, and Shirley Krohn

10:05 Approval of September 2025 minutes

This was approved.

Motion:	Wener
Second:	Donovan
Aye:	Donovan, Evans, Hayes, Lipson, Van Ackeren, and Wener
Absent:	Kleiner, and Krohn
Abstain:	Monroy-Dexter
Result:	Passed

Executive 09.03.25 DRAFT Minutes

[25-3972](#)

Attachments: [Executive 09.03.25 DRAFT Minutes](#)

10:10 Area Agency on Aging Report – Tracy Murray, AAA Director and/or Alicia Espinoza, AAA Program Manager

- West County RFP: Award notice to go out today.
- Access to Technology (ATT) Program Outcomes: Alicia presented a summary of the ATT program which ended 9/30/2024. (see slides)
- Age Friendly Campaign Update: materials on busses and social media with a QR code will be out very soon.
- Director Murray suggested “CDA Future-Readying efforts” should be a topic on the next agenda.

ATT Program

[25-3977](#)

Attachments: [ATT Program](#)

10:30 President's Report – Lorna VanAckeren

- Annual Reports from ACOA Committees are due to Alicia Espinoza by 11/15/25. The full report will be presented for approval at the December ACOA meeting.
- 2026 ACOA General meeting speakers – Mobility Matters in January,
At the December Executive Committee meeting, we will review a list of the subcontractors to consider as speakers for the 2026 ACOA General meetings. We will also consider other speakers such as Hope Solutions, H3, Trinity Center, and St. Vincent de Paul. Should we have 2 rather than 1 speaker per meeting?
- Lorna directed ACOA members to confirm messaging with AAA staff before speaking with providers regarding funding.
- Process/Blueprint for ACOA events is being developed.

11:05 Break

11:15 Committee Reports

- > Nominating Committee: Kathryn Monroy-Dexter
 - Kathryn announced the following candidates:
 - President: Kevin Donovan
 - Vice President: Mike Wener and Candace Evans
 - Secretary/Treasurer: Michelle Hayes
 - Candidates will be announced at the October meeting.
 - At December meeting, before voting occurs, candidates will be asked to speak for up to 2 mins about why they want to be an officer and what they plan to do in that position.

- > Membership Committee: Jill Kleiner
 - Susan Wright is recommended to the Board of Supervisors.
 - San Ramon and San Pablo seats still open.
 - One person on wait list for an at large/alternate seat.
 - Two candidates will be interviewed in October.

- > Planning Committee: Jill Kleiner
 - Choice in Aging tours set for Oct 22 and Oct 30.

- > Housing Committee: Kevin Donovan
 - Assembly Member Wicks put together a series of 22 bills to streamline the process of Affordable Housing approval called the “The Fast Track Housing Package”. The Housing Committee asks the Executive Committee to approve a letter (insert attachment) in support of the package. The letter will be sent to 4 State Assembly Members and 3 State Senators.

 - Alex Werth, presented on Bay Area eviction rates/patterns.
 - Next meeting: Janessa Oriol, Office of Congressman DeSaulnier and Kayla Digorio, Hope Solutions
 - Kevin attended the Food Security Briefing and noted that there are challenging times ahead.

- > Health and Elder Abuse Prevention Committee: Mike Wener
 - Terri will write the Committee’s Annual Report. She is currently on leave.
 - Next meeting: The Committee will discuss committee operations. Debra Weiner, new ACOA member will speak about the mental effects of Elder Abuse.

- > Legislative Committee and California Senior Legislature Update: Steve Lipson for Shirley Krohn
 - SB 707 is on the Governor’s desk for signature. It will take effect on Oct 13 even if the

Governor doesn't sign it. If approved, it must go before Board of Supervisors for determination whether they will allow teleconferencing.

- Older Adult Education proposal is now before California Senior Legislature for approval.

- > Technology Committee – Steve Lipson
 - AT&T trying to get out of providing landlines.
 - Federal government no longer sending paper checks.

- > Senior Mobility Action Council (S.M.A.C./Transportation Committee): Candace Evans
 - The Executive Committee discussed the Transportation event scheduled for November 17, 2025. The event will be postponed.
 - Lorna asked Candace to present a blueprint of the event to the Executive Committee at a later date.

Revised Fast Track Housing Letter

[25-3973](#)

Attachments: [Revised Fast Track Housing Letter](#)

Consent Item

- Candace Evans – Leave of Absence for the month of August 2025.
- Approval of a revised letter of support for "The Fast Track Housing Package" to be placed on General ACOA Agenda

This was approved.

Motion: **Donovan**
Second: **Wener**
Aye: **Donovan, Evans, Hayes, Lipson, Van Ackeren, Wener**
Absent: **and Monroy-Dexter**
 Kleiner, and Krohn
Result: **Passed**

11:45 Public Comment: None Next

Executive Committee Meeting:

- No November meeting
- Wednesday, December 3, 2025, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Adjourn

For Additional Information Contact:

Alicia Espinoza at 925 655-0771 or aespinoza@ehsd.cccounty.us



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-5017

Agenda Date: 12/4/2025

Agenda #:



CA 2030 Future Readying Overview for Contra Costa County (PSA 7)

A briefing for Contra Costa County's Advisory Council on Aging



by the Area Agency on Aging



Overview

- » Overview of CA Future Ready 2030 implementation
- » Key statewide changes in services, designations, and funding (IFF)
- » What these shifts can mean for Contra Costa County (PSA 7)

What is CA Future Ready 2030?

- » Multi-year effort to “future-ready” the California Aging Network (CDA + 33 AAAs)
- » Informed by research, stakeholder input, and legislation (including SB 1249)
- » Implementation window from roughly 2025–2029, aligning with the next State Plan cycle
- » Goal: modernize systems, clarify roles, raise emphasize accountability, and better align funding with need and equity



SB 1249 Passes September 21st 2024

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SB 1249 amends the Mello-Granlund Older Californians Act (the statewide law that governs aging services via the California Department of Aging) in California

Key Goal #1

Recognize the changing demographics of older adults in California (older, more diverse, more complex needs).

Key Goal #2

Require the Department of Aging to identify core services and programs for older adults and caregivers by a set date.

Key Goal #3

Require updated regulations around how AAAs are designated, how funding is distributed (intrastate funding formula), how service areas are defined, and how performance is measured.

Reporting on Statewide Services: Phase 1 (SFY 2025–26)

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- » CDA focuses on reporting consistency, existing performance measures, and processes
- » New quarterly data dashboards (non-public at first) for: timeliness, expenditures, and key services
- » AAA Directors/Assistant Directors submit quarterly attestations confirming data completeness and accuracy
- » AAAs confirm estimated numbers at the end of Q2 and Q4 each year

Data Dashboard Example: Data Submission

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Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Data Submission Dashboard

Select a Fiscal Year:
24/25

Submission Status by Quarter, FY24/25



Report Deadlines

Quarter	Report Deadline
Q1	10/31/2024
Q2	1/31/2025
Q3	4/30/2025
Q4	7/31/2025

Average On-Time Reports

19

Average Late Reports

9

Average Delinquent Reports

5

Average Days Late

11

PSA Report Status by Quarter

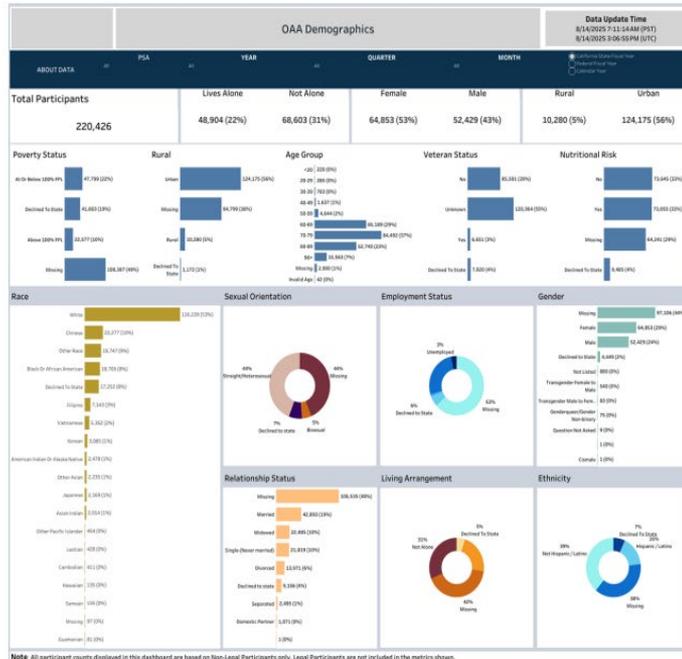
PSA	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1	On Time	On Time	On Time	Late
2	Late	Delinquent	Delinquent	On Time
3	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time
4	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time
5	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time
6	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time
7	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time
8	Delinquent	Delinquent	Delinquent	Late
9	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time
10	Late	Late	On Time	On Time
11	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time
12	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time
13	Delinquent	Late	Delinquent	Delinquent
14	Late	Late	Late	Late
15	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time
16	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time
17	Late	Late	Late	Delinquent

Average Days Late by PSA



Data Dashboard Example: Client Demographics

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Poverty Status

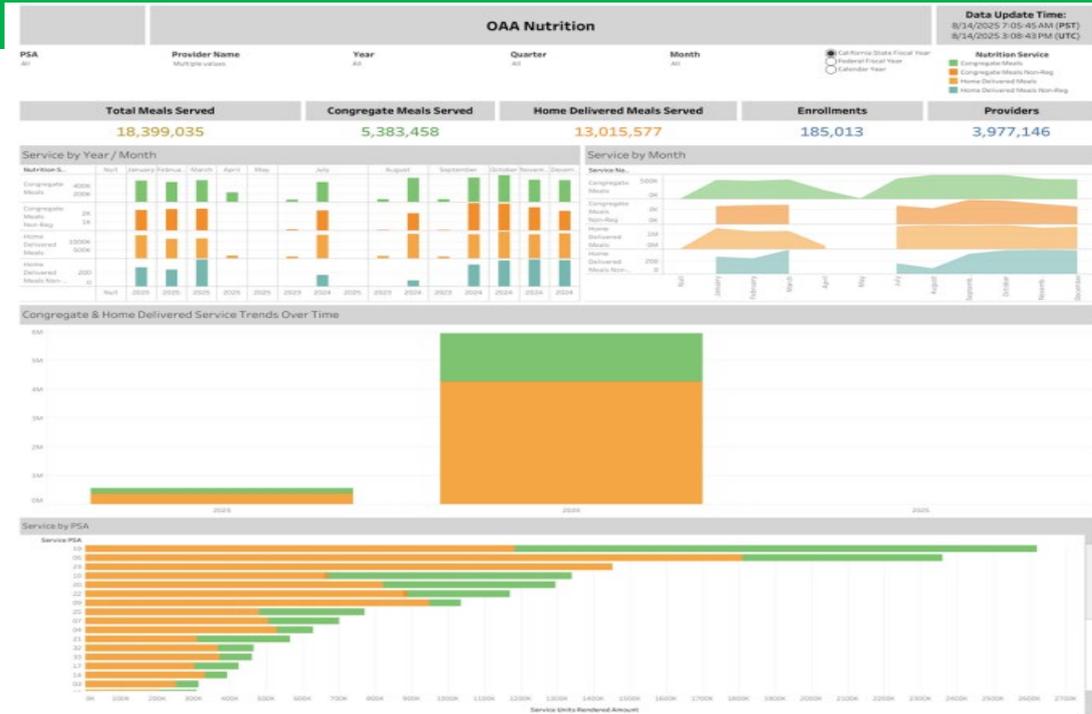


Reporting on Statewide Services: Phase 2 (SFY 2026–27) 8

- » Dashboards (reporting, services, fiscal) become public-facing
- » “High performance” defined with AAAs; recognition through dashboards, awards, and letters to councils/boards
- » New performance measures in Information & Assistance, Nutrition, and Caregiving
- » Corrective Action Plans and possible payment withholds for persistent non-compliance
- » PSA 7 lens: greater transparency for Contra Costa’s timeliness, spending, and service reach

Data Dashboard Example: Nutrition

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PSA & AAA Designations: What's Changing

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- » Updated PSA boundary criteria (e.g., geography, provider networks, minimum population of 100,000)
- » New, more detailed AAA designation criteria (financial health, staffing, infrastructure, visibility, autonomy)
- » Regular opportunities (every 4 years) for counties, Joint Power Authorities (JPAs), and tribal organizations to seek AAA designation
- » Non-profits may apply when local government declines or cannot meet requirements (Counties retain first right of refusal)
- » For PSA 7: Contra Costa's AAA role is strengthened by strong performance and capacity

Key PSA & AAA Designation Timeline

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- » • 2026–27: State regulations and program guidance updated with new criteria
- » • 2027: PSA boundary change application window and decisions
- » • Late 2027–mid 2028: AAA Letters of Intent, applications, reviews, and public hearings
- » • 2028–29: Transition period between existing and any new AAAs
- » • July 1, 2029: Any new AAA providers begin operations

Why Update the Funding Formula?

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- » Existing intrastate funding formulas are nearly 30 years old
- » Need to align with updated federal/state statutes and ACL approval requirements
- » Modernize factors to reflect today's demographics, disability, income, and geography
- » Simplify by moving toward a single formula for state and federal funds where possible
- » Ensure funding follows need, including equity for low-income, minority, and isolated older adults

Overview of the new IFF

- » Base funding: each PSA receives \$250,000 total base (\$150K federal admin + \$100K state admin)
- » Five weighted factors:
 - » • 60+ Population (20%)
 - » • 60+ Low Income at 200% FPL (20%)
 - » • 60+ Minority (20%)
 - » • 60+ Disability (20%)
 - » • 60+ Geographic Isolation (20%)
- » Replaces outdated 1996–97 formulas

What the New IFF May mean for PSA 7

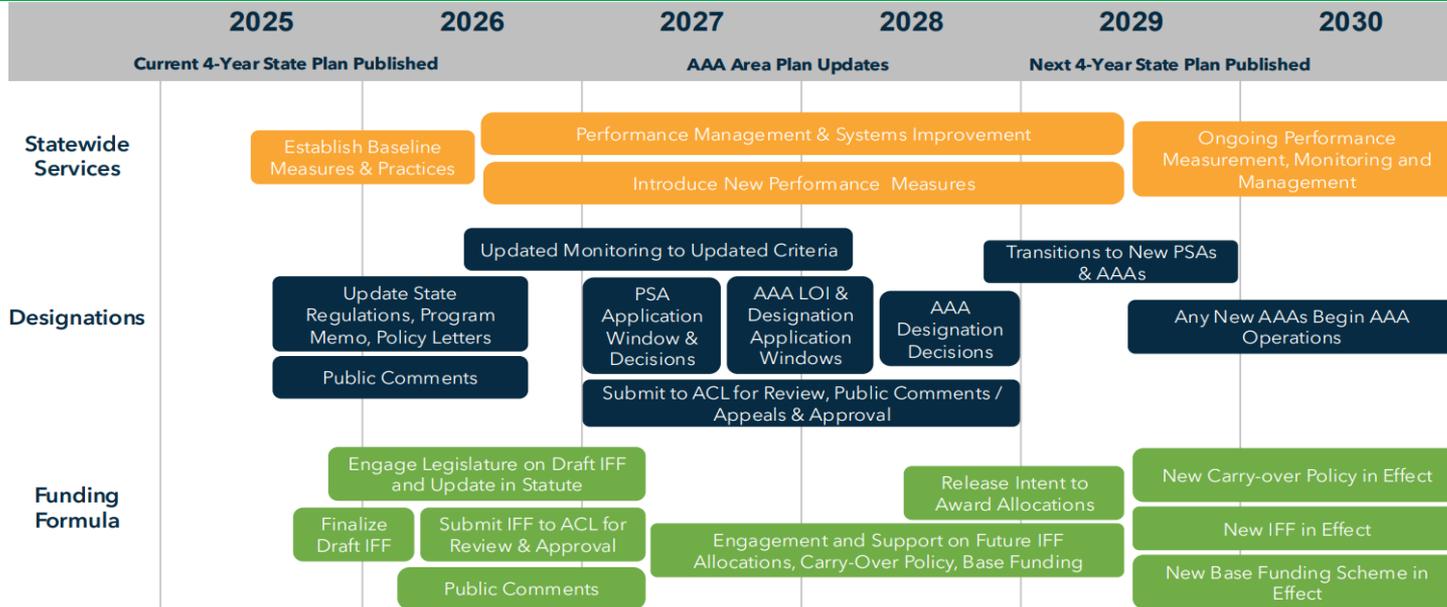
14

- » Contra Costa projected to receive an increase
- » Draft modeling shows ~10% allocation gain
- » Per-capita growth reflects demographic need
- » Funding dependent on final modeling and expenditure performance

Carry-Over Policy & Hold Harmless

- » AAAs spending $\geq 90\%$ may carry over unspent funds into the next year
- » AAAs spending $< 90\%$ forfeit unspent funds, which are pooled and redistributed
- » Carry-over funds allocated using the new IFF and stay in the same program/administrative categories
- » Hold harmless options under discussion, with 2021–22 as a potential baseline
- » PSA 7 lens: strong spending and low unspent balances will be critical to benefit from this policy

CA 2030 Summary Timeline



Thank you!

CA2030



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY 2025 – DECEMBER 2025



CONTACT:

Tracy Murray, Aging and Adult Director
(925) 608-4805
tmurray@ehsd.cccounty.us

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

ACOA Officers:

- Lorna Van Ackeren President 1st Term
- Michael Wener Vice President 1st Term
- Michelle Hayes Secretary/Treasurer 1st Term

Current Roster of Members as of November 20, 2025:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Roger Boaz | Gerry La Londe-Berg |
| Chalo Buckman | Thomas Lang |
| Cate Burkhart | Steve Lipson |
| Deborah Card | Nicola Lopez |
| Cesar Court | Shari Maxwell |
| Kevin Donovan | Kathryn Monroy-Dexter |
| Sheila Driscoll | Richard Morisky |
| Candace Evans | Brian O'Toole |
| Marilyn Fowler | Logan Robertson |
| Holly Frates | Sam Sakai-Miller |
| Steven Freshman | Carol Schaefer |
| Alan Goldhammer | Indy Sekhon |
| Sarah Green | Sonja Shepard |
| Michelle Hayes | Terri Tobey |
| Denise Kalm | Lorna Van Ackeren |
| Carol Kehoe | Michael Wener |
| Jill Kleiner | Deobrah Wiener |
| Shirley Krohn | Teresa Wright |
| | Dennis Yee |

Advisory Council Objectives

The Council shall provide a means for countywide planning, cooperation and coordination for individuals and groups interested in improving and developing services and opportunities for older residents of this county. The Council provides leadership and advocacy on behalf of older people and serves as a channel of communication and information on aging issues.

The Council advises each: the Area Agency on Aging on the development of its Area Plan, the Bureau of Aging and Adult Services, Employment and Human Services and the Board of Supervisors. The basis of the Agency on Aging Area Plan is on unmet needs and priorities experienced by older people, as determined by assessments and input from the senior network throughout the County.

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In 2025, the Advisory Council on Aging (ACOA) remained highly active in its advocacy efforts on behalf of Contra Costa County’s older adults. The Council focused on several critical issues, with particular attention to housing and food insecurity. Throughout the year, ACOA provided ongoing input into the implementation of California’s Master Plan on Aging and continued its engagement as a Regional Coalition member of the California Collaborative for Long-Term Services and Supports.

ACOA participated in the March public hearing for the 2025–2026 Area Plan Update, and many of our members also attended the annual Senior Rally in May. ACOA and California Senior Legislature (CSL) representatives played an integral role in the passage of SB 239, related to the Brown Act, which was signed into law by the Governor in October. The Council also took a lead role in supporting the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) in the development and successful launch of the Age-Friendly initiative.

Below is a summary of key activities from ACOA Committees and Workgroups:

- **Planning Committee**
The Committee continued its collaboration with AAA staff to provide guidance for the 2025 update of the 2024–2028 Area Plan. Members participated in the RFP review process, conducted onsite visits of several County-based organizations, and attended four community events highlighting available resources.
- **Membership Committee**
The Committee prioritized recruitment, resulting in all Member-at-Large (MAL) and alternate seats being filled. A total of 24 applications were received and 18 interviews conducted. Vacancies among city/local seats were reduced to only two (San Pablo and San Ramon). Quorum was met for all meetings in 2025.
- **Housing Committee**
The Committee continued to serve as a forum for examining housing trends, challenges related to affordability and availability, and the ongoing issue of homelessness. The “No Place to Call Home” infographic and slide deck were presented to 11 organizations throughout the County, including several city councils.
- **Health and Adult Abuse Awareness Committee**
Formerly the Health Committee, the group expanded its scope and delivered several health-related presentations across the County.
- **Legislative Committee**
The Committee monitored and tracked state legislation affecting older adults, providing updates to ACOA on key Assembly and Senate bills.
- **Transportation Committee**
The Committee continued to advocate for accessible and dependable transportation options for seniors and adults with disabilities, including supporting state legislation that strengthens senior mobility programs.
- **Technology Committee**
Members remained active participants in the Bay Area Digital Inclusion Coalition and

monitored emerging Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies and their impact on older adults.

Training and Certifications

All ACOA members are required to complete the following trainings upon appointment:

- Brown Act & Better Government Ordinance
- Ethics for Local Government Officials
- Implicit Bias Training

Members must also renew the Ethics and Implicit Bias trainings every two years.

Recommendation

The Advisory Council on Aging respectfully recommends that the Board of Supervisors continue to allocate adequate resources to support essential senior services, including housing, food security, transportation, caregiver support, and other emerging needs affecting the County's older adult population.

During this period of significant funding uncertainty at the local, state, and federal levels, ACOA recognizes the critical importance of maintaining strong advocacy to ensure equitable distribution of resources within our County.

It has been my honor to serve as President of the Advisory Council on Aging.

Lorna VanAckeren

Executive Committee Chair

Advisory Council on Aging President

Planning Committee Roster

- Chaló Buckman
- Debbie Card
- Kevin Donovan
- Candace Evans
- Jill Kleiner (Chair)
- Dick Morisky
- Dennis Yee
- Jim Donnelly

EHSD staff members Tracy Murray, Alicia Espinoza, Cristina Ugaitafa, and Jennifer Gomes-Figueiroa strongly supported the Committee throughout 2025.

Committee’s Role

The Committee has three primary roles:

- Work with the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) staff and the Advisory Council on Aging (ACOA) Committees to develop and provide an annual review and updates of the four-year Area Plan for Contra Costa County.
- Participate in the Request for Proposals (RFP) review process.
- Provides support to the AAA as requested.

Accomplishments

- Provided input for the 2025 update of the Area Plan for 2024-2028.
- Reviewed proposals for Organizational Capacity Building and Senior Nutrition Services.
- Facilitated and participated at 4 onsite community presentations led by Nhang Luong on accessing county resources.
- Determined approach for community-based organizations (CBO) site visits, since AAA ceased support request for monitoring of contractors.

2026 Work Plan

- Facilitate at least two onsite educational community presentations on topics of interest (e.g. Medicaid updates).
- Review and provide comments on the Annual Area Plan update for the March Public Hearing.
- Support the AAA with RFP processes.
- Coordinate at least two CBO site visits to enhance ACOA members’ understanding of services provided in Contra Costa County.
- Provide support to the AAA as requested.

Jill Kleiner

Planning Committee Chair

Membership Committee Roster (Includes Nominating Committee Roster)

Name	District	Committee
Roger Boaz	III	Membership/Nominating
Denise Kalm	IV	Nominating
Jill Kleiner (Chair)	II	Membership
Thomas Lang	I	Membership/Nominating
Kathryn Monroy-Dexter	V	Membership/Nominating
Mike Wener	II	Nominating
Lorna Van Ackeren	IV	Membership

EHSD staff member Jenny Lam and Jennifer Gomes-Figueiroa strongly supported the Committee throughout 2025.

Committee’s Role

To recruit and select Contra Costa County residents to serve as members of the Advisory Council on Aging. Conduct ten monthly meetings per year to review membership requirements, attendance, and recruitment activities. Form a Nominating Committee to prepare a slate of 2026 officer candidates for consideration. Assign and maintain a list of mentors for new members.

Accomplishments

- Strong focus on recruitment resulted in all Member-at-Large (MAL) and alternate seats being filled.
- Received 24 applications and conducted 18 interviews for Member-at-Large (MAL) and alternate positions.
- Local/city seat vacancies dramatically decreased to two seats (San Pablo and San Ramon).
- Achieved quorum for all meetings in 2025.
- Representation among districts improved, despite most members still coming from District 2.
- With the passage of new bylaws, the Senior Nutrition Council seat was eliminated, resulting in a total of 39 seats (20 MAL and 19 local/city seats) plus four alternate seats.

2026 Work Plan

- Recruit to fill any Member-at-Large (MAL) vacancies and support recruitment efforts for local/city seats.

- Encourage meeting attendance to ensure a quorum for conducting Council business.
- Monitor and manage membership requirements, providing regular updates to the Executive Committee and general membership.

Jill Kleiner

Membership Committee Chair

Housing Committee Roster

Name	Organization
Kevin Donovan, Chair	Danville Commission on Aging
Uche Uwahemu, Co-Chair	Center for Elders’ Independence
Roger Boaz	Resources for Older Americans and Retirees (ROAR)
Marilyn Fowler	Concord Commission on Aging
Michelle Hayes	Richmond Commission on Aging
Logan Robertson	Front Porch – Home Match
Victoria Snyder	Contra Costa Senior Legal Services

EHSD staff member Nhang Luong and strongly supported the Committee throughout 2025.

Housing Committee Goals:

- Supports initiatives that address the shortage of adequate and affordable housing for older adults in Contra Costa County.
- Advocates for legislation that promotes the development and preservation of low-cost housing for older adults.
- Provides educational outreach to local officials, commissions on aging, and the community to raise awareness about housing issues affecting older adults.

Accomplishments

2025’s Committee’s focus was on continuing to provide a forum for the discussion of current housing trends, challenges impacting housing availability and affordability as well as the ongoing issue of homelessness. Additionally, the Committee provided advocacy for pending legislation and information to increase community awareness of the challenges facing low-income seniors and the disabled.

The Committee actively presented the “No Place to Call Home” infographic and slide deck throughout the County. During 2025 the Committee presented the slide deck to eleven separate groups throughout the County.

Committee meetings became a venue for housing focused groups, representatives of state legislators and county staff to share information and advocate for specific programs. During 2025 twelve presentations were made to the Committee.

2026 Work Plan

The “No Place to Call Home” infographic and slide deck will be updated and revised as needed. The primary goal of the 2026 work plan will be to present the slide deck and infographic to groups throughout the county. We will continue to provide a forum for the discussion of housing and homeless issues and as requested provide support for the MPA Impact Committee’s local playbook. Legislation impacting affordable housing and homelessness in Sacramento will continue to be monitored and support letters will be issued when warranted.

Kevin Donovan
Housing Workgroup Chair

Health Workgroup Roster

- Alan Goldhammer
- Sarah Green
- Thomas Lang
- Nikki Lopez
- Shari Maxwell
- Brian O'Toole
- Carol Schaefer
- Dennis Yee
- Terri Tobey (Co-Chair)
- Michael Wener (Co-Chair)

EHSD staff members Cristina Ugaitafa and Jennifer Gomes-Figueiroa strongly supported the Workgroup in 2025.

Workgroup's Role

Review current and health-related programs and systems (physical, mental, and long-term care) that affect older adults who are residents of Contra Costa County. Advocate for and educate about quality, suitability, accessibility of these programs and systems.

Accomplishments

- Completed the main goal of presentations to the community. HWG/EA members Thomas Lang and Brian O'Toole presented to various older adult community groups on Bone Density Research and Medicare/Medical respectively.
- The following presented to ACOA HWG/EA and guests throughout the year: Amber Carroll, Senior Director, Front Porch Connection Program; Delinda Brown, Director of Outreach of Admissions, Hope Hospice and Health Services; Christina Irving, Client Services Director, Family Caregiver Alliance; Alan Goldhammer on elder abuse and mandated reporting; Denise Kalm on "Dignity and Dying: A Real Life Experience", Brian O'Toole, Attorney gave a Medi-Cal Update; and Thomas Lang, UCSF Health Researcher, on "Osteoporosis: The Disease, Its Diagnosis, and Treatment".
- The workgroup acquired several new ACOA members: Nikki Lopez, Sarah Green, and Shari Maxwell.
- One month the committee meeting was cancelled by AAA due to technical problems at the facility.
- The only goal that wasn't met this year was completing the "Aging in Place" brochure submission for AAA approval. The AAA Director (Tracy Murray) requested more vetting of resources and edits to follow. The chairs were not participants in its creation which took place 3 years ago so they didn't feel comfortable changing it. To their knowledge, none of the creators followed up vetting and editing the brochure.

2026 Work Plan

- Educate older adults about healthcare resources in the community through distribution of collateral material.
- Schedule a minimum of four presentations at monthly meetings delivered by subject matter experts/professionals on topics specific to the Master Plan on Aging's Health Reimagined goal to increase awareness about community resources and supports

for older adults.

- Facilitate four health-related informational presentations, including mental health, at Consta Costa Senior/Community Center.

Terri Tobey

Housing Workgroup Co-Chair

Michael Wener

Housing Workgroup Co-Chair

Legislative Workgroup Roster

- Shirley Krohn (Chair)
- Steve Lipson
- Lorna Van Ackeren

Workgroup's Role

- Review legislation and legislative issues that are important to older adults and people with disabilities in Contra Costa County.
- Develop letters of support/opposition concerning proposed and potential legislation.
- Identify potential legislative ideas for consideration by the California Senior Legislature (CSL).

Accomplishments

- Re-introduced CSL's SP6 (now renumbered to SP4), The Brown Act Teleconferencing Proposal, to allow older adults, caregivers, people with disabilities, and the poor to work remotely with advisory councils, commissions, committees, and their attendant workgroups. The proposal continued to be voted #2 out of the top 10 CSL legislative proposals.
- Workgroup members wrote letters supporting additional CSL proposals in areas including health, housing, and transportation.
- During the ACOA general meetings, briefed members on the process for reviewing bills and bill progress.

2026 Work Plan

- Ongoing support and promotion of CA Senior Legislature's SP6 with the goal of seeing it sponsored and subsequently enacted into law.
- The development of additional legislative proposals for promotion by the CSL.
- Educational outreach to all ACOA Workgroups to increase legislative ideas and advocacy throughout the ACOA.
- Additional outreach to nonprofits and service organizations that address the needs of older adults and people with disabilities.
- Meet from January through July to coincide with State Legislative schedule.

Shirley Krohn

Legislative Advocacy Workgroup Chair

Transportation Workgroup Roster

- Candace Evans (Chair)
- Kevin Donovan
- Denise Kalm
- Jim Donnelly
- Bryan Harris
- Riki Juster
- Rosa Noya
- Deanna Perry
- Debbie Toth
- Elaine Welch

EHSD staff member Alicia Espinoza, Thomas Weisbrich, and Jennifer Gomes-Figueiroa strongly supported the Workgroup in 2025. SMAC went through Committee Structural Changes of times where we meet every first Monday of each Month from 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Workgroup’s Role

To address transportation barriers and gaps in service experienced by Contra Costa older adults through education, advocacy and the promotion of effective coordination of services and mobility management that enhances the autonomy and independence of older adults in Contra Costa County.

Accomplishments

2025 Presentations from:

- Seamless Bay Area - Adina Levin
- People Centered Mobility - Tim Haile (CCTA)
- Next Generation Fare Gate Press Conference & Ribbon Cutting - Candace & Bryan
- GLYDWAYS "Transit should be for everyone" - Mariah Ray SVP, Head of Government Affairs
- Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) “Role in the Region” - Robert Franklin
- Provided advocacy for Mobility Management in Contra Costa City-based transportation programs.
- Reviewed and Reported survey data and report on COVID 19 Impacts on Accessible Transportation Services.
- Attended community meetings and training that provided information on the CCTA and Regional Transportation Organizations.
- Organized & Orchestrated SMAC Informational Workshop
- Provided updates of services for older adults in need of transportation services.

2026 Work Plan

- Continue to Schedule and Organize 3 SMAC Informational workshops
- Schedule five presentations in 2026 from transportation service providers and educators in Contra Costa County.

- Participate in the Paratransit Coordinating Council, DACLAC, Accessible Transportation Task Force, and Regional Transportation Organization meetings.
- Participate in Master Plan for Aging local implementation, ensuring senior transportation and people with disabilities' issues are addressed.
- Participate in CCC's Accessible Transportation Strategic Plan implementation.

Candace Evans

Transportation Workgroup Chair

Technology Committee Roster

- Steve Lipson, Chair
- Cate Burkhart
- Brock Dubbels
- Denise Kalm
- Carol Kehoe
- Jill Kleiner
- Sam Sakai-Miller
- Jim Donnelly, Emeritus Member
- Gerry LaLonde-Berg, Alternate

EHSD staff members Alicia Espinoza, Glenda Pacha, and Jennifer Gomes-Figueiroa provided strong support to the work group throughout 2025.

Committee’s Role

To support the Advisory Council on Aging (ACOA) by identifying and recommending ways to improve access and use of technologies for both the Contra Costa County older adult community-at-large as well as ACOA members. The workgroup:

- Provided ACOA Website Recommendations Edits/Updates/Additions.
- Identified non-county web resources (e.g. OATS /AARP) for use by CoCoElders411.net an unaffiliated digital resource.
- Supported the AAA in the execution of technology programming grants.
- Coordinated with the Legislative Committee on technology specific legislative proposals.
- Monitored AI (Artificial Intelligence) technologies and their impact on older adults.

Accomplishments

In 2025, the Technology Workgroup provided recommendations to the ACOA website, identified non-county resources for CoCoElders411.net (an unaffiliated website for older adults); supported the AAA in the execution of technology programming grants; provided input for SB 239/SB 707, legislation to revise the Brown Act and allow teleconferencing; monitored AI (Artificial Intelligence) technologies and their impact on older adults.

Hosted speakers from technology-related organizations including OATS (Older Adults Technology Services), Well Connected. Advised the AAA in the implementation of federal, state and local technology funding programs.

2026 Work Plan

- Review new technology-centric proposals for the California Senior Legislature.
- Provide recommendations to the AAA regarding technology-related funding.
- Continue to monitor AI issues as they relate to older adults and the disabled.

- Identify Educational Pathways for Older Adult Technology Training.
- Help formulate Inclusion & Equity, and Not Isolation and advise on CSL legislative proposals relevant to technology education/training for older adults.
- Explore Advisory Technology Partnerships with other agencies, including Public Health.
- Continue to identify non-county resources for CoCoElders411.net.
- Identify additional speakers to help keep the Committee informed.
- Identify and support new programming that addresses Goal 3 - Inclusion & Equity, and Not Isolation - of the California Master Plan for Aging and Local MPA Playbook.
- Create an infographic providing AI-related information important to older adults and caregivers.

Steve Lipson

Technology Committee Chair

Investing in Equitable Opportunities and Community Priorities in Contra Costa

A Report on the Public Input Process for Former American Rescue Plan Act Funds



ENSURING OPPORTUNITY
CONTRA COSTA



Authored by Rachel Rosekind, PhD, MLIS
Prepared for the Contra Costa Budget Justice Coalition
and Ensuring Opportunity

**NOVEMBER
2025**

Executive Summary

This report documents the urgent priorities, service gaps, and areas of opportunity identified by community members during the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors' public input process on the County's remaining former American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.¹ Representatives from the Contra Costa Budget Justice Coalition attended all 15 district town halls in Fall 2025 to hear directly from residents about the conditions, barriers, and possibilities they experience in their communities and how additional public funds could respond to them.

Top priorities included:

- **Food security:** Enhancing access to fresh and healthy food
- **Housing affordability, stability, and homelessness:** Offering a range of supports from rental assistance to home ownership pathways
- **Health and wellness:** Increasing healthcare access, cultural competence, preventive care, and mental health services
- **Safe, healthy, and vibrant neighborhoods:** Improving infrastructure, recreation, arts, employment, and social connection

Throughout the town halls, there was clear convergence that these priorities were particularly important for specific populations:

- African Americans
- Families struggling to make ends meet
- Immigrants
- Low-income seniors
- People reentering community after incarceration
- Unhoused and unsheltered community members
- Youth

Residents also identified the need for enhanced resource navigation, more trust in public systems, and greater investment in community-sourced solutions.

The findings shared in this report are intended to inform the Board of Supervisors' decision-making at this critical time of uncertainty and need and lay the groundwork for investments toward a more thriving and equitable future for all Contra Costa residents.



Introduction

Since 2021, the Contra Costa Budget Justice Coalition has uplifted the importance of transparency, equity, and accountability in Contra Costa County's allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Through consultation with members of the Board of Supervisors and the County Administrator's Office (CAO), the Budget Justice Coalition has monitored, analyzed, and publicly reported on the County's processes and priorities, while simultaneously educating residents and collaborating with partners to advocate for critical needs, gaps, and opportunities across the county.

American Rescue Plan Act funds were issued during the pandemic to promote equitable recovery and address both long-standing and emergent disparities in health and well-being. The Budget Justice Coalition believes equity must likewise be the frame and foundation for the Board's allocation of the remaining former ARPA funds.

The opportunity and resource gaps documented during the public input process can be bridged through intentional investments that honor the dignity, preserve the stability, and enhance the mobility of residents across Contra Costa County.

The Budget Justice Coalition believes that every resident plays a role in ensuring that Contra Costa is a place where people of all incomes and backgrounds can be and feel at home. At this moment of escalating needs, threats, and harms to our most vulnerable community members, we urge the Board to respond with bold investments and equity-driven strategies that recognize the burdens and barriers too many of our residents face—not just to pursue their dreams but to meet even their most basic needs. Our county's health and well-being rely on a cycle of robust public input and responsive public investment. This report contributes to that effort.



The American Rescue Plan Act in Contra Costa: Prioritizing Investments in Community Well-Being

The COVID-19 pandemic revealed and amplified long-standing social inequities and vulnerabilities associated with and perpetuated by economic disadvantage, race, documentation status, and zip code. The federal government's response to this emergency was to issue a broad array of resources, including ARPA funds, to foster equitable economic recovery and transformative investments to promote healthier communities. The program's design, implementation, and reporting were intentionally structured to ensure funds addressed pre-existing and emergent health and economic disparities in underserved communities.²

Contra Costa County was awarded a total of \$224,058,903 in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF), one of ARPA's key programs. Given the County's extensive and unique scope of responsibilities as a healthcare provider, the Board of Supervisors allocated two significant tranches to the Health Services Department for COVID-19 response activities (\$112 million for Fiscal Year [FY] 21–22 and \$83 million for FY 22–23). These funds supported three primary projects: prevention and mitigation of COVID-19, delivery system treatment and medical services, and addressing disparities in public health outcomes.



At the FY 23–24 budget hearings, the CAO provided an update on the County's major COVID-19 funding sources: the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, Coronavirus Relief Fund, ARPA Fiscal Recovery Fund, and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program. These sources totaled approximately \$760 million. At that time, the County was awaiting reimbursement for a number of claims submitted to FEMA. Thus, the CAO recommended that the Board retain the remaining \$37.5 million in ARPA funds pending reimbursement. This strategy was intended to hedge against risk to the General Fund if reimbursements were not paid.

At the FY 24–25 budget hearings, the CAO reported that the federal deadline for obligating ARPA expenditures was approaching and recommended that the Board claim the \$37.5 million in remaining ARPA funds to offset a portion of the General Fund subsidy to the Hospital Enterprise Fund and include a general fund assigned reserve designation in a like amount, henceforth referred to as the "COVID-19 FEMA Reserve." The Board directed the CAO to return at least annually with an update as to the status of FEMA program claims and conduct public processes to seek community input on how to allocate funds as they became available.

At the FY 25–26 budget hearings, the CAO provided a Year 1 report on the status of the COVID-19 FEMA program claims and recommended that the Board reclassify up to \$20.9 million from Assigned fund balance to Unassigned fund balance. At that meeting, the Board allocated \$6.4 million of the released funding to support the following initiatives:

- \$3.5 million for the Services and Access For Everyone (SAFE) Center
- \$2.5 million for Stand Together Contra Costa
- \$400,000 for refugee resettlement

The Board appropriated the remaining \$14.7 million to the General Fund for contingencies.

Over the course of several meetings in the summer of 2025, the Board made critical decisions regarding the public process for input on former ARPA allocations, including:

- establishing the Contra Costa Community Impact Fund, allocating \$1 million per supervisorial district (for a total of \$5 million) to address district-specific priorities;
- deciding to conduct town halls or equivalent community outreach in each district to gather public input, with funds allocated to cover costs related to language interpretation and other expenses for the convenings; and
- approving a county-wide survey to gather additional resident feedback.

Following the adoption of the FY25-26 budget, the County received reimbursement from FEMA for the remaining three program claims, along with an additional allocation related to a testing claim, cumulatively totaling \$8.18 million. On November 4, 2025, the Board of Supervisors voted to declare a state of emergency in response to the federal government's discontinuance of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits payments. They allocated \$21 million to fund the lost benefits for CalFresh recipients in November, taking \$8.18 million from former ARPA funds and \$12.8 million from the County's fiscal reserves. Excluding the \$5 million allocated across the five districts, the remaining unallocated former ARPA funds now total \$9.7 million. These funds will be discussed by the Board on November 18, 2025, along with the results from the community town halls and countywide survey.



Resident Input: Community Impact Fund Survey and District Town Halls

Community Impact Fund Survey

To gather asynchronous feedback from residents across the county, the County Administrator implemented a digital survey, which ran from August 25 through September 30, 2025. Responses were anonymized, though individuals were asked to identify their district. Survey questions focused on household and community priorities and challenges, populations in need of support, quality of life, necessity of investment in under-resourced communities, and confidence in local government's response to community needs and priorities.

The survey received 2,758 responses. County staff shared the results via a public dashboard that allows users to disaggregate responses through several filters, including district, zip code, race/ethnicity, and age.³

District Town Halls

Each Supervisor developed a unique public input process, including resident town halls, grant opportunities, and focus groups. The quantity, scope, accessibility, format, and attendance levels of public input opportunities varied across districts. A detailed chart is provided in Appendix 1.

Supervisors and their staff noted that they were collecting additional public input via other community presentations and conversations (e.g., Municipal Advisory Councils), supplementary surveys, comment cards distributed at town halls, and communication with individual district residents via phone, email, and other avenues.

All five county supervisors are implementing a grants process to allocate funds, with varying specifications. Districts 2, 3, 4, and 5 have closed their application periods. District 4 is the sole district that has completed their allocations, as of November 4, 2025. It is anticipated that District 1 will announce their grants process in January 2026.



Community-Identified Priorities, Issues, and Investments

A diverse range of service providers, community-based organizations, advocates, and residents attended the town halls. Attendees shared compelling concerns, persistent challenges, and concrete ideas to enhance the quantity and quality of resources, supports, and opportunities available in their communities. They highlighted specific policies and issues, along with the deeper values they want to see reflected and inspired by the County's investments, including equity, compassion, belonging, and justice.

In addition to the common and fundamental community supports identified, such as rental assistance and food security, participants proposed innovative ideas and concrete solutions to address urgent needs and priorities in their communities. These on-the-ground, from-the-ground proposals inspired meaningful discussion, new connections, and a robust exchange of ideas.

"We need opportunity—we are capable." —District 1 Town Hall participant

Town hall participants uplifted both community assets and vital needs. They shared their desire for more opportunities that promote social bonds, connect people to community resources, and build healthier communities. Residents also spoke of subregional resource gaps that impacted capacities and connections for support. For example, a District 2 town hall participant noted that because the infrastructure for basic needs support is not as robust in wealthier districts and neighborhoods, residents there don't necessarily know where to go to seek help.

Participants offered community-sourced and community-specific solutions to seed more opportunity and investment for residents of all backgrounds. These public convenings confirmed that residents are looking for tangible solutions and direct supports such as rental assistance, immigrant legal services, affordable childcare, and recreation. Further information on community-identified priorities for each supervisorial district is included in Appendices 2 and 3.

Many residents spoke powerfully about how they and their neighbors were navigating scarcity and negotiating excruciating tradeoffs that pit one basic need over another. Many expressed that they or people they know were one financial shock away from falling behind on rent and at risk of eviction and homelessness. Across all districts, town hall attendees expressed remarkable consistency in naming their top priorities:



Many of these priorities are directly linked to human impacts and outcomes that foster thriving and equitable communities.



Stability: Health, Food, Housing, Childcare, Basic Needs



Opportunity: Access to education, recreation, enrichment, transportation



Belonging: Services for vulnerable populations, increased opportunities for civic engagement and connection

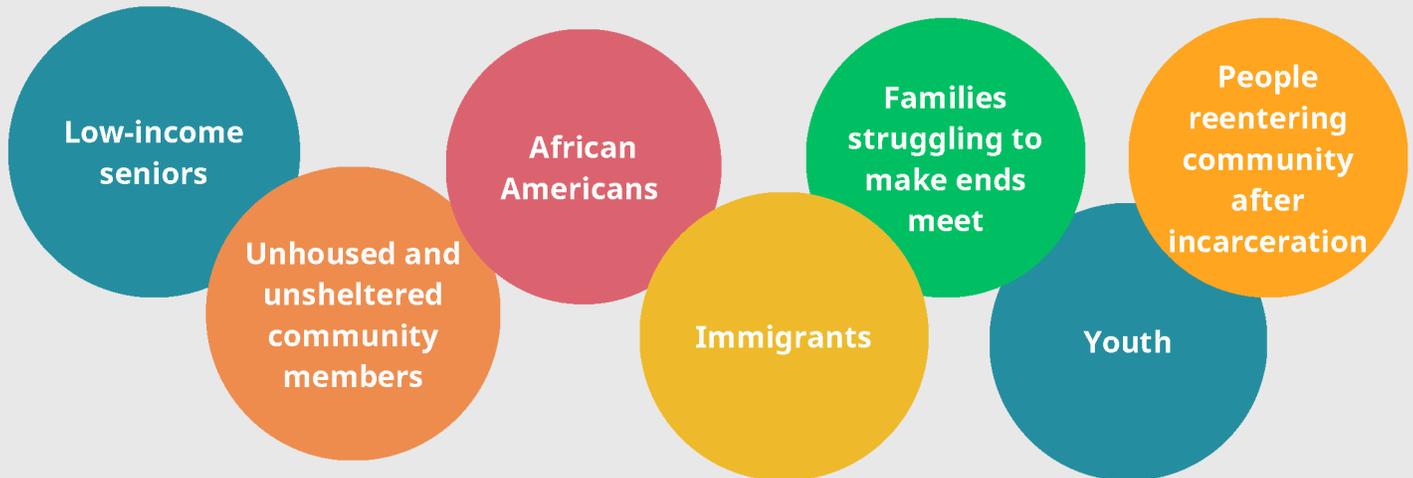


Mobility: Employment and career pathways, entrepreneurship support, mentorships

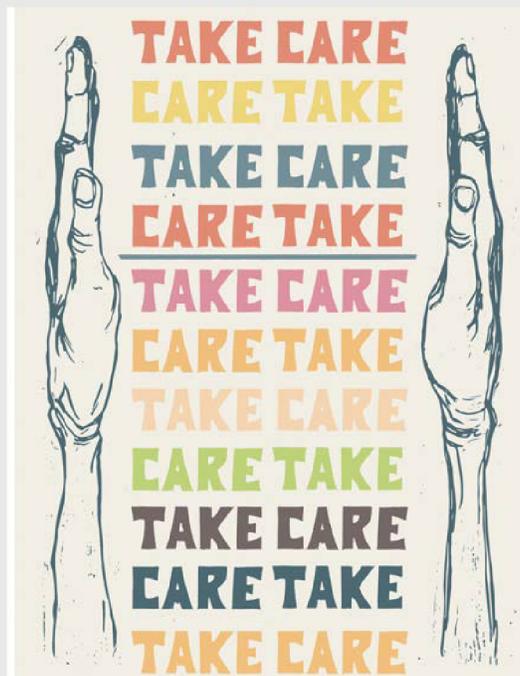


Town hall participants relayed how these universal needs were especially important to protect and support at-risk and vulnerable populations who have endured and continue to experience the effects of historical disinvestment, political and social marginalization, and inequitable resourcing.

These groups include:



The focus on these priority populations reflects a collective desire to support conditions of well-being and preventive measures that promote equitable opportunities for safety, opportunity, and stability for all residents.



Food Security

Feeding America's *Map the Meal Gap* study estimates that over 10% of the Contra Costa County population is food-insecure. Fifty-two percent of these households earn too much to qualify for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP; in California, called CalFresh) yet don't earn enough to meet their basic needs.⁴ A significant number of additional residents are eligible but not enrolled, while others are ineligible due to immigration status. Food insecurity is a pervasive and escalating issue across the county.

In 2025, members of the Contra Costa Food Collaborative reported that community need has risen substantially over the past year, with increases ranging from 22% to 47%.

Loaves and Fishes currently serves approximately 3,000 meals a day, as compared to 680 meals pre-pandemic.

The Board of Supervisors recently took action to address food insecurity in Contra Costa by allocating \$21 million to backfill the federal government's failure to fund CalFresh benefits in November 2025 for the 107,000 county residents who depend on them. The County's Employment & Human Services Department (EHSD) has acknowledged that the number of food-insecure residents in Contra Costa far exceeds the number who are currently enrolled in CalFresh. This enrollment gap is intensified by the high costs of other basic needs (like housing and childcare) that these same residents must also navigate. The harms caused by this persistent resource gap were corroborated by town hall testimony from residents and providers who represent these diverse populations—including seniors, youth, and immigrants, among others—who shared details about the challenges their communities face in affording and accessing healthy and fresh food. These same individuals proposed concrete solutions such as free grocery pantries and clothes closets (Districts 3 and 5), a grocery store in North Richmond (District 1), and increased funding for local community commercial kitchens (multiple districts).



Rising costs of living and historical forces of displacement, segregation, and environmental racism have saddled low-income households and households of color with severe rent burdens and resource disparities that affect generational well-being and mobility. At the town halls, residents and service providers gave compelling testimony about how rental assistance has helped families stabilize and individuals to pursue further education, demonstrating how financial support at critical thresholds is not just a short-term solution but a long-term, sustainable investment that addresses acute emergencies and prevents their evolution into life-altering crises. As of October 2025, there are approximately 2,700 households in the County's Housing Continuum of Care's Coordinated Entry Community Queue.⁵ This figure represents an increase of 34% from 16 months ago, when there were 2,014 households in the queue. It is clear that Contra Costa residents are feeling the strain and stressors of rising costs of living.

Public investments in programs that prevent housing loss have proven effective in reducing the number of people experiencing homelessness even amidst increasing housing needs. Early intervention works; in 2024, 2,019 households were served by homelessness prevention programs in the community and the County's Continuum of Care, with 97% exiting to a permanent or temporary setting.⁶ As the County braces for devastating cuts to its public healthcare ecosystem, residents will be faced with higher rates of medical debt—a leading driver of homelessness—producing a vicious cycle that requires bold and holistic solutions. Cognizant of these conditions, town hall attendees consistently urged the supervisors to respond with proven and tangible supports to increase the preventive pipeline (i.e., keeping people housed) alongside targeted programs that address the acute and discrete needs of unhoused community members and specific subpopulations impacted by housing insecurity and affordability.

In this heightened time of overt discrimination and fear, immigrant renters, particularly undocumented or mixed-status families, are more vulnerable to housing insecurity due to fear of retaliation for reporting violations. Given that as of 2023, 1 in 7 residents in Contra Costa County was living in an undocumented or mixed-status household, this critical issue requires heightened attention and resources.⁷



Health and Wellness

Across the town halls, residents voiced concern about the lack of accessible, affordable, and culturally and linguistically competent health services. They underscored how these service gaps affect numerous populations, especially youth, seniors, LGBTQIA+, immigrants, and African Americans, hindering positive health outcomes and amplifying other vulnerabilities and inequities. These concerns are magnified in the wake of imminent federal and state cuts to enrollment access, subsidies, and services that will inhibit the preventive and comprehensive health pathways of hundreds of thousands of county residents.

Projected impacts on the county's most vulnerable residents could be profound and devastating. Approximately 97,500 Contra Costa residents are expected to lose healthcare coverage as a result of the federal budget bill (HR 1), leading to more emergency room visits, longer wait times, and delayed or unavailable preventive healthcare. Thanks to years of health access expansion and enrollment efforts, fewer than 5% of Contra Costa residents are currently uninsured, but that number could nearly triple based on current projected impacts of HR 1 and the FY 25–26 State Budget Agreement.⁸ Notably, this figure does not include the expiration of Affordable Care Act (ACA) premium tax credits, which have been critical for increasing enrollment among people of color. Between 2021 and 2024, marketplace enrollment among Blacks and Latinos grew by 186% and 158%, respectively, compared to 63% for other racial and ethnic groups.⁹

A District 1 town hall participant who raised children in Richmond's Iron Triangle noted how often she had missed work to attend to her children's asthma. She underscored the importance of high-quality, affordable, and accessible healthcare for all residents, particularly in areas of heightened environmental risk and toxicity.



Residents amplified the importance of prevention in mitigating negative public health impacts and advancing generational well-being. They noted that health and wellness encompass dimensions that affect all aspects of quality of life, from concrete supports like mental health services to broader opportunities like employment pathways, arts programs, and career mentorship. District 3 town hall participants highlighted the lack of nearby community clinics and the need for mobile services to reach populations in more geographically isolated areas. They also relayed the importance of parks, recreation, and intergenerational programs for community stability and cohesion. Districts 1 and 5 attendees called attention to the health risks and impacts affecting residents due to toxic environmental exposure.

Safe and Vibrant Communities

Everybody deserves and desires to live in communities where they can be supported and able to thrive. This holistic vision of public safety requires that we all take part in shaping and implementing solutions to address current gaps and inequities.

Many town hall participants uplifted the need for additional safety and health-protective measures in their communities, including street lighting, crosswalks, community-wide clean-ups, stop signs, traffic lights, speed bumps, fire mitigation, accessible transportation, and public parks. These concrete improvements to the physical environments that residents inhabit and share with neighbors promote collective safety and well-being. It is notable that concerns about and desired investments in public safety did not focus on additional law enforcement presence or patrols.

Beyond these infrastructure improvements, residents emphasized the importance of creating additional opportunities for community enrichment and social belonging. District 2 town hall attendees conveyed the need for a theater, bike park, pop-up recreation spaces, and community center for LGBTQ+ people. Districts 3 and 5 town hall attendees expressed interest in additional youth recreation facilities, shared green spaces, literacy programming, and afterschool activities. District 1 attendees emphasized the importance of STEAM education, uplifted the need for a playground shade structure at a local elementary school, and highlighted areas of opportunity like a multicultural wellness center, peer-based support for encampment residents, and scholarships for students entering the health professions.



In addition to the priorities named above, the following items were reflected in town hall input across numerous districts:

- Leveraging former ARPA funds to make greater impact
- Securing public-private partnerships to address urgent and escalating community needs
- Promoting nonprofit resilience and connectedness
- Establishing a countywide Collective Care Fund to help residents meet basic and emerging needs
- Expanding transportation access, equity, and routes
- Supporting entrepreneurship, wealth-building opportunities, and economic development in vulnerable and underinvested communities
- Providing resource navigation guidance and removing barriers to access to services
- Building on community assets, e.g., youth talent and initiative, by providing concrete pathways to sustainable employment



Conclusion

“What’s going to happen when these cuts hit our communities and there’s nothing to support people?” – District 1 Town Hall Participant

Today, our social safety net, and many residents who rely on it, are under siege and in crisis. American Rescue Plan Act funds were intended to promote equitable recovery and address economic and health disparities, and equity was affirmed as a core pillar of successful implementation and evaluation. The Budget Justice Coalition believes that equity must likewise be the frame and foundation for the Board of Supervisor’s allocation of the County’s remaining former ARPA funds.

Community priorities surfaced at the town halls clearly demonstrate the criticality of equity-based issues and initiatives. Moreover, the Community Impact Fund survey attests that 72% of respondents across all districts believe that investing resources in communities that have faced long-term disinvestment and disparities is *“very important”* or *“extremely important.”*¹⁰

In recent years the County has made significant investments in promoting equity and expanding our social safety net.¹¹ Nonetheless, the strain on many residents is growing at a rate that demands that we increase these investments, not contract them. When the federal government fails in its duties to protect and care for vulnerable populations, local jurisdictions must navigate the fallout with compassion and boldness.

The County devoted extensive resources to designing, convening, and reporting on this public input opportunity. The community data yielded from that rich process has affirmed the overwhelming scale of needs and the breadth of resident solutions proposed to meet them. It is therefore imperative that we leverage all available resources to meet this critical moment and fund the community-identified priorities uplifted in the countywide survey and district forums.

“This process is about more than data—it’s about understanding lived experiences. The Board is committed to a transparent, inclusive approach that captures the full story of our communities—their needs, strengths, and aspirations. By aligning future investments with the realities people face every day, we can turn insights into actions that continue to strengthen Contra Costa’s communities for years to come.” —*Community Impact Fund data dashboard*

Per the Board’s stated commitment to “a transparent, inclusive approach” and “aligning future investments with the realities people face every day,” the urgent priorities that residents named must be accounted for in the remaining allocation of former ARPA funds.

At this critical juncture, the Board has the opportunity and responsibility to:

- Follow through on the commitment to a transparent, inclusive, and community-driven process that aligns investments with the needs and aspirations of County residents.
- Use the remaining former federal relief dollars to fund community-identified needs by making targeted and transformative allocations.
- Elevate and address urgent and entrenched opportunity and resource disparities across the county.

Together, we can meet this moment with boldness, compassion, and equity, in service to ARPA’s intent and in full-hearted response to our community’s needs and aspirations.



1 As detailed on pp. 3–4 of this report, the County's stewardship of American Rescue Plan Act funds has been a lengthy process, and the funds have been designated by different names at various milestones. This report uses the term "former ARPA funds," where appropriate, to maintain the Budget Justice Coalition's accountability to and clarity for the community. The latter is particularly important, as we have engaged with service providers, advocates, residents, and community-based organizations across the county for years to provide consistent and clear reporting on the County's stewardship of ARPA funds. Retaining "ARPA" as a signpost enables us to be in integrity with that through line and our role as convener and connector across multiple coalitions and advocacy groups in Contra Costa.

2 U.S. Department of the Treasury. 2022. "STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS Equity and Outcomes Resource Guide: How Governments Are Incorporating Equity, Community Engagement, Evidence, and Performance Management Into Their Use of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds." <https://Home.Treasury.Gov/System/Files/136/SLFRF-Best-Practices-Guide.Pdf>.

3 Contra Costa County. 2025. "Community Impact Fund." October 2025. Accessed November 2, 2025. <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/10528/113528/Community-Impact-Fund>.

4 Feeding America. n.d. 2023 "Food Insecurity in Contra Costa County, California." Map the Meal Gap Study. Accessed November 4, 2025. <https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2023/overall/california/county/contra-costa>.

5 This information was provided by Contra Costa County Health, Housing and Homeless Services staff in response to a data request by the author on October 29, 2025.

6 This information was obtained from Contra Costa County Health, Housing and Homeless Services staff in response to a data request by the author on November 13, 2025.

7 This data is sourced from the California Immigrant Data Portal. See <https://immigrantdataca.org/indicators/mixed-status-families?geo=04000000000006013>.

8 Contra Costa Health. n.d. "Contra Costa Health Atlas Uninsured Rate." Accessed November 11, 2025. <https://atlas.cchealth.org/topics/UNS?topic=uninsured-rate>.

9 Roughly half of enrollees' races were unknown in 2024 marketplace enrollment data. The estimates cited here are limited to states that use the HealthCare.gov platform and include imputations of missing race and ethnicity data, which greatly improves the usefulness of the data but does not disaggregate beyond broad racial and ethnic categories. Anupama Warriar et al., "HealthCare.gov Plan Selections by Race and Ethnicity, 2015-2024," Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Health and Human Services, October 1, 2024, <https://aspe.hhs.gov/reports/healthcaregov-plan-selections-race-ethnicity-2015-2024>.

10 Contra Costa County. 2025. "Community Impact Fund." October 2025. Accessed November 2, 2025. <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/10528/113528/Community-Impact-Fund>.

11 These investments include the following: A3 (Anyone, Anywhere, Anytime) Crisis Response provides timely, tiered, and mobile support for individuals experiencing behavioral challenges or safety concerns; African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub funds organizations providing critical services to increase and expand wellness, safety, and healing to African American communities; Clean Slate Program assists individuals with record clearance to reduce barriers to employment and housing; Contra Costa Thrives Guaranteed Income Pilot will provide 170 individuals from select populations with direct financial support; Family Resource Navigators help families access services across the county; Measure X Housing Fund supports affordable housing needs and countywide projects; Services and Access For Everyone (SAFE) Center will serve as a resource hub for immigrant communities; Stand Together Contra Costa offers free legal representation for immigrants in deportation proceedings; and three new youth centers in Central and East County will serve young people through a network of County- and community-based providers and programs.

Appendix 1

Town Halls by District

District 1 Supervisor Gioia (West County)			
Date	Location	In-Person/Hybrid	Number of Attendees
9/18/2025	Latina Center, Richmond	In-Person	15
9/23/2025	RYSE Center, Richmond	Hybrid	60
9/30/2025	Pinole Town Hall	Hybrid	30
10/2/2025	St. Peter CME Church	Hybrid	50
10/6/2025	RYSE Center, Richmond	Hybrid	48
10/9/2025	San Pablo City Hall	Hybrid	72
		TOTAL	275
District 2 Supervisor Andersen (South and Central County)			
Date	Location	In-Person/Hybrid	Number of Attendees
9/10/2025	Parkmead Elementary School, Walnut Creek	In-Person	12
	Danville Community Center	In-Person	28
	Lafayette Veterans Hall	In-Person	30
		TOTAL	70
District 3 Supervisor Burgis (East and Far East County)			
Date	Location	In-Person/Hybrid	Number of Attendees
9/25/2025	Oakley Recreation Center	In-Person	85
		TOTAL	85
District 4 Supervisor Carlson (Central County)			
Date	Location	In-Person/Hybrid	Number of Attendees
8/14/2025	Pleasant Hill Community Center	In-Person	45
9/19/2025	Supervisor Carlson's Pleasant Hill Office	In-Person	50
		TOTAL	95
District 5 Supervisor Scales-Preston (East County and Northern Waterfront)			
Date	Location	In-Person/Hybrid	Number of Attendees
9/22/2025	Hercules City Hall	In-Person	21
9/29/2025	Pittsburg City Hall	In-Person	47
9/30/2025	Martinez City Hall	In-Person	29
		TOTAL	97
Districts 3 and 5 (East County)			
Date	Location	In-Person/Hybrid	Number of Attendees
10/14/2025	Nick Rodriguez Community Center, Antioch	In-Person	52
		TOTAL	52

Note: Attendance numbers are based on visual counts conducted at each town hall. These totals may differ from those observed by County Supervisors and staff.

Appendix 2

Key Priorities and Populations by District

Districts held a varying number of town halls, focus groups, and grantee information sessions. The following is a list of the key priorities and focus populations that emerged at the town halls held in each of the five supervisorial districts. Although we strove to retain fidelity to the language used by town hall participants, some information has been consolidated for readability and concision.

DISTRICT 1 (West County)

Food Security

- Support for a central commercial kitchen
- Preventing food waste
- Support for faith-based organizations providing food

Health and Wellness

- Addressing environmental health risks and disparities
- Mental health
- More health supports for African Americans, including maternal health programs
- Supports for substance use disorder
- Therapists in schools
- Services for youth experiencing substance use disorder
- Health insurance, especially for those without insurance and/or employment
- Peer-based wellness services for unhoused individuals
- Improved resource and service navigation
- Collective Care Fund

Safe & Vibrant Neighborhoods

- Public safety infrastructure, e.g., more stop signs, speed bumps, street lights, lighted crosswalks
- Neighborhood block cleanups and community-wide clean-ups
- Recreation opportunities
- Arts education and enrichment opportunities
- Additional opportunities for social connection
- Expanding accessible, affordable transportation options

Immigrant Protections & Support

- Support for families impacted by deportation
- Support for immigrant victims of crime
- Support for single mothers who are undocumented
- Legal services for immigrants

Housing Security

- Supportive housing
- Services for unhoused community members
- Rental assistance
- Youth housing

Support For Youth

- Paid internships that enable youth to live in and contribute to their communities and offer pathways to sustainable employment
- More robust and diverse educational and enrichment opportunities (e.g., physical education, music, arts, STEAM, STEM)
- Grants for college-bound students
- Career development opportunities for students who complete high school and may not go to college
- Access to free counseling in schools and community
- Safer school environments
- More subsidized and supportive housing for youth and young adults
- Access to affordable, high-quality, and culturally relevant early childhood education
- Support for grandparents and guardians raising African American children
- More funding for libraries
- More funding for youth community centers
- Resources and system navigation for youth in and exiting Juvenile Hall

Education

- Support for wealth-building, mentorships, job training
- Scholarships and mentorships for students interested in STEM careers and medicine, especially African Americans
- Support for entrepreneurs
- Enhanced wages for early childhood educators
- More Black-owned early childhood education facilities
- Homeownership seed funding to support African-American wealth-building
- Programs that build awareness, interest, and engagement in STEM career pathways

Populations most often mentioned by participants: Families struggling to make ends meet, immigrants, low-income seniors, people reentering community after incarceration, tenants at risk of eviction, unhoused community members, youth

DISTRICT 2 (South and Central County)

Food Security

- Access to healthy food
- Food insecurity for seniors

Health & Wellness

- Access to affordable healthcare
- Mental health services, especially for youth, LGBTQ, and seniors
- Support for seniors to age in place

Safe & Vibrant Neighborhoods

- Fire mitigation
- Arts and recreation opportunities for all ages
- Fire and disaster preparation
- LGBTQ community center

Housing Security

- Rental assistance
- Affordable housing
- Housing supports for youth and young adults
- Homelessness prevention
- Pro bono eviction legal services

Support For Youth

- More services and resources for foster youth
- Jobs and workforce development
- Healthy cooking, farming, and nutrition classes

Educational & Economic Training

- Workforce development
- Education for immigrants
- Access to affordable, high-quality childcare

Other Basic Supports

- Basic needs supports for families with young children
- Diapers
- Collective Care Fund
- Legal services for low-income seniors
- Bridge funding for nonprofits to ensure continuity of services for vulnerable populations
- Childcare subsidies

Populations most often mentioned by participants: Families struggling to make ends meet, foster youth, immigrants, LGBTQ+, low-income seniors, tenants at risk of eviction, youth

DISTRICT 3 (East/Far East County)

Food Security

- Food access
- Reducing food waste

Health & Wellness

- Mental health services that are culturally and linguistically competent and affordable
- Mobile health clinics
- Reentry services

Other Basic Needs

- After-school programs
- Accessible transportation across the district
- Child welfare prevention
- Support for seniors
- Assistance with resource navigation

Housing Security

- Housing affordability
- Homelessness prevention
- Rental assistance
- Dignified housing for farmworkers

Support For Youth

- More services and resources for foster youth

Educational & Economic Training

- Workforce development for young people
- Fair wages for farmworkers
- Access to affordable childcare
- Literacy equity

Safe & Vibrant Neighborhoods

- Restorative Justice and healing for those most harmed

Populations most often mentioned by participants: Families struggling to make ends meet, farm workers, justice-involved residents, low-income seniors, residents at risk of child welfare involvement, tenants at risk of eviction, youth

DISTRICT 4 (Central County)

<p>Food Security</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to nutritious and affordable food• Vulnerability of immigrant populations to afford basic needs, including food <p>Education & Workforce Development</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support for Latinx students and families• Workforce development opportunities <p>Immigrant Protections</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Immigrant legal protections	<p>Housing Security</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rental assistance• Housing affordability <p>Safe & Vibrant Neighborhoods</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Disaster resilience• Funding for nonprofit organizations
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Note: District 4 held one convening for potential grant applicants and one follow-up meeting. Both were primarily composed of representatives of various nonprofits, who discussed their focus areas and initiatives. The list above thus includes both participants' stated funding priorities and nonprofit representatives' broader input.

Populations most often mentioned by participants: Families struggling to make ends meet, immigrants, low-income seniors, residents facing hunger, tenants at risk of eviction

DISTRICT 5 (East County and Northern Waterfront)

Food Security

- Access to healthy and affordable food

Health & Wellness

- Healthcare access
- Preventive healthcare
- Environmental health - air quality
- Respite for family caregivers

Safe & Vibrant Neighborhoods

- Restorative Justice
- Disaster preparation and mitigation

Other Basic Needs

- Support in meeting basic needs
- Support navigating public systems and resources
- Immigrant protections

Housing Security

- Rental assistance
- Affordable housing
- Housing for low-income and extremely low-income communities

Support For Youth

- Youth arts programming
- Resource navigation, emotional support, and vocational training for youth exiting Juvenile Hall

Educational & Economic Thriving

- After-school programs
- Affordable childcare
- Access to high-quality and sustainable jobs in the community

Populations most often mentioned by participants: Families struggling to make ends meet, food-insecure, immigrants, justice-involved youth, low-income seniors, unhoused and housing-insecure

DISTRICTS 3 & 5

Food Security

- Free grocery pantries
- Access to healthy food

Education & Economic Thriving

- Early literacy programs
- Financial literacy training
- Job training and placement
- Workforce development for young adults

Safe and Vibrant Neighborhoods

- More arts districts
- Disaster education & kits
- Restorative justice

Health & Wellness

- Services for disabled veterans

Supports for Youth

- After-school programs
- Cultural and historical education in schools
- Youth recreation complex
- Intergenerational programs
- Youth center for the performing arts

Housing Security

- Mobile showers and laundry service for unhoused residents
- Rental assistance

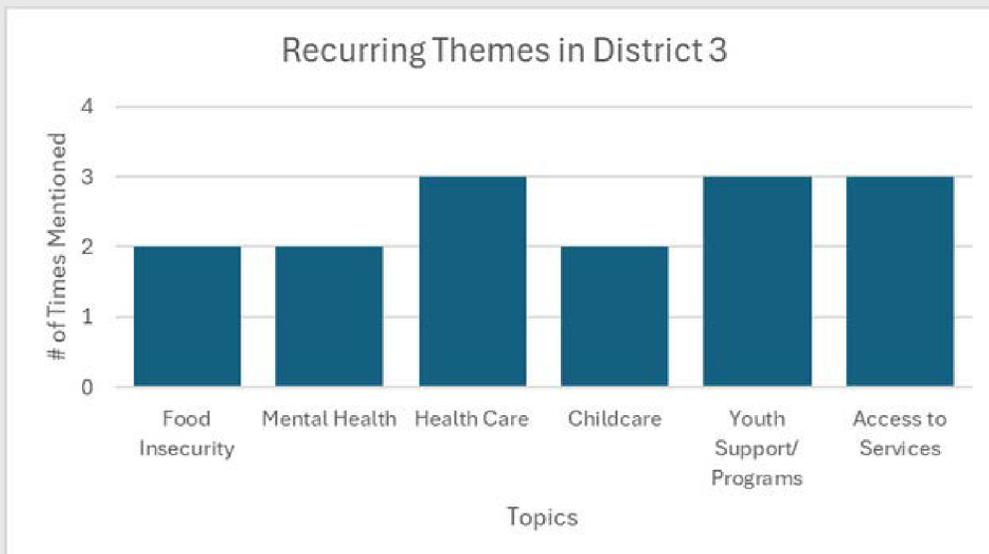
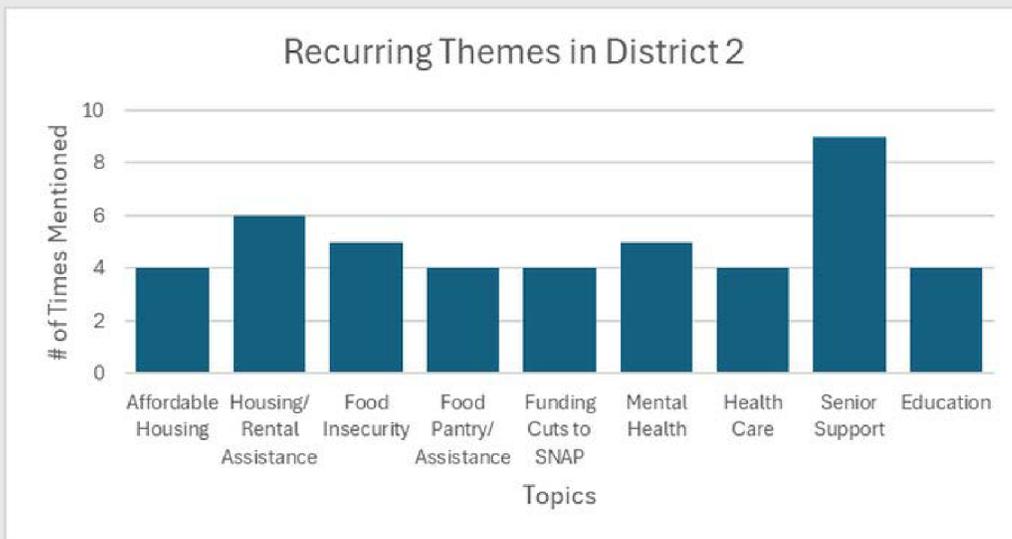
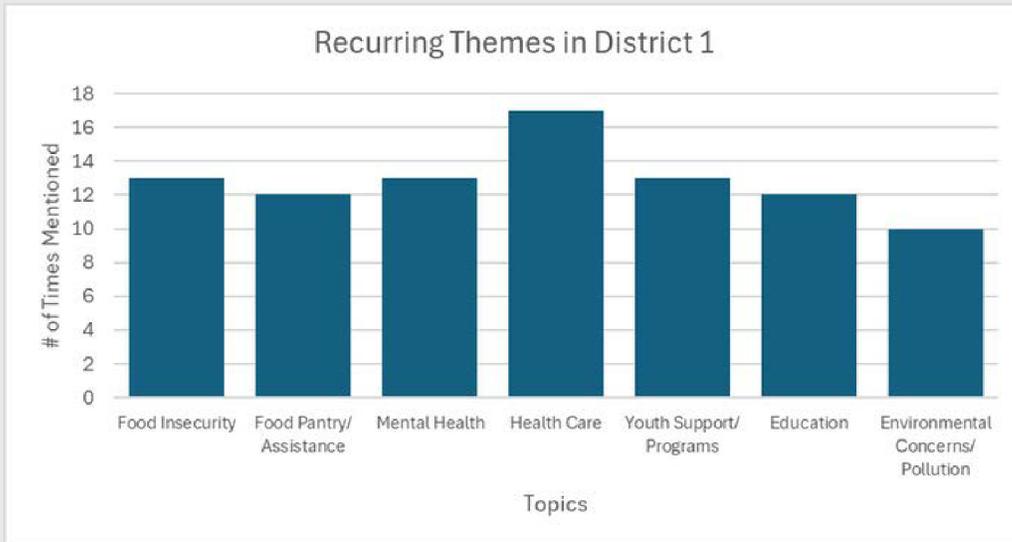
Other Basic Needs

- Free clothes closet for working families

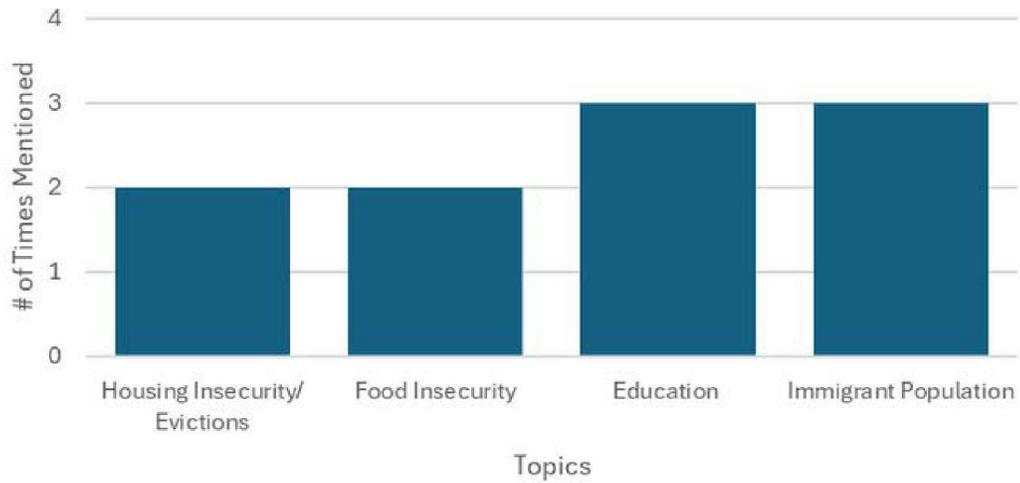
Appendix 3

Visual Representation of Priorities by District

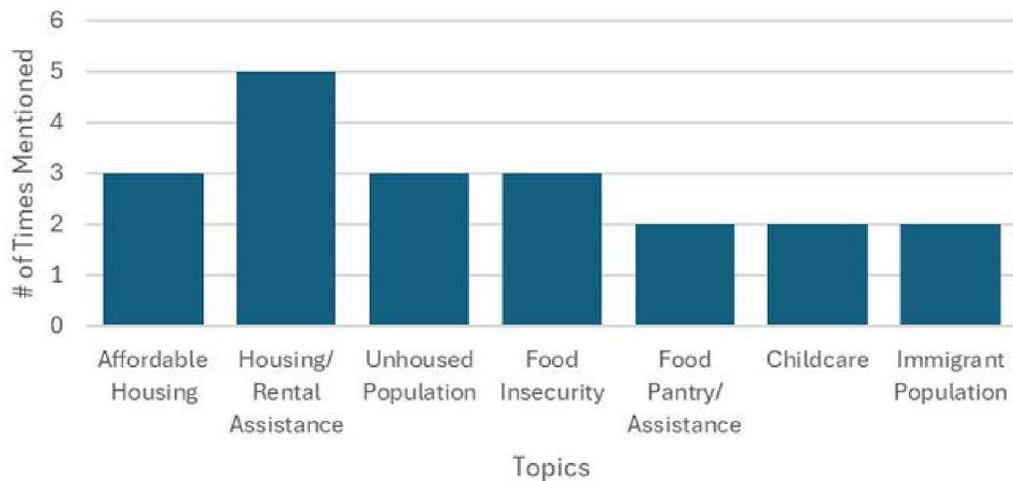
The following graphs highlight the prevailing themes that emerged in each district and at the joint town hall held by Supervisors Burgis and Scales-Preston (Districts 3 and 5).



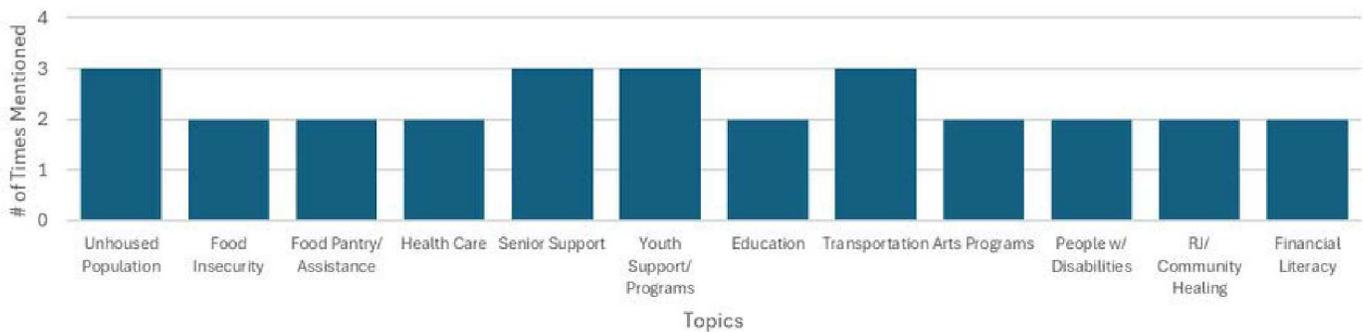
Recurring Themes in District 4



Recurring Themes in District 5



Recurring Themes in District 3 & 5 Town Hall



Major County Impacts of H.R. 1 and the State Budget

Emlyn Struthers, Senior Deputy County Administrator
County Administrator's Office

November 18, 2025





Agenda

1. Overview
2. Timeline of Major Changes
3. CalFresh/SNAP Statutory Changes
4. Medi-Cal/Medicaid Statutory Changes
5. Estimated Current Year Impacts
6. Considerations and Next Steps

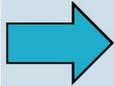


Overview

1. H.R. 1 represents a major shift in the relationship between the federal government and state/local governments. Makes major policy changes over a ten-year time frame, including:
2. Reduces access and funding for hospitals, health care, food, nutrition education, safety net services
 - i. \$911 B cut to Medicaid (Medi-Cal, in California)
 - ii. \$193 B cut to SNAP (CalFresh, in California)
 - a. Eligibility changes affect low- and middle-income individuals and families, as well as immigrants.
3. Shifts costs to state and local governments, reducing overall resources and funding flexibility.
4. State policies, especially for Medi-Cal, are compounding the harms.
5. Uncertainty and ambiguity make planning difficult:
 - a. Includes or requires numerous statutory & administrative rule changes which have not yet occurred.
 - b. Legal ambiguity, with provisions in litigation.



Timeline of Major Impacts

Fiscal Year	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029
Medi-Cal Eligibility	<p>January 1, 2026 Reinstatement of asset limit. <i>(state)</i></p>	<p>October 1, 2026 Ineligible non-citizens no longer qualify for Medi-Cal. <i>(federal)</i></p> <p>January 1, 2027 Redetermine eligibility for Medicaid expansion adults once every six months. <i>(federal)</i></p>	<p><i>Increasing cost associated with uncompensated care, from federal/state reductions in coverage.</i></p> 	
Medi-Cal Unsatisfactory Immigration Status (UIS)	<p>January 1, 2026 Freeze on Medi-Cal enrollment for undocumented ages 19 and older. <i>(state)</i></p> <p>July 1, 2027 Elimination of dental benefits for non-pregnant adults with UIS. <i>(state)</i></p>	<p>January 1, 2027 Monthly premiums for people with UIS, ages 19-59). <i>(state)</i></p>		
Medi-Cal Work/Community Engagement		<p>January 1, 2027 Mandatory work requirements for Medicaid expansion (MCE) adults. <i>(federal)</i></p>		
CalFresh/SNAP	<p>Upon Enactment <i>(pending guidance)</i> Elimination of SNAP eligibility for refugees, asylees, Afghan evacuees, temporary protection status, humanitarian parole, and survivors of human trafficking and domestic violence.</p> <p>ABAWD waiver ends; work requirements resume. <i>(federal)</i></p>	<p>October 1, 2026 State share of Admin cost increases from 50% to 75%. State cost is split between the state and counties at a ratio of 70% state, 30% county. County Admin costs for SNAP are expected to increase from 15% to 22.5%. <i>(federal)</i></p>		<p>October 1, 2028 State agencies required to pay a percentage of SNAP benefit allotment for state error rate over 6%. <i>(federal)</i></p>
Other Medi-Cal Changes	<p>October 1, 2025 Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) Payments reductions begin. <i>(federal)</i></p>	<p>July 1, 2026 Elimination of Prospective Payment System payments for clinics. <i>(state)</i></p> <p>December 1, 2026 CalAIM (Medicaid Sec. 1115 waiver) Expires. <i>(federal)</i></p>	<p>October 1, 2027 Medicaid Provider Tax Reductions begins [impacts Prop 35]. <i>(federal)</i></p> <p>January 1, 2028 State Directed Payment phase down begins <i>(federal)</i></p>	<p>October 1, 2028 MCE Cost Sharing for 100-133% FPL (co-pays for services of up to \$35) <i>(federal)</i></p>



CalFresh/SNAP Statutory Changes

1. All Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) subject to work, education, or community engagement requirements.
 - a. 80 hours or more each month (approx. half-time)
2. Populations impacted by exemption changes:
 - a. Adults age 54 to 64
 - b. Families with children ages 14 to 18
 - c. Homeless individuals
 - d. Veterans
 - e. Former foster youth ages 18-24
3. Ineligible non-citizens will no longer be able to receive CalFresh: includes refugees, humanitarian parolees, asylees, and survivors of human trafficking and domestic violence.



CalFresh/SNAP Impacts

1. Food insecurity will increase in our community over the next decade.
 - a. CalFresh serves nearly ~110,000 people (~67,000 cases) in Contra Costa County in a given month.
 - b. About 11-16% of cases may risk losing benefits due to reduction in work waivers.
 - c. Benefit amounts will stay flat for participants over time due to the Thrifty Food Plan cost neutrality changes, reducing purchasing power.

2. New costs shifted to the State and Counties:
 - a. California counties locally administer CalFresh eligibility and must comply with new eligibility and recertification requirements.
 - b. Share of administrative costs is being increased for the County.
 - c. Share of SNAP benefits cost is being shifted to States and will be passed along to Counties or take away State general funds available that would otherwise support CalFresh or other local programs.



CalFresh/SNAP Administrative Cost Sharing

1. Administrative Cost Sharing

- a. Federal portion reduced from 50% down to 25%
- b. State portion increases to 75%, up from 50%
- c. County share of administrative costs are typically split 30% County, 70% State
- d. Assuming same Admin Cost split with state, will increase County share to 22.5% (from 15%), starting October 1, 2026.
 - i. Estimated to increase administrative costs by approximately \$5 million annually.

2. Benefit Costs Shifted to States based on payment error rate

- a. Anticipated to be 15% for California.
 - i. Statewide, California administers approximately \$12.8 B in SNAP benefits annually.
 - ii. Increase in State cost expected to exceed \$1.8 B each year.
- b. Technically a State responsibility under H.R. 1
 - i. Would amount to approximately \$40 million annually in Contra Costa.



Medi-Cal/Medicaid Statutory Changes

1. Eligibility and Cost Sharing

- a. Retroactive coverage reductions (*state*)
- b. Reinstatement of the asset test limits (*state*)
- c. Medicaid Expansion Adults (100-138% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL)) (*federal*)
 - i. Work requirements
 - ii. 6-month redetermination for Medicaid Expansion Adults
 - iii. Cost sharing for Medicaid Expansion Adults; co-pays start October 1, 2028.

2. Coverage Changes for Immigrants and Non-Citizens

- a. Enrollment freeze for unsatisfactory immigration status (UIS) adults ages 19+ (starts January 1, 2026) (*state*)
- b. Monthly premiums for UIS adults ages 19-59 (starts January 1, 2027) (*state*)
- c. Refugees, humanitarian parolees, asylees, trafficking or domestic violence survivors, among other humanitarian groups no longer qualify for Medicaid (starting October 1, 2026) (*federal*)



Medi-Cal/Medicaid Impacts

1. New eligibility requirements may result in a loss in full-scope Medi-Cal coverage for an estimated 52,000 to 116,000 people in our County.
2. As an organization, Contra Costa County is more impacted by these changes due to our integrated system:
 - a. **Eligibility/Enrollment:** California counties locally administer Medi-Cal eligibility and must comply with new eligibility and recertification requirements for approximately 320,000 people.
 - b. **Health Plan & Coverage:** Contra Costa operates the single plan for Medi-Cal that serves approximately 265,000 people.
 - c. **Hospital & Clinics:** Medi-Cal covers nearly 335,000 people in Contra Costa County. Contra Costa operates a hospital and clinics that serve the majority of Medi-Cal enrollees in our County.



Forecasting Challenges

1. Administrative uncertainty and ambiguity:

- a. **Guidance, rules, and state laws** are pending.
- b. **Legal ambiguity**, with many provisions in litigation.

2. Demographic and Economic Factors:

- a. Inflation
- b. Population
- c. **General Economic Conditions:**
 - i. Demands on social safety net increase in a recession.
 - ii. Property tax, sales tax, and others revenue streams vary based on the economy.

3. Increasing Cost of Doing Business

- a. **Labor:** County is currently in labor negotiations.
- b. **Health:** Historically, health care costs—and the costs to deliver health care—outpace inflation.

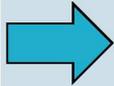


Estimated Current Fiscal Year Impacts

1. The County has already lost \$24.2 million as a direct result of H.R. 1 and the State Budget in the current fiscal year, compounding with other changes, lost revenue, and cost shifts from other policies.
 - a. \$24.2 million is a combination of funding reductions and new, unfunded responsibilities:
 - i. Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) cuts
 - ii. Community First Choice Option Penalties for IHSS
 - *Contra Costa overmatches/subsidizes IHSS administration*
 - iii. Medi-Cal Enrollment Freeze for UIS Full-Scope Medi-Cal
2. Amounts will increase significantly in out years.
 - a. Costs are anticipated to exceed \$250 million annually in out years due to escalating impacts of Medi-Cal and hospital payment changes on health plan, hospitals and clinics (likely much higher).



Timeline of Major Impacts

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Next Steps

1. Work to implement new requirements.
2. Monitor and engage on related state rulemakings or legislation to minimize harms of these policies to the County and community.
3. Continue to proactively monitor and forecast economic conditions.
4. Continue to refine estimates of impacts on participants and county.
5. Plan ahead and adjust through regular updates to the Board:
 - a. December 16, 2025: Health presentation
 - b. February 3, 2026: Annual Board Retreat
 - c. April 27-28, 2026: Annual Budget Hearing



Questions, Agenda Language, and Board Direction

1. RECEIVE report on major impacts resulting from H.R. 1 and the State Budget on the County, and PROVIDE direction on next steps for analysis and implementation.



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-4991

Agenda Date: 12/3/2025

Agenda #:



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE
1020 N Street, Room 527, Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone (916) 767-4382
www.4csl.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 24, 2025

The California Senior Legislature Announces Top Legislative Priorities for 2026

(Sacramento, CA) The California Senior Legislature (CSL) adjourned its 45th Annual Legislative Session and announced the Top State Legislative Proposals this week. Members will advocate diligently during the 2026 legislative session to have state lawmakers support these priorities. Each priority has the Governor's Master Plan for Aging (MPA) goal referenced.

The following were listed as the top ten State Legislative proposals:

SP-1: Medi-Cal Personal Needs

(Senior Senator Helen Lopez, El Centro, CA) MPA Goal # 2

This measure would increase the personal needs allowance from \$35 to \$50 per month and require that the amount be increased annually up to the amount of any cost-of-living adjustment implemented by the United States Social Security Administration.

AP-1: Caregiving Grandparents: Handbook

(Senior Assembly Member Mark Cox, El Centro, CA) MPA Goal # 5

This measure requests that the California Department of Aging and State Department of Social Services provide a bilingual handbook, modeled after the county of San Diego Handbook for grandparents raising grandchildren and other relative caregivers, that provides relative information and resources on the caregiving of dependent children for Child Welfare Agencies, County Area Agencies on Aging and caregiving grandparents.

SP-2: Older Adult Education: Local Public Health Departments

(Senior Senator Steve Lipson, El Cerrito, CA) MPA Goal #3

This measure authorizes local Public Health Departments to establish older adult education programs that include, among other things, communal meals and instruction in digital literacy and access to technology, fall prevention and physical activity.

AP-8: Seniors: Fall Prevention: Lighting

(Senior Assembly Member Richard White, Vacaville, CA) MPA Goal # 2

This measure (1) requires the adoption, design, development, and implementation of a comprehensive program to support and fund the installation of improved lighting in the

homes of eligible older adults, and requires the inclusion of funding for specific lighting products that will improve visibility.

AP-2: Personal Income Tax: Senior Child Care Tax Credit

(Senior Assembly Member Mark Cox, Yucaipa, CA) MPA Goal # 5

This measure establishes an income tax credit for qualifying seniors of \$2,500 for each claimed dependent under 18 years of age.

AP-9: Area Agencies on Aging: Electronic Device Tracking

(Senior Assembly Member Richard White, Vacaville, CA) MPA Goal #3

This measure requires the Department of General Services and the Department of Technology to revise the State Administrative Manual to designate electronic devices purchased by certain local agencies as non-sensitive and non-high risk and to exempt Area Agencies on Aging from annual inventory tracking requirements.

AP-5: Senior Welfare

(Senior Assembly Member Rob Holt, Chico, CA) MPA Goal #5

This measure would create a Senior EBT Card exempting eligible seniors from state and local sales and use taxes on all purchases.

AP-3: Master Plan for Aging: Caregiving: Grandparents

(Senior Assembly Member Mark Cox, Yucaipa, CA) MPA Goal #4

This measure would require the California Department of Aging, California Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Justice, and State Department of Social Services to add an initiative to the Master Plan for Aging to address the issues and expenses associated with being a caregiving grandparent.

AP-4: Automatic External Defibrillators

(Senior Assembly Member Milissa Meyer, Indian Wells, CA) MPA Goal #2

This measure requires a senior center or community center providing activities to 50 or more people who are 55 years of age or older, to obtain and maintain an Automatic External Defibrillator.

AP-7: Food Labeling Country of Origin

(Senior Assembly Member Helen McBrady, El Cajon, CA) MPA Goal #2

This measure mandates the clear and conspicuous disclosure of the country of origin on the principal display panel of all imported or domestically packaged food products to promote transparency, traceability and consumer safety.

-END-

CONTACT:

For additional information contact Janice Bailey, Executive Director, at (916) 767-4382 or jbailey@seniorleg.ca.gov.