



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: CEO
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: November 4, 2014
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Tme: 30 minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Legislative Program Committee
Director(s)
Contact Info: Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant CEO, 568-3400
SUBJECT: **DRAFT 2015 Legislative Platform: Targeted Advocacy Planks**

Ji for TMN, LPC

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: NA

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Provide staff with direction about any recommended changes to the County’s Draft 2015 Legislative Platform – Targeted Advocacy Planks.
2. Find that the proposed actions do not constitute a “Project” within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act, pursuant to 14 CCR 15378(b)(2), as it consists of general policy and procedure making.

Summary Text:

The Legislative Program Committee has forwarded the 2015 Legislative Development Plan, the 2015 Legislative Principles, and the Funding Request and Legislative Planks of the Draft 2015 Legislative Platform for review, discussion and recommendations for possible changes. Review of the platform planks will be provided to the Board in two halves: 1) Funding Request planks and Proposed Legislative planks; 2) Targeted Advocacy planks. Complete review of the platform will also be brought to the Board in December, with consideration for approval in January. These review steps by the Board were recommended during the deliberations on the 2014 Legislative Platform. Any changes approved by Board action will be made by staff and final changes reviewed prior to consideration by the Legislative Program Committee. The 2015 Legislative Platform will be brought back for consideration and possible final adoption at the Board’s January 13, 2015 meeting.

Each year, the County identifies specific issues, projects and/or programs (“priorities”) to include within the County’s legislative platform. Once adopted by the Board of Supervisors, the 2015 Legislative Platform (“platform”) will be used by the County to communicate the County’s priorities to the federal and state governments.

Background:

The development of the Draft 2015 Legislative Platform began in August when the County’s Legislative Program Committee (“Committee”) reviewed the legislative principles. During the development of the platform, County staff also discussed potential issues and projects with its federal and state delegation and began designing a legislative strategy. Strategies involve funding requests, crafting new or amending existing legislation and advocacy of program and grant funding and regulatory reform. Following Board adoption of the 2015 Legislative Platform, it will be used to communicate the County’s priorities to the federal and state officials as well as other intergovernmental entities.

The Committee is continuing to recommend legislative principles, including the following:

- Job Growth/Economic Vitality
- Efficient Service Delivery/Operations
- Fiscal Stability
- Interagency Collaboration
- Local Control
- Health and Human Services
- Community Sustainability.

The Committee is recommending the Board consider positions on 31 individual platform planks that align with the legislative principles listed above. Each of the Draft 2015 Legislative Platform planks can be categorized as a funding request, legislative proposal and/or targeted advocacy. The planks pertaining to Funding Requests and Proposed Legislation were considered on October 21st. The remaining Targeted Advocacy planks of the 2015 Platform are to be reviewed today by the Board. County staff works closely with our state and federal advocates and partners to develop effective strategies to address the countywide needs as well as effective strategies to address platform items.

Additional material for the Legislative Program Committee can be found at the following link:
<http://www.countyofsb.org/ceo/legis.aspx?id=2714>

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The Draft 2015 Legislative Platform includes requests for project and program funding, legislation and advocacy for public service improvements that may increase available revenue, change service levels and thereby reduce or increase the cost of doing business.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Draft 2015 Legislative Platform – Targeted Advocacy Planks

Authored by:

Joseph D. Toney, Fiscal and Policy Analyst, County Executive Office, 568-2060

CC:

Department Directors