

2019

# SR 19-0148 - Legislative Platform

2019



County of Nevada

950 Maidu Ave

Nevada City, CA 95959

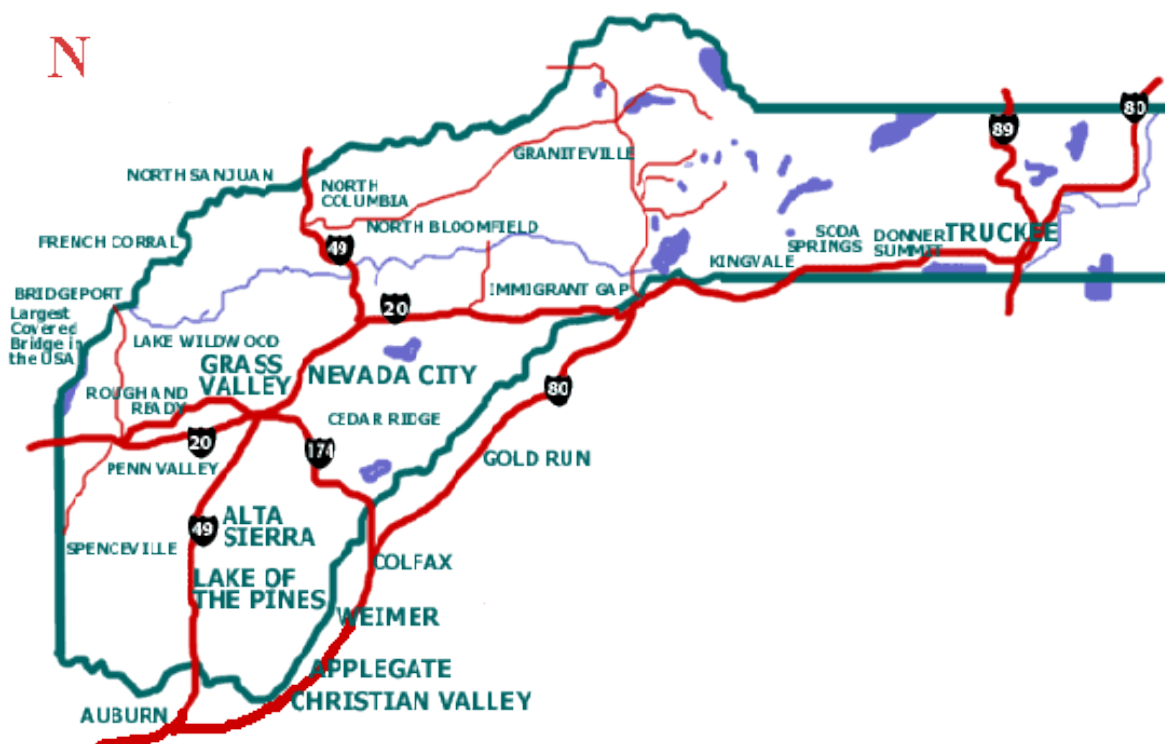
[www.MyNevadaCounty.com](http://www.MyNevadaCounty.com)

## Introduction

The Nevada County Board of Supervisors, County Executive Office, and senior executives develop this Legislative Platform on an annual basis in order to prioritize and draw attention to legislative areas of interest to the County as a whole, as well as specific program or specific legislative efforts that affect the County's ability to deliver the best possible services to our residents.

The County Executive Office leads the effort to identify and assess the priorities, funding requests and initiatives described here by engaging the senior executive team, our contracted and organization-based legislative advocates, as well as the Board of Supervisors at their annual workshop, where the Board of Supervisors sets the Board Objectives for each year. Input is also solicited from the appointed and elected department heads regarding program specific issues as well as alignment with county planning documents such as the Capitol Facilities Plan, Health and Human Services Strategic Plan, etc.

This document is shared with our contracted legislative advocacy firm, Shaw Yoder Antwih, Inc. as well as the public on the County's website. It is used throughout the year by the Board of Supervisors, County Executive Office and Department Heads to assess legislative issues as they arise and determine if advocacy on a particular issue is in alignment with the County's Legislative Platform.



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## 2019 Board Objectives Summary

### Priority A:

- Maintain the County's financial stability and core services.
- Reduce the risk of local **wildfire** and the effects of wildfire on life, property and the environment by providing leadership and support to community partners, pursuing State and Federal funding, implementing county policies and programs, and assisting the public to be "wildfire ready." Explore other ways to reduce the threat and damage from wildfires.
- In partnership with community providers and other jurisdictions, build an expanded system of coordinated care, outreach, transitional and permanent housing, and supportive services to address the needs of the **homeless** population and to mitigate impacts on the community.
- Coordinate with local jurisdictions, developers and other partners to maximize leveraging opportunities with new state funding for **affordable and workforce housing** development.
- Adopt a County **cannabis** ordinance and implement an effective cannabis compliance and permitting program to promote permitted cannabis activities.

### Priority B:

- Support job-enhancing **economic development** with an emphasis on infrastructure that expands or preserves commerce and provides leadership and coordination opportunities to bring funding sources and community partnerships together including ERC, SBC, RCRC, CSAC and USDA.

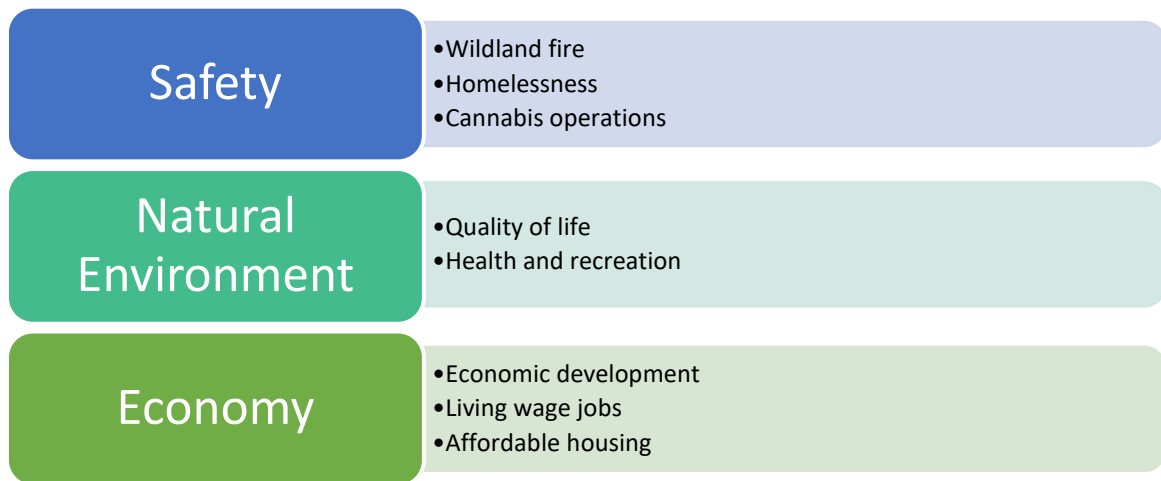
### Priority C:

- Increase public awareness and **civic engagement** by providing easy access to information on County-related services and to encourage citizens to participate in local government. Work with departments to implement new ways to engage with, and provide information to, citizens.
- Complete the feasibility analysis of a potential reorganization of western county **park and recreation districts** for increased collaboration and efficient operation of facilities and administration of services.
- Pursue the best use and maximum value for the **redevelopment of "Lot 6"** which may include a mix of aviation and commercial uses.

## Community Description

Nevada County is a small rural county in Northern California. The County spans 958 square miles from the Sacramento Valley to the Sierra Mountains and borders the state of Nevada, near Reno. Nevada County is home to approximately 100,000 residents with three incorporated cities include Grass Valley, Nevada City and the town of Truckee. Generally, Nevada County residents are older, racially similar yet politically diverse, and well-educated. Nevada County's rich gold rush history, active arts and culture scene, and access to recreational activities attract tourists, retirees, and new residents to the area.

Citizen priorities per the 2017 National Citizen Survey data:



### The Threat of Wildfire:

Nevada County is part of the Wildland Urban Interface, a transition zone between wildland and human development, making uncontrolled wildfire particularly hazardous.

In 2018, Nevada County:

- 115 wildfires in Nevada County
- 62 acres burned
- Applied for over \$16M in wildfire prevention funding

In 2017, the Lobo and McCourtney (Wind Complex) Fires

Burned **897** acres

Destroyed **60** structures



## Contacts

### Nevada County Offices

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#### Board of Supervisors

[www.mynevadacounty.com](http://www.mynevadacounty.com)

950 Maidu Ave  
Nevada City, CA 95959  
(530) 265-1480

#### County Executive Office

[www.mynevadacounty.com](http://www.mynevadacounty.com)

950 Maidu Ave  
Nevada City, CA 95959  
(530) 265-7040

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### Advocates

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#### Shaw Yoder Antiwh, Inc.

[www.shawyoderantwih.com](http://www.shawyoderantwih.com)

1415 L Street, Suite 1000  
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(916) 446-4656

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Paul Yoder: [pyoder@shawyoderantwih.com](mailto:pyoder@shawyoderantwih.com)

#### Rural County Representatives of Counties (RCRC)

[www.rcrcnet.org](http://www.rcrcnet.org)

1215 K Street, Suite 1650  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 447-4806

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#### California State Association of Counties (CSAC)

[www.counties.org](http://www.counties.org)

1100 K Street, Suite 101  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 327-7500

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### State and Federal Elected Officials

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#### Brian Dahle

California State Assembly 1<sup>st</sup> District

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State Capitol, Suite 4098  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 319-2001

#### Ted Gaines

California State Senate 1<sup>st</sup> District

<http://gaines.cssrc.us/>

State Capitol, Room 3076  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
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#### Dianne Feinstein

US Senator

<https://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/>

One Post Street, Suite 2450  
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#### Kamala Harris

US Senator

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#### Doug LaMalfa






US House of Representatives, CA 1<sup>st</sup> District

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(530) 878-5037



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## Legislative Priorities




Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
<b>Preserve Local Control</b>	Oppose legislation that does not recognize California's diversity and the need for local government's autonomy in addressing the problems and services of our residents	Board of Supervisors		State/ Federal
<b>Burdensome Regulatory Requirements</b>	Support rulemaking that minimizes burdensome requirements and legal obstacles, takes into consideration the various environments of the state and minimizes duplication of regulations by multiple agencies	All Departments		State/ Federal
<b>County Revenue</b>	Oppose efforts to decrease, restrict, eliminate or otherwise restrict local autonomy of local revenues	County Executive Office		State/ Federal
<b>State &amp; Federal Mandates</b>	Support full funding to ensure that state and federal mandates are cost-neutral to the County and pursue revisions to streamline the process for local government	County Executive Office		State/ Federal
<b>State Realignment &amp; Cost Shifts</b>	Oppose proposals to restructure, realign or otherwise shift the cost of state programs to local government without commensurate compensation	County Executive Office		State
<b>Economic Growth and Development</b>	Support efforts of job growth and economic development	County Executive Office		State/ Federal
<b>Telecommunication Legislation</b>	Advocate to protect the rights of local government to control location and permitting process of telecommunications infrastructure	Information and General Services		State/ Federal
<b>Affordable Housing</b>	Support legislative efforts to encourage affordable/workforce/senior housing developments in rural communities	Community Development Agency; Health and Human Services		State



Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
<b>Employee/Labor</b>	Support full cost recovery for salary, benefits and administration for all employee relationships and protect and enhance flexibility and local control over employee and labor relations issues	County Executive Office; Human Resources Department		State
<b>Privacy/Security</b>	Support efforts to protect non-public information that is collected electronically by the County in compliance with various state and federal laws and local ordinances	All Departments		State/ Federal
<b>Health in our Community</b>	Support legislation and funding for individual and community health programs delivered by counties through public health, behavioral health and social services. Further support legislation that encourages coordination of physical and mental health services to patients as well as innovative practices to improve the health and wellbeing of Californians.	Health and Human Services		State/ Federal
<b>Emergency Preparedness</b>	Support fair and equitable funding to local health departments and emergency services for emergency preparedness programs	Office of Emergency Services; Public Health		State/ Federal
<b>Emergency Medical Services</b>	Support legislation and funding that will enhance emergency and/or trauma services, including operations, equipment, infrastructure, ancillary services, public health interventions, and physician reimbursements	Office of Emergency Services; Public Health		State/ Federal
<b>Vegetation Management</b>	Support easing of environmental review criteria for vegetation removal along public roads	Public Works		State/ Federal
<b>Land Use: Housing Element Flexibility for Rural Counties</b>	Advocate for proposals that provide for flexibility in how rural counties designate parcels for specific zoning in order to meet housing development requirements	Planning Department		State

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
<b>Cap and Trade Funds/SRA Fees for Rural Communities</b>	Advocate for dedication of cap and trade revenue to rural communities through revising the definition of “disadvantaged communities”	Community Development Agency		State
<b>Broadband Infrastructure</b>	Advocate for the continuation and expansion of the California Advanced Services Fund’s rural broadband specific funding allocation and for the CPUC to streamline and lower the burden of the grant application, challenge and approval processes	Information and General Services		State
<b>Affordable Care Act</b>	Support continuation of the Affordable Care Act for the 1 in 5 Nevada County residents currently enrolled	Social Services		State/ Federal
<b>Child Custody and Visitation</b>	Support legislation to allow child support workers to assist families with child custody and visitation orders	Child Support Services		State
<b>Cyber Security and Open Data</b>	Advocate for County Information Technology Directors’ review and input on all proposed bills related to cyber security and open data to identify the possible unique impacts on rural counties	Information and General Services		State
<b>Workforce Training</b>	Enhance and expand employment and training programs to non-custodial parents	Child Support Services; Social Services		State
<b>Public Safety Realignment</b>	Support continued and protected funding for AB 109 Public Safety Realignment	Sheriff’s Office; Probation Department; Health and Human Services		State
<b>Cannabis Regulation</b>	Support legislative efforts to clarify state regulation, protect local control of cannabis allowable activities and fund enforcement and public health activities	Community Development Agency; Sheriff’s Office; Public Health		State

## Funding Requests

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
<b>Bonds &amp; Funding Measures</b>	Support an equitable disbursement of state and federal funding in all bond and funding measures affecting the County	County Executive Office		State/ Federal
<b>Trails</b>	Support proposals to increase funding for multi-purpose trails and bike trails	Board of Supervisors		State
<b>CSBG/CDBG/ Housing Choice Programs</b>	Advocate for continuing funding of CSBG/CDBG/HC programs which are vital to local government for infrastructure, development and housing programs	Health and Human Services		State/ Federal
<b>County Jail Operations</b>	Support funding for construction, modernization and staffing of adult criminal justice facilities that will meet the needs created by realignment and address long term sentences in county jails.	Sheriff's Office		State
<b>Homelessness Program Funding</b>	Support proposals to increase funding for shelter and coordination of services for homeless people in rural communities	Health and Human Services		State/ Federal
<b>Court Appointed Dependency Counsel Funding</b>	Support legislation or administrative action to fully fund optimal caseloads for dependency attorneys	Public Defender		State
<b>Rehabilitation and Treatment for Inmates</b>	Seek funding to support both in-custody programming and facilities in order to enhance the County's rehabilitation and treatment programs for inmates with mental health and substance use disorders	Behavioral Health; Sheriff's Office		State
<b>Mental Health Services</b>	Support legislation that shifts the payment structure of mental health services away from "per minute" to a method that supports efficient and effective care. End the IMD exclusion for Medi-Cal billing.	Behavioral Health		State/ Federal

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
<b>Dental Services for Low Income Californians</b>	Increase funding to expand access to dental health treatment and prevention services for low-income Californians through increasing Denti-Cal reimbursement levels to qualified dentists and expanding public education and awareness	Health and Human Services		State
<b>Invasive Species Program</b>	Support continued funding for effective pest management and eradication activities and to restore funding for agricultural border stations	Agricultural Commissioner		State/ Federal
<b>Tree Mortality and Fire Protection</b>	Support proposals to secure funding and dedicate resources to address tree mortality on local, state, federal and private lands to reduce fire hazard and promote forest and watershed health	Office of Emergency Services		State/ Federal
<b>Roads Funding</b>	Support proposals to increase transportation funding and repay existing transportation fund loans	Public Works		State
<b>Animal Care Shelter</b>	Support funding for regional animal shelter facility and programs	Sheriff's Office		State
<b>Williamson Act</b>	Support legislation or budget proposals to fund the Williamson Act subventions to counties	Community Development Agency; Assessor		State
<b>Health Realignment</b>	Advocate for maintaining sufficient health realignment funding to ensure adequate resources to obligations and fulfill statutory public health, behavioral health and indigent health care mandates	Public Health; Behavioral Health		State

## County Specific Initiatives

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
<b>South Yuba River State Park</b>	Advocate for increasing resources dedicated to the South Yuba River State Park for public safety and environmental protection	Board of Supervisors		State
<b>Hwy 49 Safety Improvements</b>	Advocate for planning, funding and implementation of safety improvements to the Hwy 49 corridor between Grass Valley and Auburn	Board of Supervisors		State
<b>Bridges</b>	Advocate for continuing funding of HBP funds to replace aging bridges throughout the County	Public Works		Federal
<b>Mental Health Services for Foster Youth</b>	Support clean-up legislation for AB1299 such that children and youth placed at Short Term Residential Treatment Programs are exempt from being transferred to their placement county for mental health care provision.	Behavioral Health		State
<b>Bridgeport Bridge Restoration Project</b>	Continue to pursue funding for the restoration of this historic landmark	Board of Supervisors		State