

2022

County of Nevada Legislative Platform



County of Nevada

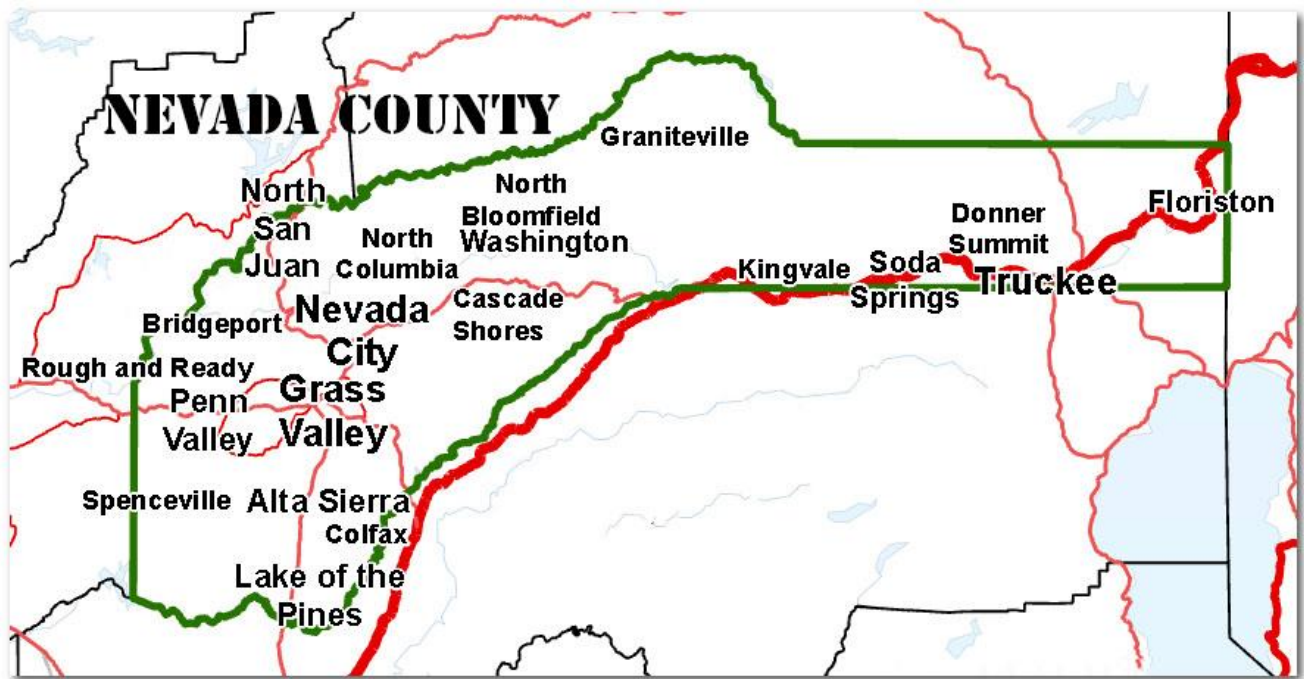
950 Maidu Ave

Nevada City, CA 95959

www.MyNevadaCounty.com

Resolution 22-XXXX

April 12, 2022



Executive Summary

The Nevada County Legislative Platform (Platform) provides an advocacy framework to support legislative and regulatory advocacy to ensure the sustainable delivery of core public services, advance top priority objectives of the County as adopted by the Board of Supervisors, and to solicit funding for infrastructure needs, capital projects and other services and programs that support and promote the well-being of Nevada County residents and community. Annual updates to the Platform also facilitate proactive response to top legislative priorities or regulatory positions in a given year.



2022 Key Legislative Positions

The 2022 Key Legislative Positions outlined below represent an overview of top legislative positions that touch on the Board's 2022 priority objectives, applicable pursuits of the California Governor's Office and pending/upcoming legislative threats and opportunities critical to the county.

Cannabis – Support legislation that alleviates burdensome tax initiatives and duplicative or costly bureaucratic processes on legal cannabis businesses, while recognizing and supporting effective cannabis enforcement on illegal cannabis operations; oppose legislation that strips or removes local jurisdictional authority.

Board of Forestry Fire Safety Regulations - Support reasonable legislation and regulatory actions that provide fire safety regulations and home hardening requirements that mitigate wildfire but oppose legislation or regulatory actions that threaten local control over land use and development in rural counties.

Broadband - Advocate for legislation and rulemaking that removes bureaucratic hurdles and processes to the California Advocated Series Fund (CASF) program and for transparent, efficient and rural equitable implementation of the State's Middle-Mile Infrastructure Development project.

County Officer Consolidation/Restructuring - Oppose legislation to restrict County's ability to consolidate the duties of county officer offices in various combinations, including the consolidation of the duties of the Sheriff and the Coroner.

Disaster Reimbursement - Advocate for timely reimbursements associated with declared states of emergencies and subsequent recovery efforts, including green waste removal.

Expansion of Involuntary Treatment - Oppose the expansion of Involuntary Treatment to address homelessness without adequate safeguards to individual liberty and adequate sustained resources to all impacted departments and programs with flexible local control.

Forest Management & Green Waste Removal – Advocate for ongoing sustainable funding for wildfire mitigation projects and programs including direct funding allocations to the Office of Emergency Services and community partners.

Housing - Support legislation to streamline development, increase funding for affordable housing development, and remove barriers to access such as increasing state income limits to keep pace with increases of wage rates and inflation overtime to allow for affordable housing and service eligibility.

Medi-Cal Recoupments - Advocate for mechanisms to lessen or forgive burdensome Medi-Cal recoupments to DHCS for services already rendered, including accurate, equitable and transparent calculations.

Recreation Infrastructure – Advocate for funding for recreational infrastructure development and ongoing resources to mitigate risks of public safety as a result of peak period visitation and tourism.

Sustainable Funding - Advocate for sustainable resources for ongoing programs and services and oppose efforts to establish county mandates or ongoing programs and services with one-time funding mechanisms.

Projects List 2022

While not a comprehensive list of all project priorities, this represents a dynamic list of projects important to Nevada County to further through planning, advocacy and funding. Icons below indicate if the project is in the conceptual or idea phase (lightbulb), planning phase (pencil/ruler), or is ready for implementation (shovel).



Dog Bar Bridge Replacement

The purpose of the project is to provide a safe crossing over Bear River on Dog Bar Road since the existing structure, built in the 1930s, is too narrow. The site is also a popular recreation destination.



Edwards Bridge Project

This bridge – commonly referred to as “Edwards Crossing” - was built in 1904 and is an historic structure with a large span over the South Yuba River. The site is also a popular recreation destination. The project need is to provide a safe permanent crossing over the South Yuba

River on North Bloomfield Road since the existing structure is structurally deficient.



Higgins Area Economic Development: Water/sewer project funding

\$3.5 million

This project to construct water and sewer infrastructure will serve multi-family residential areas in the Higgins Area, creating capacity for much-needed housing. Planning has been completed and the project is ready.



Higgins Area Economic Development, Recreation and Resilience: Combie Road Sidewalk/Bike Lane
\$980,000

This project to construct a sidewalk and bike lane from State Highway 49 to Magnolia Road supports a growing community, connecting housing, schools, and services, while enhancing public safety and reducing vehicle trips.



Highway 49 Corridor Improvements

\$15 million

This multi-modal 2.5-mile project will provide significant safety and traffic flow improvements to this two-lane segment of SR 49. Among other things, it will widen it to a four-lane conventional access control highway, install a continuous median barrier, remove numerous ingress/egresses to the highway, construct a frontage road system, install eight-foot shoulders with rumble strips, provide animal undercrossing/fencing, and more.



Independence Trail Reconstruction - The Jones Fire of August 2020 destroyed wooden structures within the fire perimeter along Independence Trail West, including the iconic flume spanning Rush Creek and the Rush Creek Ramp. In collaboration with CA State Parks, Bear Yuba Land Trust had ownership of the lands surrounding this trail and seeks funding to rebuild this iconic recreational feature.



Magnolia Road Infrastructure Improvements

Funding is needed for road improvement design and construction on Magnolia Road from Combie Road to the entrance Lake of the Pines entrance to strengthen emergency egress/ingress.



Mobile Crisis Teams

Funds are needed to expand and sustain Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) pilot with Nevada County Behavioral Health and Nevada County Sheriff's unified response to crises, including mental health, substance use issues, domestic disputes and more.



Nevada County Courthouse

Support the Nevada County Courthouse to remain in the county seat.



Nevada County Animal Shelter and Emergency Evacuation site

\$15 million

This project will construct an adequate and safe sheltering facility to meet community needs with improved animal intake and processing and public access. The new shelter addresses disaster preparedness priorities to meet emergency animal evacuation needs.



Penn Valley Community Center

The Penn Valley community identified a community center as a top priority in the Penn Valley Area Plan completed in 2020. On identified land owned by the Penn Valley Community Foundation, the community center would provide much needed meeting rooms, a commercial kitchen, event and outdoor activity space.



Pines to Mines

Nevada County, along with Tahoe National Forest and local non-profits has prioritized building an 18-mile trail connection which would connect over 80 miles of existing trail showcasing the county's most beautiful landscapes, linking Nevada City with Truckee. Pending the completion of the county funded environmental review in 2022, grants for construction will be sought in early 2023.



Ponderosa West Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

A fuels reduction treatment project on 2,420 acres in a high fire hazard severity zone that has not burned in over 100 years. The project will reduce catastrophic wildfire risk and promote forest health while creating safer public evacuation and wildfire suppression routes. It protects approximately 3,000 residences in the WUI communities of Lake Wildwood, Penn Valley, Rough and Ready and the City of Grass Valley, as well as critical infrastructure for state commerce, such as State Highway 20, power and water infrastructure, and Nevada County facilities.



Recreation and Resilience Master Plan

The Plan will be initiated in Summer 2022 to identify and advance key goals and objectives to address challenges and opportunities for Nevada County's open space, trails and other recreational interfaces, and prioritize solutions that promote community health and safety, economic development, creative placemaking, landscape restoration, environmental sustainability, climate change adaptation, and resilience. The following project areas are anticipated to be included in the plan, including advocacy and funding strategies.



Bear River Recreation Infrastructure Projects – develop plan, funding needed for planning, design, construction – Explore strategies with partners to address critical infrastructure needs related to recreation safety and resource preservation.



Boca Recreation Infrastructure – explore needs in master plan, work with state and federal partners to explore ways to sustain existing facilities and enhance communications.



Donner Summit Visitor/Recreation Infrastructure - Develop partnerships with DSA and Placer to develop plan for donner summit visitor center. Funding needed to build community consensus and implement planning phase for the eventual construction of visitor/recreation infrastructure on Donner Summit in partnership with the Donner Summit Association (DSA), Placer County, and applicable stakeholders.



Hirschdale Bridges Infrastructure - This project promotes sustainable recreation at this popular river and trail access point through multiple strategies to address parking, restrooms, litter, and wayfinding. Preserving access to the Pyramid Bikeway and other public use lands for recreation, travel, and fire prevention is the goal.



South Yuba River Multi-Jurisdictional Recreation Infrastructure Project: Multiple Projects Partner with Bureau of Land Management, State Parks, and other partners to address critical infrastructure needs for safety and resource preservation, including Independence Trail restoration.



Rural Community Fire Station Improvements

Projects to improve fire stations in North San Juan, Graniteville, and the Town of Washington will

enhance emergency preparedness and provide essential community services in these isolated communities. Funding is needed for plan readiness and construction.



Safe Harbor Evacuation Locations

Support funding and opportunities and planning initiatives to identify safe harbor evacuation sites located within the Nevada County for use during emergencies.



South Yuba River Rim Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

The project is a landscape-scale shaded fuel reduction area on the San Juan Ridge that will stretch from Bridgeport to Malakoff Diggins State Park, knitting together several key existing projects into a contiguous zone of protection. It will result in approximately 800 acres of new treatment, directly protecting 176 habitable at-risk structures in the project area and ultimately reducing risk for four communities and the economically vulnerable zone in Grass Valley.



Truckee Library

\$25 million

Advocate for funding to construct a spacious 21st century library to serve the Truckee/Martis Valley Region in partnership with community stakeholders.



Western Nevada County Improved Green Waste Disposal

\$2.5 million

Purchasing an identified site on La Barr Meadows Road to construct a green waste grinding facility which will allow for reuse of wood chips by locals and/or in co-generation plants, supporting emergency preparedness and resilience.



Woodpecker Ravine Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

Sandwiched between the City of Grass Valley to the northwest and the densely populated community of Alta Sierra to the southwest, Woodpecker Ravine is particularly vulnerable to wildfire due to its steep topography, heavily overgrown landscape, and proximity to neighborhoods. This project will implement hazardous fuel reduction on 1,390 acres within Woodpecker Ravine Fuel Modification Zone, prioritizing evacuation routes, critical infrastructure, and ridges.



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2022 Board Objectives



Fiscal Stability and Core Services

Maintain the County's financial stability and core services.



Emergency Preparedness

Lead the community in all hazards planning, preparedness, response, and recovery with a focus on wildfire. Do this by focusing on improving countywide evacuation routes and safety, continuing to strengthen early alert and critical communication systems, partnering closely with residents in emergency preparedness, defensible space, home hardening, green waste disposal, and fire-safe land stewardship.



Economic Development

Promote economic development by emphasizing resiliency and entrepreneurship; retaining and attracting high quality jobs; investing in major infrastructure projects; and working with local, state and federal partners to support our small business, nonprofit, and tourism sectors.



Broadband

Equitably expand broadband to support economic development, distance-learning, telework, telemedicine, and general quality of life for all residents by championing the implementation of Nevada County Broadband Strategy Plan policies and last-mile infrastructure projects.



Housing

Coordinate with local jurisdictions, developers, and other partners to facilitate development of, and access, to affordable and workforce housing development.



Cannabis

Maintain and continue to improve the cannabis permitting and enforcement program to promote permitted cannabis activities while implementing additional on-site supply chain license types and tools to mitigate impacts.



Homelessness

Leverage partnerships, housing first, and sustainable reforms in order to continue efforts to prevent homelessness, provide emergency shelter, expand supportive services, secure housing, and enhance coordination to address the needs of the homeless population and to mitigate impacts on the community.



Recreation

Promote sustainable recreation in partnership with community providers and other jurisdictions to enhance recreational access, support public health and safety, realize economic opportunities, and preserve natural resource assets.

Purpose & Use

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 Schmelzer & Lange, Inc. and Paragon Government Relations, 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.



Picture courtesy of YubaNet

Contacts

Nevada County Offices

Board of Supervisors

www.mynevadacounty.com
950 Maidu Ave
Nevada City, CA 95959
(530) 265-1480
Jeffrey Thorsby, Senior Management Analyst
jeffrey.thorsby@co.nevada.ca.us

County Executive Office

www.mynevadacounty.com
950 Maidu Ave
Nevada City, CA 95959
(530) 265-7040
Ariel Lovett, Projects Administrator
ariel.lovett@co.nevada.ca.us

Advocates

Shaw Yoder Schmelzer Antiwh & Lange

www.syaslpartners.com
1415 L Street, Suite 1000
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 446-4656
Karen Lange, Partner
karen@SYASLPartners.com
Paul Yoder, Founding Partner
paul@SYASLPartners.com

Paragon Government Relations, Inc.

www.paragonlobbying.com
220 Eye Street, NE, Suite 240
Washington, D.C. 20002
(208) 898-1444
Joe Krahn, President
jk@paragonlobbying.com
Tom Joseph, Vice President
tj@paragonlobbying.com
Hasan Sarsour, Sr. Legislative Associate
hs@paragonlobbying.com

California State Association of Counties (CSAC)

www.counties.org
1100 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 327-7500
Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez, Deputy Executive
Director
jwong-hernandez@counties.org
Board Representative(s)
Heidi Hall, CSAC AENR Vice-Chair:
Heidi.Hall@co.nevada.ca.us
(Alt.) Ed Scofield, CSAC Treasurer:
Ed.Scofield@co.nevada.ca.us

National Association of Counties (NACo)

www.naco.org
660 North Capitol Street, Suite 400
Washington D.C., 20001
(202) 942-4286
Mark Ritacco, Director of Government Affairs
mritacco@naco.org
Board Representative(s)
Heidi Hall, Public Lands Steering Committee:
Heidi.Hall@co.nevada.ca.us
(Alt.) Ed Scofield: Ed.Scofield@co.nevada.ca.us

Rural County Representatives of Counties (RCRC)

www.rcrcnet.org
1215 K Street, Suite 1650
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 447-4806
Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Sr. Vice-President
Government Affairs
mwarmerdam@rcrcnet.org
Board Representative(s)
Dan Miller, RCRC Chair:
Dan.Miller@co.nevada.ca.us
(Alt.) Sue Hoek: Sue.Hoek@co.nevada.ca.us

State and Federal Elected Officials

Megan Dahle
California State Assembly 1st District
www.ad01.asmr.org
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0001
365 Providence Mine Rd., Ste. F
Nevada City, CA 95959
(916) 319-2001
(530) 265-0701
Yolanda Cookson, Field Representative
yolanda.cookson@asm.ca.gov

Dianne Feinstein
US Senator
www.feinstein.senate.gov
One Post Street, Suite 2450
San Francisco, CA 94104
(415) 393-0707
Candice Hull, D.C. Office Staff
Candice_Hull@feinstein.senate.gov

Doug LaMalfa
US House of Representatives, CA 1st District
www.lamalfa.house.gov
2399 Rickenbacker Way
Auburn, CA 95602
(530) 878-5037
David Morgan, District Representative
david.morgan@mail.house.gov



Brian Dahle
California State Senate 1st District
www.dahle.cssrc.us
1021 O Street, Room 7230
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 651-4001
Joshua Cook, Chief of Staff
josh.cook@sen.ca.gov
David Orosco, Legislative Director
david.orosco@sen.ca.gov

Alex Padilla
US Senator
www.padilla.senate.gov
501 I Street, Suite 7-800
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 488-2787
Joshua Esquivel, D.C. Legislative Director
joshua_esquivel@padilla.senate.gov



Tom McClintock
US House of Representatives, CA 4th District
www.mcclintock.house.gov
2220A Douglas Blvd, Suite 240
Roseville, CA 95661
(916) 786-5560
Kimberly Pruett, District Representative
kimberly.pruett@mail.house.gov

Legislative Positions

Policy Area: Administration of Justice (AOJ)

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
California Highway Patrol (CHP) Sustainable Funding	Advocate for sustainable resources for local California Highway Patrol divisions, including increased of staffing, equipment and other resources	Board of Supervisors; Sheriff		State
County Jail Operations	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
County Officer Consolidation/ Restructuring	Oppose legislation to restrict County's ability to consolidate the duties of various county officer offices in various combinations, including the consolidation of the duties of the Sheriff and the Coroner	Board of Supervisors; Sheriff; Coroner; Public Administrator		State
Court Discretion	Support legislation that provides increased discretion of prosecutors and courts in prosecuting crimes related to theft of firearms based on all the facts and circumstances surrounding the offense	District Attorney; Public Defender		State
Diversion & Community-based Restoration to address IST Waitlist	Support legislation to expand diversion and community-based restoration to reduce those on the felony incompetent to stand trial (IST) waitlist	Probation/ Behavioral Health		State/ Federal





Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Excessive Force Whistle Blower Protections	Support legislation that provides requirements and protection for whistleblowers reporting excessive force used by law enforcement officers	Public Defender; Sheriff's Office		State
Flash Incarceration for Probation Violations	Support legislation for the use of flash incarceration for violations of conditions of probation or mandatory supervision	Probation		State
Justice Assistance	Support the maximum level of funding for key federal justice assistance and law enforcement grant programs, including, but not limited to, Byrne/JAG, COPS, and SCAAP	Sheriff's Office		Federal
Pre-Trial Service Allocation	Advocate to expand funding for pre-trial services via an increase in direct county allocations	Probation; Public Defender		State
Public Defender Funding	Support legislation or administrative action to fully fund optimal workloads for public defenders, that address historical funding imbalances, to implement criminal system reform measures, and that provide grants to improve the provision of indigent defense services in rural counties	Public Defender		State
Public Defender Unfunded Mandates	Oppose legislation that creates unfunded mandates for public defenders that place large additional workloads on previously closed cases	Public Defender		State

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Public Safety Realignment	Support continued and protected funding for Public Safety Realignment	Sheriff's Office; Probation Department; Health and Human Services		State
Reform Legal Definition of Petty Theft	Support legislation that reclassifies the crime of petty theft in the 2nd degree as all other petty theft	Public Defender; District Attorney		State
Reform Peremptory Challenges	Support legislation that reforms the use of peremptory challenges with effective procedures for eliminating the use of unfair exclusion of potential jurors	Public Defender; District Attorney		State
Sustainable funding for SB 678	Advocate for stability and long-term viability of SB 678 funding to provide evidence-based probation practices and supervision	Probation		State

Policy Area: Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources (ANR)

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Cannabis Banking	Support efforts to reform federal banking regulations that restrict banking services to a legitimate marijuana- or hemp-related business.	Board of Supervisors; Treasurer Tax Collector; Auditor-Controller		Federal
Cannabis Regulation	Support legislative efforts to clarify consistent 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
Cap and Trade Funds/SRA Fees for Rural Communities	Advocate for dedication of cap and trade revenue to rural communities through revising the definition of "disadvantaged communities"	Community Development Agency		State
Code Compliance Officer Safety	Support legislation that provides increased protection for Code Compliance Officer safety including prohibiting the disclosure of officer personal contact information and funding for increased safety training and resources	Code Compliance		State
Disaster Reimbursement	Advocate for timely reimbursements associated with declared states of emergencies and subsequent recovery efforts	Office of Emergency Services; Public Works; County Executive Office		State; Federal




Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Emergency Preparedness	Support fair and equitable funding to local health departments and emergency services for emergency preparedness programs	Office of Emergency Services; Public Health		State/ Federal
Federal Emergency Management Agency Funding	Advocate for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and other FEMA Grant Funds and for timely award notification and fund distributions	Office of Emergency Services		Federal
Federal Lands Management	Support legislation for increased and predictable funding for greater investments in ecological forest management and fire suppression practices on federal lands consistent with the 2020 Memorandum of Understanding with the State of California.	Board of Supervisors; County Executive Office; Office of Emergency Services		Federal
Independence Trail Rebuild	Advocate for funding for the reconstruction and ongoing maintenance of the Independence Trail along the South Yuba River	Board of Supervisors; Community Development Agency		State/ Federal
Invasive Species Program	Protect existing revenue sources and support additional funding to manage and prevent the potential spread of invasive pests in Nevada County and or California.	Agricultural Commissioner		State/ Federal





Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Local Control & Regulation on Cannabis and Medical Cannabis	Oppose legislation that restricts or removes local control or regulation of cannabis cultivation, commercial cannabis operation and/or medical cannabis	Community Development Agency; Code Compliance		State/ Federal
Open Space Recreation	Advocate for Federal and State resources for outdoor recreation and trails	Board of Supervisors; County Executive Office; Planning		State
Payments-in Lieu-of-Taxes (PILT) and Secure Rural Schools (SRS) Funding	Support efforts to secure Payments-in-Lieu-of-Taxes (PILT) and Secure Rural Schools (SRS) Funding and oppose efforts to decrease or defund PILT and/or SRS	County Executive Office; Treasurer Tax Collector; Auditor-Controller		State/Federal
Public Lands Staffing	Advocate for additional federal resources to coincide with the growing number of visitors to public lands, including additional law enforcement officers for both the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management within Nevada County across the South Yuba watershed and Truckee high sierra	Board of Supervisors; Sheriff; Community Development Agency		Federal





Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS)	Support PSPS event legislation and rule-making that ensures maximum communication between local Office of Emergency Services and Public Health Departments, notification to all impacted residents, special provisions for access and functional needs individuals, back-up generation to critical infrastructure and incorporated jurisdictions, and necessary reimbursement funding for PSPS related costs	Office of Emergency Services; Public Health, Adult Protective Services; Child Protective Services; County Executive Office		State
Residential and Commercial Wildfire Insurance	Support legislation that provides greater consumer protection, access to, and transparent and consistent risk modeling related to residential and commercial wildfire insurance that balances consumer protections and extreme risks faced by the insurance industry	Board of Supervisors; Office of Emergency Services		State/ Federal
South Yuba River Purdon Crossing	Advocate for state and federal resources for the development and on-going maintenance necessary for public restroom facilities and parking enhancements at Purdon Crossing	Board of Supervisors; County Executive Office; Public Works; Sheriff's Office		State/ Federal
South Yuba River State Park	Advocate for increasing resources dedicated to the South Yuba River State Park, Bureau of Land Management, and United States Forest Service - Tahoe National Park for public safety and environmental protection	Board of Supervisors		State/ Federal

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Tree Mortality and Fire Protection	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
Vegetation Management	Support easing of environmental review criteria for vegetation removal along public roads and other essential, critical, and water infrastructure	Public Works		State/ Federal
Water Theft & Water Pollution	Support legislation that enhances local enforcement authority to prosecute and enjoin water theft and water pollution, including as a result of illegal cannabis operations	Code Compliance; Sheriff		State
Wildfire Mitigation Sustainability	Advocate for ongoing sustainable funding for wildfire mitigation projects and programs including direct funding allocations to the Office of Emergency Services and community partners	Office of Emergency Services		State/ Federal
Williamson Act	Support legislation or budget proposals to fund the Williamson Act subventions to counties	Community Development Agency; Assessor		State


Policy Area: Government Finance and Administration (GFA)

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Animal Care Shelter	Support funding for regional animal shelter facility and programs	Sheriff's Office		State
Bonds & Funding Measures	Support an equitable disbursement of state and federal funding in all bond and funding measures affecting the County	County Executive Office		State/ Federal
Burdensome Regulatory Requirements	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
CalPERS & Unfunded Liability	Oppose legislation that would increase County unfunded liability related to CalPERS Employee Retirement benefits including changes to disallowed benefits	County Executive Office; Auditor-Controller; Human Resources		State
CalPERS/Courts/County Separation	Advocate for the administrative separation of county and court CalPERS employee pension program(s)	Auditor-Controller		State




Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
County Revenue	Oppose efforts to decrease, restrict, eliminate or otherwise restrict local autonomy of local revenues	County Executive Office		State/ Federal
COVID-19 Cost Recovery	Advocate for funding related to COVID-19 cost recovery that includes direct funding allocations to local governments and provides maximum flexibility on spending discretion	County Executive Office; Board of Supervisors; Auditor-Controller; HHSA		State/ Federal
Cyber Security and Open Data	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 and threats to essential, critical and water infrastructure	Information and General Services		State
Elections & PSPS Events	Support legislation and advocate for increased coordination between Elections Officials and Investor Owned Utilities to ensure the continuation of operations during PSPS events and to secure necessary operation funding	Elections; Office of Emergency Services		State

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Employee/ Labor	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
Health Realignment	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
IHSS & Public Guardian Funding	Advocate for sustainable funding for the Public Guardian related to an increase of IHSS caseloads associated with the implementation of the Older Californians Expansion (50+) AB 133 and SB 133 that expand eligibility for full scope Medi-Cal to individuals who are 50 years of age or older, and who do not have satisfactory immigration status or are unable to establish satisfactory immigration status	HHSA; APS		State
Implementation of SB 552: Drought Planning, Small Water Suppliers, No transient, Noncommunity Water Systems	Support efforts to increase funding and resources for County departments to ensure adequate implementation of SB 552	CDA; Environmental Health		State




Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Infrastructure Water Treatment Investment	Advocate for increased direct capital investment funding for infrastructure construction and water treatment system consolidation.	Community Development Agency; Public Works		State/ Federal
Political Affiliation Requirements for Nonpartisan Offices	Oppose legislation to require or permit the disclosure of political party preferences of candidates for nonpartisan offices	Board of Supervisors		State
Preserve Local Control	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
Privacy/ Security	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
Property Tax Refunds	Oppose legislation that would provide property tax refunds to owners of commercial properties by making available mid-year property assessment reductions based on disaster relief for economic losses absent physical damage	Assessor's Office; Treasurer Tax Collector; Clerk of the Board; County Executive Office		State

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Public Civility	Support legislation that promotes public civility and rules related to public meeting order and decorum while ensuring transparency, public participation, and freedom of speech	Board of Supervisors		State
Public Meeting Telecommunication Requirements	Support legislation to amend the Ralph M. Brown Act that remove burdensome telecommunication requirements that allow for use of telecommunication during public meetings while ensuring transparency and public participation but that prevents the disclosure of personally identifiable information that compromises individual safety (i.e. home addresses.)	Board of Supervisors		State
Public Records Retention of Electronic Mail	Oppose legislation to increase retention period requirements of public records that includes electronic mail unless adequate funding is included	Clerk of the Board; Information general Services Agency; County Counsel		State
Skilled and Trained Workforce Contract Requirements	Oppose legislation to expand skilled and trained workforce requirements to contractors and sub-contractors as a prescribed prequalification to determine eligibility for bidding and contract awards	Purchasing Agent		State

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Special Elections	Advocate for State Funding of Elections for special elections including Recall Elections	Elections		State
State & Federal Mandates	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
State Realignment & Cost Shifts	Oppose proposals to restructure, realign or otherwise shift the cost of state programs to local government without commensurate compensation	County Executive Office		State
State Supplementation for County Assessors' Program (SSCAP)	Advocate for the extension and continuation of sustainable funding through the State Supplementation for County Assessors' Program (SSCAP) for activities such as digitization of records and other programs	Assessor		State
Sustainable Funding for Cultural Districts and Arts	Support sustainable funding for Nevada County's two Cultural Districts and associated cultural and arts programs and activities	Board of Supervisors; County Executive Office		State



Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Tele-communication Legislation	Advocate to protect the rights of local government to control location and permitting process of telecommunications infrastructure	Information and General Services		State/ Federal
Uncoverable Property Tax Administrative Costs	Support legislation that provides funding equity between the state and county for uncoverable property tax administrative costs	Assessor; Auditor-Controller; Treasurer Tax Collector		State
Weights & Measures	Support legislation that preserves and enhances funding resources for weights and measures programs at the state (California Department of Food and Agriculture- Dept. of Measurement Standards) and local (County Sealer) level for consumer protection	Ag Commissioner; County Executive Office; CDA Administration		State



Policy Area: Health and Human Services (HHS)




Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Affordable Care Act	Support continuation of the Affordable Care Act for the 1 in 5 Nevada County residents currently enrolled	Social Services		State/ Federal
Affordable Child Care	Advocate for increased funding for and access to affordable childcare	HHSA; Social Services		State/Federal
Behavioral Health Core Funding	Support efforts to maintain realignment, MHSA and other core funding sources to include COLAs and other mechanisms to ensure revenue sources maintain pace with costs overtime; conversely oppose efforts that threaten or jeopardize core funding	HHSA; Behavioral Health		State/ Federal
CAL Code List of Foodborne Illnesses	Oppose legislation that expands CA Retail Food Code (Cal Codes) lists of illnesses transmissible through food to include other communicable diseases that are not transmissible through food, including COVID-19	CDA; Environmental Health		State



Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
CalAim	Support policy proposals that amend CalAIM that ensure efficient and effective delivery of Medi-Cal specialty mental health services and substance use disorder services that are coupled with clear transparent reimbursement funding mechanisms; conversely monitor and oppose initiatives that do not include funding mechanisms or place unfunded mandates on counties	HHSA; Behavioral Health		State
Child Custody and Visitation	Support legislation to allow child support workers to assist families with child custody and visitation orders	Child Support Services		State
Child Support	Support requiring the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to prioritize serving non-custodial parents and provide the child support administrative match to fund employment and training services.	Health and Human Services		Federal
Compact Mobile Food Facilities	Oppose legislation that exempts compact mobile food facilities from specified provisions from Cal Codes and associated changes related to limited food preparation, cottage food operations, microenterprise home kitchen operations, food safety knowledge requirements, sanitation requirements, local enforcement agencies authority, and penalties associated with violations of Cal Code that increase the risk of public safety or expand unfunded mandates on county departments	CDA; Environmental Health		State



Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Criminal Justice Reform Unfunded Mandates	Support legislation that provides state funding for public defender offices to implement criminal system reform measures	Public Defenders		State
Definition of Dependent Adult	Monitor any efforts to expand the definitions of dependent adult and advocate for any expansion of definition to include resources needed to treat said individuals and mitigate unnecessary increases of caseloads	HHSA; APS		State
Dental Services for Low Income Californians	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
Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Medi-Cal Recoupment	Advocate for the mechanisms to alleviate burdensome Medi-Cal recoupments to DHCS for services already rendered, including accurate, equitable and transparent calculations	HHSA; Behavioral Health; Public Health		State/Federal
Emergency Medical Services	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

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Family First Prevention Services Act	Support legislation to amend Family First Prevention Services Act to expand approved evidence based services to incorporate more widely used therapeutic, parenting, and substance abuse modalities to prevent children from entering foster care by keeping families together and implement a more in depth and comprehensive prevention plan	HHSA; Social Services; Probation; Behavioral Health		State/Federal
Firearm Restriction DHCS Reporting Transparency	Support efforts to require transparency of individuals reported to the Department of Justice (DOJ) by designated facilities as a danger to self or others from owning or possessing a firearm per applicable law to be reported to DHCS by the DOJ and designated facilities	HHSA; Behavioral Health; Sheriff		State/Federal
Health in our Community	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

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Homelessness Program Funding	Support proposals to increase funding for shelter, housing and services for individuals experiencing homelessness in rural communities, including but not limited to the Home Safe Program	Health and Human Services		State/ Federal
Integrated School-Based Behavioral Health Partnerships	Support prevention and early intervention behavioral health services through integrated school-based behavioral health partnerships and sustained funding; conversely oppose associated unfunded mandated initiatives	HHSA; Behavioral Health		State/ Federal
Involuntary Treatment	Monitor any efforts to expand the definitions of gravely disabled or other conditions that may qualify someone for involuntary treatment for possible infringements on personal rights and ensure that any expansion also includes resources needed to treat these individuals; conversely oppose efforts to expand definitions of gravely disabled or other conditions for involuntary treatment under the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act (LPS) that fail to adequately address and mitigate associated concerns and impacts on individuals and County administrators	HHSA; Behavioral Health; Social Services; Public Defender		State





Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
License Plate Fee Exemptions	Support legislation to exempt veterans receiving 100% service-connected compensation from license plate fees	HHSA; VSO		State
Mental Health Services	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
Mental Health Services for Foster Youth	Support clean-up legislation for AB 1299 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
Nutrition Supports/ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	Support efforts to improve nutrition security, including ensuring that the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/CalFresh) is not block granted or otherwise changed to limit current eligibility for the program.	Health and Human Services		Federal
Public Health	Support increased funding to ensure robust public health planning, a skilled workforce, and disease surveillance and response to combat and control communicable diseases.	Health and Human Services		Federal

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Public Health Core Funding	Support funding for public health workforce enhancements and support, infrastructure, and core services; conversely oppose efforts that threaten or jeopardize funding for workforce, infrastructure and core services.	Public Health		State
Rehabilitation and Treatment for Inmates	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
Social Service Workers and Public Defenders	Support legislation or administrative action to mandate social workers in public defender offices coupled with sustainable funding for the same.	Public Defenders; Social Services; Behavioral Health		State
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program	Support a comprehensive reauthorization of TANF/CalWORKs to provide pathways to family economic success by measuring outcomes rather than processes, including increasing flexibility in meeting work participation rules.	Health and Human Services		Federal
US Military Retirement Benefits	Support legislation to exempt US Military Retirement Benefits from state income tax	HHSA; VSO		State
Veteran Claim Assistance	Support legislation to require an individual assisting veteran with claim assistance to provide proof of credential	HHSA; VSO		State

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Veteran Property Tax Deduction Limitations	Support legislation to raise property tax deduction limitations for disabled veterans	HHSA; VSO		State
Workforce Training	Enhance and expand employment and training programs to non-custodial parents	Child Support Services; Social Services		State
Youth Mental Health Services	Support legislation to make mental health services more accessible to youth, including advocating for private insurance and Medi-Cal managed care plans to partner with counties where appropriate to create a consistent system of care for all youth regardless of insurance status	HHSA; Behavioral Health; Probation; Social Services		State/ Federal



Policy Area: Housing, Land Use and Transportation (HLUT)


Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Accessory Dwelling Units Funding	Support legislation that provides funding mechanisms to assist homeowners in qualifying for loans to construct additional housing units on their property, including accessory dwelling units	Community Development Agency; Health and Human Services		State/ Federal
Affordable Housing	Support legislative efforts to encourage affordable/workforce/ senior housing developments in rural communities and financing mechanisms for investors and homeowners	Community Development Agency; Health and Human Services		State/ Federal
Affordable Housing State Income Limits	Support legislation to increase state income limits to keep pace with increases of wage rates and inflation overtime to allow for affordable housing and service eligibility	HHSA; DSS; CDA		State/ Federal
Amend Streets and Highway Code to allow for Emergency Access	Support legislation to amend Streets and Highway Code that provide clarification allowing the issuance of encroachment permits on any State highway or freeway for emergency access where access is limited in moderate, high and very high Fire Severity Zones (as determined by Cal FIRE)	Public Works; Sheriff		State



Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Board of Forestry Fire Safety Regulations	Support reasonable legislation and regulatory actions that provide fire safety regulations and home hardening requirements that mitigate wildfire but oppose legislation or regulatory actions that threaten local control over land use and development in rural counties	Community Development Agency; Public Works; Planning; Building; Code Compliance; Office of Emergency Services		State
Bridges Funding	Advocate for equitable allocation of new IIJA bridge formula program to replace or repair aging bridges throughout the County and support ongoing efforts to replace or renew Highway Bridge Program (HPB) funding mechanisms beyond IIJA for sustainable funding	Public Works		State/ Federal
Broadband Last-Mile & Middle-Mile Infrastructure Development	Advocate for legislation and rulemaking that removes bureaucratic hurdles and processes to the California Advocated Series Fund (CASF) program and for transparent, efficient and rural equitable implementation of the State's Middle-Mile Infrastructure Development project	Community Development Agency; Information General Services		State
Broadband Local Infrastructure Development	Monitor implementation of the IIJA's Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program and seek sustainable program funding to support the expansion of rural broadband infrastructure development, and implementing a Dig Once Policy	Public Works; Information General Services; Board of Supervisors; County Executive Office		Federal/ State


Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Caltrans Specifications & Standards	Support efforts to require third-party outside review or revised road standards	Public Works		State
CSBG/CDBG/Housing Choice Programs	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
Federal Lands Public Roads	Advocate and support legislation for ongoing sustainable funding for road maintenance on Federal Lands	Public Works		Federal
Forest Fire Prevention Exemption	Support legislation that extends the operation of the Forest Fire Prevention Exemption			State
Fund/Reform CASF Broadband Infrastructure Development Program	Advocate for the continuation and expansion of the California Advanced Services Fund's rural broadband specific funding allocation and for the CPUC to reform the grant application, challenge and approval processes that includes the ability for local jurisdictions to apply	Information and General Services		State

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Golf Course Land Use Repurposing	Support legislation that enables local governments to meet their regional housing allocation responsibilities via converted municipally owned golf courses into other uses that include affordable housing	Planning Department; Community Development Agency		State
Hwy 49 Safety Improvements	Advocate for planning, funding and implementation of safety improvements to the Hwy 49 corridor between Grass Valley and Auburn	Board of Supervisors		State
Impact and Development Fees	Oppose legislation that caps, removes or alters Impact and Development fees without local control or summarily creates an unfunded mandate through deferral or other development incentive programs	Public Works; Planning; Building; Community Development Agency		State
Land Use: Housing Element Flexibility for Rural Counties	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
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle (OHV) Recreation & Funding	Support legislation and efforts that clarify Off-Highway Motor Vehicle (OHV) compatible use(s) that balance reactionary needs and nuisance concerns and support sustainable funding for OHV Grant Programs on Federal and State lands	Public Works; Sheriff's Office		State/ Federal

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Organic Waste and Recycling	Support efforts to increase and reform recycling redemption programs and advocate for flexible rule making that factors economies of scales for organic waste diversion and processing infrastructure capacity	Public Works; Solid Waste		State
Parking Requirements	Oppose legislation that restricts local authority to impose a minimum automobile parking requirement, or enforce a minimum automobile parking requirement, on residential, commercial, or other development	Planning		State
Public Roadway Funding: Maintenance of Effort Adjustments	Support legislation that adjusts the Maintenance of Efforts (MOE) calculations that cities and counties are required to meet to receive local street and road funds to account for decreases in local sales tax revenue caused by the COVID-19 pandemic	Public Works		State
Private Roads Vegetation Management	Advocate for funding for the clearance and ongoing maintenance of hazardous vegetation along private roads	Board of Supervisors; OES		State

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Reform CA Transportation Development Act	Support legislation to reform the California Transportation Development Act (TDA) that a) eliminates the financial penalty for transit agencies not in compliance with their farebox recovery requirements, without requiring an entirely new system for all operators; b) modify guidelines and procedures that negatively impact rural counties; and c) provide funding relief efforts due to COVID-19	Public Works; Transit		State
Reform NEPA for broader exclusions of public safety and increase local control	Support legislation and regulatory rules that support a) the broader use of categorical exclusions (CE) under NEPA to address threats to communities or watersheds, reduce the risk of catastrophic events and ensure the timely construction and maintenance of critical transportation and water infrastructure, and b) revising NEPA in order to strengthen the involvement of local governments in the federal decision-making process, including clarifying the cooperating agency definition, and to expedite project analyses that deliver final decisions in a more timely and effective manner.	Public Works; Planning		Federal

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Regional Housing Needs Allocation Methodology & Climate Change	Support legislation that incorporates impacts associated with climate change, including emergency evacuation route capacity, and wildfire, in methodology used to determine regional housing needs allocations (RHNA)	Planning		State
Roads Funding	Support proposals to increase and back-fill lost revenues for transportation funding and repay existing transportation fund loans; conversely oppose proposals to restrict, repurpose, or otherwise negatively impact revenues for road funding	Public Works		State
Subdivision Map Act	Oppose legislation to reform the California Subdivisions Map Act that removes or decrease local control and conditional use requirements.	Public Works; Planning		State
Support AB 2120	Support efforts to ensure a fair and needs-based allocation of bridge formula funding from the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)	Public Works		Federal/ State
Treated Wood Waste	Support AB332 and legislative efforts to allow treated wood waste (TWW) to be hauled and transported to proper disposal facilities	Public Works		State/ Federal

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	Board Object.	Target
Vegetation Management along Public Roadways	Seek funding to support sustainable funding for vegetation management along public roadways and programs that support efforts to for vegetation management along private roadways.	Public Works; Office of Emergency Services		State/ Federal