



COUNTY OF YOLO

Board of Supervisors

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2014 Intergovernmental Advocacy Policy

Adopted January 14, 2014

INTRODUCTION

The 2014 Intergovernmental Advocacy Policy serves as a comprehensive platform for Yolo County's advocacy efforts, encompassing the County's values and goals. The advocacy policy is divided into three main categories:

- Agriculture and Environmental Stewardship
- Transportation and Infrastructure
- General Government and Service Delivery

From these three categories, examples of specific advocacy policy objectives are identified; the objectives provide context to the County's platform. The objectives are directly linked to the goals of County's Three Year Tactical Plan as summarized below:

- 1) Advance innovation
- 2) Champion job creation and economic opportunities
- 3) Collaborate to maximize success
- 4) Enhance and sustain the safety net
- 5) Preserve and ensure safe and crime free communities
- 6) Preserve and support agriculture
- 7) Protect open space and the environment
- 8) Provide fiscally sound, dynamic and responsive services

Note: The numerals and letters following a policy objective indicate which tactical goal (numeral) and objectives and implementation tactics (letter) the following advocacy policies support.

AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Agriculture and environmental stewardship are unique and defining aspects of Yolo County's heritage and economy. As such, the County strongly advocates to preserve and support agriculture and to protect open space and the environment. Specific policies include, but are not limited to:

- Support the Williamson Act, agricultural land conservation easements, agricultural and habitat impact mitigation, and other incentives to keep land in agriculture and open space (6D, 6E, 7A, 7B, 7E)
- Secure changes to the Bay Delta Conservation Plan Yolo Bypass Conservation Measure to avoid/minimize impacts on agriculture, flood protection, and terrestrial species habitat, including migrating waterfowl, as well as secure full mitigation for any unavoidable impacts (6D)
- Support the Rural Urban Connection Strategy (RUCS), "Farm-to-Fork," and other similar policies which would assist agribusiness in marketing and selling its goods in the local market (2A, 6B)
- Oppose the widening of the Fremont Weir, Yolo Bypass, and Sacramento Bypass at least until alternatives to increase flood capacity within existing footprints are exhausted (6D)
- Secure funding for the development and implementation of community choice aggregation in Yolo County (7H)

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Well-maintained roads, modern bridges, and effective utilities and other supporting infrastructure are prerequisites for sustaining and growing the local economy. Yolo County has hundreds of miles of rural roads that must be maintained to ensure the quick and safe movement of goods and people. Furthermore, being situated on the Sacramento River Delta, robust flood protection and mitigation efforts including levee improvements and access to affordable flood insurance are imperative to provide

constituents of the region the greatest level of assurance that their lives and property will be safe in event of a flood. Yolo County strongly advocates for sufficient funding for transportation, infrastructure, and flood protection improvement projects. Specific policies include, but are not limited to:

- Support the development and implementation of a countywide Capital Improvement Project (CIP) with a self-contained funding plan in concert with other local jurisdictions (3B, 3E, 3F)
- Seek modifications to the Federal Emergency Management Agency standards for non-residential structures (7D)
- Continue to maintain a strong presence in the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan and Regional Flood Management Plan (7D)
- Secure funding for levee improvement and related flood control projects (7D)

GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND SERVICE DELIVERY

California local governments continue to be beset by mandates and realigned programs that strain budgets and reduce local control. Yolo County strongly advocates for the state and federal government to not withhold or divert promised revenue and for greater autonomy for local governments to develop and implement new and novel policy solutions and funding mechanisms. Specific policies include, but are not limited to:

- Support and ensure that Yolo County will be a beneficiary of any proposal to lower the two-thirds vote threshold for local special taxes (8A)
- Pursue and support legislation which corrects property tax inequality (8A)
- Ensure adequate funding for Yolo County's implementation of AB109 and advocate for the inclusion of performance measures in the allocation formula (8A)
- Support legislation which ensures adequate funding for County administered safety net and public safety programs (4A, 5A)