



COUNTY OF YOLO

Board of Supervisors

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2024 Intergovernmental Advocacy Policy *Considered February 13, 2024*

The 2024 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 the following federal and state departmental categories:

- County Administrator's Office
- Agriculture
- Assessor-Clerk Recorder-Elections
- Community Services
- Emergency Services
- General Services
- Health & Human Services
- Law & Justice
- Libraries
- Child Support Services
- Innovation and Technology Services

From these categories, examples of specific policy objectives are identified; the objectives provide context to the County's platform. The objectives are directly linked to the goals of the County's 2020-2025 Strategic Plan as summarized below:

1. Thriving Residents
2. Safe Communities
3. Sustainable Environment
4. Flourishing Agriculture
5. Robust Economy

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

Federal

- Collaborate to ensure major flood and habitat projects in the Yolo Bypass proceed in an integrated fashion that avoids/minimizes impacts on agriculture, flood protection, and terrestrial species habitat, including migrating waterfowl, as well as secure full mitigation for any unavoidable impacts and oppose legislation that could harm the balance of agriculture and habitat in the Yolo Bypass (Sustainable Environment, Flourishing Agriculture, Robust Economy)
- Seek modifications to the Federal Emergency Management Agency standards (National Flood Insurance Program) for non-residential structures, particularly in agricultural zones, such as by providing more sensible restrictions and equitable rates (Safe Communities)
- Support actions which work to promote the health and safety of residents, without regard to immigration status (Thriving Residents)
- Support actions to ensure sensible Federal Immigration policies that uphold the U.S. Constitution and protect the people and economy of Yolo County (Thriving Residents)
- Oppose actions that that may be harmful to families or children or that interfere with a person's right to pursue asylum in the United States or that result in a denial of due process of law to any immigrant (Safe Communities, Thriving Residents)
- Support legislation that seeks to preserve open space and our environment, prevents and mitigate the effects of climate change, and furthers environmental justice (Sustainable Environment, Thriving Residents, Flourishing Agriculture)

State

- Continue to maintain a strong presence in the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, Regional Flood Management Plan, and Yolo Bypass Partnership (Safe Communities, Sustainable Environment, Flourishing Agriculture)
- Secure funding for levee improvement and related flood control projects (Safe Communities)
- Support the development and implementation of the Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Partnership and other multi-benefit projects that seek to integrate flood management, conservation, water quality, water supply and agricultural sustainability efforts into a locally supportable

plan that reduces reliance on the Delta and oppose legislation that could harm the balance of agriculture and habitat in the Yolo Bypass (Safe Communities, Sustainable Environment, Flourishing Agriculture)

- Secure funding for local participation in Delta and flood management policy discussions and funding for projects that provide benefits to County priorities in the Delta and Yolo Bypass (Safe Communities, Sustainable Environment, Flourishing Agriculture)
- Oppose unfunded mandates or other legislation which limits the County's ability to efficiently deliver services and support legislation which streamlines state-local interaction and strengthens the ability of counties to self-govern (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)
- Pursue and support legislation which corrects property tax inequality (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)
- Seek legal resources to support Yolo County residents with immigration issues (Thriving Residents)
- Support actions which ensure family unity, community security, respect, due process and support for all residents including immigrants and international visitors (Safe Communities, Thriving Residents)
- Continue to identify resources to support access to critical services, due process, and just laws for all residents, without regard to immigration status (Safe Communities, Thriving Residents)
- Identify resources to support Yolo County's commitment to be a safe, tolerant, and welcoming place (Safe Communities, Thriving Residents)
- Support legislation that promotes inclusive and environmentally sustainable economic development, particularly for agribusiness and rural communities (Robust Economy)
- ~~Support legislation that would allow for the bifurcation of County and Superior Court pension obligation for CalPERS participating counties (Operational Excellence)~~
- Support legislation that seeks to preserve open space and our environment, prevents and mitigates the effects of climate change, and furthers environmental justice (Sustainable Environment, Thriving Residents, Flourishing Agriculture)

- Support or sponsor legislation that allows for greater flexibility of remote public meetings of legislative bodies including advisory commissions including legislation that would empower a Board of Supervisors to permit an advisory commission to meet [-electronically and thereby reducing economic, transportation, and other barriers to participation by historically underrepresented groups](#) (Thriving Residents)
- Support drought relief legislation including funding to improve the resiliency of water systems and incentivizing agricultural groundwater conservation and the removal of water-intensive ornamental landscaping (Sustainable Environment, Thriving Residents)
- Support legislation that seeks to balance transparency and the administrative burden of responding to California Public Records Act requests, particularly for digital records (Operational Excellence)
- Support legislation that would provide new sustainable funding for local First 5 organizations to offset declining tobacco tax revenues (Thriving Residents)
- Support legislation that promotes solutions to the housing crisis, including ongoing sustainable funding for affordable housing and related infrastructure (Thriving Residents)

GENERAL SERVICES

Federal

- ~~[-Support ongoing airport improvement fundings to build and improve infrastructure to meet the new FAA requirements-](#)~~ (Operational Excellence, Robust Economy)
- ~~[-Support the expansion of the USDA Rural Development loan and grant program to provide opportunities for new community infrastructure in rural areas-](#)~~ (Thriving Residents)

State

- ~~[Support the expansion of the Caltrans Annual Credit Program, Acquisition and Development Grant Program, and Airport Improvement Program Matching Grant program-](#)~~ (Operational Excellence)
- ~~[Support increasing the dollar thresholds in the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Act and in the powers of the County Purchasing Agent to reflect the impact of inflation on the procurement of goods, professional services, and construction services-](#)~~ (Operational Excellence)
- ~~[Support funding -for new parkland and further preserving and improving existing parkland with the goal of increasing public access and park equity while preserving the environment.](#)~~ (Thriving Residents, Sustainable Environment)

AGRICULTURE

Federal

- Support full or increased funding for Farm Bill postal inspection dog team program. (Sustainable Environment, Flourishing Agriculture)
- Support efforts to fund federal disaster funding for perennial crops reimbursement (Flourishing Agriculture)

State

- Support state funding for Williamson Act subvention payments, agricultural land conservation easements, agricultural and habitat impact mitigation, and other incentives to keep land in agriculture and open space (Sustainable Environment, Flourishing Agriculture)
- Support the funding ~~of Rural Urban Connection Strategy (RUCS)~~rural infrastructure projects, “Farm-to-Fork”, and other similar initiatives which would assist agribusiness in marketing and selling its goods in the local market (Sustainable Environment, Flourishing Agriculture)

ASSESSOR-CLERK RECORDER-ELECTIONS

State

- Support legislation to address ambiguity in Williamson Act reporting and compliance policies (Flourishing Agriculture)
- Support efforts for engaging youth in voting and civic engagement. (Thriving Residents)

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

Federal and State

- Support legislation, budgetary, or administrative actions to adequately fund the child support program, allowing the program to reach unserved and underserved families. (Thriving Residents)

- Support legislation that removes barriers to access the child support program; increases or eases access to justice; eases operational and administrative burdens; and increases distribution of child support collections directly to families. (Thriving Residents)
- Preserve the ability of local agencies to maintain local control of the Child Support Program. (Thriving Residents)
- Support legislation that improves the effectiveness of the child support program in establishing, enforcing, and collecting child support orders and expanding information sharing between agencies (Thriving Residents)

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Federal

- Work with state and federal partners to evaluate National Environmental Protection Act exemption list, particularly regarding exemptions for air quality review of roundabouts in rural areas. (Safe Communities, Sustainable Environment)

State

- Support additional funding for local roads and infrastructure improvements including the development and implementation of a countywide Capital Improvement Project (CIP) with a self-contained funding plan in concert with other local jurisdictions (Safe Communities)
- Support legislation that includes new waste-use technologies in the Diversion Credit (Safe Communities, Sustainable Environment)
- Support the ongoing viability of community choice energy programs in California and explore the formation of a publicly owned electrical utility in Yolo County (Safe Communities, Sustainable Environment)
- Pro-actively analyze cannabis and hemp-related policy proposals or legislation to ensure consistency with Yolo County's program and land use process (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities Flourishing Agriculture)

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Federal

- ~~Request dedicated funding for emergency response and repairs on levee systems as part of Yolo Bypass widening project (Safe Communities, Sustainable Environment)~~

- Support proposals that promote community resilience, such as through the creation of social networks and business readiness plans that support neighborhood-level sufficiency. (Safe Communities, Thriving Residents)
- ~~Support changes to current FEMA and CalOES recovery procedures as these are costly and cumbersome for locals to follow and excessive staff time is currently needed to produce documentation and make trips to disaster sites (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)~~
- ~~Support making excess funds from Emergency Management grants available to jurisdictions that can spend them at the end of annual grant cycles (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)~~
- Support proposals to allow the pass-through of Federal funds, such as homeland security, to counties based on threat levels, population, and relative need. (Safe Communities)
- Support proposals to fund mitigation activities including security improvements and equipment for critical infrastructure such as roads, bridges, dams, flood control, food and water supply, mass transit facilities, hospitals, and other public structures. (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities, Robust Economy) ~~Support legislation that would increase funding for OES and enhance the County's ability to plan and prepare for emergency response (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)~~

State

- Support funding opportunities to reduce flood risk in the County, particularly in vulnerable and disadvantaged communities and the necessary strategic partners to assist the County in advancing equity and climate resiliency in stormwater infrastructure planning, design, and capital improvements. (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)
- Support proposals to establish statewide standards for implementation and governance of 3-1-1 programs (non-emergency reporting and general government services) and 2-1-1 programs (community information and referral services). (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)
- Support proposals that promote community resilience, such as through the creation of social networks and business readiness plans that support neighborhood-level sufficiency. (Safe Communities, Thriving Residents)
- Support legislation and/or administrative action that would provide funding and resources to implement new technical standards for public safety interoperability communications. (Safe Communities)

- ~~• Request funding from CalTrans to assist in SR 128 Fire Mitigation projects and evaluate potential shoulder widening (Safe Communities)~~
- ~~• Oppose funding cuts to Emergency Management Performance Grants, Homeland Security Grants, and Mitigation Grants. Cuts to these funding sources will either lead to a weaker Emergency Management System or a larger cost share for local jurisdictions (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)~~
- ~~• Support legislation and/or funding to enhance rural fire service sustainability (Safe Communities)~~
- ~~• Support a re-work of Government Code 8607 to standardize operational procedures under the Standardized Emergency Management System for all levels of government (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)~~
- ~~• Support legislation and/or regulatory changes that enable greater enrollment in Mass Notification Alert systems. (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)~~
- ~~• Advocate for State funding appropriations to adequately support prevention and response to increasingly widespread wildfires. (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)~~

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Federal

- Track CalAim initiatives surrounding behavioral health with goal of improved access, outcomes and payment reform (Thriving Residents)
- Oppose any efforts that would reduce Medicaid funding including proposals to implement a block grant process or otherwise limit federal matching funds for Medicaid, as well as oppose any action that would limit or reduce access to affordable healthcare (Thriving Residents)
- Support increased funding and expanded eligibility criteria for SNAP/CalFresh benefits and oppose any federal SNAP funding cuts (Thriving Residents)
- Support legislation which ensures adequate funding for County administered safety net and public safety programs (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)
- Support increased funding and/or an increase in the state/federal share of cost for In-Home

Supportive Services (Thriving Residents)

- Support an increased Supplement Security Income reimbursement rate for board and care facilities (Thriving Residents)
- Support broadening the criteria of foster care cases eligible for federal reimbursement (Thriving Residents)

State

- Support increased funding and expanded eligibility criteria for SNAP/CalFresh benefits and oppose any federal SNAP funding cuts (Thriving Residents)
- Support automatic or streamlined post-incarceration MediCal enrollment for individuals who were MediCal eligible prior to incarceration (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)
- Pro-actively analyze policy proposals or legislation which affects our most vulnerable residents such as, Medi-Cal recipients, foster youth, immigrants and refugees, and the aging (Thriving Residents)
- [Support legislation to provide and improve funding for safety net dental and orthodontic care, for current and former foster youth.](#) (Thriving Residents)
- [Support a funding framework which provides sufficient and sustainable funding to support County Public Guardians and to implement expanded LPS Conservatorship criteria required under SB 43](#) (Thriving Residents).
- Support measures that enhance the ability of local emergency medical services (EMS) agency medical director to assure medical control of the EMS system (Safe Communities)
- Support increased funding and/or an increase in the state/federal share of cost for In-Home Supportive Services (Thriving Residents)
- Support changes to Mental Health Services Act funding that increase flexibility, include treatment of substance abuse disorders, and improve ability to track outcomes and oppose changes that reduce flexibility and/or diverts funding from treatment programs (Thriving Residents)
- Support measures that provide funding and regulatory support for guaranteed income pilot programs to bring low-income families at or above the California Poverty Measure (Thriving Residents)
- Support a funding framework which provides sufficient and sustainable funding to implement CARE Courts (Thriving Residents)

INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Federal

- Support continued funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program-(ACP)- and other programs that help ensure residents have access to essential communication and internet services (Thriving Residents)

State

- Support the planning, funding, and construction of affordable broadband, particularly in unserved and underserved communities (Thriving Residents)
- Support broadening the federal definition of “rural” regarding broadband access and connectivity grant criteria to better reflect the broadband access challenges in rural Yolo County (Thriving Residents)

LAW & JUSTICE

Federal

- Support the increase and prompt distribution of funding for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program at the U.S. Department of Justice. (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)

State

- Ensure adequate funding for Yolo County’s implementation of AB109 and related realignment and criminal justice/rehabilitation initiatives and advocate for the inclusion of performance measures in the allocation formula (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)
- ~~Support elimination of the sunset clause of the retroactivity portion of Proposition 47, allowing eligible felony convictions to be reduced to misdemeanors at any time and thereby maximizing the ameliorative effects of this law (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)~~

- Support criminal justice reform efforts that seek to eliminate longstanding social and racial biases and that support rehabilitative programming (Thriving Residents, Safe Communities)
- Support legislation, budgetary, or administrative actions to increasing funding for the public defender’s office and local indigent defense to comply with workload standards and best practices as set forth in relevant state and federal indigent defense workload studies. (Safe Communities; Thriving Residents)

LIBRARIES

Federal

- Support legislation that changes funding requirements under the Children’s Internet Protection Act – oppose the requirement of Internet filters to receive equipment funding (Thriving Residents)

State

- Advocate for a new source of state funding for grants to rural libraries and support the ongoing funding of the California Library Services Act that fosters resource sharing among libraries, particularly in rural areas where funding challenges persist (Thriving Residents)
- Support increasing public library access to statewide educational databases for use in schools with goal of getting every child a library card (Thriving Residents)
- Support funding for libraries to serve as centers for early education, literacy, career support, services for vulnerable populations and other educational programs that benefit a wide range of community members (Thriving Residents)
- Support funding to support California’s youth through library after-school and summer programming, such as Lunch at the Library (Thriving Residents)
- Support legislation for accessible buildings, including upgrades to critical infrastructure and support in times of disaster such as wildfires and extreme heat (Thriving Residents and Safe Communities)