

Riverside County: Budget Issues of Importance

The Riverside County Legislative Affairs page was created to provide the general public and county staff with an up to date view of County positions of Support /Opposition regarding State/Federal Legislation and Legislative Matters. Some issues of previous and current concern to the County regarding the Governor's Budget include:

Resolved Issues:

1. IHSS

- In January, the County of Riverside was put in a difficult position when the Governor proposed to cease operation of the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) and undo the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Maintenance of Effort (MOE) as part of his proposed budget. While the gap between what the proposal would cost the County of Riverside and available realignment revenues was estimated to be \$43 million in 2017-18, it was anticipated that this number could grow to more than \$165 million by 2023-24.
- With a large amount of negative feedback, lobbying and improved forecasts on the State level this issue was mitigated within the Governors May Revise. Language regarding this mitigation can now be found within the Committee on Budget and Fiscal Reviews SB 90 - Public Social Services: 1991 Realignment Legislation and IHSS Maintenance of Effort and Collective Bargaining. Work in part by our County Departments and our State Lobbyists therefore resulted in the May Revisions substantial mitigation to proposed increased costs and thus preserving the counties' ability to provide key safety net programs. The increased cost to the County is estimated to be \$2 million for FY 17/18 vs the originally estimated \$43 million in 2017-18.

2. Transportation

- California's infrastructure is in a state of great disrepair. With the signing of SB 1 - Transportation Funding by Senator Beall, the County of Riverside was provided with much needed assistance to repair some of the many infrastructure problems that have come from years of disrepair.
- Language for the expediting of proposed construction can be found within the text of AB 115 - Transportation by Assembly Member Ting. Language for the expediting of these repairs was vetted through Transportation and Land Management along with help from our State lobbyists to ensure that projects in Riverside County are completed in a timely and efficient manner.

3. Jails

- Soon After the May Revision was released the County of Riverside was made aware of placeholder trailer bill language which would impose an in-person visitation standard on completed as well as under-construction facilities. This proposal, that would have required the investment of tens of millions to construct adjacent facilities for visitation and dedication of ongoing resources for facility staffing, would have provided the County with a costly endeavor. Concern with this language was further amplified when other counties throughout the state in similar situations were excluded from this standard.
- Language found in the Committee on Budgets AB 103 - Public safety: Omnibus insures that Riverside County jail facilities are adequately grandfathered thus helping the County avoid these additional costs.

Unresolved Issues

1. Mandatory Orientations

- In the analysis of the many budget bills being passed throughout the last few days details on language having to do with new employee orientation requirements came as a surprise to the County. AB 119 - State Government by Assembly Member Ting imposes several erroneous requirements on the County.
- With the help of our State delegation along with County Lobbyists, the County will seek to provide any input in order to mitigate some of the many requirements that are being proposed by this piece of legislation.