



Agenda Date: 1/29/2008  
Agenda Placement: 10A

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Howard Siegel - Director  
Community and Intergovernmental Affairs Division  
**REPORT BY:** Celeste Buckley, Analyst - 253-4477  
**SUBJECT:** 2008 legislative platform

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Legislative Subcommittee presentation and adoption of the proposed 2008 Napa County Legislative Platform. The Board may or may not take action on any or all items presented for discussion. (Unanimous vote required)

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The County's Legislative Subcommittee, in consultation with Don Peterson, Legislative Consultant, has developed its recommendations for the Napa County 2008 Legislative Platform and is submitting the proposed 2008 platform for the Board's consideration.

### **PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS**

1. Chair announces the agenda item.
2. Staff reports on the item.
3. Questions by the Board.
4. Chair invites public comments.
5. Member makes a motion.
6. Different member seconds the motion.
7. Board discussion and debate on the motion.
8. Chair calls for the vote.
9. If roll call vote requested by member, Clerk calls the roll.
10. Chair announces the result of the vote.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?                      No

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

**ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:** The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

### **BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

The Board of Supervisors annually adopts a legislative platform that identifies the County's legislative priorities for the next session of the California Legislature. The legislative platform, which is developed by the Board's legislative subcommittee in consultation with the County's legislative advocate, is based on an assessment of the County's legislative requirements and recommendations submitted by County departments.

In recent years, Napa County's legislative priorities have been focused on preserving existing funding for a wide variety of services provided by the County. The 2008 Napa County Legislative Platform also emphasizes preservation of existing funding sources, promotes legislation intended to simplify the delivery of services, and seeks to preserve and protect prime agricultural land in Napa County by ensuring that state mandated regional housing allocation decisions take into consideration geographical and infrastructure constraints on residential development and county policies to preserve agricultural land within unincorporated areas.

In light of continued uncertainty concerning the state's long-term fiscal condition and Napa County's need to function within the resulting fiscal constraints, the following are the policy goals for Napa County's 2008 Legislative Platform:

- | Preserve vital County revenues and funding sources from further reductions, especially those that would directly impact the Napa County General Fund.
- | Support legislation that limits housing allocation mandates in the unincorporated areas of prime agricultural counties such as Napa to no more than projected in the county's current General Plan.
- | Support maximum funding for public health and safety programs.
- | Support legislation to achieve maximum funding and flexibility in the administration of state-mandated programs.
- | Seek to eliminate unfunded and/or unnecessary mandates.
- | Identify measures that maximize Napa County's economic vitality while maintaining the County's unique agricultural heritage and environmental values.
- | Maintain close relationships with Napa County's legislative delegation and key legislative leadership to foster greater understanding of Napa County's concerns and needs.

The 2008 legislative priorities have been separated by three main categories:

1. Napa County-Specific Issues--those issues that require direct action by the County's legislative advocate.
2. Shared Legislative Priorities--those issues that are shared with other counties, where it is expected that other counties will originate legislation that Napa County would likely support.
3. Monitor and Support--General issues shared with other counties and cities, where it is expected that Napa County will monitor and/or support legislation sponsored by other agencies.

Napa County-Specific Issues are sorted by priority level. The Shared Legislative Priorities and Monitor and Support issues are reported under one of the four areas of county government--Community Resources and Infrastructure, General Government, Health and Human Services, and Law and Justice; and are then identified as Priority Level 1, 2, or 3.

These priority levels reflect a relative ranking based upon two primary criteria - the level of importance and urgency of the issue, as determined by the legislative subcommittee, and an evaluation of the likelihood the recommended action will be successful. These priorities were established with a view to maximizing Napa County's influence with our local legislative delegation and with the Legislature in general.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

A . 2008 Proposed Legislative Platform

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Karen Collins