



Agenda Date: 12/19/2006
Agenda Placement: 10B

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Britt Ferguson for Nancy Watt - County Executive Officer
County Executive Office
REPORT BY: Andrew Carey, Management Analyst, 253-4477
SUBJECT: 2007 legislative platform

RECOMMENDATION

The Legislative Subcommittee will present a report concerning the proposed 2007 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 has developed its recommendations for the Napa County 2007 legislative platform and is submitting the proposed 2007 platform for the Board's consideration.

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 2007 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 2007 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.

Items listed in the 2007 legislative platform have been divided into three major categories:

- | Issues that are specific to Napa County which would require direct action by the County's legislative advocate.
- | Issues shared with other counties, where it is expected other counties will originate legislation that Napa County would likely 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.

The 2007 legislative platform further identifies all the issues in each major category as having a priority level of 1, 2, or 3 (with 1 being the highest priority). 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 . Proposed 2007 Legislative Platform

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Andrew Carey