

CSAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BRIEFING MATERIALS

Friday, April 25, 2025

9am-1pm



SAFE Credit Union Convention Center | 1401 K St, Sacramento

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89319598397?pwd=ZN2CNbXbKj8f5vfdmaPR8R5JE6kg5t.1>

Meeting ID: 893 1959 8397

Passcode: 655942

California State
Association of Counties



CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Friday, April 25, 2025
9:00am – 1:00pm

SAFE Credit Union Convention Center | Ballrooms B06/B07/B08 | 1401 K St, Sacramento

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89319598397?pwd=ZN2CNbXbKj8f5vfdmaPR8R5JE6kg5t.1>

Conference Line: (669) 900-6833 | Meeting ID: 893 1959 8397 | Passcode: 655942

AGENDA

Presiding: Supervisor Jeff Griffiths, President

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

9:00 AM

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. Pledge of Allegiance *Page 1*
2. Roll Call *Pages 2-3*

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

3. CEO's Report *Page 4*
 - *Graham Knaus | Chief Executive Officer*
4. State-Local Fiscal Responsibility Project
 - *Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez | Chief Policy Officer*
5. Member Engagement Initiative
 - *Chastity Benson | Chief Operating Officer*
 - *Cassandra Pye | President, Lucas Public Affairs*

ACTION ITEMS

6. Approval of Minutes from February 13, 2025 *Pages 5-7*
 - *Jeff Griffiths | Inyo County Supervisor, President*
7. Approval of IRS Form 990 – Tax Year 2023 *Pages 8-9*
 - *Belia Ramos | Napa County Supervisor, Treasurer*
 - *Chastity Benson | Chief Operating Officer*
8. Consideration of the CSAC Proposed Budget & Salary Schedule for FY 2025-26 and Clarification of the CSAC Proposed Salary Schedule for FY 2024-25 *Pages 10-20*
 - *Belia Ramos | Napa County Supervisor, Treasurer*
 - *Chastity Benson | Chief Operating Officer*

DISCUSSION ITEMS

9. Legislative Update & Policy Committee Reports
 - *Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez | Chief Policy Officer*

Administration of Justice

- *Bruno Sabatier | Lake County Supervisor, Chair*
- *Ryan Morimune | Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Michaela Stone | Legislative Analyst*

Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources

- *Jessica Pyska | Lake County Supervisor, Chair*
- *Catherine Freeman | Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Jordan Wells | Legislative Advocate*
- *Amber Rossow | Legislative Analyst*

Government Finance and Administration

- *Mani Grewal | Stanislaus County Supervisor, Chair*
- *Emma Jungwirth | Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Eric Lawyer | Legislative Advocate*

Health and Human Services

- *Holly Mitchell | Los Angeles County Supervisor, Chair*
- *Justin Garrett | Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Jolie Onodera | Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Danielle Bradley | Legislative Analyst*

Housing, Land Use and Transportation

- *Gary Bradford | Yuba County Supervisor, Chair*
- *Mark Neuburger | Legislative Advocate*

10. Federal Priority Issues Update

- *Graham Knaus | Chief Executive Officer*
- *Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez | Chief Policy Officer*

CSAC REPORTS

11. Operations & Member Services Report

Pages 21-22

- *Chastity Benson | Chief Operating Officer*

12. CSAC Finance Corporation Report

Pages 23-34

- *Oscar Villegas | Yolo County Supervisor, President, CSAC FC*
- *Rob Pierce | Chief Operating Officer, CSAC FC*
- *Jim Manker | Director of Business Development, CSAC FC*
- *Corporate Partner Presentation | Steve Bennett, Dominion Voting Systems*

13. California Counties Foundation Report

Pages 35-39

- *Susan Ellenberg | Santa Clara County Supervisor, President, California Counties Foundation*
- *Veronica Smith | Programs & Grants Director*

14. California Association of County Executives (CACE) Report

Page 40

- *Jason Britt | Tulare County CEO, CACE President*

15. County Counsels' Association of California (CoCo) Report

Pages 41-48

- *Brian E. Washington | Marin County Counsel, CoCo Past President*

DISCUSSION ITEMS

16. Minute Mics: Board of Directors Roundtable

- What's going on in your county (in one minute)

17. INFORMATION ITEMS WITHOUT PRESENTATION

- Institute for Local Government (ILG) Reports
- 2025 Calendar of Events

Pages 49-54

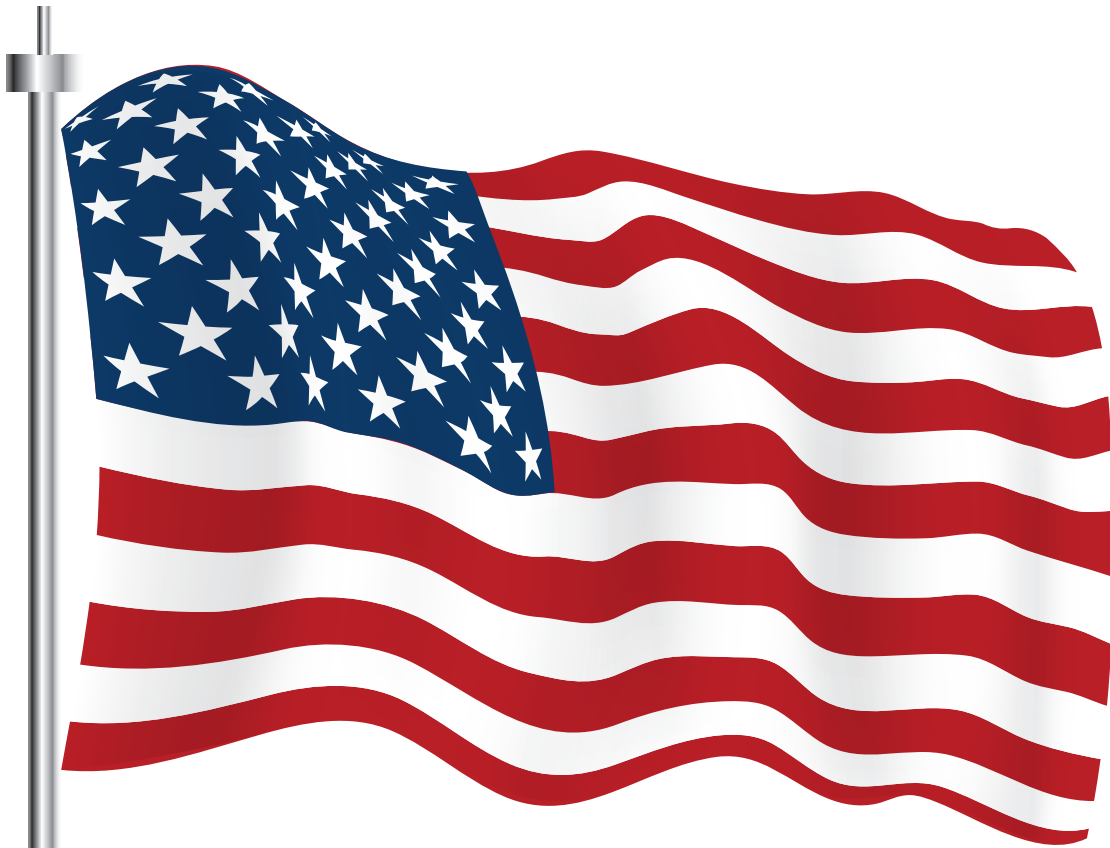
Page 55

18. Public Comment

1:00 PM

ADJOURN

**If requested, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability. Please contact Korina Jones kjones@counties.org or (916) 327-7500 if you require modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting.*



United States of America
Pledge of Allegiance



California State Association of Counties®

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Board of Directors

2024-2025

SECTION

U=Urban

S=Suburban

R=Rural

President:

First Vice President:

Second Vice President:

Immediate Past President:

Jeff Griffiths, Inyo

Susan Ellenberg, Santa Clara

Luis Alejo, Monterey

Bruce Gibson, San Luis Obispo

Members of the CSAC Executive Committee are highlighted for your reference

SECTION	COUNTY	DIRECTOR
U	Alameda County	David Haubert
R	Alpine County	Terry Woodrow
R	Amador County	Jeff Brown
S	Butte County	Tod Kimmelshue
R	Calaveras County	Benjamin Stopper
R	Colusa County	Kent Boes
U	Contra Costa County	John Gioia
R	Del Norte County	Chris Howard
R	El Dorado County	Greg Ferrero
U	Fresno County	Buddy Mendes
R	Glenn County	Grant Carmon
R	Humboldt County	Michelle Bushnell
S	Imperial County	Jesus Eduardo Escobar
R	Inyo County	Trina Orrill
S	Kern County	Leticia Perez
R	Kings County	Rusty Robinson
R	Lake County	Bruno Sabatier
R	Lassen County	Gary Bridges
U	Los Angeles County	Kathryn Barger
R	Madera County	Leticia Gonzalez
S	Marin County	Mary Sackett
R	Mariposa County	Rosemarie Smallcombe
R	Mendocino County	Maureen "Mo" Mulheren
S	Merced County	Scott Silveira
R	Modoc County	Ned Coe
R	Mono County	John Peters
S	Monterey County	Luis Alejo
S	Napa County	Anne Cottrell
R	Nevada County	Heidi Hall

U	Orange County	Doug Chaffee
S	Placer County	Bonnie Gore
R	Plumas County	Tom McGowan
U	Riverside County	V. Manuel Perez
U	Sacramento County	Rich Desmond
R	San Benito County	Angela Curro
U	San Bernardino County	Jesse Armendarez
U	San Diego County	Vacant
U	San Francisco City & County	Rafael Mandelman
U	San Joaquin County	Robert Rickman
S	San Luis Obispo County	Bruce Gibson
U	San Mateo County	Noelia Corzo
S	Santa Barbara County	Bob Nelson
U	Santa Clara County	Susan Ellenberg
S	Santa Cruz County	Manu Koenig
R	Shasta County	Kevin Crye
R	Sierra County	Lee Adams
R	Siskiyou County	Ed Valenzuela
S	Solano County	Wanda Williams
S	Sonoma County	James Gore
S	Stanislaus County	Mani Grewal
R	Sutter County	Dan Flores
R	Tehama County	Pati Nolen
R	Trinity County	Ric Leutwyler
S	Tulare County	Amy Shuklian
R	Tuolumne County	Ryan Campbell
U	Ventura County	Kelly Long
S	Yolo County	Lucas Frerichs
R	Yuba County	John Messick

TREASURER

Belia Ramos, Napa County

ADVISORS

Brian E. Washington, Marin County Counsel, County Counsels' Association Past President
 Jason Britt, Tulare County CAO, California Association of County Executives, President



OFFICERS

President

Jeff Griffiths
Inyo County

1st Vice President

Susan Ellenberg
Santa Clara County

2nd Vice President

Luis Alejo
Monterey County

Past President

Bruce Gibson
San Luis Obispo County



CEO

Graham Knaus

April 25, 2025

TO: CSAC Board of Directors

FROM: Graham Knaus, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: CEO's Report

This item provides an opportunity to discuss the state of the Association and core priorities as well as refine the strategic approach to advocacy and communications through Board of Directors input.

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

February 13, 2025 | 10:00am – 1:30pm

Sacramento Masonic Temple | 1123 J Street, Sacramento

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84631350888?pwd=aO2yEueFSvN3rMRpVqahcrMnSaQABe.1>

Conference Line: (669) 900-6833 | Meeting ID: 846 3135 0888 | Password: 252570

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

OFFICERS

Jeff Griffiths | President

Susan Ellenberg | 1st Vice President

Luis Alejo | 2nd Vice President

Bruce Gibson | Immediate Past President

ADVISORS

Brian E. Washington | Marin County Counsel, CoCo
Past President

Jason Britt | Tulare County CAO, CACE President

CSAC STAFF

Graham Knaus | Chief Executive Officer

Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez | Chief Policy Officer

Chastity Benson | Chief Operating Officer

EX OFFICIO MEMBER

Belia Ramos | Treasurer, Napa County (*Absent*)

Alameda	–	David Haubert
Alpine	–	Terry Woodrow
Amador	–	Jeff Brown
Butte	–	<i>Absent</i>
Calaveras	–	<i>Absent</i>
Colusa	–	Kent Boes
Contra Costa	–	John Gioia
Del Norte	–	Chris Howard
El Dorado	–	Greg Ferrero
Fresno	–	Buddy Mendes
Glenn	–	Grant Carmon
Humboldt	–	Michelle Bushnell
Imperial	–	Jesus Eduardo Escobar
Inyo	–	Trina Orrill
Kern	–	<i>Absent</i>
Kings	–	<i>Absent</i>
Lake	–	Bruno Sabatier
Lassen	–	Gary Bridges
Los Angeles	–	<i>Absent</i>
Madera	–	Leticia Gonzalez
Marin	–	Mary Sackett
Mariposa	–	Rosemarie Smallcombe
Mendocino	–	Bernie Norvell (alternate)
Merced	–	Scott Silveira
Modoc	–	Ned Coe
Mono	–	John Peters
Monterey	–	Luis Alejo
Napa	–	Ryan Gregory
Nevada	–	Heidi Hall

Orange	–	Doug Chaffee
Placer	–	Bonnie Gore
Plumas	–	<i>Absent</i>
Riverside	–	V. Manuel Perez
Sacramento	–	Rich Desmond
San Benito	–	Angela Curro
San Bernardino	–	Jesse Armendarez
San Diego	–	<i>Absent</i>
San Francisco	–	Rafael Mandelman
San Joaquin	–	Robert Rickman
San Luis Obispo	–	Bruce Gibson
San Mateo	–	Noelia Corzo
Santa Barbara	–	<i>Absent</i>
Santa Clara	–	Susan Ellenberg
Santa Cruz	–	Manu Koenig
Shasta	–	Kevin Crye
Sierra	–	Lee Adams
Siskiyou	–	Ed Valenzuela
Solano	–	Wanda Williams
Sonoma	–	James Gore
Stanislaus	–	Mani Grewal
Sutter	–	Dan Flores
Tehama	–	<i>Absent</i>
Trinity	–	Ric Leutwyler
Tulare	–	Amy Shuklian
Tuolumne	–	Ryan Campbell
Ventura	–	Kelly Long
Yolo	–	Lucas Frerichs
Yuba	–	John Messick

2. CEO's Report

Graham Knaus, CEO, provided an update on the Association, referencing several new staff members and promotions, the 2025 CSAC Regional Meetings, the upcoming NACo Legislative Conference and CSAC's federal advocacy surrounding the recent executive orders.

3. Presentation from California Health and Human Services

Kim Johnson, California Health and Human Services Secretary, presented on several priority items including Proposition 1, the Master Plan for Aging, CARE Court and the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH). Secretary Johnson reported that the California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH) will be split into two agencies, one of which will focus solely on housing.

4. Working Groups Update

The following CSAC working group chairs provided updates from their recent meetings:

- Insurance Working Group: Supervisor Heidi Hall, Chair, Nevada County
- Childcare Working Group: Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair, Riverside County
- Tribal Working Group: Supervisor Bonnie Gore, Chair, Placer County

5. Approval of Minutes from November 21, 2024

The meeting minutes from November 21, 2024, were approved by unanimous consent.

6. Legislative Update

Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez, CPO, provided a legislative update and highlighted CSAC's upcoming immigration webinar series. CSAC's 2025-26 Budget Proposal and County Partnership Letter to the Governor's Office was distributed to the Board.

The following Legislative Advocates provided updates on critical issues within their policy areas:

- Administration of Justice (AOJ): Ryan Morimune, Senior Legislative Advocate
- Agriculture, Environment & Natural Resources (AENR): Catherine Freeman, Senior Legislative Advocate
- Government Finance & Administration (GFA): Eric Lawyer, Legislative Advocate, and Emma Jungwirth, Senior Legislative Advocate
- Health and Human Services (HHS): Justin Garrett, Senior Legislative Advocate, and Jolie Onodera, Senior Legislative Advocate
- Housing, Land Use & Transportation (HLT): Mark Neuburger, Legislative Advocate

7. Operations & Member Services Report

Chastity Benson, COO, provided an update on CSAC's new website, the upcoming building renovation and CSAC's Speakers Bureau.

8. CSAC Finance Corporation Report

Alan Fernandes, CSAC Finance Corporation CEO, provided an update on the Finance Corporation's new board members and the Smart Easy Pay program. Rob Pierce, CSAC Finance Corporation COO, highlighted the work of several partners and referenced their partnership with NACo on pharmacy benefits. Jim Manker, Director of Business Development, introduced corporate partner, Doug Bond from Amity.

9. California Counties Foundation Report

Supervisor Susan Ellenberg, California Counties Foundation President, provided an update on the Foundation, referencing the launch of the New Supervisors Institute and the new campuses in Humboldt and Fresno counties. Paul Danczyk, California Counties Foundation COO, provided an update on the CSAC Grants Initiative (CGI).

10. California Association of County Executives (CACE) Report

Jason Britt, CACE President and Tulare County CEO, highlighted the numerous priorities that county executives will be focusing on in 2025.

11. County Counsels' Association of California (CoCo) Report

Brian Washington, CoCo Past President and Marin County Counsel, reported on new case activity for the Litigation Coordination Program.

12. Minute Mics: Board of Directors Roundtable

Each member of the Board of Directors spent one minute discussing pressing issues in their county.

The meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on April 25, 2025, in Sacramento County.



Officers

President

Jeff Griffiths
Inyo County

1st Vice President

Susan Ellenberg
Santa Clara County

2nd Vice President

Luis Alejo
Monterey County

Past President

Bruce Gibson
San Luis Obispo County

CEO

Graham Knaus

April 25, 2025

TO: CSAC Board of Directors

FR: Supervisor Belia Ramos, Treasurer
Chastity Benson, Chief Operating Officer
Jyoti Tanwar, Controller

RE: Approval of Internal Revenue Service Form 990 – Tax Year 2023 (FY 2023-24)

Recommendation: Approve the CSAC IRS Form 990 for Tax Year 2023

This memorandum is to recommend approval of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990 for Tax Year 2023. The IRS requires form 990 to be filed annually by nonprofit mutual benefit corporations such as CSAC. The purpose of the submission is for the IRS to collect information pertaining to revenues, expenses, and qualified activities to ensure continued status as a tax-exempt entity.

Form 990 is completed annually, and the IRS recommends its review and approval as good governance action. In particular, the IRS considers the Board of Directors review as a proactive, informed and engaged act to ensure that the organization continues to be structured and operated exclusively for tax-exempt purposes.

CSAC has no net tax liability for Tax Year 2023. The California Counties Foundation, as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, will file separate tax returns and submit its own Form 990 reflecting corresponding revenue, expenses, and tax-exempt activities. The Foundation Board is scheduled to consider approval of its Form 990 in April 2025.

In addition to the tax components included in Form 990, CSAC is required to declare the number of hours that the President, Officers, Executive Committee, and the Board devote to the organization. The estimated number of weekly hours reported is:

President:	8.0 hours
Officers:	8.0 hours
Executive Committee:	1.5 hours
Board:	0.5 hours

The complete Form 990 is available upon request.

EXTENDED TO MAY 15, 2025

Form **990****Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax**

OMB No. 1545-0047

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue ServiceUnder section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)
Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.
Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.**2023**Open to Public
Inspection**A** For the **2023** calendar year, or tax year beginning **JUL 1, 2023** and ending **JUN 30, 2024****B** Check if applicable:Address change
Name change
Initial return
Final return/terminated
Amended return
Application pending**C** Name of organization**COUNTY SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION OF CALIF.**Doing business as **CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOC OF COUNTI**

Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address)

1100 K STREET, SUITE 101

Room/suite

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code

SACRAMENTO, CA 95814**F** Name and address of principal officer: **CHASTITY BENSON****SAME AS C ABOVE****D** Employer identification number**94-6000551****E** Telephone number**916 327-7500****G** Gross receipts \$**12,220,133.****H(a)** Is this a group returnfor subordinates? Yes ☒ No**H(b)** Are all subordinates included? Yes No

If "No," attach a list. See instructions

H(c) Group exemption number**I** Tax-exempt status: 501(c)(3) ☒ 501(c) (**4**) (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527**J** Website: **WWW.CSAC.COUNTIES.ORG****K** Form of organization: ☒ Corporation Trust Association Other**L** Year of formation: **1911****M** State of legal domicile: **CA****Part I Summary**

Activities & Governance	1	Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: TO REPRESENT COUNTY GOVERNMENT BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE, ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCIES AND
	2	Check this box if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets.
	3	Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a) 3 58
	4	Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b) 4 56
	5	Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2023 (Part V, line 2a) 5 147
	6	Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary) 6 58
	7a	Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12 7a 45,555.
7b	Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, Part I, line 11 7b 0.	
Revenue	8	Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h) 5,600,000. 5,646,270.
	9	Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g) 5,759,655. 5,778,779.
	10	Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d) 263,862. 529,648.
	11	Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e) -24,698. 26,695.
	12	Total revenue - add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12) 11,598,819. 11,981,392.
	Expenses	13
14		Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4) 0. 0.
15		Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10) 6,937,674. 7,254,707.
16a		Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e) 0. 0.
b		Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) 0.
17		Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24e) 3,249,748. 4,626,615.
18		Total expenses. Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25) 10,844,140. 12,005,894.
19	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12 754,679. -24,502.	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	20	Total assets (Part X, line 16) 16,308,413. 16,034,391.
	21	Total liabilities (Part X, line 26) 2,652,202. 2,376,562.
	22	Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20 13,656,211. 13,657,829.

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here	Signature of officer		Date		
	CHASTITY BENSON, COO				
Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check if self-employed	PTIN
	LAUREN A. HAVERLOCK	LAUREN A. HAVERLOCK	03/11/25	<input type="checkbox"/>	P00545829
Preparer Use Only	Firm's name	Firm's EIN			
	MOSS ADAMS LLP	91-0189318			
Preparer Use Only	Firm's address	Phone no.			
	2882 PROSPECT PARK DR, STE 300 RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670	916-503-8100			

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions

☒ Yes ☐ No

LHA For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

332001 12-21-23

Form **990** (2023)**SEE SCHEDULE O FOR ORGANIZATION MISSION STATEMENT CONTINUATION**



April 25, 2025

Officers

President
Jeff Griffiths
Inyo County

1st Vice President
Susan Ellenberg
Santa Clara County

2nd Vice President
Luis Alejo
Monterey County

Past President
Bruce Gibson
San Luis Obispo County

CEO
Graham Knaus

TO: CSAC Board of Directors

FR: Supervisor Belia Ramos, Treasurer
Chastity Benson, Chief Operating Officer
Jyoti Tanwar, Controller

RE: Consideration of the CSAC Proposed Budget and Salary Schedule for FY 2025-26

Recommendation

Approve the CSAC Proposed Budget and Salary Schedule for FY 2025-26.

Budget Overview:

The FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget reflects the necessary revenue and expenditure appropriations to advance the Association's mission to serve California's 58 Counties by effectively advocating and partnering with State and Federal agencies to protect counties interests and pursue, develop and implement appropriate policies, laws, and secure adequate resources; develop and equip county leaders to better serve their communities; and communicate the value of the critical work and services provided by counties.

In consultation with Treasurer Ramos, CSAC staff is pleased to recommend a spending plan based on effectively supporting operational needs and addressing rising costs and high inflation rates, while ensuring readiness for unexpected emergencies or other potential impacts from an economic downturn.

The FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget continues to build on policy initiatives implemented over the past several years with the overall goal of ensuring that the Association's fiscal condition is further strengthened. As reflected in the projections for CSAC Operational Reserves and the Capital Improvement Fund (attached), the adherence and execution of these fiscal policies has enabled the organization to be better prepared and support the needs of all 58 counties.

The budget plan is prepared to meet the following organizational priorities:

- Align the Association's expenditures with projected revenues while meeting critical objectives across all areas including advocacy, public affairs, litigation program, member engagement and the California Counties Foundation;
- Support organizational needs, advocacy priorities, conferences, county visits and regional meetings, the Challenge Awards program, and provide financial support to the California Counties Foundation to continue the success of the CSAC Institute and CSAC Grants Initiative;
- Per Board policy, the annual 3% Cost of Doing Business (CODB) dues adjustment will be allocated to help offset operational cost increases and CSAC will assist counties that request financial support or need flexibility to make payments;
- Establishment of a 4% budget appropriation to allow for an operating margin to address the impact of rising costs, higher inflation and/or unforeseen impacts from an economic downturn;
- Continue to adhere to the policy of utilizing one-time funding to support counties priorities and organizational objectives such as pursuing a public affairs and member engagement strategy to enhance
- CSAC's ability to maximize its representation and brand as a premier advocacy and membership organization in California.

CSAC staff will closely monitor and analyze budget expenditures and revenues to identify and address concerns as they arise. In close coordination with the Treasurer, CEO and COO we will ensure that CSAC Officers and the Executive Committee are kept apprised of any significant developments.

FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget Highlights

Revenues

- A 3% Cost of Doing Business adjustment is included in the Proposed Budget effective July 1, 2025.
- Membership dues represent approximately 32% of total revenues to support CSAC operations.
- Decline in rental income due to Los Angeles County and San Diego county's vacating the CSAC property.
- The Finance Corporation contribution to CSAC has increased to \$5 million.
- The Corporate Associates Program is projected to generate \$450,000 in net revenue.
- Establishes a 4% contingency appropriation to allow for an operating margin to address unanticipated operational needs during the budget year.

Expenses

- Appropriates a net 8% increase to Salaries & Employee Benefits to fund cost of living adjustments, retirement contribution rates and unavoidable employee benefit costs (health, dental, vision, unemployment, workers compensation, etc.). Authorizes the CEO to approve salary increases as merited.
- Includes \$300,000 to support the California Counties Foundation.
- Reflects \$100,000 to support CSAC public affairs and member engagement priorities.
- Allocates \$101,500 for the CSAC Employee Professional Development Program to invest in staff retention efforts, training, continuing education, and professional growth opportunities.
- Increases the NACo meetings and travel budget by \$40,000 due to anticipated rise in travel cost.
- Allocating \$788,000 to support building renovation interim housing.
- Increase CSAC's contribution by \$138,000 to support the continued growth of the litigation program.

Reserves

- The Operating Reserve at the end of FY 2025-26 is projected to be \$10.06 million.
- The Capital Improvement Fund (CIF) balance at the end of FY 2025-26 will be \$870,000.
- Operating and CIF reserve projections meet and exceed CSAC's 6-month reserve policy target.

Salary Schedule

The Salary Schedule incorporates CSAC staff salaries and the pay ranges of each affiliate within the broader CSAC salary schedule. Adoption of the Salary Schedule is required each year for compliance with CalPERS requirements to enable eligible retiring CSAC employees to receive earned benefits from CalPERS, or from other participating public retirement systems. CSAC employees are members of the San Bernardino County Employee Retirement System (SBCERA) which has a reciprocal retirement system agreement with CalPERS.

Attachments

1. FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget
2. Year-end Reserves and Capital Improvement Fund Chart
3. FY 2024-25 Budget Status Report (current year)
4. FY 2025-26 Salary Schedule
5. Definitions and explanation of budget accounts



California State Association of Counties

CSAC Proposed Budget and Salary Schedule

**FISCAL YEAR
2025 - 26**



California State Association of Counties
FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget

	FY 2023-24 Adopted Budget	FY 2024-25 Adopted Budget	FY 2024-25 Projected Year End	FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget
Revenues:				
Membership Dues	\$ 3,638,990	\$ 3,748,160	\$ 3,748,607	\$ 3,861,065
Finance Corp Participation	4,800,000	4,800,000	5,300,000	5,000,000
Finance Corp Corporate Associates	400,000	400,000	400,000	450,000
Rental Income	196,609	201,020	200,808	74,624
Administrative Miscellaneous	927,440	1,200,620	1,462,520	1,415,574
CSAC Conferences	581,000	764,520	682,435	709,000
Domestic Violence Grant Program	383,146	180,990	180,990	0 ⁽¹⁾
Litigation Program	557,499	557,499	557,499	698,114
Total Revenues	\$ 11,484,684	\$ 11,852,809	\$ 12,532,859	\$ 12,208,377
Expenditures:				
Salaries & Employee Benefits	\$ 7,228,412	\$ 7,742,608	\$ 6,957,959	\$ 7,521,642
County Visits & Outreach	174,000	201,000	144,747	168,000
Leadership Outreach	160,000	180,000	200,000	210,000
NACo Meetings & Travel	224,000	176,500	211,944	279,500
Public Affairs/Communications	221,150	183,500	445,190 ⁽²⁾	229,700
Conferences & Regional Meetings	813,850	1,080,900	1,043,970	1,050,750
Facilities	347,430	354,430	271,052	206,042
Office Operations	779,345	808,640	888,867 ⁽³⁾	865,463
Organizational Partnerships	180,000	115,000	130,000	110,000
Professional Services	639,900	796,640	968,383 ⁽⁴⁾	930,715
Domestic Violence Grant Program	383,146	180,990	180,990	0 ⁽¹⁾
Litigation Program	508,451	519,601	528,030	692,682
California Counties Foundation/Institute	575,000	568,000	400,000	300,000
Total Expenditures	\$ 12,234,684	\$ 12,907,809	\$ 12,371,132	\$ 12,564,494
Net Profit/Loss Before Exceptional item	-\$750,000	-\$1,055,000	\$161,727	-\$356,117
Exceptional Item: Interim Housing	0	0	0	788,000 ⁽⁵⁾
Net Profit/Loss Before Appropriation	-\$750,000	-\$1,055,000	\$161,727	-\$1,144,117
Appropriation from Reserves				
Appropriation for County Priority Initiatives	500,000	250,000	250,000	0
Appropriation from Capital Improvement Fund	250,000	250,000	88,273	788,000 ⁽⁵⁾
Operating Margin Carryover		555,000	(500,000)	500,000 ⁽⁶⁾
YEAR END FUND BALANCE	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$143,883

(1) Domestic Violence Program is fully-funded by grants from Blue Shield of CA. This program will end on June 30, 2025

(2) Increase in public Affairs due to Lucas Public Affairs consulting

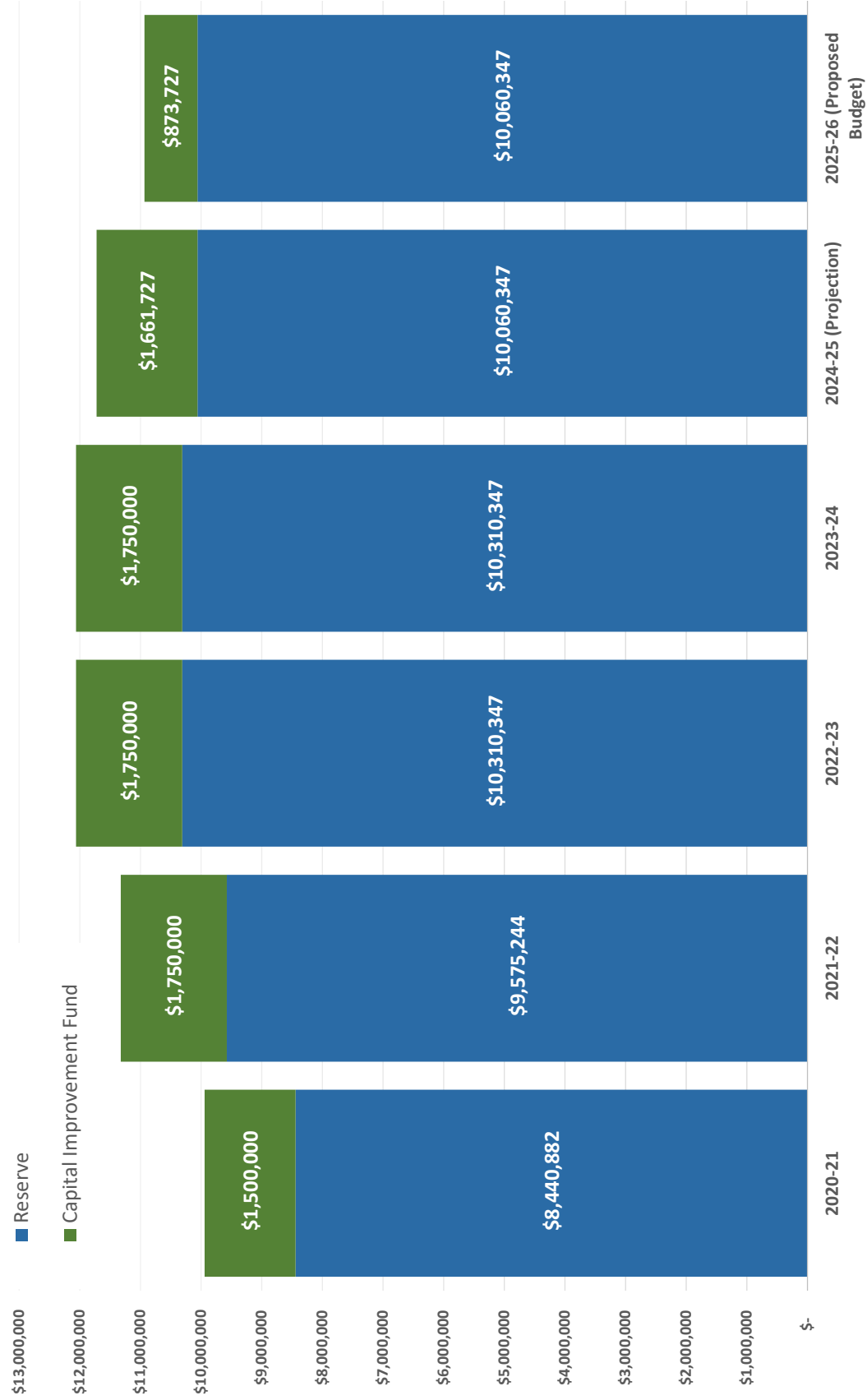
(3) Laptop refresher in FY 23-24 and 24-25

(4) Professional Services includes cost of hiring employees through staffing agency on temporary basis.

(5) Allocating \$788,000 to support building renovation interim housing from the Capital Improvement Fund.

(6) Appropriation of 4% of revenues for an operating margin to address unanticipated impacts from an economic downturn

CSAC YEAR-END RESERVES FY 2020-21 THROUGH FY 2025-26



California State Association of Counties

Budget Status Report

July 2024 thru January 2025

	FY 2024-25 Adopted Budget	Year to Date Actual Through Jan 31, 2025	YTD % of Budget
Revenues:			
Membership Dues	\$ 3,748,160	\$ 3,685,896	98%
Finance Corp Participation	4,800,000	2,800,000	58%
Finance Corp Corporate Associates	400,000	-	0% ⁽¹⁾
Rental Income	201,020	117,137	58%
Administrative Miscellaneous	1,200,620	892,396	74%
CSAC Conferences	764,520	528,435	69%
Domestic Violence Grant Program	180,990	41,100	23% ⁽²⁾
Litigation Program	557,499	511,656	92%
Appropriation for County Priority Initiatives	250,000	-	0%
Appropriation from Capital Improvement Fund	250,000	-	0%
Operating Margin Carryover	555,000	-	0%
Total Revenues	\$ 12,907,809	\$ 8,576,620	66%
Expenditures:			
Salaries & Employee Benefits	\$ 7,742,608	\$ 3,870,284	50%
County Visits & Outreach	201,000	92,939	46%
Leadership Outreach	180,000	145,221	81%
NACo Meetings & Travel	176,500	80,282	45%
Public Affairs/Communications	183,500	220,209	120% ⁽⁵⁾
Conferences & Regional Meetings	1,080,900	809,310	75%
Facilities	354,430	139,690	39%
Office Operations	808,640	613,448	76% ⁽³⁾
Organizational Partnerships	115,000	101,575	88%
Outside Contracts	796,640	687,835	86% ⁽⁴⁾
Domestic Violence Grant Program	180,990	41,100	23% ⁽²⁾
Litigation Program	519,601	299,791	58%
California Counties Foundation/Institute	568,000	-	0%
Operating Margin Carryover	-	-	
Total Expenditures	\$ 12,907,809	\$ 7,101,684	55%
YEAR END FUND BALANCE	\$ -	\$ 1,474,936	

(1) Revenue from the Corporate Associates Program is reconciled and posted at the end of the fiscal year.

(2) Reflects Blue shield of CA grant funding received and expended for the DV Program, No

(3) Laptop refresher in FY 23-24 and 24-25

(4) Outside Contract includes cost of hiring employees through staffing agency on temporary basis.

(5) Includes cost of public affairs consulting

California State Association of Counties®
Proposed Annual Salary Ranges
FY 2025-2026

Job Position Category	Annual Salary Minimum*	Annual Salary Maximum*
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / CHIEF OFFICER	150,000	450,000
DIRECTOR	100,000	250,000
SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE	150,000	250,000
LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE	100,000	200,000
FINANCIAL CONTROLLER	90,000	165,000
MANAGER	90,000	165,000
SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ANALYST	70,000	120,000
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	70,000	120,000
ANALYST / LEGISLATIVE ANALYST	60,000	115,000
COORDINATOR	60,000	105,000
SENIOR ACCOUNTANT	90,000	105,000
ACCOUNTANT	60,000	92,000
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	60,000	90,000
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	45,000	75,000

The salary ranges above include both CSAC staff salaries and those of affiliate organizations.

* Effective July 1, 2025

California State Association of Counties®

FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget

Account	Explanations
<u>Revenue:</u>	
Membership Dues	Annual dues from counties. Per the CSAC Board Policy, a 3% Cost of Doing Business Adjustment will be applied annually.
Finance Corporation Participation	CSAC Finance Corporation contributions to CSAC.
Corporate Associates Program	Corporate Associates Program net revenue.
Rental Income	Rental income for leased space at the CSAC Building - 1100 K Street.
Administrative Miscellaneous	1) Administration fees collected from CSAC affiliates for payroll and benefit services; 2) Sales of CSAC rosters, mailing list and labels; 3) Printing and copying revenue generated by the CSAC Printshop; 4) Interest income from bank and Cal Trust accounts; 5) Contract for computer services with LA County; 6) Fees from job advertising on CSAC website; 7) Challenge awards.
CSAC Conferences	Registration fees for CSAC Annual Conference and Legislative Conference.
Domestic Violence Grant Program	Pursuant to AB 372, CSAC secured grants from Blue Shield of California.
Litigation Program	Funded by a separate fee to support CSAC's advocacy in state and federal courts, and to coordinate litigation involving multiple counties. Includes in-house general counsel legal services.
<u>Expenditures:</u>	
Salaries/Benefits	1) Salaries reflect COLA and authority for potential merit increase; 2) SBCERA retirement cost; 3) Benefits include health, dental, vision, life insurance, EAP, and workers' comp; 4) Payroll tax; 5) Auto allowance; 6) Parking; 7) 50% of wellness program.
County Visits & Outreach	All business expenses for CSAC staff.
Leadership Outreach	All business expenses for CSAC Board of Directors, Officers, and Executive Committee.
Naco Meetings & Travel	Costs associated with all CSAC staff and board members to attend NACo supported events including WIR and NCCAE.

California State Association of Counties®

FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget

Public Affairs/Communications	Costs associated with 1) CSAC roster; 2) Challenge awards; 3) Legislative bulletin; 4) Website; 5) Strategic communications.
CSAC Conferences & Regional Meetings	Annual Conference, Legislative Conference, and Regional Meeting expenses.
Facilities	Maintenance of 1100 K Street. Costs include repairs, utilities, insurance, janitorial, and property taxes.
Office Operations	Office operations expenses, including 1) Internet and phones; 2) Membership fees; 3) Office supplies; 4) Postage and delivery; 5) Computers and equipment expenses; 6) Staff professional development; 7) IT services.
Organizational Partnerships	Contributions to Institute for Local Government (ILG). Also, it includes contributions in support of the county government.
Outside Contracts	Legal, consulting, accounting services, and professional services (such as federal advocacy services).
Domestic Violence Grant Program	Pursuant to AB 372, CSAC secured grants from Blue Shield of California.
Litigation Program	All costs associated with the Litigation Coordination Program, and in-house general counsel legal services.
California Counties Foundation/Institute	Contribution to California Counties Foundation Institute and Grants Initiative to assist in the facilitation of programs.
<u>Additional Information</u>	
Capital Improvement Fund	Reserve fund created for CSAC's facility capital improvements to prepare for major renovations, maintenance repairs, and/or unexpected facility costs during the year.
Operating Reserves	CSAC General Reserve Fund Policy requires a minimum of 6 months of the operating budget.
Salary Schedule	The CSAC Salary Schedule reflects salary ranges for approved budgeted staff positions. Approval of the salary schedule is required for compliance with reciprocal retirement agreements between participating retirement systems.

California State Association of Counties®
Proposed Annual Salary Ranges
FY 2024-2025

Job Position Category	Annual Salary Minimum*	Annual Salary Maximum*
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / CHIEF OFFICER	150,000	450,000
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SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE	150,000	250,000
LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE	100,000	200,000
FINANCIAL CONTROLLER	90,000	165,000
MANAGER	90,000	165,000
SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ANALYST	70,000	120,000
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	70,000	120,000
ANALYST / LEGISLATIVE ANALYST	60,000	115,000
COORDINATOR	60,000	105,000
SENIOR ACCOUNTANT	90,000	105,000
ACCOUNTANT	60,000	92,000
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	60,000	90,000
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	45,000	75,000

The salary ranges above include both CSAC staff salaries and those of affiliate organizations.

* Effective July 1, 2024



April 25, 2025

OFFICERS

President
Jeff Griffiths
Inyo County

1st Vice President
Susan Ellenberg
Santa Clara County

2nd Vice President
Luis Alejo
Monterey County

Past President
Bruce Gibson
San Luis Obispo County

CEO
Graham Knaus

TO: CSAC Board of Directors

FROM: Chastity Benson, Chief Operating Officer

RE: **Operations and Member Services Report**

2024 CSAC Challenge Awards

The 2024 CSAC Challenge Awards celebrated the innovation, dedication, and excellence of California's counties, honoring 16 exceptional programs from 11 counties with 13 Challenge Awards and 3 Innovation Awards. These awards recognize groundbreaking solutions that are making a real difference in urban, suburban, and rural communities, including Los Angeles, Sonoma, Nevada, Fresno, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Clara, Solano, and Lake counties.

This year, our esteemed judging panel reviewed a record-breaking 419 entries, the highest in program history, underscoring the growing impact and prestige of the Challenge Awards. These entries showcased the most innovative, forward-thinking programs developed by California's counties to enhance public services, address complex challenges, and improve residents' quality of life.

Adding to the celebration, CSAC hosted the first-ever, and highly successful, Challenge Awards Dinner, where more than 160 county leaders came together to honor outstanding achievements, share best practices, and build stronger partnerships. The event was an inspiring showcase of innovation that left a lasting impression on attendees. We received overwhelmingly positive feedback from CSAC members, emphasizing the impact and importance of this recognition.

The 2024 CSAC Challenge Awards was a resounding success, not only recognizing exceptional county programs but also in fostering a spirit of collaboration and shared innovation among county leaders. As we build on this momentum, we look forward to an even more impactful Challenge Awards program in the years ahead!

New Association Management Software Launched

Earlier this year, CSAC launched a new association management software system, Rhythm. The new system brings about opportunities to increase efficiency, collaboration, and member engagement throughout all levels. The system also provides CSAC members with a user-friendly member portal, streamlined events, CSAC Institute course registrations, and more. In the new system, all members are required to create a new login through a simple process that ensures new accounts are matched to the correct records. Staff are available to assist with login set up and ensure a seamless transition. To sign up, please use this [link](#).

We are thrilled to have this system live and look forward to the future as it opens even more possibilities for enhanced member engagement and support.

Public Affairs

We're gathering at a moment of transformational change that's disrupting how politics works. It goes beyond any one political figure, because it's driven by technology, and rooted in how your constituents get—and understand—their news. In this new world, public affairs efforts now shape political narratives—and therefore, policy outcomes—more than ever before. So CSAC is infusing our work with a new urgency to drive the agenda in the media and at the state Capitol, implementing a communications style that is direct and assertive.

In recent weeks, CSAC has made significant strides toward our goal of raising counties' presence in the media and influence at the state Capitol. We are focusing our public affairs efforts on CSAC's priority areas: homelessness and housing; disaster preparedness and recovery; and the state's response to federal funding cuts that affect counties. In the coming months, we will work to build an infrastructure that will enable us to partner with CSAC members and county staff (including Public Information Officers) so that our messaging reaches the media, influencers and voters in all 58 counties.

New CSAC Website

The first phase of the CSAC website redesign launched days before the Legislative Conference, marking an exciting milestone in our efforts to better serve our members. The initial launch includes core pages and functionality. Additional pages and interactive components will be added in the coming weeks to further expand and enhance the user experience. This phased approach allows us to continuously refine and improve the site based on member needs. Our hope is that the new website strengthens our members' ability to engage with CSAC and take a more active role in our advocacy efforts and member offerings.

CSAC Staff Engagement Efforts

CSAC Notes is a new staff engagement tool designed to enhance internal communication and collaboration across the organization. It provides a quick, accessible way for staff to share updates, celebrate successes, and stay informed on key initiatives. In addition, the Leadership Team began hosting office hours to give staff an opportunity to speak with them directly about concerns, share feedback, and discuss ideas.

2025 CSAC Legislative Conference

The 2025 CSAC Legislative Conference, where county leaders from across California came together to engage directly with state legislators and policymakers. This annual gathering is a prime opportunity to advocate for local priorities, influence key policy decisions, and stay informed on the latest state legislative and budget developments.

With over 420 attendees registered, this conference united county supervisors and key stakeholders from across California. The joint legislative reception with Cal Cities drew more than 500 county, city, and state representatives for an evening of networking, idea-sharing, and refreshments. Policy meetings, workshops, and caucuses addressed the pressing issues facing counties statewide. Our mini expo gave attendees the opportunity to connect with CSAC partners and explore their products and services.

As we say goodbye to the Legislative Conference, staff has begun making plans for the 131st Annual Meeting in Santa Clara County December 1–5, 2025 at the San Jose Convention Center. Registration is scheduled to open in early June. Please stay tuned for additional details.

Building Renovation Update:

CSAC's building renovation is quickly approaching, and preparations are well underway. The Executive Team has identified a temporary interim location for staff, with more details to be shared soon. Renovation planning meetings for the 1100 K Street building are actively ongoing. These meetings focus on building programming and include participation from 6d PMCM, HGA, and CSAC. As part of the transition plan, the CSAC Print Shop is scheduled to move into a temporary space starting July 1, 2025. The rest of the staff will follow, relocating to temporary offices by November 1, 2025.



April 25, 2025

To: CSAC Board of Directors

From: Oscar Villegas, CSAC FC Board President
Rob Pierce, CSAC FC Chief Operating Officer
Jim Manker, CSAC FC Director of Business Development

RE: **CSAC Finance Corporation Report**

CSAC Finance Corporation Board of Directors

The CSAC Finance Corporation (CSAC FC) Board of Directors is preparing for its Annual Spring Meeting on April 30, 2025 - May 2, 2025, in Napa County. The Annual Spring Meeting is always critical as it entails the election of the CSAC FC Officers, development of the upcoming Fiscal Year CSAC FC Budget, annual updates by the CSAC FC Business Partners, and various program development discussions. The CSAC FC Board will also be welcoming its newest members in person, to their first Annual Spring CSAC FC Board meeting. The newest members are as follows:

- ***Ed Valenzuela, District 2 Supervisor, Siskiyou County and former CSAC Board President (Rural County Supervisor Seat)***
- ***Edward Hill, Chief Operating Officer, County of Fresno (County Agency/Department Head Seat)***
- ***Vernon Billy, Chief Executive Officer & Executive Director - California School Boards Association (Public Seat)***
- ***Miguel Marquez, City Manager - City of Pasadena (Public Seat)***

CSAC Finance Corporation Financial Position

CSAC FC is very proud to share that over the last nine (9) plus years, CSAC FC has continued to increase its contribution to CSAC and has become a larger percentage of CSAC's overall revenue budget.

CSAC FC will be reviewing its annual budget this May for the purpose of determining the financial priorities of the organization while ensuring a consistent contribution to CSAC. The financial position of CSAC FC remains resilient as revenues continue to remain strong due to the success of our business partnerships and our Corporate Associates Program.

For more information on CSAC FC please visit our website at: (www.csacfc.org) call us at (916) 650-8137 or email Alan Fernandes (alan@csacfc.org).

Public Square Real Estate, Inc.

Public Square Real Estate, Inc. (PSRE) is an exciting partnership formed between Cushman and Wakefield (C&W) and CSAC Finance Corporation (CSAC FC) aimed at providing holistic and comprehensive professional real estate needs and planning to California's counties. The unique nature of this partnership ensures that counties have access to the highest level of real estate services with a unique focus on counties and their needs. While C&W provides unmatched resources and expertise in real estate services, CSAC FC is dedicated to the business of

improving public services for counties and their constituents in part by creating and managing innovative public services and products. After nearly two years of due diligence and deliberation, PSRE was formed with these guiding principles and only after input, guidance and authorization of the CSAC FC Board of Directors.

CSAC FC is enthused to announce the selection of PSRE by Del Norte County after a recent request for proposals process by the County and this exciting project and work has begun. Multiple other counties have recently reached out to PSRE to inquire about its services and potential opportunities including Glenn County, Inyo County, and Plumas County.

PSRE was developed to provide essential and comprehensive real estate services to California counties, with a clear focus to ensure that counties have a service option that puts them first by an organization with individuals that understand counties and the public interest. The partnership between CSAC FC and PSRE is based on a county centric value-added model. If you would like additional information about PSRE, please call (916-612-3020) or email Rob Pierce (rob@csacfc.org).

Nationwide Partnership

In true innovative fashion and in response to market desires, Nationwide has developed a new offering, Protected Retirement Income Solutions. This model was developed because of active participants expressing a desire for solutions that are part of their employer's pension plan which can address one of the biggest issues that deferred compensation plan participants fear most, running out of resources in retirement. Protected Retirement solutions can provide county participants the confidence of knowing that regardless how long they live, they will always have a stream of income being generated by the County's deferred compensation plan.

The following summary information outlines the benefits of this program:

- Offer participants the opportunity to turn their 457b supplemental retirement savings into a stream of guaranteed lifetime income (particularly important for those counties whose employees do not contribute into Social Security).
- Ensure that participant employees' retirement savings lasts throughout their entire retirement.
- There is no added cost to the county, simply providing another solution option for its employees.
- Helps to reduce the risk of market volatility because each solution locks in the highest investment value either on an annual or quarterly basis.
- Participants retain full control and liquidity of their assets.
- Due to the security of the plans, participants will be far less likely to move assets into a retail annuity, therefore helping counties retain assets in their plan.

Staff is pleased to share that recently, after due diligence and deliberation, Solano County has elected to onboard this offering to enhance the benefit options available to its employees. If you would like additional information regarding this exciting new offering from Nationwide and how it can help your county and its employees, please call (916-612-3020) or email Rob Pierce (rob@csacfc.org).

Enterprise Mobility Partnership

This Fiscal Year CSAC FC announced a new Business Partnership with Enterprise Mobility. CSAC FC and Enterprise Staff have worked tirelessly during this short tenure and since our last Executive Committee update the team has added numerous counties and municipalities to the

program. Due to its surging success and momentum, it is anticipated that this partnership will exceed expectations in both the current and subsequent Fiscal Year. If this current trend continues the partnership has the potential to be one of CSAC FC's most successful programs.

For more information about this exciting partnership or to find out how your county can benefit from this program please call (916-612-3020) or email Rob Pierce (rob@csacfc.org).

Corporate Associates Program

The Corporate Associates Program will end the Fiscal Year with 72 partners across all three levels. It has been an exciting and busy Fiscal Year for the program and its partners with multiple opportunities for partners and members to engage, including the CSAC Executive Forum in San Diego County, the New Supervisors Institute in Sacramento County, the NACo Legislative conference in Washington D.C., the CSAC Regional Meeting in Butte County, the CSAC Legislative Conference this week in Sacramento County, the PRE WIR event in May, and the June CSAC Regional Meeting in Ventura County.

For more information regarding the CSAC FC Corporate Associates Program please visit our website at: (www.csacfc.org), call (916-548-3280) or email Jim Manker (jim@csacfc.org). The current partner list is attached for your reference.



Organizational Chart



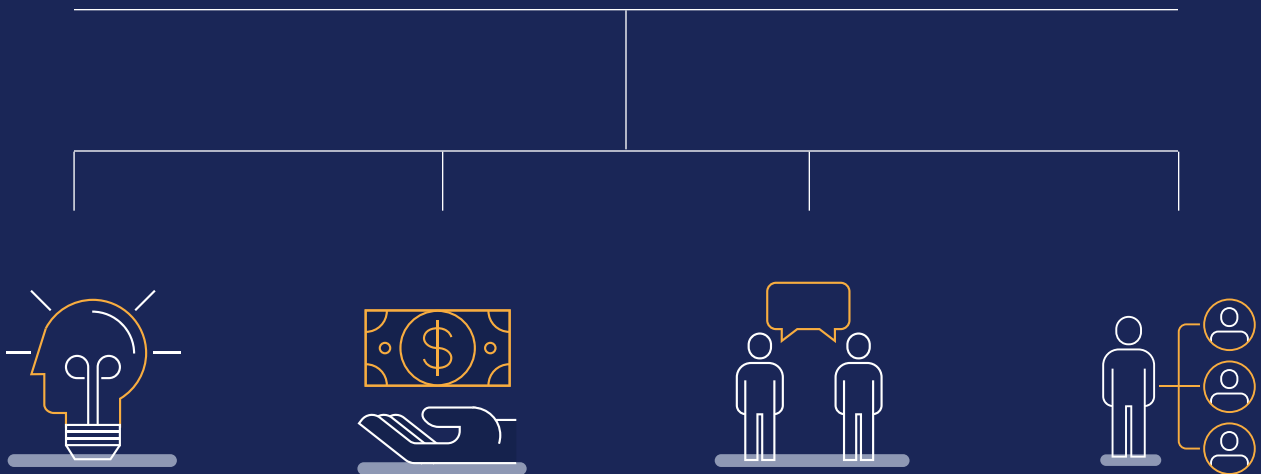


Mission Statement:

To provide a broad array of finance, investment, insurance and purchasing services to benefit California counties and related public agencies.

Commitment & Priorities

“Dedicated to the Business of Improving Public Services for Counties and Their Constituents”



Create and Manage
Innovative Public Services
and Products

Provide Financial
Support to CSAC

Collaborate With
Complementary National
& State Organizations

Maintain Strong
Relationships With
our Service Providers

1100 K Street, Suite 101 * Sacramento, CA 95814 www.csacfc.org



Supervisor Oscar Vilegas, President
oscar@csacfc.org or 916.650.8137

Alan Fernandes, Chief Executive Officer
alan@csacfc.org or 916.650.8175



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

CALIFORNIA
Counties

PLATINUM Partners (as of 4.1.2025)

1. Alaska Airlines

David Tucker, Managing Director
1350 Old Bayshore Hwy, Suite 205
Burlingame, CA 94010
(510) 734-1000
david.tucker1@alaskaair.com
www.news.alaskaair.com

2. Amity Foundation

Doug Bond, CEO
3655 S. Grand Ave, Suite 290
Los Angeles, CA 90007
(213) 400-4243
dbond@amityfdn.org
dacuna@amityfdn.org
www.amityfdn.org

3. Anthem Blue Cross

Stephanie Berry, Health Policy & Government Affairs
1121 L Street, Suite 500
Sacramento, CA 95814
(279) 245-7091
stephanie.berry@elevancehealth.com
www.anthem.com

4. Aramark

Michelle Bang, Growth Chief of Staff
2400 Market Street,
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(630) 271-2930
bang-michelle@aramark.com
www.aramark.com

5. Baron & Budd

John Fiske, Shareholder
11440 W. Bernardo Court
San Diego, CA 92127
(858) 251-7424
jfiske@baronbudd.com
www.baronandbudd.com

6. Blue Shield

Andrew Kiefer, VP, State Government Affairs
1215 K St. Suite 2010
Sacramento, CA 95815
(916) 552-2960
Andrew.keifer@blueshieldca.com
www.blueshieldca.com

7. California Statewide Communities Development Authority

James Hamill, Managing Director
1700 North Broadway, Suite 405
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
(800) 531-7476
jhamill@cscda.org
www.cscda.org

8. CalTRUST

Laura Labanieh, CEO
1100 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 745-6701
laura@caltrust.org
www.caltrust.org

9. Chorus Innovations

Ryan Napier, Strategic Partnerships
4265 E Conant St Ste 201
Long Beach, CA 90808
(310) 359-5263
ryan@joinchorus.com
www.joinchorus.com

10. Deloitte

Vanessa Vacca, Managing Director
1919 N. Lynn Street
Arlington, VA 22209
(949) 375-2579
vavacca@deloitte.com
www.deloitte.com

11. Dominion Voting Systems

Steve Bennett, Regional Sales Manager
26561 Amhurst Court
Loma Linda, CA 92354
(909) 362-1715
steven.bennett@dominionvoting.com
www.dominionvoting.com

12. DRC Emergency Services

Kristy Fuentes, Vice President Business Development
110 Veterans Memorial Blvd.
Metairie, LA 7005
(504) 220-7682
kfuentes@drcusa.com
www.drcusa.com

13. Election Systems and Software

Chelsea Machado, Regional Sales Manager
11208 John Galt Blvd.
Omaha, NE 68137
(209) 277-6674
chelsea.machado@essvote.com
www.essvote.com

14. Enterprise Mobility

Lisa Holmes, State of CA Contract Manager
150 N. Sunrise Ave
Roseville, CA 95661
(916) 240-1169
Lisa.m.holmes@ehi.com
www.enterprise.com

15. GX Broadband

Ben Korman, Founder
P.O. Box 1869
Morro Bay, CA 93443
(805) 748-6824
ben@gxbroadband.com
www.gxbroadband.com

16. HGA

Dacia Eastin, Associate Vice President, Business Development
1200 R Street #100,
Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 715-0455
DEastin@hga.com
www.hga.com

17. IBM

Todd W. Bacon, VP / Managing Director
425 Market St. 21st floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
(310) 890-9535
tbacon@us.ibm.com
www.ibm.com

18. Johnson Controls Performance Infrastructure

Wil Minerich, AE
5757 N. Green Bay Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53201
(206) 245-0778
william.churchward.minerich@jci.com
<https://www.johnsoncontrols.com/>

19. Kaiser Permanente

Jennifer Scanlon, Managing Director, Community and Government Relations
1950 Franklin St, 3rd Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 987-2373
Jennifer.Scanlon@kp.org
www.kp.org

20. Mosaic Solutions and Advocacy

Matt Cate, Founding Partner
808 R Street Suite 102
Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 862-4245
mcate@mosaicsol.com
www.mosaicsol.com

21. Nationwide

Rob Bilo, VP of Business Development
492 Robert J Mathews Parkway, Suite 100
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
(86) 677-5008
bilor@nationwide.com
www.nrsforu.com

22. NextEra Energy

Trystine Payfer, Western Region, Community Engagement Manager.
1 California Street, Suite 1600
San Francisco, CA 94111
(949) 239-4516
Trystine.Payfer@nexteraenergy.com
www.nexteraenergy.com

23. Pacific Gas & Electric Company

John Costa, Local Public Affairs
1415 L Street, Suite 280
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 584-1885
JB1F@pge.com
www.pge.com

24. Peraton

Julie Waddell, Account Executive
15231 Avenue of Science
San Diego CA 92128
(916) 708-2355
julie.waddell@mail.peraton.com
www.peraton.com

25. PRISM

Rick Brush, Chief Member Services Officer
75 Iron Point Circle, Suite 200
Folsom, California 95630
(916) 850-7378
rbrush@prismrisk.gov
www.prismrisk.gov

26. Procure America

Todd Main, Vice President of Government Services
31103 Rancho Viejo Rd. #D2102
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
(949) 388-2686
t.main@procureamerica.org
www.procureamerica.org

27. Prologis

Cornelius Burke, Director of Government Affairs
Pier 1, Bay 1 San Francisco, CA 94111
cburke@prologis.com
www.prologis.com

28. SiteLogIQ

Michelle Parker, Business Development Manager
1651 Response Rd, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95815
(559) 240-4098
michelle.parker@sitelogiq.com
www.sitelogiq.com

29. SLS

Janna Contorno, Division Director
Post Office Box 17017
Galveston, TX 77552
(409) 877-1824
jcontorno@sls-health.com
www.sls-health.com

30. Southland Industries

Desiree Haus, Business Development Manager
1231 Western Ave.,
Garden Grove, CA 92841
(559) 593-3902
dhaus@southlandind.com
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31. STV

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PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

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April 25, 2025

TO: CSAC Board of Directors

CC: California Counties Foundation Board of Directors

FR: Susan Ellenberg, President
Paul Danczyk, PhD, Chief Operating Officer

RE: **Report - California Counties Foundation**

The Foundation's work carries across the State, reaching all counties through courses at the William "Bill" Chiat Institute for Excellence in County Government (CSAC Institute) and free and premium services offered by the CSAC Grants Initiative (CGI).

1. CSAC Institute

The Institute expands leadership capacity and capability through educational opportunities via virtual courses and on-site campuses.

Specialized programs include:

New Supervisors Institute 2024 - 2025

A series of three modules, Module 2 was hosted in Sacramento on February 20-21, 2025. Preparations for Module 3 are in place for July 17-18, 2025 and will take place in Sacramento.

CCISDA 2024 – 2025 Cohort

Since 2016, the Institute has partnered with the California County Information Services Directors Association (CCISDA) to offer the Technology Executive Credential program. The 2025 cohort of 43 participants from 25 counties are advancing towards earning a technology credential this Fall at CCISDA's annual conference. The Institute and CCISDA are designing the 2026 program and will begin recruitment soon.



HR Directors Institute 2024-2025

The Institute partnered with California Counties Human Resources (CCHR) for the Human Resources Executives Institute 2024-2025 program. Consistent with other Institute credentials, the program was designed with 50 hours of instruction across a 4-day residency and virtual courses. Participants included 26 HR directors and senior leadership from 16 counties. Upon successful program completion, they will be recognized during CCHR's August 2025 conference in San Diego. The Institute and CCHR are finalizing the 2025-2026 program design. The residency will be in Sacramento, December 8-12, 2025.

Alumni Program: Strengthening Response Muscles – 2025

The program focuses on responding to—instead of reacting to—difficult situations through courageous leadership, assertive communication, and self-care. The Institute concluded the inaugural 5-part series on December 5, 2024. Based on alumni requests, this program is offered again this Spring; the first two sessions took place on April 4, 2025: understanding workplace trauma; and April 17: assertive communication.

Realignment Training

The Institute offers realignment training twice a year. Spring Realignment took place on April 3 -4, 2025 in San Bernardino County. Fall Realignment will take place on October 2-3, 2025.

Recent Graduations: Executive Credential Program

CSAC Institute proudly recognized participants from Glenn and Butte counties during their March 23rd Board of Supervisors meetings. Butte County recognized 23 graduates and Glenn County, 15, for earning the CSAC Executive Credential. Colusa County recognized 10 graduates during their April 8th Board of Supervisors meeting. Upcoming cohort graduations include Orange, Ventura and Monterey counties.



Pictured: Butte County Supervisors Peter Durfee and Tod Kimmelshue, CAO Pickett, CSAC CEO Graham Knaus, California Counties Foundation COO Paul Danczyk, with Butte County Graduates



Pictured: Glenn County Supervisors Jim Yoder, Grant Carmon, Monica Rossman, Tony Arendt, Jake Withrow, CAO Scott DeMoss, CSAC CEO Graham Knaus and California Counties Foundation COO Paul Danczyk, with Glenn County Graduates



Pictured: Colusa County Supervisors Jose Merced Corona, Daurice Kalfsbeek Smith, Kent Boes, Randy Wilson, Janice Bell, CAO Wendy Tyler, CSAC CEO Graham Knaus and California Counties Foundation COO Paul Danczyk, with Colusa County Graduates

Upcoming Onsite Campuses

The Institute continues its efforts to design both onsite campuses and virtual offerings. Campus designs range in intensive approaches through offering ten courses between five- and ten-month time periods.

Programs currently underway include:

1. Orange and Riverside counties (hosted by Orange County)
2. Ventura County

3. Monterey County
4. Humboldt, Del Norte, and Trinity counties (hosted by Humboldt County)
5. Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Madera counties (hosted by Fresno County)
6. Inyo County

Programs in design include:

7. Stanislaus County
8. Glenn, Butte and Colusa counties (hosted by Butte County)
9. Sutter and Yuba counties

Executive Services

The Foundation offers executive services to support elected officials and senior executives. Services include executive coaching, retreats, and seminars. The services are tailored towards the county needs and requests.

2. CSAC Grants Initiative

CGI continues to evolve to meet the changing needs of California's counties. Building on the established foundations, we are exploring strategic enhancements to our service model that will further our mission of empowering counties. While specific details remain under review, our vision focuses on increasing accessibility, expanding resources, and creating more sustainable pathways for counties to secure critical funding.

In response to the challenging federal landscape, we recognize that the current funding freeze represents not just a temporary obstacle but a potential shift in the resource environment that counties may face for years to come. As this fiscal climate evolves, CGI is thoughtfully examining how we can best position our existing framework to help counties navigate both immediate constraints and long-term funding uncertainties. We are carefully assessing the changing federal priorities and exploring adaptive approaches that align with this new reality, while maintaining our core commitment to supporting counties in building capacity and resilience regardless of external funding conditions.

Despite these challenges, we're pleased to report continued growth in our partnerships, with recent contracts established with Sonoma County (March 2025) and commitment from Mono County (April 2025) to join our collaborative efforts in the coming months. These expanding relationships underscore the value counties place on our support during uncertain times.

CGI Grant Success – September 2024 to Present

On January 8, 2025, **Imperial County** was awarded a \$1,472,020 federal grant through the U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) 2025 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program. These funds will support the development of the Niland Complete Streets Planning Project, a transformative initiative aimed at enhancing infrastructure, improving safety, and increasing accessibility for the Niland community.

In December 2024, **Ventura County** was awarded a \$749,931 grant from the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resilience Program (ICARP) under the Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program. This funding will enable the development of a comprehensive Heat Action Plan, including small pilot projects, aimed at mitigating the impacts of extreme heat within the county.

After writing and submitting successful grant applications for both Sacramento and Imperial counties, CGI received notifications in September 2024 that both counties had been selected for awards.

Sacramento County was awarded an \$8,000,000 grant to reduce recidivism by strengthening reentry programs, expanding eligibility, and enhancing workforce development efforts through community-based organizations.

Additionally, the **Imperial County** District Attorney's Office was awarded a \$500,000 grant to enhance law enforcement and prosecution responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This project will provide specialized training, improve resource allocation, and support systemic policy reviews.

3. New Foundation Logo

To modernize and standardize its branding and stay consistent with CSAC's style guide, the Foundation worked with an external designer to create its new logo. Various options were presented to the Foundation Board members for their review and input. A few variations of the logo are below and are being utilized across Foundation products and materials.





California Association of County Executives

Providing Executive Leadership in California's Counties

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April 25, 2025

TO: CSAC Board of Directors

FROM: Jason Britt, Tulare County CAO and CACE President

RE: March Update from the California Association of County Executives (CACE)

Recommendation

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the meetings of the CSAC Executive Committee and Board of Directors and bring forward the voice of the county administrators statewide. We are pleased to share with you an update on our work at CACE.

As we had anticipated, the federal administration's actions have created considerable uncertainty for California counties. While nothing is certain, potential significant reductions in Medicaid, FEMA, and other critical funding sources would have dramatic impacts on counties' capability to sustain public services. It is also clear that the state will not have the capacity to backfill anticipated federal reductions. Underscoring that uncertainty is the lack of information or preparation from our state department partners. As we understand it, the state is likely to approve its 2025-26 state budget in June without a good assessment of what it can anticipate in federal assistance. Should that be the case, the Legislature could need to return to Sacramento to make modifications to the state's spending plan in the fall, which will necessarily require budget adjustments at the county level during the fiscal year. In addition, we continue to focus on the following issues:

- Exploring options for ensuring continued provision of jail medical services and for improving counties' engagement in SB 90 mandate process;
- Engaging on matters related to claims against counties that create fiscal liabilities to ensure that effective and practical tools are available to manage county budgets;
- Discussion and consideration of impacts of proposals to allow utilities to relinquish their "plain old telephone service" or "carrier of last resort" obligations;
- Protecting investments in vital county services given likely changes in political priorities and policies;
- Supporting CACE members through information sharing, networking, and mentoring; and
- Responding to budget proposals and new initiatives from Newsom Administration.

Finally, CACE is in the initial stages of preparing for its annual conference, as well as association Board meetings concurrent with CSAC's Legislative Conference and Annual Meeting.

2025 OFFICERS

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Vice-President | Scott De Moss, Glenn County
Secretary/Treasurer | Dr. Sevet Johnson, Ventura County
Immediate Past President | Jeff Van Wagenen, Riverside County



County Counsels' Association of California

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jennifer Bacon Henning

MEMORANDUM

To: Supervisor Jeff Griffiths, President, and
Members of the CSAC Board of Directors

From: Jennifer Bacon Henning, Litigation Coordinator

Date: April 25, 2025

Re: Litigation Coordination Program Update

This memorandum will provide you with information on the Litigation Coordination Program's new case activities since the Board's February 13, 2024 meeting. Briefs filed on CSAC's behalf are available at:
<http://www.counties.org/csac-litigation-coordination-program>.

The following jurisdictions are receiving amicus support in the new cases described in this report:

COUNTIES	CITIES	OTHER AGENCIES
Contra Costa (2 Cases)	Carson (2 Cases)	Coachella Valley Water District
Kern		San Luis Coastal USD
Los Angeles		Santa Clara Valley Water District
Merced (2 Cases)		
Santa Cruz		
Ventura (2 Cases)		

AB 218 Revived Abuse "Gift of Public Fund" Cases

Status: Cases Closed

These four cases¹ involve claims against a county or school district brought under the revived statute of limitations and retroactive elimination of the claims presentment requirement created by AB 218 for childhood sexual assault claims. In each of the cases, defendants argued that AB 218's retroactive elimination of the claims-presentation requirement violated the California Constitution's Gift Clause and Due Process Clause. In each case, the trial court rejected that argument and defendants sought writ relief in the Court of Appeal. The appellate court summarily denied the writ petitions in all four cases on the same day. However, Judge Yegan dissented, stating:

¹ The cases are: *County of Ventura v. Superior Court (D.A.)*; *County of Ventura v. Superior Court (Diaz)*; *Roe 2 v. Superior Court (John Doe 1)*; *San Luis Coastal USD v. Superior Court (Doe)*.

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The Legislature's retroactive elimination of sovereign immunity for claims arising from childhood sexual assault no matter the length of the delay in presentation, while also allowing limitless liability, has no reasonable basis. The fiscal impact flowing from the Legislature's erasure of time-honored rules concerning the filing of claims for personal injury against public entities is unprecedented. Local governmental entities and school districts are likely unable to litigate and compensate victims, even if they are worthy of compensation. These stale claims are not defensible even with a theoretical defense. Many alleged sexual abusers and potential witnesses would likely be unavailable and/or dead. There is no local 'reserve' fund to pay these claims and many insurance policies held by the public entities have lapsed long ago. . . . How does an entity go about defending these cases? The Legislature has provided no funding for the payment of these newly revived claims. If the local entities are indeed political subdivisions of the state, the Legislature will have to step in to avoid financial catastrophe at the local level. The legislative goal is laudable, but civil litigation contemplates an adversarial process. That is illusory in most of these stale cases. The Legislature has provided that these claims are to be resolved in court. But, there will be nothing to resolve other than the amount of damages. There is no practical way for the entities to truly defend themselves. . . . This petition presents a compelling case for review. We should issue the order to show cause and review the constitutionality of Assembly Bill 218. The seriousness of the issue and magnitude of the cost to the public fisc warrant review. I urge the Supreme Court to grant review of this important issue.

CSAC supported the petitions for review that were filed in these cases, but the California Supreme Court denied review.

B.B. v. County of Kern

Unpublished Opinion of the Fifth Appellate District, 2025 Cal.App.Unpub.LEXIS 540 (5th Dist. Jan. 29, 2025)(F087536), *request for publication denied* (Feb. 25, 2025)

Status: Cases Closed

Plaintiff B.B. was sexually abused in 1972 when she was 12 years old and living in a foster home she had been placed in by defendant, the County of Kern. Plaintiff disclosed the abuse to her assigned social worker, but plaintiff was not immediately removed from the foster home and the abuse continued for three months. In 2022, Plaintiff filed a personal injury lawsuit for negligence against the County, alleging direct liability for the County's failure to discharge various mandatory duties under Government Code section 815.6, and vicarious liability under sections 815.2, 815.4, and 820 for the failure of County employees, agents and/or independent contractors to protect plaintiff from sexual abuse while under the County's custody in foster care. The trial court dismissed, finding the County's employees were entitled to discretionary act immunity for foster care placement and removal decisions, and plaintiff failed to state a cause of action for breach of a mandatory duty by the County. In an unpublished opinion, the Court of Appeal affirmed. The court relied on a prior line of cases applying immunity for social worker actions: "Like in those cases,

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plaintiff faults the County's social worker for negligent investigation into her report of sexual abuse by her foster father. Based on established case law, the County's employees are immune from liability for failure to properly investigate plaintiff's report of sexual abuse." CSAC requested that the opinion be published, but the request was denied.

Conservatorship of E.A.

Unpublished Opinion of the First Appellate District, 2024 Cal.App.Unpub.LEXIS 5438 (1st Dist. Aug. 28, 2024)(A169299), *petition for review granted* (Dec. 11, 2024)(S287241)

Status: Amicus Brief Due June 5, 2025

E.A. has been under an LPS conservatorship since August 2020. When the Public Guardian petitioned for its annual renewal in September 2022, E.A. requested a jury trial. That trial had not yet been set when the Public Guardian petition for its next renewal in September 2023. The 2023 petition was heard and granted in November 2023. This appeal followed. In an unpublished opinion, the First Appellate District began by noting it was "dismayed by the trial court's inability to hear the 2022 petition for over a year, involving as it does 'a massive curtailment of liberty' for E.A." The court ultimately determined, however, that E.A. was unable to demonstrate that she was prejudiced by the delay, and it directed the trial court to dismiss the September 2022 petition for conservatorship as moot. The appellate court determined that the main reason for the delay was the court's inability to provide a courtroom, and it expressed concern that there was "nothing in the record to suggest the court viewed setting this case for trial with the level of urgency the statute and circumstances require." Ultimately, however, the court concluded that the delays could not support a dismissal of the conservatorship if E.A. did not suffer prejudice due to the delay. And because there was no evidence that the delay impaired her counsel's ability to prepare for trial and her condition has essentially remained unchanged since 2021, the court found there was no prejudice. The California Supreme Court has granted review to the following question: Must a conservatee demonstrate prejudice to establish that a 362-day delay in initiating a trial in a Lanterman-Petris-Short Act conservatorship proceeding violates due process and equal protection? CSAC will file a brief in support of the Contra Costa County Public Guardian.

Great Oaks Water Co. v. Santa Clara Valley Water District

--- Cal.App.5th ---, 2025 Cal.App.LEXIS 210 (6th Dist. Feb. 28, 2025)(H050939), *request for publication granted and rehearing denied* (Mar. 28, 2025)(S289722)

Status: Case Closed

This case is a challenge to certain water rates under Prop. 26. As relevant to the litigation, the Water District pricing policy in setting its groundwater fee provides: (1) an "open space credit" to encourage continued open space and agriculture uses; and (2) a conjunctive use adjustment so that groundwater and treated water customers are "economically indifferent" to which source of water they receive, for example by reallocating some of the costs of treated or recycled water to groundwater users. Plaintiff alleged that the charges violated Prop. 26 because they were more than necessary to cover the reasonable costs of the governmental activity, and because the cost allocation did not bear a fair or reasonable relationship to plaintiff's burdens on,

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or its benefits received from, the governmental activities. The Court of Appeal ruled in favor of the Water District in an unpublished opinion. Of particular interest, the Court ruled: (1) Charges for “governmental activity” are lawful and governmental activity is broadly defined as the water district’s overall water management program; (2) the non-agricultural groundwater charges were reasonably allocated; and (3) the discount for agricultural groundwater pumping is constitutionally valid because it is not funded with the money received from non-agricultural pumpers like plaintiff, but instead with an “open space credit” paid for with revenue from ad valorem property taxes imposed by Santa Clara County and transferred to the Water District. CSAC’s publication request was granted.

Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association v. Coachella Valley Water District
108 Cal.App.5th 485 (4th Dist. Div. 2 Jan. 31, 2025)(E080870), *petition for review pending and depublication* (filed Mar. 10, 2025)

Status: Petition for Review and Depublication Pending

This case is a Prop. 218 challenge to the rates the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) charges those who take raw water from the District’s canals for irrigation. Because golf courses and other municipal and industrial uses have growing demand for water and farmers’ demand is declining (as land is developed for urban uses), CVWD obtained expensive new supplies via the Colorado River Settlement Agreements, and allocates those charges to Class 2 users (mostly golf courses and other irrigators in non-farm settings). CVWD also uses the canal rates to charge the domestic utility for the use of the canal water it uses to recharge groundwater basins from which domestic supplies are drawn. HJTA subbed into the litigation for a domestic utility user to challenge the canal rates, even though the user does not himself pay the rate except to the extent those costs that are charged to the domestic utility are folded into his rate. The Court of Appeal invalidated the water district’s rate for non-agricultural customers, finding the district did not show that its rate allocation bore a fair or reasonable relationship to non-agricultural customers’ burdens. The Court further held that a refund suit did not require payment under protest because the Health & Saf. Code, § 5472, protest requirement for suits against municipalities did not apply to suits against other entities. CSAC has filed a letter supporting the Water District’s request for California Supreme Court review, which is pending, and has also requested depublication.

In re Lerke

107 Cal.App.5th 685 (4th Dist. Div. 1 Dec. 19, 2024)(D084051), *depublishation request denied* (Mar. 26, 2025)(S289333)

Status: Request for Depublication Denied; Case Closed

In this Murphy conservatorship case (a type of LPS conservatorship for people who are deemed dangerous and unable to stand trial due to mental illness), the Court of Appeal in San Diego County held that “indefinite” detention in county jail of a conservatee found incompetent to stand trial, pending transfer to a state hospital, was unlawful because the applicable statute requires placement in a state hospital or other authorized facility providing treatment, and a county jail is not among the authorized facilities. Ultimately, however, the court denied the writ of habeas corpus as moot because the conservatee had been transferred from the jail to an authorized treatment facility during the pendency of the proceedings. CSAC requested depublication, but that request was denied.

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K.C. v. County of Merced

109 Cal.App.5th 606 (5th Dist. Feb. 18, 2025)(F087088), *request for publication granted* (Mar. 11, 2025)

Status: Case Closed

This is a revived claim of childhood sexual abuse against Merced County involving alleged acts of sexual abuse that occurred in two foster homes in the early to mid 1970's. The complaint alleges that social workers had actual or constructive knowledge of the abuse but failed to take any investigative or protective action. The trial court sustained a demurrer in favor of the County, and the Fifth District affirmed in an unpublished opinion. The court concluded that “[i]n view of statutes granting discretionary immunity to public employees and derivative immunity to public entity employers (see Gov. Code, §§ 815.2, subd. (b), 820.2),” the demurrer was properly sustained. The court noted the “strong policy considerations in favor of upholding immunity” for social workers, citing to case law confirming that “the social worker’s independence . . . would be compromised were the social worker constantly in fear that a mistake could result in a time-consuming and financially devastating civil suit.” CSAC’s publication request was granted.

Nabors Corporate Services v. City of Carson

108 Cal.App.5th 540 (2d Dist. Jan. 31, 2025)(B328026), *petition for review pending* (filed Mar. 13, 2025)(S289788)

Status: Letter in Support of Petition for Review Due April 11, 2025

Labor Code section 1781 states: “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a contractor may . . . bring an action in a court of competent jurisdiction to recover from the body awarding a contract for a public work or otherwise undertaking any public work any increased costs incurred by the contractor as a result of any decision by the body, the Department of Industrial Relations, or a court that classifies, after the time at which the body accepts the contractor’s bid or awards the contractor a contract in circumstances where no bid is solicited, the work covered by the bid or contract as a ‘public work,’ . . .” In this case, plaintiff undertook work on behalf of the City of Long Beach as a subcontractor in a project that was deemed not to be a public work requiring prevailing wages. After the work was completed, employees of plaintiff were successful in arbitration, resulting in a finding that the work was a “public work” and prevailing wages were required. The employees then successfully petitioned a federal district court to confirm the arbitration awards as judgments.

Plaintiff then brought this action against the City under Section 1781 seeking indemnity for the employees’ wage award. The trial court ruled in favor of the City, concluding that the arbitrator’s decision is not a decision of “the body, the Department of Industrial Relations, or a court” as required by the statute, and therefore no indemnification was required. The Court of Appeal reversed. It found that the federal court confirmation of the arbitration award was sufficient to trigger Section 1781. The court rejected the City’s argument that the federal court’s order should not be included in Section 1781 because confirmation of an arbitration award does not review the merits of the arbitrator’s decision. The appellate court found instead that “under both federal and state law, a judgment entered following confirmation of a contractual arbitration award has the same force and effect as a judgment rendered after a court determination, regardless of whether an arbitrator, not a sitting judge, made the underlying factual and legal determinations.” Thus, under the plain language of the

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statute and the legislative history reviewed by the court, the trial court erred by dismissing the case. The City is seeking Supreme Court review, and CSAC will file a letter in support.

Nyarecha v. County of Los Angeles

Memorandum Opinion of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, 2024 U.S.App.LEXIS 26252 (9th Cir. Oct. 17, 2024)(23-55773), *cert. petition pending* (filed Mar. 7, 2025)(24-956)

Status: Amicus Brief Filed April 4, 2025

In federal civil rights cases, a public entity can be held liable for the actions of its employees under what is known as “*Monell* liability” if the plaintiff can show there is a well-established custom or practice of the employees’ unlawful conduct. In other words, even if a County has a lawful policy and trains its employees on the policy, if plaintiff shows that the actual practice is different and employees customarily deviate from the policy, the County can be liable under the *Monell* theory. The question is this case is how much evidence is required to show a “well-established custom or practice” to establish *Monell* liability. The case involves an inmate who died in a special medical unit in the County’s jail. Plaintiff had been held in the jail for several months, but the sole evidence submitted to the trial court was video for the 13 hours immediately preceding his death, which showed deputies walking past the plaintiff’s cell 26 times without stopping to specifically check plaintiff’s status. The trial court ruled in favor of the County, concluding that 13 hours was not of sufficient duration to evidence a custom or policy under *Monell*. But the Ninth Circuit reversed, concluding the evidence supported an inference that the safety checks that occurred in the hours preceding plaintiff’s death represent a practice or custom capable of satisfying the standard for *Monell* liability. The County is seeking U.S. Supreme Court review, and CSAC has filed a brief in support.

Pachote v. Nelson

Memorandum Opinion of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, 2024 U.S.App.LEXIS 32070 (9th Cir. Dec. 18, 2024)(23-4000), *petition for rehearing and reharing en banc denied* (Jan. 27, 2025)

Status: Amicus Brief Due May 28, 2025

Plaintiff contacted the Sheriff’s department after reportedly hearing shots fired near her home. Two sheriff deputies—Nelson and Thomas – were in the area and responded to the call. When Nelson arrived, plaintiff asked her to leave and the two had an exchange during which Nelson tried to pull plaintiff out of the house. Thomas was approaching the scene when he saw the ensuing struggle. He used only his hands to push plaintiff to the ground and assist in handcuffing her. She later brought this excessive force action. The trial court denied qualified immunity to both officers. On appeal, the Ninth Circuit agreed that Thomas was not entitled to qualified immunity on claims of excessive force. The court disagreed that Thomas had rightful authority to use minimal force to come to the aid of a fellow officer. Judge Bumatay dissented, finding “Thomas’s modest use of force to help Deputy Nelson subdue Pachote was . . . objectively reasonable under the totality of the circumstances. Nothing in the Fourth Amendment requires police officers to assume that other officers are acting against the law in using physical force. Nor does the Fourth Amendment require officers to acquire perfect knowledge of the situation before assisting another officer in a physical

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struggle.” Contra Costa County is seeking U.S. Supreme Court review, and CSAC will file a brief in support.

Pacific Bell v. County of Merced

--- Cal.App.5th ---, 2025 Cal.App.LEXIS 172 (5th Dist. Feb. 24, 2025)(F087825), *request for publication granted* (Mar. 17, 2025)

Status: Case Closed

Merced County has received a favorable, though unpublished, decision in its telephone utility tax refund action. In this case, as with the others that are pending in various Courts of Appeal, plaintiffs challenged the property tax rates that were calculated pursuant to the mandatory statutory formula in Revenue and Taxation Code section 100(b) (“Section 100(b”). The gravamen of plaintiffs’ cases is that Section 100(b) is unconstitutional under article XIII, section 19, of the California Constitution (“Section 19”), which purportedly requires that utility property be taxed at the exact same rate as other property. The Fifth District held that “the relevant language in Section 19 does not mandate that the same tax rate must be applied to utility property as is applied to locally assessed property.” CSAC’s publication request was granted.

Tesoro Refining & Marketing Co. v. City of Carson

Unpublished Opinion of the Second Appellate District, 2025 Cal.App.Unpub. LEXIS 1248 (2d Dist. Feb. 28, 2025)(B335686), *request for publication denied pending* (filed Mar. 21, 2025)

Status: Case Closed

The City of Carson has an Oil Industry Business License Tax (OIBLT), which imposes a tax on petroleum processing or refining operations within the City. The ordinance includes an administrative process for seeking refunds of alleged overpayments. In this case, plaintiff believed it was wrongly assessed for its OIBLT. It filed a claim with the City under the Government Claims Act, and when its claim was denied it filed a complaint in the trial court seeking a refund. The trial court agreed with the City that plaintiff could not bring its lawsuit because it did not exhaust the City’s administrative process. In an unpublished opinion, the Court of Appeal affirmed, rejecting the plaintiff’s argument that the City’s administrative process was preempted by the Government Claims Act. CSAC’s request that the opinion be published was denied.

Weseloh v. County of Santa Cruz

Pending in the Sixth Appellate District (Oct. 7, 2022)(H050433)

Status: Case Fully Briefed and Pending

This case involves an attempt by the owners of beachfront vacation homes to own, for private use, a publicly dedicated pedestrian walkway known as the 37’ Walk. The County Board of Supervisors formally accepted dedication of the 37’ Walk in 1929. Over the ensuing decades the lots were improved with vacation homes, and the owners started using the 37’ Walk as a patio area. The owners of the units on the ends of the 37’ Walk constructed fences, walls, and gates that partially obstructed direct access. In 1980, they obtained an encroachment permit from the County to construct a seawall to protect the homes. That permit included an express condition requiring preservation of the public access easement on the 37’ Walk. After disputes with the County and Coastal Commission

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over public access in 2017 and 2018, the homeowners filed suit to quiet title to the 37' Walk in November of 2018. The trial court ruled in favor of the plaintiffs, holding that they own the 37' Walk and are entitled to prevent public access across it. The trial court found an inverse condemnation taking as to all the properties, concluding that Plaintiffs acquired fee title to the Walk though something akin to adverse possession. CSAC has filed an amicus brief in support of Santa Cruz County.

Update on Activities

April 2025

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair

Brett Channing

Assistant City Manager, City of Corona

Vice Chair/Secretary

Lydia Romero

City Manager, Lemon Grove

Immediate Past Chair

Teresa Acosta

Councilmember, Carlsbad

Michele Beal Bagneris

City Attorney/City Prosecutor

Pasadena

Carolyn Coleman

CEO & Executive Director

League of California Cities

Ruben Duran

Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Yxstian Gutierrez

Supervisor, Riverside County

CSAC Representative

James Keene

Retired City Manager &

Former CSAC Executive Director

Graham Knaus

Executive Director

California State Association of Counties

Justin Lovell

Director of Administrative Services

West County Wastewater District

MMANC Representative

Pat Martel

Retired City Manager

Cal-ICMA Representative

Antonio Martinez

Director

Contra Costa Water District

Neil McCormick

Chief Executive Officer

California Special Districts Association

Judith Mitchell

Former City Councilmember

City of Rolling Hills Estates

Mona Miyasato

County Executive Officer

City of Santa Barbara

CACE Representative

Lorenzo Rios

Chief Executive Officer

Clovis Veterans Memorial District

Johnathan Royas

Deputy City Manager

City of Santa Paula

MMASC Representative

Hilary Straus

General Manager

Citrus Heights Water District

Eddie Valero

Supervisor, Tulare County

ILG - Committed to Supporting California Counties

ILG remains focused on supporting California counties with a wide range of issues they may be facing. From customized trainings to collaborative partnerships to strategic counsel, we apply our 70-year history of local government to meeting the complex needs of CSAC members.

We're constantly evolving our programs, education, training and support to meet the changing landscape of local government.

Building Capacity to Support Local Governments

A key part of our 2025 strategy is to build internal capacity to support the growing need for education, training and technical assistance among our local agency partners. To meet that objective, in the first quarter we focused on internal re-alignment, recruiting and operational improvements in accordance with our 2025 approved budget.

Key highlights of that work include:

- Promoting key staff at ILG -- **Hanna Stelmakhovych** to the role of **Interim Senior Program Manager** for Public Engagement, and **Melissa Kuehne** to the role of **Director of Enterprise Programs and Special Projects**.
- Welcoming four new staff members – **Allie Hunt** as our new **Executive Assistant**, **Morgan Belden** and **Amanda Hirschmann** as **Program Managers** in Workforce Development, and **Jon Barilone** as **Senior Program Manager** leading Communications.

Allie Hunt, Executive Assistant

Allie has a strong background in executive support, business operations, and organizational management. With years of experience assisting C-suite executives and managing high-volume workloads, she excels at streamlining processes, improving efficiency, and fostering collaboration within teams. Allie is known for her adaptability, problem-solving abilities, and attention to detail. She has technical expertise in business operations, board governance and other administrative roles.





Morgan Belden, Program Manager, Workforce Development

Morgan has been a dedicated professional in Workforce Development since 2022, with the past two years focused on building academic and career pathways for Social Work students. Morgan successfully collaborated with the California Workforce Development Board, San Diego colleges, and community partners to design programs that equip students with the skills and opportunities necessary to excel in their chosen fields.



Amanda Hirschmann, Program Manager, Workforce Development

Amanda joins the team with extensive experience in workforce development and public service leadership. She most recently served the California Department of Developmental Services, where she led statewide initiatives to recruit, train, and retain the workforce supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, particularly in underserved communities. Amanda's expertise in strategic planning, cross-sector collaboration, and program implementation will support the ILG Workforce Pillar in strengthening programs focused on building equitable career pathways, expanding civic education, and increasing access to public service.

Jon Barilone, Senior Program Manager, Marketing & Communications

Jon has over 16 years of experience making digital marketing & strategic communications more efficient and impactful, through a wide range of skills such as content writing and editing, brand management, event support, public relations and community building. Prior to joining ILG in 2025, Jon served as a Principal with Tripepi Smith, helping them grow to become the largest local government-focused public affairs and marketing firm in California. There, he consulted with approximately 100 different California local government agencies to help them improve their external marketing and communications through integrated marketing campaigns and strategic communications plans.



Building County Partnerships

ILG Board of Directors

We are excited to welcome two new county representatives to our Board of Directors. Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez from Riverside County joined our board in February, and Supervisor Eddie Valero joined in March. Supervisor Gutierrez and Supervisor Valero will join Santa Barbara County CEO Mona Miyasato, and CSAC CEO Graham Knaus as key members providing a county perspective and spotlighting how ILG can help address county needs and priorities.

CSAC Legislative Conference

Team ILG will be attending and exhibiting at the CSAC Legislative Conference in April. We look forward to sharing about our resources and programs for county officials. We will also be hosting an informal reception on Thursday, April 24 at the Hyatt Hotel Lobby Bar and all CSAC members are welcome to attend.



Get the Recognition Your County Deserves!

Beacon Award Applications Are Now Open

ILG's Beacon Program helps local agencies understand the actions they can take — from clean energy to efficient transportation, adaptation planning, community engagement, and more — to reduce emissions, save energy, and build resilience. Through the Beacon Program, local agencies gain access to best practices, resources, technical assistance, peer support, and are eligible to earn annual award recognition.



The Beacon Vanguard and Spotlight awards recognize voluntary actions of counties and cities to undertake climate and sustainability programming. Agencies that earn an award in each of the five Spotlight categories will receive the Beacon Vanguard award. The Spotlight categories are:

- Agency GHG Reductions
- Community GHG Reductions
- Agency Electricity Savings
- Agency Natural Gas Savings
- Sustainability Best Practices

[Learn more about each category and what data is needed for award consideration.](#)

Whether your agency is a Beacon participant or not, you are invited to submit an innovative project, program, plan, or policy your agency has implemented for Leadership and Innovation award consideration in the following categories:

- Leadership in Climate Resilience and Adaptation
- Equity and Engagement in Climate Resilience and Adaptation
- Cross-Agency Collaboration in Climate Resilience and Adaptation
- Innovation in Energy
- Innovation in Clean Transportation

Applications are due Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

[More information available here.](#)

Recent & Upcoming Webinars

The New Economic Development Is Green...and it comes with \$\$\$

Thursday, April 3, 11:30am - 1:00pm



California's landscape of economic development is rapidly evolving, with a growing emphasis on sustainability, energy, transportation, housing and infrastructure, largely driven by climate action initiatives. This webinar will explain how to best harness federal and state financial and funding resources and examine California's new Climate Resilience District, a powerful sustainability-focused Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district. Learn about this new world of green funding, renewable energy, hydrogen, tax credit bonds, value capture zoning, and how to create green jobs and achieve a sustainable local economy. [Access the materials here.](#)

Boosting Local Budgets: Leveraging Sales Tax and Lesser-known Revenue Streams

Thursday, April 10, 11:30am - 1:00pm

Learn how retail and consumer trends impact local government via sales tax revenue, and what to expect from 2025. Speakers will share the HdL forecast, cover the difference between regulatory and non-regulatory tax codes, discuss how to better leverage the lesser-known local taxes and fees that can shore up your budget for the year, and share lessons learned from putting these strategies into practice. [Access the materials here.](#)



Help Us Build Our Training Schedule & Resource Library

We're building out our training calendar and priority projects for 2025-2026. If you have ideas or suggestions for publication updates, webinars, workshops, and/or conference session topics, please reach out to us at info@ca-ilg.org.



Bridge Registered Apprenticeships Initiative Moving Full Steam Ahead

[Bridge](#) supports California's local governments in building their workforce pipeline through Registered Apprenticeship Programs in "non-traditional" fields like human resources, transit, accounting, IT, health and human services, and more. Yolo and

Orange Counties have signed on to be pilot jurisdictions.

Bridge is open to counties, special districts, and cities! The counties of Yolo and Orange have already joined the Bridge pilot, and other jurisdictions interested in being considered for the pilot can still complete [this interest form](#). Pilots will be accepted on a rolling basis until space is filled and goals are



met. After receiving the form, ILG will schedule consultations and information sessions with top candidates to discuss each jurisdiction's workforce goals and needs, as well as any existing partnerships or projects. Bridge offers numerous benefits to local government employers including the opportunity to partner on grant applications and funding strategies.

ILG Releases Bridging the Gap: Strategies for Restoring Public Sector Employment in the Sacramento Region Report

ILG recently collaborated with the North Far North Center of Excellence to publish *Bridging the Gap: Strategies for Restoring Public Sector Employment in the Sacramento Region*. This report provides a comprehensive analysis of employment trends and workforce challenges in the Greater Sacramento region's public sector, with a focus on local government. Key findings, insights, and recommendations aim to address these challenges and ensure a stable and skilled workforce for the years ahead. [Access the report here.](#)

Promoting Civility & Good Governance in Challenging Times

Many local agencies have welcomed new board members. ILG can help support that transition. In addition to providing a suite of materials for newly elected officials, ILG offers tailor-made training to enhance leadership and communication skills that can help foster a culture of trust and respect in your community. ILG offers customized workshops for cities to help bring civility back to public meetings and address civil discourse. These private sessions are available virtually and in person upon request. The sessions are specifically tailored to your county's unique needs and can cover a wide range of topics, including:

- Civility in Public Meetings
- Building Trust through Engagement
- Creating Effective Councils and Boards
- Goal Setting/Strategic Planning
- Developing Governance Tools: Policy Handbooks, Codes of Conduct, Ethics and/or Civility Policies
- Understanding Roles and Responsibilities
- Team Building
- Communicating for Success

[Find out more.](#)

ILG Board Meetings

ILG's Board of Directors met in March to discuss key initiatives and budget updates for 2025. The remaining 2025 ILG board meetings are set for the following dates:

- Friday, June 20 (virtual)
- Thursday & Friday, September 4-5 (Sacramento)
- Friday, November 7 (virtual)
- Monday, December 15 (virtual)



About ILG

Local government plays an integral part in shaping a thriving community. That's why ensuring that local government leaders have the best resources, connections, and knowledge available is essential for their success. With a 70-year history of serving the needs of local governments in California, the Institute for Local Government (ILG) supports officials at cities, counties, and special districts in tackling the state's most pressing and evolving issues.

Close alignment with our three affiliates – the California State Association of Counties California, Special Districts Association, and the League of California Cities -- is critical to our success. Together with these local government associations, ILG maintains continued engagement with local leaders that affords us the opportunity to empower and educate them with real-world expertise.

We are a mission-driven nonprofit organization that is also non-partisan. And -- since ILG is not focused on advocacy -- we have the flexibility to serve as an objective third-party convener that helps cities, counties, and special districts navigate complex issues crossing multiple local and state agencies. To learn more about our programs and resources visit www.ca-ilg.org, or connect with us through our [newsletter](#) or social media through [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#).

California State Association of Counties

2025 Calendar of Events

Updates are highlighted below

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day
- 16 CSAC Executive Committee Meeting | Sacramento County
- 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 29-31 Executive Committee Leadership Forum | San Diego County (Torrey Pines)

FEBRUARY

- 13 CSAC Board of Directors Meeting | Sacramento County
- 17 Presidents Day

MARCH

- 1-4 NACo Legislative Conference | Washington, D.C.
- 12-13 CSAC Regional Meeting | Butte County
- 31 Cesar Chavez Day

APRIL

- 3 CSAC Executive Committee Meeting | San Joaquin County
- 23-25 CSAC Legislative Conference | Sacramento County
- 25 CSAC Board of Directors Meeting | Sacramento County
- 4/30-5/2 CSAC Finance Corp. Spring Meeting | Napa County

MAY

- 20-23 Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference | Pennington County, SD
- 26 Memorial Day

JUNE

- (new dates!)* 11-12 CSAC Regional Meeting | Ventura County
- 19 Juneteenth

JULY

- 4 Independence Day
- 11-14 NACo Annual Conference | Philadelphia, PA

AUGUST

- 21 CSAC Executive Committee Meeting | Sacramento County

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Labor Day
- 11 CSAC Board of Directors Meeting | Sacramento County

OCTOBER

- 8-10 Executive Committee Retreat | TBD
- 13 Indigenous Peoples Day
- TBD CSAC Finance Corp. Fall Meeting

NOVEMBER

- 11 Veterans Day
- 27 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

- 1-5 CSAC 131st Annual Meeting | Santa Clara County
- 4 CSAC Board of Directors Meeting | Santa Clara County
- 17-19 Officers Retreat
- 25 Christmas Day