



# ORANGE COUNTY

*Karen Young*



## LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM 2021-2022



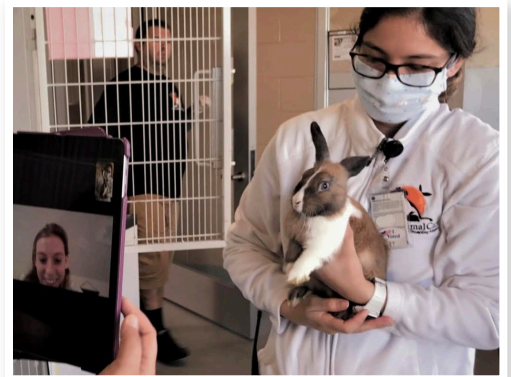


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# 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

## ❖ INTRODUCTION

The Orange County Board of Supervisors recognizes the need to identify and advocate for its legislative and funding priorities in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. To be effective in this mission, the Board is pleased to present its 2021-2022 Legislative Platform.

This document includes the Board's top state and federal legislative priorities and new bill requests for which legislators are sought to carry proposed legislation on the County's behalf. It also provides general direction to the County Executive Office and County departments, legislative advocates, state and federal delegation members and the public on positions of support or opposition to key policy initiatives which impact the way the County does business.

Because the Legislative Platform is approved prior to the beginning of each two-year state and federal legislative session, it is not always possible to anticipate additional legislative, regulatory and/or budgetary issues that may arise at a later date. Thus, the Board may review and modify this document during the two-year legislative session as necessary.

## ❖ BACKGROUND

Incorporated in 1889, the County of Orange spans nearly 800 square miles and includes 42 miles of coastline. There are 34 cities in the County and several unincorporated areas. Of the 58 counties in California, Orange County ranks third in population with more than 3 million people. It is also the fifth-most populous county in the United States.

A five-member Board of Supervisors, each elected to four-year terms in district nonpartisan elections, serves as the legislative body of the County, which functions under a Charter adopted in 2002. The Board governs the following:

All Assessment Districts, All Community Facilities Districts, All Reassessment Districts, Housing and Community Development Commission, Housing Successor Agency to the Orange County Development Agency, In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority, Industrial Development Authority For Orange County, Local Redevelopment Authority, Former Marine Corp Air Station (MCAS) El Toro, Orange County Financing Authority, Orange County Flood Control District, Orange County Housing Authority, Orange County Housing Authority Acting As the Housing Successor Agency, Orange County Public Financing Authority, Orange County Special Financing Authority, South Orange County Public Financing Authority, and the Successor Agency to the Orange County Development Agency.

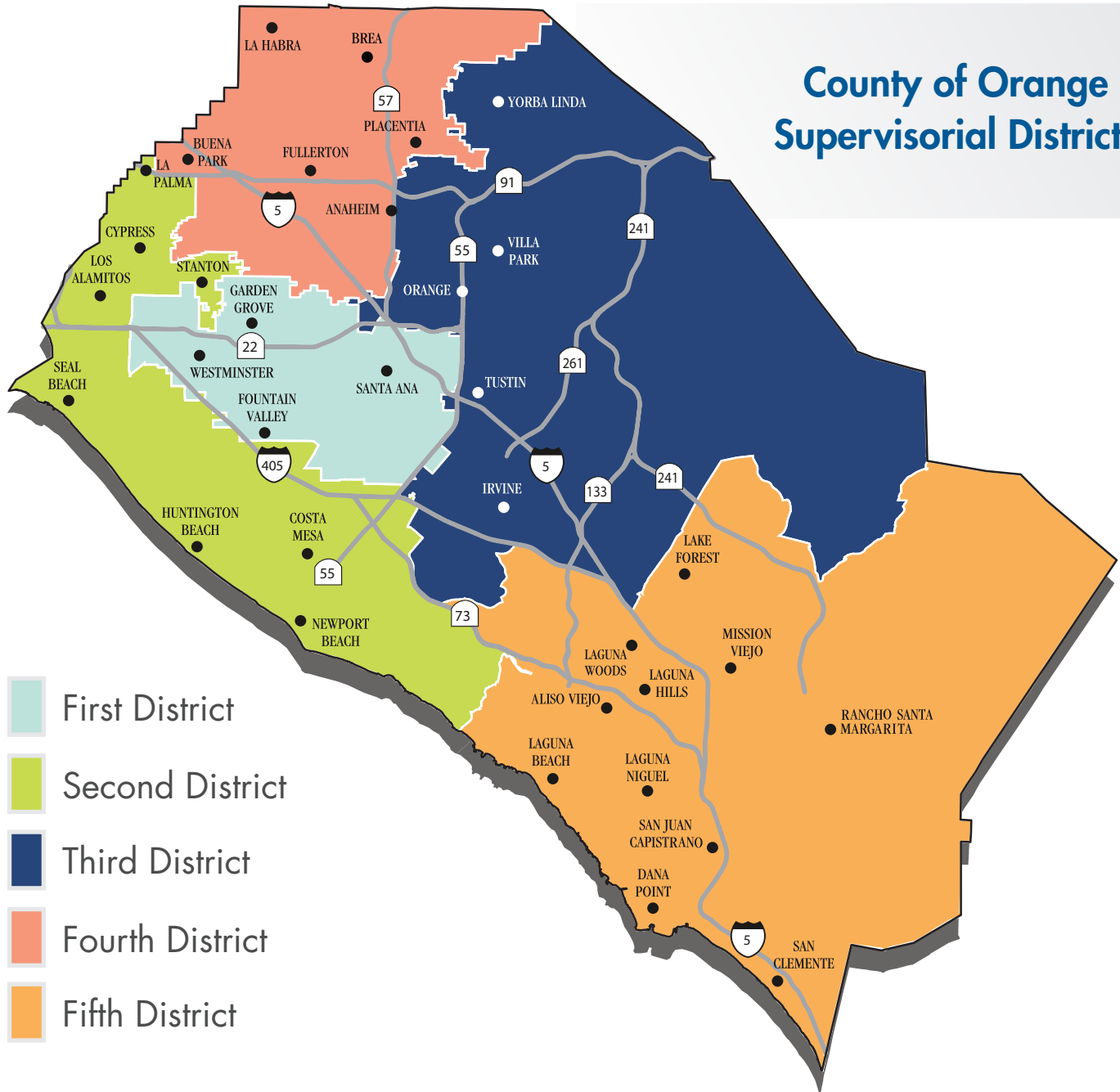
The County is a regional service provider committed to maximizing resources and improving the quality of life for its residents. The County's primary goal is the effective and efficient delivery of services of its core business areas: Aviation, Environmental Protection, Public Assistance, Public Health, Public Safety, Regional Planning and Social Services. There are 26 agencies and departments including:

Assessor\*, Auditor-Controller\*, Board of Supervisors\*, Child Support Services, Clerk of the Board, Clerk-Recorder\*, County Counsel, County Executive Office, County Procurement Office, Ethics Commission, District Attorney\*, Health Care Agency, Human Resources Services, Independent Review, Information Technology, Internal Audit, John Wayne Airport, OC Community Resources, OC Public Works, OC Waste & Recycling, Probation, Public Defender, Registrar of Voters, Sheriff-Coroner\*, Social Services Agency and Treasurer-Tax Collector\*. (\* indicates elected official departments)

The County Executive Officer is appointed by the Board and directs the County's day-to-day government operations. The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for presenting the Board with a Recommended Budget for consideration of adoption as the Final (Adopted) Budget, which serves as the foundation of the County's financial planning and control. The County employs approximately 18,000 permanent full-time employees and the General Fund budget for FY 2019-20 is \$6.8 Billion.



## ORANGE COUNTY MAP





# 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

## ◆ GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Board's four guiding principles are reflected throughout the 2021-2022 Legislative Platform:

### ■ Local Government Funding/Cost Recovery

The County supports efforts to require the state or federal government to fully reimburse the County for all costs related to mandated programs, including costs incurred from COVID-19. The County will oppose efforts to raise local taxes to pay for new state or federal programs, efforts to redirect existing revenue streams away from mandated programs administered by the County, or expansion of service provisions without commensurate funding.

### ■ Local Control

The County supports efforts that maintain local discretionary control over its governance issues and delivery of services. This includes having flexibility to administer federal, state or local funding and programs, as well as maintaining decision-making authority over local land use.

### ■ Funding Equity

The County supports equitable, dependable and predictable revenue streams to local governments that address equity among counties based on specified metrics.

### ■ Operational Efficiency

The County supports proposals that encourage utilizing technology and innovation to streamline County Services. Furthermore, changes to state or federal law must not negatively impact the County's operational efficiency. The County strongly supports efforts to eliminate unnecessary, redundant, or overlapping requirements or regulations for program eligibility, funding maintenance of efforts, monitoring, permitting or reporting.

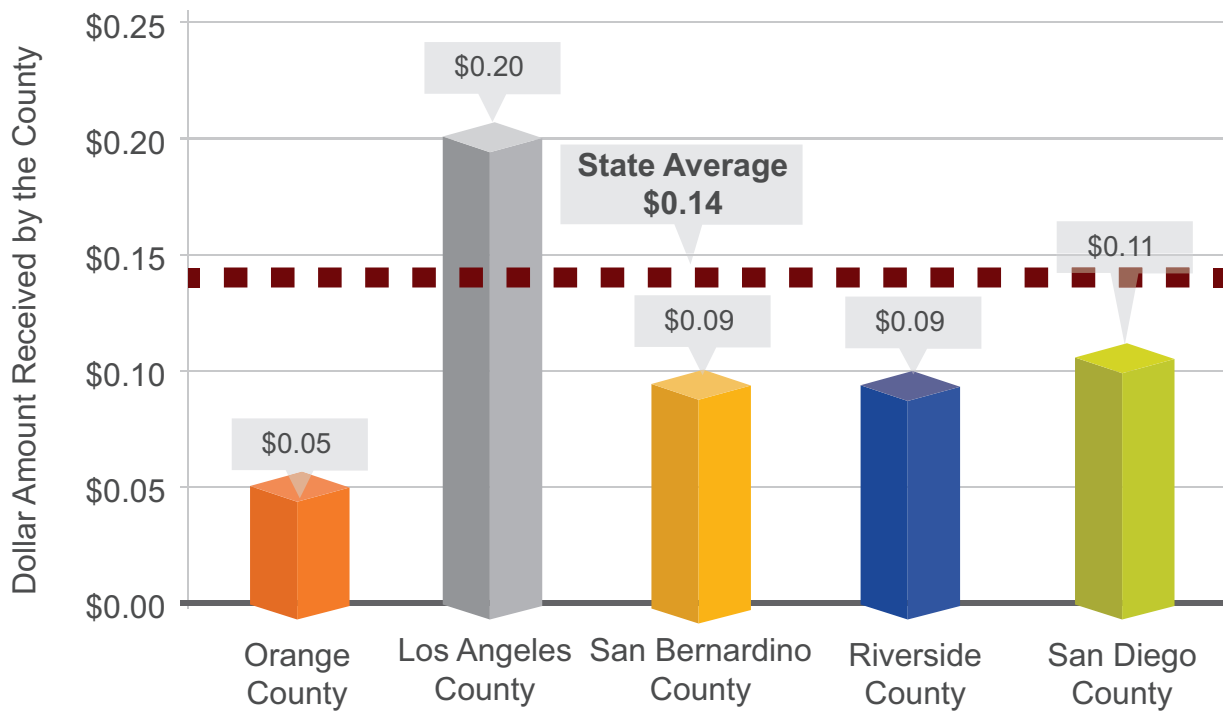




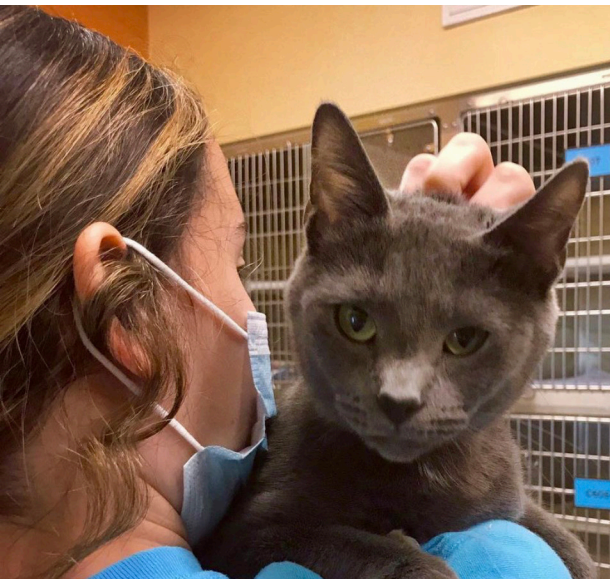
## PROPERTY TAX ALLOCATION

In 1978, Assembly Bill 8 set the formula for each California County's property tax allocation based on population. Since then, Orange County's population has nearly doubled, but our property tax allocation remains unchanged. Property tax revenue is Orange County's largest source of income for funding mandated and discretionary programs for its residents. As of 2020, Orange County receives five cents of every property tax dollar, the lowest amount of all its peers. While Orange County faces one of its greatest economic challenges in 2021 and beyond, this structural inequity continues to put both the County and its residents at a disadvantage in receiving and providing critical services.

### GENERAL PROPERTY TAX DOLLAR ALLOCATION, BY SELECTED COUNTIES 2019-2020



Source: <https://boe.ca.gov/DataPortal/dataset.htm?url=PropTaxGenPropTaxLevies>



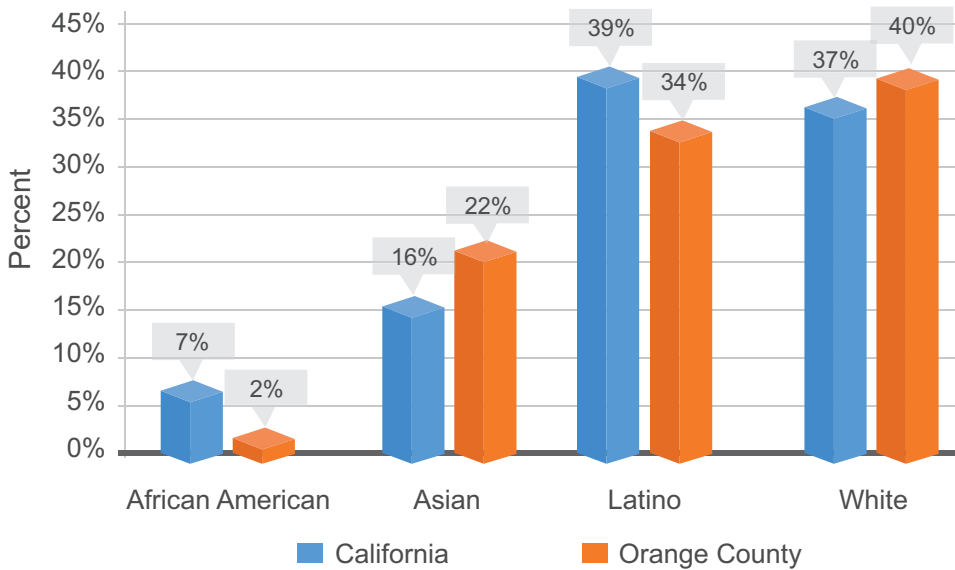


# 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

## ❖ ORANGE COUNTY: BY THE NUMBERS

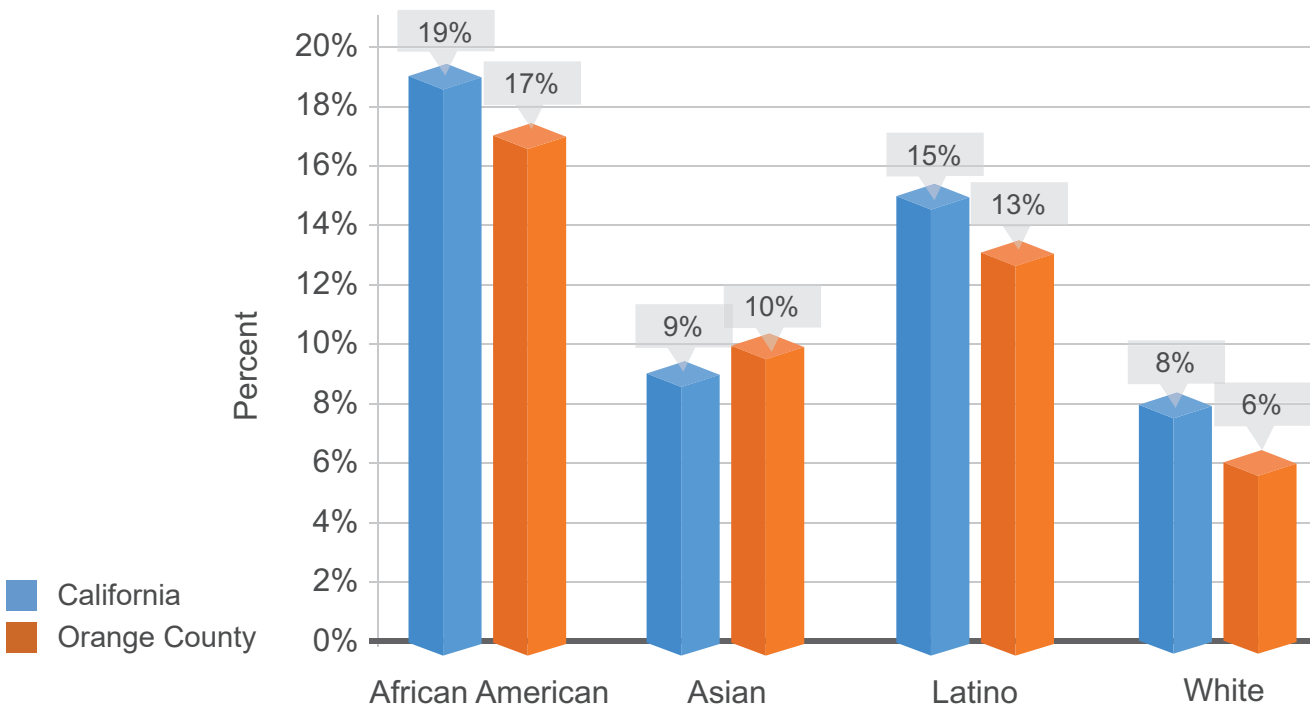
Orange County's senior population also continues to increase and may be the only age group to see growth between 2020 and 2060, at which point they are projected to represent 25 percent of the county's population. As the County's population continues to grow, the high cost of living continues to be an issue for our residents. Hence, vital county services are needed more than ever to continue supporting the needs of our residents.

### OC DEMOGRAPHICS 2019



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

### OC POVERTY BY RACE AND ETHNICITY: LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVELS 2019



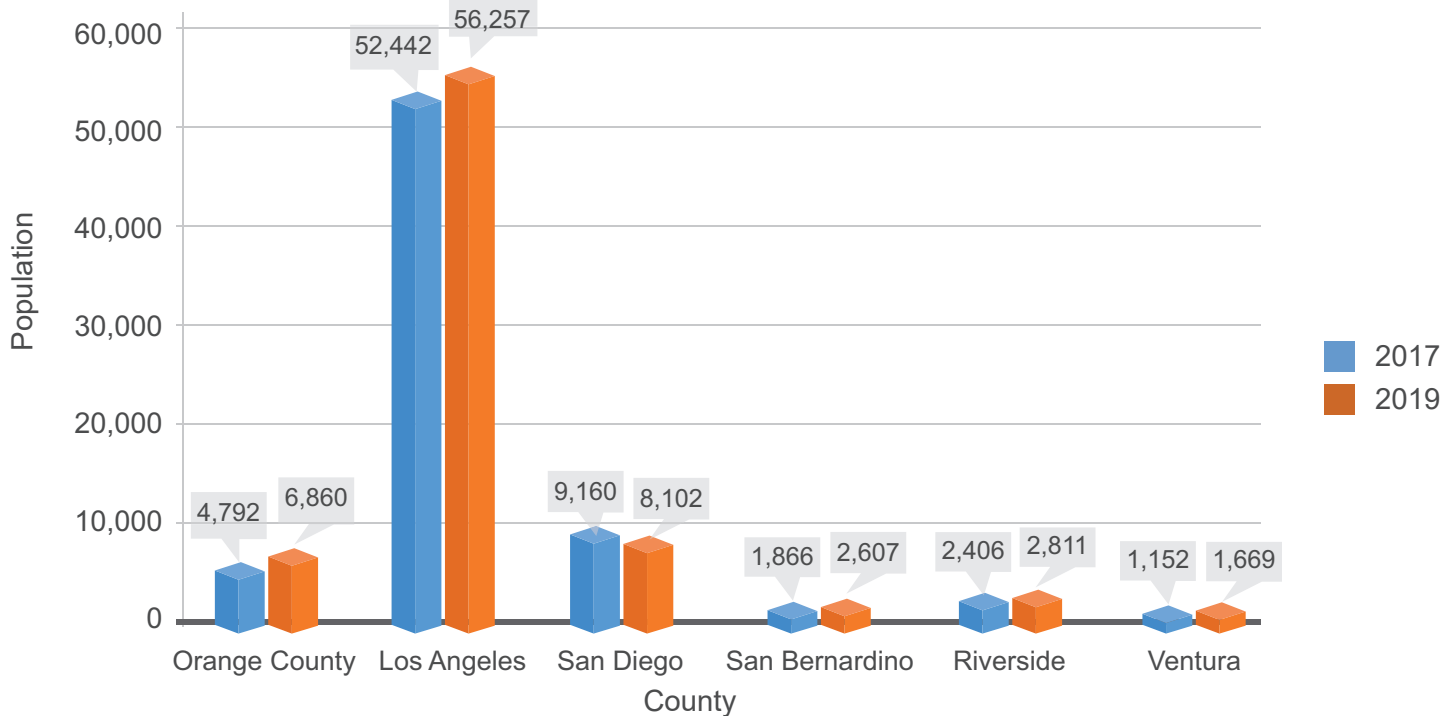
Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2019 American Community Survey





## POINT IN TIME HOMELESS POPULATION BY COUNTY 2017-2019

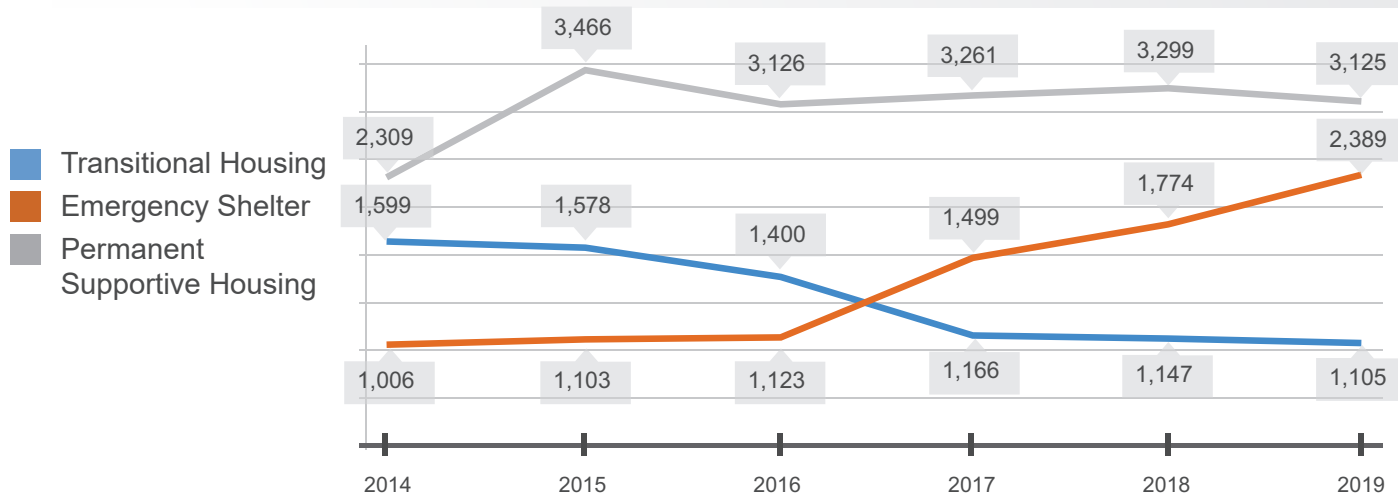
In 2019, Orange County implemented a new point in time methodology utilizing State compliant technology to gather a more robust, comprehensive, and accurate count of our homeless population. This ensured that unsheltered families who are often underrepresented in our community were accurately accounted for.



Source: <https://www.hudexchange.info>, 2019 Point-In Time Count

## ORANGE COUNTY HOMELESS ASSISTANCE HOUSING INVENTORY 2019

The decline in transitional housing is due to U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) emphasis on Rapid Re-Housing, which rapidly connects homeless families and individuals with permanent housing through various services such as financial assistance and targeted supportive services. In the last five years, the County has provided an additional 1,286 emergency shelter beds to its homeless population. In 2018, the Housing Funding Strategy initiated by the Orange County Board of Supervisors established the need to create 2,700 new supportive housing units and an additional 2,700 affordable units before June 2025.



\* permanent supportive housing ( includes rapid rehousing and other permanent housing)

Source: [www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/coc-housing-inventory-count-reports](http://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/coc-housing-inventory-count-reports)

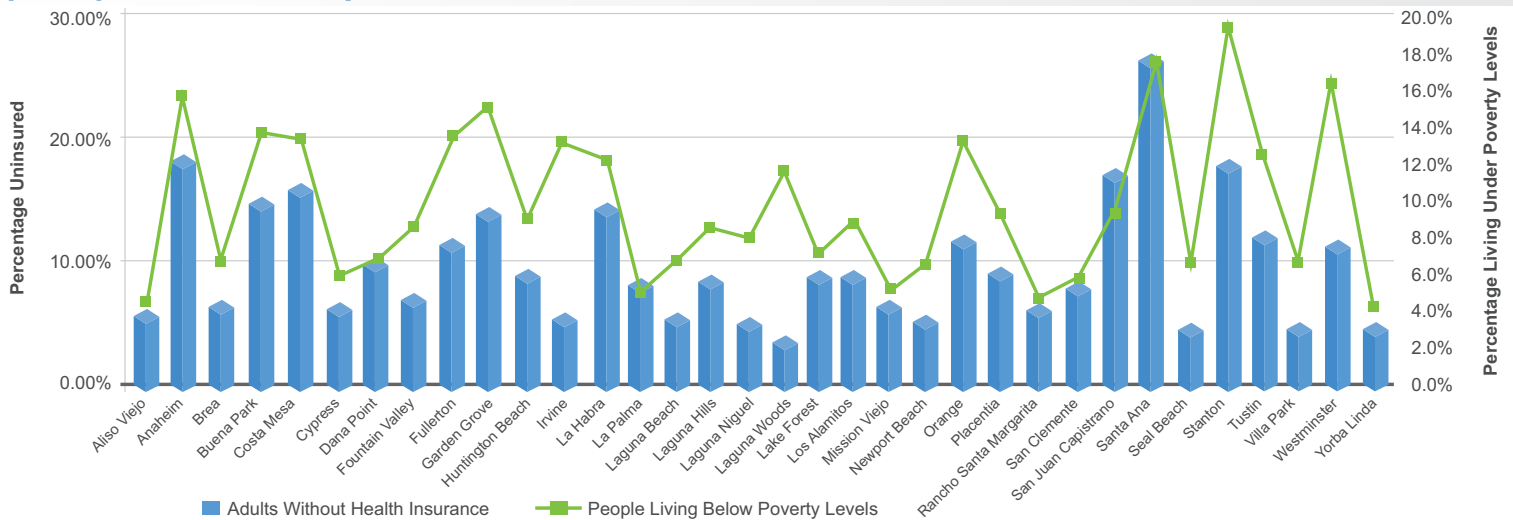


# 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

## CITY HEALTH OUTLOOK: ADULTS WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE AND PEOPLE LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVELS

The chart below displays the percentage of County residents between the ages of 19-64 years old that do not have health insurance along with the percentage of those living under poverty levels within each reported city. With the high cost of medical care, those without health insurance may not be able to afford medical treatment or prescription drugs. They are also less likely to get routine checkups and screenings, meaning treatment is often not sought quickly enough resulting in more advanced diagnosis and costly treatments.

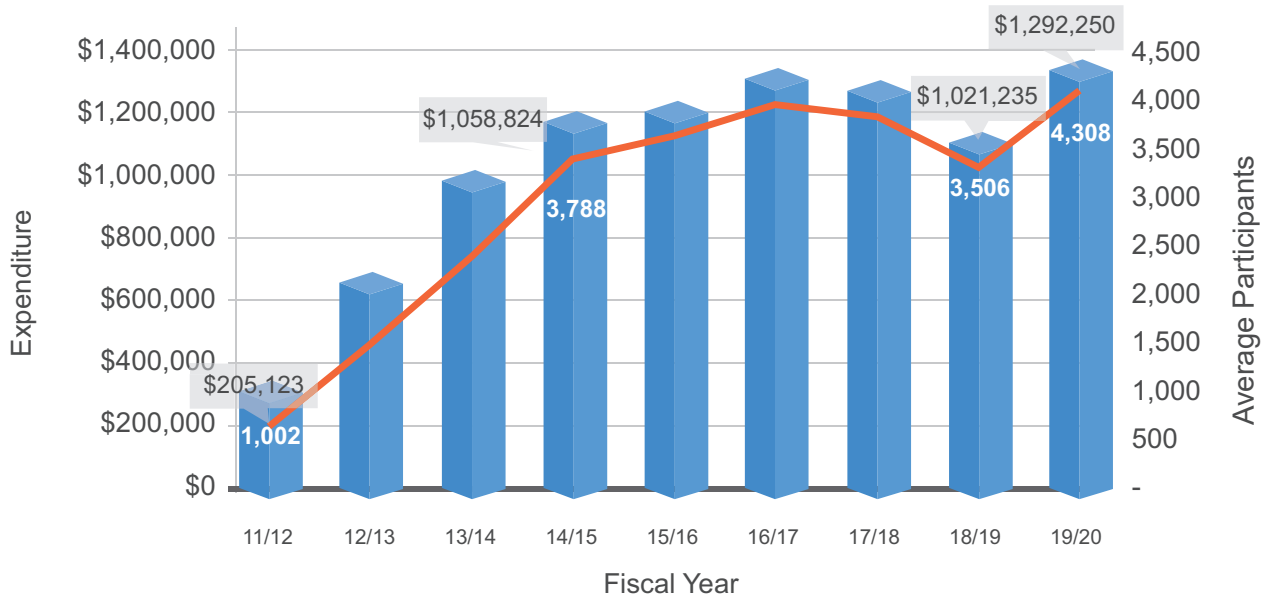
The data below is collected by the American Community Survey 2014-2018 and reflects those who participated in the survey.



Source: OC Healthier Together, American Community Survey 2014-2018

## GENERAL RELIEF PROGRAM

The general relief program provides temporary cash assistance to those in need and is funded entirely by the County. Between fiscal year 2014/2015 through 2019/2020 annual expenditures to support this program have increased by 22%, while the monthly participants have also continued to increase by approximately 14%.

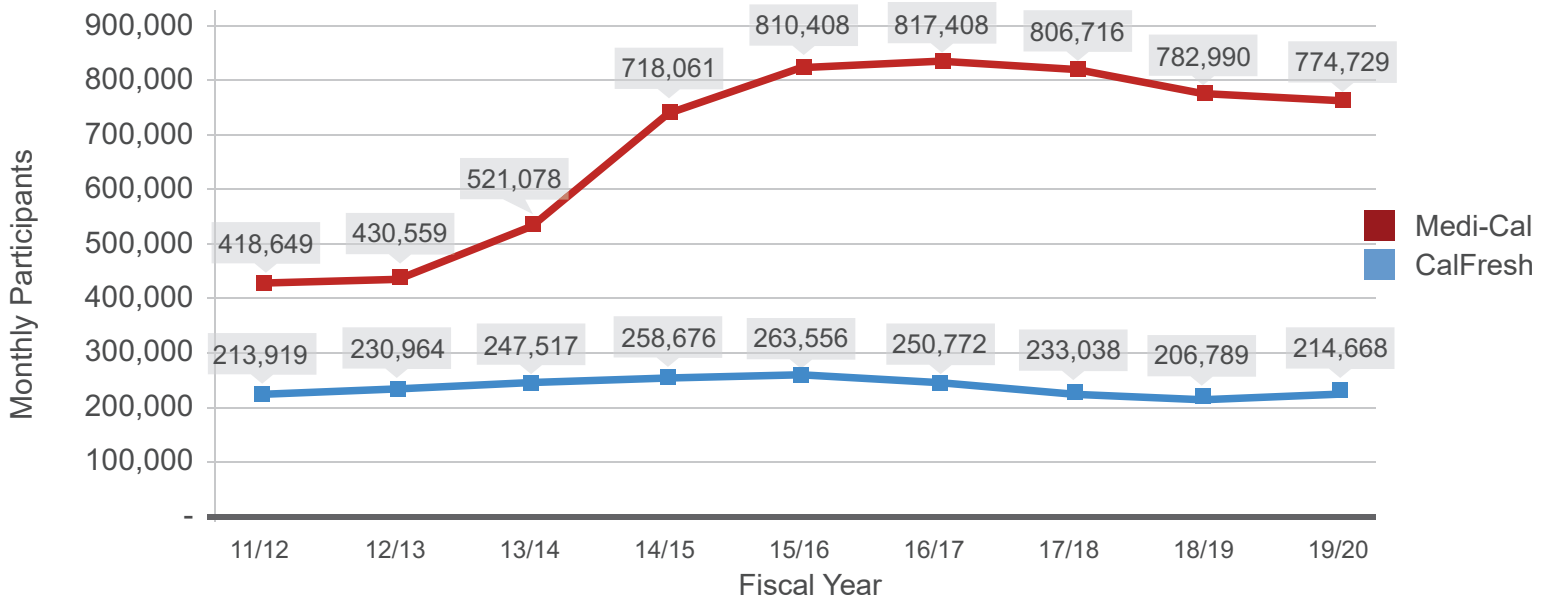


Source: <https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr>



## MEDI-CAL AND CALFRESH ENROLLMENT

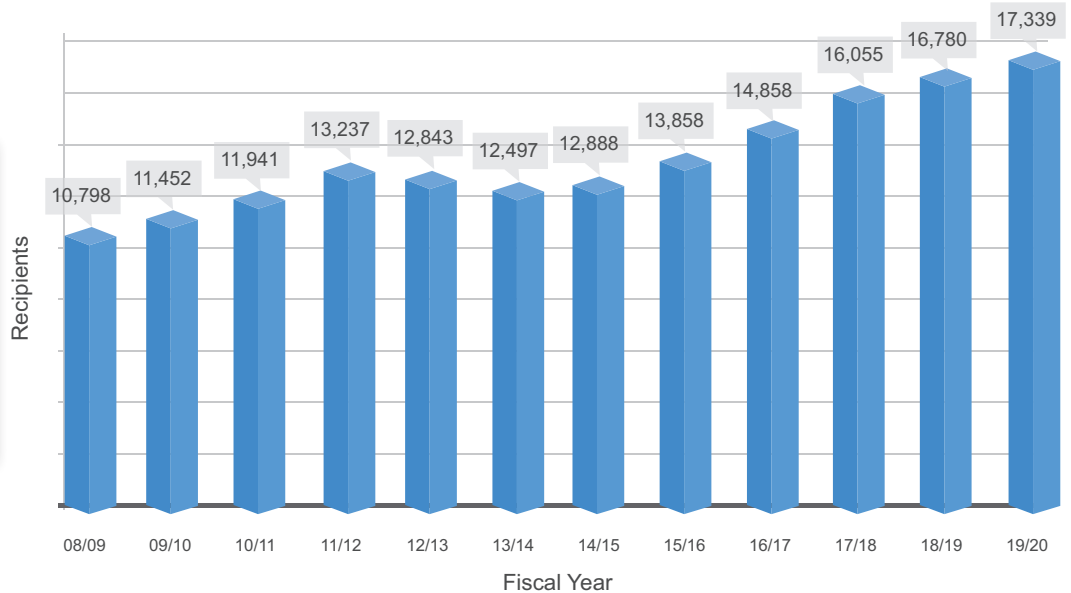
In times of need, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, our residents turn to critical services such as Medi-Cal and CalFresh to provide them with much needed support. As of June 2020, almost 1 million County residents are enrolled in both Medi-Cal and CalFresh on a monthly basis.



Source: Orange County Social Services Agency

## IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) RECIPIENTS

The U.S. census reports that Orange County's 65 and older age group will grow faster than any other age group in the County. The need for supportive services for the senior and disabled population continues to be in high demand. The chart below displays a 35% increase in IHSS recipients between fiscal years 2014/2015 and 2019/2020.



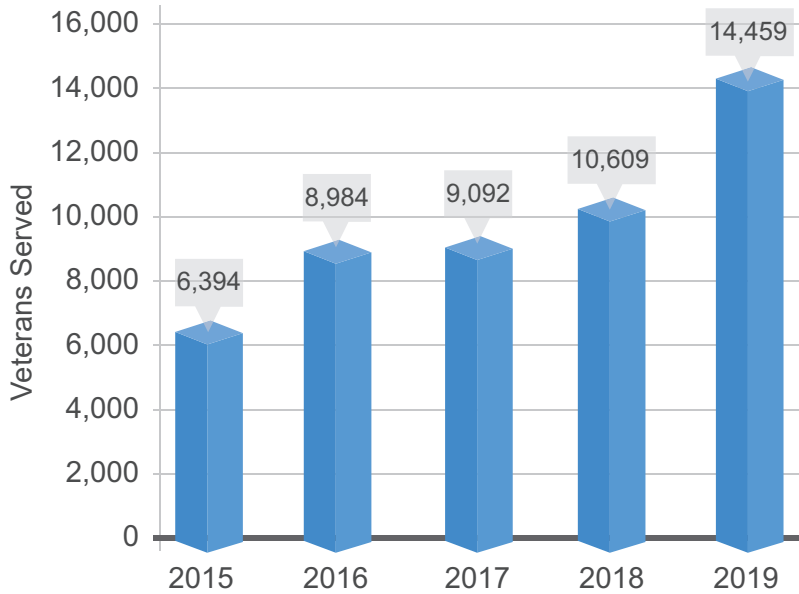
Source: Orange County Social Services Agency



# 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

## VETERANS SERVED

Despite ongoing budget challenges, the Board has maintained funding for the OC Veterans Service Office (OCVSO) at nearly \$1.5 million for the last three years and added new staff positions to serve our estimated 116,000 veterans who live in Orange County. Services provided include filing claims to the US Department of Veterans Affairs, college fee waiver applications, DMV certifications and securing award payments. As of 2019, the OCVSO has filed over 18,100 claims.

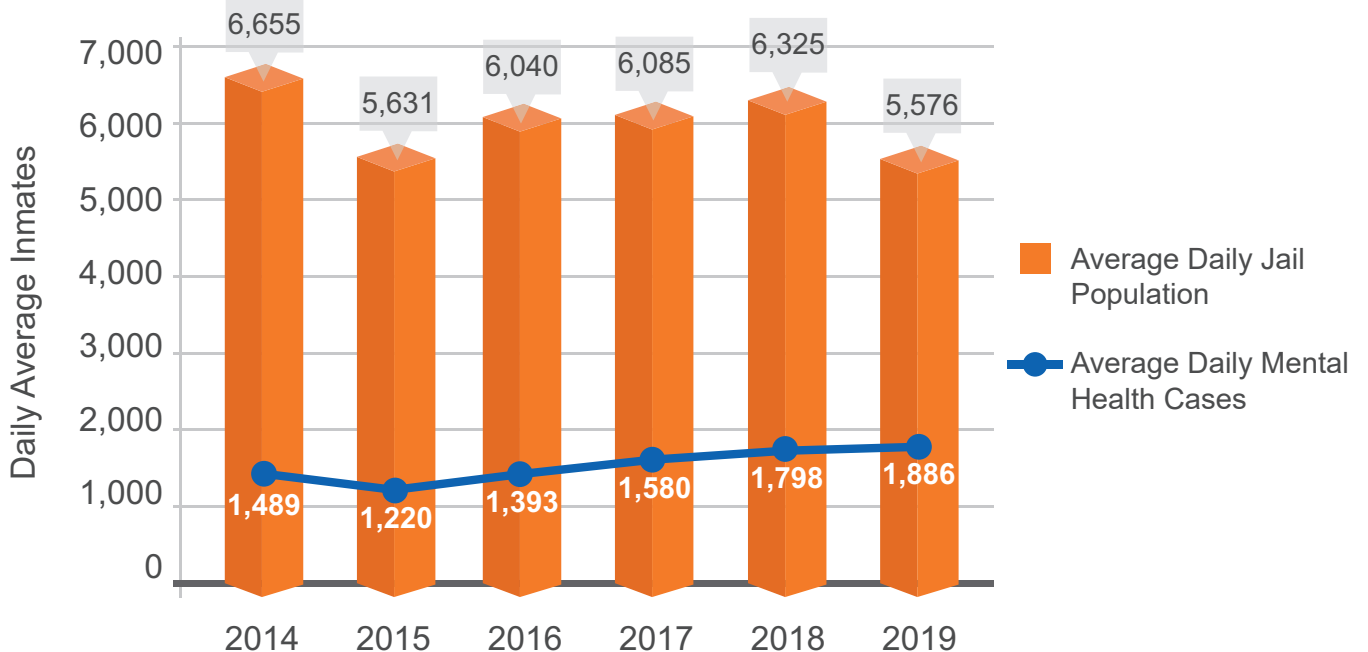


■ Veterans Served

Source: Orange County Veterans Services Office

## MENTAL HEALTH CASES IN JAILS 2014-2020

By default, the Orange County Jail has become the largest mental health facility in the county. Unfortunately, this population continues to cycle in and out of the jail system multiple times throughout the year. To address this dilemma, the County has developed a 2025 Vision for the Community Corrections System that will be achieved through its implementation plan, the Integrated Services Strategy.



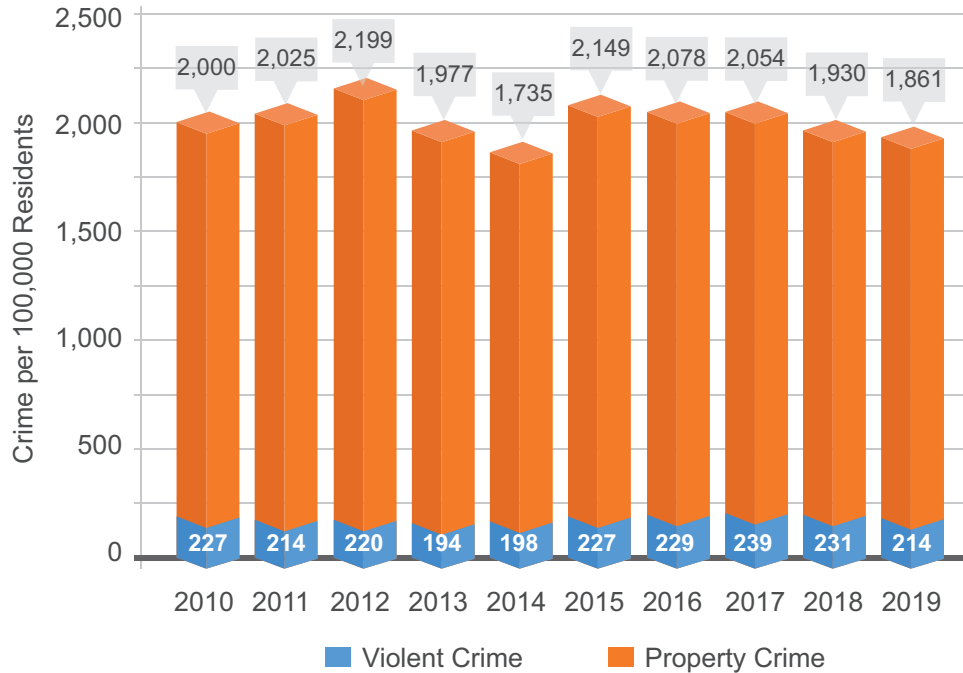
Source: OC Health Care Agency and OC Sheriffs Department.



## PROPERTY AND VIOLENT CRIME RATE

Violent crime data includes murder, non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault. Property crime data includes burglary, larceny-theft and motor vehicle theft.

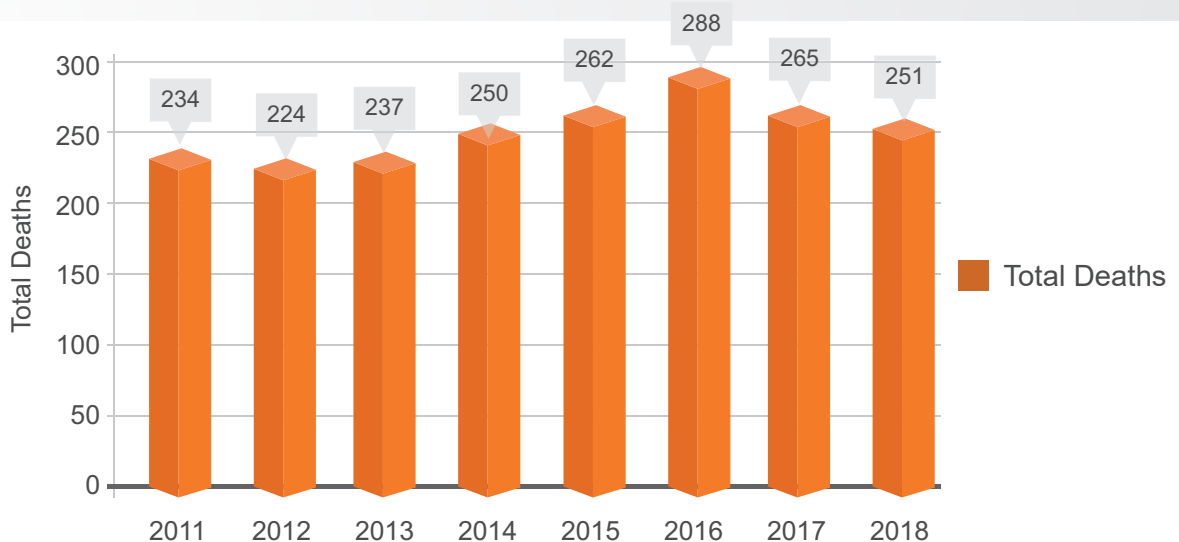
The data shown in the chart below does not reflect county totals for property and violent crime, but does provide the volume of offenses. This data shows the number of offenses reported by metropolitan law enforcement agencies, including the Sheriff's Department and local police departments.



Source: <https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr>

## OPIOID RELATED OVERDOSE DEATH RATES 2011-2018

In 2018, nearly 1.5 million opioid prescriptions were dispensed to Orange County residents, this is down from an average of 1.7 million over the past three years. Despite the recent decline in opioid related emergency department visits, hospitalizations and overdose deaths, seven out of every ten drug related deaths in the county involve opioids and prescription opioids account for nearly half of opioid overdose deaths.



Source: OC Health Care Agency



# 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

## ❖ GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

### Policy Statements

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	State/Federal
<b>Access For Voters</b>	Promote and increase voter registration and access to the ballot for as many eligible voters as possible.	Registrar of Voters	State
<b>Bonds &amp; Funding Measures</b>	Support an equitable disbursement of state and federal funding in all bond and funding measures affecting the County.	All	State/Federal
<b>Burdensome Regulatory Requirements</b>	Support rulemaking that minimizes burdensome requirements and legal obstacles, takes into consideration the various environments of the State, and minimizes duplicative or contradictory regulations.	All	State/Federal
<b>Business Tax</b>	Support legislation that allows unsecured business taxes to be treated similarly to sales tax when businesses are sold.	Treasurer Tax Collector	State
<b>Census</b>	Support efforts to help to ensure a complete, fair, and accurate count in the 2020 Census.	County Executive Office	Federal
<b>County Revenue</b>	Oppose efforts to decrease, eliminate, divert, supplant, or restrict local autonomy of local revenues.	All	State/Federal
<b>COVID-19</b>	Provide authority to support and advocate for any legislative or budgetary action, including stimulus money, related to the response, recovery and/or economic impacts of COVID-19 both during the emergency and the long-term effects of the pandemic.	All	State/Federal
<b>Drones</b>	Support legislation that gives counties the right to reasonably regulate drone flights within their jurisdictions.	County Executive Office	State/Federal
<b>Economic Growth and Development</b>	Support efforts to promote job growth and economic development.	All	State/Federal
<b>Election Services</b>	Provide adequate funding to administer election services.	Registrar of Voters	State
<b>Employee/Labor</b>	Support full cost recovery for salary, benefits, and administration for all employee relationships, and protect and enhance flexibility and local control over employee and labor relations issues.	County Executive Office	State
<b>Funding Flexibility</b>	Support efforts that enhance funding flexibility and oppose efforts to eliminate or redirect revenues currently dedicated to local governments.	All	State/Federal
<b>Gas Tax</b>	Oppose hidden gas taxes and other similar regulatory schemes.	County Executive Office	State
<b>Grant Funding Restrictions</b>	Support efforts to ensure local governments are not restricted from applying for or receiving grant funding.	County Executive Office	State/Federal



## GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES Continued

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	State/Federal
Local Control	Oppose legislation that does not recognize California's diversity and the need for local government autonomy in addressing problems and providing services for our residents.	All	State/Federal
New Voting System	Support legislation that establishes avenues and consistent funding mechanisms for the creation and/or acquisition of new voting systems.	Registrar of Voters	State/Federal
Privacy/Security	Support efforts to protect non-public information that is collected electronically by the County in compliance with various state and federal laws and local ordinances.	Treasurer Tax Collector/Assessor	State/Federal
Program Efficiency	Support efforts that promote the efficient administration of program services and benefits, as well as increase access and improve customer service.	All	State/Federal
Property Tax Funding Equity	Support a more equitable reallocation of property tax revenue to county government, providing funding for countywide public services, and reflecting an allocation that aligns with similarly urbanized counties.	County Executive Office	State
Property Tax Revenue	Protect local property tax revenues and oppose any measure aimed at reducing the protections afforded to the County.	County Executive Office	State
Proposition 172	Protect the County's Proposition 172 funding allocation.	County Executive Office	State
Public Pensions	Support policy allowing local officials to manage pension systems that meet the needs of their workforce and demonstrate sound fiduciary management.	County Executive Office	State
Public Pension Waiver	Seek waiver on IRS Rev. Rul. 2006-43 to allow county employees to elect alternative pension plans.	County Executive Office	Federal
Public Private Partnership	Support legislation that would provide additional avenues for generation of revenue from existing public property, through public-private partnerships or otherwise, which could be used to support and implement public programs or to defer costs of new public buildings or infrastructure.	County Executive Office	State
Reallocation of Tax Revenue	Oppose the shifting of tax revenues and tax increment from the County to the State, other local entities, or special districts.	County Executive Office	State
Reciprocity	Support efforts to establish an intercept tax program in partnership with local governments.	Treasurer Tax Collector	State/Federal



# 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES Continued

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	State/Federal
<b>Regulatory Review Processes</b>	Support efforts, including streamlining and simplification, that facilitate timely and efficient regulatory review and permitting for public agency/government projects, and increased coordination among federal and state agencies, while upholding environmental, health and safety, public protection, and other important standards.	All	State/Federal
<b>Split-Roll Prop 13</b>	Oppose split-roll and other efforts to harm Proposition 13.	County Executive Office	State
<b>State &amp; Federal Mandates</b>	Support full funding for state and federal mandates on the County and pursue revisions to streamline the process for local government.	All	State/Federal
<b>State/Federal Realignment &amp; Cost-Shifts</b>	Oppose proposals to restructure, realign, or otherwise shift the cost of programs to local government without commensurate compensation.	All	State/Federal
<b>Technology</b>	Support funding, use of technology, and technological advances to increase efficiency and expand/expedite access to services and benefits offered by County agencies and its agents.	All	State/Federal
<b>Tustin Blimp Hangars</b>	Support conveyance of Tustin North Blimp Hangar, and the surrounding property, in a condition and with covenants acceptable to the County.	County Executive Office	Federal
<b>Tustin/EI Toro Military Bases</b>	Support expedited resolution of remaining issues at the closed Tustin and EI Toro military bases to facilitate conveyance of land to the County, per the requirements of the Base Realignment and Closure Act.	County Executive Office	Federal
<b>Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability</b>	Support legislation that requires full payment of unfunded actuarial accrued liability for active and retired employees enrolled in the Orange County Employee Retirement System if a public agency withdraws from Orange County Fire Authority.	County Executive Office	State
<b>Voter Threshold</b>	Oppose efforts to reduce the voter threshold necessary to increase taxes and fees.	County Executive Office	State





## ❖ PUBLIC PROTECTION Policy Statements

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	State/Federal
<b>Aging Juvenile Facilities</b>	Support efforts to improve existing juvenile facilities and provide resources for infrastructure changes required by legislative mandates.	Probation	State
<b>Appeals Process</b>	Support reforms to streamline the appeals process in criminal cases, including those cases involving special circumstances.	District Attorney	State
<b>Court Appointed Dependency Counsel Funding</b>	Support legislation or administrative action to fully fund optimal caseloads for dependency attorneys.	Public Defender	State
<b>Court Security</b>	Support funding for court security efforts.	County Executive Office	State/Federal
<b>Court Services</b>	Support measures that increase accessibility to court-related services for vulnerable adults and at-risk youth.	Social Services Agency	State/Federal
<b>Criminal Justice Sentencing</b>	Support restoration of accountability to the criminal justice system by ensuring sentences are fully carried out and sufficiently addresses the significance of each crime.	Sheriff's Department/ County Executive Office/District Attorney	State/Federal
<b>Custody Operations</b>	Support funding for construction, modernization, and staffing of adult criminal justice facilities that will meet needs created by realignment and address long-term sentences in county jails.	Sheriff's Department	State
<b>Driving Under the Influence of Drugs</b>	Support efforts to increase penalties for driving under the influence and resources for programs, which will assist in driving under the influence of drugs prevention efforts.	County Executive Office/District Attorney	State
<b>Fusion Center</b>	Support increased federal and state funding for fusion centers.	Sheriff's Department/ District Attorney	State/Federal
<b>Homeland Security</b>	Support increased coordination on homeland security and emergency response efforts among federal, state, and local governments with clearly defined roles and responsibilities for each.	Sheriff's Department/ District Attorney	State/Federal
<b>Human Trafficking</b>	Support efforts to prevent sexual assault, human trafficking, and related crimes.	County Executive Office/District Attorney/Social Services Agency	State/Federal
<b>Law Enforcement Collaboration</b>	Oppose efforts to restrict local law enforcement from collaborating with state and federal agencies on addressing shared public safety threats.	Sheriff's Department	State/Federal
<b>Marijuana Regulation Enforcement</b>	Support adequate resources to address enforcement issues related to marijuana.	Sheriff's Department	State/Federal



# 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

## PUBLIC PROTECTION Continued

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	State/Federal
<b>Marsy's Law</b>	Seek funding for Marsy's Law victim services.	County Executive Office/District Attorney	State
<b>Opioid Epidemic</b>	Support efforts to address the illicit use of opioids and hold accountable those who illegally sell and distribute them.	Sheriff's Department/District Attorney	State
<b>Public Administrator</b>	Support legislation or administrative action, which would reaffirm existing authority under Probate Code section 2900-2903, authorizing the Public Administrator to access vital information from financial institutions allowing deputies to properly administer their cases.	District Attorney	State
<b>Public Administrator Judicial Responsibilities</b>	Support legislation or administrative action which would emphasize the importance of the Public Administrator's judicial responsibilities under Probate Code section 7600-7604, authorizing deputies to perform duties to protect individuals and potential victims.	District Attorney	State
<b>Public Safety</b>	Support a public safety system that promotes local law enforcement services, crime prevention, prosecution of crime, confinement of high-risk adults, and evidence-based programs aimed at rehabilitation and lowering the recidivism rate.	County Executive Office/District Attorney	State/Federal
<b>Public Safety Realignment</b>	Protect existing funding and support continued funding for AB 109 public safety realignment.	County Executive Office/District Attorney	State
<b>Recidivism</b>	Seek funding to support both in-custody programming and facilities in order to enhance the County's rehabilitation and treatment programs for inmates.	Sheriff's Department/District Attorney	State/Federal
<b>Treatment Capacity</b>	Support funding for recidivism reduction efforts in adult and juvenile offenders, further enhancing the county's ability to collaborate with and expand funding for partnerships with non-governmental/community-based organizations.	Probation/District Attorney	State/Federal
<b>Victims' Rights</b>	Support victims' rights programs and services for victims of crimes.	County Executive Office/District Attorney	State



## ❖ COMMUNITY SERVICES

### Policy Statements

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	State/Federal
<b>Adult Services</b>	Support efforts to increase resources and services available to adults who are unable to live independently, or who are victims or at-risk of abuse/neglect, and the individuals who provide them with care.	Social Services Agency	State/Federal
<b>Adult Services Evaluations</b>	Support efforts to remove obstacles to the efficient and thorough assessment of allegations of abuse and neglect of adults who are unable to live independently or are at-risk of abuse/neglect.	Social Services Agency	State/Federal
<b>Affordable Care Act</b>	Support health care policy implementation efforts that do not have an adverse financial impact on the County.	County Executive Office	Federal
<b>Animal Care Shelter</b>	Support funding for regional animal shelter facility maintenance and programs.	OC Community Resources	State
<b>Animal Cruelty</b>	Support stronger penalties for those convicted of animal abuse.	OC Community Resources	State
<b>Broadband Access</b>	Support legislation to provide funding for high-speed, high capacity broadband.	OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Caseload Growth and Funding for Services</b>	Secure equitable and consistent funding to sufficiently support caseload growth, regulatory changes, and other related administrative costs.	Social Services Agency	State/Federal
<b>Child Care</b>	Support measures that enhance the overall quality, affordability, capacity, accessibility, and safety of childcare and development programs.	Social Services Agency	State/Federal
<b>Child Support Services</b>	Support legislation, budget, or administrative action to adequately fund child support service programming.	Child Support Services	State
<b>Child Welfare Caregiver Resources &amp; Services</b>	Support legislation that increases services and resources for caregivers of children and former foster youth who are victims of, or at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation.	Social Services Agency/Probation	State/Federal
<b>Child Welfare Funding</b>	Support child welfare funding reform efforts that increase eligibility for federal and state funds under programs that include, but are not limited to Title IV-E.	Social Services Agency	State/Federal
<b>Child Welfare Resources, Services, &amp; Placements</b>	Support legislation that increases and supports appropriate short and long-term placements, services, and resource options for children and former foster youth who are victims of, or at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation.	Social Services Agency/Probation	State/Federal
<b>Disaster Response</b>	Support measures that increase resources for disaster response initiatives requiring county involvement.	Health Care Agency/ Social Services Agency/Sheriff's Department	State/Federal
<b>Expanded Subsidized Employment</b>	Improve local control and efficacy by allowing counties flexibility to utilize funds for expanded subsidized employment.	Social Services Agency	State



# 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

## COMMUNITY SERVICES Continued

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	State/Federal
<b>Flat Funding</b>	Support additional funding for the Older Californians Act and other programs that assist older adults and caregivers.	OC Community Resources/Social Services Agency	State
<b>General Assistance Funding</b>	Support state funding for general assistance programs.	Social Services Agency	State
<b>Health &amp; Wellness</b>	Support measures that protect the public against disease and disability and promote health.	Health Care Agency	State/Federal
<b>Homeless Prevention</b>	Support efforts to develop permanent supportive housing and affordable housing.	Health Care Agency/ OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Hospitalization Rates</b>	Support legislation that would cap hospitalization rates for county inmates at the federal government standard (Medicare and/or Medi-Cal rates).	Health Care Agency	State
<b>In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)</b>	Support legislation that promotes the financial sustainability of the In-Home Supportive Services Program through programmatic changes and appropriate cost sharing mechanisms between the State and counties.	Social Services Agency	State
<b>Independent Living</b>	Support measures that enable seniors and the adult disabled population to obtain affordable housing, including funding and approval of senior housing projects, and continue to maintain seniors as a priority group in the housing voucher program.	OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Inmate Medical/ Mental Health Care</b>	Continue efforts to maximize reimbursement of inmate health care both inside the jail and for outside community services.	Health Care Agency	State/Federal
<b>Library E-rate</b>	Support discounts for eligible public libraries on internet access, telecommunications, Wi-Fi equipment, and related costs.	OC Community Resources	Federal
<b>Library Funding</b>	Support library funding and budget enhancements to maintain, expand or develop new services, and safely keep communities connected and informed.	OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Library Literacy Program</b>	Support efforts to ensure that training and resources are available to help libraries provide literacy programs and services, specifically in the areas of education and social services.	OC Community Resources	State
<b>Library Resource Sharing</b>	Support legislation that seeks to expand public library consortiums and networks to improve the availability of services and increase access to digital content for all California citizens.	OC Community Resources	State
<b>Low and Moderate-Income Housing</b>	Support efforts to streamline funding, construction processes, and land use regulations, which expedite the development of low- and moderate-income housing units and allow local governments to adequately plan to meet the housing needs of all economic segments of the community.	OC Community Resources/ OC Public Works	State/Federal



**COMMUNITY SERVICES** Continued

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Summary/Action Item</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>State/Federal</b>
<b>Proposition 63</b>	Preserve the allocation of Proposition 63 funds to the County and provide more flexibility in the use of such funds by the County.	Health Care Agency/ OC Community Resources	State
<b>Self-Sufficiency</b>	Provide equitable and sufficient funding, services, and resources to help individuals and families achieve self-sufficiency.	Social Services Agency	State/Federal
<b>Sober Living Homes</b>	Support stronger regulations and oversight authority for county health agencies with regard to the establishment and operation of sober living homes.	County Executive Office/District Attorney	State/Federal
<b>Spay/Neuter</b>	Support funding for spay/neuter education, vouchers, and clinics.	OC Community Resources	State
<b>Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health Services</b>	Support efforts to increase accessibility and funding for quality substance abuse and/or mental health services for children, adults, families, and incarcerated individuals.	Health Care Agency/ Social Services Agency	State/Federal
<b>Veterans</b>	Support programs and funding that address the specific needs of veterans.	OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Veterans Claims Process</b>	Support increased access to veterans' affairs database, as well as training and funding for VSO claims officers to retrieve claim award information.	OC Community Resources	Federal
<b>Veterans Housing</b>	Support funding and approval of veteran housing projects and continue to maintain veterans as a priority group in the housing voucher program.	OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Veterans Services</b>	Support efforts to increase operating funding for county veterans service offices to assist veterans and their families with accessing the maximum VA benefits they are entitled to, and reduce the federal veterans' claims backlog by creating more efficient federal, state, and local government coordination for veterans' claims development.	OC Community Resources	Federal
<b>Work Participation Credit</b>	Support efforts to provide states and localities administering the California Work Opportunity & Responsibility to Kids program partial work participation credit for participants.	Social Services Agency/OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Work Participation Requirements</b>	Support efforts to align state California Work Opportunity & Responsibility to Kids requirements with the provisions of the Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program and protect the County from fiscal sanctions for non-compliance stemming from the discrepancies between federal and state requirements.	Social Services Agency	State/Federal



# 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

## ❖ INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

### Policy Statements

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	State/Federal
<b>Airport Exit Lanes</b>	Oppose any transfer of administrative, financial, and/or operational responsibility for exit lane screening from the Transportation Security Administration to John Wayne Airport.	John Wayne Airport	Federal
<b>Airport Ground Transportation</b>	Support ground transportation-related measures that ensure passenger safety, protect the County's resources and property, and treat all ground transportation providers serving John Wayne Airport fairly and equitably.	John Wayne Airport	State
<b>Alternative Project Delivery</b>	Support legislation that gives local governments and agencies greater flexibility to use alternative project delivery methods such as construction manager-at-risk, design-build, and job order contracting.	OC Public Works	State
<b>Banning Specified Waste</b>	Oppose banning materials from landfill disposal or transformation/conversion technology facilities.	OC Waste and Recycling	State
<b>Beach Preservation and Coastal Funding</b>	Support state and federal funding for beach nourishment, coastal erosion control, and shoreline and beach preservation. Support dedicated and predictable funding for coastal flood risk and storm damage reduction projects. Additionally, support sharing of federal outer continental shelf revenues with coastal states to support conservation and wildlife protection programs.	OC Public Works/ OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Bridge Funding</b>	Support proposals that maintain the same level of funding for bridges as in previous years and oppose any formula that would provide an inequitable funding share for urban counties.	OC Public Works	State/Federal
<b>California Public Utilities Commission Tariffs</b>	Support efforts to ensure that California Public Utilities Commission tariffs and their interpretation do not shift utility costs from utility owners to counties.	OC Public Works	State
<b>Cap &amp; Trade</b>	Oppose efforts to expand the scope of Cap and Trade and the shift of program costs to local governments.	County Executive Office	State/Federal
<b>California Environmental Quality Act</b>	Promote revisions to California Environmental Quality Act that modernize, simplify, and streamline the Act, including environmental clearance reciprocity.	OC Public Works	State
<b>Clean Water Act</b>	Support clarifications of, and oppose expansions to, the definition of "Waters of the US."	OC Public Works	Federal
<b>Coastal Resiliency</b>	Support state and federal funding for coastal resiliency research, planning, and implementation of adaptation strategies.	OC Public Works/ OC Community Resources	State/Federal



**INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES** Continued

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Summary/Action Item</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>State/Federal</b>
<b>Cogeneration &amp; Central Utility Plant Facilities</b>	Maximize the capacity and efficiency of all County cogeneration and central utility plant facilities by providing its excess thermal and electric loads to county and other governmental agencies within the County's geographical boundaries.	OC Public Works	State
<b>County Parks &amp; Trails</b>	Support state and federal funding for recreation amenities and improvements in county parks and trails.	OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Dana Point Harbor</b>	Support efforts that encourage development at Dana Point Harbor to enhance public access opportunities, deliver quality recreational opportunities, update visitor serving commercial opportunities, provide water quality improvements, and promote coastal resource preservation.	County Executive Office	State/Federal
<b>Disaster &amp; Emergency Recovery</b>	Support federal funding for habitat and natural resources restoration in post-disaster/or emergency recovery assistance, in addition to reimbursements provided for damage to infrastructure and property.	OC Community Resources/ OC Waste and Recycling/OC Public Works	Federal
<b>Diversion Credits</b>	Support incentives that allow 100% diversion credits for conversion technologies and for beneficial reuse of materials at landfills.	OC Waste and Recycling	State
<b>Encroachment</b>	Protect John Wayne Airport and county landfills from liabilities associated with new and encroaching development and other non-compatible land uses.	OC Waste and Recycling/John Wayne Airport	State
<b>Energy &amp; Green Technology</b>	Promote incentives for residents, builders, and businesses of Orange County regarding the adoption, use, and economic benefits of green technology, recycled products, and eco-friendly products where economically feasible.	OC Public Works/ OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Federal Aviation Administration</b>	Support efforts that increase transparency and community engagement in the Federal Aviation Administration's decision-making process when proposing changes to the National Airspace System affecting Orange County.	John Wayne Airport	Federal
<b>Fire Protection</b>	Support enhanced funding for CAL Fire fire prevention and hazardous fuel removal projects in state responsibility area lands and ensure local agencies/landowners have access to these funds.	OC Community Resources	State
<b>Flood Control</b>	Support legislation that would provide clarity for local agencies in the reimbursement process with the State related to financial assistance received under the Department of Water Resources subvention program.	County Executive Office	State



## 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

### INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES Continued

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	State/Federal
<b>Flood Control Maintenance</b>	Support measures that provide statutory exemptions on water use regulations to include critical flood control, water resource management, and maintenance projects.	OC Public Works	State/Federal
<b>Habitat Mitigation</b>	Support legislation or administrative action which allows flexibility for County agencies to comply with long-term financial assurance requirements for habitat mitigation, standardization of land management requirements across regulatory agencies, and county engagement and input in final mitigation requirements.	OC Waste and Recycling/OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Habitat Restoration</b>	Support state and federal funding for watershed and habitat restoration efforts.	OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Highway Users Tax Account</b>	Protect the Highway Users Tax Account from being diverted for purposes other than County transportation.	OC Public Works	State
<b>Household Hazardous Waste and Pharmaceuticals</b>	Support extended producer responsibility and take-back programs and oppose unfunded mandates extending jurisdictions' responsibility for collection/disposal of household hazardous waste and pharmaceuticals.	OC Waste and Recycling	State/Federal
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Support efforts to obtain fair compensation for long-term use, cost of review, and preservation of the intended usage of vital county and Orange County Flood Control District infrastructure and property.	County Executive Office	State/Federal
<b>Invasive Species</b>	Support efforts that will provide funding to limit the continued spread of or reduce, control, and/or eradicate invasive species.	OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Landfill Gas-to-Energy</b>	Support efforts that facilitate the viable generation of electricity and natural gas for beneficial uses through landfill gas-to-energy and conversion technology facilities utilizing public utility transmission and distribution grids/line, and lowering the cost to connect to distribution grids/lines.	OC Waste and Recycling	State/Federal
<b>National Environmental Policy Act</b>	Promote revisions to the National Environmental Policy Act that modernize, simplify, and streamline the Act, including environmental clearance reciprocity.	OC Public Works	Federal
<b>Organics Recycling</b>	Support funding/loan programs for infrastructure in regards to organics recycling/repurpose and energy/gas products from the conversion of municipal solid waste.	OC Waste and Recycling	State/Federal





**INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES** Continued

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Summary/Action Item</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>State/Federal</b>
<b>Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)</b>	Support measures that provide state or federal funding for the management, disposal, and cleanup of PFAS, and measures that provide flexibility to comply with state and federal requirements related to PFAS. Oppose measures that create liability for cleanup or damages resulting from an entity's federally mandated use of substances containing PFAS, until a PFAS-free replacement has been approved and made commercially available.	John Wayne Airport	State/Federal
<b>Port of Entry</b>	Support John Wayne Airport, Orange County's request to U. S. Customs and Border Protection for designation as a "Port of Entry."	John Wayne Airport	Federal
<b>Recreation and Preservation</b>	Support state and federal funding to meet the recreation needs of Orange County's growing and diverse population – including funding for development, and/or improvement of parkland, recreation infrastructure, and wilderness trails – and maintain habitat and wilderness areas, with consideration for balance of the two.	OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA)</b>	Support legislation that provides clarity, addresses inconsistencies, or provides flexibility in the RHNA process for a successful completion of the County's Housing Element.	OC Public Works	State
<b>Regional Planning</b>	Protect local decision-making authority and encourage regional planning that ensures economic competitiveness, and balances quality of life, environment, and health in the development of the Regional Air Quality Master Plan and the Regional Transportation Plan-Sustainable Communities Strategy.	John Wayne Airport	State/Federal
<b>San Onofre Nuclear Generating System</b>	Support efforts to fully decommission the San Onofre site and the timely removal and responsible management of spent nuclear fuel storage.	County Executive Office	State/Federal
<b>Short Lived Climate Pollutants</b>	Monitor regulations being promulgated by the California Air Resources Control Board, to address short-lived climate pollutants particularly as they relate to proposed reductions in the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2020 and a 75% reduction by 2025.	OC Waste and Recycling	State
<b>South Orange County Mobility</b>	Support South County regional mobility, including the extension of Los Patrones Parkway, which is designated to be a non-tolled County arterial terminating at La Pata.	OC Public Works	State/Federal



## 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

### INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES Continued

Issue	Summary/Action Item	Department	State/Federal
<b>State Flood Control Subvention Program</b>	Support additional funding for the program to assist with the completion of federally authorized flood protection infrastructure projects.	OC Public Works	State
<b>Trails &amp; Bikeways Systems</b>	Support state and federal funding for alternative transportation programs to expand and improve the County's regional trails and bikeways system.	OC Community Resources/OC Public Works	State/Federal
<b>Transportation funding FAST Act</b>	Support the reauthorization of a surface transportation act. Support implementation of the provisions of the FAST Act in an equitable manner that promotes equitable funding levels, programming roles, and local discretion in allocation decisions, and support the reauthorization of a surface transportation act.	OC Public Works	Federal
<b>Transportation/Infrastructure Funding</b>	Support more transportation and infrastructure funding without new taxes.	OC Public Works/ John Wayne Airport	State
<b>Transportation Reauthorization</b>	Support efforts within the surface transportation reauthorization legislation, or other appropriate legislation, that direct state departments of transportation to give consideration to the condition and effectiveness of local evacuation routes in high risk areas when setting priorities for disbursement of highway funding.	OC Public Works	State/Federal
<b>Utility Lines/Wildfires</b>	Support efforts that seek to improve utility fire mitigation standards in at-risk communities, including, but not limited, to the use of underground utility-related infrastructure. Oppose efforts to reduce accountability for wildfire liability.	County Executive Office	State
<b>Waste Disposal Surcharge Fees</b>	Oppose state fee surcharges unless they are based on reasonable and related costs and do not promote illegal dumping or cause undue financial burden to local governments.	OC Waste and Recycling	State
<b>Water Quality</b>	Ensure that the implementation of the Clean Water Act, Water Resources Development Act, and the Porter-Cologne Act benefits County of Orange projects and programs.	OC Public Works	State/Federal
<b>Water Resources Infrastructure</b>	Support funding and completion of vital flood and water infrastructure projects.	OC Public Works	State/Federal
<b>Water Use Efficiency</b>	Support cost-effective water conservation programs and/or incentives that preserve water resources and the beneficial reuses of storm water.	OC Community Resources	State/Federal
<b>Zoological Operations and Care</b>	Oppose efforts that would impose undue or cost prohibitive regulations or legislation on zoological operations and care.	OC Community Resources	State/Federal





**COUNTY OF ORANGE  
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