

LOS OSOS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY PLATFORM FOR 2022

The following reflects those legislative matters on which the Board of Directors majority authorizes the Board President and General Manager to engage in legislative advocacy on behalf of the District. Per the District's Legislative Advocacy Policy, the Board's authorization extends only to advocacy for or against generally applicable legislative proposals being considered by local, regional, state and/or federal policy makers or regulators and does not extend to advocacy on any other matter unless specifically noted herein.

Revenue, Finances and Taxation

1. Supporting meaningful fiscal reform that allows each level of government to adequately finance its service responsibilities while continuing to support efforts to protect the District from loss of revenues due to State take-aways and unfunded State or Federal mandates. Emphasis should be placed on the ongoing suspension of recognized mandates, the flawed reimbursement process, and the evolving interpretations of subvention eligibility by the Commission on State Mandates.
2. Opposing initiatives that unduly burden and/or prohibit local government ability to support essential services to the community.
3. Support opportunities that allow the district to compete for its fair share of regional, state, and federal funding, and that maintain funding streams. Opportunities may include competitive grant and funding programs. Opportunities may also include dedicated funding streams at the regional, state, or federal levels that allow the district to maximize local revenues, offset and leverage capital expenditures, and maintain district goals and standards.
4. Engage with the Legislature, Administration, CalOES, other State agencies as appropriate, and Congress to ensure coordination and collaboration on efforts related to climate adaptation and resiliency, emergency response and disaster preparedness, and other issues, to promote equal funding considerations for special districts.
5. Support the protection and preservation special districts' property tax allocations and revenue authority, including, but not limited to, capacity and connection charges, development impact fees and Quimby or other "in- lieu- fees."

Human Resources and Personnel

1. Supporting California Special Districts Association positions on human resources issues such as workers' compensation reforms, pension and retiree health benefits reform efforts and other related initiatives.
2. Engage with the CalPERS Board and Legislature on pension issues to ensure the integrity of the CalPERS Fund, and seek opportunities to provide special districts with additional tools to address rising pension costs.

Infrastructure, Innovation and Investment

1. Supporting increased availability of grant funding to replace aging infrastructure of all types, e.g. water, parks, and storm sewer systems, etc.
2. Supporting increased funding for flood protection, clean storm water and low impact infrastructure projects.
3. Supporting cooperation and prompt approval from Federal and State regulatory agencies (such as U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Department of Fish & Wildlife and Regional Water Quality Control Board) for necessary projects involving District projects.
4. Supporting water conservation best management practices.
5. Supporting the expansion of recycled water production and use.
6. Supporting the protection of water resources.
7. Supporting regional water resiliency initiatives.
8. Supporting federal and statewide funding of water infrastructure projects.

California Special Districts Association – Tier 2 Priorities

1. Promote local-level solutions, decision-making, and management concerning service delivery and governance structures while upholding voter control and maintaining LAFCO authority over local government jurisdictional reorganizations and/or consolidations.
2. Promote transparency and accountability while defending against costly and unnecessary changes to the California Public Records Act, Brown Act, or public agency oversight requirements where the value of perceived greater transparency does not outweigh the costs to special districts.
3. Defend against costly and unnecessary expansions to labor policy changes at the cost of public employers.