



VENTURA COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS

Thursday, March 14 2024, 4:00 p.m.
J. Handel Conference Room- 2533 (Second Floor)
John Spoor Broome Library, CSUCI Campus
One University Drive, Camarillo, CA 93012
AGENDA

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in the Council meeting, please contact VCOG staff at 805-217-9448. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting

AGENDA REPORTS AND OTHER DISCLOSABLE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATED TO OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE VCOG WEBSITE UNDER AGENDA AND MINUTES AT WWW.VENTURACOG.ORG.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

2. ROLL CALL

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time, public comments received in advance by VCOG Staff will be read aloud into the meeting record. Individual Board Members may briefly respond to Public Comments or ask questions for clarification.

4. SEATING OF VCOG CHAIR FOR 2024 and Appointment of Ad Hoc Committee Members to the VCOG Administrative Committee- p. 3. Acknowledge Seating of VCOG Chair Mike Johnson Term beginning March 14, 2024 and ending March 13, 2025 and Confirm appointment of Ad-Large Members to the VCOG Admin Committee by Chair.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT– The Report will be distributed at the meeting

6. AGENCY REPORTS– Oral Reports If Agency Representatives Attend

- A. Southern California Association of Governments
- B. Ventura County Transportation Commission
- C. League of California Cities
- D. County of Ventura -Legislative Analyst
- E. Broadband Team Update

MEMBERS

City of Camarillo
David Tennessen, Camarillo
Susan Santangelo, Alternate

City of Fillmore
Carrie Broggie
Albert Mendez, Alternate

City of Moorpark
Chris Enegren, Chair-Elect
Tom Means, Alternate

City of Ojai
Leslie Rule, Member
Betsy Stix, Alternate

City of Oxnard
Bert Perello, Member
Oscar Madrigal, Alternate

City of Port Hueneme
Steven Gama, Member
Misty Perez, Alternate

City of San Buenaventura
Mike Johnson, Chair
Bill McReynolds, Alternate

City of Santa Paula
Leslie Cornejo, Member
Jenny Crosswhite, Alternate

City of Simi Valley
Elaine Litster, IPC
Mike Judge, Alternate

City of Thousand Oaks
Bob Engler, Member
David Newman, Alternate

County of Ventura
Janice Parvin, Member
Jeff Gorell, Alternate

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Summary of January 11, 2024 Meeting p.5. Approve Meeting Summary for the January 11, 2024 VCOG Meeting. **Action:** Approve Meeting Summary as published.
- B. Financial Report p.11. Approve Ventura Council of Governments Financial Report for the Budget Period from January 5, 2024 to March 8, 2024. **Action:** Approve Financial Report
- C. Register of Warrants & Debit Card Transactions p.15.- Approve the Register of Warrants for Expenditures and Debit Card Transactions incurred from November 9, 2023 to January 5, 2024. **Action:** Approve Register of Warrants and Debit Card Transactions.
- D. Request for Support Letters for The City of Camarillo p. 18. The City of Camarillo will be applying for FY 25 Congressionally Directed Spending for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project and the Pleasant Valley Bike Lanes. They are requesting support letters from VCOG. **Action:** Approve Letters of Support.

8. PRESENTATION ITEMS

- A. Presentation by the Ventura County Probation Agency- p. 21. Receive Report from Gina Johnson, Chief Probation Officer on the role of Probation, Adult, Juvenile and Court Services and Major State Reforms Implemented by Probation. **Action:** Receive Report and Discuss.
- B. Presentation by the Ventura County Watershed Protection District p.32. Receive Report from David Fleisch, PE., Assistant Director, Ventura County Public Works Agency. **Action:** Receive Report and Discuss.

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Any Council Member present may propose items for placement on a future agenda. Members should limit their proposed topics to issues that conform to VCOG's adopted Program of Priorities. Members may discuss whether the item should be placed on a future agenda and the description of the agenda item.

10. ADJOURNMENT: Next Meeting-May 9, 2024 at John Spoor Broome Library, CSUCI Campus

Copies of staff reports or other written documentation relating to each item of business referred to on this agenda are on file with the Ventura Council of Governments Executive Director and are available for public inspection. If you have any questions regarding any agenda item, contact the Executive Director at (805) 217-9448. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Executive Director. Notification 48 hours before the meeting will allow VCOG to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28 CFR 35, 102-35. 104 ADA Title II).



Item 4

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members and Alternates

FROM: Hugh Riley, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Seating of VCOG Chair for 2024 and Confirmation of Chair Appointment of At-Large Members to the VCOG Admin Committee

DATE: March 14, 2024

Recommendation:

Acknowledge Seating of VCOG Chair Mike Johnson Term beginning March 14, 2024 and ending March 13, 2025 and Confirm appointment of two Ad-Large Members to the VCOG Admin Committee by Chair.

Administrative Committee Organization

The Bylaws of the Ventura Council of Governments establish an Administrative Committee as a Standing Committee of the governing body. The primary responsibilities of the Administrative Committee are to establish the agendas for the VCOG Council Meetings, handle routine legislative and administrative matters, and oversee the activities of the Executive Director.

The bylaws also state that the Administrative Committee shall be composed of the current year's Chair, the Chair-elect, the Immediate-past Chair, and two (2) At-Large Members appointed by the Chair. On January 11, 2024, Chris Enegren, City of Moorpark, was elected to the Office of Chair-Elect for 2024 and will serve on the Administrative Committee for 2024 with Chair Johnson and Immediate Past Chair Litster.

The Administrative Committee generally meets via Zoom Call on Thursdays within a few weeks following or ahead of the regular VCOG Council Meeting from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. In the event live meetings resume during the year they be held in a location to be announced. The committee meetings are frequently attended by members of our VCOG Support Staff from member agencies.

The Schedule for meetings for the Committee for 2024-25 is:

March 21, 2024
May 16, 2024
June 20, 2024
July 25, 2024
September 19, 2024
October 17, 2024
November 21, 2024
January 16, 2025

Members of the Administrative Committee for **2023** were:

Elaine Litster, City of Simi Valley-Chair
Mike Johnson, City of Ventura – Chair-Elect
Kevin Kildee, City of Camarillo - Immediate Past Chair*
Bert Perello, City of Oxnard, Member-at-Large
Carrie Broggie, City of Fillmore – Member-at-Large

*Replaced by Chris Enegren, City of Moorpark on January 11, 2024



MEETING SUMMARY

601 Carmen Dr.
Camarillo, CA 93012
January 11, 2024

1. **CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE** –The meeting was called to Order at 4:05 PM by Chair Litster. The Flag Salute was led by Bill Simpson.
2. **ROLL CALL:**

Present:

Elaine Litster, Chair, City of Simi Valley
Chris Enegren, City of Moorpark
Janice Parvin, County of Ventura,
Mike Johnson, City of San Buenaventura
Carrie Broggie, City of Fillmore
Bob Engler, City of Thousand Oaks
Leslie Rule, City of Ojai
Steven Gama, City of Port Hueneme
David Tennessen, City of Camarillo
Leslie Cronejo, City of Santa Paula

Absent: Bert Perello, City of Oxnard

Staff Present:

Hugh Riley, Executive Director, VCOG

Partner Agency Representatives and Agency Support Staff:

Michelle Guzman, County of Ventura, Legislative Analyst
Darrin Peschka, Program Manager, Government & Community Relations, VCTC
Rachel Wagner, Senior Government Affairs Officer, SCAG
Mina Layba, Legislative Affairs Manager, City of Thousand Oaks
Lisette Torres, Sr. Management Analyst, City of Camarillo
Brian Chong, Assistant to the City Manager, City of Moorpark
Bill Simmons, Coordinator, Pacific Broadband Consortium
Vivian Vázquez, Workforce and Economic Strategies Senior Associate, EDC-VC

Guests:

Jennifer Harkey, Ventura County Continuum of Care, County Executive Office
Sonia Kroth, Community Relations Manager, V.C. Human Services Agency
Deanna Handel, Director, Complex Care Coordination, V.C. Health Care Agency
Rachel Stern, Chief Medical Quality Officer, Ambulatory Care, V.C. Health Care Agency
Sara Sanchez, Access & Outreach Division Chief, VC, Behavioral Health Agency
Danny Lopez, Sr. Deputy, Vulnerable Population Officer, Ventura County Sheriff's Office
Scott Baxter, Deputy Sgt., Homeless Liaison Unit, Ventura County Sheriff's Office
Jason Havelka, Project Hope-City of Camarillo, Homeless Liaison Unit, V. C. Sheriff's Office
Gina Johnson, Chief Probation Officer, Ventura County Probation Agency

Robert Barna, Supervising DPO, Ventura County Probation Agency
Carrie Vredenburg, Chief Deputy, Ventura County Probation Agency
Celina Zacharias, Community & Government Relations, Ca. State University, Channel Islands

3. PUBLIC COMMENT – NONE

4. **Executive Directors Report-** Executive Director Riley presented his Report which had been distributed to members:

REAP 1.0 (ending Feb 29, 2024) REAP 1.0 Project 4 - theRegional ADU Program with OCCOG and GCCOG, is in final review by your planning and building staff. There are model ordinances available for Density Bonus, Inclusionary, Motel Conversion, Care Facilities, SB6/AB2011 zoning, and ADUs.

Project 5- theCEQA Streamlining VMT Adaptive Management Program (VMTAMP), and will be supplemented with two additional Tasks:

TASK D continues with the current consultant (Iteris) to investigate and report an alternative InducedDemand elasticity factor that reflects Ventura County development and transportation context, assess affordable housing funding as a mitigation to reduce VMT impacts, and meet with each City/County Public Works and Community Development/Planning staff regarding applying the AMMP.

TASK E also continues with Iteris to develop and implement a “VMT AMP Road Show” campaign to explain VMT and promote the VMT reduction strategies. The budget for these Tasks is \$80,000 which will exhaust the remaining funds approved for this project. An amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Iteris, Inc. is included on the consent calendar for this meeting.

REAP 2.0 (starting with November 30, 2025 end date)

SCAG staff is in the final steps of preparing the VCOG-SCAG REAP 2.0 MOU and we anticipate receiving the MOU and final project scope by mid-January. SCAG requires VCOG Board adoption of the MOU which would be scheduled for the March 2024 meeting unless an earlier special meeting is held which may be advisable considering the grant has a completion date within two years. A copy of the DRAFT MOU was included with this report.

Project 1 reimburses VCOG up to \$10,000 for preparing the REAP 2.0 application and project descriptions, budgets, and timelines.

Project 2 retains a SCAG pre-qualified consultant to assist the 10 cities and County in implementing their respective Housing Element programs that lead to infill housing, VMT reduction, and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH): the budget is \$370,127. Project 3 continues the REAP 1.0 “HousingSoCal” website project with OCCOG and GCCOG with a \$45,000 contribution.

Broadband for All- LATA Grant -Update

The Ventura Council of Governments (VCOG) has received \$490,860 from the California Public Utilities Commission’s Local Agency Technical Assistance Grant application funding to create a broadband joint power of authority (JPA) between VCOG members, design a Regional Strategy, and create pilot projects to support Last Mile Connections. Riley deferred further comments to the report from our project team.

SCAG Highlights from Fiscal Year 2023 - The SCAG Update for January and the Year 2023 in Review were attached and referenced briefly.

League of Cities 2024 Advocacy Priorities - The League's Advocacy Priorities for 2024 were attached.

Department of the Navy-EIS for Hawaii-California Training and Testing – Riley called the Council's attention to the Navy Department's intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Hawaii-California Training and Testing. This activity directly impacts Naval Base Ventura County. A copy of the Notice and fact sheet was attached.

VCOG Administrative Committee-The Committee will meet on January 18, 2024, via ZOOM Conference Call. The Committee will plan for the March 14, 2024 VCOG Meeting Agenda. The March VCOG Council Meeting will be held at the John Spoor Broome The final VCOG Meeting Schedule for 2024 was provided.

Riley advised that the Administrative Committee will have vacancies for two, at-large members to be appointed by Chair Johnson at the March VCOG Meeting. Chair Johnson, Immediate Past Chair Litster, and the newly elected, Chair-elect Member will constitute the remaining three members by rule. Riley asked that any member interested in serving on the committee contact Chair Johnson.

5. ELECTION OF VCOG CHAIR-ELECT FOR 2024- Chair Litster call for floor nominations for the office of Chair-Elect for 2024. This officer will assume the VCOG Chair in March 2025. Council Member Gama nominated Chris Enegren for the Office of Chair-Elect for 2024. There were no other nominations from the floor. Chris Enegren, City of Moorpark, was elected to the Office of Chair-elect for 2024 by acclamation.

6. AGENCY REPORTS

Rachel Wagner, Senior Government Affairs Officer, SCAG – made reference to the January Update and Annual SCAG Report that had been distributed to the Council with Riley's report. She also announced the Annual SCAG Summit and General Assembly scheduled for May 1-3, 2024 in Desert Hot Springs.

Darrin Peschka, Program Manager, Government & Community Relations, VCTC Reported that VCTC has a number of new study efforts coming up, funded by the SCAG Regional Early Action Planning (REAP 2.0) County Transportation Commissions Partnership Program, totaling \$3.7 million, including the Community Traffic Calming and Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety Program, Santa Paula Branch Line Master Plan Update, Countywide Transit Stops & Stations Improvement Program, and the Paratransit Integration Study.

The Vehicle Miles Traveled Adaptive Mitigation Program has new tasks now underway. These tasks will evaluate induced demand factors for Ventura County (relative to the factors used statewide) and build a toolkit for communicating with decision makers and the community about the relationship between transportation, land use, and housing. We appreciate this continued partnership between VCTC and VCOG.

VCTC is hosting a series of community meetings and workshops in January as part of the Unmet Transit Needs process and the Short-Range Transit Plan Update. Information about both projects and dates and times of the community meeting are available on our website.

In September 2022, VCTC and the county's other transit operators launched the Youth Ride Free program, which allows youths 18 and younger in Ventura County to ride any public transit bus for free. We are pleased to report that more than 1 million free rides were provided in the first year of the program.

Michelle Guzman, County of Ventura, Legislative Analyst - Michelle reported the following:

- 2024 Legislative Agenda and Platform was unanimously approved by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors on December 19, 2023.
- We're in the process of reviewing the Governor's budget to assess the impact on County programs and services.
- A few priority areas for advocacy this year will be:
 - Mental health
 - Proposition 1 (March 2024)
 - Public safety
 - Fentanyl and retail theft
 - Housing and homelessness
 - Delayed hospital payments
 - Transportation (self-help tax)
 - CARB: first responder and utility vehicle issue

Vivian Vasquez, Workforce and Economic Strategies Senior Associate, EDC-VC, reported the Following:

- Earlier this week, we convened VCOG's Broadband Working Group. The group discussed outreach strategies, data collection plans, and community engagement events.
- The working group agreed that February 1st would be a "push" day for the survey and speed tests. We hope your cities will continue to help us advertise the importance of this data collection process.
- We continue to update your city council's on this project, including Camarillo, Santa Paula and Fillmore this week. We look forward to updating them all again and sharing the data collected.
- We are beginning planning of community engagement events, working with each individual municipality to identify the best time and place to convene community members and how to select a panel of presenters for the event. These events are designed to hear from residents and understand what the priorities for that particular community are.
- The next working group meeting is scheduled for February 13th.
- We are on track to start planning community engagement events and complete data collection by April, and then finalize the regional strategy document after that. We are now in the data collection and engagement phase of the project, and will then begin analyzing and preparing the regional strategy.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Summary of November 9, 2023 Meeting– Approve Meeting Summary for the November 9, 2023 VCOG Meeting. **Action:** Approve Meeting Summary as published.
- B. Financial Report Approve Ventura Council of Governments Financial Report for the Budget Period from November 9, 2023 to January 5, 2024. **Action:** Approve Financial Report
- C. Register of Warrants & Debit Card Transactions- Approve the Register of Warrants for Expenditures and Debit Card Transactions incurred from November 9, 2023 to January 5, 2024 **Action:** Approve Register of Warrants and Debit Card Transactions.
- D. Amendment to Professional Services Agreement- Iteris, Inc. -Approve Amendment to Professional Services Agreement No. 2021-02 with Iteris, Inc. for completion of revised Scope for Work for REAP 1.0 Project No. 5, as described in Exhibit A, Scope of Work. **Action:** Approve Amendment to Agreement 2021-02 and Authorize Chair to sign on behalf of VCOG.

AMOTION was made by Member Parvin to approve staff recommendations for the Consent Calendar Items A thru D. The motion was **SECONDED** by Member Enegren. The motion was considered with a show-of-hands vote: Ayes- 7; Nays- 0. with 3 abstentions on Item A (Members Cornejo, Tennessen, and Engler). The Motion Carried.

8. PESENTATION ITEMS

A. 2024 VCOG Program of Priorities Review and discuss proposed changes including recommendations from the VCOG Admin Committee. Chair Litster asked if there were any additional comments or suggestions beyond those recommended by the Administrative Committee. Member Gama suggested that the item "Clean sustainable waterways, beaches and harbors under "Infrastructure Funding Issues", should be moved to a higher priority due to the pollution of the county's coastal beaches. Riley reminded the Council that the Items are not listed in any order of priority and the document was intended to be a guide for VCOG activities.

A **MOTION** was made by Member Enegren to approve staff recommendations for the 2024 VCOG Program of Priorities. The motion was **SECONDED** by Member Tennessen. The motion was considered with a show-of-hands vote: Ayes- 10; Nays- 0. The Motion Carried.

B. 2024 VCOG Legislative Program Review and discuss proposed changes including recommendations from the VCOG Admin Committee. Chair Litster asked if there were any additional comments or suggestions beyond those recommended by the Administrative Committee. There were several questions and Riley explained that this policy document was a guide for staff to respond with legislative advocacy correspondence. No other changes were recommended beyond typographical corrections.

A **MOTION** was made by Member Tennessen to approve staff recommendations for the 2024 VCOG Program of Priorities. The motion was **SECONDED** by Member Cornejo. The motion was considered with a show-of-hands vote: Ayes- 10; Nays- 0. The Motion Carried

C. Presentation by Ventura County Continuum of Care - Receive Report from Ventura County Staff on the status of Programs and active projects to address the homeless situation in Ventura County. In addition to Continuum of Care Staff, representatives from the Ventura County Health Care Agency, Human Services Agency, Ventura County Behavioral Health, the County Probation Department, and the Sheriff's Office presented highlights of their initiatives addressing homelessness. Members of the Council asked several questions on topics including:

- Drug abuse in our jails and follow up after release to transition back into community with permanent supportive housing
- Can a system be devised that gives certain homeless households/individuals that refuse assistance a place where they can "do their thing" without contact from the authorities.
- Housing resources- Dealing with problem of landlord's reluctance to rent to homeless households
- Mental health issues as a cause that needs to be addressed.
- Reasons for Homelessness: inability to manage a household, housing affordability, mental and behavioral health issues

Agency representatives responded and referenced ongoing efforts and follow-up activities in individual communities and county-wide.

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS-

10. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by Chair Litster at 5:50 PM.

Next Meeting- March 14, 2024 at the John Spoor Broome Library, CSUCI Campus

ITEM 7B.

MEMORANDUM

TO: VCOG Members and Alternates
FROM: Hugh R. Riley, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Financial Report
DATE: March 14, 2024

Recommendation:

Receive and file Financial Report for Period January 5, 2024 to March 8, 2024

Discussion:

This report transmits the Ventura Council of Governments (VCOG) Financial reports for the Budget Period to March 8, 2024.

Investments:

The objectives of VCOG's adopted Investment Policy are safety, liquidity, and yield, with the foremost objective being safety. Prudence, ethics, and delegation of authority are the Policy's applied standards of care. Below is a summary of VCOG's investments that comply with the VCOG Investment Policy:

Institution	Investment Type	Maturity Date	Interest-FY to Date-12/31/22	Rate	Balance
Bank of A	Maximizer 2635	N/A	\$ 16.55	0.03%*	\$62,714.05

* Variable

VCOG has received payment from SCAG for Invoice No. 30 (\$2,022.00) for August 2023, Invoice No. 31 (\$1,646.50) for September and for Invoice No. 32 for 2,040.05 for October 2023. Invoice No. 33 for \$1,173.00 was combined for November and December 2023 and was submitted on January 11, 2024 and paid on February 5, 2024. Invoice No. 34 for January 2024 was submitted on February 6, 2024 and paid on February 29, 2024.

ATTACHMENTS: Balance Sheet – As of March 8, 2024
 Budget vs. Actual Report - January 5, 2024 to March 8, 2024

Ventura Council of Governments

Budget vs. Actuals: FY 2023-2024 Budget (7/1/23 to 6/30/24) - FY24 P&L

July 2023 - June 2024

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Income				
Annual Dinner Sponsorship	9,000.00	9,000.00	0.00	100.00 %
Dues Assessments	64,992.00	64,992.00	0.00	100.00 %
Investments				
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	12.64		12.64	
Total Investments	12.64		12.64	
Other Types of Income				
Bank Interest		10.00	-10.00	
LATA Grant Income	24,334.33	490,860.00	-466,525.67	4.96 %
Total Other Types of Income	24,334.33	490,870.00	-466,535.67	4.96 %
SCAG - REAP 1.0 Contract Income	98,096.36	217,076.00	-118,979.64	45.19 %
SCAG - REAP 2.0 Contract Income		419,000.00	-419,000.00	
Total Income	\$196,435.33	\$1,200,938.00	\$ -1,004,502.67	16.36 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$196,435.33	\$1,200,938.00	\$ -1,004,502.67	16.36 %
Expenses				
Contract Services				
Accounting Fees	779.14	2,500.00	-1,720.86	31.17 %
Audit		5,000.00	-5,000.00	
Executive Administration	17,718.75	45,000.00	-27,281.25	39.38 %
Legal Fees		300.00	-300.00	
Other Business Expenses	322.95		322.95	
Total Contract Services	18,820.84	52,800.00	-33,979.16	35.65 %
Executive Administration	7,125.00		7,125.00	
Operations				
Printing and Copying	433.52	700.00	-266.48	61.93 %
Supplies		500.00	-500.00	
Website	970.00	1,200.00	-230.00	80.83 %
Total Operations	1,403.52	2,400.00	-996.48	58.48 %
Other Types of Expenses				
Insurance - Liability, D and O	3,417.14	3,702.00	-284.86	92.31 %
LATA Grant Expenses	687.50		687.50	
Digital Resources (Program)				
Ookla Speed Test Platform		15,000.00	-15,000.00	
Total Digital Resources (Program)		15,000.00	-15,000.00	
EDC Personnel Costs				
Contracts Admin (2%)		5,000.00	-5,000.00	
Executive (9%)		35,618.00	-35,618.00	
Finance (9%)		23,932.00	-23,932.00	
Total EDC Personnel Costs		64,550.00	-64,550.00	
EDC Subcontractors				
Broadband Team Cons. Lead		60,000.00	-60,000.00	
GIS Consultant		37,500.00	-37,500.00	

Ventura Council of Governments

Budget vs. Actuals: FY 2023-2024 Budget (7/1/23 to 6/30/24) - FY24 P&L

July 2023 - June 2024

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
JPA Formation		142,000.00	-142,000.00	
Senior Broadband Consultant		84,000.00	-84,000.00	
Strategy Project Lead		70,000.00	-70,000.00	
Total EDC Subcontractors		393,500.00	-393,500.00	
VCOG LATA Admin Costs	1,338.75	17,810.00	-16,471.25	7.52 %
Total LATA Grant Expenses	2,026.25	490,860.00	-488,833.75	0.41 %
Total Other Types of Expenses	5,443.39	494,562.00	-489,118.61	1.10 %
REAP 1.0 Project Costs				
Project - 1 - TASK A	2,085.50		2,085.50	
Project 1 - TASK B	1,531.25	19,089.00	-17,557.75	8.02 %
Project 4 - NEW TASK A	2,938.50	6,387.00	-3,448.50	46.01 %
Project 4 - TASK A (to OCCOG)	71,125.00	71,600.00	-475.00	99.34 %
Project 5 - TASK A	85.50		85.50	
Project 5 - TASK C	3,189.36	120,000.00	-116,810.64	2.66 %
Total REAP 1.0 Project Costs	80,955.11	217,076.00	-136,120.89	37.29 %
REAP 2.0 Costs				
Project 1	171.00	21,000.00	-20,829.00	0.81 %
Project 2		300,000.00	-300,000.00	
Project 3		50,000.00	-50,000.00	
Project 4		48,000.00	-48,000.00	
REAP 2.0 Costs	1,938.00		1,938.00	
Total REAP 2.0 Costs	2,109.00	419,000.00	-416,891.00	0.50 %
Travel and Meetings	-468.00		-468.00	
Annual Dinner	6,313.96	9,000.00	-2,686.04	70.16 %
Conference and Meetings	1,918.92	2,500.00	-581.08	76.76 %
Travel	437.96	3,600.00	-3,162.04	12.17 %
Total Travel and Meetings	8,202.84	15,100.00	-6,897.16	54.32 %
Total Expenses	\$124,059.70	\$1,200,938.00	\$ -1,076,878.30	10.33 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$72,375.63	\$0.00	\$72,375.63	0.00%
NET INCOME	\$72,375.63	\$0.00	\$72,375.63	0.00%

Ventura Council of Governments

Balance Sheet As of March 7, 2024

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
BofA - 5797	0.00
BofA - 9045	109,579.22
BofA MM - 2635	62,709.94
Total Bank Accounts	\$172,289.16
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	16,263.69
Total Accounts Receivable	\$16,263.69
Other Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$0.00
Total Current Assets	\$188,552.85
Other Assets	
Fraud	0.00
Total Other Assets	\$0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$188,552.85
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	0.00
Total Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Other Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$0.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$0.00
Long-Term Liabilities	
Unearned Income	0.00
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	\$0.00
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	111,291.04
Year End Close Out Account	4,886.18
Net Income	72,375.63
Total Equity	\$188,552.85
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$188,552.85



ITEM 7C.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members and Alternates
FROM: Hugh Riley, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Register of Warrants and Debt Card Transactions
DATE: March 14, 2024

Recommendation:

Approve the Register of Warrants for expenditures and Debit Card Transactions incurred from January 5, 2024 to March 8, 2024

Discussion:

This report presents expenditures including bank debit card transactions incurred by the Ventura Council of Governments for the period January 5, 2024 to March 8, 2024. It is prepared in addition to the Financial Report so that the Council may be fully informed as to the actual expenditure of funds for services and other costs to the organization.

ATTACHMENTS: Warrant and Debit Card Registers

Register of Warrants Ventura Council of Governments

March 14, 2024

Transactions from January 5, 2024 to March 8, 2024

<u>Check #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Paid To</u>	<u>Inv. Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
670	01/05/24	VC Digital	12/31/23	Printing & Copying	\$ 11.84
671	01/09/24	Hugh Riley, Pro. Management, LLC	11/30/23	Contract Management Services	\$ 2,593.75
672	01/18/24	VC Transportation Commission	01/17/24	REAP Project No. 5- Invoice No. 11	\$ 313.31
673	01/25/24	City of Simi Valley	01/16/24	Various Annual Dinner Expenses	\$ 1,011.62
674	02/01/24	Caroline Carter	02/02/24	Accounting Services- Jan. 2024	\$ 225.00
675	02/02/24	Hugh Riley, Pro. Management, LLC	11/30/23	Contract Management Services	\$ 4,062.50
676	02/02/24	Hugh Riley, Pro. Management, LLC	02/30/23	LATA Project Management	\$ 843.75
677	02/02/24	Hugh Riley, Pro. Management, LLC	02/01/24	REAP Project Management	\$ 625.00
678	02/02/24	Dr. Chris Williamson	02/02/24	REAP Project Administration	\$ 708.00
679				VOID Printing Error-----	
680	02/07/24	VC Digital	01/31/23	Printing & Copying – Jan. 2024	\$ 187.15
681	03/05/25	Dr. Chris Williamson	03/02/24	REAP Project Administration	\$ 413.00
682	03/05/24	Hugh Riley, Pro. Management, LLC	03/01/23	Contract Management Services	\$ 1,625.00
683	03/05/24	Hugh Riley, Pro. Management, LLC	03/01/23	REAP Project Management	\$ 562.50

Register of Debit Card Transactions
Ventura Council of Governments

March 14, 2024

Transactions from January 5, 2024 to March 8, 2024

<u>Card #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Paid To</u>	<u>Inv. Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
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NONE



ITEM 7D.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members and Alternates
FROM: Hugh Riley, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Letters of Support for City of Camarillo Grant Applications
DATE: March 14, 2024

Recommendation:

Approve Letters of Support for City of Camarillo Grant Applications.

Discussion:

The City of Camarillo will be applying for FY 25 Congressionally Directed Spending for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project and the Pleasant Valley Bike Lanes. They are requesting support in the form of letters that can be attached to the application packets. The proposed VCOG Letters to Congresswoman Brownley are attached.

ATTACHMENTS: Support Letters



**VENTURA COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS**

33 East High Street, Suite 200, Moorpark, CA 93021
P.O. Box 157, Moorpark, CA 93020
www.venturacog.org

March 14, 2024

The Honorable Julia Brownley
U.S. House of Representatives
2262 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Brownley.

The Ventura Council of Governments urges your support for the City of Camarillo's request for FY 2025 Congressionally directed funding for the Pleasant Valley Road Bike Lanes Project, to enhance an important section of the City's active bikeway network.

The Pleasant Valley Road Bike Lanes Project will construct new Class II Bike Lanes on Pleasant Valley Road between Las Posas Road and 5th Street (approximately 1.6 miles). The project will greatly enhance bicyclist safety along Pleasant Valley Road, which currently does not feature a shoulder or bicycle route, while also creating a continuous east-west bicycle network. The route will connect users from Ventura County through Camarillo to regional mass transit hubs at the Camarillo Metrolink Station, as well as highly frequented commercial and recreational centers.

The Camarillo Metrolink Station serves as a regional transit hub, providing users access from Camarillo to downtown Los Angeles (Union Station) and California State University Channel Islands. The proposed Pleasant Valley Road Bike Lanes Project will also fill a missing gap allowing users safe alternative access to the Camarillo Premium Outlets, Pleasant Valley Fields, and Freedom Park, further connecting existing and planned bike routes within Ventura County throughout Camarillo to create a robust bicycle network.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project for the City of Camarillo.

Sincerely,

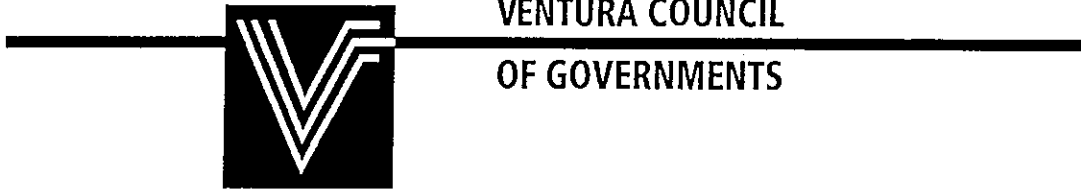
Mike Johnson,
Chair

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS MEMBER AGENCIES

City of Camarillo
City of Ojai
City of Santa Paula
City of Ventura

City of Fillmore
City of Oxnard
City of Simi Valley
County of Ventura

City of Moorpark
City of Port Hueneme
City of Thousand Oaks



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March 14, 2024

The Honorable Julia Brownley
U.S. House of Representatives
2262 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Brownley:

The Ventura Council of Governments urges your support for the City of Camarillo's request for FY 2025 Congressionally directed funding for its Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project, to enhance water accountability.

The Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project will replace/retrofit all existing water meters (14,000+) and incorporate new network and communication equipment throughout the City of Camarillo to establish citywide advanced metering infrastructure. This infrastructure will automatically relay water usage data to the City's network, improving the City's efficiency in meter reading and leak detection and thereby allowing for increased water use efficiency and education.

When combined with an extensive public water conservation outreach effort, this project will provide customers with a better understanding of water usage and how it affects their water bill, while also raising awareness for the need to conserve. The need for water conservation will only increase as the region faces future severe droughts and limited water supply.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project for the City of Camarillo.

Sincerely,

Mike Johnson,
Chair

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS MEMBER AGENCIES

City of Camarillo
City of Ojai
City of Santa Paula
City of Ventura

City of Fillmore
City of Oxnard
City of Simi Valley
County of Ventura

City of Moorpark
City of Port Hueneme
City of Thousand Oaks



ITEM 8A.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members and Alternates
FROM: Hugh Riley, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Presentation by the Ventura County Probation Agency
DATE: March 14, 2024

Recommendation: Receive Report from Gina Johnson, Chief Probation Officer on the role of Probation, Adult, Juvenile and Court Services and Major State Reforms Implemented by Probation. **Action:** Receive Report and Discuss.

Discussion:

The criminal justice system is comprised of three components: law enforcement, judicial and corrections. The Probation Agency is part of the corrections component and its main goal is to promote community safety. The Probation Agency accomplishes this goal by providing balanced services to the victim, offender and community utilizing collaborative partnerships to effect positive change in youths, adults and families under our jurisdiction.

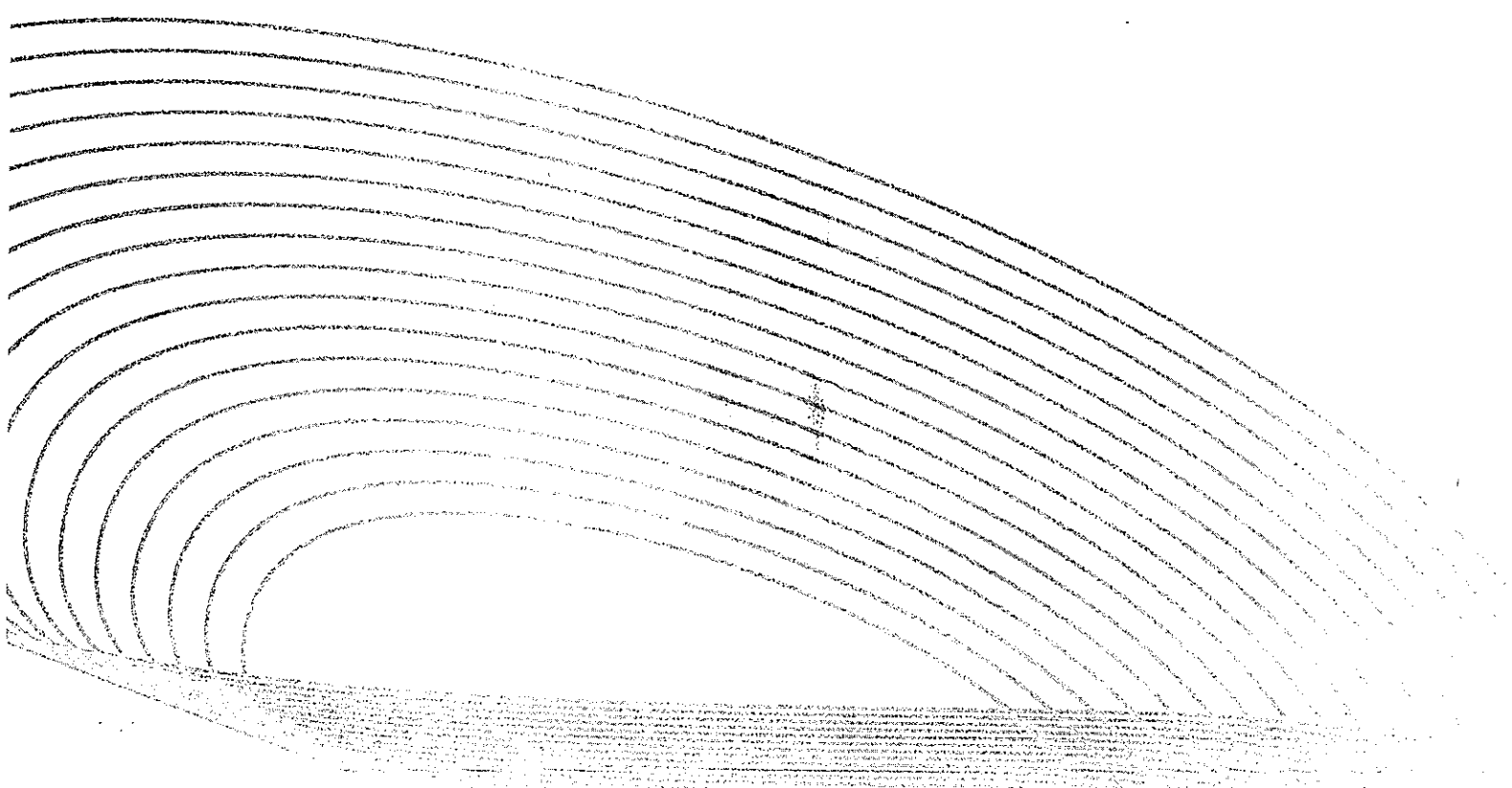
The Ventura County Probation Agency is charged by the courts with the direct supervision of approximately 5,866 adult offenders and 390 juvenile offenders on probation, as well as performing two mandated functions: the preparation of sentencing reports for the courts and the operation of the Juvenile Facilities. To accomplish this mission, a highly-trained corps of armed deputy probation officers supervise the most serious offenders via close community monitoring, including global positioning system (GPS) tracking and frequent field contacts. Approximately 350 additional officers supervise low and moderate-risk probationers in the community and prepare sentencing reports for the courts, recommending appropriate sanctions including incarceration, counseling, or a combination of treatment services.

Probation is one of the judge's sentencing options. After a juvenile/adult offender is adjudicated/convicted of a misdemeanor or felony offense, the judge imposes a sentence. This sentence can consist of incarceration, probation with or without incarceration and for felony offenses, imprisonment. Probation consists of a variety of terms and conditions that are Court-imposed with which the offender must comply or risk returning to the Court of jurisdiction for a violation of probation. Probation affords the offender an opportunity to alter his/her criminal behavior while remaining free in the community. The primary role of the probation officer is to ensure that the offender complies with the Court-ordered terms and conditions of probation.



CALIFORNIA PROBATION'S APPROACH TO SAFETY THROUGH ACCOUNTABILITY AND OPPORTUNITY:

An Overview by the Chief Probation Officers of California



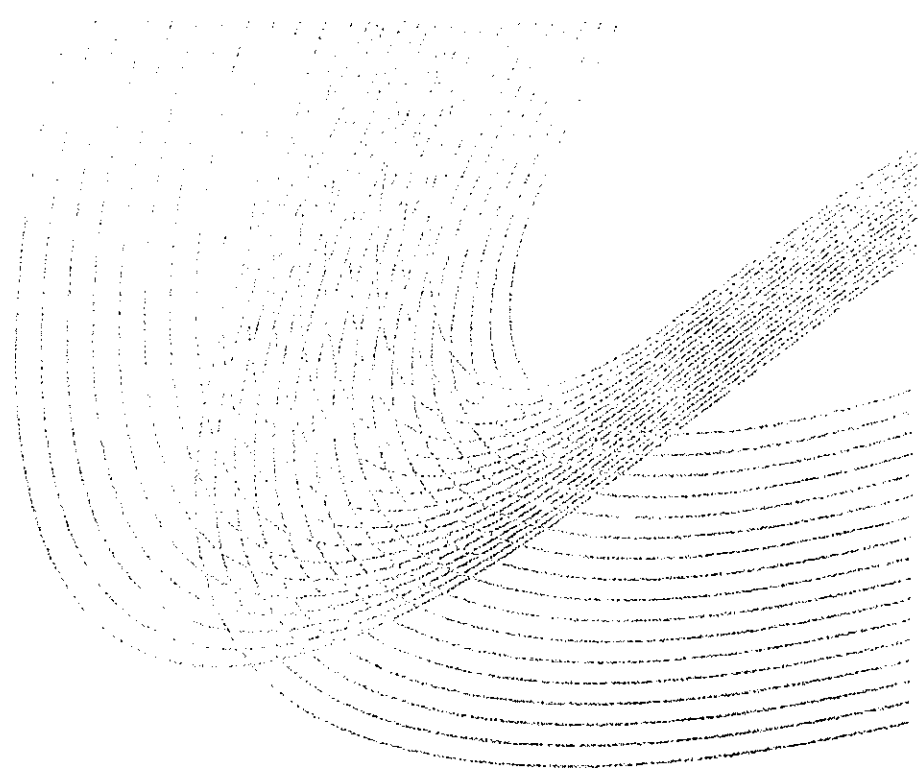


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Court Services	7
Major State Reforms Implemented by Probation	8

THE ROLE OF PROBATION

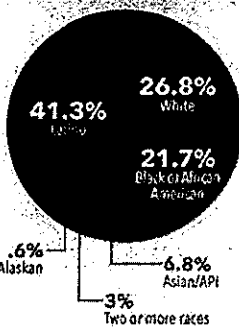
Probation protects the community, supports the court, assists victims, and helps rehabilitate individuals. Probation serves the critical role of being a connector in the justice system – both as a connector of system partners as well as a connector of services and supervision to address the needs of the probationer.

Probation Departments have a unique role in California because the probation infrastructure creates the critical connections among California courts, the communities we serve and both state and local services. Probation Departments are part of local county government yet they serve the state court system directly, creating opportunities for advancing the hallmarks of probation - innovation, local responsiveness, and targeted community engagement. Probation officers, who are California peace officers pursuant to Penal Code Section 830.5, are primarily responsible for the enforcement of court orders.

THIS IS CALIFORNIA PROBATION

Who are Probation Officers?

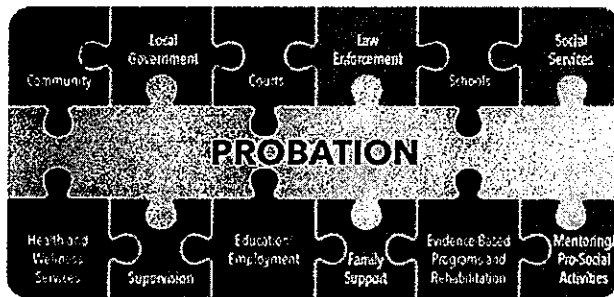
51% of probation officers are FEMALE



**Data reported from all 58 counties as of January 2021

- ✓ Majority with 4-year college degrees
- ✓ Many probation departments employ former system-involved individuals
- ✓ 350 hours of training in first two years; at least 40 hours annually thereafter. Additional training includes:
 - trauma informed care
 - cognitive behavioral therapy
 - therapeutic and strength based care
 - emotional intelligence

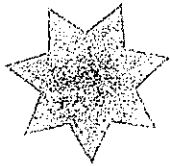
Probation is trained to safely connect system-involved individuals to the supports they need



Why Probation Works

- Probation is the alternative to incarceration
- Probation is made up of trained experts prepared to successfully manage trauma and other needs of the adults and youth we serve
- Probation connects service and need in order to enhance safety and restoration
- Probation delivers sustainable collaborative community safety

Probation provides a multifaceted, integrated safety model through accountability and opportunity to address the behavior of individuals through supervision, and linkages to programs and services. These services often include workforce development, substance use treatment, mental health services, family engagement, and education, among others. Probation's multi-dimensional approach to community safety includes:



Holding clients accountable through community supervision.



Preventing crime by changing criminal thinking.



Objectively assessing the law and facts for individuals coming before the Court.



Restoring victims and preventing future victimization.



Rehabilitating our clients with evidence-based strategies that change their behavior.

ADULT PROBATION SERVICES

Probation is a term of community supervision that a defendant can agree to serve in lieu of incarceration, if eligible. Conditions of supervision are set forth by the sentencing court. Probation utilizes an integrated services model in supervising individuals for compliance with court orders and providing rehabilitative services to individuals to address identified criminogenic needs. There are several jurisdictional types of supervision. With the exception of some specific misdemeanor cases such as domestic violence or DUI, most active probation supervision is related to felony offenses.

PRETRIAL

Probation departments are working in collaboration with courts to implement SB 129 (2021) through local pretrial programs to operationalize the *In re Humphrey* decision. Activities are focused on supporting individuals in the court process, including assistance with court reminders and requirements as well as providing referrals to programs and services. This monitoring takes place prior to adjudication.

FELONY PROBATION

As an adult criminal justice sanction, probation is an alternative to incarceration that holds people convicted of crimes accountable, coupled with intentional work aimed at successfully moving people out of the system by overseeing their rehabilitation using evidence-based strategies. Evidence-based practices are supported by scientific research to reduce recidivism.

MANDATORY SUPERVISION

As part of 2011 Public Safety Realignment, probation is responsible for providing community supervision services to individuals convicted of felonies under Penal Code 1170(h)(5) and ordered by the court to serve a portion of their local time, following a period of custody in county jail, under the supervision of the probation department. Referred to as split sentences, an order of mandatory supervision allows for targeted interventions upon release from custody to create linkages to programs and services to reduce re-offense.

POST-RELEASE COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

With 2011 Public Safety Realignment, probation is responsible for individuals released from state prison onto Post-Release Community Supervision (PRCS). These individuals, prior to 2011, would have been supervised by state parole. This is a post incarceration supervision, different from in lieu of incarceration. These populations often need high levels of service and intervention to address acute needs and risk factors.

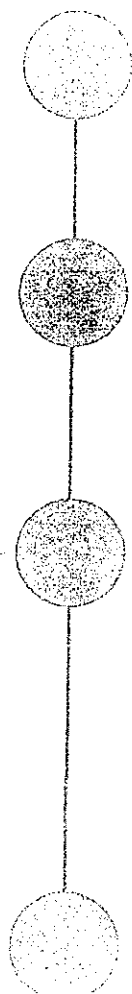
REENTRY

Reentry services are a critical component provided by probation departments to support an individual's release from custody for all of the populations described above. Housing, employment, and behavioral health/substance use resources are particularly critical to help an individual meet their rehabilitative goals which has a direct impact on community safety. Linkages between the detention entity (jails or prison) and the rehabilitation programming offered during incarceration must be coordinated to provide seamless re-entry that supports not only community safety but also successful and sustainable transition to life outside of the criminal justice system. Identifying, treating, and providing stabilization for justice-involved adults with mental health and substance use related issues is critical to helping individuals address factors that contribute to their rehabilitation.



JUVENILE PROBATION SERVICES

County probation departments are involved in all parts of the juvenile continuum and have responsibility in serving youth and families from diversion, to working with youth in the community, to secure settings, and foster care. We work closely as a connector with other community, county, and state entities to coordinate and integrate youth and family supports. Access to strong behavioral health, education, skills development, and child welfare programs yield the benefit of reducing referrals to the juvenile and criminal justice systems.



PREVENTION/DIVERSION

Probation develops, administers, and supports prevention and diversion programs when appropriate to address a youth's behavior. Probation departments provide a network of referrals as well as direct services to assist youth and their families. Further, of the 71,000 referrals to probation in 2018, over 67 percent were diverted.

SUPERVISING AND SERVING YOUTH IN THE COMMUNITY

Probation departments are engaging and supporting youth with 90 percent of youth served by probation while in the community. Courts and probation continue to focus on the least restrictive settings within the juvenile justice continuum to meet safety and rehabilitation needs. Additionally, probation practices reflect individualized and trauma-informed approaches to serving youth.

WORKING WITH YOUTH IN SECURE SETTINGS

Probation departments provide for the safety, security, and services for youth in which a judge has determined that a period of detention in a secure setting is necessary. Probation departments oversee and administer county juvenile halls, camps, and ranches as well as Secure Youth Treatment Facilities (SYTFs) established as part of SB 823 DJJ Realignment. Probation is responsible for the treatment and service needs of youth, providing them with skills and resources, while balancing safety considerations for both the youth and the community. Since 2007, juvenile detention usage is down 60 percent and reserved for youth who have committed very serious offenses but are not transferred to adult court as determined by a court.

FOSTER YOUTH

Through our work with foster youth, probation departments have been actively engaged in the implementation of the Continuum of Care Reform as well as the Family First Prevention Services Act. Whenever possible, probation seeks to maintain youth at risk of removal, in their family home when safe and appropriate, utilizing wraparound services and referrals to other programs as needed to avoid removal from the family home.

COURT SERVICES

REPORTS TO COURTS

Probation serves as a neutral party to the courts to provide the judge with the most current information pertaining to a juvenile petition or the filing of an adult criminal charge.

Probation prepares pre-sentence investigation reports ordered by the judge to assist the sentencing court in criminal justice proceedings. Probation departments also work closely with the courts to provide targeted interventions and develop case plans for youth.

COLLABORATIVE COURTS

Probation departments work with courts on collaborative court programs to address specific needs of justice-involved individuals. Examples of collaborative courts include drug courts, veterans' courts, gender responsive courts, and homeless courts among others.

PRETRIAL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Probation departments are also working throughout the state to support Courts in implementing pretrial programs following the passage of SB 129 and following the *In re Humphrey* decision to maximize the safe release of defendants and return to court for accused individuals.

SB 678

Probation departments work closely with the judiciary in carrying out the goals set forth in SB 678 (2009) to increase the use of evidence-based practices and enhance public safety while reducing returns to prison. SB 678 has enabled probation and courts to integrate these practices throughout the criminal justice system and focus on approaches informed by research and data.

MAJOR STATE REFORMS IMPLEMENTED BY PROBATION

SB 678

The Community Corrections Performance Incentives Act of 2009 – Senate Bill 678 – transformed California’s probation system by providing resources for probation departments to reduce caseloads and invest in evidence-based supervision and treatment interventions. The legislation aligned county and state incentives toward the shared goals of maintaining public safety, reducing the size of the incarcerated population, and reducing correctional costs. Since inception, SB 678 is estimated to have saved over \$1 billion and resulted in reductions in revocation to prison by more than 23 percent in the first year.

2011 REALIGNMENT (AB 109)

In 2011, in response to a significant US Supreme Court decision which could have led to arbitrary early release of tens of thousands of prison inmates among other factors, California enacted historic changes to the criminal justice system pursuant to CPOC-supported AB 109. As part of 2011 Realignment, county probation departments assumed responsibility for two new populations – Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) and Mandatory Supervision. Individuals on PRCS are eligible for local supervision if their most recent conviction was a non-violent, non-serious, and non-sex offense. It is important to note that while the PRCS population may not have a recent serious or violent offense, many are still assessed as high-risk to reoffend, could have a sex offense in their criminal history, and often have high needs and risk.

Additionally, there are individuals who, pursuant to AB 109, now serve their sentences in county jails, rather than state prison, and many will serve a portion of their local time under the supervision of the probation department on Mandatory Supervision.

PROPOSITION 57 (2016)

CPOC supported this policy specifically to improve implementing evidence-based rehabilitation programs in prisons and to incentivize people to participate in programs as well as to give the juvenile court judge the authority to determine when a juvenile case could be transferred to adult court. CPOC has remained consistent in the assertion that the focus should be on promoting an environment that fosters a demonstrated *readiness* for release, not simply the question of *when* a person is released from custody. It is paramount that implementation of Proposition 57 be done to fidelity. While CPOC supported the program framework, it is imperative that Proposition 57 be implemented in a way that ensures that state prison programs are evidence-based and that program *completion*, not just *participation* is required.

AB 1950: ADULT PROBATION TERMS

AB 1950 (2020) reduced the length of all felony probation terms to two years, and misdemeanor terms to one year, except for limited offenses specified in statute. Research shows working with individuals using evidence-based supervision, services and supports within the first two years of their probation term is the best way to change their behavior and reduce recidivism. To meet this desired outcome, it's imperative that the reduction to the length of terms be aligned with a comprehensive approach that enhances robust and sustainable programs and treatment during this time to address core criminogenic needs.

PRETRIAL

Probation departments are working throughout the State to support the courts in their constitutional duties and implementation of SB 129 (2021) as well as the *In re Humphrey* decision. Probation serves the court as a neutral party, accountable to the courts and the public, to provide judicial officers with information prior to arraignment or earlier. This assistance allows the court to maximize the safe release of defendants and provides a level of accountability for the accused to return to court. Probation's role as both a county department and as an arm of the court enables accountable, transparent, and efficient connection to the services a specific client needs to enhance safety.

SB 81: JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT OF 2007

Juvenile Justice Realignment in 2007 shifted the responsibility to counties for the care, treatment, and custody of all but the highest-need juveniles. Probation departments worked hard to divert youth from detention settings through a myriad of services and programs tailored for youth and/or their families and by partnering with community-based agencies. The result of successfully maximizing the diversion of youth from detention facilities means that the youth who are sent to facilities present with high and often complex needs and present a high risk to public safety and/or to themselves.

FOSTER YOUTH CONTINUUM OF CARE

CPOC has been implementing the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) pursuant to AB 403 (2015), which emphasizes the importance of utilizing home-based family care when youth are placed into foster care and reserves placement into Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs) in lieu of group homes. Further, it requires the creation of child and family teams in an effort to build lasting natural supports for the youth and family that will exist beyond the youth's involvement with the juvenile justice system.

DIVISION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE (DJJ) REALIGNMENT

SB 823 (2020) realigned the entirety of the juvenile justice system to counties. SB 92 (2021) established the Secure Youth Treatment Facilities (SYTF) track for youth and a DJJ closure date of June 30, 2023. Youth transferring back to counties upon DJJ's closure, as well as current youth who have been ordered by the court to an SYTF, present with the most complex needs and high-risk factors. Many require sex behavior treatment programs and serious behavioral health needs. The relative older age of the population presents specific needs both for programming while in a secure setting, but also in relation to their transitional reentry needs for housing, education, and employment.



CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS
OF CALIFORNIA

ATTACHMENTS:

California's Approach to Safety through Accountability and Opportunity:
An Overview by the Chief Probation Officers of California