



Chief Executive Office.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Fesia A. Davenport

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

February 7, 2023

To: Supervisor Janice Hahn, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell
Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Fesia A. Davenport 
Chief Executive Officer

WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE – SUMMARY OF 2022 COUNTY ADVOCACY EFFORTS

Executive Summary

On December 30, 2022, Congress recessed for the calendar year. In 2022, in consultation with the Board of Supervisors (Board) and in collaboration with County departments, the Chief Executive Office's Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations (LAIR) Branch advocated on over 35 federal legislative, budget, and administrative proposals aimed at protecting, supporting, and/or enhancing County operations, programs, and the well-being of constituents. The County's advocacy work in 2022 included coordination of key meetings between the Board, the Administration, and Congressional members. This report summarizes these strategic advocacy efforts and the Attachment highlights some of the County's major advocacy wins.

County Advocacy Highlights

In 2022, the County's successful advocacy efforts led to the enactment of major federal legislation and provisions that will result in significant federal resources and regulatory relief. This includes broader packages that address multiple County-supported provisions, as well as funding support for local governments, including enactment of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (H.R. 2471), which provided over \$260 million in County-requested projects of interest; Bipartisan



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Safer Communities Act (S. 2938), which provides \$400 million nationwide for critical mental health services, including for the 9-8-8 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline; the Water Resources Development Act (H.R. 7776), which contains language that increases the County's role and allows for more efficient operations and maintenance of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area flood control system; the West Los Angeles VA Campus Improvement Act (S. 102), which allows an estimated \$25 million in revenue to be used for the West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs Campus; and the Fiscal Year 2023 Omnibus Appropriations Bill (H.R. 2617), which provides over \$62 million in County-requested projects of interest and additional County-supported provisions, including reauthorization of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program, additional policy and funding support for the 9-8-8 hotline, funding and program flexibilities for various health, mental health, public health and social services programs, among others. The Attachment provides more details on the County's major advocacy accomplishments in 2022.

County-Advocacy Legislation

LAIR worked closely with Board offices and impacted departments to review legislative proposals and to identify provisions that had the potential to impact County operations and programs. A summary of Federal bills which the County actively advocated on and bills that the County closely monitored in 2022 can be found at: [County of Los Angeles Bills of Interest](#). Additional details on other bills of interest to the County can be found at: [County of Los Angeles Legislative Tracking System](#).

Other Legislative Efforts

Throughout the course of the Legislative Session, LAIR coordinated more than 900 meetings in support of the County's programs and funding priorities, including: over 750 advocacy meetings that the Washington, D.C. Advocates led and/or participated in to advance the County's legislative priorities; 27 meetings that members of the Board and Department Heads participated in with the Administration and members of Congress, to discuss the County's program and funding priorities; and monitored and/or attended over 135 Congressional hearings in support of the County's legislative priorities. LAIR staff also partnered with various organizations, including the National Association of Counties, and other advocacy organizations on legislative and budget proposals to support County service-related programs and resources.

The first year of the 118th Congress began on January 3, 2023. LAIR will continue to work with Board offices, County departments, and other key stakeholders to advance the County's priorities.

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Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me or Samara Ashley, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, at (213) 974-1464 or sashley@ceo.lacounty.gov.

FAD:JMN:SA
PC:sy

Attachment

c: All Department Heads



LOS ANGELES COUNTY ADVOCACY AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL

Successfully advocated in support of several, critical Federal legislative, budget, and administrative proposals, including the following major items of interest to the County:



Fiscal Year 2023 Omnibus Appropriations Bill (H.R. 2617) – Over \$62.8 million in County-requested earmarks and projects of interest, including:



- \$26.1 for Los Angeles County Drainage Area (LACDA) Operations & Maintenance;
- \$6.9 million for Marina del Rey Maintenance Dredging;
- \$2.5 million for South Whittier Community Bike Lanes; and
- \$2 million for Los Angeles Training Center Reentry Program (Camp Gonzalez).

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (H.R. 2471) – Over \$250 million in County-requested earmarks and projects of interest, including:



- \$220 million for Whittier Narrows Dam Safety Modifications;
- \$20 million for LACDA Operations & Maintenance; and
- \$1.5 million for the establishment of a Mental Health Hub on the Olive View-UCLA Medical Center Campus, to serve children and youth in or at-risk of entering the foster care system.

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Approval of Loan Guarantee for Vermont-Manchester Redevelopment – \$10.3 million in HUD Section 108 Loan Guarantee to finance the development of the new 64,000 square foot Vermont Manchester Transit Priority Project, which will help transform the underutilized South Los Angeles site into a mixed-use development providing affordable housing and commercial space for the local community.



The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (S. 2938) – \$150 million to support implementation of the 9-8-8 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline that provides 24/7, free and confidential support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress; and \$250 million over four years for the Community Mental Health Block Grant that provides states, D.C., and territories flexible funding for comprehensive community mental health services.



Water Resources Development Act of 2022 (H.R. 7776) – Deauthorizes 31 debris basins operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers within the LACDA system and transfers the administration to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. Also authorizes environmental infrastructure funding for the Dominguez Channel.



West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs Campus Improvement Act (S. 102) – Allows revenues from an easement needed by Los Angeles County Metro along the Purple Line to be used at the Department of Veterans Affairs West LA Campus to fund housing and support services, providing an estimated \$25 million.



Mental Health and Well-Being (H.R. 7666) – Authorizes funding for more than 30 critical programs that support mental health and substance use disorder prevention, care, treatment, peer support, and recovery support services. Amends harmful Medicaid exclusion policies and provides additional support for the newly-established 9-8-8 Suicide Prevention Lifeline.



Maternal and Child Home Visiting (H.R. 8876) - Reauthorizes the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program and provides a \$100 million increase in base funding starting in fiscal year 2023.



COVID-19 Funding (S. 5323) - Allows states and local governments to use coronavirus relief funds provided under the American Rescue Plan Act for infrastructure projects.

