

# Los Angeles County Legislative Update

#### March 3, 2023

#### Greetings,

Below is an update on State and Federal legislative items of interest to the County of Los Angeles.



### COUNTY ADVOCACY ACTIONS

On February 28, 2023, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions:

 <u>TERMINATING THE PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY AND THE DECLARATION OF</u> <u>LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR COVID-19</u>

The Board voted to terminate both the proclamation of local emergency and the declaration of local health emergency for COVID-19, effective March 31, 2023. More information on this motion can be found <u>here.</u>

## <u>PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES SURROUNDING THE FORMER</u> <u>EXIDE FACILITY BY MONITORING RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY CLEANUP EFFORTS</u>

Send a five-signature letter to Meredith Williams, Director of the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), with copies to Senator Maria Elena Durazo, Senator Lena A. Gonzalez, Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, Assembly Member Blanca Pacheco and Assembly Member Miguel Santiago, who have districts in the identified impacted communities, asking that the Director ensure all residential cleanup has met DTSC's standard, and identify funding for the cleanup of parkways and other zones where lead buildup can be identified. More information on this motion can be found <u>here.</u>

#### • HONORING THE LEGACY OF P-22

Send a five-signature letter to the United States Postal Service (USPS) Postmaster General Louis DeJoy, with a copy to the USPS Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, in support of Representatives Adam Schiff, Ted Lieu and Julia Brownley's request to have P-22 honored with a postage stamp. Additionally, advocate in support of State and Federal funding for wildlife crossings; and in support of a State ban on first-generation anticoagulant rodenticides. More information on this motion can be found <u>here</u>.

#### ADVOCATING FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT FLEXIBILITY

Send a five-signature letter to Governor Gavin Newsom to support and advocate for Mental Health Services Act flexibility. More information on this motion can be found <u>here.</u>

#### • TRACKING ILLEGAL GUNS IN THE COUNTY

Advocate in support of State funding to help County courts and law enforcement implement firearm relinquishment at the time of a prohibiting conviction, and upon service of a prohibiting restraining order. More information on this motion can be found <u>here</u>.

#### IMPROVING HOUSING AFFORDABILITY AND REDUCING HOMELESSNESS FOR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE

Support and advocate for the advancement of <u>Assembly Bill (AB) 525 (Ting)</u>, and its companion \$16,500,000 General Fund State budget request. AB 525 would improve housing affordability and decrease homelessness among youth in foster care who are placed in Supervised Independent Living Placements. More information on this motion can be found <u>here</u>.

#### ENSHRINE MARRIAGE EQUALITY IN THE CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Send a five-signature letter to Assemblymember Evan Low and Senator Scott Wiener in support of <u>Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA) 5 (Low)</u>, with a copy to the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation. Additionally, should ACA 5 be enacted, support the related future ballot measure to rescind Proposition 8 from the California Constitution and enshrine the right to same-sex marriage in the California Constitution in its place. More information on this motion can be found <u>here</u>.

## <u>SUPPORT AB 963 (SCHIAVO): THE END THE FOSTER CARE-TO-HOMELESSNESS PIPELINE</u> <u>ACT</u>

Send a five-signature letter to Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo in support of <u>AB 963 (Schiavo)</u>, legislation which seeks to increase affordable housing options for former foster youth, and take the appropriate legislative advocacy actions to advance this measure. More information on this motion can be found <u>here</u>.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF KEY DEPARTMENT HEADS**

Additionally, the Board of Supervisors approved the following appointments:

- County Counsel: Dawyn R. Harrison
- County Forester & Fire Warden: Chief Anthony C. Marrone
- Director of Mental Health: Dr. Lisa H. Wong
- Director of Public Social Services: Dr. Jackie Contreras

Los Angeles County Legislative Update March 3, 2023

#### STATE UPDATE

In addition to the items listed above, the County is advocating on the following proposals:

<u>SUPPORT SENATE BILL (SB) 706 (CABALLERO) - PUBLIC CONTRACTS: PROGRESSIVE DESIGN-BUILD: LOCAL AGENCIES</u>

SB 706 would authorize all cities, counties, city and counties, or special districts to use the progressive design-build procurement process for construction of projects.

• <u>SUPPORT AB 400 (B. RUBIO) - LOCAL AGENCY DESIGN-BUILD PROJECTS: AUTHORIZATION</u> AB 400 would remove the January 1, 2025, repeal date for the current design-build procurement process, thereby making these provisions operative indefinitely.

More details regarding the County's position on SB 706 and AB 400 can be found <u>here</u>.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES (DHS) 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

During a recent virtual town hall, DHS Director, Dr. Christina Ghaly, released the Department's Annual Report.

Last year, DHS provided hundreds of thousands of primary care, specialty care and urgent care visits to patients via their four hospitals and 23 health centers. They also garnered dozens of awards and recognitions for the care and services delivered.

The full report can be viewed here.



Health Services





The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority <u>emergency shelters</u> offer temporary shelters across the County to protect people experiencing homelessness during colder months. These beds are available through March 2023. Persons seeking shelter services to stay in a warm place can visit <u>www.lahsa.org/winter-shelter</u>, dial 2-1-1 or call the Winter Shelter Hotline at 1(800) 548-6047. Transport services are available for those in need.

### FREE TAX PREPARATION SERVICES AND RESOURCES



In previous years, nearly one million Los Angeles County residents received an Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) refund. It is estimated that almost 330,750 did not apply for the EITC -- leaving almost \$580 million on the table.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY CENTER FOR FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT

The Center for Financial Empowerment encourages you to take advantage of free tax preparation services available at <u>many locations</u> and as part of special <u>Free Tax Day</u> events throughout Los Angeles County.

<u>Free Tax Prep LA</u> offers free, reliable, accessible tax preparation services to all LA County residents — regardless of immigration status — and education on tax credits, like the EITC.





### **COVID-19 UPDATES**

Those At-Home COVID-19 Tests You've Had for Months? They're Likely Still Good Despite What Their Expiration Dates Say

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) and California DPH endorse the emergency use of COVID-19 home antigen tests beyond their expiration date until further notice. Additional information can be found <u>here</u>.

## HOMEBOUND VACCINATIONS

Public Health







LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS 500 West Temple Street, Room 723 Los Angeles, California 90012

slativeaffairs@ceo.lacounty.gov



https://ceo.lacounty.gov/legislative-affairs-and-intergovernmental-relations/