



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

LEGISLATIVE, FINANCE, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

R-20-14
January 28, 2020

AGENDA ITEM 3

AGENDA ITEM

Draft 2020 Legislative Program

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS *den*

1. Review and provide input on the draft 2020 Legislative Program, outlining proposed 2020 legislative priorities and policies for Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District.
2. Forward a recommendation to the Board of Directors for approval with any additional changes to the Legislative Program requested by the committee.
3. Review and provide direction on the scope and nature of policy work as it applies to local and regional issues and initiatives.
4. Receive a summary of the 2019 legislative tracking matrix and summary statistics of priority legislation.

SUMMARY

Each year, staff reviews numerous legislative proposals at the local, state, and federal levels to identify opportunities that further the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District's (District) mission, strategic and action plan priorities, and key projects. Though most bills are considered on a case-by-case basis, the annual Board-approved Legislative Program provides a publicly accessible, transparent, and proactive summary of issues to guide legislative activities for each coming session. The Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee (LFPAC) will receive an overview of the Draft 2020 Legislative Program (Attachment 1) and have an opportunity to comment on the legislative policy proposals. As part of this review, LFPAC will also consider and provide feedback on the level of District participation in policy discussions and initiatives that indirectly affect its mission. Staff will incorporate LFPAC comments into the draft documents before presenting the final Legislative Program for full Board consideration in February/March.

In addition, per the request of Board members at the October 23, 2019 legislative update, this item includes an updated legislative tracking matrix (Attachment 2) with the 2019 legislative session results of priority bills. Of the 31 bills supported by the District, 13 were approved by the Governor, eight bills failed or were vetoed, and 10 are now two-year bills that have until January 24, 2020 to clear their respective policy committees.

DISCUSSION

Annual Legislative Program

The Legislative Program serves as the touchstone for all legislative activities during the session, articulating the priorities of the Board of Directors and focusing staff, consistent with Board Policy 1.11 (Attachment 3). It also provides an opportunity for District staff to think about its work in policy terms, beyond strictly project execution, which promotes interdepartmental coordination and a culture of continuous improvement.

Legislative Program Structure

The Draft 2020 Legislative Program is broken into several sections:

- **Legislative Priorities** – These are the District’s top state and local legislative priorities, grouped by key strategic areas. These priorities are consistent with the Board’s Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives, reinforcing organizational alignment with Board priorities. (<https://www.openspace.org/about-us/strategic-plan>). Annual priority setting is informed by Board-approved projects or initiatives, opportunities to support or oppose state legislative initiatives sponsored by others that affect the District’s mission, and other issues identified by the Board as particularly significant. Bond measures and actions to allocate existing funding sources or create new ones are the most common of these priorities.
- **Legislative Policy Positions** – The District’s ability to deliver on its mission and remain a sustainable organization can be impacted by legislation proposed at the local, state or federal level. To effectively respond to legislative developments, proactive, Board-approved policy positions that respond to a variety of issues can help crystalize thinking among Board members and staff, and ensure consistent and timely advocacy. These policy positions are first organized by the Board’s Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives and then grouped into key themes.
- **Regional and Federal Legislative Priorities** – These are the top regional and federal legislative priorities for the District. Participation in these items are considered on a case-by-case basis and subject to staff capacity.

Policy Priorities

The proposed policy positions and priorities in the 2020 draft Legislative Program incorporates recent input from District departments. The proposed legislative priorities are also grouped according to the Board’s Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives to reinforce organizational alignment with Board priorities. Below are the proposed policy priorities:

State-Level Priorities:

Goal 1: Promote, establish, and implement a common environmental protection vision with partners

1. **Wildlife Corridors:** The District supports efforts to bring greater funding opportunities and permit streamlining to preserve and enhance wildlife corridors.
2. **Anticoagulant Rodenticides:** The District supports efforts to eliminate the use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides to protect raptors, large mammals and other nontarget native wildlife.

Goal 2: Protect the positive environmental values of open space lands

1. **Responsible Wildland Fire Vegetation Management:** The District supports adoption of effective guidelines for wildland fire fuel reduction efforts that minimize potential impacts to rare and endangered species and the risk of exacerbating the spread of invasive species.

Goal 3: Connect people to open space and a regional environmental protection vision

1. **Equitable Access:** The District supports expanded access to and enhanced funding eligibility for new and improved greenspace opportunities for underserved communities.
2. **Trail Corridors:** The District supports policy that helps link preserve trails to regional trails and ultimately to the places where people live and work.

Goal 4: Strengthen organizational capacity and long-term financial sustainability to fulfill the mission

1. **Climate Change Bond:** The District supports climate change funding that benefits a wide range of open space priorities and promotes landscape climate resilience, particularly in the Bay Area.
2. **Proposition 68 Implementation:** The District supports efforts to ensure that parks bond funds are allocated in a timely, equitable, and responsible manner, and that the resulting grant programs support District open space and public access projects.
3. **Cap and Trade/Climate-Related Funding:** The District supports efforts that emphasize climate resiliency benefits of open space and working lands, including carbon sequestration, and subsequent allocations of cap and trade funding.
4. **Green Bonds:** The District supports efforts to allow the California Natural Resources Agency to work with the State Treasurer's Office to develop standards green bond projects, in which California can invest.
5. **Public Safety Power Shutoffs:** The District support efforts by the state to ease the burden of PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoffs on local agency operations.

Regional-Level Priorities:

1. **Plan Bay Area 2050:** Ratification of the final preferred scenario of the Plan Bay Area 2050 that curbs urban boundary expansion, more tightly integrates open space preservation and stewardship, and funds District priorities in adopted Priority Conservation Areas (PCA).
2. **San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Measure AA Implementation:** Development of grant program guidelines for SFBRA's Measure AA funds that enable implementation of District priority projects.
3. **Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Measure B Implementation:** Development of advance mitigation allocation guidelines for VTA's recently passed Measure B funds that enable implementation of District priority projects.
4. **San Mateo County Transit District Measure W Implementation:** Development of allocation guidelines that enable regional bicycle/pedestrian network connectivity with District projects and regional trail plans.
5. **Regional Collaboration:** Efforts to enhance and fund regional collaboration and coordination of conservation plans.

Federal-Level Priorities:

1. **Land and Water Conservation Fund:** Advocating for fully funding the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund.

2. **Infrastructure Investment:** Promoting the inclusion of active transportation and parks-related projects in federal funding allocations for infrastructure.
3. **National Monument Preservation:** Supporting policies that protect and designate national monuments within our region that are important to fulfilling the District's mission.
4. **Wildlife Corridors:** Supporting policies that enhance habitat connectivity on nonfederal lands through wildlife crossings and other habitat connectivity projects.

Policy and Planning Scoping

Across the state and in the Bay Area is a web of entities and efforts that affect land use, land stewardship and issues that impact the quality of life for its residents. The District is part of this tapestry and increasingly recognizes that it plays an interconnected role with other conservation and land use stakeholders to ensure the Bay Area's greenbelt is protected and thrives.

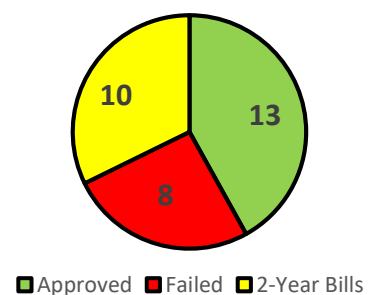
As part of the 2020 Legislative Program discussions, the General Manager seeks LFPAC input on District participation in statewide and regional policy processes that have a more indirect bearing on the District's immediate interests. Examples include initiatives like FASTER Bay Area - the proposed \$100 billion regional transportation tax measure for the November 2020 ballot, and other initiatives that promote the use of urban infill to reduce greenhouse gas generation and protect open space. These issues largely affect the built environment in the Bay Area but may have secondary impacts in how land proximate to open space is zoned and developed.

Legislative Tracking and Statistics:

At the request of the Board during the October 23, 2019 Legislative Update, the District's Legislative Tracking Matrix was enhanced for readability and to include summary statistics regarding the bills for which the District took a position. In the Legislative Tracking Matrix, bills are labeled as "approved" if they were signed into law by the Governor, "failed" if they were vetoed by the Governor or did not make it to his desk, or "two-year" if the bill author opted to delay consideration of the bill by the legislature for its continuance in 2020.

Reviewing the end-of-session results shows that of the 31 bills supported by the District, 13 were approved by the Governor, eight bills failed or were vetoed by the governor, and 10 are now two-year bills that have until January 24 to clear their respective policy committees. Of four priority one bills supported by the District, two failed and two are now two-year bills. The sole priority one bill opposed by the District, AB 1190 (Irwin): Drones, is now a two-year bill. Based on preliminary discussions with the bill author, the District may eventually change its position to "neutral" or "support," pending requested changes to exempt agencies overseen by Public Resources Code 5500.

31 Bills Supported



FISCAL IMPACT

None. Staff will provide the fiscal impact summary of individual legislative priorities and initiatives as they evolve and arise based on the 2020 Legislative Program in upcoming Legislative Update Reports that are presented to LFPAC and the Board.

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

This item was not previously reviewed by a Board Committee.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act. No additional notice is required.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

This item is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act.

NEXT STEPS

Following LFPAC consideration and input, the General Manager will forward LFPAC's recommendation for consideration and approval of the 2020 Legislative Program to the full Board of Directors in February.

Attachments:

1. Midpen Draft Legislative Session Program – 2020
2. Midpen Legislative Summary Tracking Matrix
3. Board Policy 1.11: Positions on Ballot Measures and Legislative Advocacy

Responsible Department Head:

Korrine Skinner, Public Affairs Manager

Prepared by:

Joshua Hugg, Governmental Affairs Specialist

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Legislative Program 2020

Adopted XXXX

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Introduction

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District's Mission:

To acquire and preserve a regional greenbelt of open space land in perpetuity, protect and restore the natural environment, and provide opportunities for ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education.

As part of the Coastsides Protection Area Service Plan, a Coastsides mission was adopted:

To acquire and preserve in perpetuity open space land and agricultural land of regional significance, protect and restore the natural environment, preserve rural character, encourage viable agricultural use of land resources, and provide opportunities for ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education.

To further these missions, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) annually reviews opportunities and challenges and establishes legislative program priorities and policy statements to guide its advocacy activities at the regional, state and federal levels.

Advocacy of the District's Interests

While this document attempts to cover a wide variety of legislative issues that may impact the District, it is not comprehensive, complete or final. Throughout the state and federal legislative sessions, the District will review and take positions on various proposed policies and state or federal budget items.

Per Section 2.0 of Board Policy 1.11, legislative advocacy is considered in the following manner:

Section 2.0: Local, State, and Federal Legislative Advocacy

- a. The Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee (LFPAC) receives periodic updates throughout the year regarding the District's legislative program. When LFPAC determines that proposed legislation may affect District business, it may direct the General Manager to prepare a recommendation for consideration by the full Board or may direct the General Manager to take action to support or oppose the legislation without full Board approval when there is not adequate time to convene the full Board. In such cases, the General Manager or designee shall report to the Board any actions taken to support or oppose legislation at or before the next Board meeting.
- b. When time is so short that neither the full Board nor LFPAC can be convened to consider positions to support or oppose local, state or federal legislation, the General Manager is authorized to take a position on behalf of the District if the legislation:
 - i. Is related to the District's mission; AND
 - ii. Would directly impact the District's business, such as project delivery, operations, finances, legal authority, or other District responsibilities; AND
 - iii. The position being taken is consistent/inconsistent with existing District policy, past action, or the District's annual [Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives](#); OR

- iv. The legislation carries other considerations that make it contrary to the District's interests.
- In such instances, the General Manager or designee shall report to the Board any actions taken to support or oppose the legislation at or before the next Board meeting.
- c. Full Board action is required regarding legislation that is not clearly within the criteria listed above under Section 2.b. or guided by direction previously given by LFPAC.

All legislation on which the District takes a position will be closely tracked by the General Manager's Office (GMO) and reported to the Board of Directors. Public Affairs staff will be responsible for reporting similar information to key departments. Contracted state advocacy teams will represent District interests based upon the policies contained in the Legislative Session Program. In addition to District position letters, Board members and District staff may be asked to testify before or meet with relevant legislators or members of the executive branch to discuss issues requiring heightened advocacy. If this is the case, District staff must first notify and/or confirm approval of the GMO to ensure that positions taken are consistent with the Board-approved Legislative Session Program.

District Legislative Priorities

The following are the legislative priorities for the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District during the 2020 State Legislative Session. Annual priority-setting considers a combination of issues that relate directly to important District-led projects or initiatives, opportunities to support or oppose state legislative initiatives sponsored by others that affect the District's mission, and any issues that are identified by the Board as particularly significant. Funding measures are the most common of these priorities and are generally tied to the creation of new funding sources or the processes that prescribe the allocation of existing funding sources. The 2020 legislative priorities are listed and grouped below consistent with the Board's annual Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives (See Appendix A) to provide a clear connection to agency priorities:

Goal 1: Promote, establish, and implement a common environmental protection vision with partners

1. **Wildlife Corridors:** The District supports efforts to bring greater funding opportunities and permit streamlining to preserve and enhance wildlife corridors.
2. **Anticoagulant Rodenticides:** The District supports efforts to eliminate the use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides to protect raptors, large mammals and other nontarget native wildlife.

Goal 2: Protect the positive environmental values of open space lands

1. **Responsible Wildland Fire Vegetation Management:** The District supports adoption of effective guidelines for wildland fire fuel reduction efforts that minimize potential impacts to rare and endangered species and the risk of exacerbating the spread of invasive species.

Goal 3: Connect people to open space and a regional environmental protection vision

1. **Equitable Access:** The District supports expanded access to and enhanced funding eligibility for new and improved greenspace opportunities for underserved communities.
2. **Trail Corridors:** The District supports policy that helps link preserve trails to regional trails and ultimately to the places where people live and work.

Goal 4: Strengthen organizational capacity and long-term financial sustainability to fulfill the mission

1. **Climate Change Bond:** The District supports climate change funding that benefits a wide range of open space priorities and promotes landscape climate resilience, particularly in the Bay Area.
2. **Proposition 68 Implementation:** The District supports efforts to ensure that parks bond

funds are allocated in a timely, equitable, and responsible manner, and that the resulting grant programs support District open space and public access projects.

3. **Cap and Trade/Climate-Related Funding:** The District supports efforts that emphasize climate resiliency benefits of open space and working lands, including carbon sequestration and subsequent allocations of cap and trade funding.
4. **Green Bonds:** The District supports efforts to allow the California Natural Resources Agency to work with the State Treasurer's Office to develop standards for green bond projects, in which California can invest.
5. **Public Safety Power Shutoffs:** The District supports efforts by the state to ease the burden of PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoffs on local agency operations.

District Legislative Policy Positions

The ability of the District to deliver its mission and remain a sustainable organization can be impacted by legislation proposed on the local, state or federal level. To this end, proactive, Board-approved policy positions taken by the District on a variety of relevant issue areas help to ensure consistency in advocacy. District policy positions are then grouped by strategic plan goals.

Goal 1: Promote, establish, and implement a common environmental protection vision with partners

1. Enhances the purchase or acquisition of regional and strategic open space lands and connects District lands to federal, state, county, city and other protected open space, parklands, bay lands, watershed lands, wildlife corridors and agricultural lands.
2. Protects public open space, property rights, interests and easements.
3. Enhances and funds regional collaboration and coordination of conservation efforts.
4. Promotes the use of urban infill to avoid sprawl and prevent pressure on developing open spaces and further encroachment into the wildland-urban interface.
5. Expands and restores protected open space lands to enhance biodiversity, climate change resilience, and scenic, rural character.
6. Ensures that the zoning of permanently protected lands supports activities that further the District's mission (preservation, natural resource protection, public access and education, agriculture).
7. Ensures that urban growth boundaries do not expand into green spaces and open space buffer areas.
8. Enhances the District's ability to create and pursue opportunities to acquire an integrated greenbelt of protected open space, trails and habitat corridors.
9. Protects natural and working lands from future development threats.

Goal 2: Protect the positive environmental values of open space lands

1. Ensures reasonable setback requirements that allow minimum defensible space clearances to be met by private property owners to prevent catastrophic fires that damage habitats and pose a high public safety hazard.
2. Furthers implementation of Senate Bill 32 (2016), the Global Warming Solutions Act that establishes a greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target for the state of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030.
3. Recognizes and incentivizes the use of natural and working lands for the purpose of carbon sequestration.
4. Supports effective and comprehensive Districtwide, regional and statewide measures that respond to sea level rise and other effects of climate change and enhance ecological and community resilience.
5. Enhances or streamlines the identification, creation, and maintenance of wildlife corridors both within District lands and adjacent entities, which may extend to statewide and international linkages.
6. Promotes advance mitigation programs and wildlife corridor networks.
7. Connects habitats that support a diverse array of native plants and animals.
8. Encourages public road management agencies to control invasive plant populations and incorporate safe pedestrian and wildlife crossings across roadways and highways.
9. Emphasizes the use and expands funding for integrated pest management practices that align with the District's program.
10. Eliminates the use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides.
11. Supports increased knowledge, management and ultimately the eradication of Sudden Oak Death disease.
12. Provides permit exemptions for natural resources protection and restoration projects from regulations aimed to protect the natural environment from typical development projects.
13. Supports maintaining state and federal lists of endangered species justified through conclusive biological evidence.
14. Helps efforts to protect, conserve, restore and enhance the natural resources of the District, its coast, and adjacent waters for environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations.
15. Enables Native American communities' involvement in cultural and land management practices to restore and protect natural resources and enhance landscape resilience.
16. Enhances management of water quality for all priority watersheds.
17. Protects local and regional watershed holdings and protects water quality.
18. Protects and restores natural water courses, wetlands and hydrologic processes consistent with the District's Resource Management Plan.

19. Promotes expedited removal of select trees and brush by public agencies for fire protection and public safety in order to prevent catastrophic fires that damage habitats and pose a high public safety hazard.
20. Supports wildland fire management to become a more natural component of the ecosystem and minimize negative effects on the community and environment.
21. Seeks wildland fire management practices that promote climate resiliency.
22. Promotes effective guidelines for wildland fuel reduction efforts that minimize potential impacts to rare and endangered species and the risk of exacerbating the spread of invasive species.
23. Supports working farms and ranches on public open space land that further conservation and climate resilience goals.
24. Supports the creation of and repairs to farm labor housing to foster farm operation sustainability that ultimately furthers conservation and climate resilience goals.
25. Incentivizes agricultural operations to invest in energy-efficient and water-efficient irrigation technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and water use.
26. Aids enforcement of marijuana laws related to the implementation of Prop 64 (2016) to protect natural lands from the destruction caused by illegal marijuana grows.
27. Protects natural lands from the destruction caused by illegal marijuana grows, prohibits marijuana grows on public lands, and restores damaged habitats.

Goal 3: Connect people to open space and a regional environmental protection vision

1. Helps expand educational opportunities for underserved and non-English speaking communities about natural resources and the benefits of open space.
2. Promotes volunteer involvement and engagement of diverse communities in ongoing conservation, restoration, enhancement and interpretation of the District's natural resources.
3. Engages children and parents in the enjoyment and appreciation of outdoor open spaces to inspire the next generation of conservation champions.
4. Funds and enables programs that hire youth to work in parks and open space and encourages them to consider careers in conservation.
5. Funds partnership approaches to environmental education and public outreach efforts at local and state levels.
6. Provides funding to implement improvements that meet the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) and other accessibility standards in District preserves.
7. Keeps preserves safe, clean, accessible and inviting for healthy exercise and enjoyment.
8. Promotes awareness and access to programs and activities that increase outdoor physical activity.

9. Protects and helps fund the protection and public interpretation of cultural and historic resources located on natural open space and working lands.
10. Helps fund and streamline emergency repairs to District infrastructure, including trails and public access amenities.
11. Increases public access to preserved land regionwide.
12. Helps link preserve trails to other regional trails and ultimately to the places where people live and work.
13. Improves local transportation to enable better connectivity between communities and open space preserves.
14. Limits public use of drones (unmanned aerial vehicles) consistent with Board policies to preserve the tranquility of outdoor experiences, natural activities, and minimize risk of wildfire.

Goal 4: Strengthen organizational capacity and long-term financial sustainability to fulfill the mission

General

1. Preserves existing tax revenues and tax authority.
2. Lowers the vote threshold for locally imposed special taxes from two-thirds to 55 percent.
3. Maximizes funding flexibility for use within the designated programs.
4. Preserves tax-exempt status for municipal bonds on a state and federal level.
5. Expands state and federal incentives that promote the issuance of green bonds.
6. Enhances funding availability to support District operations and infrastructure
7. Preserves and promotes managerial discretion in effective and productive recruiting, hiring, firing and day-to-day oversight of staff at all levels.
8. Preserves and promotes open, transparent, accountable government administrative practices that promote the efficient and timely delivery of public services, facilitate public involvement, and support effective and timely decision-making.
9. Maintains prevailing wage exemptions for volunteers.
10. Enables statewide efforts to increase broadband connectivity to public agency infrastructure in remote areas.
11. Preserves and promotes cost-effective, fair, and efficient contracting practices that give taxpayers the best value for their dollar.
12. Enables streamlining of contracting and bidding processes and attracts greater contractor and vendor competition.
13. Enhances funding to achieve mission-related goals.
14. Funds the protection of prime and sustainable agricultural lands, including investments in agricultural-support infrastructure.
15. Provides funding to local partners to receive technical support for agriculture and natural resources enhancement.

16. Promotes closer collaboration and coordination between regulatory agencies to enhance permit processing efficiency and reduces overall project costs.
17. Improves and streamlines permitting, CEQA review and compliance processes for routine maintenance, habitat restoration, and public access projects.
18. Provides open space districts the authority to utilize a variety of contracting methods to construct projects, including design-build methodologies.
19. Promotes implementation of and education about sustainable design and construction, including but not limited to LEED buildings, stormwater treatment and runoff reduction, local (within 150-mile radius of project) contractor/consultant hiring, construction material reuse/recycling, and use of green/energy efficient materials and equipment.

2020 Regional/Local Priorities

Though there is a growing recognition of the importance of regional planning and coordination, local land use authority dominates California planning processes in both the built and natural environments.

In 2020, the District supports:

Plan Bay Area 2050

Ratification of the final preferred scenario of the Plan Bay Area 2050 that curbs urban boundary expansion, more tightly integrates open space preservation and stewardship, and funds District priorities in adopted Priority Conservation Areas (PCA).

San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Measure AA Implementation

Development of grant program guidelines for SFBRA's Measure AA funds that enable implementation of District priority projects.

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Measure B Implementation

Development of advance mitigation allocation guidelines for VTA's recently passed Measure B funds that enable implementation of District priority projects.

San Mateo County Transit District Measure W Implementation

Development of allocation guidelines that enable regional bicycle/pedestrian network connectivity with District projects and regional trail plans.

Regional Collaboration

Efforts to enhance and fund regional collaboration and coordination of conservation plans.

2020 Federal Legislative Priorities

Given the outcomes of the 2016 federal elections, active advocacy at the federal level may be most effectively directed toward protecting existing environmental priorities and regulations.

In 2020, the District will focus on the following:

Land and Water Conservation Fund

Advocating for fully funding the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Infrastructure Investment

Promoting the inclusion of active transportation and parks-related projects in federal funding allocations for infrastructure.

National Monument Preservation

Supporting policies that protect and designate national monuments within our region that are important to fulfilling the District's mission.

Wildlife Corridors

Supporting policies that enhance habitat connectivity on nonfederal lands through wildlife crossings and other habitat connectivity projects.

Appendix A:

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space Strategic Plan for FY2020-21

Online at: https://www.openspace.org/sites/default/files/StrategicPlan_2021.pdf

Goal 1 – Promote, establish, and implement a regional environmental protection vision with partners

- Objective 1 – Continue implementation of the District’s Vision Plan and communicate progress on projects through reporting results and building partner relationships
- Objective 2 – Build and strengthen diverse partnerships to implement a collaborative and science-based approach to regional environmental protection
- Objective 3 – Build and strengthen relationships with legislators to advocate environmental protection goals
- Objective 4 – Preserve open space lands of local and regional significance

Goal 2 – Protect the positive environmental values of open space lands

- Objective 1 – Take a regional leadership role in promoting the benefits of open space
- Objective 2 – Protect and restore the natural environment in a manner that expands regional resiliency and climate change adaptation to preserve healthy natural systems
- Objective 3 – Work with fire agencies and surrounding communities to strengthen the prevention of, preparation for and response to wildland fires for enhanced ecosystem resiliency and public safety
- Objective 4 – Support the viability of sustainable agriculture and character of rural communities

Goal 3 – Connect people to open space and a regional environmental protection vision

- Objective 1 – Communicate the benefits of a regional environmental protection vision
- Objective 2 – Refine and implement a comprehensive public engagement strategy, including the outreach to diverse communities and enhanced public education programs
- Objective 3 – Expand opportunities to connect people to their public open space preserves consistent with an environmental protection vision
- Objective 4 – Reflect the diverse communities we serve in the District’s, staff, volunteers, and partners

Goal 4 – Strengthen organizational capacity and long-term financial sustainability to fulfill the mission

- Objective 1 – Provide the necessary resources, tools, training, and infrastructure, including technology upgrades and capacity building

- Objective 2 – Continuously evaluate and improve processes and business model to effectively and efficiently deliver Vision Plan projects and the District’s ongoing functions
- Objective 3 - Build state of readiness for potential disruptions by completing a risk assessment and creating a business continuity plan
- Objective 4 – Continue to engage constituents for bond sales and via the work of the Bond Oversight Committee – “Promises made, promises kept.”
- Objective 5 – Remain financially sustainable by pursuing and ensuring discretionary funding opportunities and partnerships to augment operating, capital, and bond funding sources, and ensure that large capital expenses and land acquisitions, including associated public access and land management costs, are evaluated within the long-term financial model and remain financially sustainable
- Objective 6 – Continue to recruit, develop and retain talented staff to implement the District's mission and strengthen our organizational capacity



Measure	Author	Category	Topic	Status	Brief Summary	Position	Priority
AB 293	Garcia, Eduardo D	Climate	Greenhouse gases: offset protocols.	Approved	Current law, until January 1, 2031, establishes the Compliance Offsets Protocol Task Force to provide guidance to the state board in approving new offset protocols for a market-based compliance mechanism for the purposes of increasing offset projects with direct environmental benefits in the state while prioritizing disadvantaged communities, Native American or tribal lands, and rural and agricultural regions. This bill would require the task force to consider the development of additional offset protocols, including, but not limited to, protocols for the enhanced management or conservation of agricultural and natural lands, and for the enhancement and restoration of wetlands.	Support	2
AB 409	Limón D	Climate	Climate change: agriculture: Agricultural Climate Adaptation Tools Program: grants.	2-Year Bill	Would require the Strategic Growth Council to provide guidance in the development of, and to coordinate the activities of member agencies of the council for, a grant program, known as the Agricultural Climate Adaptation Tools Program, as specified, to provide funding for activities that include development of specified planning tools, to be available in the public domain, for adapting to climate change and developing resiliency strategies in the agricultural sector, using the best available science, as specified. The bill would require the Department of Food and Agriculture to administer the program for the disbursement of grants.	Watch	2
AB 65	Petrie-Norris D	Climate	Coastal protection: climate adaption: project prioritization: natural infrastructure: local general plans.	Approved	Would require specified things of the State Coastal Conservancy when it allocates any funding appropriated pursuant to the The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018, including that it prioritize projects that use natural infrastructure, as defined, to help adapt to climate change. The bill would require the conservancy to provide information to the Office of Planning and Research on any projects funded pursuant to the above provision to be considered for inclusion into the clearinghouse for climate adaption information. The bill would authorize the conservancy to provide technical assistance to coastal communities to better assist them with their projects that use natural infrastructure.	Support	2
AB 825	Mullin D	Climate	San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District.	Approved	Would rename the San Mateo County Flood Control District the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District, and would add addressing and protecting against the impacts of sea level rise to the powers of the district. The bill would require, commencing January 1, 2020, the district to be governed by a board of directors, as provided, which would replace the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo as the governing board of the district.	Support	2



AB 839	Mullin D	Climate	Climate adaptation strategy: strategic resiliency framework: Resiliency through Adaptation, Economic Vitality, and Equity Account.	2-Year Bill	Current law requires the Natural Resources Agency to update every 3 years the state's climate adaptation strategy, known as the Safeguarding California Plan, to identify vulnerabilities to climate change by sectors and priority actions needed to reduce the risks in those sectors. This bill would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, on or before July 1, 2021, to review the plan and develop a strategic resiliency framework, as specified. The bill would require updates to the plan to include, among other things, a review of the progress made implementing past plans and an evaluation of each lead agency's lead adaptation efforts, as well as a detailed description of the framework developed by the secretary.	Support	2
SB 168	Wieckowski D	Climate	Climate change: Chief Climate Resilience Officer.	2-Year Bill	Would establish the Chief Climate Resilience Officer, appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by the Senate, in the Office of Planning and Research to serve as the statewide lead for planning and coordination of climate adaptation policy and implementation in California, and would specify the duties of the chief officer. The bill would make the chief officer, or the chief officer's designee, a member of the advisory council and would designate the chief officer, or the chief officer's designee, as the chair of the advisory council.	Support	2
AB 209	Limón D	Education	Parks: outdoor environmental education: grant program.	Approved	Would require the Director of Parks and Recreation to establish the Outdoor Equity Grants Program to increase the ability of underserved and at-risk populations to participate in outdoor environmental educational experiences at state parks and other public lands where outdoor environmental education programs take place. The bill would require the director to, among other things, give priority for funding to outdoor environmental education programs that primarily provide outreach to and serve pupils who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, foster youth, or pupils of limited English proficiency, as provided. The bill would authorize the director to accept private funds to support the grant program.	Support/ Coalition	3
AB 1298	Mullin D	Funding	Climate Resiliency, Fire Risk Reduction, Recycling, Groundwater and Drinking Water Supply, Clean Beaches, and Jobs Infrastructure Bond Act of 2020.	2-Year Bill	Would enact the Climate Resiliency, Fire Risk Reduction, Recycling, Groundwater and Drinking Water Supply, Clean Beaches, and Jobs Infrastructure Bond Act of 2020, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an unspecified amount pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a climate resiliency, fire risk reduction, recycling, groundwater and drinking water supply, clean beaches, and jobs infrastructure program. The bill would require the bond act to be submitted to the voters at the November 3, 2020, statewide general election.	Watch	1



AB 352	Garcia, Eduardo D	Funding	Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020.	2-Year Bill	Would enact the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$3,920,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a wildlife prevention, safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection program. The bill would provide for the submission of these provisions to the voters at the November 3, 2020, statewide general election. The bill would provide that its provisions are severable.	Watch	2
AB 608	Petrie-Norris D	Funding	Property taxation: exemption: low-value properties.	Approved	The California Constitution authorizes the Legislature, with the approval of 2/3 of the membership of each legislative house, to allow a county board of supervisors to exempt from property taxation those properties having a full value too low to justify the costs of assessment and collection. Current property tax law implementing this authority generally limits any exemption granted under this constitutional provision by a county board of supervisors to real property with a total base year value, or personal property with a full value, not exceeding \$10,000. Current property tax law increases this limit to \$50,000 in the case of a possessory interest, for a temporary and transitory use, in a publicly owned fairground, fairground facility, convention facility, or cultural facility. This bill, for lien dates occurring on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2025, would delete this requirement that the possessory interest be for a temporary and transitory use of a publicly owned fairground, fairground facility, convention facility, or cultural facility, thereby allowing the exemption from taxation under these provisions of any possessory interest valued at \$50,000 or less.	Watch	2
ACA 1	Aguiar-Curry D	Funding	Local government financing: affordable housing and public infrastructure: voter approval.	Failed	The California Constitution prohibits the ad valorem tax rate on real property from exceeding 1% of the full cash value of the property, subject to certain exceptions. This measure would create an additional exception to the 1% limit that would authorize a city, county, city and county, or special district to levy an ad valorem tax to service bonded indebtedness incurred to fund the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of public infrastructure, affordable housing, or permanent supportive housing, or the acquisition or lease of real property for those purposes, if the proposition proposing that tax is approved by 55% of the voters of the city, county, or city and county, as applicable, and the proposition includes specified accountability requirements.	Support	1



SB 268	Wiener D	Funding	Ballot measures: local taxes.	Failed	Current law requires that the ballots used when voting upon a measure proposed by a local governing body or submitted to the voters as an initiative or referendum measure, including a measure authorizing the issuance of bonds or the incurrence of debt, have printed on them a true and impartial statement describing the purpose of the measure. If the proposed measure imposes a tax or raises the rate of a tax, existing law requires the ballot to include in the statement of the measure the amount of money to be raised annually and the rate and duration of the tax to be levied. This bill would exempt from this requirement a measure that imposes or increases a tax with more than one rate or authorizes the issuance of bonds. The bill would instead permit for these types of measures the statement of the measure to include the words "See voter guide for tax rate information."	Support	1
SB 45	Allen D	Funding	Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020.	2-Year Bill	Would enact the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$4,189,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for a wildfire prevention, safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection program.	Support/ Coalition	1
AB 707	Kalra D	Governance	Santa Clara Valley Water District: contracts.	Approved	Current law requires a contract and prescribes competitive bidding procedures for any improvement or unit of work not performed by the personnel of the Santa Clara Valley Water District if the district estimates the work to cost over \$25,000. This bill would raise that competitive bidding threshold for work not performed by district personnel to work estimated to cost over \$50,000. The bill would subject a contract for work not performed by district personnel and estimated to exceed the threshold to the approval of the board, in accordance with board policy that has been adopted in an open meeting. The bill, with certain exceptions, would prohibit the estimated cost of any improvement or unit of work done by district personnel from exceeding \$50,000.	Support	2



AB 1783	Rivas, Robert D	Housing	H-2A worker housing: state funding: streamlined approval process for agricultural employee housing development.	Approved	Would prohibit the provision of state funding, as defined, for the purposes of funding predevelopment of, developing, or operating any housing used to comply with the federal law requirement to furnish housing to H-2A workers and would require an employer, as defined, or other recipient of state funding who utilizes state funding for these purposes to reimburse the state or state agency that provided the funding in an amount equal to the amount of that state funding expended for those purposes. The bill would exempt from these provisions any contract or other enforceable agreement pursuant to which the state or a state agency provides funding that was entered into prior to January 1, 2020. The bill would also make various conforming changes to other laws. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	Watch	2
SB 5	Beall D	Housing	Affordable Housing and Community Development Investment Program.	Failed	Would establish in state government the Affordable Housing and Community Development Investment Program, which would be administered by the Affordable Housing and Community Development Investment Committee. The bill would authorize a city, county, city and county, joint powers agency, enhanced infrastructure financing district, affordable housing authority, community revitalization and investment authority, transit village development district, or a combination of those entities, to apply to the Affordable Housing and Community Development Investment Committee to participate in the program and would authorize the committee to approve or deny plans for projects meeting specific criteria. The bill would also authorize certain local agencies to establish an affordable housing and community development investment agency and authorize an agency to apply for funding under the program and issue bonds, as provided, to carry out a project under the program.	Support	2
AB 1111	Friedman D	Public Access	Outdoor recreation: Office of Outdoor Recreation: California Outdoor Recreation Account.	2-Year Bill	Would establish, until January 1, 2025, the Office of Outdoor Recreation in the Office of the Governor. The bill would require the office to undertake certain activities, including supporting the outdoor recreation economy and working toward equitable access to outdoor areas of the state by engaging in specified activities. The bill would also require the office to create an advisory committee to provide advice, expertise, support, and service to the office.	Support/ Coalition	2



AB 556	Carrillo D	Public Access	Outdoor experiences: community access program: grant program.	Failed	Would require the Natural Resources Agency to develop and implement a community access program focused on engagement programs, technical assistance, or facilities that maximize safe and equitable physical admittance, especially for low-income and disadvantaged communities, to natural or cultural resources, community education programs, or recreational amenities. The bill would authorize the agency, in consultation with certain state entities, to develop a grant program for innovative transportation projects that provide disadvantaged and low-income youth with access to outdoor experiences, as specified.	Support/Coalition	2
AB 7	Chu D	Public Access	Daylight saving time.	2-Year Bill	Current state law sets the standard time for California and sets daylight saving time to begin each March and end each November. Current law allows the state to set the standard time to year-round daylight saving time if federal law authorizes the state to do so. This bill would set California's standard time to year-round daylight saving time after the federal government authorizes the state to do so, as specified.	Support	2
SB 127	Wiener D	Public Access	Transportation funding: active transportation: complete streets.	Failed	Current law requires the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the California Transportation Commission, to prepare an asset management plan to guide selection of projects for the State Highway Operation and Protection Program consistent with any applicable state and federal requirements. Current law requires the commission, in connection with the asset management plan, to adopt targets and performance measures reflecting state transportation goals and objectives. This bill would require the asset management plan to prescribe a process for community input and complete streets implementation to prioritize the implementation of safe and connected facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users on all State Highway Operation and Protection Program projects, as specified.	Support	2
SB 367	Hueso D	Public Access	State Coastal Conservancy: grants: educational projects and programs.	Approved	Current law establishes the State Coastal Conservancy and prescribes the membership, functions, and duties of the conservancy with regard to the protection, preservation, and enhancement of specified coastal lands in the state. Current law authorizes the conservancy to fund and undertake plans and feasibility studies and to award grants to public agencies and nonprofit organizations for these purposes. This bill would additionally authorize the conservancy to provide technical assistance, and award grants for that purpose.	Support	2



AB 1486	Ting D	Real Property	Surplus land.	Approved	Current law prescribes requirements for the disposal of surplus land by a local agency. Current law defines “local agency” for these purposes as every city, county, city and county, and district, including school districts of any kind or class, empowered to acquire and hold real property. This bill would expand the definition of “local agency” to include sewer, water, utility, and local and regional park districts, joint powers authorities, successor agencies to former redevelopment agencies, housing authorities, and other political subdivisions of this state and any instrumentality thereof that is empowered to acquire and hold real property, thereby requiring these entities to comply with these requirements for the disposal of surplus land. The bill would specify that the term “district” includes all districts within the state, and that this change is declaratory of existing law.	Neutral	1
AB 782	Berman D	Real Property	California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: public agencies: land transfers.	Approved	CEQA requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment. This bill would exempt from CEQA the acquisition, sale, or other transfer of interest in land by a public agency for certain purposes, or the granting or acceptance of funding by a public agency for those purposes.	Support	2
AB 1190	Irwin D	Safety	Unmanned aircraft: state and local regulation: limitations.	2-Year Bill	Would, among other things, prohibit a state or local agency from adopting any law or regulation that bans the operation of an unmanned aircraft system. The bill would also authorize a local agency to adopt regulations to enforce FAA regulations regarding the operation of unmanned aircraft systems and would authorize local agencies to regulate the operation of unmanned aircraft and unmanned aircraft systems within their jurisdictions, as specified. The bill would also authorize a local agency to require an unmanned aircraft operator to provide proof of federal, state, or local registration to licensing or enforcement officials.	Oppose	1
AB 1011	Petrie-Norris D	Stewardship	Coastal resources: coastal development permits: waiver of filing fees.	Approved	Would authorize the California Coastal Commission to waive the filing fee for an application for a coastal development permit required under the California Coastal Act of 1976, as specified.	Support	2
AB 1718	Levine D	Stewardship	State parks: state beaches: smoking ban.	Failed	Current law makes it an infraction for a person to smoke a cigarette, cigar, or other tobacco product within 25 feet of a playground or tot lot sandbox area. This bill would make it an infraction for a person to smoke on a state beach or in a unit of the state park system or to dispose of used cigar or cigarette waste on a state beach or in a unit of the state park system, as specified. The bill would establish	Support	2



AB 1788	Bloom D	Stewardship	Pesticides: use of anticoagulants.	2-Year Bill	Current law prohibits the use of any pesticide that contains one or more of specified anticoagulants in wildlife habitat areas, as defined. Current law exempts from this prohibition the use of these pesticides for agricultural activities, as defined. Existing law requires the director, and each county agricultural commissioner under the direction and supervision of the director, to enforce the provisions regulating the use of pesticides. This bill would create the California Ecosystems Protection Act of 2019 and expand this prohibition against the use of a pesticide containing specified anticoagulants in wildlife habitat areas to the entire state.	Support	1
AB 342	Muratsuchi D	Stewardship	Public lands: leasing: oil and gas: prohibition.	Approved	Current law authorizes the State Lands Commission to let leases for the extraction and removal of oil and gas deposits from state lands, including tidelands or submerged lands, in accordance with specified provisions of law. Current law vests exclusive jurisdiction over ungranted tidelands and submerged lands owned by the state to the State Lands Commission. Current law confers the powers of the State Lands Commission as to leasing or granting of rights or privileges to lands owned by the state upon a local trustee of granted public trust lands to which those lands have been granted. This bill, notwithstanding the leasing authority described above or any other law, and to the extent not prohibited by federal law, would prohibit any state agency, department, or commission, or any local trustee, as defined, with leasing authority over public lands within the state from entering into any new lease or other conveyance authorizing new construction of oil- and gas-related infrastructure upon public lands, including tidelands and submerged lands, to support production of oil and natural gas upon federal lands that are designated as, or were at any time designated as, federally protected lands, as defined.	Support	2
AB 450	Arambula D	Stewardship	Bees: Apiary Protection Act.	Approved	Current law requires any apiary operator, or the apiary operator's designated representative, to notify a county agricultural commissioner when relocating a bee colony within the county, but does not impose a 72-hour deadline for providing notice or include other provisions relating to this requirement that are consistent with the specified provisions regarding notice of a relocation to another county. This bill would recast provisions regarding notice of relocation within a county to be consistent with those regarding notice of relocation to another county, including, among other things, by imposing a 72-hour deadline for providing notice of relocation within a county or subsequent movement within the destination county, and by exempting information provided pursuant to that notification requirement from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act.	Support	2



AB 454	Kalra D	Stewardship	Migratory birds: California Migratory Bird Protection Act.	Approved	Current federal law, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, provides for the protection of migratory birds, as specified. The federal act also authorizes states and territories of the United States to make and enforce laws or regulations that give further protection to migratory birds, their nests, and eggs. Current state law makes unlawful the taking or possession of any migratory nongame bird, or part of any migratory nongame bird, as designated in the federal act, except as provided by rules and regulations adopted by the United States Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the federal act. This bill, the California Migratory Bird Protection Act, would instead, until January 20, 2025, make unlawful the taking or possession of any migratory nongame bird designated in the federal act before January 1, 2017, any additional migratory nongame bird that may be designated in the federal act after that date, or any part of those migratory nongame birds, except as provided by rules and regulations adopted by the United States Secretary of the Interior under the federal act before January 1, 2017, or subsequent rules or regulations adopted pursuant to the federal act, unless those rules or regulations are inconsistent with the Fish and Game Code.	Support	2
AB 916	Muratsuchi D	Stewardship	Pesticide use: glyphosate.	2-Year Bill	Would, until January 1, 2025, prohibit a city, county, charter city, city and county, or a special district, as defined, from using any pesticide that contains the active ingredient glyphosate. The bill would not preclude a county, city, charter city, city and county, or a special district from adopting or enforcing stricter pesticide use policies.	Neutral	1
AB 948	Kalra D	Stewardship	Coyote Valley Conservation Program.	Approved	Current law creates the Santa Clara Valley Open-Space Authority, and prescribes the jurisdiction and functions and duties of the authority. Current law authorizes the authority, among other things, to acquire, hold, and dispose of real and personal property, within the authority's jurisdiction, necessary to the full exercise of its powers. This bill would authorize the authority to establish and administer the Coyote Valley Conservation Program to address resource and recreational goals of the Coyote Valley, as defined. The bill would authorize the authority to collaborate with state, regional, and local partners to help achieve specified goals of the program. The bill would authorize the authority to, among other things, acquire and dispose of interests and options in real property.	Support	2



SB 1	Atkins D	Stewardship	California Environmental, Public Health, and Workers Defense Act of 2019.	Failed	Current state law regulates the discharge of air pollutants into the atmosphere. The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act regulates the discharge of pollutants into the waters of the state. The California Safe Drinking Water Act establishes standards for drinking water and regulates drinking water systems. The California Endangered Species Act requires the Fish and Game Commission to establish a list of endangered species and a list of threatened species, and generally prohibits the taking of those species. This bill would, until January 20, 2025, require specified agencies to take prescribed actions regarding certain federal requirements and standards pertaining to air, water, and protected species, as specified. By imposing new duties on local agencies, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.	Support	2
SB 474	Stern D	Stewardship	The California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990: Habitat Conservation Fund.	2-Year Bill	Would establish the Wildlife Protection Subaccount in the Habitat Conservation Fund and would require the Controller, if an appropriation is made for this purpose in any fiscal year, to transfer \$30,000,000 from the General Fund to the subaccount, less any amount transferred from specified accounts and funds, to be expended by the board for the acquisition, enhancement, or restoration of wildlife habitat.	Support/ Coalition	2
SB 576	Umberg D	Stewardship	Coastal resources: Climate Ready Program and coastal climate change adaptation, infrastructure, and readiness program.	Approved	Current law establishes the State Coastal Conservancy with prescribed powers and authorizes the conservancy to address the impacts and potential impacts of climate change on resources within its jurisdiction. Current law authorizes the conservancy to undertake, among other things, projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, address extreme weather events, sea level rise, storm surge, and other coastal hazards that threaten coastal communities, infrastructure, and natural resources. Current law authorizes the conservancy to award grants to public agencies and nonprofit organizations for these authorized activities. This bill would recast these provisions as the Climate Ready Program to be administered by the conservancy as described above.	Support	2
AB 933	Petrie-Norris D	Water	Ecosystem resilience: watershed protection: watershed coordinators.	2-Year Bill	Would authorize the Department of Conservation, to the extent funds are available, to establish and administer the Ecosystem Resilience Program to fund watershed coordinator positions, as provided, and other necessary costs, throughout the state for the purpose of achieving specified goals, including the goal to develop and implement watershed improvement plans, and other plans to enhance the natural functions of a watershed, aligned with multiple statewide and regional objectives across distinct bioregions. The bill would require the department to develop performance measures and accountability controls to track progress and outcomes of all watershed coordinator grants.	Support	2



AB 1124	Maienschein D	Wildfire	Employment safety: outdoor workers: wildfire smoke.	2-Year Bill	Would require, by July 18, 2019, the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board to adopt emergency regulations that require employers to make respirators available to outdoor workers on any day the outdoor worker could reasonably be expected to be exposed to harmful levels of smoke from wildfires, or burning structures due to a wildfire, while working. By expanding the scope of an existing crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.	Watch	2
AB 1516	Friedman D	Wildfire	Fire prevention: wildfire risk: defensible space and fuels reduction management.	Failed	Current law requires that a person who owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains an occupied dwelling or structure in, upon, or adjoining a mountainous area, forest-covered land, brush-covered land, grass-covered land, or land that is covered with flammable material that is within a very high fire hazard severity zone, as designated by a local agency, or a building or structure in, upon, or adjoining those areas or lands within a state responsibility area, to maintain a defensible space of 100 feet from each side and from the front and rear of the structure, as specified. A repeated violation within a specified timeframe of those requirements is a crime. This bill would require a person described above to utilize more intense fuel reductions between 5 and 30 feet around the structure, and to create an ember-resistant zone within 5 feet of the structure, as provided.	Support	2
AB 394	Oberholte R	Wildfire	California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: egress route projects: fire safety.	Failed	Would, until January 1, 2025, exempt from CEQA egress route projects undertaken by a public agency that are specifically recommended by the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection that improve the fire safety of an existing subdivision if certain conditions are met. The bill would require the lead agency to hold a noticed public meeting to hear and respond to public comments before determining that a project is exempt. The bill would require the lead agency, if it determines that a project is not subject to CEQA and approves or carries out that project, to file a notice of exemption with the Office of Planning and Research and with the clerk of the county in which the project will be located.	Watch	2



SB 182	Jackson D	Wildfire	Local government: planning and zoning: wildfires.	2-Year Bill	Current law requires the planning agency to review and, if necessary, revise the safety element upon each revision of the housing element or local hazard mitigation plan, but not less than once every 8 years to identify new information relating to flood and fire hazards and climate adaptation and resiliency strategies applicable to the city or county that was not available during the previous revision of the safety element. Current law requires that the Office of Planning and Research, among other things, coordinate with appropriate entities, including state, regional, or local agencies, to establish a clearinghouse for climate adaptation information for use by state, regional, and local entities, as provided. This bill would require the safety element, upon the next revision of the housing element or the hazard mitigation plan, on or after January 1, 2020, whichever occurs first, to be reviewed and updated as necessary to include a comprehensive retrofit strategy to reduce the risk of property loss and damage during wildfires, as specified, and would require the planning agency to submit the adopted strategy to the Office of Planning and Research for inclusion into the above-described clearinghouse.	Support	2
SB 226	Nielsen R	Wildfire	Watershed restoration: wildfires: grant program.	2-Year Bill	Would, upon appropriation by the Legislature, require the National Resources Agency to develop and implement a watershed restoration grant program, as provided, for purposes of awarding grants to eligible counties, as defined, to assist them with watershed restoration on watersheds that have been affected by wildfire, as specified. The bill would require the agency to develop guidelines for the grant program, as provided. The bill would require an eligible county receiving funds pursuant to the grant program to submit annually to the agency a report regarding projects funded by the grant program, as provided.	Support	2
SB 247	Dodd D	Wildfire	Wildland fire prevention: vegetation management.	Approved	Would require an electrical corporation, within one month of the completion of each substantial portion of the vegetation management requirements in its wildfire mitigation plan, to notify the Wildfire Safety Division of the completion. The bill would require the division to audit the completed work and would require the audit to specify any failure of the electrical corporation to fully comply with the vegetation management requirements. The bill would require the division to provide the audit to the electrical corporation and to provide the electrical corporation a reasonable time period to correct and eliminate deficiencies specified in the audit.	Watch	2

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Board Policy Manual

Positions on Ballot Measures and Legislative Advocacy	Policy 1.11 Chapter 1 – Administration and Government
Effective Date: 4/13/16	Revised Date: N/A
Prior Versions: N/A	

Purpose

To establish a policy governing positions on local and state ballot measures/propositions and state and federal legislative advocacy. It is intended to cover all matters before the Legislature and the voters.

Definitions

For the purposes of the *Positions on Ballot Measures and Legislative Advocacy* policy, the following terms and definitions shall be used:

Measure – may be included on a municipal, county, or district ballot and includes ordinances, initiatives, referenda, advisory measures, issuance or refunding of bonds, city or county charter amendments, or any other measure or proposition a legislative body may submit to the voters within the body’s jurisdiction.

Ballot Proposition – can be a referendum or an initiative measure that is submitted to the electorate for a direct decision or direct vote. Propositions may be placed on the ballot by the California State Legislature or by a qualifying petition signed by registered voters.

Initiative – power of the electors to propose legislation, and to adopt or reject them. Any proposed ordinance may be submitted to the legislative body by means of a petition.

Referendum – applies to the process for repealing newly enacted legislation. Within specified time limits, the electors may file a petition protesting the adoption of that legislation.

Local Legislation – typically ordinances, which are the laws of a city, charter, or district, often having the force of law, but only within the local jurisdiction.

State or Federal Legislation – bills or proposed legislation under consideration by the legislature at the state or federal level.

Policy

1. Positions on Matters Before the Voters
 - a. From time to time the Board of Directors may be asked or may desire to take a position on local or state measures. The Board may consider taking a position on the measure/proposition if the measure/proposition:
 - i. Would directly impact the District's finances, responsibilities, legal authority, or operations; AND
 - ii. Is in line with or inconsistent with the District's mission and/or commitment to preserve open space within its boundaries and sphere of influence.

The Board, by majority vote, may direct the General Manager to research the measure/proposition and return to the Board at a future meeting with information and a General Manager recommendation. At that time, the Board may vote to take a position on a measure/proposition.
 - b. Measures/propositions determined to not impact District business may nonetheless be analyzed by the General Manager when directed by a majority vote of the Board, of which the analysis report would include possible alternatives for Board action, but no position recommendation.
2. Local, State, and Federal Legislative Advocacy
 - a. The Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee (LFPAC) receives periodic updates regarding the District's legislative program. When LFPAC determines that proposed legislation may affect District business, it may direct the General Manager to prepare a recommendation for consideration by the full Board or where there is not adequate time to convene the full Board, may direct the General Manager to take action to support or oppose the legislation without full Board approval. In such cases, the General Manager or designee shall report to the Board any actions taken to support or oppose legislation at or before the next Board meeting.
 - b. When time is so short that neither the full Board nor LFPAC can be convened to consider positions to support or oppose local, state or federal legislation, the General Manager is authorized to take a position on behalf of the District if the legislation:
 - i. Is related to the District's mission; AND
 - ii. Would directly impact the District's business, such as project delivery, operations, finances, legal authority, or other District responsibilities; AND
 - iii. The position being taken is consistent/inconsistent with existing District policy, past action, or District Strategic Plan; OR
 - iv. The legislation carries other considerations that make it contrary to the District's interests.

In such instances, the General Manager or designee shall report to the Board any actions taken to support or oppose the legislation at or before the next Board meeting.
 - c. Full Board action is required regarding legislation that is not clearly within the criteria listed above under Section 2.b. or guided by direction previously given by LFPAC.

3. Full Board action is required to support or oppose any type of grassroots advocacy action, such as social, political, or economic movements, that are not legislation.
4. Board members representing the District in their official capacity on regional or other bodies may, at his or her discretion, take actions based on the principles above consistent with previously approved Board positions and policies.
5. This policy is not intended to limit the prerogative of individual Board members from expressing their individual support for or opposition to any local ballot measure, State proposition, State or Federal legislation, or grassroots advocacy actions. However, in doing so, the member should clearly state they are speaking for themselves, and not in an official capacity on behalf of the Board or the District. Individual Board Members who take a position in support or opposition to ballot measure or legislation for which the Board has not previously taken a position are encouraged as a professional courtesy to include the language *for identification purposes only* parenthetically following their signature referencing their position on the Board.