



Prosperity for Butte County

A Regional Strategy to Preserve Natural Resources and to Promote
Growth, Community, and Public Safety in Butte County, California

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Butte County, California

Regional 2017 Federal Legislative Platform



Land Use and Infrastructure

- Highway 70 Expansion
- Local Roads
- Wastewater Infrastructure
- Table A Water Transfer
- Butte Regional Conservation Plan
- Northern Sacramento Valley IRWMP
- Local and Regional Water Infrastructure
- Flood Protection
- Butte 3B's Project
- Radio and Communications Infrastructure



Natural Resources and Agriculture

- Forest Management and Fire Protection
- Public Access to Federal Lands
- Preservation of Water Rights
- Agricultural Floodplain Management
- Pest Prevention
- Drought Response and Mitigation
- Marijuana Related Issues
- Secure Rural Schools Program



Community Support

- Homelessness
- Mental Health, Drug, and Alcohol Services
- Federal Income Tax Intercept
- Child Welfare Program
- Support for Veterans
- Community Facilities and Parks
- National Flood Insurance Program



Public Safety

- Forest Management and Fire Protection
- Juvenile Justice Programs
- Drug Endangered Children Program
- Public Safety Facilities, Equipment, and Personnel
- State Criminal Alien Assistance Program



Land Use and Infrastructure

Smart economic expansion, growth, and sustainability are top priorities for Butte County. The County strives to enhance the local economy to support our citizens today while providing them with new opportunities for the future. Regional planning provides a strategy that will lead to prosperity within the region for all local jurisdictions and helps provide for organized future growth and the public services that will need to be established to accommodate that growth. Upgrading and maintaining our roads, water supply, flood, and wastewater infrastructure not only helps the

County provide basic services to our current citizens, but it helps provide the foundation for future economic growth and business development.

Highway 70 Expansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pursue funding for improvements to the Highway 70 corridor to enhance economic development and public safety.
Local Roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pursue funding for maintenance and construction of local roads and transportation infrastructure.
Wastewater Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pursue funding for wastewater infrastructure projects throughout the County including, but not limited to, Palermo, County septage ponds, and the SC-OR Wastewater Treatment Plant.
Table A Water Transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pursue funding for a feasibility study and eventual construction of facilities to transfer the County's Table A allocation from Lake Oroville to local water purveyors.
Butte Regional Conservation Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Support funding for the finalization and implementation of the Butte Regional Conservation Plan.
Northern Sacramento Valley IRWMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pursue funding for implementation of projects and programs including in the Northern Sacramento Valley IRWMP.
Local and Regional Water Supply Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Advocate for funding of water supply infrastructure projects that increase the reliability and efficiency of the County's groundwater and surface water supplies.
Flood Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Support Sutter-Butte Flood Control Agency construction of the West Feather River Levee Improvement Project. Develop projects identified in the Mid-Upper Sacramento River Regional Flood Management Plan. Engage with Corps of Engineers on certification and maintenance of levees throughout the County.
Butte 3B's Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pursue funding for design and construction of the 3B's flood management project.
Radio and Communications Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pursue funding for public telecommunications, radio, and broadband infrastructure and technology.



Natural Resources and Agriculture

Butte County is a place of natural beauty with countless opportunities for recreation in both rural and urban environments. The County supports efforts that enhance and protect those natural resources and allows the public to utilize and enjoy all that Butte County has to offer. Agriculture is the #1 industry in Butte County, acting as a major base for economic gain. Butte County strives to ensure the agriculture industry remains strong for our citizens, our community, our region, and our state.

Forest Management and Fire Prevention

- Monitor and track federal assistance opportunities for improved forest management and fire protection programs. Pursue legislative and regulatory changes to address tree mortality on federal lands.

Public Access to Federal Lands

- Support preservation and enhancement of public access to federal lands for diverse purposes, such as off-road vehicle use, wood cutting and dispersed camping. Support uniformity of rule application across national forests. Support least restrictive, versus most restrictive, rules to protect endangered species.

Preservation of Water Rights

- Support preservation of water rights, area of origin, local control of land use and water management, and development of increased storage.

Agricultural Floodplain Management Issues

- Advocate for changes to the National Flood Insurance Program that create regulatory relief for agricultural areas and rural communities located in the floodplain.

Pest Prevention

- Pursue additional funding and track regulations for the detection and control of various invasive pests harmful to agriculture in California.

Drought Response and Mitigation

- Support legislation that will provide emergency economic assistance to Butte County to address localized drought impacts. Oppose legislation that would result in changes to water right priorities and/or weakening of environmental standards in the Delta.

Marijuana Related Issues

- Monitor and track legislation and policy related to the sale and distribution of marijuana and other related issues. Advocate for federal policies that provide direction to federal agencies and local governments on the regulation of land use and environmental impacts associated with the cultivation of marijuana.

Secure Rural Schools Program

- Monitor legislation reauthorizing the Secure Rural Schools Act. Support full funding of the program and pursue changes to the programs to allow local control and more flexible use of the funds.



Community Support

One of Butte County’s all-encompassing goals is to preserve and enhance our local communities and ensure that the way of life our citizens love so much is not impacted by the challenges of today or the changes of tomorrow. To this end, we strive to promote community unity through unique opportunities and dependable public service. Butte County understands that many of our citizens, including our youth, face a variety of challenges related to mental health, drug and alcohol abuse, homelessness, and gangs. A priority of the County’s is to provide our at-risk populations with the services they need to overcome these challenges.

Homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support programs and funding to provide housing and support services for the County’s homeless population.
Mental Health, Drug, and Alcohol Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursue funding and support for mental health, drug, and alcohol services for the County’s adult population as well as the County’s at-risk youth population.
Health Care Reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor key provisions from the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act related to county programs.
Child Welfare Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support continued funding for child welfare programs and programs that benefit the physical, mental, and financial well-being of children.
National Flood Insurance Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor legislation pertaining to FEMA flood zone mapping and the reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program. Engage with FEMA and Congress on ways to ensure the NFIP remains affordable.
Support for Veterans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursue funding for veteran support facilities and programs including veterans memorial halls, 900 Esplanade, and a Veterans Memorial Park.
Community Facilities and Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursue funding for improvement and/or replacement of community facilities including parks, libraries, community centers, government support buildings, a new Emergency Operations Center, and the County fairgrounds.
Workforce and Economic Development Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grow an already comprehensive program and pursue funding for workforce and economic development, as well as infrastructure improvements, to serve business development and expansion in the County.
Tribal Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and track policy initiatives and legislation pertaining to casino development on tribal lands. Monitor legislation that will allow the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for all tribes. In order to address critical problems in the existing fee-to-trust process, support legislation to better define the roles of Congress and the executive branch, establish clear and specific congressional trust acquisition standards, and create a more transparent process.
Election Reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and track legislation pertaining to local election regulations and processes. Support federal initiatives that provide funding for reform and equipment that bring efficiencies to the election process.
Senior Care and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for funding of senior care and service programs including those authorized under the Elder Care Act.
Federal Income Tax Intercept Authority for Counties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support legislation giving counties the ability to collect debts owed to the County and/or victims of crimes committed in the County by intercepting federal income tax refunds and maintaining a hierarchy of intercepts that makes Child Support enforcement a priority over ordinary debt.



Public Safety

Butte County endeavors to provide a safe and healthy community for its citizens. To this end, the County focuses on ensuring that all communities are protected from public safety threats and have access to critical health and safety services. We also strive to ensure we support our citizens in their everyday lives by providing reliable law enforcement and emergency response services. A large portion of Butte County is either located in the regulatory floodplain or is protected by public flood protection infrastructure. To ensure that citizens remain protected, the status of the County's

flood control infrastructure remains a top priority.

Forest Management and Fire Protection

- Monitor and track federal assistance opportunities for improved forest management and fire protection programs. Pursue legislative and regulatory changes to address tree mortality on federal lands.

Juvenile Justice Programs

- Pursue funding for juvenile justice programs of the County's at-risk youth including opportunities to create child protective custody shelters.

Drug Endangered Children Program

- Pursue funding for staff and operations of the Drug Endangered Children Program.

Public Safety Facilities, Equipment, and Personnel

- Pursue funding for construction and rehabilitation of public safety facilities including the jail, a forensic computer center, and fire stations. Pursue funding for public safety equipment, technology, training, and personnel.

State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP)

- Support full funding for states and counties of costs associated with incarcerating undocumented aliens for the federal government.