



Watsonville
CALIFORNIA

2024 Legislative Platform

Prepared by JEA & Associates

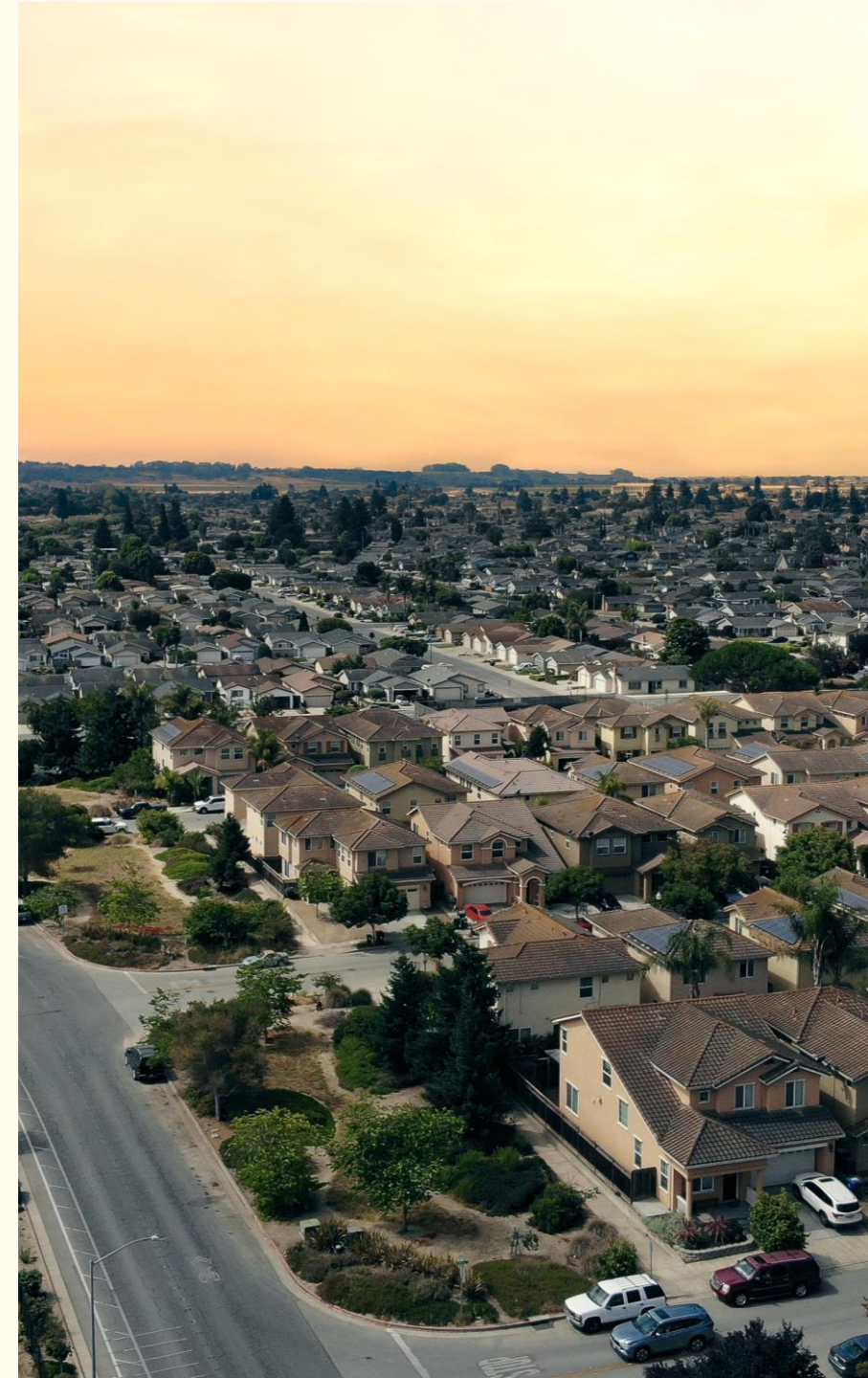
Recommended Action

- Motion adopting the City of Watsonville 2024 Legislative Platform



Purpose

- The purpose of the City of Watsonville Legislative Platform is to unify the city's voice and to proactively frame sponsorship, support, and advocacy regarding critical legislative and regulatory priorities.
- The Legislative platform presents guiding principles, prioritizes State and Federal issues intended for specific legislative action, and lays out State and Federal support on issues that are critical for the City Council.



Adopting a Legislative Platform

- Alignment of overall policy direction and Council's mission to maintain and improve the quality of life of the residents of the City.
- Create a road map for Federal and State advocacy.
- Foster Federal and State support in areas of business that are important to the City.
- Inform our lobbyist team of the City's position on issues that are critical for the City.
- Created in collaboration with all Department Directors, informed by a variety of projects, programs, and initiatives currently being worked on in support of the Council's Strategic Priorities.



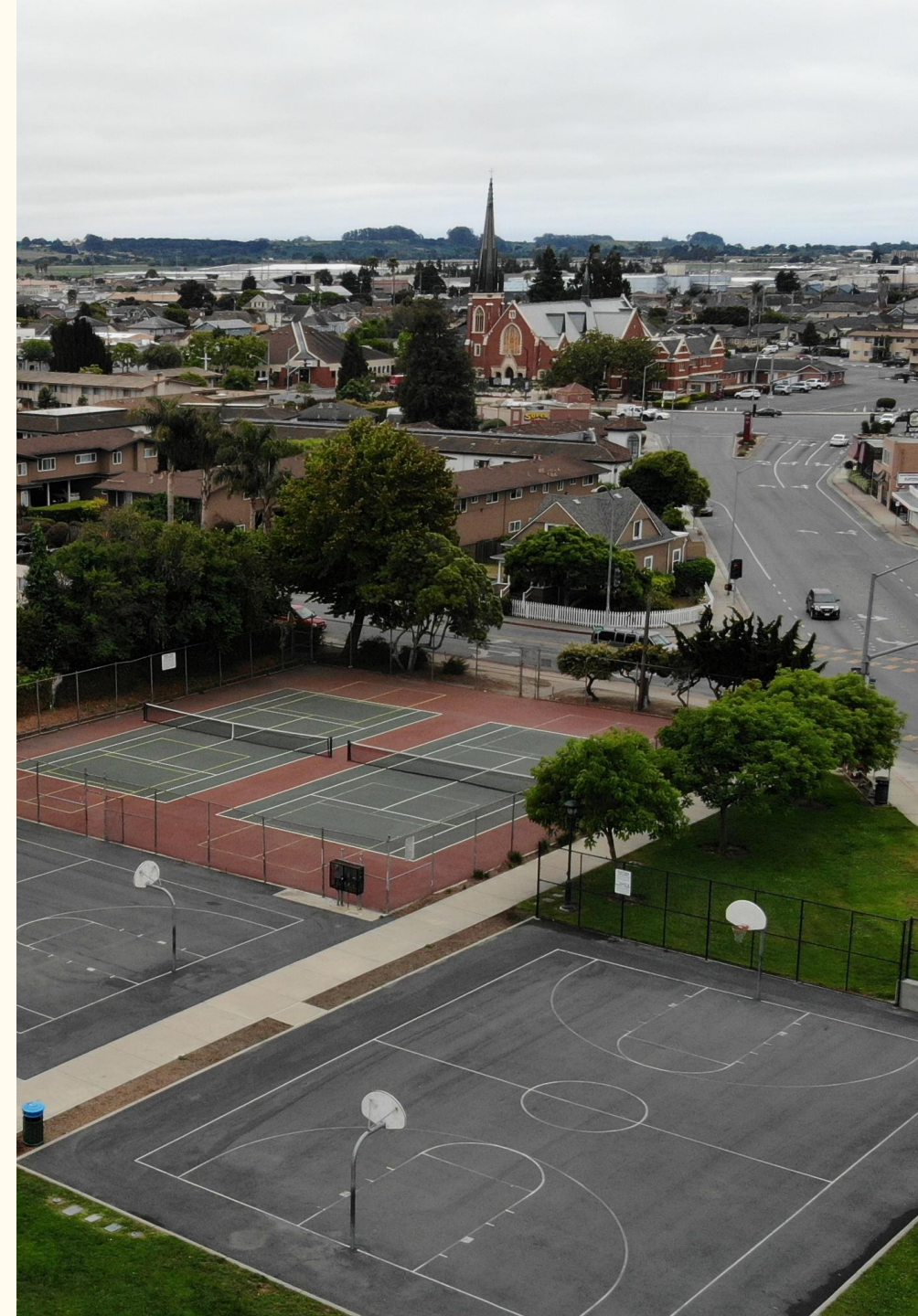
Issues

- This legislative platform should serve as a foundation for Watsonville's engagement with state and federal legislators, guiding the city's efforts to address crucial issues.
- Top issues included:
 - Community Services
 - Environmental Quality Housing, & Economic Development
 - Public Safety
 - Transportation, Communications, and Public Works.
- Adaptations and specific policies may be required as new issues emerge and legislative priorities evolve.
- ***This document can be updated Annually or sooner if necessary.***



Community Services

- Support efforts to fund the rehabilitation, development, and capital improvements for local park improvements.
- Support equitable access to physical activity, proper nutrition, and healthy lifestyle options for all Californians.
- Oppose legislation that harms the administration of park and recreation services and resource management.



Environmental Quality Housing, and Economic Development

- Support enactment of policies and encourage state funding opportunities to assist with sustainability objectives
- Support State and Federal funding streams for developing and operating transitional navigational centers.
- Support the expansion of Section 8 vouchers.
- Advocate for state and federal funding to enhance and fortify local flood protection infrastructure.
- Support state and federal policies addressing the impacts of climate change on sea levels and flooding in coastal areas.
- Collaborate with regional and state agencies to develop comprehensive flood mitigation plans.



Environmental Quality Housing, and Economic Development

- Support funding and policy changes to protect the City's wastewater infrastructure treatment plant from natural disasters.
- Support any funding and policy changes that will assist the City in protecting and beautifying its waterways
- Advocate for resources and policies that facilitate economic expansion and growth.
- Support state policies and funding for the expansion of workforce training
- Support federal and state funding for the City's Downtown Specific Plan to revitalize downtown Watsonville.



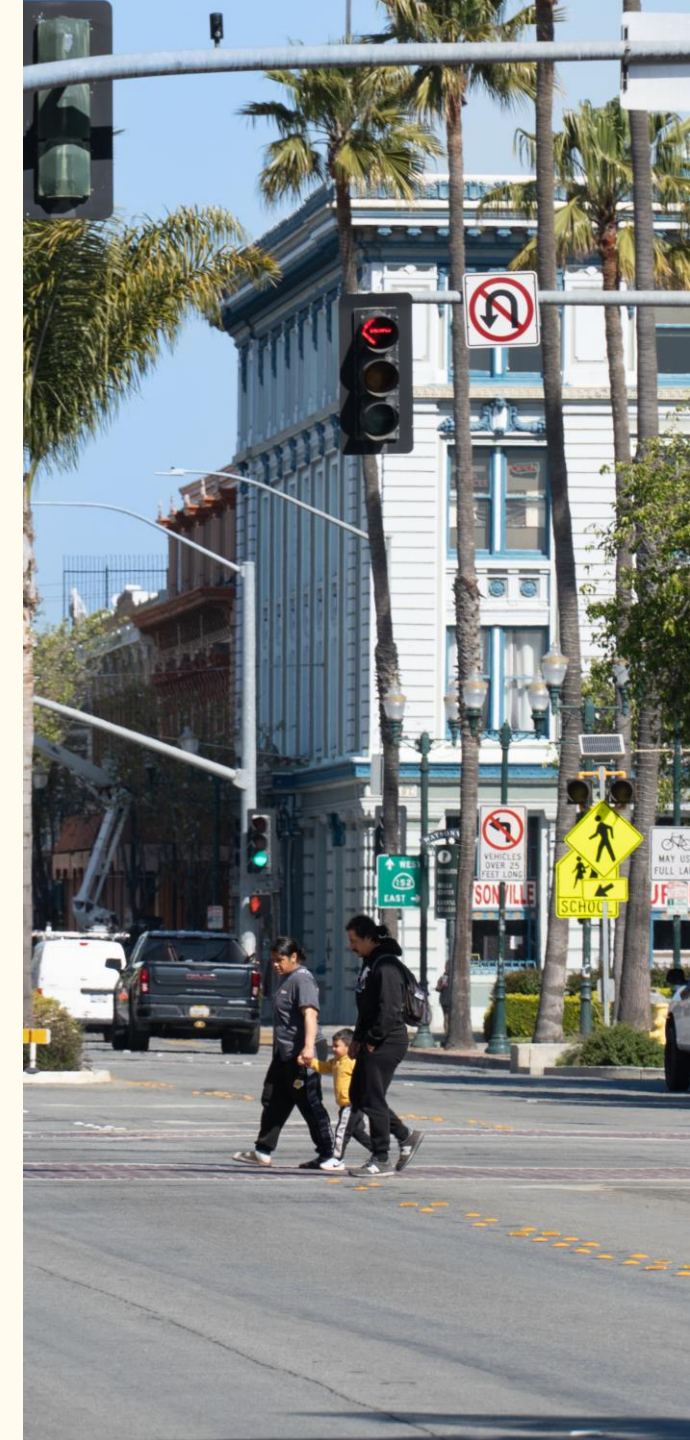
Public Safety

- Seek state support for public safety through funding for law enforcement and firefighting services.
- Support legislation and regulations that maximize the ability to effectively mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural and man-made disasters and public health emergencies, protecting both physical and fiscal health.
- Support federal and state resources to better serve the disenfranchised community, including but not limited to outreach programs, CARE Courts, and increased partnerships with community stakeholders.



Transportation, Communications, and Public Works

- Support any policy changes that give local governments more control over regulating and setting speed limits on local roads and State highways.
- Preserve existing and advocate for new or increased state and federal funding for infrastructure projects, including ongoing system maintenance, congestion reduction, safety, complete streets, active transportation bike and pedestrian projects, and utility upgrades.
- Support legislation and programs that expedite the delivery of projects, streamline funding applications and simplify program administration.
- Support legislation and programs that improve transportation safety on state highways and local roads for all users.
- Support federal and state funding for the implementation of broadband infrastructure.
- Support federal and state funding and policies to assist local governments to expand and strengthen their cybersecurity efforts.



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