



**Chair**  
Supervisor Kelly Long

**Vice Chair**  
Supervisor Susan Ellenberg

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## UCC Board of Directors' Meeting Summary March 25, 2020

Alameda:	Devon Anderson
Contra Costa:	Michelle Rubalcava
Fresno:	Jeannie Figueroa (Alternate)
Los Angeles:	Brian Stiger
Orange:	Supervisor Lisa Bartlett, Nicole Wordelman
Riverside:	Supervisor Chuck Washington, Michelle DeArmond
Sacramento:	Monica Miller, Steve Cruz, Audrey Ratajczak
San Bernardino:	Josh Candelaria (Alternate), Nicole Wordelman
San Diego:	Supervisor Greg Cox, Michelle Rubalcava
San Francisco:	
San Joaquin:	Supervisor Tom Patti
San Mateo:	Steve Cruz, Devon Anderson
Santa Clara:	Supervisor Susan Ellenberg, Michael Rattigan
Ventura:	Supervisor Kelly Long, Sue Hughes

### I. **Call to Order**

UCC Chair Supervisor Kelly Long convened the meeting and called the members to order.

### II. **Roll Call of Counties**

There were seven supervisors, two alternates and 13 counties represented at this meeting.

### III. **Setting the Context: Update and Observations on Immediate-Term Impacts on Capitol Policy and Budget Processes Due to Session Hiatus**

Staff reported that given the dramatic change in fiscal circumstances resulting from the pandemic, the Department of Finance (DOF) outlined plans for a workload budget in lieu of the customary May Revision. All budget changes will be reevaluated in the context of a workload budget, and the only new spending proposals to be considered must relate to COVID-19. Significant local fiscal impacts are expected to result from the downturn that is accompanying the stoppage of significant commerce sectors. Interest and attention are

being given to the second installment of property taxes, due April 10. UCC is part of a coalition advocating for maintaining the deadline, given local governments' reliance on this revenue source. Existing statutory authority allows for waiving of penalties and interest for those who are unable to pay due to quarantine or stay-at-home order or if the tax collector's office is closed.

Bob Giroux with LHOM discussed options the Legislature has to complete its policy and budget work. At this point, the Legislature will most likely reconvene in early May. The state budget will likely focus on a limited number of items such as PG&E, wildfire relief, and homelessness in addition to the pandemic response. The Legislature could utilize the conference committee process to move priority policy items instead of relying on the traditional policy committee process, given the limited time available when members return. As for the budget, the Legislature could also return for a short period of time and work to meet the June 15 constitutional deadline. Finally, the Governor has the ability to call a special session focused on COVID-19. Process-wise these details are still up in the air; the advocacy team will keep you posted as more decisions are announced.

Staff discussed the Governor's announcement of the Federal COVID-19 Relief Package that will result in about \$10 billion in block grants coming to California, with \$5.5 billion to the state and the remaining going to cities and counties. The Governor also announced that the four largest national banks – Wells Fargo, U.S. Bank, Citi, and JP Morgan – have agreed to a 90-day grace period for mortgage payments.

The Governor directed the DOF to release \$1.3 billion from the Special Fund for Economic Uncertainty Reserve for purchase of equipment and supplies in support for the COVID-19 response.

#### **IV. Response to the Pandemic: UCC Member Roundtable**

In light of the changing circumstances resulting from the outbreak of COVID-19, the purpose of the March meeting was to share information about how counties are managing during the pandemic and associated shutdown of all but the most essential services. The Board of Directors members were asked to share one best practice developed during the COVID-19 response and one ongoing challenge their county is facing. Below are the responses:

Fresno	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Increase in teleworking from 10% to 80-90% of workforce.</li><li>- BOS approved changes to general relief; telephone interviews have been approved and most public counters are closed.</li><li>- Concern regarding fiscal impacts of recently approved IHSS contracts, realignment revenues, and associated impact to county General Fund.</li></ul>
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Orange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lessons learned from federal court mandate that required county to move homeless population living in flood channels into hotels/motels (then transitioned to system of care). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o County moved quickly and managed to relocate homeless in 10 days.</li> <li>o County recommends if hotel/motel are leased for short-term housing that the rooms be stripped of anything valuable and not permanently affixed. The County had to reimburse hotel/motel owners \$4+ million for lost, stolen, sold valuables (e.g., televisions, other appliances).</li> <li>o Recommending that CSAC and other advocate for local governments' purchase of hotel/motel properties and repurposing for permanent supportive housing with wrap-around services; may need to seek additional support from state to assist with purchases.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- US Small Business Administration moving very quickly in meeting needs of affected small businesses by offering low-interest federal disaster loans. Two loan types – 3.75% for private companies (payable over 30 yrs, with payments beginning one year out from application); 2.75% rate for non- profits (same terms). Very quick turnaround with applications. (Details here: <a href="https://www.sba.gov/offices/disaster/dfocw/resources/1658272">https://www.sba.gov/offices/disaster/dfocw/resources/1658272</a>)</li> <li>- On Census (discussed below under Ventura), county had to disband field office and likely will need to reopen at some point. Some conversation about requesting an extension to Census deadline to ensure counts are accurate and not unduly affected by pandemic.</li> </ul>
Riverside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Experiencing similar challenges as other counties, especially with insufficient PPE.</li> <li>- Using the National Guard for food distribution.</li> <li>- Notes that experts are advising that we watch southern hemisphere to predict potential second wave of virus.</li> </ul>
San Bernardino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Have made changes to intake and distribution of supplies (PPE) to increase capacity to expedite distribution when supplies do arrive.</li> </ul>
San Diego	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Approximately half of the workforce is teleworking</li> <li>- County hosts daily afternoon media briefings and is focused on putting out as much information (medical, logistical, etc.) as possible</li> <li>- By 5 p.m. each night, county data is updated (e.g., number of cases, deaths)</li> <li>- Challenges in supply chain: county is receiving about 30% of what they are told by state/feds they should expect to receive</li> <li>- Local companies stepping up to assist:</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Distillery is making hand sanitizer</li> <li>○ Another local company that manufactures sleep apnea equipment is converting to making ventilators</li> </ul>
San Joaquin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regional communication has been positive</li> <li>- On question of supply chain, has a lead on N95 3M masks (serial no. 8210). Interested parties should contact <a href="mailto:ahenning@gmail.com">ahenning@gmail.com</a>; 1 million minimum order @ \$6/unit.</li> </ul>
Santa Clara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 459 cases, 18 deaths, and 200 hospitalizations</li> <li>- Federal government has just stood up indoor MASH unit – 250 non-acute hospital beds – in the convention center.</li> <li>- Strong partnerships and closely coordinated actions among six Bay Area public health officers has been very positive.</li> <li>- County has worked to set up child care for county’s essential workers (health care workers’ needs will be addressed first). First 5 and Healthier Kids Foundation are providing coverage for the 0-5 age range; Boys &amp; Girls Club are caring for school-aged children.</li> <li>- Challenge continues to be providing data in clear, transparent, and consistent way. External messaging is difficult, with significant media/public pressure around testing.</li> </ul>
Ventura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Significant success with drive-thru testing at seven sites. People stay in cars and permits appropriate referral while helping better manage demand that would fall to clinics</li> <li>- PPE supply also a problem; looking at cloth masks and other alternatives for plastic coverings for medical gowns.</li> <li>- Local companies assisting, e.g., 3D imaging to assist in designing shields; distilleries making hand sanitizer; community helping meet PPE needs.</li> <li>- Concern about job loss and local economic impacts.</li> <li>- Ventura Co. has significant experience with disaster response given wildfires in recent years, and community continues to support local efforts.</li> <li>- Reminder that those who lose their job should apply for UI as quickly as possible.</li> <li>- Also, continue to share information about online census deadline of 4/1; recognize adjustments will be necessary for in-person follow ups. It was noted that Santa Clara Co is ahead of the curve on outreach.</li> </ul>

**V. Other Items**

No other items were discussed.

**VI. Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

**VII. Topics for Next Meeting**

- COVID-19 - Top 3 / Top 10 Fiscal Impacts – Funding sources

- CSAC Conference Cancellation – Next Steps

## **VIII. Adjournment**

The next UCC Board of Directors' meeting will be held on **April 22, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.** via conference call.