



*Established in 1991, UCC serves as the representative voice for state legislative advocacy for high-population counties in California. Initially composed of seven counties, the association has grown to 14 today. Over 80 percent of the state's population reside in UCC counties. Consequently, urban counties carry out critical programs and services to the state's most vulnerable populations. For more information, including details on our Board of Directors, please visit [our website](#).*

July 8, 2021

### **State Budget Work Chugs Along**

The Legislature continued its efforts this week to advance additional components of the 2021-22 state budget. As of today, a second Budget Bill, Jr. (AB 161) along with the TK-12 education trailer bill (AB 130) were approved by both houses and sent to the Governor. We have updated our budget and trailer bill chart ([here](#)) to reflect today's actions. AB 161 contains \$243 million – which reflects a bump of \$28.4 million from previous budget action – to cover additional state and county costs associated with the recall election, clarifies details regarding the additional \$500 million for wildfire prevention and forest resiliency available in 2021-22, and makes other technical and corrective changes.

HBE will continue to monitor budget development in the week ahead. More Budget Bill, Jrs. that will clarify, correct, or modify previously enacted budget bills are expected to be acted on prior to the end of session – possibly as early as next week and most certainly once the Legislature returns from its four-week summer recess, which begins on July 16. Substantive issues remain undone – notably mental health infrastructure investments, the youth behavioral health initiative, additional details on homelessness investments, human services, child care/early education, cannabis (a second trailer bill), the Office of Health Care Affordability, drought response, and film tax credits.

### **Newsom Adds to Drought Emergency Declaration**

In San Luis Obispo County this morning, Governor Gavin Newsom extended the state's drought [emergency declaration](#) to nine additional counties (Inyo, Marin, Mono, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz) for a total of 50 out of 58 counties. In addition, the Governor signed Executive Order [N-10-21](#), urging Californians to take action to reduce water use by 15 percent. The Administration unveiled a new website – [www.saveourwater.com](http://www.saveourwater.com) – to offer tips and news regarding water conservation and drought conditions.

### **Application and Timeline Released for HCD's Prohousing Designation Program**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) recently updated its [website](#) with additional information on its new Prohousing Designation Program, including its over-the-counter application for securing a prohousing designation. The Prohousing Designation Program incentivizes cities and counties to take meaningful actions to accelerate housing production at the local level through the awarding of “bonus points” for purposes of existing grant programs, including, but not limited to, the Infill Infrastructure Grant Program and the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program.

Counties and cities might consider [registering](#) for an upcoming virtual Application Workshop (July 29 from 3:00 -4:00 pm), but a recording of the webinar will be made available on HCD's prohousing website for those unable to attend the live event. Local agencies will also be interested in these key milestones for the Prohousing Designation Program:

#### **Beginning June 30, 2021 –**

- Release of Prohousing regulations and application
- Begin over-the-counter reviews of Prohousing applications
  - HCD will have 60 days to review and provide feedback
  - Applications approved on a rolling basis
- HCD determination of Prohousing-designated jurisdictions released ongoing as applications receive approvals

#### **July 2021-June 2022 –**

- Upon adoption of emergency regulations, HCD will begin normal rulemaking conversion:
  - 45-day public comment period
    - Please send comments on the [emergency regulations](#) to [ProhousingPolicies@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:ProhousingPolicies@hcd.ca.gov) with the subject line “Comments on Emergency Regulations”
  - 360 days to convert from emergency regulations

HCD also notes on its website that ongoing technical assistance will be provided for jurisdictions interested in applying. Please contact [ProhousingPolicies@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:ProhousingPolicies@hcd.ca.gov) to request assistance.

#### **BSCC Meets Next Week**

The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) meets next Thursday, July 15. The Board's agenda is available [here](#). Of note are the proposed actions to (1) Allocate – subject to the enactment of SB 129 (Budget Bill, Jr.) – to counties \$49.5 million approved in the 2021-22 budget for the Public Defense Pilot Program and (2) Approve a form seeking information on counties' intent to operate a Secure Youth Track Facility, pursuant to SB 92 (2021). A livestream option will be available starting just before 10 a.m. next Thursday at this [link](#).