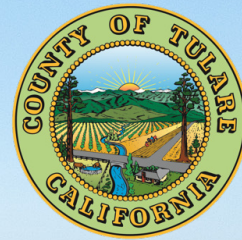


2025-2027

STATE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

TULARE COUNTY



Supervisor Larry Micari



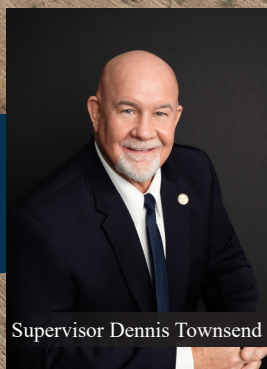
Supervisor Pete Vander Poel



Supervisor Amy Shuklian



Supervisor Eddie Valero



Supervisor Dennis Townsend

TOP PRIORITIES

Health and Public Safety: Tulare County opposes funding cuts or legislation that places financial responsibility on the county absent a funding source from the state or federal governments in administering necessary medical care to residents in the County. Tulare County supports legislation that reduces barriers to providing care to individuals experiencing behavioral health challenges, but in cases where this does not create additional financial challenges to the County. Tulare County must oppose any funding formula that does not proportionately support the needs of its citizens. Tulare County supports additional funding for the implementation of recently passed Proposition 36.

Water: Important to Tulare County's agricultural prosperity is consistent, sustained availability of surface water and groundwater. As such, the County supports efforts that increase access to water, including expanded infrastructure and storage projects. While further regulatory streamlining is necessary, funding to break ground on new projects or restoration of existing infrastructure is of priority for the County, including funds coming from the recently passed Proposition 4 (2024) that allocates \$3.8 billion in funding for drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs.

Fire Protection: It is critically important for Tulare County to have firefighting and emergency response capabilities that are state of the art and proactive as much as reactive. Tulare County supports legislation that furthers the County's ability to expand its infrastructure and response capacity, including utilizing funds from Proposition 4 (2024) which allocate \$1.95 billion for wildfire and extreme heat projects.



HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

1. Emergency Services: Create sustained funding for emergency management programs and disaster planning.

2. CalWORKs:

- Eliminate the asset test for eligibility.
- Repeal the 100-hour standard for unemployment eligibility.

3. Public Guardian Support: Increase funding for Public Guardian and County Counsel offices due to CARE Court workload.

4. In-Home Support Services: Prioritize the fiscal sustainability of IHSS programs.

5. Foster Youth:

- Establish rate standards for specialized foster youth facilities.
- Continue the Foster Youth Housing program and support similar legislation.

6. Continuum of Care Reform: Secure additional funding for Continuum of Care True Up costs.

7. Homelessness: Support flexible and long-term funding for housing and homeless services, streamline program requirements, and advocate for a community-wide approach to encampments.

8. CARE Court: Ensure full funding and clarity in reporting requirements.

9. Medi-Cal Transformation: Secure funding for behavioral, social, and medical services integration; support low-income housing options.

10. Mental Health Services Act: Protect MHSA/ BHTSA funding and replace reduced prevention funding.

11. Crisis Services: Amend legislation to ensure mobile crisis teams are compensated and reduce workforce burdens.

12. Criminal Justice:

- Reduce waitlists for individuals deemed incompetent to stand trial.
- Support funding for diversion and re-entry services.



AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES, & WATER

1. Dairy Digesters: Support increased funding for regulatory and financial assistance for dairy digester and methane reduction programs, and the FARMER program for agricultural emissions.

2. Invasive Species: Support funding and legislation for pest prevention, management, and eradication, particularly for threats like the Asian Citrus Psyllid and Huanglongbing disease.

3. Forest Management: Support legislation and funding for forest health, fire prevention, and a sustainable wood-products market; expand aviation and firefighting capacity.

4. Private Well Assistance: Provide local technical assistance and legislation for long-term water solutions and mandatory consolidations for private well communities.

5. Sustainable Operation and Maintenance: Support funding for water and wastewater operations, particularly for disadvantaged communities.

6. Streamline Funding Processes: Work with local agencies to expedite drinking water and wastewater funding processes and simplify application requirements.

7. Farm Labor Housing: Require proof of safe drinking water for farm labor housing developments.

8. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: Support flexible funding for land repurposing and groundwater recharge projects; safeguard small farmers and disadvantaged communities.

9. Water Supply South of the Delta: Request flexibility in water deliveries south of the Delta; support infrastructure repairs and surface water storage projects.

10. Wastewater: Advocate for emergency funding, infrastructure support, and consolidation of wastewater systems.



INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Education: Expand four-year degree programs at local Fresno State satellite campuses.

2. Libraries and Literacy: Increase funding for literacy programs, high-speed broadband, and library infrastructure.

3. Broadband: Enhance broadband services in rural communities and fund local technology improvements.

4. SR 99 Widening: Advocate for full funding for completion of SR 99 to six lanes in Tulare County.

5. Rural Road Funding: Support formulas based on road miles and traffic types to address agricultural transportation impacts.

6. SB 1383 Compliance: Develop resources for organics recycling and standardize practices.

7. Workforce Development: Support additional workforce development resources from the state directed toward counties negatively impacted by SGMA policies, as well as funding to Workforce Development Boards to address the needs of undocumented residents.

8. Advanced Clean Fleets: Support state funding, rural reclassification, flexible ACF compliance, utility rebates, and modified grant requirements for EV infrastructure in underserved areas.



GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. CEQA Reform: Eliminate the "fair argument" test in favor of the "substantial evidence" test for project approvals.

2. Civil Fines and Penalties: Amend laws to allow fines and penalties to be collected through tax rolls.

3. Criminal Justice System: Oppose zero-bail initiatives and secure resources for rehabilitation programs.

4. Public Notices: Support online posting of public notices to reduce costs.

5. Public Records Act: Simplify compliance to reduce administrative burdens.

6. Proposition 13: Oppose efforts to repeal or amend Proposition 13 property tax protections.

7. State Mandates & Local Control: Oppose unfunded mandates and realignments.

8. Regional Structural Inequities: Advocate for equitable resource distribution to address poverty in areas like the Central Valley.

9. Elections: Oppose legislation that complicates nonpartisan elections and increases costs.





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Approved by the Tulare County Board of Supervisors on January 14, 2025.