

Subject Line: Please ensure your constituents aren't left out again

Dear Senator Borgeas:

California's pending state budget must support special districts, which provide critical fire protection, emergency response, water, electricity, parks and recreation, public health, and other services to our local community. Just like cities and counties, these units of local government have been hit hard by COVID impacts, however, special districts are unique in that we have received no direct access to COVID-19 relief funding programs.

The negative financial impact to the Cosumnes Community Services District since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to be approximately \$7.7 million. To manage District finances, we deferred asset lifecycle replacements of infrastructure and purchasing capital such as ambulances, a ladder truck, cardiac monitors, major repair of facilities, among others. Meanwhile, our financial position has been further compounded by the increased expenditures associated with operating vaccine clinics, providing childcare for essential workers, and overtime for our fire and emergency medical services personnel due to workplace exposures.

You can help change that, to the benefit of our mutual constituents, and the good news is California already has the funding available through a provision in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). ARPA specifically authorizes states to use federal relief funds to support special districts. We simply need your support for using this authority to direct funds that are already available to special districts.

I can assure you the need is very real. Special districts like ours have had to step up to the demands of COVID response and government mandates in every area. As a result, unforeseen expenses, overtime costs, and other impacts have left special districts facing a projected \$2.4 billion unmet fiscal need.

You can also provide this relief without taking away support for other forms of local government. Between the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) and ARPA, Congress has approved a projected \$57.9 billion in relief funds to aid California and its local governments. Between these two funds, the State will have received a total \$36.14 billion in discretionary dollars to address COVID-19 impacts—with the rest going directly to cities and counties. That's on top of an estimated windfall of \$20 billion in unanticipated one-time revenues.

To conclude, almost nothing happens in California without the involvement of a special district at some level. These districts have risen to the occasion in the past year and done more with less, with no relief at all. That simply isn't sustainable for another year, especially one forecasting another catastrophic fire season, the third worst drought on record, and communities in desperate need of economic and social restoration, we're facing the specter of layoffs (more than 120,000 Californians are employed by special districts), fewer services, and reverberating impacts.

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Dear Assemblymember Cooley:

California's pending state budget must support special districts, which provide critical fire protection, emergency response, water, electricity, parks and recreation, public health, and other services to our local community. Just like cities and counties, these units of local government have been hit hard by COVID impacts, however, special districts are unique in that we have received no direct access to COVID-19 relief funding programs.

The negative financial impact to the Cosumnes Community Services District since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to be approximately \$7.7 million. To manage District finances, we deferred asset lifecycle replacements of infrastructure and purchasing capital such as ambulances, a ladder truck, cardiac monitors, major repair of facilities, among others. Meanwhile, our financial position has been further compounded by the increased expenditures associated with operating vaccine clinics, providing childcare for essential workers, and overtime for our fire and emergency medical services personnel due to workplace exposures.

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Dear Assemblymember Cooper:

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The negative financial impact to the Cosumnes Community Services District since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to be approximately \$7.7 million. To manage District finances, we deferred asset lifecycle replacements of infrastructure and purchasing capital such as ambulances, a ladder truck, cardiac monitors, major repair of facilities, among others. Meanwhile, our financial position has been further compounded by the increased expenditures associated with operating vaccine clinics, providing childcare for essential workers, and overtime for our fire and emergency medical services personnel due to workplace exposures.

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Dear Senator Dodd:

California's pending state budget must support special districts, which provide critical fire protection, emergency response, water, electricity, parks and recreation, public health, and other services to our local community. Just like cities and counties, these units of local government have been hit hard by COVID impacts, however, special districts are unique in that we have received no direct access to COVID-19 relief funding programs.

The negative financial impact to the Cosumnes Community Services District since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to be approximately \$7.7 million. To manage District finances, we deferred asset lifecycle replacements of infrastructure and purchasing capital such as ambulances, a ladder truck, cardiac monitors, major repair of facilities, among others. Meanwhile, our financial position has been further compounded by the increased expenditures associated with operating vaccine clinics, providing childcare for essential workers, and overtime for our fire and emergency medical services personnel due to workplace exposures.

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Dear Senator Eggman:

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The negative financial impact to the Cosumnes Community Services District since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to be approximately \$7.7 million. To manage District finances, we deferred asset lifecycle replacements of infrastructure and purchasing capital such as ambulances, a ladder truck, cardiac monitors, major repair of facilities, among others. Meanwhile, our financial position has been further compounded by the increased expenditures associated with operating vaccine clinics, providing childcare for essential workers, and overtime for our fire and emergency medical services personnel due to workplace exposures.

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Dear Senator Pan:

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The negative financial impact to the Cosumnes Community Services District since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to be approximately \$7.7 million. To manage District finances, we deferred asset lifecycle replacements of infrastructure and purchasing capital such as ambulances, a ladder truck, cardiac monitors, major repair of facilities, among others. Meanwhile, our financial position has been further compounded by the increased expenditures associated with operating vaccine clinics, providing childcare for essential workers, and overtime for our fire and emergency medical services personnel due to workplace exposures.

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