

# GOVERNOR'S 2022-23 PROPOSED BUDGET

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#### RCRC'S SUMMARY OF GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S 2022-23 PROPOSED BUDGET

arlier today, Governor Newson released his Administration's 2022-23 proposed Budget. *The Rural Rundown* captures highlights of the proposal as it relates to RCRC member counties. This proposal is the first step in the State's budget negotiations with lawmakers, who must pass a budget by June 15 for the July 1 start of the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

The Governor's proposed budget highlighted new investments in the following five program areas:

- COVID Response;
- Climate Resiliency;
- Addressing Homelessness;
- Cost of Living; and
- Public Safety Investment.

#### <u>Overview</u>

At \$286 billion, the Governor's 2022-2023 budget includes a proposed \$213.1 billion General Fund and also projects a surplus of \$45.7 billion. This includes \$20.6 billion in General Fund for discretionary purposes, \$16.1 billion in additional Proposition 98 for K-14 education, and \$9 billion in reserve deposits and supplemental pension payments. The proposed budget is geared toward building reserves, eliminating budgetary debt, reducing retirement liabilities, and focusing on one-time spending over ongoing investments to maintain structurally balanced budgets over the long term.

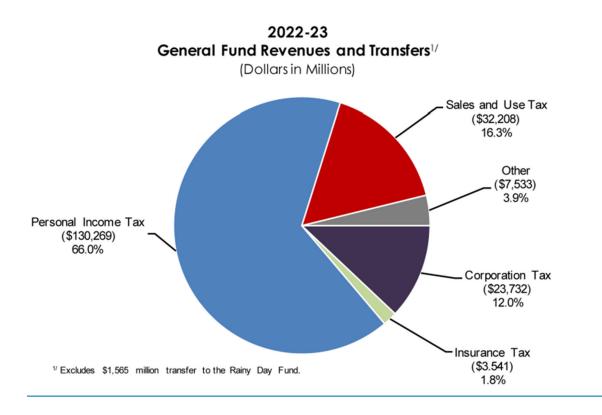
Specifically, the proposed Budget reflects \$34.6 billion in budgetary reserves. These reserves include: \$20.9 billion in the Proposition 2 Budget Stabilization Account (Rainy Day Fund) for fiscal emergencies; \$9.7 billion in the Public School System Stabilization Account; \$900 million in the Safety Net Reserve; and \$3.1 billion in the state's operating reserve. The "Rainy Day" Fund is now at its constitutional maximum (10 percent of General Fund revenues) requiring \$2.4 billion to be dedicated for infrastructure investments in 2022-23. The proposed Budget accelerates the paydown of state retirement liabilities as required by Proposition 2, with \$3.9 billion in additional payments in 2022-23 and nearly \$8.4 billion projected to be paid over the next three years.

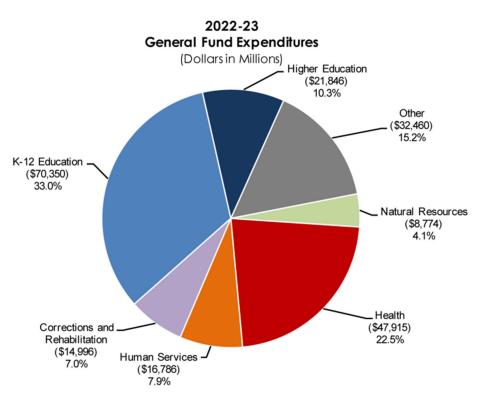
As noted earlier by "budget observers", the proposed budget does project that the State Appropriations Limit or "Gann Limit" will likely be exceeded in the 2020-21 and 2021-22 fiscal years. Any funds above this limit are constitutionally required to be allocated evenly between schools and a tax refund. It is expected that an updated calculation of this limit, and proposals to address it, will be included in the May Revision.

For additional detail about the Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget, <u>see here</u> for analysis by RCRC's advocacy partners, *Hurst Brooks Espinoza, LLC.* 

The Governor's proposed budget reflects the Governor's stated commitment to "fiscal discipline" with 86% of the "surplus" monies directed to one-time investments. This also

reflects that California's economy, while much improved from this time a year ago, can experience substantial volatility related to California's budget being dependent on higher-income households contributing the greatest proportion of the state's revenues.





## <u>Agriculture</u>

The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget is primarily focused on supporting farmers and ranchers achieve the state's climate goals. Specifically, the proposal includes:

- \$150 million in proceeds to the Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions Program (FARMER) for the replacement of equipment used in agricultural operations with cleaner alternatives;
- \$85 million to provide Healthy Soils grants for on-farm conservation management practices designed to sequester carbon within the soil;
- \$1.662 million for fairgrounds; and
- No funding proposed for the Open Space Subvention Program (Williamson Act).

# <u>Air Quality</u>

The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes the following:

- \$240 million for the Community Air Protection Program, which targets emissions reductions in communities with higher exposure to air pollution;
- \$30 million for enhanced pollution monitoring in disadvantaged communities across the state;
- \$7.6 million for the heavy-duty vehicle smoke inspection program;
- \$1.8 million to establish the new Office of Racial Equity at the California Air Resources Board; and,
- \$370,000 to track changes in community pollution burdens using the CalEnviroScreen mapping tool.

#### Community & Economic Development

**Broadband.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget does not clearly identify new investments in broadband infrastructure. Instead, the Governor's Budget highlights investments made by the State through the 2021 Budget which totaled \$6 billion over three years. It is expected that the final budget in June will appropriate the funding for fiscal year 2022-2023 as committed to in last year's Budget. The anticipated appropriations for the upcoming year should include \$125 million for the last mile broadband infrastructure and \$125 for the Loan Loss Reserve fund.

**Homelessness.** The Governor's 2022-23 budget makes an overall investment of \$2 billion to address the stabilization and treatment of individuals experiencing homelessness. Specifically, the Governor's Proposed Budget includes:

- \$500 million in one-time General Fund for the Encampment Resolution Grants Program, building on the \$50 million that will be awarded in the Spring; and,
- \$1.5 billion over the next two years to the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Program to purchase tiny homes and provide operational supports in bridge housing settings.

**Housing.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes a total of \$2 billion over the next two years for housing, focusing on infill and transit-oriented development that supports the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The Governor's proposal also expresses a continued focus on meeting Regional Housing Needs Allocations (RHNA) through local government accountability for planning and permitting of new construction. Additionally, through a partnership with local governments, the Administration will work to identify land across the state that is suitable for accelerated development.

Specifically, the Governor's Proposed Budget includes:

- \$500 million in one-time General Fund for the Infill Infrastructure Grant Program;
- \$300 million in one-time General Fund for the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program;
- \$100 million in one-time General Fund to expand affordable housing on State excess land;
- \$100 million in one-time General Fund for adaptive re-use grants to convert old business construction to resident units;
- \$500 million in Low-Income Housing Tax Credits;
- \$200 million in one-time General Fund for the California Housing Finance Agency for mixed-income rental housing developer loans;
- \$200 million in one-time General Fund for the Portfolio Reinvestment Program to preserve affordable housing; and,
- \$100 million in one-time General Fund for the Mobilehome Park Rehabilitation and Resident Ownership Program.

#### **County Operations**

**Cannabis.** The previous budget (Fiscal Year 2021-22) included the consolidation of the three cannabis licensing entities into a new stand-alone Department of Cannabis Control to streamline regulatory oversight to simplify participation in the legal market. Building on this effort, the Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes:

- \$13.6 million from the Cannabis Tax Fund in 2022-23 to fund a unified licensing system, data warehouse, and a consumer awareness campaign; and,
- Development of a grant program (expected later this spring) to aid local governments in, at a minimum, opening legal retail access to consumers.

In addition, the Administration supports cannabis tax reform and plans to work with the Legislature to modify California's cannabis tax policy to help stabilize the market.

Proposition 64 specifies the allocation of resources in the Cannabis Tax Fund, which is continuously appropriated. The Governor's proposed Budget estimates \$594.9 million will be available for these purposes in 2022-23. The structure of these allocations is unchanged from 2021-22:

• Education, prevention, and treatment of youth substance use disorders and school retention—60 percent (\$356.9 million);

- Clean-up, remediation, and enforcement of environmental impacts created by illegal cannabis cultivation—20 percent (\$119 million); and,
- Public safety-related activities—20 percent (\$119 million).

These figures reflect a decrease of \$34.2 million compared to the allocation estimates in the *2021 Budget Act*.

**Taxes.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes the following observations pertaining to the anticipated revenues from sales and use tax and property tax:

#### Sales and Use Tax

- Strong consumer goods spending and an increased inflation forecast drive the sales tax forecast upgrade from the 2021 Budget Act.
- Inflation has been strong for durable goods, the category of consumer spending most likely to be taxed. The sales tax generated General Fund revenue of \$29.1 billion in 2020-21 and is estimated to generate \$30.1 billion in 2021-22 and \$32.2 billion in 2022-23.
- Compared to the 2021 Budget Act, these figures reflect an increase of \$1.1 billion in 2020-21, \$1.9 billion in 2021-22, and \$3.1 billion in 2022-23.
- The average combined state and local sales and use tax rate was 8.55 percent at the beginning of 2021-22

#### Property Taxes

- Preliminary data for the secured property tax roll indicates that property tax collections increased 5.3 percent in 2020-21, which is modestly below the average growth of the prior five years of 5.9 percent but still in line with historical norms. The median sales price of existing single-family homes increased 22 percent from 2019-20 to 2020-21.
- Property Tax revenues are estimated to increase 6.2 percent in 2021-22 and 6.1 percent in 2022-23, compared to 6.1 percent for 2021-22 and 6.1 percent for 2022-23 projected as of the 2021 Budget Act.
- Approximately 42 percent (\$37 billion) of 2022-23 property tax revenues will go to K-14 schools.

**Unemployment.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes the following:

- \$3 billion General Fund over the next two years to reduce the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Trust Fund debt owed to the federal government; and,
- \$470.1 million one-time General Fund to pay the forecasted UI interest payment, which will accrue over the federal fiscal year and come due in September 2022.

# <u>Energy</u>

The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes the following:

- \$2 billion over two years for clean energy projects, including:
  - \$922.4 million General Fund (over two years) for consumer rebates to decarbonize older buildings with electric appliances, energy-efficient lighting, and building insulation;
  - \$380 million for long duration energy storage projects to promote grid reliability;
  - \$240 million for improvements at Oroville Dam for temperature management and increased capacity of the pumped storage facility;
  - \$85 million for adoption of energy technologies at food processing facilities;
  - \$45 million to advance offshore wind energy in federal waters; and,
  - \$7 million on modeling to determine what energy resources are needed to meet the state's clean energy goals while maintaining reliability.
- Development of a regulatory scheme for the extraction of lithium in the Imperial Valley/Salton Sea.
- \$10 million to offset the cost of transporting forest fuels to biomass and other wood processing facilities.

## Forest and Public Lands Stewardship

Coastal Programs. The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes:

- \$400 million for coastal resilience, including \$350 million for coastal wetland protection and restoration; and,
- \$50 million for ocean protection, including for estuary and kelp forest habitat protection.

**Parks/Conservancies.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes the following for Parks and Conservancies:

- \$50 million for art installations in state parks and local parks to enrich the history of California's cultural and historical heritage and resources;
- \$50 million for future State Parks infrastructure projects to increase equitable access, improve visitor experiences and build recreational opportunities; and,
- \$9.8 million to support California tribal engagement and interpretation in state parks.

**Wildfire and Forest Resilience.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes monies for wildfire and forest resilience. Specifically, the budget includes:

- \$400 million ongoing to improve the health and wellness of CAL FIRE firefighters;
- \$248.4 million for wildfire suppression equipment, including helicopters, fire engines and bulldozers, as well as \$68.6 million for year-round fire crews;
- \$175.2 million for improvements to aging fire stations, unit headquarters, replacement of helitack bases and improvements to air attack bases;

- \$1.2 billion over two years (\$600 million each in 2022-23 and 2023-24) for wildfire prevention and forest resilience programs, including:
  - \$482 million for wildfire resilience programs, including forest thinning, tree replanting, grazing expansion, and prescribed fire, with \$13 million in 2022-23 and \$12 million in 2023-24 allocated to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy and \$5 million each year to the Tahoe Conservancy;
  - o \$100 million for reforestation programs in critical watersheds;
  - \$382 million for CAL FIRE and the California Conservation Corps (CCC) to complete strategic fuel breaks, including fire prevention grants for local communities;
  - \$44 million for the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), CAL FIRE and the UC Fire Advisors program to implement defensible space and home retrofit programs;
  - \$110 million for targeted regional investments through the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program to support regional project implementation and provide technical support for development of cross-jurisdictional regional plans;
  - \$38 million for investments in scientific monitoring, research, and remote sensing to improve science-based wildfire and forest resilience; and,
  - \$44 million for workforce development and expansion of the wood product supply chain in the wildfire sector, including expanding pilot programs to deliver woody feedstock supply agreements and offset transportation costs of removing woody material from forests.
- \$12.6 million to implement the provisions of four 2021 pieces of interconnected legislation intended to help mitigate the threats of catastrophic wildfire, including Assembly Bill 9 (Wood), Assembly Bill 642 (Friedman), Senate Bill 63 (Stern) and Senate Bill 456 (Laird); and,
- \$1.8 million to implement the provisions of Senate Bill 109 (Dodd, 2021), which establishes the Office of Wildfire Technology Research and Development within CAL FIRE.

#### Health Care and Social Services

The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes \$217.5 billion (\$64.7 billion General Fund and \$152.7 billion other funds) for all health and human services programs in 2022-23.

**Behavioral Health.** The *2021 Budget Act* provided unprecedented investment to expand and enhance the behavioral health continuum of care. The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget builds on those investments with additional funding in the following areas:

- \$1.5 billion General Fund over two years for additional housing supports to those with behavioral health needs;
- \$1.7 billion in Care Economy Workforce investments, including funding to recruit and train 25,000 new community health workers and additional psychiatric providers;

- \$96 million General Fund in 2022-23 and \$61 million ongoing General Fund to respond to the opioid crisis; and,
- \$10 million to administer a competitive grant program to prevent and treat depression as part of the California Initiative to Advance Precision Medicine.

**California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM).** CalAIM is a framework that encompasses a broad-based delivery system, program, and payment reform across the Medi-Cal program. The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes the following for CalAIM:

- \$1.2 billion (\$435.5 million General Fund) in 2021-22;
- \$2.8 billion (\$982.6 million General Fund) in 2022-23;
- \$2.4 billion (\$876.4 million General Fund) in 2023-24; and
- \$1.6 billion (\$500 million General Fund) in 2024-25.

CalAIM officially launched on January 1, 2022. CalAIM initiatives being implemented in 2022-23 include:

- Mandatory enrollment into managed care of beneficiaries eligible for both Medi-Cal and Medicare;
- The requirement that all managed care plans cover long-term care;
- The provision of a targeted set of Medicaid services to eligible justice-involved populations prior to release; and
- The Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) initiative to further the successful implementation of CalAIM.

**Conservatorships.** Although there is no proposal in the Governor's 2022-23 Proposed - Budget regarding conservatorships, at the press conference on January 10<sup>th</sup>, Governor Newsom noted his interest in conservatorship reform.

**COVID-19 Response.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes \$2.7 billion in COVID-19 emergency response. \$1.4 Billion is an emergency appropriation request to increase testing capacity, bolster vaccination/booster efforts, support frontline workers and the health care system. Specifically, the proposal includes:

- \$1.2 billion to increase testing;
- \$583 Million towards vaccination/booster efforts and public education campaigns;
- \$614 Million to support frontline workers and health care systems;
- \$200 million support state response operations; and,
- \$110 million to support vulnerable populations and contact tracing efforts.

**Felony Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST).** In the fall of 2021, the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) convened an IST Workgroup focused on identifying solutions to address the increasing number of individuals with serious mental illness who are deemed IST on felony charges. Informed by the deliberations, the Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes

\$93 million General Fund in 2021-22 and \$571 million General Fund in 2022-23, and ongoing to provide for:

- Early stabilization and community care coordination to provide immediate solutions to support access to treatment for individuals currently found IST on felony charges and waiting in jail, and to reduce the flow of new incoming referrals; and,
- Expansion of diversion and community-based restoration capacity to increase IST treatment alternatives by investing in the community infrastructure required to support the felony IST population.

**In-Home Supportive Services.** The average monthly caseload in this program is estimated to be 599,000 recipients in 2022-23. The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes:

- \$18.5 billion (\$6.5 billion General Fund) for the IHSS program in 2022-23;
- \$192 million General Fund in 2021-22 and \$399 million in 2022-23 to reflect increased minimum wage costs in the IHSS program; and
- \$24.8 million (\$11.2 million General Fund) ongoing to establish a permanent back-up provider system for IHSS recipients to avoid disruptions to caregiving due to an immediate need or emergencies.

**Medi-Cal.** The Governor's proposed Medi-Cal budget is \$123.8 billion (\$26.8 billion General Fund) in 2021-22, and \$132.7 billion (\$34.9 billion General Fund) in 2022-23. The proposed Budget assumes that caseload will increase by approximately 8.3 percent from 2020-21 to 2021-22 and decrease by 3 percent from 2021-22 to 2022-23. Medi-Cal is projected to cover approximately 14.2 million Californians in 2022-23, over one-third of the state's population. Specifically, the proposal includes:

- \$73 million total funds (\$36.5 million General Fund) in each of 2021-22 and 2022-23 for counties to resume annual redeterminations of Medi-Cal beneficiaries; and,
- Full implementation, inclusive of In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) costs, to expand full-scope eligibility to all income-eligible adults aged 26 through 49 regardless of immigration status.

**Public Health Climate Change Initiatives.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes three initiatives to combat the impacts of climate change on public health:

- <u>Climate and Health Resilience Planning Grant Program:</u> \$25 million one-time General Fund for a grant program to bolster the actions of Local Health Jursidictions to more effectively mount responses to climate change-imposed health risks.
- <u>Climate and Health Surveillance Program:</u> \$10 million ongoing General Fund to establish a surveillance program to link public health and health care data sources, in order to create real-time notification for local public health jurisdictions, providers, and patients for emerging or intensified climate-sensitive diseases.
- <u>Community Health Workers:</u> \$350 million General Fund to recruit, train, and certify 25,000 new community health workers by 2025 in areas such as climate health, homelessness, and dementia to meet the goal of a more ethnically and culturally inclusive workforce by 2025.

**Public Health Infrastructure.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget consists of the following breakdown for public health infrastructure:

- \$100 million General Fund annually will be dedicated to CDPH to strengthen statewide public health infrastructure;
- \$200 million General Fund annually for Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJ) to enhance their public health workforce and infrastructure; and,
- \$350,000 minimum base allocation for LHJ's.

Key elements of this dedicated funding include workforce expansion, data collection/integration, and community partnerships.

**Telehealth.** While the Administration convened a stakeholder group last fall to discuss the state's telehealth policies, there is no proposal contained in the Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget. The Department of Health and Community Services (DHCS) budget summary notes that "the Department will release a proposal for changes that continue to allow Medi-Cal covered benefits and services to be provided via telehealth across delivery systems when clinically appropriate."

### Public Safety and Emergency Management

**Emergency Management.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes the following for Emergency Management:

- \$61.9 million to address the state's more frequent and often simultaneous emergencies, including:
  - \$30 million to establish the Fire Integrated Real-time Intelligence System program to advance real-time information available to the state's mutual aid system on all hazard events, including wildfires;
  - \$11.2 million to improve and enhance the California State Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System's fire fleet;
  - \$10 million for costs resulting from incidents not covered under a Governor's proclaimed state of emergency;
  - \$5.8 million to improve the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) regional response and partnerships with local governments and other stakeholders; and,
  - \$4.9 million to improve core operations of CalOES.
- \$17.1 million to improve the state's earthquake early warning systems in rural Northern California and provide education grants for underserved communities;
- \$11.6 million for renovations to CalOES facilities; and,
- \$7.5 million to implement the federally mandated 9-8-8 call system to provide assistance to those experiencing a mental health crisis.

**Juvenile Justice.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes \$100 million one-time General Fund for grants to be administered by the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) to support improvements to county-operated juvenile facilities to make these

locations more conducive to serving justice-involved youth and support the realignment of youth from the state to the counties.

**Post Release Community Supervision.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes \$23.2 million one-time General Fund for county probation departments to supervise the temporary increase in the average daily population of individuals on Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) as a result of the implementation of Proposition 57. This is a decrease of \$400,000 when compared to last year's Proposition 57 funding, attributable to fewer releases of incarcerated individuals than had been projected in spring 2021.

**Retail Theft and Other Crimes.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes a total of \$356 million General Fund over three years, including \$132 million in 2022-23, to bolster local law enforcement efforts to crack down on organized retail theft and other crimes. Specifically, this proposal includes:

- \$85 million annually through 2024-25 in competitive grants for local law enforcement to combat organized retail crime so Californians and small businesses across the state can feel safe;
- \$10 million annually through 2024-25 for competitive grants to local District Attorneys to create dedicated retail theft prosecution teams;
- \$6 million in 2022-23 to provide a total of \$15 million annually for CHP to expand and make permanent its Organized Retail Theft Taskforce;
- \$6 million annually through 2024-25 and \$500,000 ongoing for the Department of Justice (DOJ) to support regional task forces combating organized retail theft and to prosecute retail theft cases that span multiple jurisdictions;
- \$5 million for the DOJ to continue leading anti-crime task forces around the state; and,
- \$20 million one-time for grants to small businesses that have been the victim of retail theft.

**Transitional Housing for Justice involved Individuals.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes \$10.6 million General Fund annually for three years to continue the Returning Home Well Program, which provides transitional housing services to individuals who would otherwise be at risk of being unhoused at the time of their release.

#### Solid Waste Management

The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes the following for solid waste management:

• Unspecified funding for the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to determine the feasibility of bifurcating the organic waste collection stream and requiring local governments and solid waste haulers to separate compostable products suitable for organic composting from the rest of the organic waste stream. This is inconsistent with the author's stated intent behind last year's Assembly Bill 1201 (Ting) and the reason RCRC opposed the bill;

- \$65 million to implement goals to reduce short-lived climate pollutants, including the provisions of the Short-Lived Climate Pollutants organics regulations promulgated by CalRecycle in accordance with Senate Bill 1383 (Lara, 2016); and
- Continuation of \$500 million over three years (allocated in the 2021-22 State Budget Package) to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) for the Cleanup in Vulnerable Communities Initiative, which impacts a potential 7,500 sites already identified for cleanup.

# Transportation

The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget includes the following:

- \$100 million General Fund into 2023-24 to continue providing *Clean California* grants to local jurisdictions to remove trash and debris along highways, streets, and roads to beautify communities.
- Gas Tax "Holiday" by suspending the annual inflation adjustment (estimated at 5.6%), automatically scheduled for July 1, 2022, resulting in a decrease of \$523 million in gasoline and diesel fuel tax revenues. The Administration signaled a willingness to backfill the local share of reduced revenues with State Highway Account funds;
- \$6.1 billion (\$3.5 billion General Fund) additional investment over five years to accelerate the Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) market and decarbonize the transportation sector. Notably, over \$3.9 billion combined is dedicated to heavy-duty ZEVs and supporting infrastructure ranging from drayage trucks, public transit, electric school buses, and port electrification; and,
- \$200 million to be invested in pilot projects in the maritime, aviation, rail, and off-road sectors for greater zero-emission solutions.

#### <u>Water</u>

The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget builds on programs established by past budgets that promote water use efficiency and conservation across residential, commercial, and agricultural sectors.

**Agricultural Water Use Conservation.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget contains several proposals for agricultural water use conservation. Specifically, the proposal includes:

- \$30 million in grants to local agencies to fund planning, engineering, and construction of groundwater recharge projects;
- \$20 million for State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP) grants to growers;
- \$10 million in technical resources, such as mobile irrigation labs, mapping tools, irrigation education, and direct assistance to local growers for irrigation use conservation; and,
- \$40 million in grants to landholders for repurposing former irrigated land to multibenefit uses such as groundwater recharge and wildlife habitat.

**Investments in Local Water Systems.** The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget continues to invest in local water systems, but not at levels comparable to the previous budget year. Proposed new funding to urban and small water agencies is more narrowly focused to help achieve the administration's water conservation and drought resiliency goals. This new funding includes:

- \$180 million to local agencies for water conservation programs to reduce residential usage;
- \$145 million for emergency drought assistance to local agencies; and,
- \$250 million in reserve funds to local agencies and governments, should drought conditions warrant.

#### Wildlife

The Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget is scant in detailing new wildlife-related policies and program. Two items of note in the proposal include:

- \$75 million to mitigate damage from drought to fish and wildlife habitats; and,
- \$10 million for a new wildlife corridor primarily located in the Santa Monica Mountains.