



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

NIKKI FORTUNATO BAS
SUPERVISOR, FIFTH DISTRICT

January 24, 2025

Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Alameda
1221 Oak Street, Suite 536
Oakland, CA 94612

SUBJECT: APPROVE THE CREATION OF “ALAMEDA COUNTY TOGETHER FOR ALL” AN AD-HOC COMMITTEE OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO RESPOND TO ANTICIPATED FEDERAL POLICIES AND BUDGETS THAT WILL IMPACT VULNERABLE POPULATIONS IN ALAMEDA COUNTY.

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the creation of “Alameda County Together for All” an Ad-Hoc Committee of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors to respond to anticipated federal policies and budgets that will impact vulnerable populations in Alameda County.

DISCUSSION/SUMMARY:

Based on anticipated federal policies and budgets, it is advised that the Alameda County Board of Supervisors be pro-active in its response to provide the most robust support for vulnerable populations in Alameda County. To be effective, the Board needs a committee focused on this issue, and the work is best served by an ad-hoc (time limited) committee rather than a standing committee that serves the Board ongoing.

Alameda County Together for All will be modeled after the work of the late Supervisors Wilma Chan and Richard Valle who in 2017 launched our County’s efforts to protect immigrant and refugee communities. They did this work through the creation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights which culminated in a comprehensive report and a set of recommendations to be implemented throughout the county.

Alameda County Together for All will continue the important work of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights and also address a broader range of issues that will impact Alameda County communities.

Alameda County Together for All will have the following purpose:

- Protect Alameda County communities and strengthen county policies, systems and practices for a coordinated response to anticipated federal policies and budgets;
- Organize support for healthcare, social services and public safety, i.e. immigrant and refugee rights and access to services, reproductive rights, healthcare and social services; and
- Support and expand the county's welcoming policy for immigrants and refugees and align our local efforts with state partners who share similar goals.

The expected outcomes of Alameda County Together for All will be:

- Effective coordination amongst county, community, and government agencies to effectively protect Alameda County communities and the programs that support them;
- Protection of access to critical health programs and social services;
- Establishment of a fund, similar to the one in 2017, with county, city, state and philanthropic resources to support and protect immigrant and refugee rights; and
- Establishment of a fund to protect county initiatives such as the one advanced by Supervisor Wilma Chan in 2017.

The process of Alameda County Together for All will be determined by the Board members serving on the committee and, at minimum, be aligned with the following objectives:

- The ad-hoc committee will meet regularly to advance this work with Supervisor Fortunato Bas as Chair and Supervisor Márquez as Vice Chair;
- Informational meetings in each district will be hosted with community-based organizations, partner agencies, county departments and elected officials at the local, state and federal level that will include "know your rights" trainings and legal education services; and
- The ad-hoc committee will work with all of its partners to advance policy changes, resource allocations and program implementation, as well as educational and legal support.

The first meeting is planned for Thursday, February 6 at 10:00 am in the Board Chambers at 1221 Oak Street, 5th Floor, Oakland. We look forward to working together with our Alameda County communities.

FINANCING:

The Ad Hoc Committee will have no impact on net County Cost.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nikki Fortunato Bas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nikki Fortunato Bas, Supervisor
Alameda County Board of Supervisors
Fifth District

cc: Auditor-Controller
County Administrator
County Counsel