



# pat hume

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## COUNTY SUPERVISOR

### A Year in Review



Having recently traveled from Beijing to Shanghai, I can tell you 2025 is the Year of the Snake in Chinese Zodiac emphasizing transformation and spiritual growth! In numerology, 2025 adds up to the number 9 which is a transformative and altruistic number urging us to give back and help others. As a County Supervisor, 2025 marks the mid-point of my first term. I remain humbled by the work of representing and serving the residents of District 5 and the well-being of the residents of Sacramento County as a whole.

Counties are the safety net under people, providing the services all of us need when we are at our most vulnerable including social services, unlike cities who focus on infrastructure and essential functions like garbage, animal care and public safety. Through this lens, I reflect on the work we have undertaken with a critical eye and remain optimistic that in the coming year we can lean into big issues and the collective ability to make our communities

better. With 1.6 million people in Sacramento County, making communities better can feel like moving mountains but we cannot lose our determination to succeed together.

In 2025, I remain steadfast in my commitment to the key policy areas toward which I first ventured at the beginning of 2023: homelessness, roads, housing, business health, public safety, and the emergent issues of flooding and emergency response. Many of these were recently confirmed as the public's high priority concerns at our first meeting of the year in the county's public opinion survey to support the development of our fiscal year 2025-26 budget.

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**Homeless Encampments**

I'm pleased to report that according to data collected during the bi-annual point in time (PIT) count conducted in January 2024, the population of unsheltered people in Sacramento County decreased by roughly 29% - from over 5,500 individuals to just less than 4,000 in the last 2 years - the most improved PIT count in the State of California!

I took an additional proactive step on these efforts in 2024 with a fact-finding trip to look at San Diego's homeless camping ordinance and services in hopes of learning more about how to connect our unsheltered folks to critical services. With my colleague Supervisor Rich Desmond, Sheriff Jim Cooper, District Attorney Thien Ho and additional county staff, we examined programs that the city is utilizing to address their homeless issues. San Diego officials enacted an anti-camping ordinance and stood up emergency shelters all of which seemed to be working, before the Supreme Court made their recent Grants Pass decision.

Through the increased collaboration between Sacramento County's Sheriff's Homeless Outreach Team, the District Attorney's Office and the County Departments of Human Assistance and Homeless Services & Housing, families and individuals are getting connected to services for food, shelter and housing while ensuring that our communities stay safe.

Since our site visit to the City of San Diego, the Supreme Court reversed aspects of the preceding *Martin v. Boise* ruling with the Grants Pass case. As I had been saying all along, the previous court decision was being overrepresented and local jurisdictions, in fact, do have the authority to prevent camping if it's creating a nuisance, causing a safety problem or is positioned in an area considered a sensitive location. All this means the County does have an avenue to effectively change the narrative on the current homeless situation.

In November, the Board of Supervisors took a big step towards addressing public safety by adopting an ordinance amendment curbing unlawful camping on public property. By tackling these challenging issues, we keep the public spaces within our jurisdictions safe, clean and accessible to all residents and foster a safer community for everyone.



### **APOT & First Responders**

One of the emerging priorities in the first half of my term has been APOT, or Ambulance Patient Offload Time, which refers to the length of time it takes for ambulance crews to transition patients into the care of hospital staff. Our emergency departments are crowded with folks struggling with a host of health challenges, some of which may better be addressed at alternate destinations with focus on re-occurring needs such as mental

health, substance abuse disorders, skilled nursing facilities and other supportive living programs and shelters.

The congestion of medical needs from a complicated mix of health conditions can sometimes make it difficult for critical patients coming by ambulance suffering with heart attacks, strokes, life-threatening injuries or emergent conditions to access critical care. Current state law requires the paramedics to stay with a patient until a complete transition into the care of the hospital is made. When this time is prolonged, it can strain our emergency resources, delaying both patient care and the paramedic's response to other emergencies in the field.

When I took office in 2023, the average APOT in Sacramento County was among the worst in the state. We've worked closely with local hospitals, Emergency Medical Services and fire departments to significantly improve patient care systems. I am so proud to share that these collaborative efforts have greatly turned things around and successfully transformed Sacramento County into a statewide model, reducing average ambulance wait times from 73 minutes to 29 minutes. Sacramento County now boasts some of the most improved wait times in the state. In fact, we've even recently been called the poster child for improving patient transfer times.



As we head into 2025, we're focusing on new ways to further improve care. We're working to establish alternate care destinations and expand transport services for elderly patients needing skilled nursing or supportive care. I've also directed some of my discretionary district funds toward supporting Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) programs, which are staffed by advanced medical technicians and paramedics to provide on-site medical

support for non-emergency issues such as ongoing health management, helping to ease the burden on emergency services.

The County is also preparing to roll out Triage to Alternate Destination, or TAD, at the start of this new year. This allows for people experiencing certain mental or behavioral health crises to be diverted to facilities and sobering centers for the right care at the right place. Sacramento County is one of the first counties in the state to roll out this pilot program and I'm looking forward to seeing the positive impact it will have on patient outcomes and our healthcare system.

I frankly believe the true solution to this issue is to reimagine the system in a way that reduces the aperture of patients who are funneled into the Emergency Department and increases the aperture on the other side for people to transition into the appropriate level of care and facilities once stabilized.

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### **Cosumnes River Flood Response**

Saying the 2023 floods in Sacramento County highlighted the need for long-term solutions would be an understatement. Seeing the impacts of the flooding of the Cosumnes River, including the loss of life, led me to bring together Reclamation District 800 in Wilton, the Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District, private property owners, water districts and environmental organizations to form the Cosumnes Flood Response Working Group. At the heart of our continued efforts is the Cosumnes Multi-Benefit Project, which seeks to address flood risks along the Cosumnes River while simultaneously enhancing the environment through restoring vital fish habitats, reintroducing natural floodplains and boosting groundwater recharge.



To help bring this vision to life, CBEC, an eco-engineering firm, was recently awarded a county contract to model the Cosumnes River to help guide the project's development using state and county data. We also reached a significant federal milestone when Congress included the Cosumnes River Watershed authorization in the 2024 Water Resources Development Act. This inclusion opens the door to securing federal funding, which is a crucial step in creating a sustainable, resilient ecosystem that will benefit the Cosumnes River watershed, the last wild river in California, as well as the Sacramento River Delta, one of nature's gem. The initiative will make both areas less vulnerable while safeguarding life, property, and crops along their banks.

### **Delta Tunnel**

As chair of the Delta Counties Coalition (DCC), which consists of a collaboration of Supervisors from Sacramento, Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Solano and Yolo counties, I continue to work with my colleagues, community members and local agencies to advocate on behalf of the four million people throughout the Delta region for investment into the Delta and in opposition to those projects that further threaten its already precarious status.



We've recently had a bit of a setback in the fight to preserve the Delta and stop the Governor's tunnel project. In December, the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Board in Southern California approved additional funds to continue planning for the controversial and harmful Delta Conveyance Project. In response, the DCC will continue to reject this project that will deprive the area of origin of protections under the [State Water Project](#) and instead push for ways to strengthen our levee systems, find resources to aid in the repair of existing infrastructure, recharge groundwater supplies and improve regional self-reliance on local water supply systems across the state.

While I am disappointed in this setback and acknowledge the reality that this could move us further away from effective solutions in meeting California's future water needs, I continue to hope for and work towards greater collaboration between all parties, with the goal of coming together to find forward-thinking solutions that will protect our farms, fisheries and flyways.

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## **Roadways**

### **Harvest Water**

If you've driven on the roads in the south portion of the County, you've surely noticed all the construction happening while a pipeline is being installed as part of the [Harvest Water Project](#). This Project will take a portion of our treated effluent from the wastewater treatment plant and, instead of putting it out into the river to flow away, recapture that water to be used for agricultural purpose, thereby reducing reliance on groundwater. I believe this is a meaningful example of good stewardship and a project which, in the long run, will be beneficial to us all. Another piece of good news: I was able to bring my colleagues on the Board of Supervisors to agree to allocate a little bit of extra general fund

money to make sure that both sides of the roads which are being torn up during the installation will be fully repaved when the project is done.

### **Rosemont Street Lighting**

We have now moved into Phase III of the Rosemont Street Lighting Project, bringing much-needed streetlights to neighborhoods that previously lacked them. Recently, new lights were installed in areas north of Kiefer Boulevard, and in the coming months, this effort will continue adding lighting to Avante Way, Henley Way, Andedon Circle, Vosburg Street, Westporter Drive and Tallyho Drive.

### **Wilton Road Repairs**

In the Wilton community, our Department of Transportation (SacDOT) has completed roadway restoration on Meiss Road and Peach Lane, addressing the additional strain and damage caused by the trucks during Reclamation District 800 work on critical levee repairs after the Cosumnes River flooding. Other roads affected by the trucking operation were also closely monitored and repaired, including Cosumnes Road, Dillard Road, Fig Road and Freeman Road. I am also thankful for the response and installation of flashing lights at stop signs along Dillard Road.

### **Repairs for Storm Related Damage**

SacDOT and Caltrans also partnered to address storm-related damage to roadways eligible for Federal Highway Administration funding. Repairs have been committed for several key locations including Wilton Road Bridge at Cosumnes River, McKenzie Bridge at Laguna Creek, the Alta Mesa Road culvert, the Clay Station Road culvert, Dillard Road, Franklin Boulevard, Grant Line Road, Green Road, Scott Road, Twin Cities Road and White Rock Road.





### **Farm-to-Market Roads**

There is a multi-agency effort underway to identify farm-to-market roads as higher priority for road improvement funding, when available. Together, the Sacramento Transportation Authority (STA) and the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) are exploring how we can better position ourselves to be competitive for future funding opportunities. These rural roads are essential for transporting goods from local farms, the foundation of our agricultural sector, the largest single sector in our county's economy. It is crucial that these roads remain reliable for our transportation needs. Unfortunately, absent a designation like this, they would never compete for formulaic funding.

### **Transparency in County Budget**

One of the more important jobs we do as Supervisors is approve the annual budget for Sacramento County. At the January 7<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting, county staff recommended budget priorities for the coming fiscal year based on community input gathered through surveys and focus groups of County residents. These priorities will help inform the development of the FY 2025-26 Recommended Budget that will be considered by the Board during budget hearings scheduled for June 4, 2025. Check out the [FY 2024-25 Budget in Brief](#) for more information about the County budget, including ways to get involved in the budget process.

As in recent years, homelessness, roadway conditions and crime continue to be the highest issues of concern to residents of Sacramento County. In balance, 26% of our

budget goes towards Social Services, which encompasses funding to address homeless issues. We will continue in the coming year to invest in strategies that help reduce the population of folks living unsheltered on the streets, including opening additional shelters and re-housing locations, thereby reducing the impacts on our communities and local businesses.

As part of the County's effort to provide greater transparency in our budget process and to encourage County residents to learn more about where the money comes from and how the County plans to spend it, the County held a Public Budget Workshop in December that included an overview of the budget and key dates for the upcoming FY 2025-26 budget process, as well as highlights from the County's Airports, Health Services and Finance Departments. If you didn't get the chance to view the workshop yet, you can find the presentation and video [here](#).

## **Representing District 5**

### **Rosemont Business Initiative**

Over the past year, my office has worked in collaboration with the Rancho Cordova Area Chamber of Commerce and Sacramento County's Office of Economic Development to support businesses in Rosemont. Our efforts are focused on revitalizing the business community, addressing lingering challenges from the COVID-19 shutdown and fostering economic growth for the area. This collaboration shares the goal for a thriving Rosemont business community with vibrant shopping and dining options, benefiting both residents and visitors, while also attracting new businesses to the area.



Together, we held a successful business walk in June, where we engaged with nearly 70 local businesses to gather feedback on owning and operating a business in Rosemont. We then used that feedback in organizing the first Rosemont Business Resource Fair in July, where we connected business owners with over two dozen

organizations offering support and guidance for growing businesses, addressing crime, managing utilities and more.

Our 2025 business boot camp is now wrapping up, having provided an intensive two-day training for local business owners on topics such as marketing, financials and strategic planning. Each participant not only gained new skills for the long-term success of their business but was also provided a \$1,500 stipend to invest back into their business.

### **MASH Clinic**

In 2024, I was honored to help fund a free Mobile Animal Sterilization Hospital (MASH) clinic in partnership with Sacramento County Animal Care and the Elk Grove Animal Shelter. This clinic was able to provide spay and neuter services for over 200 animals, along with essential veterinary care like microchipping, wellness exams and vaccinations.



This clinic is part of an effort to address the overpopulation of community cats and dogs, compounded by a nationwide shortage of veterinarians and high demand for spay/neuter appointments that has been overwhelming shelters, like the Bradshaw Animal Shelter. Community feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with many residents sharing how this clinic has helped address local overpopulation issues and make responsible pet ownership more affordable.

I will be partnering with Animal Care Services again in 2025 to bring another MASH clinic to the community to continue this important work for our four-legged friends.

### **Unpermitted Food Vendors**

As many of you have noticed, sidewalk vending operations in Sacramento County have been on the rise in the last few years. Much of this is due to the passage of Senate Bill 946 which essentially allowed for the decriminalization of these vendors as a way to support low-income communities. Unfortunately, this led to the proliferation of illegal street vendors in our county, many of which have set up shop in the southern areas of our district.

Because of this legislation, the Sacramento County Office of Environmental Management Division (EMD) is limited on what they can do regarding enforcement, which I know is frustrating for many of you, especially those who run food establishments. But I do see some progress! There have been on-going conversations this past year about how EMD can better collaborate with code enforcement and law enforcement officials to help mitigate the impact of these illegal food vendors. Several ordinances have also been proposed that will establish guidelines these vendors must follow to sell food in Sacramento County. For

example, these ordinances will establish specific times, place and hours of operation, require vendors to maintain sanitary conditions, comply with federal Americans with Disabilities Act requirements and obtain proper health, seller and sidewalk vending permits.

EMD staff continues to work hard to investigate each call that comes into my office related to street vendors. Their teams of health inspectors visit each site, provide educational materials and information on how to obtain a permit and implement enforcement options. My office and staff at EMD will continue to monitor this issue, respond to calls about illegal street vendor activity and look for ways to help find a resolution to this ongoing problem.

### **Ag and Food Banks**

There is state legislation on processing organics from garbage going to the dump that also includes some provisions for edible food recovery. The county convened a working group with food banks to talk about how the county supports them with capital investments or other system changes to be better able to receive bulk donations from grocery stores and restaurants as an example.

In our federal advocacy efforts, we also worked with our food bank and agriculture partners to raise awareness of the impacts from extreme weather events on our agricultural products and farmers. When coupled with the growing price of food and inflation since the pandemic, our food banks are experiencing 20-30% increased need from more and more folks struggling with food insecurity. We will continue to work collaboratively to raise awareness in Washington D.C. as Congress develops the next 4-year Farm Bill defining critical assistance for farmers in addition to support for nutrition and food assistance programs for those in need in our county and country.

### **Fentanyl Epidemic**

In an ongoing effort to combat the crisis of illegal drugs in our communities, especially the fentanyl epidemic, I continue to work with the Sheriff and the District Attorney to strengthen our responses here in Sacramento County. Sadly, we continue to see the effects of fentanyl poisoning increase year-over-year, but the Board of Supervisors is committed to addressing this issue head-on by providing the resources and support needed and through our strong partnerships with law enforcement, the Department of Health Services and community-based methods, harm reductions and treatment efforts. This year, I will be exploring special circumstances elevation for prosecuting fentanyl dealers.

### **Community Meetings**

In 2024, I hosted a series of community meetings focused on public safety, featuring representatives from the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office, the District Attorney's Office

and the California Highway Patrol. We made it out to Wilton, Herald, Walnut Grove and Isleton to engage directly with residents on their concerns. I'm excited to be continuing these important discussions in 2025 with a future meeting being planned for the Rosemont community and the Rancho Cordova/La Riviera areas too.



I was also pleased to co-host two different community meetings, one with Assemblymember Josh Hoover in Rancho Cordova and one with the Agency on Aging Area 4 at the Senior Center of Elk Grove.

In addition to the ones we host, my staff and I regularly attend various meetings throughout District 5, such as the Butterfield Riviera East Community Association, the Rosemont Community Association, the Walnut Grove Rotary and events hosted by the local Chambers of Commerce in Rancho Cordova, Elk Grove, Galt and the Delta. I'll also be joining the Independence at Mather HOA meeting later this month.

### **Events in your Neighborhood**

Getting out into the communities of my district and meeting with people is one of the best parts of this job! From community meetings and town halls to judging chili cook-offs and

even dressing up as one of Santa's reindeer for a Christmas parade, I love connecting with folks and seeing what's happening in District 5.

As the representative of the largest district in Sacramento County, it can be hard to be everywhere or attend every event. However, I've made it a priority to visit each area in 2024, and I've been honored to attend many incredible events and meet so many wonderful people along the way. If you're part of a community group and would like us to attend, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're always eager to engage with and support the residents of District 5.



*Left to right from top: Locke Lunar New Year, Isleton Crawdad Festival, Courtland Pear Fair, Elk Grove 4th of July, Rancho Cordova Kids Day in the Park, Elk Grove Veteran's Day Parade, Herald Day.*

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*Left to right from top: Mather Grandparents Day, Capital Airshow, Galt National Night Out, Wilton Winter Festival, Wilton Chili Cook-Off, Sunrise Elementary School in Rancho Cordova, Rosemont Community Association Members, Rosemont Santa Parade.*

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