2020 Legislative Platform (Adopted February 6, 2020)

As a cross-sector, member-driven organization, the East Bay Economic Development Alliance (East Bay EDA) promotes, advocates and influences legislation and policy efforts that contribute to a strong economy that attracts business, job opportunities and investment to the East Bay region. The 2020 legislative platform outlines priority issues to facilitate appropriate and timely responses to relevant legislation and advocacy opportunities.

East Bay EDA will consider taking positions on ballot measures, bills, and other policy issues of regional significance consistent with the principles outlined in the following domains if they will not negatively impact or potentially cause division within the organization’s membership. Legislation or policies that create new regulatory barriers must have an overall beneficial effect on the goals of retaining and expanding business in the East Bay.

Business Climate & Economic Competitiveness
Our region’s businesses must constantly work to remain competitive in a dynamic global economy. East Bay EDA supports efforts to attract and retain businesses of all sizes and industry sectors to ensure that the region continues to enjoy the benefits of a diverse composition of companies and industries.

Education & Workforce Development
East Bay EDA seeks to advance access to and implementation of quality early childcare and K-12 education that supports college and career readiness for all students. The organization also supports policies that help to create and sustain an accessible, affordable and equitable post-secondary education system for all students to help ensure our region remains a leader in providing a globally competitive and inclusive workforce who can access quality jobs and careers.

Environmental Stewardship
East Bay EDA promotes efforts to manage, protect, and enjoy our region’s natural assets and resources while also balancing the needs of business and industry with the needs and concerns of communities that may be impacted by specific environmental concerns and issues. The organization supports the development and management of safe, reliable and sustainable water supplies throughout the region.

High-Speed Internet/Broadband Access & Service
East Bay EDA supports expanding broadband and wireless communications infrastructure and technology throughout the region. The organization is especially committed to eliminating inequities in the access to high-speed internet and cellular service that exist within sectors of our communities and using broadband to expand economic opportunity.

Housing Access & Development
East Bay EDA advocates for the development of more and varied housing units of all types across the region. The organization encourages strategies and policies that ease the financing and construction of housing so that it can be made more accessible and affordable to people at all income levels, particularly for the most cost-burdened families and individuals in the region’s housing market. East Bay EDA also supports the development of impactful, innovative, and scalable solutions that address housing insecurity and homelessness.

International Trade
Recognizing the critical importance of the Port of Oakland to the Northern California economy and our nation’s commercial sector, East Bay EDA supports opportunities to develop and expand business relationships between companies that seek to build or expand their international business portfolios.

Land Use & Infrastructure
East Bay EDA supports the development, maintenance, and reliability of cost-effective transportation networks and other essential infrastructure systems (including the region’s electrical grid and water systems) that expand and enhance the mobility of people and goods across the region and beyond. The organization embraces policies that help to ameliorate disparities and reduce inequities arising from increasingly challenging and complex commute sheds.