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Legislative Updates

Each bill number links to the newsletter in which it was introduced. Amendments are in *red*.

❖ **June 4** was the last day each house could pass bills introduced in their house

[AB981](#) (California Fire Safe Council): Referred to Committee on Appropriations

[Held under submission](#) at May 20 Appropriations hearing

[AB1176](#) (California Connect Fund): Hearing cancelled at the request of the author

Referred to Appropriations (7-2) at April 28 Communications hearing

Placed on [Suspense File](#) at May 12 hearing (no discussion)

[Held under submission](#) at May 20 Appropriations hearing

[SB45](#) (2022 Climate Hazards Bond Act): Passed (4-0) and re-referred to Appropriations Committee at

[April 15](#) Governance & Finance hearing [0hr:55min]

Ordered to [inactive file](#) by request of the bill's sponsor

[SB66](#) (CA Council Future of Transportation): **Amended - proposed non-state members now discretionary**

Passed & sent to Appropriations at [April 27](#) hearing

Amended 2nd time (see changes in blue at link)

Passed (7-0) at May 20 Appropriations hearing

Passed (39-0) in Senate and [ordered to the Assembly](#)

Referred to Committee on Transportation & **passed (14-0)**

at [June 21 meeting](#) (@ 42min). Assembly's [Bill Analysis](#).

Referred to Communications & Conveyance Committee

[SB109](#) (Wildfire Tech R&D): Passed (7-0) at May 20 Appropriations hearing; amended to add end date

Passed (39-0) in Senate; [ordered to the Assembly June 1](#)

June 16 amendment: establishes an "Emergency Technology Research & Development Review Advisory Board" composed of 7 members, including "one representative from the private emergency response science, engineering, and technology industry"

Referred to [Assembly Committee of Emergency Management](#)

[SB407](#) (Professional Land Surveyor's Act): Passed to move to senate floor on [April 5](#) (7-0) [1hr:54min]

April 19 - Ordered to *Inactive File* by request of bill sponsor

Budgetary Updates

- ❖ Governor Newsom passed his [May revision](#) of the original budget on **May 15**. Here are the Legislative Analyst Office's (LAO) [comments on the revision](#). Note that the LAO estimates California's unrestricted surplus to be \$38 billion.
- ❖ During the second quarter of the year, the legislature finalizes their 2021-2022 budget recommendations prior to the **June 15 deadline**. [SB128](#) & [AB128](#), the duplicate bicameral budget proposals from legislative Democrats, was amended June 10 and passed June 14 to meet the deadline (and [prevent a loss of their payroll](#)). The summary of their proposal can be found [here](#). See also: [Senate Subcommittee highlights](#) and the [Assembly Subcommittee Report](#).
- ❖ The governor and Democratic leaders of the legislature reached an agreement June 25 on a \$262 billion budget on **June 25**, under [AB129](#) & [SB129](#). This was passed by both houses on **June 28**. See informative summaries from the [Senate](#) and [Assembly](#).
- ❖ **Trailer bills** will continue to be negotiated through the summer. These bills include packages for *Wildfire* (\$1 billion over multiple years), *Drought* (\$3 billion for this year), *Climate Resiliency* (\$3.7 billion over 3 years), and *Broadband* (\$6 billion over multiple years).
 - All of these are likely to include items relevant to the GIS community.

Q2 Item Updates are in **RED**.

- **LiDAR:** "The Budget proposes an additional \$1 billion to support a coordinated forest health and fire prevention strategy that maximizes technology and science-based approaches to protect state forestlands, including \$39 million for LiDAR remote sensing and research." The figure proposed specifically for remote sensing is \$15 million, according to [this](#) Legislative Analyst's Office report. On March 2, the strategy was discussed in a Senate Budget Subcommittee 2 [meeting](#) (2hr 12min). They proposed an [Early Action Plan](#) (EAP) which would allocate \$3 million for remote sensing this fiscal year (2020-2021). The EAP also includes an allocation of \$49 million for "Community Hardening," which includes "prehazard [sic] mitigation grants for early warning/evacuation systems, fire and disaster response planning." **The Early Action Plan was amended (April 8) and no longer includes an early disbursement of \$3 million for remote sensing (SB85). Presumably, the full \$15 million will be approved for fiscal year 2021-2022. See meeting notes from April 12 meeting. The governor signed SB85 on April 13.**
- **Natural Resources Mapping:** [Maven's Notebook](#), an exhaustive blog on California water news provides details on vegetation mapping items in the governor's budget. Additional proposed mapping-related projects for the Natural Resource Agency can be found [here](#) (search 'Seismic Hazards Mapping').
- **Statewide Data Strategy:** The CA State Senate's Budget Committee ([Subcommittee No. 4 On State Administration and General Government](#)) met on [February 24](#) (Issue 27) to vote on GovOps's request for additional positions (3) and funds (\$558,000) to further implement the Statewide Data Strategy lead by the Chief Data Officer. The item was held open and not voted on. **Approved (2-0) at May 12 meeting.**

- 3D Geologic Mapping:** The CA State Senate’s Budget Committee ([Subcommittee No. 2](#)) met on [March 2](#) to vote on the proposed Multi-Benefit 3D Geologic Framework Mapping [Issue #11]. This is a request of \$3 million to support the California Geological Survey's Geologic Mapping Program in their 3D mapping efforts. They voted to approve as budgeted (3-1).
- CalAdapt Mapping:** The governor’s May budget revision includes a newly proposed “Climate Resiliency Package.” (See Politico coverage [here](#).) One component of this package is \$5 million for “*Vulnerable Communities Platform & CalAdapt Mapping*” for [ICARP](#) [Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program] to fund the development of new data visualization tools.” [CalAdapt](#) is a data visualization and resource platform. **The Climate Resilience Package went from a 2021-22 appropriation of \$1.2 billion in the June 15 proposal to \$440 million in the June 28 agreement ([SB 129](#), see [Section 19.55](#)).**
- Transportation System Network (TSN) Replacement:** The May revision also includes funds to assist CalTrans in their TSN Replacement Project. “The new TSN will include more detailed roadway, safety, and geospatial data to meet federal requirements and aid Caltrans in creating a safer and more sustainable roadway system in California.” The replacement is slated to bring additional geospatial capability while improving the collection and reporting of highway inventory and traffic safety data. \$5.5 million will be pulled from the State Highway Account for this project. Extensive details on the project can be found [here](#). The June 28
- NextGen 9-11:** The CA State Senate's Budget Committee ([Subcommittee No. 5](#) On Corrections, Public Safety, Judiciary, Labor and Transportation) met March 4 to vote on the Next Generation 9-1-1 Grant Program [Issue #4]. Last year, Cal OES received grant money to build a temporary 9-1-1 GIS team to fill operational gaps. Cal OES is requesting an additional \$570k from the national 9-1-1 Grant Program to continue to support this team. The item was [approved](#) 3-0 as requested. **There do not appear to be any items in the June 15 proposal or June 28 agreement for Next Generation 9-11 efforts.**
- The **California High-Speed Rail Authority** is likely to request appropriations of the remaining [Proposition 1A](#) bonds – about \$4 billion – in the Governor’s May Revision of the 2021-2022 Budget. Both houses of legislature, the [Assembly](#) and the [Senate](#), convened for separate hearings to give legislators and the public “a clear picture of the scope of the project being funded, the timeline for delivery, and its value in meeting the state’s infrastructure, environmental, and economic goals.” Recording of both hearings can be found here: [Assembly & Senate](#). The project is behind schedule and construction costs exceed projections by \$1.3 billion, bringing the total cost estimate to \$13.8 billion (not including Merced & Bakersfield extensions). See the [High-Speed Rail Revised Draft 2020 Business Plan](#) for more details. **The June 15th proposal included an allotment of \$73.5 million in support of the Rail Authority, payable from the [High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Fund](#) (see [SB128](#), section 2660-494-6043). This item does not appear in the June 28th agreement ([SB129](#)). Neither Budget bills include the Governor’s \$4 billion appropriation request.**
- Senate Budget Subcommittee 4 introduced and approved (4-0) the *Senate Budget Plan on Drought, Safe Drinking Water, Water Supply Reliability, and Ratepayer Assistance* at their April 29 hearing (details [here](#); discussion [here](#) at 1h:10m). The proposal includes a section on**

Water Data and Forecast Improvement, \$15 million of which is set to go “to DWR [Dept. of Water Resources] for projects that support advanced technologies to measure snowpack and forecast runoff.” The “advanced technologies” for snowpack are expected to be remote sensing equipment.

- **Broadband:** \$3.75 billion is to be appropriated to the [Dept of Technology](#) “to oversee the development, construction, and acquisition of a statewide open-access, middle-mile broadband network, and to provide for the maintenance and operation of the resulting infrastructure.” ([SB 129](#), Item 7502-062-8506)
 - Additionally, about \$622 million is marked to be set aside for the [California Advanced Services Fund](#) (part of [California Public Utilities Commission](#)) to “improve broadband infrastructure and affordability. (Item 8660-001-0001)
- **Redistricting:** The initial June 15 legislative budget proposal (see [SB128](#), Item 0911-001-0001) included an allotment of over \$8 million to support the [Citizens Redistricting Commission](#). The US Census Bureau has delayed its delivery of redistricting data to September 30, 2021. This funding was intended to facilitate the commission’s remaining initiatives. (This budget addition was [requested](#) by the governor’s office.) This item does not appear to be included in the June 28 agreement between the governor and legislature. (see [SB129](#))
 - See the Census Bureau’s Redistricting Data Program details [here](#).

Regulatory & Executive Updates

None to report at this time.

Notable Federal Legislation

[HB81](#) | *Redistricting Transparency Act of 2021*
[HB481](#) | *Flood Resiliency and Taxpayer Savings Act of 2021*
[HB516](#) | *Environmental Justice Mapping & Data Collection Act of 2021 (also see [SB101](#))*
[HB1044](#) | *Broadband – Measuring Availability and Aligning Policies Task Force Act*
[HB1046](#) | *Federal Broadband Deployment in Unserved Areas Act*

[SB198](#) | *Data Mapping to Save Moms’ Lives Act (also see [HB1218](#))*
[SB279](#) | *National Broadband Plan for the Future Act of 2021*
[SB381](#) | *National Ocean Exploration Act*
[SB904](#) | *Modernizing Access to our Public Land (MAPLand) Act*

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