

SIERRA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

FUTURE OF PUBLIC HEALTH OVERVIEW

Through the 2022 Budget Act, California took a transformational step toward rebuilding our state and local public health workforce and infrastructure that was devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic and years of disinvestment. The \$300 million ongoing General Fund investment (\$200 million for local health departments, \$100 million for CDPH), referred to as the Future of Public Health, is a critical investment in our state's public health readiness and response to existing and emerging public health threats.

FUTURE OF PUBLIC HEALTH INVESTMENTS REBUILD OUR LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- FoPH has supported hiring an epidemiologist on staff – a first for the county – to assist with communicable disease prevention and control efforts. This position offers critical support and capacities related to outbreak response and tracking.
- FoPH additionally supports environmental health-related positions who have been important in responding to multiple recent communicable disease threats, including plague in a domestic cat and a death from hantavirus. These staff are working closely with state vector control on trapping, testing, messaging, and education of the public regarding vector-borne illnesses.
- Hired a part-time epidemiologist to facilitate our county's first ever Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and health equity work.