



Council Meeting: February 24, 2009

SUBJECT: 2009 Priority Issues and Legislative Advocacy Positions

REPORT IN BRIEF

This report details the City's proposed 2009 Priority Issues and Legislative Advocacy Positions (LAP) for Council review and recommendation. Council received draft copies of this report and the proposed 2009 LAP at the January 23 Study Issues and Budget Issues Workshop.

The purpose of establishing City LAPs and Priority Issues is to focus staff time for advocacy on significant legislative issues.

For 2009, staff recommends two *priority* issues:

- State Budget Deficit
- Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) of Onizuka Air Force Station

Staff recommends ten *priority watch* issues, not in any particular order:

- Investment Funding for Workforce Development
- Environmental Legislation and Issues
- Transportation Infrastructure and Funding
- Moffett Field and NASA Ames
- Regional and State-wide Water Supply Issues, Particularly Relating to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Restrictions
- Interoperability/Public Safety Communications System
- State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)
- Funding of Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Redevelopment Law
- Housing/Land Use

BACKGROUND

Priority Issues

To focus the City's limited advocacy resources, staff annually seeks direction from Council regarding priorities. To ensure the best use of limited staff resources, the City designates two special categories for advocacy: *priority* and *priority watch*. Intergovernmental *priority* areas are those "hot" areas where activity is either already underway or expected within the upcoming calendar year, and where the pending legislation/issue is expected to have significant impact on City business. *Priority watch* areas are those areas of significant concern that staff believes may become active, but no specific legislation/issue

or activity has yet been developed. As with *priority* areas, the *priority watch* areas are also areas that could have a significant impact on the City of Sunnyvale.

The *priority* and *priority watch* areas identified in this RTC do not fully represent the complete spectrum of issues worthy of the City's attention. As resources permit, staff also conducts limited advocacy in other areas, consistent with City policy, should issues arise that impact the City. In addition, as the year unfolds and new issues arise, staff presents them to Council for direction.

Legislative Advocacy Positions

Legislative Advocacy Positions are distinguished from established City policy in that they are short-term in nature and typically speak to pending legislation and current issues.

In 1982, the City Council adopted a procedure for establishing legislative advocacy positions based on five primary components:

- City-adopted General Plan policies and specific legislative policies
- National League of Cities policies and resolutions
- Santa Clara County Cities Association policies and resolutions
- League of California Cities policies and resolutions
- Review of state and federal budgets.

This process has traditionally provided City Council an opportunity to review and update the City's legislative advocacy positions at the Council Study Issues Workshop, and defer final adoption to a month later. To prepare the annual LAP update, staff reviews City policies during the fall of each year and recommends changes for Council review in January and approval in February.

The purpose of the LAP is to identify Council-adopted positions regarding intergovernmental and/or legislative matters. The Council-approved LAP eliminates the need for staff to request review and approval from Council on each issue as it comes up during the year. These positions are also utilized to assist Councilmembers and staff in carrying out intergovernmental duties.

Staff provides support to Council on the Legislative Advocacy Positions as directed by Council Policy 7.3.13 *Support for Councilmembers; Staff-Council Communications*.

Archive of 2008 Historical Reference Document

Consistent with Council direction as noted in RTC 08-063 of February 26, 2008 (*2008 Priority Issues and Legislative Advocacy Positions and Revised LAP Policy 7.3.2*), the 2007 update identified many positions that were out of date or warranted integration into long term City policy. To ensure these positions were

correctly handled, they were collected into a temporary Attachment to the 2008 LAPs, *Reference Attachment*, and continued as City advocacy policy through 2008.

Staff is recommending archiving the Reference Attachment noted above. Following a final review, qualifying positions in the Reference Document have been moved to long-term Council policy or retained in the short-term Legislative Advocacy Positions. Positions no longer relevant to the City are proposed for deletion. Archiving the positions will ensure they are accessible for reference, but they will no longer be active LAP policy.

EXISTING POLICY

- **Policy 7.3B4:** Prepare and update the LAP as the shorter-term policies that support the General Plan and guide Council and staff on intergovernmental matters.
- **Goal 7.3C:** Participate in intergovernmental activities, including national, state and regional groups, in order to represent the City's interests, influence policy and regulations, and enhance awareness.
- **Policy 7.3C.1:** Represent adopted City policy in intergovernmental activities.

DISCUSSION

This Discussion section is divided into two parts:

- I. Priority and Priority Watch Issues -- Identification and discussion of proposed 2009 issues
- II. Legislative Advocacy Positions
 - Identification of proposed 2009 positions

I. Priority and Priority Watch Issues

One of the primary goals of the City's intergovernmental relations program is to enable timely and effective advocacy of City interests on pending legislation and issues. The identified priority and priority watch issues do not represent all of the issues worthy of the City's attention. Instead, the designations are designed for purposeful and focused advocacy. The prioritization should serve to keep the Council and staff focused on the City's high priority issues given limited staffing resources.

Staff is proposing two *priority issues* for 2009 and ten *priority watch* issues for 2009. The full text of these issues is found in Attachment A, *Proposed 2009 Legislative Advocacy Positions*. A brief summary follows.

PRIORITY ISSUES

1. State and National Economic Crisis

The State is potentially facing a staggering \$41 billion budget deficit by the end of FY 09/10. One issue of concern to local governments is a provision in

Proposition 1A (2004) which allows the State to reallocate property tax revenue among jurisdictions within a county with two-thirds approval of each house in the State Legislature. Another area of concern is that the protections may be temporarily suspended if the Governor declares a “severe fiscal hardship,” which occurred earlier this fiscal year.

Meanwhile, the President and the Congress are working together on the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan* – a nationwide effort to create jobs, jumpstart growth and transform the economy. As the *Plan* moves forward, the City will continue to work with its local, regional, state and national partners to urge the Congress to enact an economic recovery package.

2. Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) of Onizuka Air Force Station

To prepare for the conversion of Onizuka Air Force Station and support its success the City will need to be prepared to advocate as appropriate for issues specific to this project, for funding as needed to address challenges, and to work with the various agencies to resolve issues and move the project forward.

PRIORITY WATCH ISSUES

1. Investment Funding for Workforce Development

Financial resources from federal and state governments for workforce development, education and training programs are critical. Given the current financial climate at the federal and state levels and the expected protracted recession, funding for workforce development for this region is especially vulnerable in 2009 and could potentially threaten the very survival of these local and essential programs.

2. Environmental Legislation and Issues

In 2009 continued interest in environmental issues at both the state and federal levels will likely result in regulations and legislation that could significantly impact the City. Monitoring and advocacy efforts will be geared to ensuring that emerging legislation is in alignment with the City’s interests. Issues of importance to the City include solid waste reduction and recycling; hazardous materials and clean-up of toxic sites; green building standards and requirements; green house gas emissions regulation; and fossil fuel energy/renewable energy alternatives.

3. Transportation Infrastructure and Funding

Protection and stabilization of transportation infrastructure funding sources will continue to be a critical issue in 2009. In Sunnyvale and Santa Clara County maintaining and improving transportation infrastructure will increase in both visibility and importance. The key legislative issues are

protection, stabilization, and renewal of transportation funding, including sales tax on gasoline funds and federal funds.

4. Moffett Field and NASA Ames

During the past several years the City has focused efforts on ensuring that the Moffett Federal Airfield, which the Navy transferred to NASA in 1994, maintains its status as a limited-use federal airfield. The City will continue to review proposed partnerships as they are explored and identified by NASA Ames and, in line with City policy, provide direction on the impact such partnerships may have on the City and its residents.

5. Regional and State-wide Water Supply Issues, Particularly Relating to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Restrictions

Supplies for water are being significantly impacted by the past 1½ years of dry weather, with uncertainty as to how long these dry conditions will last. Sunnyvale is impacted through the impact on our suppliers. There should be enough water to go around, but there may be cut-backs on non-essential uses, and other water conservation programs ordered to guarantee that there is water for everyone, and waste is removed from the process.

6. Interoperability/Public Safety Communications System

It is a priority for the City to support resolving interoperability problems that affect emergency communications systems, remedying the current shortage of broadcast spectrum availability for public safety needs, and providing funding for interoperable equipment. The City of Sunnyvale will closely monitor state and federal legislation and/or regulations to implement efficient wireless voice and data communications systems to receive the public's requests for service, to coordinate the delivery of those services, and to communicate life-safety information among responders.

7. State Children's Health Insurance Program

In December 2007 the federal government reauthorized funding for the State Children's Health Insurance Programs (SCHIP) through March 31, 2009. California has the largest SCHIP enrollment of any state in the country, with a greater enrollment level than the second and third largest states combined. California, like a number of other states, is in the midst of a severe economic downturn and will not have sufficient state funds in the current year to fund the projected number of children enrolled in SCHIP. In 2009, the City will continue to monitor SCHIP legislation and advocate for both the federal and state government to fully fund their share which will ensure low-income, uninsured children have health insurance.

8. Funding of Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

The Santa Clara County Park Department has expressed interest to consider matching contributions from the City with County LWCF monies

should they become available, for capital project improvements at Baylands Park. This would provide a direct benefit to Sunnyvale residents, but only if sufficient LWCF monies are allocated from the federal budget to the County.

9. Redevelopment Law

With the state budget crisis, the Governor and legislature continue to discuss methods of "borrowing" or raiding local redevelopment funds. The state has asked for financial reports to scrutinize agencies' use and obligation of funds, which should be monitored for possible consequences.

10. Housing/Land Use

With the mortgage crisis and housing foreclosures, legislation continues to be discussed on ways to alleviate this problem, with legislation that could be proposed that would directly or indirectly benefit cities. Land use legislation continues to be discussed to address affordable housing needs, job/housing balance, and in-fill development that could affect the City's land use policies and planning. Sunnyvale has been suggested by the Association of Bay Area Governments for higher density housing (along with San Jose and Santa Clara in Silicon Valley) because of its current and projected employment base and the proximity of potential development sites to major transit.

II. Legislative Advocacy Positions (LAP) Policy (Council Policy 7.3.2)

The LAP Policy identifies the City's platform for short-term, current positions not covered by existing policy, i.e. the Council Policy Manual, General Plan Sub Elements, Municipal Code, etc. Policy 7.3.2 both explains the purpose of the City's legislative advocacy and identifies the current year's priorities and specific positions. The positions are reviewed annually for currency and when appropriate, may be deleted or incorporated into more formal, long-term policy, such as the Council Policy Manual and, as it is updated, the General Plan.

Proposed 2009 Positions

The proposed 2009 Legislative Advocacy Positions are identified in Attachment A, *Proposed 2009 Legislative Advocacy Positions*. If approved by Council in February, the updated positions will be inserted into the Council Policy Manual as part of Council Policy 7.3.2.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact related to this report.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, Community Center and Department of Public Safety; and by making the agenda and report available at the Sunnyvale Public Library, the Office of the City Clerk and on the City's Web site.

ALTERNATIVES

- 1) Approve the *Proposed 2009 Legislative Advocacy Positions*, (Attachment A) including the positions, Priority and Priority Watch issues, and 2009 LCC and NLC Resolutions.
- 2) Modify the proposed *2009 Legislative Advocacy Positions* (Attachment A), including positions, Priority and Priority Watch issues, and 2009 LCC and NLC Resolutions.
- 3) Other direction as provided by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends:

Alternative 1) Approve the *Proposed 2009 Legislative Advocacy Positions*, (Attachment A) including positions, Priority and Priority Watch issues, and 2009 LCC and NLC Resolutions.

The proposed LAP Policy provides an effective and efficient tool for Council and staff, and reflects the original, short-term, intent of the policy.

Reviewed by:

Robert Walker
Assistant City Manager

Prepared by: Yvette Agredano
Intergovernmental Relations Officer

Approved by:

Gary M. Luebbers
City Manager

Attachments

- A. Proposed 2009 Legislative Advocacy Positions

Policy 7.3.2 Legislative Advocacy Positions

The Legislative Advocacy Positions identify the City’s broad advocacy positions on issues and legislation. As defined by the General Plan (Policy 7.3B4), the Legislative Advocacy Positions are short-term in nature, typically speak to pending legislation and current issues, and support the General Plan and guide Council and staff on intergovernmental matters. They are a component of the City’s Council Policies, which provide guidelines for City action in all areas of City business. City business is defined as all matters directly related to service delivery, or otherwise contributing to the City’s operational success.

The LAP is utilized by Councilmembers and staff throughout the year to determine City positions on legislation and intergovernmental issues and minimizes the need for staff to request direction from Council on legislation and issues as they arise. The LAP should not duplicate policies already cited in other Council Policy documents, i.e. the Council Policy Manual, General Plan, Municipal Code, etc.

While the LAP is updated to reflect Council direction throughout the year, a comprehensive review is conducted annually. At the Council Workshop each year, staff recommends changes, deletions and/or additions to the LAP for preliminary review and feedback by Council. Staff then incorporates Council feedback into the LAP and the LAP is adopted by Council.

The LAP is organized by General Plan element. For example, Council positions that relate to land use are found under Section 1, “Land Use and Transportation.” To consolidate documents, underscore important issues, and focus the City’s limited advocacy resources, Policy 7.3.2 includes the City’s annual priority and priority watch issues. In order to distinguish the City’s positions from the positions taken by associations of which the City is a member, any current League of California Cities and National League of Cities annual resolutions shall be incorporated into this policy as an attachment which is updated annually.

Council developed the concept of the LAP in 1982 (RTC 82-590). Following annual Council approval, the current year’s City Priorities, Legislative Advocacy Positions, and association resolutions are attached to this policy.

(Adopted: RTC 95-018 (1/17/1995); Amended: 96-016 (3/23/1996), 97-002 (1/14/1997), 98-008 (1/13/1998), 98-246 (7/14/1998), 98-264 (7/21/1998), 98-304 (8/18/1998), 99-009 (1/12/1999), 00-020 (1/25/2000), 01-002 (1/9/2001), 02-018 (1/15/2002), 03-021 (1/14/2003), 04-018 (1/13/2004) 05-009 (1/11/2005); (Clerical/clarity update, Policy Update Project 12/2005); 06-038 (2/7/2006); (Index added 5/22/06); 07-036 (01/30/2007); (Clarity update, 6/21/07); 08-063 (2/26/08))

Lead Department: Office of the City Manager

2009 CITY OF SUNNYVALE PRIORITIES

Priority Issues:

1. State and National Economic Crisis

State of California

According to a recent budget forecast by the Governor's office, the State is potentially facing a staggering \$41 billion budget deficit by the end of FY 09/10, a figure which is 46% more than the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's estimate. The State's budget deficit is structural in nature but also presents immediate cash flow issues, and is expected to continue for several years absent substantial corrective action.

Historically the State sought to address its budget shortfalls by taking local revenues, but in 2004 California voters approved Proposition 1A, an amendment to the Constitution that protects local revenues such as property tax, sales tax, the vehicle license fee and state mandate reimbursements. A similar measure was passed by California voters in 2006 (also called Proposition 1A) which protects Proposition 42 transportation funding in the same manner as stipulated in Proposition 1A (2004).

One issue of concern to local governments is a provision in Proposition 1A (2004) which allows the State to reallocate property tax revenue among jurisdictions within a county with two-thirds approval of each house in the State Legislature. Another area of concern is that the protections may be temporarily suspended if the Governor declares a "severe fiscal hardship," which occurred earlier this fiscal year. Under the fiscal hardship provisions, the State would be allowed to borrow local sales tax and/or property tax revenue and repay the loan with interest within three years. There is no current proposal by the State to borrow local revenues under Prop 1A, but this could change given the State's budget crisis.

Though local governments are better protected from State revenue takeaways, cities are not immune from negative fiscal impacts associated with the State's structural budget deficit. The FY 2008/2009 State budget, adopted in September 2008, contained limited impacts to Sunnyvale, many of which were previously expected and incorporated into the City's FY 2008/2009 adopted budget. One aspect of the adopted State budget which was not incorporated into the City's financial plan is a one-time \$416,000 takeaway of Redevelopment Agency Property Tax Increment (in the current fiscal year), which is subject to a lawsuit filed on behalf of cities by the California Redevelopment Association (CRA). It should be noted that the State is considering action that would make this takeaway permanent.

Other recent actions by the State in response to its mounting budget deficit and immediate cash flow problems are cause for concern to Sunnyvale. In December 2008, the State halted 2,000 infrastructure projects totaling nearly \$4 billion that were either in process or scheduled to begin. These projects include, among other things, school and road improvements, and housing projects. The State has also immediately deferred \$2.3 billion in Proposition 1B transportation funding that voters approved in 2007. Additionally, Democratic legislators unveiled a tax increase proposal that would circumvent the two-thirds legislative approval process. Though likely to be challenged in court, part of this proposal would eliminate the excise tax on gasoline (and replace it with a "fee" technically not subject to the two-thirds legislative approval requirement), a portion of which goes to local governments. It is unknown at this time what impacts these recent actions may have on the City of Sunnyvale as these are fluid developments and the Governor and Legislature continue to negotiate on a budget compromise. Staff will continue to closely monitor this issue and keep Council apprised of any attempts by the State to borrow or take local funds.

Federal Recovery Efforts

As the nation faces the biggest economic crisis since the Great Depression, President Obama and the Congress are working together on the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan* – a nationwide effort to create jobs, jumpstart growth and transform the economy. The plan will help businesses create jobs and families afford their

bills while laying a foundation for future economic growth in key areas like health care, clean energy, education, transportation, and a 21st century infrastructure.

In late 2008 and early 2009, the City has worked with the League of California Cities, National League of Cities, US Conference of Mayors and other national organizations to stress that investing in urban city economies, which comprise 90% of the nation's gross domestic product and drive the national economy, is the most direct path to creating jobs and stimulating the business that can begin to reverse the current economic downturn.

To date, the City has identified key projects that would help to meet our infrastructure needs and contribute to our economic development goals; these are projects that could be funded quickly through existing federal channels and start quickly when funding is received. Most importantly, these projects could generate the significant numbers of jobs that are needed to counter the severe economic problems facing urban areas and our nation as a whole. The areas covered by the Sunnyvale projects identified include Public Safety Jobs and Technology, Public Housing Modernization, School Modernization, Water and Wastewater Infrastructure, City Streets/Metro Roads, Transit Equipment and Infrastructure, Energy Block Grants and Green Jobs, and Community Development Block Grants.

As the *Economic Recovery Plan* legislation moves forward, the City will continue to work with its local, regional, state and national partners to urge the Congress to enact an economic recovery package quickly and to finalize the legislation to ensure that it provides cities and towns the flexibility and the resources they need to create and preserve good jobs, strengthen the economy and provide long-lasting benefits to all communities.

2. Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) of Onizuka Air Force Station

The City Council, acting as the Onizuka Local Redevelopment Authority, has adopted a reuse plan for the transition of Onizuka AFS to auto center reuse upon Onizuka's closure in 2011. To prepare for this conversion and support its success, including a positive impact to El Camino Real, the support of four Federal agencies will be needed, including the Department of Defense (Air Force and Office of Economic Adjustment); Department of Housing and Urban Development; the Department of Veterans Affairs and other potential funding agencies. Support of Sunnyvale's Congressional delegation will also be important. The City will need to be prepared to advocate as appropriate for issues specific to this project, for funding as needed to address challenges, and to work with the various agencies to resolve issues and move the project forward.

Priority Watch Issues:

1. Investment Funding for Workforce Development

As in the past several years, ³Investment Funding for Workforce Development² will continue to be a Priority Watch Issue for the City in 2009. Financial resources from federal and state governments for workforce development, education and training programs are critical to address the continuous churning of industries and companies that takes place here in Silicon Valley and its impact on the reemployment of dislocated workers and the successful transition of downsized businesses. These vital resources are also essential to the economic sustainability of this community. Given the current financial climate at the federal and state levels and the expected protracted recession, funding for workforce development for this region is especially vulnerable in 2009 and could potentially threaten the very survival of these local and essential programs.

2. Environmental Regulatory & Conservation Issues

In 2009 continued interest in environmental issues at both the state and federal levels will likely result in regulations and legislation that could significantly impact the City. Monitoring and advocacy efforts will be geared to ensuring that emerging legislation is in alignment with the City's interests. Issues of importance to the City include solid waste reduction and recycling; hazardous materials and clean-up of toxic sites; green building

standards and requirements; green house gas emissions regulation; fossil fuel energy/renewable energy alternatives.

Specific items of interest include:

State Assembly Bill 32

The California Global Warming Solutions Act -- Regulations to implement this recently approved legislation are in development by regulatory agencies. As City resources allow, the City will monitor emerging regulations that affect City operations.

Water

The City supports provisions of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit regulations that are attainable and reflect local conditions and circumstances. Along the same lines, new regulations and/or permit requirements that include numerical limits for municipal urban runoff discharge should be opposed as infeasible and a very expensive way to address the problem. It is in the City's continued interest to support non-point source discharge regulations, water conservation and recycling and pollution controls that benefit the City. Policies by Regional Water Quality Boards should recognize the goals of the Clean Water Act but apply an appropriate standard based on local circumstances.

State Senate Bill 375, Transportation Planning and Sustainable Communities Strategy

The City will continue to monitor discussions regarding SB 375 (Steinberg, 2008) which is effective on January 1, 2009. The new law requires metropolitan planning organizations to include "sustainable communities strategies" in their regional transportation plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The intent of the law is to align planning for transportation and housing, and to create specified incentives for implementing identified strategies. While the law is nonbinding on local agencies, the City should be aware of the discussion and the potential regional impact.

Sunnyvale Salt Ponds

The salt pond conversion project, to restore the salt ponds to their natural ecosystem and provide flood protection, is ongoing. A large amount of fresh water enters the San Francisco Bay from wastewater treatment plants in South Bay cities, including Sunnyvale. These inputs of freshwater will be included in the hydrodynamic modeling work conducted to evaluate the impact of alternatives on such things as salinity, water quality, and water levels. The Project Management Team (Team) is comprised of the California State Coastal Conservancy (SCC), the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD), Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (ACFCWCD), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), as well as the Lead Scientist and Collaborative Process Coordinator. The Team will work with local treatment plants to gather data needed for the modeling effort, and to determine if there are opportunities for further collaboration. The project needs to be watched carefully, due to its proximity and possible impact on the City's Water Pollution Control Plant.

3. Transportation Infrastructure and Funding

Protection and stabilization of transportation infrastructure funding sources will continue to be a critical issue in 2009. In Sunnyvale and Santa Clara County, maintaining and improving transportation infrastructure will increase in visibility and importance in 2009.

Sunnyvale's transportation infrastructure is performing well, but regional and local growth and the passage of time put continual strain on capacity and maintenance needs. Travel demand will outgrow capacity at many locations in Sunnyvale and Santa Clara County in the near future. Roadway infrastructure maintenance needs,

particularly pavement maintenance, are increasing. Support for all modes of transportation enhances livable local communities, balances housing and jobs, keeps existing facilities in a state of good repair, and supports economic development. Support for alternative transportation improvements is increasing as a means to address global warming.

The key legislative issues are protection, stabilization, and renewal of transportation funding including sales tax on gasoline funds and federal funds. Transportation funds have proven especially vulnerable during economic downturns. Also, improvements to regional transportation facilities and transit service that serve Sunnyvale will require monitoring to assure that City concerns are addressed.

Transportation sales tax funds are a primary source of capital improvement and transit operations. Proposition 42, which was approved by voters in March 2002, dedicated all gasoline sales tax revenue for local and state transportation needs; however, the same Proposition allowed for the Governor to divert gasoline sales tax funds in times of fiscal crisis. Since 2002, the funds have been diverted from the FY 2003-04 and 2004-05 budgets. A measure on the November 2006 State ballot eliminated this diversion on a permanent basis. The City wrote several letters campaigning for this change. Funds can still be diverted in certain situations of fiscal emergency at the State level; the State is currently suffering through a severe fiscal emergency, meaning Proposition 42 and other funding sources, controlled or provided by the State to the City, are at risk.

State transportation funding sources must be protected from transfers to non-transportation needs. The Transportation Development Act is an example of legislation that continues to be vulnerable given the budget realities at the State level. Previous proposals by the Governor's office make clear that virtually all transportation infrastructure funding should be considered highly vulnerable to transfers for State budget relief needs.

The transportation funding arena as a whole (roadway improvements, infrastructure maintenance, transit expansion, transit operations, and alternative transportation initiatives) is a highly dynamic area requiring constant vigilance.

2009 will see the initiation of discussions at the Federal level to reauthorize the federal transportation funding legislation. The next iteration of legislation promises potentially significant changes for federal transportation funding. The Highway Trust Fund is near bankruptcy, so pressure will come to bear to authorize new sources or levels of funding, or to cut federal funding for transportation. Other possibilities are the establishment of a federal transportation infrastructure bank, or linkage to climate change actions. Federal funding is key to implementing Sunnyvale's transportation improvement plans; federal funds have paid for several roadway, transit, bicycle, pedestrian, and livable community projects in Sunnyvale in the last ten years.

Locally, Sunnyvale's local transit service provider, the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), has a major shortfall in its operating funding that has been exacerbated by overcapitalization. Pressure will exist to continue to fund growth of the system, primarily expansion of BART to Santa Clara County, while maintaining as lean an operation as possible. Reconfiguration of service and imposition of new funding mechanisms both have the potential to have significant local effects. Passage of a new sales tax for BART operations provides a portion of funding for a BART extension, so this project will continue to utilize a significant portion of transportation funds available to Santa Clara County. Conversely, the VTA is actively planning for highway improvements including express toll lanes on Highways 85, 237 and 101. These projects will generate revenue for improvements in these corridors including the potential for non-highway improvements that serve the highway corridors. This may be of potential benefit to Sunnyvale.

4. Moffett Field and NASA Ames

The Moffett Federal Complex continues to warrant significant monitoring from the City.

During the past several years, working in partnership with the City of Mountain View, Sunnyvale has focused efforts on ensuring that the Moffett Federal Airfield, which the Navy transferred to NASA in 1994, maintains its status as a limited-use federal airfield. The City of Sunnyvale will continually review proposed partnerships as they are explored by NASA Ames and, in line with City policy, provide direction on the impact such partnerships may have on the City and its residents.

The City is also working with NASA Ames and the City of Mountain View in reviewing NASA's plan to develop and implement plans for NASA Research Park, a world-class, shared use research and development and education campus with universities, industry and non-profits. The NASA Research Park will benefit NASA, our local community, and the nation.

5. Regional and State-wide Water Supply Issues, Particularly Relating to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Restrictions

Over 80% of Sunnyvale water comes from either the San Francisco Water Department (SFWD) through the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), or through the Santa Clara Valley Water District (District). Supplies for water are being significantly impacted by the past 1½ years of dry weather, with uncertainty as to how long these dry conditions will last. In addition, the State and Federal Water Projects were dealt a blow when a court order in August ordered major restrictions on the taking of water from the Bay Delta. These are major impacts to the ability of our suppliers to provide us with needed water.

The Governor has ordered a study of water supplies for the State, and the Legislature will be dealing with short term and long term issues in legislation that will be proposed this year. Sunnyvale is impacted through the impact on our suppliers. There should be enough water to go around, but there may be cut-backs on non-essential uses, and other water conservation programs ordered to guarantee that there is water for everyone, and waste is removed from the process.

SFPUC and the District will take the lead on the primary issues around the water supply. However, it is important for the Council to stay current on the water resource issues as they develop, in order to lend support wherever needed by the suppliers. All support for SFPUC issues should also be coordinated with the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA). In some cases BAWSCA may have suggestions, or coordinate efforts, for the suburban agencies to be sure to maintain a consistent and appropriate level of support, and any other involvement. The issue is being addressed in all areas of our State government. Support may involve meetings, letters of support, public testimony, and assignment of staff so that the City can best respond as a retailer, and work with our suppliers in the interests of the City's residential and commercial water consumers. There is also an opportunity to be involved with a statewide committee through the League of California Cities (LCC) to address statewide issues and how they affect, or are affected by, more local issues. Councilmember Swegles is on the LCC ad hoc committee working on these issues

6. Interoperability/Public Safety Communications System

One of the prominent issues in public safety communications today is interoperability, defined by many as "the ability for public safety first responders to communicate with whom they need to, when they need to, when authorized." Ensuring that our nation's emergency responders can communicate effectively is of the utmost importance, whether during everyday situations, localized emergencies, statewide emergencies or national emergencies. It is a priority for the City to support resolving interoperability problems that affect emergency communications systems, remedying the current shortage of broadcast spectrum availability for public safety needs, and providing funding for interoperable equipment.

Since September 11, 2001, the struggle facing our nation's emergency responders when faced with multi-jurisdiction responses has received increased attention – often responders can't talk to one another, hindering the response effort, and putting the safety of responders, and all citizens, in jeopardy. California's residents deserve

reliable public safety services. Today there are regions of significant interoperability within California, but much remains to be done to address both systems modernization and interoperability.

A sufficiently robust and secure public safety radio communications voice and data infrastructure supporting federal, state, and local agency communications is critical to California's future security, health, welfare and vibrancy. California's size and diverse geography create unique challenges in designing and providing public safety communications systems to meet the needs of the state's population in a cost-effective manner.

The City will monitor and perform advocacy on action by Congress and/or the Federal Communications Commission to develop comprehensive and interoperable emergency communications and set equipment with open standards, fund the purchase of emergency and interoperable communications equipment, and provide additional radio spectrum that will allow first responders to communicate over long distances using the same radio frequencies and equipment.

The City will participate in advocacy led by the National League of Cities (NLC) that urges the federal government to lead the efforts to resolve interoperability problems that affect emergency communications and data systems throughout the nation. The NLC believes that the federal government must remedy the current shortage of broadcast spectrum availability for public safety needs across the nation and that the federal government must provide adequate funding for interoperable equipment to better facilitate coordinated and effective emergency response in cities and across jurisdictions.

The City of Sunnyvale will closely monitor state and federal legislation and/or regulations to implement efficient wireless voice and data communications systems to receive the public's requests for service, to coordinate the delivery of those services, and to communicate life-safety information among responders.

7. State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP):

In 2007, federal funding for the State Children's Health Insurance Programs (SCHIP) was up for reauthorization by Congress and the President. They were unable to agree on a long term reauthorization. Finally, in December 29, 2007 -- three months into the 2008 federal fiscal year (FFY) -- Congress sent the President, and he signed, a bill extending SCHIP funding through March 31, 2009 and providing states projected to have a shortfall (California is a shortfall state) with funding above their FFY 2007 funding levels. Federal funds pay for around two-thirds of SCHIP with each state responsible for funding the remaining one-third. The full level of funding for FFY 2009 is not known as the legislation provides funds for half of the year (through March 31, 2009).

SCHIP helps to provide health coverage to low-income uninsured children whose parents do not qualify for Medicaid but who cannot afford private health insurance. California has the largest SCHIP enrollment of any state in the country, with greater enrollment level than the second and third largest state combined. California, like a number of other states, is in the midst of a severe economic downturn and will not have sufficient state funds in the current year to fund the projected number of children enrolled in SCHIP.

In the City of Sunnyvale, as of November 2008, County of Santa Clara has reassigned one staff person back to Columbia Neighborhood Center (CNC) for 12 hours per week to assist families with enrollment and retention in an affordable children's health insurance program (Healthy Kids/Healthy Families/Medi-Cal). This county staff person was just reassigned back to CNC after being removed due to uncertainty of funding since October 2007. MayView Community Clinic, a non-profit organization that operates a community health clinic at CNC, estimates that over half of the children they serve at CNC are insured through Healthy Kids/Healthy Families/Medi-Cal insurance programs and their ability to serve Sunnyvale children will be significantly impacted if children lose their medical insurance. From July to October 2007, 118 participants were enrolled in the SCHIP program at CNC. In fiscal year 2007-08, MayView Community Clinic at CNC served a total of 845 community members operating an average of 24 hours per week.

In 2009, the City will continue to monitor SCHIP legislation and advocate for both the federal and state government to fully fund their share which will ensure low-income uninsured children have health insurance.

8. Funding of Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Monies from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) are allocated to states, and from the state to larger cities and counties. Since the inception of the fund in 1965, annual appropriations have ranged from a high of \$369 million in 1979 to four years of zero funding from 1996-1999. While amounts allocated to the fund have varied, funding levels have continued to drop since 2003, down to \$27,994,976 in 2006 and again in 2007. Recently, the Santa Clara County Park Department expressed interest to consider matching contributions from the City of Sunnyvale with County LWCF monies should they become available, for capital project improvements at Baylands Park. This would provide a direct benefit to Sunnyvale residents, but only if sufficient LWCF monies are allocated from the federal budget to the County.

9. Redevelopment Law

With the state budget crisis, the Governor and legislature continue to discuss methods of "borrowing" or raiding local redevelopment funds. The state has asked for financial reports to scrutinize the agencies' use and obligation of funds which should be monitored for possible consequences.

10. Housing/Land Use

With the mortgage crisis and foreclosures, legislation continues to be discussed on ways to alleviate this problem, with legislation that could be proposed that would directly or indirectly benefit cities.

Land use legislation continues to be discussed to address affordable housing needs, job/housing balance, and in-fill development that could affect the City's land use policies and planning. Sunnyvale has been suggested by ABAG for higher density housing (along with San Jose and Santa Clara in Silicon Valley) because of its current and projected employment base and the proximity of potential development sites to major transit.

**City of Sunnyvale
Proposed 2009 Legislative Advocacy Positions**

1. LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION

1.1 The Region

- (1) Support efforts to provide a permanent, direct percentage of federal transportation funds to local government transportation departments for priority work in urban areas. *[Added as ISTEA in 1991/Expanded 1993 NLC Resolution/Modified 2003/amended 2008]* Lead Dept. DPW
- (2) Support continued operation of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority bus transit and paratransit service at service levels sustainable to meet the needs of transit dependent populations. *[*/Modified 1996 Ballot Initiative-Measure D/Modified 2001/Modified 2003]* Lead Dept. DPW
- (3) Support efforts to create and maintain regional funding sources for critical transportation needs. *[1998-staff suggestion/amended 2008]* Lead Dept. DPW
- (4) Support flexible spending of state and federal transportation funds for locally determined needs. Oppose project or program specific earmarking of funds from existing funding sources. *[First Appeared 2001/ Modified 2003/2006 NLC Resolution]* Lead Dept. DPW
- (5) Enhance the mobility of the growing senior population. *[2003 Public Works staff recommendation/amended 2008]* Lead Dept. DPW
- (6) Support streamlining or otherwise provide sufficient resources to expeditiously process local agency federal and state-aid projects through Federal and State environmental and regulatory requirements. *[2005 DPW Staff Recommendation]* Lead Dept. DPW
- (7) Support state funding for regional transportation projects; oppose eliminating or reducing state or federal funds due to local contributions. Support local input in determining project priorities. Oppose transfers of local and statewide transportation funds to balance the State General Fund budget. *[*/Modified 1995/Modified 2003]* Lead Dept. DPW
- (8) Seek local policy participation on regional rail projects and support efforts to bring light rail or other fixed guideway or rapid transit service to downtown Sunnyvale. *[*/Modified 1993, 2006 Public Works staff recommendation]* Lead Dept. DPW
- (9) Support efforts to change the representation on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission to reflect the relative population of Bay Area counties. *[First Appeared 1995]* Lead Dept. DPW
- (10) Support upgrading Caltrain service to provide faster and more frequent service to Sunnyvale; support transportation policies and funding that would provide and improve connections between Light Rail, Caltrain and industrial neighborhoods. *[*/Modified 1998-July/Modified 2001]* Lead Dept. DPW
- (11) Oppose changes in laws that allow increasing the size and weight of commercial trucks. *[Council Resolution-April 1991/ Modified 1994 and 1998-July]* Lead Dept. DPW
- (12) Support the concept of a proposed water transit system. However, Sunnyvale believes that any water transit system should be funded through new revenue sources only, that local officials should be directly involved in governing any water transit system, and the interests of its residents should be protected. *[Council RTC 98-264/Modified 2000]* Lead Dept. DPW

- (13) Support the continuing efforts of the San Francisco Bay Area Water Transit Authority to explore San Francisco Bay Ferry Expansion, with reasonable and feasible alternatives for multimodal access to a South Bay ferry terminal. [**/Modified 2003*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (14) Support the concept of Smart Growth that promotes a stronger integration of land use and transportation on state, regional and local levels. Integrate local priorities in land use and transportation into Smart Growth actions. [*First Appeared 2003*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (15) Support identification and pursuit of limited term revenue sources for transit capital and operating purposes only after stabilization of revenue and service levels sustainable to meet the needs of transit dependent populations. [*2004 Public Works Staff Recommendation*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (16) Support the use of Federal Transportation Trust Funds for the delivery of transportation system improvements and distribution of the funds being done on the principle of “return to source”. Oppose retention of trust funds for the purpose of “masking” the federal deficit or actual budgetary imbalances. [*1998-December-staff suggestion; 2004 Finance & Public Works Staff Recommendation; Moved from Section 7, Planning & Management, (i) Federal*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (17) Communicate to the VTA Board of Directors information on the 1993 Cooperative Agreement Concerning the Tasman Corridor Light Rail Project, and specify that VTA transit corridor improvement priorities shall abide by the terms of the Agreement. [*2005 DPW Staff Recommendation based on Council action August 24, 2004; 2007 DPW staff modification*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (18) Support Caltrain electrification concurrent with grade separation of roadway crossings in the City of Sunnyvale and elsewhere on the Peninsula corridor for a future four track configuration. Electrification and grade separation should also fully accommodate future high-speed rail particularly with rail at subsurface. [*DPW Staff Recommendation based on Council action May 11, 2004, 2009 DPW staff modification.*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (19) Monitor the implementation of the California High Speed Rail Plan and advocate for a financially self-sustaining system using proven cost effective technology and based on the conservative rider ship assumptions. The City should actively participate in planning and design to minimize the impact of high-speed rail operations in Sunnyvale. The City supports a southern route without identifying a specific route at this time, but one that does not impact the Henry Coe State Park or the Orestimba wilderness. [*DPW Staff Recommendation based on Council action May 11, 2004, 2009 DPW staff modification.*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (20) Urge Congress and the Administration to appoint local elected officials to the Future of Surface Transportation System Study Commission and the National Surface Transportation Infrastructure Financing Commission. [*2006 NLC Resolution*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (21) Oppose the creation of a new Santa Clara County Roads and Airports Department Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, unless the body is comprised of bicyclist and pedestrian representatives from all Santa Clara County cities. [*2007 DPW Recommendation*] Lead Dept. DPW

1.2The City

- (1) Support roadway operations by agencies with facilities in Sunnyvale as long as they do not adversely affect traffic on Sunnyvale streets. [*First Appeared 1993*] Lead Dept. DPW

- (2) Support provisions to allow group and residential care homes within the City, but allow local control or participation in possible over concentration of such uses. [*First Appeared 1992/Modified 1996/2002 NLC Resolution*] Lead Dept. CDD
- (3) Support efforts to assure that California cities' interests continue to be appropriately reflected in the adoption of uniform codes. [*1998 LCC Resolution/Modified 2000*] Lead Dept. CDD
- (4) Strengthen the control of cities over development within or contiguous to their sphere of influence. [**/*]Lead Dept. DPW
- (5) Oppose broad exemptions from the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). [*2003, 2004 NLC Resolution*] Lead Dept. DPW

2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2.1 Economic Development

- (1) Support actions that address quality of life issues that do not place Sunnyvale at a competitive disadvantage among other Silicon Valley cities in the attraction and retention of major growth industries. [*First Appeared 1998-January; Modified 2003/Community Development Staff Recommendation*] Lead Dept. CDD
- (2) Oppose actions that would negatively impact the allocation of tax increment revenue to redevelopment agencies. [**/Modified 1998-December, 2006 Community Development staff recommendation*] Lead Dept. CDD
- (3) Encourage federal cooperation with local governments if planning to restore, replace, close, or relocate a federal or a postal facility. [*1999/2000 NLC Resolution; 2002 NLC Resolution, 2005 modified by staff*] Lead Dept. CDD
- (4) Advocate and support research and development funding that increases and capitalizes on the capabilities of our existing industries or emerging technology business development, including bioscience, information technology, nanotechnology, and stem cell research, and increase the role of federal research and development in civilian research and technology. Support programs that promote continued/increased research and development that is innovative, entrepreneurial and has growth potential. Support investment in research and business opportunities to enhance homeland security and promote local security-related products and services that have applications by government at the local, state and federal levels. [*Combined from two policies that first appeared in 1994; Modified 2003 Community Development Staff Recommendation; 2003 Community Development Staff Recommendation, 2005 modified by staff*] Lead Dept. CDD
- (5) Support the creation of a state economic development strategy that emphasizes business retention, promotes investment and business development opportunities, and promotes California as a good place to do business. [*2003 Community Development Staff Recommendation*] Lead Dept. CDD
- (6) Support efforts to identify, assess, and mitigate key obstacles to business development in California, including workers compensation insurance, government regulations negatively impacting business, and the lack of a state economic development strategy. [*2003 Community Development Staff Recommendation/2006 NLC Resolution*] Lead Dept. CDD
- (7) The Administration and Congress should consult with state and local officials prior to negotiating any provisions of the Free Trade Area of the Americas to ensure that trade negotiators do not undermine the

scope of local governmental authority under the Constitution, while assessing the impact of a proposed agreement on state and local laws and future law-making authority, and, when necessary, providing general exceptions to safeguard local sovereignty and protect effective local programs and initiatives. [2007 NLC Resolution] Lead Dept. CDD

- (8) Urge the federal government to provide national defense and economic stimulus assistance to include small business and local economies that experience economic injury because of terrorist attacks and/or natural disasters, or national economic recessions/market instability credit crisis. [2002 NLC Resolution; 2003 Community Development & Public Works Staff Recommendation; 2006 Community Development staff recommendation; 2009 Public Works staff modification] Lead Dept. DPW

2.2 Open Space

- (1) Support legislation to prohibit the sale, exchange, or transfer of park land already held in the public trust and urge the adoption of comprehensive federal policies for protection and management of all park lands. [First Appeared 1993/2002,2003,2006 NLC Resolution; Modified/2003 Parks & Recreation Staff Recommendation; 2009 Public Works staff modification) Lead Dept. DPR
- (2) Support full funding annually, and encourage Congress to allocate 40% of the funds for state and municipal projects. Urge Congress to authorize 20% of Outer Continental Shelf revenues to fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund and designate \$125 million to the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program to assist the recreation needs of economically distressed communities. [First Appeared 1993/2002,2003,2006 NLC Resolution; Modified/2003 Parks & Recreation Staff Recommendation) Lead Dept. DPR

2.3 Housing and Community Revitalization

- (1) Support the use of eminent domain on non-residential properties only as a last resort to further the City's effort to alleviate blight, enhance the economic vitality of the Redevelopment Project Area and to carry out the goals and objectives of the Redevelopment Plan for the benefit of the community. [Council RTC 04-011 on 1/6/2004 and Ordinance 2742-04 on 1/13/2004] Lead Dept. CDD
- (2) Encourage and support a process by ABAG, the Bay Area Council, and other organizations to provide reports that accurately reflect the jobs and housing in the region through validation of data with local communities (e.g. number of housing units approved, recognition of development of affordable housing, number of jobs). [CDD Staff recommendation 2007] Lead Dept. CDD

2.4 Safety and Seismic Safety

- (1) Support effective earthquake mitigation programs for all housing through a pre-funded disaster recovery program. [1990 Ballot Initiatives–Props. 122 and 127/Modified 1993 and 1996] Lead Dept. DPS
- (2) Support statewide efforts to coordinate disaster preparedness programs in local jurisdictions and support guidelines to identify the strengths and weaknesses of local preparedness efforts. [1990 LCC Resolution/2006 NLC Resolution] Lead Dept. DPS
- (3) Support the posting of specific emergency procedures in apartment buildings and signs in international signage or other language if appropriate. [1993 LCC Resolutions] Lead Dept. DPS

3. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

- (1) Support efforts to develop and require a peer review process for the development of environmental regulations. [1989 LCC & NLC Resolutions] Lead Dept. DPW

- (2) Support a study on the relative costs and benefits of current overlapping environmental review procedures and streamlined procedures to the National Environmental Policy Act. [*1989 LCC Resolution; Modified/2003 Public Works Staff Recommendation*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (3) Support full funding by the federal government for environmental remediation of closed federal facilities including restoration of historic structures. [*2002, 2003, 2004 NLC Resolution; 2009 DPW staff modification*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (4) Support the voluntary inclusion of green building design and strategies in residential public and private development projects and endorse voluntary, statewide Residential Green Building Guidelines as developed by State Green Residential Environmental Action Team (GREAT) and California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB). [*2005 LCC Resolution*] Lead Dept. CDD & OCM

3.1 Water Resources

- (1) Urge the federal government, including FEMA and the Federal Insurance Administration, to amend the underwriting requirements to allow public water and wastewater treatment facilities to be eligible for flood insurance coverage at affordable rates. [*2002 NLC Resolution*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (2) Support legislation that requires the federal government to provide sufficient funds for clean up of estuaries and bodies of water. [*2004 NLC Resolution*] Lead Dept. DPW

3.2 Solid Waste Management

- (1) Oppose taxes or fees on local refuse programs to fund statewide programs. [*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (2) Support expanded Product Stewardship and Producer Responsibility to reduce the amount and toxicity of solid waste generated and finance the recovery and disposal of problem wastes. [*RTC 02-097, Adoption of Principles of Product Stewardship, 2009 DPW staff modification*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (3) Support cooperation between state and local jurisdictions on source reduction and recycling to meet state solid waste reduction goals. (*AB 939*) [*First Appeared 1995*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (4) Support requirements that prohibit the disposal of radioactive materials along with municipal solid waste and release of radioactive materials into the recycling stream. [*2001 staff suggestion*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (5) Support requirements that promote waste reduction and reuse. [*2001 staff suggestion*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (6) Support administrative and legislative decisions regarding the state beverage container recycling program that provide financial support for jurisdictions for local recycling programs. [*1997 LCC Resolution*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (7) Support eliminating local government liability under Superfund for the disposal of ordinary municipal waste; provide expedited *de minimis* settlements for hazardous material generated by local government operations; and allocate costs on the basis of toxicity rather than the volume of municipal waste. Superfund reform should also provide a level of protection to third party investors, lenders, and developers of brownfields sites. [*1990 NLC Resolution*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (8) Maintain federal and state financial support for beneficial use of landfill gas and other biomass energy. [*1998-December-staff suggestion; Modified 2003 Public Works Staff Recommendation*] Lead Dept. DPW

3.3 Wastewater Management

- (1) Support increased federal support for municipal wastewater infrastructure needs including both treatment and collection systems. [2003 Public Works Staff Recommendation/2007 DPW staff modification] Lead Dept. DPW

3.4 Surface Runoff

- (1) Oppose any efforts to include numerical limits for pollutants in permits for storm water discharges and to modify California State law and/or regulations to allow for the development of numerical effluent limits for incorporation into storm water permits. [2003 Public Works Staff Recommendation, 2006 Public Works staff recommendation] Lead Dept. DPW
- (2) Support efforts to exempt storm water utility fees from requirements of Proposition 218. [2005 staff recommendation] Lead Dept. DPW

3.5 Energy

- (1) Support the development and use of sustainable alternatives to conventional motor vehicle transportation fuels. [First Appeared 1998-January/amended 2008] Lead Dept. DPW
- (2) Support solar and energy conservation tax credits. [*] [Modified/2003 Public Works Staff Recommendation] Lead Dept. DPW
- (3) Encourage efforts to reduce energy consumption through the application of available technologies in the field of traffic signal control and street lighting. [First Appeared 1993] Lead Dept. DPW
- (4) Support the adoption of a national comprehensive energy strategy that includes energy conservation, education, research and development of renewable and alternative energy sources, and encourages reduced dependence on foreign oil and the use of domestic energy sources. [First Appeared 1992] Lead Dept. DPW
- (5) Support the State and California Public Utilities Commission to develop and implement a plan for the underground conversion of overhead utility lines within the next 25-years. [2002 LCC Resolution] Lead Dept. DPW

3.6 Noise

- (1) Encourage airport operation policies that reduce the level and frequency of noise and support federal funding to alleviate the effects of aircraft noise on Sunnyvale. [*/2003 Moved to current section, 2009 DPW staff modification] Lead Dept. DPW
- (2) Support funding for highway-rail grade separations and railroad noise attenuation. [2002, 2003 & 2004 NLC Resolution/2003 Moved to Current Section, 2005 modified by staff, 2006 Public Works staff recommendation] Lead Dept. DPW
- (3) Engage the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board to assure that local noise conditions do not worsen as a result of changes to commuter train operations, and impacts are mitigated consistent with regulatory requirements. [Staff recommendation based on Council action 1/11/05] Lead Dept. DPW
- (4) Urge Congress to oppose reauthorization of the Surface Transportation Board (STB) unless and until the law is amended to ensure that railroads are subject to the same federal, state, and local environmental laws under which interstate highways and airports must abide that provide the opportunity for mitigation of negative impacts of new or enhanced facilities and/or operations. [2006 NLC Resolution] Lead Dept. DPW

3.7 Air Quality

- (1) Support requiring local government participation on the governing bodies of unified and county air pollution control districts in California. [*First Appeared 1992*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (2) Support efforts to manage and reduce risks from air toxics. [*First Appeared 2003*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (3) Support efforts to improve or strengthen regional and local regulation of mobile source emissions. [*2003 Public Works Staff Recommendation*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (4) Support efforts to improve regulation of greenhouse gases. [*2005 Public Works staff recommendation*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (5) Oppose redirecting state and regional revenue used by local government for locally based air quality programs. [*1996 LCC Resolution, 2005 modified by staff*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (6) Support cost-effective emission reductions from regional and national air pollution sources and encourage controls on international sources. [*1997 LCC Resolution, 2005 modified by staff*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (7) Support actions for meeting ambient standards for air and noise pollution emissions. [*1991 LCC Resolution/Modified 1994/2003 Modified*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (8) Support federal legislation that requires the federal government to provide sufficient funds to remediate or otherwise relieve identified problems with indoor air quality in schools. [*2003, 2004 NLC Resolution*] Lead Dept. DPW
- (9) Support the development of implementation regulations for the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2020. Encourage the Secretary for Environmental Protection and the California Air Resources Board to work in partnership with all sectors of the community to ensure that the implementation regulations do not have a negative, long-term impact on the resources and services provided by the City of Sunnyvale or the California economy. [*DPW & CDD Housing staff collaboration and recommendation 2007*] Lead Dept. DPW

4. PUBLIC SAFETY

4.1 Law Enforcement

- (1) Support legislation that imposes stricter guidelines for the sale and/or purchase of weapons, and limits the availability of high capacity weapons and ammunition and encourage stricter sentences for conviction involving firearms. Support adequate safeguards prior to purchases. [*DPS Staff 2007, 2009 DPS staff modification*] Lead Dept. DPS
- (2) Support requirements for persons convicted of crimes or other illegal offenses to be financially responsible for enforcement, and support surcharges on criminal sentences to pay for lab services and booking fees. [**/Modified by DPW staff 1994, 2007*] Lead Dept. DPS
- (3) Support programs that deter graffiti. [*First Appeared 1998-January*] Lead Dept. DPS
- (4) Oppose the legalization and or decriminalization of all controlled substances, as defined by Title 21 of the US Code. [**/2001 clarification/amended 2008*] Lead Dept. DPS

- (5) Support efforts to provide local law enforcement all necessary tools for investigation and prosecution of suspected felonies, including access to encryption as appropriate. [*1998-December-staff suggestion*] Lead Dept. DPS
- (6) Support legislation that allows cities to collect fees to recover costs associated with providing 911 Emergency Communications Services. [*DPS Staff 2007*] Lead Dept. DPS
- (7) Support a strong intergovernmental partnership that ensures effective communications, long-term financial support to municipalities for their roles in national defense, and true collaboration in preventing and responding to any disasters, natural or man-made, in America's towns. [*2003/2006 NLC Resolution*] Lead Dept. DPS
- (8) Support legislation that provides supplemental funding to cities for local law enforcement programs (i.e. Supplemental Law Enforcement Services, SLES) [*2003 Public Safety Staff Recommendation*] Lead Dept. DPS
- (9) Support a coordinated effort to target illegal substance production and abuse involving federal, state and local law enforcement and support federal resources dedicated to curbing the production and distribution of illegal substance. [*Based on a 2006 NLC Resolution; modified by DPS staff in 2007 and 2009*] Lead Dept. DPS
- (10) Support efforts to provide resources to assist local law enforcement agencies with the deployment of state of the art non-lethal technologies such as electronic control devices in an effort to promote public safety and further, provide adequate funding resources to assist with the development and promulgation of policies governing appropriate training, use and placement of electronic control devices in the local use of force continuum. [*2007 NLC Resolution; 2009 DPS staff modification*] Lead Dept. DPS

4.2 Fire Services

- (1) Prohibit sales and use of all fireworks except those approved for commercial use. [**/2001 simplification*] Lead Dept. DPS
- (2) Support ongoing funding for reimbursable State Fire Training Programs. [*1990 LCC Resolution/2001 simplification*] Lead Dept.

A. Hazardous Materials

- (1) Support community safety through regulation of hazardous materials transportation and storage consistent with local regulations, provide advanced notification of funding opportunities related to hazardous spill prevention, hazardous spill response and clean up. [**, 2009 DPS staff modification*] Lead Dept. DPS
- (2) Support proper management and controls on hazardous materials and waste products, while allowing local flexibility for alternative compliance methods. [***] Lead Dept. DPS
- (3) Support consolidation of regulatory programs at the local level and limit actions on local government liability in implementing mandates in regard to toxics control. [**/2001 Clarification*] Lead Dept. DPS

4.3 Support Services

- (1) Support the use of low earth orbiting satellites when those systems will not cause interference to public safety communications systems or their supporting amateur radio communications systems. [*1998-December-staff suggestion*] Lead Dept. DPS

- (2) Support 311 services – non-emergency direct line to Department of Public Safety. Support is limited to situations where all surrounding cities adopt it. Otherwise particular legislation must address our processing, cost, privacy and misdial concerns. [2001, *Study Issues Recommendation/2003 Modification*] Lead Dept. DPS
- (3) Continue to support interoperability initiatives as they relate to public and private industry. Interoperability is the ability of diverse agencies (police, fire, EMS, and local government) to communicate directly with each other by using radio and data. [DPS Staff 2007, 2009 DPS staff modification] Lead Dept. DPS
- (4) Support efforts to ensure protection of sufficient radio spectrum to meet public safety's current and future needs. Public safety needs should have priority over private or for-profit communication systems and provide adequate funding as necessary. Also protect the current amateur radio bandwidth to ensure amateur radio support during emergencies. [1998 NLC Resolution, 2009 DPS staff modification] Lead Dept. DPS
- (5) Support legislation that requires developers to fund the costs of radio communications infrastructure upgrades to allow emergency communications within new buildings or structures. [1998-December-staff suggestion] Lead Dept. DPS
- (6) Support collaborative efforts to enhance emergency preparedness planning, coordination and disaster mitigation, particularly to the extent any such effort can be located at the Moffett Federal Complex and/or compliment the tenants at Moffett. [Council action in September, 2000/2006 NLC Resolution] Lead Dept. DPS
- (7) Encourage prompt reimbursement of approved disaster recovery expenses to cities determined to be part of a declared disaster area. [2002 NLC Resolution, 2009 DPS staff modification] Lead Dept. DPS

5. SOCIO-ECONOMIC

5.2 Economy and Employment

- (1) Support coordinated economic development efforts to increase employment opportunities and increase quality of jobs including coordination with the existing employment and training resources funding. [*/Modified in 1998-July and December; Modified/2003 Community Development Staff Recommendation] Lead Dept. CDD
- (2) Support development of U.S. congressional legislation to approve funding to continue the School-to-Work Opportunities Act. [2003, 2004 NLC Resolution] Lead Dept. NOVA

5.3 Education and Training

- (1) Support expanded education and training programs at all educational levels (high school, community colleges, undergraduate, graduate, adult re-entry and dislocated workers) that increase access to and competitiveness for high demand, high wage jobs in both emerging occupations and replacements jobs created by an aging population.. [*/Modified 1998-January/2001, Clarification, 2006 NOVA and Community Development staff recommendation/amended 2008, 2009 NOVA staff modification] Lead Dept. NOVA
- (2) Support greater flexibility and simplicity in administrative procedures and eligibility requirements to increase client access to adult education, job training, job retention, employment support and supportive

services. [*Council RTC 97-262, 2005 modified by staff/amended 2008, 2009 NOVA staff modification*]
Lead Dept. NOVA

- (3) Support increased state and federal appropriations and allocations based on funding formulas and regulatory guidelines that will fully fund local workforce development programs and workforce system infrastructure. [*2005 NOVA staff recommendation/amended 2008*]Lead Dept. NOVA
- (4) Support increased flexibility and resources for local workforce investment boards, local hospitals, and higher education, among others to address the current nurse workforce shortage and other allied health occupations experiencing shortages in the future. [*2006 NOVA staff recommendation/amended 2008*]
Lead Dept. NOVA
- (5) Support California’s Education, Diversity and Growth in the Economy (EDGE) campaign, a statewide nonpartisan initiative, launched to raise the visibility and importance of the challenges facing the workforce development community in the public policy agenda. Support the next evolution of EDGE at the local level (titled EDGE 2.0) to consider systemic changes in the workforce development infrastructure that will enhance access to skill and talent development. [*CDD/NOVA staff recommendation 2007, 2009 NOVA staff modification*] Lead Dept. NOVA
- (6) Support federal and state initiatives that augment local autonomy on employment training and retains the strong role of the chief elected officials and Workforce Investment Boards. [*1993 LCC & NLC Resolutions/2001 modification, 2009 NOVA staff modification*] Lead Dept. NOVA
- (7) Support reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act and urge Congress to fully fund the Act’s employment and training programs. [*2003, 2004, 2006 NLC Resolution*] Lead Dept. NOVA
- (8) Support increased funding for local labor market research that ensures a demand-driven local workforce investment system has timely and relevant information on workforce trends. [*2005 staff recommendation*] Lead Dept. NOVA

5.4 Health and Social Services

- (1) Support community-based efforts to develop health education and training programs for the general public and local officials. [**/Modified 1995*] Lead Dept. OCM
- (2) Support efforts at the federal, state and regional levels to end chronic homelessness in the United States in 10 years. Support federal, state and/or private funding of programs designed to prevent and/or end homelessness. Encourage the federal government to provide support, treatment, and assistance to veterans and other persons or groups at high risk of becoming homeless (such as the disabled and/or mentally ill). [*2004/2006 NLC Resolution*] Lead Dept. CDD
- (5) Support the use of state Proposition 10 funds (tobacco tax funds), for the development or enhancement of educational and social services for the prenatal through five population and their families. [*First Appeared 2003*] Lead Dept. OCM

6. CULTURAL

6.1 Recreation

- (1) Support efforts to ensure resources are available to perform background checks (i.e.: fingerprinting) of volunteers and coaches working directly with school aged children in order to enhance the participant’s safety. [*2003 Parks & Recreation Recommendation*] Lead Dept. DPR

6.2 Library

- (1) Monitor efforts underway to provide a statewide subscription and funding for online tutoring services - if legislation is initiated, review and support if appropriate. *[2008 Library Staff Recommendation]* Lead Dept. LIB
- (2) Support funding of public library capital projects including possible legislation to lower the threshold for future library bond measures to 55% as was done for school bonds. *[2009 Library Staff Recommendation]* Lead Dept. LIB
- (3) Actively monitor and oppose legislation that jeopardizes the confidentiality of library patron information, including certain provisions of the USA Patriot Act. Support the U.S. campaign against terrorism and affirm a commitment to the U.S. Constitution and respective state constitutions while urging the U.S. Congress to amend the PATRIOT ACT in order to restore and protect our nation's fundamental and inalienable rights and liberties. *[2003 Library Staff Recommendation; 2004 Modification, 2005 modified by staff/2006 NLC Resolution]* Lead Dept. LIB

7. PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

7.1 Fiscal Management

- (1) Support efforts to reduce and make uniform grant regulations and reporting requirements.[*] Lead Dept. FIN
- (2) Support the voluntary formation of regional partnerships. *[1990 NLC Resolution; Modified/2003 Finance Staff Recommendation/amended 2008]* Lead Dept. FIN
- (3) Support uniform collection of the Utility Users Tax and franchise fees on all providers of public utilities. *[1998-December-staff suggestion]* Lead Dept. FIN
- (4) Oppose unfunded or underfunded state or federal mandates. Support full reimbursement of any state or federal mandates. *[Added to existing policy 1998-January/Modified 1998-December/2001Clarificaiton/amended 2008]* Lead Dept. FIN
- (5) Support uniform and consistent application of sales taxes and laws to all sales transactions. *[2001, Staff Clarification]* Lead Dept. FIN
- (6) Oppose attempts to limit the City's ability to manage and administer its locally prescribed pay and benefits systems. *[First Appeared 2003]* Lead Dept. FIN
- (7) Support efforts by the federal and state government to provide credit enhancements to cities. *[2004 NLC Resolution/amended 2008]* Lead Dept. FIN
- (8) Oppose actions by the federal or state government that would reduce or erode local revenues or local control. *[2006 Finance staff recommendation/amended 2008]* Lead Dept. FIN

B. State

- (1) Support reform to Proposition 13 that would be more equitable to post-Proposition 13 property owners. *[1988 & 1990 Ballot Initiatives-Props. 90, 93, 110/amended 2008]* Lead Dept. FIN
- (2) Support full state repayment of local property tax revenues taken through Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) shifts to fund state obligated education costs. *[1997 LCC*

Resolution, 2006 Finance staff recommendation, 2009 Finance staff modification] Lead Dept. FIN

- (3) Support efforts to provide local government with protected and predictable revenue sources; support positive reform of the state-local fiscal relationship. [*Added to existing policy 1994/LCC-2001, #7, 2006 Finance staff recommendation/amended 2008; 2009 Finance staff modification]* Lead Dept. FIN

7.3 Legislative/Management

B. Intergovernmental Relations

- (1) Support balanced representation of the City of Sunnyvale on any regional/sub regional government body or entity which is created, and cooperative analysis and negotiation among neighboring and overlapping jurisdictions, prior to promulgating laws, regulations, permits and fees that will have an impact on City business, residents, property owners and/or businesses in Sunnyvale. [*2007 OCM Staff Recommendation]* Lead Dept. OCM
- (2) Advocate for local control of transportation, housing, land use, and water issues affecting Sunnyvale, except for government functions where regional control may be more appropriate for services delivered on a regional basis. [*2003 and 2008 Public Works Staff Recommendation/Moved to current section based on Council RTC 08-063 (2/26/08)]* Lead Dept. DPW
- (3) To ensure that local governments are consulted and their issues considered, support collaborative efforts and continued relations with, and funding from, other agencies, the State or the Federal Government, for matters where mutual concerns exist (i.e. immigration enforcement, terrorism prevention, safety of public utility systems, local/state/national disasters or emergencies, and homeland security directives), which could have an impact on the delivery of City services. [*2009 OCM Staff Recommendation]* Lead Dept. OCM

C. Human Resources

- (1) California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) - support efforts that maintain or increase local contracting agency control for the use of assets in individual employer accounts, and oppose any actions that would divert assets from individual employer accounts, including opposing any benefit enhancements for participants that are mandated by the State. [*2008 Human Resources Staff Recommendation]* Lead Dept. HRD
- (2) Oppose any form of mandatory enrollment in Social Security for employees covered under another retirement program and oppose any form of mandatory enrollment in Medicare for employees currently excluded as a result of being employed by the City prior to April 1, 1986. [**/amended 2008]*Lead Dept. HRD
- (3) Support legislation regarding worker's compensation reform that reduces or does not increase costs to the City, and which continues to provide reasonable and necessary medical treatment to the injured employee. [*2003 Human Resources Staff Recommendation/amended 2008]* Lead Dept. HRD

D. Telecommunications

- (1) Oppose rate protection for some groups at the expense of others. [*First Appeared 1989]* Lead Dept. ITD

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- (2) Support federal and state legislation that strengthens, recognizes and protects local government's authority to control the public rights-of-way for delivery of data, video and voice services, and to be adequately compensated for the use of such public infrastructures. *RTC 94-453/Modified 1998 January and July; 2007 IT staff modification*] Lead Dept. ITD
- (3) Support legislation that would prohibit the publishing of personal information of elected or appointed officials, including first responders, in newspapers or similar periodicals and on web sites. *[2006 NLC Resolution; 2007 IT staff modification]* Lead Dept. ITD
- (4) Support efforts by local governments to regain or retain franchising authority over telecommunications providers. *[Council RTC 94-453/2006 NLC Resolution; 2009 IT staff modification]* Lead Dept. ITD
- (5) Urge the FCC to require access code before accessing "900" business numbers, and impose penalties on the businesses/providers for non-compliance. *[1994 NLC Resolutions]* Lead Dept. ITD
- (6) Support efforts that overrule the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Declaratory Order finding that cable modem service is an "interstate information service" and is not subject to state or federal telecommunications regulation or subject to local cable franchise requirements. *[2003 Information Technology Staff Recommendation]* Lead Dept. ITD
- (7) Oppose legislation or FCC rulings that define Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) as an "interstate information service", which would preempt any state or local government's authority to regulate it. Encourage the federal government to retain the local government's ability to regulate and/or impose taxes and fees on communications companies doing business within their community regardless of the technology employed to code the transmission of a voice, video or data signal. *[2005 staff recommendation/2006 NLC Resolution]* Lead Dept. ITD
- (8) Urge the federal government to encourage deployment of broadband networks in a competitive and technologically neutral manner and to support federal proposals that promote municipal broadband. Oppose any federal proposals that serve to preempt municipal authority to act in the interest of its citizens, by preventing local governments from installing and operating municipally owned cable or telecommunications systems. *[2006 NLC Resolution]* Lead Dept. ITD

E. Miscellaneous

- (1) Support efforts to revise the California Constitution to enhance accountability, efficiency, and responsiveness for state and local government. *[First Appeared 1996]* Lead Dept. OCM
- (2) Limit the expansion and proliferation of special districts. *[*/Modified 1997 and 1998-December]* Lead Dept. OCM
- (3) Support the provisions in the Brown Act regarding closed sessions and oppose expansion of closed sessions beyond existing exemptions. Oppose narrowing of attorney-client privilege statutes. *[*/Modified in 1993 and 1994]* Lead Dept. OCM
- (4) Support home-rule authority of charter cities and oppose any efforts to reduce local control. Support strengthening "home rule" provisions in the State Constitution. *[First Appeared*

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1996/Modified 1998-January; Modified/2003 Community Development & Finance Staff Recommendation/ 2006 NLC Resolution] Lead Dept. CDD

- (5) Support efforts to amend the California Constitution to require a simple majority vote for adoption of any ballot measures. [*Council RTC 08-063 (2/26/08)*] Lead Dept. OCM

COUNCIL POLICY 7.3.2, ATTACHMENT A

2009 LCC and NLC Resolutions

LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES

1. League Bylaws Amendments

League staff and the Board's Executive Committee have identified various technical amendments and additions to the bylaws that: a) clarify how each city's population is determined for purposes of assessing dues and determining eligibility for Board seats, b) clarify the grounds for finding a directorship that has become vacant, c) clarify the effective date of a vacancy from League office, and d) make various minor technical amendments.

2. 2-1-1 California Telephone Service

Support the 2-1-1 California telephone services as a non-emergency, human and community services and disaster information resource and a commitment by the LCC to collaborate with state and regional partners to continue the promotion of the 2-1-1 service throughout California.

3. Supporting the Extension of the Federal Section 45 Production Tax Credit

Urge the California Congressional delegation and the President to extend the federal Section 45 Production Tax Credit, as it has done five times in past years. The tax credit is due to expire on December 31, 2008 and is essential to attracting capital to develop biomass power plants.

4. Comprehensive Statewide Water Infrastructure Plan

Support the State's efforts to implement a comprehensive statewide water infrastructure improvement plan. Such a plan would result in immediate resolution to environmental, water supply, infrastructure and water quality problems within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta Estuary to restore water supply certainty for the people of California. The plan would also result in longer-term improvements and rehabilitation of California's water infrastructure to provide safe, adequate and reliable water supplies for a growing population; meet future water management needs; solve environmental problems and enhance flood control safety by providing increased conservation and reclamation, infrastructure and conveyance improvements, and increased storage, both above and below ground.

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES

Community and Economic Development

Community Development Block Grant Reforms

Support efforts to change the CDBG formula allocations to better target poverty and real community need.

Supporting reform of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program

Support reform of the Trade Adjustment Assistance program (TAA) to combine the current TAA program with the current TAA-NAFTA program and extend coverage to primary and secondary workers (suppliers, contract servicers and downstream producers), as well as to extend trade beyond FTA partner countries.

Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Services

Support federal legislation that expands current CDBG funds to specifically include foreclosure prevention services such as homebuyer counseling, credit repair, and mortgage restructuring counseling, that are targeted to benefit low- and moderate-income persons. Support eliminating the CDBG provision limiting public services funds to 15% and removing obstacles preventing bankruptcy courts from restructuring home mortgages to help people avoid foreclosure. Support a prohibition of unfair and deceptive mortgage lending practices and support

a freeze on the interest rate resets of adjustable rate mortgages for those owner/occupants at imminent risk of foreclosure.

Energy, Environment and Natural Resources

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Urge Congress to fully fund the LIHEAP heating and cooling program and the Weatherization Assistance Program.

Water Infrastructure Financing

Urge Congress and the Administration to reverse the decline in federal financial participation in funding municipal water infrastructure needs.

Calling on the Federal Government to Address Issues of sustainability and Support Local “Green” Efforts

Urge Congress and the Administration to take action to thoughtfully and comprehensively address sustainability issues.

The World Mayors and Local Governments Climate Protection Agreement

Support the World Mayors and Local Governments Climate Protection Agreement, and ask all state and federal official to join in working toward the fulfillment of each of the commitments set forth in the agreement.

Climate Change Adaptation

Urge Congress and the Administration to comprehensively study the effects of climate change on the nation’s cities and to begin the process of determining appropriate measure to address current and future threats.

Bark Beetles

Urge the federal government to conduct research into the prevention and mitigation of bark beetle outbreaks and similar infestations and provide direct financial assistance to address emergencies such as the situations currently faced in confronting the mountain pine beetle and the emerald ash borer.

Environmentally Friendly Shoreline Systems in Ship Channels and Port Areas

Urge the federal government to provide support for development of environmentally friendly ship channel shoreline systems and financial/technical assistance to communities and their watershed partners to promote innovative approaches for the construction and maintenance of shorelines in the vicinity of federally maintained navigable waterways in ways which will promote environmental restoration in support of the goals of the Clean Water Act.

Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations

Supporting Federal Tax Reform

Urge the federal government to take immediate action to prepare specific plans to resolve the growing deficit and guarantee the ability of the federal government to meet its long-term future financial obligations while acknowledging direct linkages between federal, state and local tax systems.

Supporting State And Local Government Authority Over Tax Incentives And Economic Development

Encourage legislative action by the 110th Congress affirming that state and local governments, not the unelected judiciary, should decide whether or not to offer tax incentives for business and economic development purposes.

In Opposition To Legislation That Prevents Local Governments From Collecting Business Activity Taxes

Oppose legislative efforts, which have negative consequences for local taxing and regulatory authority and disproportionately affect local businesses.

Local Government Opposition To Requirements For State Collection And Administration Of Local Telecommunications Taxes In Federal Legislation On Streamlined Sales And Use Tax

Support the efforts by states to streamline and simplify their sales and use tax collection and administration systems.

Federal Consent Decree Fairness Act (S. 489/H.R. 1229)

Urge Congress to enact legislation, in consultation with state and local officials, to ensure that federal consent decrees are narrowly drafted, limited in duration, and respectful of state and local interests and policy judgments.

In Support of The Municipal Bond Fairness Act

Support the policies brought forward in the Municipal Bond Fairness Act to create a uniform rating system for all securities and encourage Congress to reject ill-conceived efforts to impose new regulatory burdens on state and local governments.

Governments Working Together: An Intergovernmental Partnership

Support efforts to bring leaders of the nation's municipalities together to call for a broader national discussion on strengthening the intergovernmental partnership.

Supporting the 2010 Census

Support full-funding of decennial census budgets for the 2010 Census and the Census Bureau's recruiting efforts and seek continued partnership with the Census Bureau's national and regional partnership programs to promote the 2010 Census.

Human Development

In Support of Quality, Early Childhood Education Programs

Urge the federal government to provide increased funding, technical assistance, and policies that support collaboration and participation across federal, state, and local levels to provide for early childhood education for all children.

In Support of Legislation to Reform High Schools

Support an essential influx of new federal dollars into the state and local education systems to support secondary schools through an appropriate legislative vehicle, as long as the program provides additional funds, not a substitute or diversion of funds already being used in elementary schools nationwide currently provided.

Critical Need for Parental and Community Involvement

Urge the federal government to establish family support programs for young children, including parenting education for mothers and fathers, family health care and nutritional guidance.

In Support of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP)

Urge Congress and the Administration to reauthorize the State Children's Health Insurance Program immediately; the authorization for this critical safety net program will soon expire and urgent action is needed to ensure its continued success.

FDA Regulation of Tobacco

Urge Congress to pass legislation that would grant authority to the FDA to regulate tobacco. The FDA's authority should support and must not restrict state and local government authority to impose more stringent measures related to cigarette use.

In Support of Permanent Partners Immigration Act

Support the passage of HR 3006, which would amend the Immigration and Nationality Act by adding the term "permanent partner" where appropriate and thereby affording same-sex couples equal rights of immigration sponsorship as opposite-sex couples.

In Support Of Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Urge Congress to move quickly to enact comprehensive reform of the current immigration laws with support of the Administration to implement the immigration laws effectively.

Resolution Affirming Federalism And Local Authority Regarding Marriage

Urge Congress to oppose the passage of any resolution or legislation that would limit the authority of state and local government to define marriage or confer its benefits upon their resident.

Supporting Veteran's Needs

Urge Congress to immediately fund necessary steps to eliminate the root causes of veterans' homelessness, including funding research, treatment, and support programs; advocate for an increase in funding for veteran healthcare programs and funding for VA Mental Health and Addiction Treatment Services; oppose further consideration of the closure of VA Centers by the Central VA Administration and the Capital Asset and Realignment for the Enhanced Services (CARES) Commission.

Supporting The Workforce Investment Act

Support reauthorization of WIA and urges Congress to fully fund WIA's critical employment and training programs.

Addressing Disparities In Health Care For Minorities

Encourage the Federal Government to address the disparities in healthcare access and treatment between racial and ethnic minority population groups and Caucasians by following the recommendations of the NHDR, IOM and the President's New Freedom Commission.

Ending Homelessness for Veterans by Increasing Investment in HUD-VASH Vouchers

Endorse the HUD_VASH program as an important investment in ending homelessness among veterans; Endorse the increased investment in HUD_VASH, including the \$75 million in additional funding for new HUD_VASH vouchers included in the President's FY 2009 Budget request, and encourage the Congress to increase this resource to end veteran homelessness.

Endorsing 10 Year Plans to End Chronic Homelessness

Support efforts to develop and implement 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness that include the field-tested, evidence-based national innovations of Housing First/Rapid Rehousing, Community Champions and other best practices.

Federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers

Oppose cuts to the 21st Century Community Learning Centers; Strongly urge the federal government to fully fund 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant program and invest in supporting and funding quality after-school programs that are accessible for all children and youth.

In Support of Health Care Reform

Urge the federal government to make a high domestic priority of obtaining comprehensive health care reform by restructuring the health care system, reducing costs, and assuring that every American can obtain adequate health care coverage.

Information Technology and Communications

Supporting Local Franchise Authority Over Video And Cable Services

Promote competition for all consumers and treating like services alike and work with newcomers in the video market in order to provide an efficient franchise process that will not obstruct new service deployment.

Local Government Support Of Community / Municipal Broadband Networks

The federal government should encourage deployment of broadband networks in a competitive and technologically neutral manner.

Supporting National Access to Broadband Services Broadband Deployment: A call for Universal Availability and World-Class Quality

Urge the federal government to take an active role in convening together all interested parties, including, but not limited to, all levels of government, consumer organizations, representative of underserved communities, all segments of the communications industry interests, representatives of private sector and not-for-profit sector organizations, to promote ubiquitous broadband deployment.

Public Safety and Crime Prevention

Urging More Effective Emergency Preparedness And Response And Action On Related Issues

Urge Congress to recognize the urgent need for significant improvements in emergency preparedness and response capabilities at the local, state and federal levels before future natural disasters or acts of terrorism.

In Support Of Interoperable Public Safety Communications Systems And Funding

Urge the federal government to provide adequate funding for interoperable equipment to better facilitate coordinated and effective emergency response in cities and across jurisdictions.

Supporting National Standards For Integrated Justice Information Systems

Urge Congress to enact legislation that will establish uniform standards for criminal justice information systems.

Urging The Reverse Of The Current Mexican Extradition Policy

Urge the federal government to use all diplomatic means at their disposal to insist that the Extradition Treaty (1980) be revised to resolve the critical issue of the extradition of those suspected of committing serious and violent crimes against the people in the U.S.

In Support Of Electronic Control Devices

Urge the United States Congress to provide adequate funding resources to assist local law enforcement agencies with the deployment of state-of-the-art non-lethal technologies such as electronic control devices in an effort to promote public safety.

In Support Of Efforts To Fight Illegal Guns

Urge Congress to reject legislative proposals that limit our cities' ability to solve and prevent crime in our communities.

Resolution Encouraging Cities To Determine The Public Safety Impacts Resulting From Transportation Of High Level Nuclear Waste

Encourage all cities along the proposed spent nuclear fuel shipping routes to conduct similar public safety fiscal impact studies so that their public safety agencies will be prepared to respond should an accident involving high-level nuclear waste or any other hazardous material occur; and urge the United States Congress to provide adequate funding to all cities along the proposed spent nuclear fuel shipping routes for the purpose of conducting such studies.

Supporting The Right Of Cities To Receive Federal Reimbursement For Services Provided To Citizens From Communities Affected In An Emergency

U.S. Congress should direct the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and relevant agencies to reimburse host cities for costs related to disaster evacuations including straight time for city employees and use of city-owned sheltering facilities at the direction of the federal government.

Repeal Section 1076 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act

Urge the Congress to repeal Section 1076 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act (P.L. 109-364) which expands the President's authority to federalize the National Guard during certain emergencies and disasters. This provision does not require the President to contact, confer or collaborate with the affected governor before taking control of a state's Guard forces.

The Federal Role in Supporting Hometown Security and Combating Violent Crime

Call upon the US Congress and Administration to assist municipalities across the nation in combating crime.

Encouraging The Federal Emergency Management Agency To Adopt Regulations To Permit Municipalities To Obtain Disaster Assistance When Counties Are Not Eligible

Encourage the US Congress to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to permit municipalities to independently request through their state that their municipality be declared a disaster, therefore enabling the state to apply for an receive disaster assistance from FEMA on behalf of the impacted municipalities when counties are ineligible.

Cradle to Prison Pipeline

Urge Congress and the President to work for a fundamental paradigm shift in child policy and practice away from the too frequent first choice of punishment and incarceration to prevention and early intervention and a sustained child investment.

Urging federal resources to support increased DNA use in non-violent crimes

Urge the federal government to direct resources to increase the use of the DNA collection and analysis in all criminal cases.

Transportation and Infrastructure Services

Increased Federal Funding for Amtrak

Urge the Administration and Congress to invest in Amtrak by creating a long-term, sustainable federal funding mechanism to provide Amtrak with a fair and consistent source of capital and operating support for passenger rail.

Rail Safety Concerns

Pledge to promote safe and efficient public and private freight rail transportation and to seek creative solutions that will carry the United States through the 21st Century, and urges Congress to review the following rail safety issues.

Federal Preemption Of Local Authority Related To Railroads

Request that the United States Congress oppose reauthorization of the STB unless and until the law is amended to ensure that railroads are subject to the same federal, state, and local environmental laws under which interstate highways and airports must abide that provide the opportunity for mitigation of negative impacts of new or enhanced facilities and/or operations.

Urging the Federal Government to Create an Adequately Funded Comprehensive National Surface Transportation Policy Plan

Urge Congress to oppose reauthorization of the STB unless and until the law is amended to ensure that railroads are subject to the same federal, state, and local environmental laws under which interstate highways and airports must abide that provide the opportunity for mitigation of negative impacts of new or enhanced facilities and/or operations.