



Council Meeting: January 26, 2010

SUBJECT: 2010 Priority Issues and Legislative Advocacy Positions

BACKGROUND

Priority Issues

To focus the City's limited advocacy resources, staff annually seeks direction from Council regarding priorities. 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. Previously, staff has also proposed a category for *Priority watch* issues – areas of significant concern that may become active, but no specific legislation/issue or activity has yet been developed. This distinction, however, has served no practical purpose and therefore this year, staff proposes that all significant issues – those identified in legislation or those anticipated – simply be considered priority issues.

Legislative Advocacy Positions

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

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.

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.

DISCUSSION

Attachment A, *DRAFT Council Policy 7.3.2 Legislative Advocacy Positions*, identifies the proposed 2010 Legislative Advocacy Positions, proposed 2010

Priority Issues, and incorporates adopted 2010 League of California Cities and National League of Cities resolutions.

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 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.

Legislative Advocacy Positions Policy

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.

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 Attachment A, *DRAFT Council Policy 7.3.2 Legislative Advocacy Positions*, including the positions, Priority Issues, and 2010 LCC and NLC Resolutions.
- 2) Modify Attachment A, *DRAFT Council Policy 7.3.2 Legislative Advocacy Positions*, including the positions, Priority Issues, and 2010 LCC and NLC Resolutions.
- 3) Other direction as provided by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends:

Alternative 1) Approve Attachment A, *DRAFT Council Policy 7.3.2 Legislative Advocacy Positions*, including the positions, Priority Issues, and 2010 LCC and NLC Resolutions.

Reviewed by:

Robert Walker, Assistant City Manager

Prepared by: Yvette Blackford, Intergovernmental Relations Officer

Approved by:

Gary M. Luebbers, City Manager

Attachments

A. DRAFT Council Policy 7.3.2 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); 09-046 (2/24/09))

Lead Department: Office of the City Manager

2010 Priority Issues

1. State and National Economic Crisis

State of California

According to the latest forecast by the Legislative Analyst's Office, the General Fund Budget deficit is estimated to be \$20.7 billion. Of that amount, \$6.3 billion is attributed to FY 2009/2010 and \$14.4 billion is attributed to FY 2010/2011. The State's budget deficit is structural in nature, presents immediate cash flow issues, and is expected to continue for several years unless substantial corrective action is taken.

Although somewhat insulated through existing law, cities are not immune from negative fiscal effects resulting from the State's structural budget deficit. The FY 2009/2010 State budget contained limited impacts to Sunnyvale, many of which were previously expected and incorporated into the City's FY 2009/2010 adopted budget. However, the City should expect the State to become much more aggressive this year as it explores options for closing the mounting budget deficit. These options often include suspending, delaying or diverting payments to local governments, all of which can cause cash flow problems. It is paramount that the City follow legislative proceedings closely and strongly hold an advocacy position that:

- Opposes any unfunded or under-funded mandates.
- Opposes all changes that affect the timing of payments to local governments.
- Opposes any legislation that reduces or erodes local revenues or local control.
- Supports positive reform of the state fiscal structure and procedures.
- Ensures local governments' revenue sources are protected and predictable.

For the 2010 California Legislative Session, the City should pay particular attention to any legislation that affects transportation funding to local governments. These monies constitute a significant portion of the State budget. For this reason transportation funding is a prime target for "sweeps" of funds and other manipulation. The City should firmly oppose all legislation that further erodes Proposition 42 payments to local governments and State Transit Account funding, which already has been completely diverted. Other funding sources that are vulnerable and likely to be targeted for greater diversions during the 2010 Session include Transportation Development Act funds and the State Transportation Improvement Program.

Other funding sources should be considered threatened as well. It is anticipated that legislation will be introduced during the 2010 Session that will include:

- Relieving online travel companies from their obligation to pay their fair share of state and local hotel taxes, a.k.a. Transit Occupancy Tax (TOT). In FY 2009/2010, the City's expected revenue from TOT is \$6 million. These monies provide the City with vital public safety and community services.
- State subventions to the State General Fund from law enforcement grants; Proposition 172 monies – also associated with law enforcement; and the Vehicle License Fee.
- Redirecting Highway Users' Tax (HUTA) monies from local governments to pay State General Fund debt obligations.
- Diverting Redevelopment Agencies' property tax payments to county Supplemental Educational Revenue Augmentation Funds (SERAF). This issue is fully discussed in the Community Development Department's section.
- Borrowing and/or delaying property tax payments to local governments and reimbursements associated with non-funded state and federal mandates (SB 90).

Federal Recovery Efforts

As the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act matures, the City will continue to work with its local, regional, state and national partners to encourage Congress to maintain its efforts to provide local governments the flexibility and resources needed to create and preserve jobs, strengthen the economy, and provide long-lasting benefits to all communities. The City should continue to act quickly and purposefully to use those opportunities as they become available.

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. The Department of Veterans Affairs released an RFP for design services for rehabilitation of the Onizuka facilities (Blue Cube) for their use, in contradiction to the LRA's adopted reuse plan, on November 23, 2009. This poses a serious challenge to the LRA's preferred reuse model of an Auto Center on the entire site.

3. Investment Funding for Workforce Development

As in the past several years, "Investment Funding for Workforce Development" will continue to be a Priority Issue for the City in 2010. 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, the expected protracted recession and the culmination of stimulus funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, funding for workforce development for this region is especially vulnerable in 2010 and could potentially threaten the viability of these local and essential programs.

4. 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.

5. 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.

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.

6. Redevelopment Law

In December 2008, the State Legislature passed and the Governor signed AB 1389, a state budget trailer bill raiding \$350 million of redevelopment funds to close a portion of the State's FY 2008/2009 budget deficit. Specifically, the redevelopment funds would be diverted to county Supplemental Educational Revenue Augmentation Funds (SERAF). In April 2009, a Sacramento County Superior Court ruled that State raids of redevelopment funds are unconstitutional, invalidating the 2008 state budget bill.

Despite the Superior Court's ruling, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed ABX4-26 as part of the 2009 State budget in July 2009. This budget bill authorizes a \$2.05 billion transfer of local redevelopment funds to SERAF, including \$1.7 billion in FY 2009/2010 and another \$350 million in FY 2010/2011. The total impact on the City's Redevelopment Agency would be a loss of \$2,440,432; the first amount of \$2,024,110 due in May of 2010 and the remaining \$416,322 in May of 2011.

The California Redevelopment Association and two of its member agencies again filed a lawsuit on October 20, 2009, to challenge the constitutionality of the State's action to transfer redevelopment funds to SERAF.

7. Housing/Land Use

Land use and climate change legislation has been passed (SB 32 and SB 375) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by improving job/housing balance and shifting the focus of new development to walkable, in-fill development close to jobs, goods and services, rather than allowing the critical mass of new development to occur as auto-dependent, low density suburban development and highly separated uses. Over the past 10 years or so the City and the Bay Area have begun to shift planning policies to encourage infill and transit-oriented development, consistent with SB 32 and 375. In terms of state advocacy, the City should act to encourage the State to act, within limits of fiscal responsibility, to fully fund its Proposition 1C housing grant awards, including the \$6.6 million Infill Infrastructure Grant awarded in 2009 to the City for the Fair Oaks Senior Housing project, by encouraging the Treasurer to allocate new State bond proceeds to HCD for its outstanding Proposition 1C commitments as soon as possible, and to focus additional State housing and infrastructure investments fully on transit-oriented and/or infill development, and not to fund any additional greenfield development in remote bedroom communities, which remove farmland from production and/or destroy important wildlife habitat and recreational open space, in addition to their disproportional commute-related greenhouse gas emissions.

8. 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:

California Global Warming Solutions Act

The California Global Warming Solutions Act, commonly referred to as AB 32, is intended to reduce and eventually cap statewide emissions of greenhouse gases. Such emissions are to be reduced to 2000 levels by 2010, to 1990 levels by 2020, and to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. On January 1, 2009, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted a plan indicating how emission reductions will be achieved from significant GHG sources via regulations, market mechanisms and other actions. These measures can include direct emission reduction measures, market-based compliance mechanisms, alternative compliance mechanisms, monetary and non-monetary incentives, and other appropriate actions. By January 1, 2011, CARB will adopt regulations to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective reductions in GHGs, including provisions for using both market mechanisms, alternative compliance mechanisms and establishment of annual emission limits and regulations implementing the selected measures, which must be enforceable by January 1, 2012. Regulations to implement this legislation are being developed by regulatory agencies. Also, new landfill monitoring regulations were adopted in 2009. Staff believes that these regulations will increase the cost of monitoring and maintaining the closed Sunnyvale landfill to a degree far more significant than the resulting reduction in landfill gas emissions, if any. 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 was 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.

9. 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 2½ 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 2008 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.

Several bills were past by the state legislature in 2009 that will push issues that must be resolved to guarantee sufficient water for all users into the future. The need to watch this issue has not gone away with the approval of these bills. There will be actions, and there will still need to be more legislation that will require support at every stage.

The primary emphasis of the passed bills:

- SB 1 – Delta Governance/Delta Plan
- SB 6 – Groundwater Monitoring
- SB 7 – Statewide Water Conservation
- SB 8 – Water Diversion and Use / Funding
- Water Bond – to go to public for vote in 2010

SFPUC and the District have been taking 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 progress, 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 continue 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.

2010 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 ISTEAs 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) 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**
- (6) 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**
- (7) Seek local policy participation on regional rail projects and support efforts to bring light rail or other fixed guideway or rapid transit service to Sunnyvale. *[*/Modified 1993, 2006 Public Works staff recommendation]* **Lead Dept. DPW**
- (8) 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**
- (9) 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**
- (10) 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**
- (11) Support the continuing efforts of the Water Emergency 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**
- (12) 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**

- (13) 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**
- (14) 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**
- (15) 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**

1.2 The City

- (1) 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**
- (2) 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**
- (3) Strengthen the control of cities over development within or contiguous to their sphere of influence. *[*]***Lead Dept. DPW**

2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2.1 Economic Development

- (1) 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. OCM**
- (2) 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, biomedical device manufacturing, 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. *[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. OCM**
- (3) Support efforts to identify, assess, and mitigate key obstacles to business development in California, including workers compensation insurance and government regulations negatively impacting business. *[2003 Community Development Staff Recommendation/2006 NLC Resolution]* **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (4) 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. OCM**

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. DCS**
- (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. DCS**

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 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 efforts to develop and implement a national environmental quality policy that improves the quality of the total environment while protecting the environment from further degradation and that assesses both current and long term environmental impacts, ensuring that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. *[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**

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 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**
- (3) 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**
- (4) Support requirements that are consistent with the City's Zero Waste policy. [2001 staff suggestion] **Lead Dept. DPW**
- (5) 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**
- (6) 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) 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**
- (3) 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**

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**

3.7 Air Quality

- (1) Support efforts to manage and reduce risks from air toxics. [First Appeared 2003] **Lead Dept. DPW**
- (2) Support efforts to improve or strengthen regional and local regulation of mobile source emissions. [2003 Public Works Staff Recommendation] **Lead Dept. DPW**
- (3) 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**
- (4) Support the development of greenhouse gas regulations, such as 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) 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**
- (3) Support legislation that allows cities to collect fees to recover costs associated with providing 911 Emergency Communications Services. [DPS Staff 2007] **Lead Dept. DPS**
- (4) Support a strong intergovernmental partnership for municipalities in their role in national defense, and collaboration in preventing and responding to disasters. [2003/2006 NLC Resolution] **Lead Dept. DPS**
- (5) 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**
- (6) 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. [2007 NLC Resolution; 2009 DPS staff modification] **Lead Dept. DPS**

4.2 Fire Services

- (1) 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) 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**
- (2) 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**
- (3) 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**
- (4) Support 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 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 to launch sector-driven industry initiatives to address current and projected workforce needs that may include healthcare, renewable energy, public sector replacement jobs, among other industries experiencing workforce 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. DCS**
- (2) 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. DCS**

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. DCS**

6.2 Library

- (1) 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**
- (2) 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**
- (3) Support funding of California Library Literacy Services (CLLS), a state program that allows California's public libraries to direct services to low-literate adults and their families. [*2010 Library Staff Recommendation*] **Lead Dept LIB**

7. PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- (1) Oppose all changes that affect the timing of payments to local governments. **Lead Dept. FIN**
- (2) Oppose any legislation that reduces or erodes local revenues or local control. **Lead Dept. FIN**
- (3) Support positive reform of the state fiscal structure and procedures. **Lead Dept. FIN**
- (4) Ensure local governments' revenue sources are protected and predictable. **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. OCM**
- (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**
- (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 of local governments. [*First Appeared 1996*] **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (2) Review any proposed expansion or proliferation of special districts for impact to the City of Sunnyvale. [**/Modified 1997 and 1998-December*] **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (3) Support existing provisions of the Brown Act regarding closed sessions. [**/Modified in 1993 and 1994*] **Lead Dept. OCA**
- (4) Review all proposed changes to current attorney-client privilege statutes. [**/Modified in 1993 and 1994*] **Lead Dept. OCA**
- (5) 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 1996/Modified 1998-January; Modified/2003 Community Development & Finance Staff Recommendation/ 2006 NLC Resolution*] **Lead Dept. CDD**
- (6) 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**

2010 LCC and NLC Resolutions

LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES**1. Social Host Liability**

Resolution holds social hosts responsible for underage drinking that occurs on property under their possession, control, or authority.

2. Divesting From Banks/ Financial Institutions That Fail To Cooperate With Foreclosure Prevention Efforts

Resolution urges city governments and others to explore the potential divestiture of all deposits in banking and other financial institutions that fail to cooperate with foreclosure prevention efforts that include temporary moratoriums on foreclosures, renegotiation of mortgage principles to reflect current values, and good faith negotiations with mortgagees.

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES**Regarding the Closure of Post Offices**

The NLC urges USPS to consider impacts on local government community and economic development plans and impacts on low- and moderate income households the elderly and the disabled as it studies postal facility closures.

In Support of Federal Support for A Mutual Bond Insurance Company

The NLC urges Congress and the Administration to provide the financial support necessary to provide a strong capital base for a new bond insurance company that will be mutually owned by state and local government bond issuers and will serve the public by providing market access for these issuers and reducing the cost of borrowing for essential governmental projects.

In Support of the Municipal Bond Fairness Act

The National League of Cities (NLC) supports the policies brought forward in the Municipal Bond Fairness Act to create a uniform rating system for all securities and we encourage Congress to reject ill-conceived efforts to impose new regulatory burdens on state and local governments. The NLC also opposes any efforts to impose new regulatory burdens on the municipal bond community that are unjustified and costly to state and local governments.

Governments Working Together: An Intergovernmental Partnership

The leaders of the nation's municipalities call for a broader national discussion on strengthening the intergovernmental partnership

Supporting the 2010 Census

The National League of Cities (NLC) supports full-funding of decennial census budgets for the 2010 Census and the U.S. Census Bureau's recruiting efforts.

Supporting Federal Tax Reform

The NLC urges the federal government to take immediate action to prepare specific plans to resolve and reduce the current and 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

The NLC and other state and local government coalition partners support efforts in Congress to pass legislation which responds to the concerns of elected leaders and the business community by affirming that state and local governments, not the judiciary, should decide whether or not to offer tax incentives for business and economic development purposes.

Local Government Opposition to Requirements for State Collection and Administration of Local Telecommunications Taxes in Federal Legislation On Streamlined Sales and Use Tax

The NLC supports efforts by states to streamline and simplify their sales and use tax collection and administration systems and commends the Streamlined Sales Tax Governing Board for considering the challenges that the Agreement's destination sales tax sourcing requirement presents to those states using origin-based sourcing and working to identify solutions that would allow those states to participate in the Agreement.

Federal Consent Decree Fairness Act

The National League of Cities supports the goals of Federal Consent Decree Fairness Act, and urges 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 Amending 7 U.S.C. 1926(B) to Promote Municipal Economic Development and Improved Water-Related Services to Citizens in Developing Areas

The National League of Cities urges the Congress of the United States to amend Title 7 U.S.C. Section 1926(b) to: A) authorize municipalities to purchase and retire loans made under the Consolidated and Rural Development Act and, thus, permit the municipality to provide a full range of services to its residents; and B) provide that collateral for Title 7 U.S.C. Section 1926(b) loans be based on the customers of the portion of the system that is identified in the loan documents as collateral for the loan and is either (1) in existence at the time of the loan or (2) financed by the loan.

United Nations Conference on Racism Resolution

The National League of Cities supports full participation of the United States in the next world conference on racism and related intolerance and any and all world discussions of human rights and the establishment of global policy.

Federal Home Loan Bank System's Importance as a Resource For America's Cities

The NLC supports legislation, regulatory changes and other initiatives designed to expand the FHLBanks' ability to serve the housing, community and economic development needs of cities through their investment authority, introduction of new business and activities, and development of new initiatives and products.

Water Infrastructure Financing

The National League of Cities urges Congress and the Administration to reverse the decline in federal financial participation in funding municipal water infrastructure needs by developing a financial option that strikes the right balance between local responsibility and federal assistance.

Calling On the Federal Government to Address Issues of Sustainability and Support Local "Green" Efforts

the National League of Cities (NLC) strongly urges Congress and the Administration to take action to thoughtfully and comprehensively address sustainability issues.

The World Mayors and Local Governments Climate Protection Agreement

The National League of Cities (NLC) declares its support for the World Mayors and Local Governments Climate Protection Agreement and asks all state and federal officials to join in working toward the fulfillment of each of the commitments set forth in the agreement.

Climate Change Adaptation

The National League of Cities urges 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 measures to address current and future threats.

Protecting Forests from Harmful Infestations

The National League of Cities urges the federal government to conduct research into the prevention and mitigation of bark beetle outbreaks and similar infestations.

Environmentally Friendly Shoreline Systems in Ship Channels and Port Areas

The NLC urges Congress and the Administration to provide support for development of environmentally friendly ship channel shoreline systems.

Principles for Product Stewardship

The National League of Cities (NLC) urges Congress to protect and support the ability of local and state governments to establish producer responsibility legislation.

Urban Waterways Revitalization

The National League of Cities supports an Urban Policy Agenda that incorporates the concept of Urban Waterways Revitalization as an economic development tool that serves multiple benefits for cities and supports a means for cities to work with the Army Corps and other federal agencies to ensure that federal funds are more efficiently spent and that outcomes more effectively meet local needs.

Community Development Block Grants

The NLC urges the federal government to fully fund the CDBG program at no less than \$4.5 billion as a smart investment in the future of America's cities and towns and that Congress closely consult with city and town officials on any proposed legislative or regulatory reforms to the CDBG program.

Supporting Reform of Trade Adjustment Assistance

The National League of Cities supports reform of the Trade Adjustment Assistance program to combine the current TAA program with the current "TAA-North American Free Trade Agreement" 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

The National League of Cities (NLC) supports federal legislation that would permit bankruptcy courts to modify home mortgages on primary residences as a last resort to preventing foreclosure.

Support For Modernization of The Community Reinvestment Act

The National League of Cities supports Congressional efforts to modernize and expand the Community Reinvestment Act to all mortgage lending institutions as part of the larger regulatory overhaul of the financial services industry.

In Support of Quality, Early Childhood Education Programs

The NLC urges 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

The NLC supports an essential influx of new federal dollars into the state and local educational 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 provided under Title I or other programs of the No Child Left Behind Act.

Critical Need For Parental and Community Involvement

The NLC urges the federal government to significantly strengthen and enforce the "parental involvement" requirements of federal education law and promote successful involvement by parents, guardians, and other legal care-takers, in the early learning component of their children's education, the partnership with their school-age children's teachers, and the reform process of their schools. NLC urges the federal government to ensure that "parental involvement," or a broader, more inclusive term, is included in all education policies and adequately funded so that the involvement of parents and other legal caretakers becomes a centerpiece of federal education law. It is critical that "parental involvement" promotes parental accountability, parent-teacher relationships, and assistance to parents to achieve better parenting skills, reinforcing homework, discipline, and other learning behaviors.

In Support of the Permanent Partners Immigration Act or the United American Families Act (H.R. 1024/S. 424)

The National League of Cities supports the passage of H.R. 1024/S. 424.

In Support of Comprehensive Immigration Reform

The National League of Cities (NLC) urges Congress to move quickly to enact comprehensive reform of the current immigration laws with support of the Administration to implement the immigration laws effectively.

Endorsing 10 Year Plans To End Chronic Homelessness

The NLC urges Congress to create new permanent funding sources for supportive services for people experiencing homelessness within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services budget and calls on Congress and the Administration to provide additional proposed Section 8 Vouchers for the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (HUD-VASH) program.

In Support of the Federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant Program

The National League of Cities opposes cuts to the 21st Century Community Learning Centers, and strongly urges the federal government to fully fund 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant program and invest in supporting and funding quality afterschool programs that are accessible for all children and youth.

Resolution in Support of Health Care Reform

The National League of Cities (NLC) urges the federal government to address the current health care crisis through a series of legislative reforms designed to contain the growth of health care costs and to improve access to adequate and appropriate health care, including wellness and preventive services, for all Americans, regardless of income or employment or family status.

Resolution in Support of Safe Schools Legislation

The National League of Cities (NLC) urges Congress and the Administration to pass and sign into law legislation that would address the problem of bullying and harassment in America's schools.

Resolution Urging the U.S. Food and Drug Administration To Lift The Current Ban on Certain Groups of Men from Contributing to the Nation's Blood Supply

The National League of Cities (NLC) opposes discrimination against individuals on the basis of their actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity and expression; the NLC also calls upon the Food and Drug Administration and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to adopt policies that repeal the current discriminatory policies of the FDA regarding blood donation by men who have sex with other men.

Resolution In Support Of "Aging in Place"

The NLC urges the federal government establish programs that reduce homecare costs, increase the quality of care, reduce reliance on nursing home, address mental capacity and mobility, provide transportation and accessibility services, create a continuum of housing options, and increase access to broadband and internet services to improve healthcare and social networking.

Resolution on Disparities within the Bone Marrow Registry

The NLC urges that Congress and the Administration maintain the Cell Transplantation Program so that it remains the single point of access for patients to access matching adult donors and umbilical cord blood.

Resolution on the Disparities in the Delivery of Health Care to Racial and Ethnic Minorities

The National League of Cities urges Congress and the Administration to address the disparities in healthcare access and treatment between racial and ethnic minority population groups and Caucasians by following the recommendations of the National Institutes of Medicine, the National Healthcare Disparities Report and the President's New Freedom Commission report.

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

The National League of Cities (NLC) supports pursuing a strategic, national transportation plan that will include a multimodal network that promotes the environmental, social, and economic development of our country and urges Congress to expeditiously adopt a fully funded plan.

Urging More Effective Emergency Preparedness and Response and Action on Related Issues

The NLC urges prompt and meaningful action in Congress, including appropriating sufficient funding to accomplish better coordinated and effective local, state and federal natural disaster preparedness plans.

In Support Of Interoperable Public Safety Communications Systems and Funding

The NLC urges the federal government to lead the efforts to resolve interoperability problems that affect emergency communications and data systems throughout the nation through providing adequate funding to SAFECOM to enable it to complete its mandated mission.

Urging the Revise of the Current Mexican Extradition Policy

The National League of Cities calls upon the President and Congress 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

The NLC calls on the 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

The National League of Cities calls on Congress to reject legislative proposals that limit our cities’ ability to solve and prevent crime in our communities.

Encouraging Cities to Determine the Public Safety Impacts Resulting From Transportation of High Level Nuclear Waste

The National League of Cities strongly 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. The NLC also urges the 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

The NLC believes the U.S. Congress should direct the Federal Emergency Management Agency 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.

The Federal Role in Supporting Hometown Security and Combating Violent Crime

The National League of Cities calls upon the 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

The National League of Cities encourages Congress to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) (Public Law 100-707) to permit municipalities to independently request through their state that their municipality be declared a disaster, therefore enabling the state to apply for and receive disaster assistance from FEMA on behalf of the impacted municipalities when counties are ineligible.

Resolution on Cradle to Prison Pipeline

The National League of Cities (NLC) urges Congress and the President to encourage that every child has a healthy start through available and affordable comprehensive health and mental health coverage that includes pregnant women wherever they live in America.

Urging Federal Resources to Support Increased DNA Use in Non Violent Crimes

The National League of Cities urges the federal government to direct resources to increase the use of the DNA collection and analysis in criminal cases, including resources for cities for training and additional law enforcement costs.

On Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System

The National League of Cities (NLC) believes that how the criminal justice community engages people with mental illness is an issue of national concern.

Levee Accreditation

The National League of Cities urges Congress and the Administration to enact legislation that will allow for federal assistance in the accreditation of municipal levees in a cost effective and responsible manner.

Local Government Support of Community / Municipal Broadband Networks

The National League of Cities (NLC) believes that the federal government should encourage deployment of broadband networks in a competitive manner via a variety of conduits (satellite, WiFi, WiMax, cable, etc.) and opposes proposals, administrative or otherwise, that seek to burden cities through unnecessary procedural requirements and safeguards that duplicate the democratic process by which all cities govern themselves.

Broadband Deployment: A Call for Universal Availability and World-Class Quality

The NLC urges the federal government to take an active role in convening together all interested parties, including, but not limited to, all levels of government (local, state, tribal, and federal), consumer organizations, representatives of underserved communities (rural, urban and suburban), all segments of the communications industry interests, representatives of private sector, and not-for-profit sector organizations, to promote ubiquitous broadband deployment.

Calling on the Federal Government to Maximize Its Stimulus Support for Broadband Internet Adoption and Use Programs in Our Nation's Cities

The NLC calls upon the federal agencies distributing the broadband funding included in the ARRA to mandate that broadband awareness, adoption, use, and digital literacy programs receive funding priority.