



Council Meeting: February 8, 2011

SUBJECT: 2011 Priority Issues and Legislative Advocacy Positions

BACKGROUND

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.

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.

Legislative Advocacy Positions

The Legislative Advocacy Position (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. LAPs are distinguished from other 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 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.

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, *Proposed 2011 Priority Issues and Legislative Advocacy Positions*, identifies the proposed 2011 Priority Issues and Legislative Advocacy Positions. *Adopted 2011 League of California Cities and National League of Cities resolutions* (Attachment B) are updated annually and incorporated into the LAP.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

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, *Proposed 2011 Priority Issues and Legislative Advocacy Positions*, and Attachment B, *Adopted 2011 League of California Cities and National League of Cities Resolutions*.
- 2) Modify Attachment A, *Proposed 2011 Priority Issues and Legislative Advocacy Positions*, and/or Attachment B, *Adopted 2011 League of California Cities and National League of Cities Resolutions*.
- 3) Other direction as provided by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends:

Alternative 1) Approve Attachment A, *Proposed 2011 Priority Issues and Legislative Advocacy Positions*, and Attachment B, *Adopted 2011 League of California Cities and National League of Cities Resolutions*.

Reviewed by:

Robert Walker, Assistant City Manager

Prepared by: Yvette Blackford, Intergovernmental Relations Officer

Approved by:

Gary M. Luebbers, City Manager

Attachments

- A. Proposed 2011 Priority Issues and Legislative Advocacy Positions
- B. Adopted 2011 League of California Cities and National League of Cities Resolutions

PROPOSED 2011 PRIORITY ISSUES AND LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY POSITIONS

2011 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 \$25 billion. Of that amount, \$6 billion is attributed to FY 2010/2011 and \$19 billion is attributed to FY 2011/2012. 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.

With respect to the impact of the State's budget on the City of Sunnyvale, there were no new actions taken that directly impact the City. Previous actions taken that are still in effect include the shift of approximately \$416,000 of Redevelopment funds to the State in FY 2010/11, the delay in payment of Vehicle License Fees until April, and the continued delay/suspension of funding for State-mandated activities. Despite passage of the budget, the State's finances remain in an unstable position. Since the passage of Proposition 22 furthers the restriction on the State's ability to take local government funds, it is vital 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.
- Opposes actions that would negatively impact the allocation of tax increment revenue to redevelopment agencies.

Voter approval, on November 2, 2010, of Proposition 26 has potentially significant effects on current and future City use of fee revenues to fund services. Affected fees may include those charged directly by the City or by other government bodies that use fee revenues to provide services or funding to the City. Examples include state fees on purchases of tires, motor oil, TVs and computer monitors, paint and carpet and beverage containers that fund programs that assure recycling or safe disposal of these items. The full meaning of the measure and its effects (direct and indirect) on the City are not well understood at this time. The City should participate, independently and through the League of Cities and other groups, in discussions and actions intended to fully understand the meaning of the measure and, if appropriate, limit its negative financial effects on City services and rate payers.

Santa Clara County, with the advice and consent of the 15 cities, collects landfill disposal fees that fund countywide solid waste planning services, provide effective and efficient Countywide Household Hazardous Waste Program services and return funds to the jurisdictions to pay for solid waste diversion programs. Whether Proposition 26 now recategorizes these fees as "taxes" is unknown. The uncertainty has the potential to severely limit long-term program planning.

For the 2011 California Legislative Session, the City should pay particular attention to any legislation that affects funding to local governments. It is anticipated that legislation will be introduced during the 2011 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).
- 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. The City should monitor the status of federal transportation reauthorization, which has been deferred by Congress and the President. Federal transportation funding is a significant source of revenue for transportation system rehabilitation and improvement. Conversely, some proposals that have been discussed to replenish the rapidly depleting Highway Trust Fund and create a mechanism to index Federal transportation revenue to the economy could have an impact on local economies; for example an indexed gas tax increase, or highway user fees. The Obama administration has stalled discussions on reauthorization and instead has advocated for stimulus style funding. It is important to the City's transportation infrastructure and economy to support stable Federal transportation funding via a mechanism that does not impair local economies.

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

The City Council, acting as the Onizuka Local Redevelopment Authority, continues to be engaged in planning activity to finalize a redevelopment plan and housing assistance plan for the transition of Onizuka AFS to other acceptable uses upon Onizuka's closure in 2011. To prepare for this conversion and support its success, 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 to support the efforts of the LRA in working with the above agencies to resolve issues and move the project forward. 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 for conveyance of property to the City if desired. The LRA has abandoned the auto center concept and is studying possible public benefit conveyance (PBC) uses. If one or several PBC uses prove to be feasible, the LRA will need to seek the support of the appropriate federal sponsoring agencies and the Department of Defense for conveyance of the property at no cost or at a reduced market value in accordance with BRAC regulations and guidelines.

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 2011. Financial resources from federal and state governments for workforce development, education and training programs are critical to address the immediate effects of the current economic downturn and 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 state and federal levels, the expected slow and protracted economic recovery and the culmination of stimulus funding through the American

Recovery and Reinvestment Act, funding for workforce development for this region is especially vulnerable in 2011 and could potentially threaten the viability of these local and essential programs.

The City will track and take positions on federal and state funding proposals that will impact education and training of the local community's workforce. This is in alignment with the City's Legislative Advocacy Positions, 5.3 Education and Training.

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, peaking at \$140 million in 2002, funding levels have continued to drop since 2003, down to almost \$28 million in 2006 and \$19 million in 2009, the lowest figure since 1992 other than the zero years mentioned above.

However, also in FY 2009, the LWCF regular appropriation for the first time was supplemented by revenues from certain oil and gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico, as a result of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA). The amount distributed in 2009 was \$8 million, but dropped to less than \$1 million in 2010 and is expected to remain low for the next several years.

The Obama Administration has committed to achieving the authorized full funding level of \$900 million for the overall LWCF Program by 2014. As noted above, a little more than \$38 million is being distributed for grants in FY 2010, but this is a 40% increase over the total amount apportioned in FY 2009, which was \$27 million. The President's request for FY 2011 proposes a \$10 million increase in appropriations for LWCF State grants (to \$47.2 million).

The Santa Clara County Park Department has 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

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 the County's Supplemental Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (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 was remitted to the County Auditor of Santa Clara for deposit in the County's SERAF Fund on May 10, 2010 and the remaining \$416,322 is due on May 10, 2011.

The California Redevelopment Association and two of its member agencies lost a lawsuit to challenge the constitutionality of the State's action to transfer redevelopment funds to SERAF. An appeal is still pending.

7. Environmental Regulatory & Conservation Issues

In 2011 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.

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. This will include provisions for using: market mechanisms, alternative compliance mechanisms, and establishment of annual emission limits and regulations implementing the 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 and will become effective January 1, 2011. 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 became 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.

8. 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 through the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), or from the State Water Project or the Central Valley Project through the Santa Clara Valley Water District (District). Supplies for water are much better than they were during the three year drought, after two winters of normal precipitation and a good start this fall to the winter of 2010/11. While 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, analysis continues on how best to meet the needs of all users: municipal, agricultural, environmental, recreational. Alternatives of channels and tunnels through the Delta will be considered until something is picked as an alternative worth trying.

More and more the issue will focus on how to decrease demand (conservation) and how to substitute for potable water (recycled water, gray water, captured rain water). This will be in addition to efforts to get the most out of available supplies (such as more wells, or more use of the wells we have), and a search for new supplies (desalination, alternative imported sources, or creative sharing/reapportioning of existing resource access).

A flurry of bills were past by the state legislature in 2009 that continue to 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, nor any actions taken this past session. 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 2009 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

The impacts of several of these issues are still unfolding. For instance, techniques for meeting the requirements of SB 7 are still being developed at the State level, with the intent of being used at the local level.

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.

2011 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) 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**
- (16) Oppose any erosion or diversion of gasoline and diesel fuel sales tax revenues (Prop 42 funding) which are specified in the California Constitution for use to maintain and improve the City’s traffic and transportation systems. *[DPW Staff Recommendation based on January 26, 2010 Council action]* **Lead Dept. DPW/FIN**

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 RELOCATE to LAP Section 7.0 Planning and Management~~

~~(2)~~(1) 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)~~(2) 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)~~(3) 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. [**1/2003 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 **DELETE – Covered by existing Council Policy**, 5.1.1A Policies awaiting incorporation into the Socio-Economic sub-element.~~
- (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 **DELETE – Covered by existing Council Policy**, 5.1.1A Policies awaiting incorporation into the Socio-Economic sub-element.~~

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 **DELETE – No longer an issue.** - The State Dept. of Justice currently does not charge local jurisdictions for volunteer background checks.~~

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 MOVE to Council Policy** 6.2.1A Council Adopted Policies Awaiting Incorporation into the Next Revision of the Library Sub-Element~~

- ~~(3)~~ (2) 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**
- (5) 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. FIN** **RELOCATED from LAP Section 2.1 Economic Development**

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. OCA**
- (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. OCA_ **DELETE – No longer an issue**
- (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. OCM**

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**

**ADOPTED 2011 LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES
AND NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES RESOLUTIONS**

LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES

League Bylaws Amendment

Resolution supports the proposed amendments to the League bylaws. These amendments would encourage diversity on the Board, increase the number of at-large seats on the Board from 10 to 12, would confirm the role of Board members, and clarify terms of prohibited transactions for Board members.

Resolution Relating to the National Let's Move Campaign

Resolution encourages the existing 480 California cities to adopt preventative measures to fight obesity as set forth by the First Lady of the United States of America in the *Let's Move* campaign; be encouraged to sign-up with the United States Department of Health and Human Services – Region IX office as a *Let's Move! City*; and, be it further are encouraged to: (1) help parents make healthy family choices; (2) create healthy schools; (3) provide access to healthy and affordable foods; and (4) promote physical activity; and, be it further and, be it further cities are encouraged to involve youth, especially middle and high school students, with city health-related programs.

Resolution Relating to Unfunded State Mandates

Resolution that (1) The League of California Cities work with its member cities and other local government partners to identify situations in which local governments must increase fees or taxes to meet state mandated requirements. (2) The League of California Cities reaffirms its historic stance that anytime the state imposes a new duty, responsibility, or obligation on local government it must provide an adequate source of funding to accompany the action, and not presume that the new duty, responsibility, or obligation can be covered by a new local fee, assessment, or tax. (3) That the League of California Cities work with the applicable state and federal regulatory agencies through the League's policy making process, and the National League of Cities, to develop reasonably achievable, environmentally sound and cost-effective policy based on monitoring and sound science and addressing local water conditions and the fiscal condition of the local government. (4) That the League of California Cities will review and consider supporting through its policy committee process legislation to suspend, eliminate, or otherwise modify the negative impacts of state mandates on local agencies, particularly in which a new local tax or fee increase is necessary to implement the mandate.

Resolution Related to Enhancing Public Safety While Driving a Motor Vehicle

Resolution encourages cities to promote safe driving across California and the education of the general public about the dangers of texting while driving.

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.

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.

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.

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 FHL Banks' 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

Medicinal Use of Marijuana

Calls on the federal government to resolve the conflict between its laws criminalizing any use of marijuana and state laws allowing medicinal use of marijuana.

Support for Modernization and Equal Application of the Community Reinvestment Act

Calls on Congress to reform the Community Reinvestment Act.

Regarding the U.S. Capital Reinvestment of Foreign Earnings at a Lower Corporate Rate for U.S. Multinational Corporations

Calls on the federal government to tax foreign profits of U.S. companies at a lower rate.

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.

Addressing the Response and Effects of the Deepwater Horizon BP Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico

The National League of Cities (NLC) calls on President Barack Obama to ensure the federal government act expeditiously to enact policies and implement plans to mitigate the devastation caused by the Deepwater Horizon BP oil rig explosion and oil spill and advance the immediate rebuilding of affected ecosystems and economies. The federal government must also provide research, analysis, and recommendations that ensure federal, state and local governments will have the plans, resources, and capacity to address and respond to future man-made disasters.

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

Urges Congress to provide full funding for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant.

Congressional Action to Support Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs

Urges Congress to adopt legislation that provides incentives to local governments to create or participate in programs that promote energy efficiency improvements through local financing mechanisms.

Clarification that Federal Law Does Not Preempt State and Local Energy Efficiency Building Codes

Supports clarification that federal law concerning energy efficiency in home appliances does not preempt more stringent state and local "green" energy efficiency building codes.

Federal Appliance Efficiency Standards

Urges the U.S. Department of Energy to promulgate and implement new national appliance and equipment standards.

Supporting the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future

Urges the Blue Ribbon Commission to continue to involve and engage local governments.

Hardrock Mining and Reclamation

Urges Congress to update the Mining Law of 1872 to collect royalties for hard metals such as gold, silver, uranium and copper.

Milfoil

Urges the federal government to conduct research into the best practices for eradication of Eurasian milfoil from our nation's lakes.

Urban River Restoration: A Strategy for America's Great Outdoors Initiative

Urges the Administration to incorporate urban rivers restoration strategy recommendations that will facilitate local project implementation.

Support for Green Affordable Housing and Financing

Urges the federal government to continue promoting and incenting the use of the best available energy-efficiency technology in the construction and revitalization of affordable housing.

Support for Sustainable Development in Cities and Towns

Urges the federal government to support legislation that incents, but does not mandate, sustainable planning and development activity at the local and regional level.

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 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.

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 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 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

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 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..

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 Revision 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 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.

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

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

Calls for a comprehensive multi-modal approach to federal surface transportation programs that recognize the critical role and contribution of local governments and economies to the nation’s transportation system and provides a greater role for local governments in funding decisions.