

Mayors and Council Members Academy

January 25, 2024



LEAGUE OF
**CALIFORNIA
CITIES**

Strengthening California Cities
through Advocacy and Education

Effective Advocacy and Key City Issues

Advocacy and Public Affairs
League of California Cities

Moderator

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Agenda

- Cal Cities Advocacy Overview
- Your Role as an Advocate
- 2024 Advocacy Priorities and Issues

Cal Cities Advocacy: How Policy is Developed

Cal Cities Advocacy

APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO FILE AMICUS BRIEF TO THE HONORABLE CHIEF JUSTICE:

Pursuant to California Rules of Court, Rule 8.520(f), the amicus curiae identified below respectfully requests permission to file the attached brief in support of State of California. This application is filed within 30 days after the filing of the reply brief on the merits and is therefore timely pursuant to Rule 8.520(f)(2).

THE INTEREST OF AMICUS CURIAE

The League of California Cities
The League of California Cities (the "League") is an association of California cities dedicated to protecting and restoring local control to the public health, safety, and welfare of their residents, and to the quality of life for all Californians. The League is advised by its Policy Committee, comprised of 24 city attorneys. The Committee monitors litigation in those cases...



Stop the Attack on
Bridge & Road Safety!

YES ON 22

PROTECT LOCAL SERVICES. STOP STATE RAIDS!

nd Education

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Legislative Advocacy

- Protect the common interests of cities statewide
- Protect and promote local decision-making
- Seek and protect state and federal funding to support cities
- Implement grassroots activities in conjunction with specific advocacy campaigns in partnership with the Regional Public Affairs Managers

Legal Advocacy

- Represent the interests of California cities in federal and state courts
- File friend-of-the-court briefs and letters in appellate courts and with state Attorney General for cases affecting local authority

Ballot Measure Advocacy

Prop. 6

Protect
Transportation Funds



Prop. 22

Protect
Transportation and
Local Funds



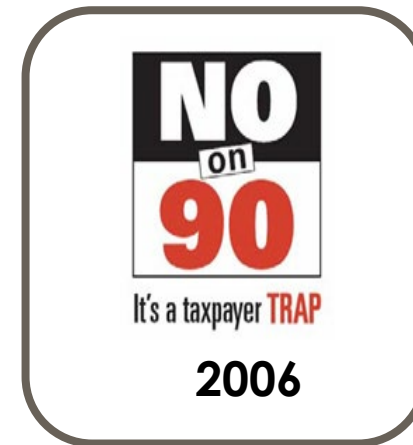
Prop. 98/99

Protect City Rent
Control and
Land Use



Prop. 90

Protect City Land Use
Authority



Prop. 1A

Protect Local
Revenues from State
Raids



Cal Cities Policy Influencers

11

Lobbyists and Policy Analysts

10

Municipal Departments

5

Diversity Caucuses

57

Board Members

16

Regional Divisions

16

Regional Public Affairs Managers

400+

Policy Committee Members

75

Cal Cities Partners

Cal Cities Policy Arenas

- General Assembly
- Division Meetings
- Policy Committees Meetings
- Board of Directors Meetings



Policy Committees

- Community Services
- Environmental Quality
- Governance, Transparency, and Labor Relations
- Housing, Community, and Economic Development
- Public Safety
- Revenue and Taxation
- Transportation, Communications, and Public Works



California Civic Leadership Institute (CCLI)



CALIFORNIA
CIVIC LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE®

Provides a forum to help inform and prepare local officials interested serving in the Legislature.

Your Role as an Advocate

Sara Sanders and Jennifer Quan
Regional Public Affairs Managers

Regional Public Affairs Managers



Sara Sanders
Redwood Empire



Charles Anderson
Sacramento Valley



Nancy Hall
Bennett North Bay



Sam Caygill
East Bay



Seth Miller
Peninsula



Deanna Sessums
Monterey Bay



Stephen Qualls
Central Valley



Rajveer Rakkar
South San Joaquin Valley



David Mullinax
Channel Counties



Jeff Kiernan
Los Angeles County



Kristine Guerrero
Los Angeles County



Jennifer Quan
Los Angeles County



Connor Medina
Orange County



Jesse Ramirez
Riverside County



Laura Morales
Desert Mountain
Inland Empire



Catherine Hill
San Diego County
Imperial County

Regional Public Affairs Managers

Your main point of contact at Cal Cities for:

- Legislative developments
- Insights on political dynamics influencing legislation
- Calls to action

Advocacy Strategies

- Communicate your city's position
 - Position letters
 - Contacting your legislators
- Coordinate with your regional public affairs manager

Relationship Building

- Legislators and district staff
- Administration officials
- County officials
- Special district officials
- Local opinion leaders and organizations
- Local media outlets

Get Informed

Like, follow, and share Cal Cities news!

- **Twitter:** @CalCities
- **Facebook:** leagueofcities
- **Instagram:** calcities
- **YouTube:** leagueofcacities
- **LinkedIn:** calcities

2024 Advocacy Priorities

Strengthening California Cities through Advocacy and Education

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2024 Cal Cities Advocacy Priorities



1. Safeguard local revenues and bolster local economic development
2. Strengthen climate change resiliency and disaster preparedness
3. Improve public safety in California communities
4. Expand investments to prevent and reduce homelessness and increase the supply of affordable housing

Cal Cities Budget Request

- Cal Cities calls on the state to:
 - Honor funding commitments to cities made in the 2023-24 budget
 - Create a permanent, dedicated funding stream of \$3 billion annually to address homelessness and construct more affordable housing
 - Safeguard local revenues

2024 Look Ahead

Advocacy Team
League of California Cities

Proposed 2024-25 State Budget

Overall, the Governor's proposed \$291.5 billion budget:

- Forecasts a **deficit** of \$38 billion in 2024-25
- Assumes continued steady growth; does not assume a recession
- Proposes to draw from the state's reserve accounts to close the budget gap



Proposed 2024-25 State Budget

Overall, the Governor's proposed \$291.5 billion budget:

- **Does not include redirection of city funds to address state budget shortfalls**
- Does not include deep cuts to most ongoing programs
- Draws upon \$13.1 billion in reserves

However...



Proposed 2024-25 State Budget

Overall, the Governor's proposed \$291.5 billion budget:

- Does not include new, ongoing funding to address the housing supply and homelessness
- Climate change and housing received the largest cuts

Balancing the Budget

The proposed budget is balanced with a combination of:

- \$13.1 billion in reserves
- \$8.5 billion in spending reductions
- \$5.7 billion in internal borrowing
- \$5.1 billion in delays
- \$3.4 billion in shifts \$2.1 billion in deferrals



Revenue and Taxation

Potential Issues in 2024:

- New tax exemptions
- Short-term rentals
- Property Tax Allocation
- 2024 Ballot measures
- Sales tax rebate agreements

Community Services in the Budget

- **Homelessness:** Maintains \$3.4 billion General Fund in 2023-24 to address homelessness
- **Behavioral Health:** Largely maintains funding for critical investments made in recent years with delays to several key programs
- **Child Care:** Maintains funding for subsidized child care slots and includes \$2.1 billion to fund roughly 146,000 new slots
- **Parks and Open Space:** Reduces funding for Outdoor Equity Grants by \$25 million
- **Libraries:** Pulls back \$131.3 million for the Local Library Infrastructure Grant Program and forgoes planned investments of \$33 million in 2024-25, \$33 million in 2025-26, and \$34 million in 2026-27

Community Services

Potential Issues in 2024:

- Accountability and transparency for state homelessness funding
- Ongoing funding to address homelessness
- Proposition 1
- Sober living homes and recovery housing
- Overdose prevention
- Seniors and aging
- Community disaster preparedness

Environmental Quality in the Budget

- 2024-25 budget proposal makes significant changes to the prior budget's climate commitments
- Maintains 89% of the \$54 billion (\$48.3 billion) dedicated over five years (which is shifted in the proposal to seven years)
 - \$2.9 billion in reductions
 - \$1.9 billion in delays of expenditures to future years
 - \$1.8 billion in shifts to other funds (primarily the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund) for climate-related programs

Environmental Quality

Potential Issues in 2024:

- Legislative:
 - Climate Bonds
 - Qualifying Logistics Use Projects
 - Organic Waste (SB 1383 Implementation)
 - Emergency Preparedness/Disaster Relief
- Regulatory:
 - Single Use Plastic and Packaging Recycling Regulations (CalRecycle)
 - Long-Term Water Conservation Regulations (State Water Board)
 - Sea Level Rise (Coastal Commission, Ocean Protection Council)

Governance, Transparency, and Labor Relations in the Budget

- **State Employees' Retirement Contributions:**
 - \$6.9 billion (\$3.5 billion General Fund) for the statutorily required annual state contribution to CalPERS for state pension costs in 2024-25
- **Information Technology System Upgrades and Modernizations**
 - Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Loan Interest
 - EDDNext
 - Division of Workers' Compensation
- **Workforce**
 - California Jobs First (formerly the Community Economic Resilience Fund)
 - Apprenticeship Innovation Fund

Governance, Transparency, and Labor Relations

Potential Issues in 2024:

- Brown Act and Public Meeting Modernization
- Artificial Intelligence
- Public Records Act Requests
- Campaign Finance
- Pension Sustainability and Divestment
- California Voting Rights Act and Redistricting
- Labor Relations
- Cybersecurity

Housing, Community, and Economic Development in the Budget

- \$500 million cut to the Low Income Tax Credit Program
- \$300 million cut to the Regional Early Action Planning Grants 2.0 (REAP 2.0)
- \$250 million cut to the Multifamily Housing Program
- \$247.5 million cut to the Foreclosure Intervention Housing Preservation Program

Housing, Community, and Economic Development in the Budget

- \$200 million cut to the Infill Infrastructure Grant Program
- \$152.5 million cut to the CalHome Program
- \$50 million cut to the Veteran Housing and Homelessness Prevention Program
- \$13.7 million cut to the Housing Navigators Program

Housing, Community, and Economic Development

Potential Issues in 2024:

- By-Right Approvals of Adaptive Reuse and Office Conversion Projects
- Round 7 RHNA Reforms – HCD Study Pending
- Housing Bond
- Mitigation Fees Limits or Deferrals
- Enforcement of State Housing Law by the Attorney General
- Potential Legislative Responses to Supreme Court Rulings – Sheetz vs. County of El Dorado

Public Safety in the Budget

The 2024-25 budget proposal provides some ongoing funding for fentanyl and no cuts to the retail theft programs. However, there are some cuts to wildfire funding:

- **Fentanyl Response:** \$30 million in additional investment
- **Planned Prison Closures:** \$9.6 million in General Fund savings
- **Cannabis Funding:** Loan of \$100 million from the Cannabis Tax Fund to the General Fund
- **Climate Change/Wildfires:** \$100.7 million in reversion for various climate programs including wildfire prevention programs

Public Safety Issues

Potential Issues in 2024:

- Retail Theft including potential changes to Proposition 47
- Fentanyl Response
- Cannabis Reform
- Emergency preparedness/response

Transportation, Communications, and Public Works in the Budget

2024-25 budget proposes using a combination of shifting and delaying of funds to maintain previous commitments to statewide transportation projects.

- **Broadband**
 - \$1.5 billion to make up for an anticipated shortfall in the Broadband for All infrastructure funding
- **Transportation Funding:** 99% of previous investments maintained
 - Transit Intercity Rail: Delays \$1 billion in grant funding
 - Active Transportation: Reduces \$200 million
 - Zero-Emission Vehicles: Delays \$45 million in grants

Transportation, Communications, and Public Works

Potential Issues in 2024:

- Protecting SB 1 Revenues/Exploring Sustainable Alternative Funding Sources
- Autonomous Vehicles/Public Safety
- Advanced Clean Fleet Regulation Compliancy
- EVCS Permitting and Deployment
- Energy Storage Permitting and Deployment

Questions?



LEAGUE OF
**CALIFORNIA
CITIES**

**SAVE THE
DATE**

April 17-19, 2024

Sacramento, CA

City Leaders **SUMMIT**



THANK YOU!



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