

New Mayors and Council Members Academy

January 19, 2023



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

- Melanie Perron
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Presenters

- Bismarck Obando
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Presenters

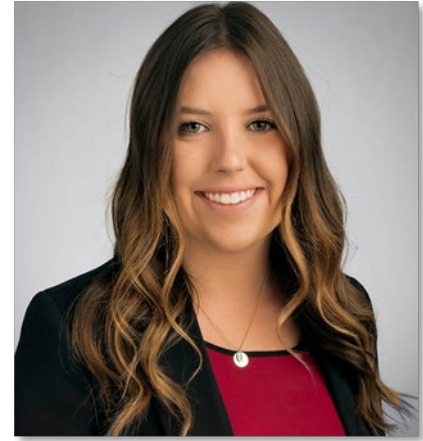
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Presenters

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Presenters

- Elisa Arcidiacono
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- Jessica Sankus
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Agenda

- Cal Cities Advocacy Overview
- Your Role as an Advocate
- 2023 Advocacy Priorities and Issues

Cal Cities Advocacy: How Policy is Developed

Melanie Perron

Deputy Executive Director, Advocacy

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

9

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

Bismarck Obando
Director of Public Affairs

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



Tony Cardenas
Orange County



Erin Sasse
Riverside County



Laura Morales
Desert Mountain
Inland Empire



Catherine Hill
San Diego County
Imperial County



Bismarck Obando
Director of Public Affairs

Regional Public Affairs Managers

Your main point of contact for Cal Cities:

- Presents on legislative developments.
- Provides insight on political dynamics influencing legislation.
- Distributes advocacy alerts.
- Supports city officials in drafting sample letters.
- Educates city staff on legislative process.

Advocacy Strategies

- Send a letter of support or opposition on legislation and/or call your legislators.
- Coordinate with your regional manager to organize meetings, news conferences, letter writing and media campaigns, etc.

Relationship Building

- Legislators and district staff
- Local media
- Individuals and organizations
- Administration officials
- Other city, county, and regional officials

Get Informed

Like, follow, and share Cal Cities news!

- **Twitter:** @CalCities
- **Facebook:** [leagueofcities](https://www.facebook.com/leagueofcities)
- **Instagram:** calcities
- **YouTube:** leagueofcacities
- **LinkedIn:** calcities

2023 Advocacy Priorities

Melanie Perron

Deputy Executive Director, Advocacy

2023 Cal Cities Advocacy Priorities



1. Protect and expand investments to prevent and reduce homelessness.
2. Increase the supply and affordability of housing while retaining local decision-making.
3. Improve public safety in California communities.
4. Safeguard essential local revenues and support fiscal sustainability.

Cal Cities budget requests

- Ongoing funding for cities to address the housing supply and homelessness: **\$3 billion.**
- State-Mandated Program Costs Owed to Local Governments: **Nearly \$1 billion.**
- Safeguard local revenues and support local governments' fiscal sustainability: **Priceless.**

2023 Look Ahead

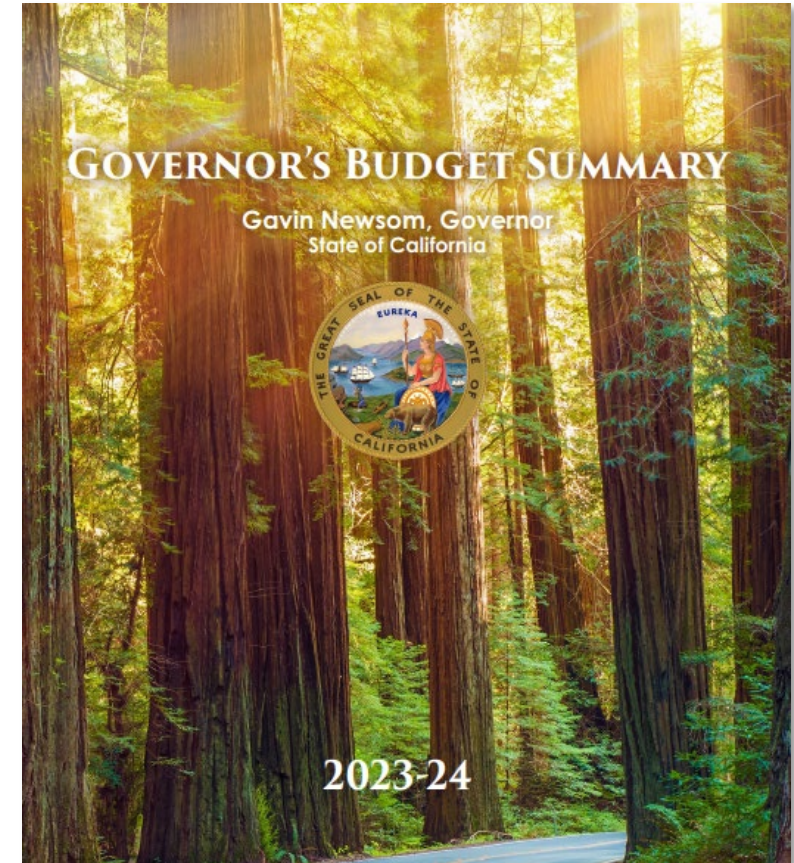
Advocacy Team

League of California Cities

Proposed 2023-24 State Budget

Overall, the Governor's proposed \$297 billion budget:

- Forecasts a **deficit** of \$22.5 billion in 2023-24.
- Assumes continued but slowing economic growth; does not assume a recession.
- Does not propose to draw from the state's reserve accounts to close the budget gap.



Proposed 2023-24 State Budget

Overall, the Governor's proposed \$297 billion budget:

- **Does not include redirection of city funds to address state budget shortfalls.**
- Does not include deep cuts to ongoing programs.
- Upholds most commitments made in the 2022 Budget Act.
- ***However...***



Proposed 2023-24 State Budget

Overall, the Governor's proposed \$297 billion budget:

- X** Does not include new, ongoing funding to address the housing supply and homelessness.
- X** Removes or reduces some funding for housing programs.
- X** Pauses investments in workforce development.
- X** Includes adjustments that impact city climate programs.

Balancing the Budget

The proposed budget is balanced with a combination of funding **delays, shifts, and reductions.**

The Governor cited appropriating most of last year's historic surplus **to one-time investments** as the reason why this budget avoids deep reductions to ongoing programs.



Community Services

The 2023-24 budget proposal largely follows through on the prior budget's homelessness commitments:

- Maintains \$3.4 billion to address homelessness
 - \$400 million for the third round of encampment resolution grants and \$1 billion for the fifth round of HHAP.
- Proposes statutory to the HHAP program.
- Seeks to condition eligibility for any future homeless-related grants.
- Maintains \$88.3 million for county start-up and state implementation of the CARE Act and proposes additional funding for local assistance ongoing costs to counties.

Community Services

Potential Issues in 2023:

- Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program implementation.
- Modernizing the behavioral health system.
- Statutory changes to homelessness funding programs.
- Increased accountability and transparency for state homelessness funding.
- Substance use youth among youth.

Environmental Quality

2023-24 budget proposal makes significant changes to the prior budget's climate commitments.

- Maintains approximately 90% of the \$54 billion dedicated over 5 years with triggers for increases back to pre-approved levels should the budget condition improve.
- Maintains nearly all funds for organic waste programs .
- Begins shutdown of past due water bill relief.
- Maintains nearly all wildfire response funds.
- Major cuts to extreme heat and community resilience programs.
- Major cuts to Coastal Commission budget.

Environmental Quality

Potential Issues in 2023:

Cities at center of climate policy changes (2022 Scoping Plan)

- Diversify and decarbonize our energy portfolio/use.
- Implementation of major waste and recycling reforms (plastics and organic waste).
- Adapting to extremes – drought-flood rollercoaster
 - Disaster preparedness and response
 - Infrastructure funding (state, federal, local)
 - Inclusive of coastal issues
 - Water storage, groundwater recharge/management, reuse

Governance, Transparency, and Labor Relations

2023-24 budget proposal continues to focus on COVID-19 response and recovery.

- **Pandemic Response:**

- \$176.6 million General Fund to continue the state's efforts to protect the public's health against COVID-19.

- **Unfunded Pension Liabilities:**

- \$8.5 billion (\$4.7 billion General Fund) for the statutorily required annual state contribution to CalPERS for state pension costs based on the CalPERS actuarial valuation projected contribution rates as of June 30, 2021.

Governance, Transparency, and Labor Relations

Potential Issues in 2023:

- Brown Act and public meeting modernization
- Campaign finance
- Pension sustainability
- Council Member compensation
- California Voting Rights Act and redistricting
- Workers' compensation and presumption expansion
- COVID-19 employer and employee impacts
- Cybersecurity

Housing, Community, and Economic Development

2023-24 budget proposed to eliminate the following funding:

- **Dream For All Program** provides shared-appreciation loans to help low- and moderate-income first-time homebuyers. The Budget reduces this from \$500 million to \$300 million.
- **CalHome Program** provides local agencies and nonprofits with grants to assist low- and very-low-income first-time homebuyers with housing assistance, counseling, and technical assistance. The budget proposes to remove all \$100 million allocated last year.
- **Accessory Dwelling Unit Program** provides \$50 million to help construct ADUs. The budget proposes to remove this funding.

Housing, Community, and Economic Development

Potential Issues in 2023:

- Limits to local land use authority.
- Capping, reducing, and/or eliminating local development fees.
- Additional land use regulations in fire-prone, drought, and coastal areas.
- Changes to SB 35 (Wiener), which requires local governments to streamline certain housing projects.

Public Safety Budget

2023-24 budget proposal outlines resource allocations to combat organized retail theft, increase emergency preparedness and response, and address the State's cannabis tax structure.

- **Fentanyl Response:** \$100 million
- **Planned Prison Closures:** \$150 million in General Fund savings
- **Cannabis Tax Reform:** \$83.9 million local assistance grants
\$19.9 million local enforcement

Public Safety Issues

Potential Issues in 2023:

- Serial theft
- Emergency preparedness/response
- Emergency medical services efficiencies
- Substance use disorder
- Mental health

Revenue and Taxation

2023-24 budget proposal reflects the volatility of state revenues and downstream effects of inflation and the federal reserve's response.

- Does not use state reserves to bridge budget deficit.
- Delays and “triggers” program funds across the board.
- Lacks backfill of insufficient ERAF (property tax) to 4 counties and their cities (growing issue).
- No *new* tax relief/exemption programs.
- Focus on keeping California competitive (film/tax credit, CalCompetes, new employment credit).

Revenue and Taxation

Potential Issues in 2023:

- New tax exemptions
 - Manufacturing equipment, market rate housing, clean energy production, zero-emission vehicles
- State preemption of short-term rental tax collection
- Property Tax Allocation (ERAF)
- 2024 Ballot measures
 - Tax and fee restrictions
 - Gann Limit Reforms

Transportation, Communications, and Public Works

2023-24 budget proposes a multi-year combination of deferrals and investments that impact several statewide infrastructure projects.

- **Transportation Funding:** Delay \$3.1 billion
 - Zero-Emission Vehicles: Reduces \$2.5 billion
 - Transit Intercity Rail: Reduces \$2 billion
 - Active Transportation: Reduces \$200 million
- **Drought and Flood Investments:** \$8.6 billion
 - Urban Flood Risk Reduction: \$135.5 million
 - Drought Contingency: \$125 million
 - Delta Levees: \$40.6 million
- **Broadband:**
 - Last-Mile: Defers \$550 million
 - Loan Loss Reserve Fund: Defers \$175 million

Transportation, Communications, and Public Works

Potential Issues in 2023:

- Securing and expanding transportation and infrastructure funding.
- Protecting SB 1 revenues.
- Increasing broadband deployment to close digital divide.
- Advanced Clean Fleet regulation development.

UPCOMING

City Leaders Summit
April 12 – 14
Sacramento



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THANK YOU!



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