



**PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE  
HIGHLIGHTS  
Friday, June 10, 2022**

**ATTENDANCE**

Members: Pippin Dew (Chair); Ray Marquez (Vice Chair); Roger Aceves; Walt Allen; Robert Amparano; Jan Arbuckle; Darlene Barber-Martinez; Drew Bessinger; Steve Bird; Dan Buckshi; Peter Castro; Lara Delaney; Bea Dieringer; Bob Dunn; Phill Dupper; Felicia Escover; Iris Espino; Lisseth Flores; Bob Frutos; Gerry Gonzalez; Susan Harvey; Jason Hedden; Laura Hernandez; Gene Hernandez; Steve Hofbauer; Peggy Huang; Melissa Hunt; Mike Judge; Brigid Martin; Consuelo Martinez; Yvonne Martinez Beltran; LeeAnn McPhillips; Peggy McQuaid; Javier Moreno; Ed Musgrove; Greg Park; Gabriela Plascencia; Karen Rarey; Gracie Retamoza; Ernie Reyna; Kendall Rose; Tessa Rudnick; Karin Schnaider; Marty Simonoff; Scott Smith; Edwin Smith; Dan Stefano; Fred Strong; Glenn Sylvester; Jim Tomas; Tami Trent; Mario Trujillo; Michael Vargas; Alan Wapner; Jon Wizard

League Partners: Lisa Holmes; Barigye McCoy

Staff: Elisa Arcidiacono, Legislative Affairs, Lobbyist, earcidiacono@calcities.org

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

President Cindy Silva, Mayor Pro Tem, Walnut Creek, and Carolyn Coleman, Cal Cities Executive Director and CEO, welcomed everyone to the third policy committee meeting of the year and thanked members for their service to all California cities. They explained that the policy committee process is central to Cal Cities advocacy, ensuring it is member-driven and represents the interests of cities across California. They thanked committee members again for serving on the committees and wished them a great meeting.

Chair Dew, and Vice Chair Marquez, welcomed committee members and provided an introduction.

**II. Public Comment**

Chair Dew asked if there was any public comment. Member Hunt expressed concerns regarding AB 481 (Chiu, 2021), which requires law enforcement agencies to obtain approval of the applicable governing body prior to taking certain actions relating to the funding, acquisition, or use of military equipment.

**III. Proposition 64 Revenues and Expenditures**

Drew Soderborg with the Legislative Analyst's Office outlined revenues received by the state for cultivation and excise taxes generated by commercial cannabis activities, equaling \$715 million in the current year.

Members asked questions regarding enforcement resources. Soderborg stated that jurisdictions that do not allow cannabis, cannot access Proposition 64

funding to enforce black market activity. However, the California Highway Patrol and the California Military Department both issue grants for these same purposes and can be accessed by locals.

The Committee discussed data relating to cannabis access and revenues, which can be found on the Department of Cannabis Control's website.

#### **IV. General Briefing**

In accordance with the customary practice of convening all policy committee members for a general briefing prior to the start of policy committee meetings, the Cal Cities advocacy team compiled a General Briefing Document, which includes the latest on legislative and budgetary matters affecting cities.

#### **V. Legislative Agenda**

1. California Sports Wagering Regulation and Unlawful Enforcement Act  
Elisa Arcidiacono provided an overview of the measure, including fiscal impacts. Chair Dew then introduced the proponents to speak.

Kyle Griffith, with the Coalition for Safe Responsible Gaming, presented regarding authorizing sports wagering in person at tribal casinos the safest approach. Griffith argued that Indian gaming is not only good for tribes but also neighboring cities. Tribal casinos contribute \$1.2 billion to the state through revenue sharing. This measure builds on the promise and legacy that tribes have been responsible carriers of gaming in the state. Griffith argued that the opposition is run by card rooms that argue that this will put them out of business but stated that legitimate businesses have nothing to worry about.

Chair Dew then introduced the opponents to speak.

Tino Rossi, with the NO on Eligible Tribal Gaming Measure Campaign, presented in opposition to the language allowing tribes to take over as chief gaming regulator. Rossi stated that this threatens to deprive communities of millions in critical revenue and argued that the proponents of this measure have a history of suing card rooms over the legality of their games, adding that these businesses account for about 32,000 jobs.

Chair Dew gave each side the opportunity for a rebuttal then sought questions from committee members.

Members discussed location of sports wagering allowances and potential revenues for some jurisdictions. Conversation shifted to the private right of action component in the measure and the potential litigation arising.

A motion was brought forward to stay neutral. A substitute motion was then brought forward to oppose the measure. That motion was approved 41-9 with 1 abstention.

## 2. California Legalize Sports Betting and Revenue for Homelessness Prevention Fund

Elisa Arcidiacono provided an overview of the measure, including fiscal impacts. Chair Dew then introduced the proponents to speak.

Evan Corder, with the Californians for Solutions to Homelessness and Mental Health Support, presented in support stating that mobile sports wagering is already happening in California, but it is being done illicitly. Corder stated that this initiative would create a legal betting framework similar to what is currently being done in other states. Corder argued that the measure would provide significant funding to the state, specifically to address homelessness and mental health support as a means of permanent ongoing funding.

Chair Dew then introduced the opponents to speak.

Frank Sizemore, with the Protect Tribal Sovereignty & Safe Gaming Committee, presented on the out-of-state corporations offering false promises. Sizemore noted that tax revenues will likely not be as fruitful as the proponents claim and that there would be no direct allocations to cities under 300,000 population.

Chair Dew gave each side the opportunity for a rebuttal then sought questions from committee members.

Members discussed concerns with out-of-state operators as well as the lack of direct city allocations of funding.

A motion was brought forward to oppose the measure and was approved 47-0.

## VI. Legislative and Budget Update

Elisa Arcidiacono provided an update on [SB 1338 \(Umberg\)](#) otherwise known as CARE Court, which is meant to serve our most highly acute mental health populations. The update also included a variety of mental health bills being sponsored by the Big City Mayors Coalition which are aimed at improving behavioral health service provision and outcomes.

Ms. Arcidiacono provided an update on Cal Cities efforts on addressing Proposition 47 concerns, following the failure of [AB 1599 \(Kiley\)](#). She also provided updates on Cal Cities opposition to [SB 1186 \(Wiener\)](#), which would infringe on local decision-making authority relating to the delivery of medicinal cannabis.

Additionally, Ms. Arcidiacono provided an update on proposed changes to the statewide cannabis taxation structure and impacts that would have on locals as well as the industry. Lastly, she discussed Cal Cities sponsored legislation, [AB 662 \(Rodriguez\)](#), which would create a peer-to-peer suicide prevention curriculum for firefighters and emergency medical personnel.

**VII. Adjourn**

Chair Dew thanked the committee for their hard work this year and said some closing remarks. Chair Dew then adjourned the meeting.

**Next Virtual Meeting:** Staff will notify committee members after July 15 if the policy committee will need to meet prior to the Annual Conference to consider a resolution. If you have any questions, please contact Meg Desmond, Cal Cities Associate Manager, Legislative Administration

**2016 Policy Committee Appointments**

**REMINDER:** The 2015 policy committee appointments will end at the close of the Annual Conference; appointments for 2016 can be requested thereafter. Members seeking appointments for 2016 are urged to contact their incoming department, division, or affiliate president immediately following the Annual Conference to request reappointment. A presidential appointment from the League's incoming president may also be requested, although members are encouraged to first exhaust appointment opportunities through their division or department presidents. These requests should be sent c/o Meg Desmond, 1400 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 or via e-mail: