

City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To:	Matthew J. Fertal	From:	Maria Stipe
Dept:	City Manager	Dept:	City Manager
Subject:	APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM FOR THE 2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION	Date:	February 11, 2014

OBJECTIVE

To provide a proposed legislative advocacy platform for the 2014 Legislative Session for City Council consideration and approval.

BACKGROUND

Each year, the State Legislature and Congress consider several hundred legislative proposals, many of which may have a significant impact on the City. To increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the City's legislative advocacy program, the City Council periodically adopts an updated legislative platform, which serves as the foundation for the City's advocacy strategy. Adoption of the legislative platform allows the Mayor or City Manager to send letters to the Legislature and Congress consistent with the platform. Additionally, the platform provides a vehicle for summarizing the City Council's positions on various priority issues without precluding the consideration of additional legislative and budget issues that arise during the legislative session.

DISCUSSION

With the 2014 Legislative Session recently underway, staff has reviewed and updated the current legislative platform. The proposed legislative platform is similar to the prior platform, with the addition of several items that have been identified by City departments as important new advocacy issues, and the elimination of a few items that are no longer relevant. New items are identified by bold text.

Once approved by the City Council, the platform will be used by staff to respond to legislative proposals. Utilizing this pre-approved list will allow the City to make timely responses to breaking issues. Additionally, the list will be used in ongoing discussions with elected officials serving Garden Grove regarding the City's priorities and concerns. The legislative platform will guide the City until a subsequent platform is adopted by the City Council.

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FINANCIAL IMPACT

No direct impact.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

- Consider and approve the attached legislative platform for the 2014 Legislative Session.



MARIA STIPE
Deputy City Manager

Attachment: Proposed Legislative Platform for the 2014 Legislative Session

Recommended for Approval



Matthew Fertal
City Manager

CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM
2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

FINANCE

1. Oppose new unfunded state and federal mandates, and support repeal or full cost reimbursement of existing mandates.
2. Oppose legislation that shifts tax revenues away from local governments without the adequate provision of a constitutionally guaranteed backfill to offset the lost revenues of those local governments.
4. Support generation, protection and timely allocation of local funding distributed by the state.

PUBLIC SAFETY

1. Support legislative efforts to grant state and federal funding to supplement local law enforcement and fire suppression to facilitate the efficient delivery of public safety services and to provide equipment to maintain the safety, security and quality of life for Garden Grove residents.
2. Support legislation that protects Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) funding and provides for additional funding for local agencies to recoup the costs of crime and increase community safety.
3. Oppose any legislation that would limit or restrict the City's ability to collect fees for the expense of an emergency response (e.g., non-resident medical aid fee)
4. Support legislation and grants that provide funding for equipment upgrades, training and capital improvements, including funding to enhance Emergency Operation Centers.
5. Support legislative efforts to improve fire suppression and prevention, hazardous materials mitigation, emergency medical services, and disaster preparedness initiatives.
6. Support legislation that seeks to reimburse the City for overtime costs, training, and equipment, paid to and for fire suppression personnel who are fighting statewide wildland fires, attending regional trainings, and promoting interoperability through the upgrade and replacement of outdated equipment.

7. Oppose attempts to eliminate local control of alcohol beverage establishments.
8. Oppose any broadening of access to law enforcement records.
9. Support funding for community-based gang diversion programs.
- 10. Oppose attempts to expand "early release" for low-risk, serious and violent offenders without an increase in sustained funding to ensure responsible supervision by parole agents and for local agencies that provide post-release supervision.**
- 11. Support measures that provide frontline funding for police services associated with "early release" of state prisoners as a result of state-mandated criminal justice realignment provisions.**
- 12. Support legislation to provide for local regulation and control of massage establishments.**

COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. Support legislation and grants to fund parks, recreation and capital improvements, and programs to increase the quality of life for Garden Grove residents.
2. Support funding for community-based efforts to address the social, recreational and developmental needs of youth.

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

1. Oppose imposition of new or enhanced mandated employee benefits, including the mandatory expansion of benefits to part-time employees or retirees.
2. Oppose any reduction in local control over public employee disputes, or imposition of regulations of an outside agency.
3. Oppose any measure expanding public employee's ability to strike.
5. Support continued workers compensation reforms to prevent fraud and abuse of the workers' compensation system.
6. Support workers' compensation reforms that protect the ability of employers to challenge the work-relatedness of illnesses claimed by public employees in workers' compensation cases, and to overcome presumptions that illnesses are work related.

7. Oppose any efforts to expand the length of "4850" time for safety employees on industrial injury leave.
8. Oppose any measures designed to insert state control or influence over the municipal bankruptcy process as a way to prevent the renegotiation of financially unsustainable labor agreements.
9. Oppose any state legislation that would mandate interest arbitration in labor disputes.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1. Support measures which provide for cooperative efforts to reduce air pollution through the reduction of actual emissions, rather than vehicle trips and vehicle miles traveled.
2. Support measures that maintain and enhance local decision making authority, where appropriate, in the development and implementation of air quality attainment strategies.
3. Support measures that maintain and enhance local authority and flexibility to regulate solid waste and recyclables.
4. Support measures to increase water supply, **encourage conservation of water resources** and improve drinking water quality in the region.
5. Support state, federal or other funding for desalinization, water reuse technologies, **and drought related infrastructure improvements.**
6. Support measures to provide for and promote the use of reclaimed water.
7. Oppose efforts to make all National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits the same. Requirements of Los Angeles or San Diego permits may be too onerous or not applicable. Orange County's permit should be tailored to our region/watershed.
8. Support State General Fund subventions and Bond revenue to cities for local and regional efforts that educate the public on urban runoff, which provide for long-term capital improvements (e.g., storm drain diversions and filters), and which encourage municipalities to implement Urban Runoff Best Management Practices at the local level.
9. Oppose actions by Regional Water Quality Control Boards that impose mandates on cities that exceed State or Federal Regulations and/or are outside their jurisdictional authority to impose or enforce.

10. Oppose environmental regulations for which the costs of regulation, both direct and indirect, significantly exceed the benefits or provide only minimal protections.

HOUSING

2. Oppose any reduction in the housing or community development authority of municipalities.
4. Support the provision of legislative authority for local governments to implement reasonable housing occupancy standards.
5. Support funding of community-based local efforts to address the homelessness problem.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. Support the doctrine of "home rule" and the local exercise of the police power in local land use and oppose any legislation that is inconsistent with this position, or requires a federal, state and/or county entity to develop model planning practices and policies.
2. **Support efforts to reestablish the authority and financing capability previously afforded to local governments by redevelopment through legislation designed to support businesses through economic development.**
3. Oppose Federal legislation that would reduce funds dedicated to the Community Development Block Grant Program.

REGIONAL ISSUES

1. Oppose new authority for sub-regional or regional bodies that infringe on municipal authority.
2. Oppose the creation of new levels of regional government.
3. Support measures to achieve fair and proportionate representation on countywide and regional boards.

TRANSPORTATION

2. Support legislation that expands infrastructure and transportation investment.
3. **Support protection of dedicated transportation-related tax revenues and enhance the ability of local agencies to finance local transportation programs and facilities (e.g., Gas Tax, M2, State bond funds).**
4. Support increased local discretionary authority to expend transportation funds.
3. Support measures that ensure Orange County cities receive their fair share of transportation revenues.
4. Support implementing legislation that enables faster, more efficient delivery of transportation projects.
5. **Support efforts to secure funding for the Santa Ana-Garden Grove Fixed Guideway project.**

LIABILITY EXPOSURE

1. Support reform of California tort law to curtail unreasonable liability exposure for cities.
2. Support reform of the California tort law system to facilitate the ability of cities to obtain affordable insurance.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Support changes in the law that allow cities the option to use design/build contracting and other innovations designed to bring efficiency to public contracting.
2. Support legislation that allows cities to effectively address the problem of abandoned shopping carts located in the public right-of-way, including recovery of reasonable related costs.