The State Budget and Elections Update were convened with all of the policy committee groups for the first hour of the meeting. Ana Matosantos, Cabinet Secretary for Governor Newsom provided key state budget updates. She was formerly Director of Finance for Schwarzenegger and Brown.

Secretary Matosantos indicated that in 2019, there will be a focus on housing, homelessness, healthcare, and early childhood education. California’s budget is in good shape. Revenues are up by 4.9% which equals $6.6 billion increase from 2018-19. Building reserves and deferred maintenance are good uses of temporary revenues. New programs are expected for working and lower income families this year. $18.5 billion will remain in the reserves which is approximately 10% of the overall budget.

Jason Ryan, Assistant to Secretary Matosantos also shared that CA will see more General Fund dollars spent on affordable housing. Approximately $80M is projected in loans to developers. Proposition 1 and 2 will result in more low-income housing for veterans and the homeless.

Cannabis deliveries: This is a hot button issue for the State of CA. This past Wednesday, January 16, 2019, The Office of Administrative Law authorized for the statewide delivery of cannabis. This is directly in conflict with local cities that are opposed to cannabis delivery. Your city can now receive cannabis via all delivery methods. The State will not regulate delivery that is in opposition to local cities that authorize a limited number of cannabis storefronts. Because of this change, it is harder to understand if there is a local license or not since statewide delivery is allowed.

Emergency Preparedness: The State of California is starting to look for more forest management and fuel reduction opportunities. Public education campaigns are underway. A proposal to waive the local cost of debris removal is being considered. The PG&E bankruptcy announcement will have a lot of debate over the next year. Approximately $25M in mutual aid is included in the budget in an ongoing manner.

Cap & Trade: Revenues are being spent on air quality goals. There is a fight for urban greening and urban forestry.

Wayfarer decision: E-commerce updates were discussed. Unless there is a physical nexus, previous out of state businesses didn’t have to submit sales tax. New regulatory guidance will be added effective April 1, 2019 for retailers to collect and remit. This will clean-up some of the glitches, and now local cities will be enabled to yield more revenue under AB147.

COMMUNITY SERVICES POLICY COMMITTEE - Larry Moody, Chair and Oleg Olsen, Vice Chair

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Public Comment- none

III. Overview of Parliamentary Procedures and Roberts Rule Role is to engage, review agenda prior to the meeting, and stay for the entire meeting. There is a commitment to attend the full day.
IV. Committee Orientation. — Review of Committee and Rules of Engagement.

V. Review of Existing Policy and Guiding Principles. This is the large attachment (see agenda) We don’t have any bills today to consider, but there will be ones for the future. The Committee recommendation goes to the LLC Board for determination of the recommendation on the legislation.

VI. League Strategic Goals - Page 14: Four goals include: 1. Provide Cities additional funding and tools and preserve local authority to address housing production, affordability and homelessness challenges. 2. Improve disaster preparedness, recovery, and climate resiliency. 3. Promote sustainability of public pension and retirement health benefits. 4. Address public safety concerns of California cities.

VII. 2019 Draft Work Program
The committee broke into 4 groups to look at the new work plan for the year. Issues that resonated included Homelessness, Increased programs and services, Library Services, upcoming Census guidelines & concerns with the undercount, Mental Health, Disaster Preparedness, and Stage of life services/support

VIII. Project WeHOPE. Pastor Paul Bains
Pastor Bains described his program WeHOPE based in East Palo Alto. He discussed how to help our marginalized communities with violence prevention, homelessness, and education. He discussed that the state of homelessness will continue until our housing stock increases. Pastor Bains has partnered as a non-profit organization with neighboring cities. WeHOPE runs an emergency shelter. He noted that California is the largest state for homelessness in the United States. There are 22,000 homeless in the four counties of San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda and San Francisco counties based on the point in count two years ago. Pastor Bains is focused on helping homeless to get to a place of self-sufficiency. He helps through financial literacy, life skills such as anger management, and holistic approaches to help plug gaps to get individuals and families on the road to self-sufficiency.

His program offers case management, job training and placement, health and wellness and housing assistance in order to return to self-sufficiency. Dignity on Wheels was created to bring services and mobile hygiene to others, including showers, toilets, and washers/dryers. His organization is working to remove stigmas with homeless by offering mobile hygiene. The WeHOPE mobile hygiene unit has served over 4,000 unduplicated clients with over 21,490 showers and 7,741 single loads of laundry provided to clients.

Next the organization is working on a safe parking initiative by creating safe places for RV parking. It Partnerships are critical in addressing systemic issues. Pastor Paul Bains can be reached at 650-779-5045 and pbains7@projectwehope.com. Pastor Bains concluded by answering questions from the audience.

IX. State Budget Update- This was offered during the am session with Secretary Matosantos

X. Legislative Update - See attachment for bills that were briefly discussed. See attachment for the Life Cycle of Legislation for new members that want to understand the legislative processes.

Close: March 29th is the next Community Services Policy Committee meeting in Costa Mesa, CA