

**COMMUNITY SERVICES POLICY COMMITTEE  
HIGHLIGHTS**

Thursday, January 19, 2017  
League Office, 1400 K Street, Third Floor, Sacramento

**ATTENDANCE**

Members: DeHart, Bill (V.C.); Abelson, Janet; Barber-Martinez, Darlene; Berry, Stacy; Bonner Klein, Clementine; Cousino, JoAnne; Curtis, Thyme; Engel, Christine; Flores, Alma; Hause, Tracy; Herrera, Karen; Ingram, Jay; Krupa, Linda; Lopez, Corina; Marquez, Ray; Masur, Shelly; McQuaid, Peggy; Messner, Heidi; Moody, Larry; Moore, Bridgette; Moore, Carol; Morris, Liz; Olsen, Oley; Roundy, Bruce; Sandoval, Jesse; Schultz, Rob; Smith, Michael; Staton, Claudette; Turner, Mireya; Underwood, Brad

League Partner: Borek, Jessica; Castillo, Francisco

Staff: Erin Evans-Fudem

**I. State Budget and Issues Briefing**

The June 2017 Policy Committee meetings began with a general session briefing and an introduction from First Vice President, Richard Garbarino (Councilmember, South San Francisco) and League Executive Director, Carolyn Coleman.

Dan Carrigg, Deputy Executive Director, Legislative Director provided an update on the known details of the California 2017-18 FY budget. Amongst the most pertinent pieces of the budget for cities is the rollout of \$2.8 billion in transportation dollars from recently improved funding sources. Mr. Carrigg noted that the Governor remains focused on building state reserve funds with additional allocations to the Rainy Day Reserve Fund. While state income tax revenues remain up, state sales tax revenue remains slightly down. The downward trend in overall sales tax revenues reflects the experience of cities and the impact of internet sales and other changes that affect this important city revenue source. Mr. Carrigg also mentioned that state pension liabilities continue to mount and are estimated to increase by \$51 billion over the last year, due to changes in the CalPERS discount rate and other factors.

The budget is on schedule to meet the June 15 legislative deadline for passage as required by the California Constitution. A handful of issues are still pending such as cap and trade reauthorization and potential reforms to the state recycling program (“Bottle Bill”).

Rony Berdugo, Legislative Representative, briefed members on the League’s ongoing efforts to help implement SB 1 (Beall), the landmark transportation deal passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor. He outlined the historic nature of this transportation deal by highlighting how local governments should see a 100% increase in transportation funding over the next two years.

Mr. Berdugo then discussed SB 649 (Hueso), which would restrict local authority and lease revenue associated with small cell telecommunications installations. SB 649 seeks to eliminate public input, full local environmental and design review, mandating the leasing of publicly owned infrastructure and eliminating the ability for local governments to negotiate leases or any public benefit for the installation of “small cell” equipment on taxpayer funded property. He urged members to continue to send in letters of opposition and to call their Assembly Members to voice their opposition.

Jason Rhine, Legislative Representative, briefed members on the issues surrounding the continuing housing crisis. Specifically, Mr. Rhine discussed SB 540 (Roth) and SB 35 (Wiener). SB 540 is a League sponsored bill, which seeks to streamline housing construction by improving planning and environmental review processes that protect public engagement and environmental analyses. Next, Mr. Rhine discussed SB 35 (Wiener), which would preempt local discretionary land use authority by making approvals of multifamily developments that meets inadequate criteria, “ministerial” actions. He stated that this measure would rely on often outdated community plans and would compromise critical project level environmental review, public input, and community integrity. Mr. Rhine urged members to support SB 540 and other measures, which provide support and financial assistance to cities and developers to lift California out of the housing crisis.

Dane Hutchings, Legislative Representative, provided a much-anticipated update to members on AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer), which would institute a de-facto ban on contracting for many local governments through a series of costly and unachievable mandates. At the time of this presentation, the author of the measure had committed to remove cities from its provisions.

Erin Evans-Fudem, Legislative Representative, briefed members on several different environmental quality issues, including stormwater, Cap-and-Trade, and the Bottle Bill. She talked about the League’s continuing discussion over SB 231 (Hertzberg), which would add the word “stormwater” to the definition of “sewer.” The Environmental Quality and Transportation, Communication, and Public Works committee’s will be holding a joint policy meeting to further discuss this issue. Ms. Evans-Fudem also discussed the ever-changing potential plans surrounding both Cap-and-Trade and the Bottle Bill. While there has been no formal deal on either, as of yet, she assured members that the League will be closely monitoring the situation.

Tim Cromartie, Legislative Representative, briefed members on the issues surrounding the implementation of Proposition 64 through the administration’s trailer bill. Mr. Cromartie outlined the 14 different objections the League has with the trailer bill and why each of the objections is detrimental to public safety and local control. He urged members to send in letters of opposition to this trailer bill to put pressure on the administration to listen to the League’s objections. He is cautiously optimistic that the League’s concerns will be addressed in the final trailer bill.

## **II. Welcome and Introductions**

Vice Chair DeHart made welcoming comments and committee members introduced themselves.

## **III. Public Comment**

No public comment.

## **IV. Multi-Benefit Approach to Parks & Green Infrastructure Financing**

Mary Creasman, California Director for Government Affairs, Trust for Public Lands (TPL) briefed the committee on how the organization is helping cities build parks with the purpose. The TPL works to help communities come together to help to build parks and securing financing to keep the parks running. Research has shown that our past infrastructure was built out of need and our urban design is making us sick; now the TPL is trying to create climate-smart cities. Creasman explained how the TPL is connecting with partnerships to create tools, including conservation economic tools to evaluate the dollar investments in parks, and creative economies to explore where jobs are located.

The Trust for Public Lands is also sponsoring SB 5 (de Leon), which the Community Services Committee will be discussing.

For more information about the TPL, please visit:  
<https://tpl.quickbase.com/db/bbqna2qct?a=dbpage&pageID=8>

**V. Legislative Agenda**

**SB 5 (De Leon) California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018**

SB 5 (De León), the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 proposes a \$3.5 billion bonds with funds to be directed to parks, drought and drinking water projects, and flood protection. The committee considered SB 5 (de Leon) for the second time (also considered in March) and discussed taking a position of “support” or a position of “support if amended” would give cities a seat at the negotiation table. After some discussion, the committee approved a motion to support SB 5 if amended with the direction to increase the per capita funding for parks as high as possible and set a minimum level of funding for small cities of \$200,000.

**VI. HousEd Initiative: Expanded Learning in Affordable-Housing Communities**

Jennifer Peck, President and CEO, Partnership for Children and Youth and Jenny Hicks, HousED Director, Partnership for Children and Youth made a presentation to the committee on the HousEd initiative. This program works to make sure that students have access to after school and summer programs, so that all of their health and educational needs being met by bringing the education to the affordable housing communities.

Research has shown that there is an achievement gap in children who live in lower income and affordable housing communities. In order to retain information and decrease behavioral problems, housing and educational non-profits are working together to bring the education to the children. These kids are the most vulnerable population because they don't have the means to do after school programs. Using different techniques to partner with housing and education create an environment that make people feel comfortable and willing to participate.

**VII. Governments Engaging Youth**

Kara Redding, Deputy City Manager, City of Elk Grove, Bina Lefkovitz, Youth Development Consultant, ILG and Randi Kay Stephens, Program Coordinator, ILG informed the committee about the Governments Engaging Youth program. This is an effort to engage youth in local government by allowing them to spend a summer in City Hall so they exposed to civic engagement and teaching skills. These programs can be implemented in various ways depending upon the needs and investments of each participating city.

For more information, please visit: [www.ca-ilg.org/geytoolkit](http://www.ca-ilg.org/geytoolkit)

**VIII. Homelessness Task Force**

League Staff Jennifer Whiting provided an update to the committee members on the work being conducted by the League's Homelessness Task Force.

**IX. Legislation of Interest Update**

League Staff update the committee on several bills including AB 18 (E. Garcia) California Clean Water, Climate, Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, AB 735 (Maienschein) requiring to automated external defibrillators at public swimming pools, and SB 78 (Leyva) related to funding for after school programs.