

2017 Legislative Agenda

City of Alameda



Background

- <u>What</u>: Alameda's Legislative Agenda guides the City's legislative efforts throughout the year
- <u>Why</u>: By adopting a Legislative Agenda, both staff and the City Council are able to react quickly to most legislative issues as they arise and ensure there is a formal City position on a variety of legislative matters

CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC

- <u>When</u>: The City Council adopted the current Legislative Agenda on November 3, 2015, and the prior program on December 3, 2013
- <u>Who</u>: This draft was developed with input from the city manager's office and department heads. Once adopted, it will be shared with our state and federal lobbyists



General Principles

- The City of Alameda opposes any legislation or regulations that preempt local authority, negatively affect the City's budget, or impose unfunded mandates on the City
- The City supports the use of incentives to encourage local government action, rather than the imposition of mandates
- As a Sanctuary City, the City Council has directed the city manager to regularly report to the City Council all requests (or the absence of requests) from the federal government for the use of City resources
- The City supports efforts to provide pro bono and other low cost services to residents who are immigrants and refugees



Base Reuse

FOCUS: Legislation and policies that preserve Alameda's interests related to base reuse, clean-up, and conveyance.

- Promote construction of a Seaplane Lagoon ferry terminal and the expansion/improvement of Bay Area wide water transit, with an emphasis on ferry service in Alameda
- Continue work for Veterans Affairs federal construction funding and project completion
- Support efforts to retain MARAD (United States Maritime Administration) ships in Alameda and seek funding for dredging at MARAD's Alameda-based facility as it may relate to Homeland Security



Redevelopment

FOCUS: Legislation that assists cities to address issues stemming from the State of California's dissolution of Redevelopment in 2011.

- Support legislative efforts to provide a funding mechanism and other strategies to promote economic development and affordable and workforce housing programs
- Support legislation regarding the unwinding of redevelopment that maximizes the former redevelopment agency's flexibility and authority regarding enforceable obligations and the implementation of Disposition and Development Agreements (DDAs)



Land Use

FOCUS: Local government land use and revenue authority is critical to the federal-state-local partnership efforts to advance community and economic development and must be preserved.

- Maintain local control over marijuana cultivation and sales following the passage of Prop 64 in 2016
- Promote local control over drone regulations
- Support actions that minimize noise impacts from commercial planes on the City's residents



Transportation

FOCUS: Measures that reduce or help alleviate on- and off-island traffic concerns and safety.

- Webster/Posey Tube and Broadway/Jackson traffic improvements
- State, county, and federal transportation funding
- Funding for bicycle, pedestrian and trail improvements
- Support pedestrian and bike access for the "last mile," enabling residents to get to BART and other methods of commuting



Public Safety & Homeland Security

FOCUS: Legislation that funds and provides resources for police and fire services, disaster preparedness, and resiliency.

- Seek funding and resources for disaster preparedness, prevention, recovery, and response for all-hazard threats
- Maintain federal funding for public safety and emergency response needs
- Support efforts to improve patient care and reduce costs through an alternate destination project, where patients who are suffering from minor cuts or illnesses are asked by a trained paramedic if they can be transported to an urgent care center instead of an emergency room for treatment



Parks & Open Space

FOCUS: Legislation that supports the development, expansion, and maintenance of Alameda parks.

- Local funding allocation in state park bonds
- State, county, and federal funding for park development and maintenance
- Development of the San Francisco Bay Trail, Shoreline Trail, and new regional park at the Northwest Territories in Alameda Point



Revenue & Taxation

FOCUS: Support legislation that has a positive financial impact on the City.

- Increase grant funding opportunities with reduced local match requirement
- Support State efforts that would reduce the vote threshold for local initiatives
- Maintain and when necessary defend funding allocations, particularly as it relates to Sanctuary City status



Employee Relations

FOCUS: Promote attraction and retention of qualified employees in the workforce.

- Maintain decisions about health and retirement benefits at the local level
- Assistance with Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) and California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) liabilities



Environment

FOCUS: Legislation that promotes environmental protection and sustainability, such as resource and energy efficiency, water quality, and conservation.

- Funding and resources for local agencies to address sea level rise and flood protection
- Storm water program funding, including efforts to treat storm water fees like sewer fees and bring additional resources to support green infrastructure planning and projects
- Access to cap and trade revenues through appropriations for transportation, sustainable communities, and affordable housing



Affordable Housing

FOCUS: Legislation that supports funding and development of affordable and workforce housing.

- Support legislation that promote tax-increment and other financing mechanisms for the provision of affordable housing
- Promote innovation and flexibility for the administration of housing programs by supporting full funding for the National Housing Trust Fund, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs and legislation
- Support efforts that address the most vulnerable in Alameda and increase positive outcomes with the mentally ill and our homeless population



League of California Cities 2017 Priorities

- Increase funding for critical transportation and water infrastructure through providing additional state and federal funding and local financing tools - such as reducing the vote threshold for local initiatives
- Address public safety impacts of reduced sentencing laws
- Develop realistic responses to the homeless crisis through increasing state and federal support to provide additional shelter and services to California's homeless
- Improve the affordability of workforce housing and secure additional funds for affordable housing



Staff Recommendation

Review and Approve the 2017 Legislative Agenda for the City of Alameda