

City of Los Alamitos

Agenda Report Discussion Items

August 19, 2013
Item No: 10B

To: Mayor Warren Kusumoto & Members of the City Council
From: Gregory D. Korduner, Interim City Manager
Subject: Consideration of the Legislative Platform for 2013

Summary: The Legislative Action Report identifies the City's Legislative Platform for 2013 and provides program procedures for the City to effectively participate in the legislative process. This item was continued from May 20, 2013, June 17, 2013, and July 15, 2013 Council meetings.

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2013-13, entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE 2013 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM."

Background

Legislative advocacy provides a useful service in the success of the City's goals and objectives. The Legislative Action Plan consists of Legislative Program Procedures and the Legislative Platform for 2013. The Program Procedure develops a framework and reference guide for legislative positions and objectives that provides advocacy and engagement guidelines for the City Council and Staff.

The Legislative Action Plan identifies the need for the City Council to adopt legislative positions each year in December/January in preparation to engage in the legislative session at the County/Regional, State and Federal level. The City Council adopted a Legislative Platform in February 2004 and January 2008.

Discussion

The City of Los Alamitos recognizes the importance of protecting the City's interest in the local, state and federal legislative system. In order to efficiently participate in the legislative process, on behalf of the citizens of Los Alamitos, the City has established the Legislative Platform for 2013. The general philosophy of the legislative program is to protect local control; oppose unfunded mandates; promote economic development and partnerships; and, to protect, stabilize and increase the City's revenue sources.

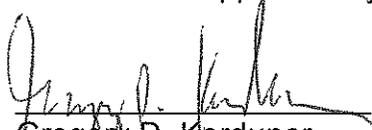
Specifically, the platform identifies legislative priorities in the areas of Economic Development; Community and Housing; Environmental Quality; Public Safety & Homeland Security; and Revenue and Taxation. Platforms are identified at the County/Regional, State and Federal levels.

In developing the legislative platform, consideration was given to the platforms adopted by the League of California Cities, the Association of California Cities-Orange County, the Orange County Transportation Authority, the California Park & Recreation Society, and the County of Orange.

Fiscal Impact

The City's Legislative Action Plan will be implemented by the City Manager's office. The fiscal impact for this effort is the Staff time required to monitor and implement the plan. Annually, the City allocates funds for lobbying efforts and membership to the California League of Cities and Association of California Cities-Orange County.

Submitted & Approved By:



Gregory D. Korduner
Interim City Manager

Attachment: 1. Resolution 2013-13

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-13

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
LOS ALAMITOS, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE 2013
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM**

WHEREAS, the Legislative Action Plan consists of Legislative Program Procedures and the Legislative Platform for 2013; and,

WHEREAS, the Program Procedure develops a framework and reference guide for legislative positions and objectives that provides advocacy and engagement guidelines for the City Council and Staff; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Los Alamitos recognizes the importance of protecting the City's interest in the local, state and federal legislative system; and,

WHEREAS, in order to efficiently participate in the legislative process, on behalf of the citizens of Los Alamitos, the City has established the 2013 Legislative Platform.

WHEREAS, the general philosophy of the legislative program is to protect local control; oppose unfunded mandates; promote economic development and partnerships; and, to protect, stabilize and increase the City's revenue sources.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS
DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of Los Alamitos, California, finds that the above recitals are true and correct.

SECTION 2. The City Council hereby approves the attached 2013 Legislative Platform (Exhibit A).

SECTION 3. The City Clerk shall certify as to the adoption of this Resolution.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 19th day of August, 2013.

Warren Kusumoto, Mayor

ATTEST:

Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Cary Reisman, City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE) ss
CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS)

I, Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk of the City of Los Alamitos, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted at a meeting of the City Council held on the 19th day of August, 2019, by the following vote to wit:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS:

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS:

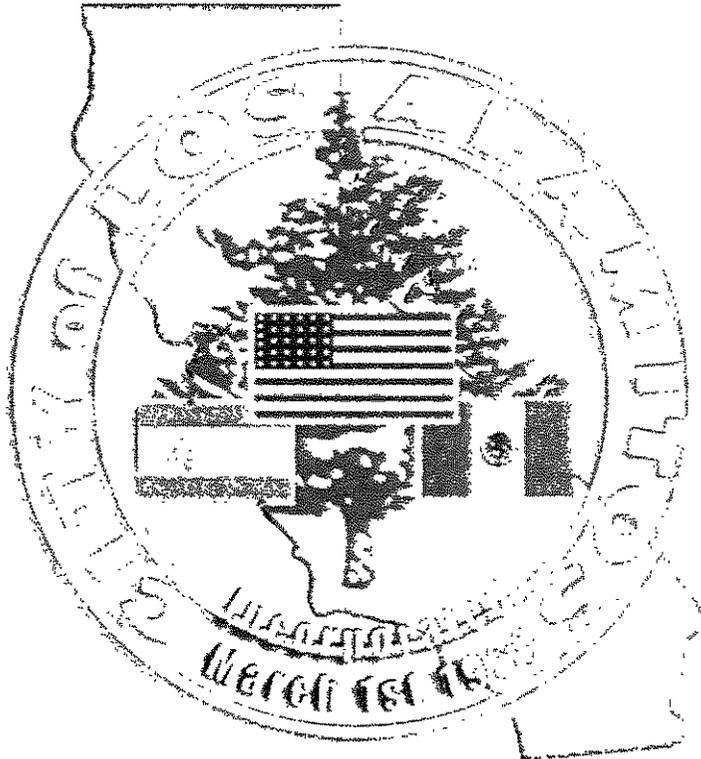
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS:

ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS:

Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk



CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS



2013 LEGISLATIVE ACTION PLAN AND PLATFORM

Warren Kusumoto, Mayor
Gerri L. Graham-Mejia, Mayor Pro Tem
Troy D. Edgar, Council Member
Dean Grose, Council Member
Richard D. Murphy, Council Member

Gregory D. Korduner, Interim City Manager



LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM PROCEDURES

Program Overview – Adopted annually by the City Council, the City's Legislative Program Procedures consists of a framework and reference guide for legislative positions and objectives that provide direction for the City Council and Staff.

I. CITY COUNCIL

Council Direction – The primary role of the City Council is to set legislative and fiscal policy for the City. As the elected legislative body the Council is given charge to make policy decisions for the City of Los Alamitos.

The City Council understands that legislative advocacy provides a useful service in the success of the City's goals and objectives. Therefore, the dedication of budget dollars for legislative advocates will be considered by the Council either annually during the budget process; at mid-year budget review of each year; or, on a case-by-case basis for specific legislative needs.

City Council Responsibilities in the Legislative Process – The City Council sets the City's legislative priorities and is responsible for building coalitions of support/opposition; setting legislative policy; participating in meeting with legislators, local officials and Staff; and preparing and presenting testimony on behalf of the City before the state and federal government.

II. CITY MANAGER/LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

City Manager Overview – The City Manager serves as an independent legislative analyst to the City Council. The City Manager advises the Council as to how best represent the City's interest in Sacramento and Washington DC. Department Staff serves under the policy direction of the Council but reports to the City Manager. The City Manager has the authority to send legislative letters and to take other appropriate legislative action on issues that are consistent with the Council's adopted platform.

Development of Recommendations on Non Adopted Issues - In the event that a legislative issue should arise that has not been addressed by the Council, the City Manager will conduct preliminary analysis and provide legislative action recommendations for the City Council.

Legislative Tracking – The City Manager has the primary responsibility to identify and track legislation that has the potential to impact the City and works to impact the legislative process by administering the City's legislative affairs program in collaboration with the various City departments.



Throughout the legislative session, the City Manager with input from the City Council, the California League of Cities, and the City Departments will identify significant legislation and will continually monitor the status and language of each bill. The Legislative Tracking Report will identify the status of each of these bills as well as the bill number, a brief bill summary, the location of the bill, bill author, and any action that the City has taken on the bill.

Legislative Advocacy – The City Manager will assist Council Members to prepare for providing advocacy and to ensure that information provided by City Departments is accurate.

A member of the City Council, the City Manager or designee, City Legislative Advocates, and Council authorized Staff are the only individuals authorized to testify on legislative issues. Such testimony will be aligned with the Council's position on a specific bill and Council priority guidelines.

Written correspondence by individual Council Members on legislative items not adopted by the City Council may be transmitted if the correspondence identifies that it is a position of an individual citizen as opposed to an official position of the City of Los Alamitos. All adopted legislative positions are either included in this policy document or in the official City Council minutes for special legislative efforts.

By adoption of the Legislative Program, the City Council prohibits any of its members from lobbying, advocating, or taking a position contrary to the Council's adopted position on any legislative item. Council Members may, as allowed for in law, take positions as an individual citizen; however, said communication is discouraged and considered antithetical to the success of the City and this legislative program specifically. Any individual communication must be on personal stationery that is free of any City of Los Alamitos identifying information, including logos, addresses, phone numbers, etc.

Associations and Coalitions – The City Manager will work to establish coalitions with other legislative units on legislative issues that are of interest to the City Council.

Updates, Services & Reports – The City Manager will coordinate the development of the Legislative Tracking Report and will provide a legislative summary at the end of each legislative session. In addition, analysis and special reports will be prepared by request on major legislative subject areas.

III. LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATES

Annually in January, the City Council adopts legislative positions cooperatively developed for the upcoming legislative session for the City Council and staff to advocate on behalf of the City.



IV. CITY ATTORNEY

The City Attorney advises the City Manager and City Departments on the legal aspects of legislative matters impacting the City. The City Attorney advises the City Manager on procedural matters pertaining to the Brown Act and reviews proposed legislation submitted by the City.

V. CITY DEPARTMENTS

The City Manger oversees legislative communication between the Council and City Departments. As part of the City's legislative process, the Executive Management Team works to assist in identifying legislative priorities to be included in the City's legislative platform.

Written Legislative Correspondence Policy for City Departments – City Departments should make the City Council aware of all legislative actions they intend to take through communication with the City Manager. City Departments may only send legislative correspondence on issues that are consistent with City Council's policy and legislative platform. Written correspondence should be approved by the City Manager.

City Departments will alert the City Manager of critical legislation introduced in Sacramento or Washington DC that will impact their department.

Written correspondence on behalf of the City to elected officials at the federal, state or local level should be routed through the City Manager Department for review prior to getting the signature of the appropriate City Council Member.

Seeking City Sponsored Legislation – If a City Department would like the City to sponsor a legislative proposal, the City Department will contact the City Manger and ask that their proposal be considered by the City Council.

Seeking City Action on a Bill – If a City Department would like the Council to consider action on a legislative issue, they will contact the City Manager.



LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM 2013

The City of Los Alamitos recognizes the importance of protecting the City's interest in the local, state and federal legislative system. In order to efficiently participate in the legislative process, on behalf of the citizens of Los Alamitos, the City has established the Legislative Platform for 2013. The Legislative Platform is structured to assist the City of Los Alamitos to achieve the goals identified in the City of Los Alamitos' General Plan and Strategic Plan.

The platform identifies legislative priorities in the areas of Economic Development; Community and Housing; Environmental Quality; Public Safety & Homeland Security; and Revenue and Taxation. Platforms are identified at the County/Regional, State and Federal levels. In developing the legislative platform, consideration was given to the platforms adopted by the League of California Cities, the Orange County Division League of California Cities, the Orange County Transportation Authority, the California Park & Recreation Society, the County of Orange, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and the Association of California Cities-Orange County (ACC-OC).

COUNTY/REGIONAL PLATFORM

Economic Development, Community and Housing

- Support and pursue funding for projects that improve the quality of life in Los Alamitos.
- Support local and regional economic development policies that provide for planned economic growth in the City.
- Support and pursue funds from economic development programs administered by the County of Orange on behalf of federal and state agencies.

Environmental Quality

- Support measures that maintain and enhance local decision making authority in the development and implementation of air quality attainment strategies.
- Support air quality efforts that emphasize the use of advance technologies and market incentives for the use of alternative fuels and for the development of alternative fuel site infrastructure.

Public Safety & Homeland Security

- Support and pursue funding to increase public safety service levels in the City and unincorporated areas.



- Support increased funding for disaster preparedness, prevention, recovery and response for all hazard threats.

Revenue & Taxation

- Support legislation providing cities with the authority to annex land located within their sphere of influence as long as predetermined criteria or conditions are met.
- Support measures to achieve fair representation on county-wide and regional boards.
- Oppose measures that create or grant powers to sub-regional or regional bodies, which would result in an infringement on clearly local concerns.

Transportation & Infrastructure

- Support local City input on all regional land use and planning issues.
- Support increased transportation funds allocated to local jurisdictions for discretionary projects.
- Support local control over the administration of local programs.

STATE PLATFORM

Economic Development, Community and Housing

- Support legislation that provides incentives or grant opportunities for community improvements.
- Support legislation that would increase voter turnout in local elections.
- Support efforts to require the State Legislature, public commissions, boards, councils and other public agencies of the state to conduct deliberations and meetings in strict accordance with the Brown Act.
- Oppose affordable housing production mandates without necessary funding to support said housing mandate.
- Oppose legislation that is deemed by the City to be “anti-business” and/or a “job killer.”



Environmental Quality

- Support streamlined environmental processing for federal regulatory permits issued by the California Department of Transportation and various other state and federal agencies for the purpose of expediting public infrastructure developments.
- Support the delisting of endangered species that have thrived and recovered through effective resource management.
- Support cooperation between the state and local jurisdictions on source reduction and recycling in order to meet solid waste reduction goals (AB 939).
- Support a statewide action plan for addressing water-related issues including availability, quality and reclamation.
- Oppose the expansion of the State listing of endangered or threatened species without economic impact analyses and valid scientific data.

Public Safety & Homeland Security

- Support statewide efforts to coordinate disaster preparedness programs in local jurisdictions and support guidelines to identify the strengths and weaknesses of local preparedness efforts.
- Support and promote programs that enhance the benefits of mutual aid agreements between local governments.
- Support adequate financing of jails and criminal justice facilities. Address the need to devote equal time and energy to develop effective alternatives to incarceration, including early intervention of at-risk youth and counseling/rehabilitation programs.

Revenue & Taxation

- Support full cost reimbursement to the City for all federal, state and county-mandated programs.
- Support legislation that would reform the State's Worker's Compensation System in order to draw a balance between reasonable claimant benefits versus the increasing costs/corruption that has plagued the system to date.
- Oppose legislation that seeks to lessen the City's ability to enforce contractual language agreed to and contained within existing franchise documents.



- Oppose any legislation that diminishes or does not assure local franchise fees for all utility uses of City right-of-way.
- Oppose the state borrowing from local governments to finance budgetary deficits. For example, borrowing from the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS).
- Oppose new or continuing unfunded mandates to the City.

Transportation and Infrastructure

- Support and pursue funding that specifically benefits the City of Los Alamitos' transportation and public works projects.
- Support legislation that preserves municipal authority over the public right-of-way including fair and reasonable compensation for use of the right-of-way.
- Support legislation that promotes access to joint use of schools; parks and open space; development of streets and trails that encourage physical activity and healthy living.
- Support efforts to ensure fair and equitable allocation of bond funds to all communities pursuant to either block grant formulas (per capita) or through existing competitive grant programs based on the greatest identified need or deficiencies in park land and programming.
- Oppose efforts that erode funding for vital community services that impact Californian's access to parks; open space; after school programming; senior services; special use facilities that promote physical activity; protect natural resources; and strengthen safety and security.

FEDERAL PLATFORM

Economic Development, Community and Housing

- Support increased funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, which is critical in assisting urban and rural cities throughout California with creating jobs, providing affordable housing, eliminating blight and generating economic investment.



Environmental Quality

- Support streamlined environmental processing for federal regulatory permits issued by the US Army Corp of Engineers, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Federal Highway Administration and various other state and federal agencies for the purpose of expediting public infrastructure projects.

Public Safety & Homeland Security

- Support increased funding for disaster preparedness, prevention, recovery and responses for all hazard threats.

Revenue & Taxation

- Support direct federal funding to cities, without matching requirements, to use in drug prevention, intervention and enforcement efforts.
- Support remitting state and local sales taxes, including tax revenue generated from purchases made on the Internet, by mail order and by catalog, to the state in which the purchaser is residing.

Transportation and Infrastructure

- Support funding that specifically benefits the City of Los Alamitos' transportation and public works projects.
- Support legislation that promotes access to joint use of schools; parks and open space; development of streets and trails that encourage physical activity and healthy living.
- Support efforts to ensure fair and equitable allocation of bond funds to all communities pursuant to either block grant formulas (per capita) or through existing competitive grant programs based on the greatest identified need or deficiencies in park land and programming.
- Support inclusive eligibility and participation of bond fund allocations to the maximum number of communities pursuant to either block grant formulas (per capita), through existing competitive grant programs or similar allocations mechanisms.
 - Oppose efforts that erode funding for vital community services that impact Californian's access to parks; open space; after school programming; senior services; special use facilities that promote physical activity; protect natural resources; and strengthen safety and security.