



CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, California 93950

AGENDA REPORT

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Bill Kampe, Mayor
Rudy Fischer, Council Member

Meeting Date: July 19, 2017

Subject: City Council State and Federal Legislative Platform

CEQA: This action does not constitute a “project” as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines section 15378.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the City Council State and Federal Legislative Platform and authorize the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, City Manager, and City Attorney to support the legislative goals of the City Council.

DISCUSSION

State and Federal legislation often has an impact on local government. The City Council, through its Goals, the adopted General Plan, the proposed Local Coastal Plan, and other policy related documents, has outlined policy. To ensure proposed State and/or Federal legislation does not have a negative impact on outlined policies, or to support proposed State and/or Federal legislation that furthers the City’s interests, a legislative platform would be useful.

Earlier this year the City Council appointed Mayor Kampe and Council Member Fischer to serve on a subcommittee, working with the City Manager, to draft a proposed City Council State and Federal Legislative Platform. It was suggested that the proposed platform contain categories that align with other City Council policy documents, such as the City Council’s Goals.

Accordingly, it is proposed that the City Council State and Federal Legislative Platform support and promote the following priorities:

1. Local Control: Preserving the City’s Charter City status, and ability to self-govern.
2. Fiscal Sustainability: Promoting sound financial decisions and policies at the City, County, and State levels of government.
3. Housing: Encouraging the development of housing policies while protecting property rights.

4. Infrastructure: Supporting and encouraging existing infrastructure maintenance and new infrastructure development in the City, County, and State.
5. Public Safety: Promoting public safety by encouraging regional cooperation on fire and police issues.
6. Transportation: Supporting a coordinated, regional approach to transportation and parking issues.
7. Water: Continuing work with other Cities, the County, and the State in developing sustainable and responsible solutions to the Monterey Peninsula's water needs.
8. Environmental Stewardship: Supporting and promoting actions to assist with responsible and cost-effective coastal, forest, and ocean/bay protections.

Actions to support the aforementioned priorities may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Local Control:

- Oppose proposed legislation with the potential to erode local control or to restrict local authority or decision-making
- Protect the City of Pacific Grove's Charter City status
- Oppose unfunded State or Federal mandates
- Oppose legislation mandating "one-size-fits-all" rules and regulations that impinge on the City's flexibility in managing local affairs and development
- Oppose legislation that diminishes decision-making authority over land use decisions or zoning
- Oppose State or Federal efforts to further erode local government authority regarding the location of cellular towers or transmission sites.
- Support California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) legislative reform initiatives that eliminate redundant, costly and cumbersome mandates and restrictions
- Support legislation that increases financial assistance to Cities to provide local library programs and literacy services

Fiscal Sustainability:

- Prevent unexpected diversion of local funds by the State or Federal government – or major changes – that erode the ability of a City to plan and budget for short-and-long term service needs
- Seek to attract and retain local and regional employment opportunities
- Work with other regional and State leaders to resist BRAC closure recommendations for local military facilities
- Support legislation which updates the tax structure to enhance local government revenues that have declined due to the expansion of e-commerce and other societal changes
- Oppose legislation that reduces or eliminates payments to Cities for use of property and rights-of-way for telecommunications

- Support state legislation or legal cases that encourage responsible long-term fiscal practices
- Support legislation that provides reasonable, sustainable, and secure public pensions and other post-retirement benefits to ensure responsive and affordable public services

Housing:

- Encourage the development of responsible housing policies that allow for the protection of property rights
- Support legislation regarding land use patterns that maintain safe residential neighborhoods, bolster economic prosperity, preserve open space, and enhance overall quality of life
- Encourage reasonable building, housing, and real estate regulations for the development of affordable housing that protects the rights of property owners
- Support creating and preserving financing tools and other policies to expand affordable housing for tenant affordability and stability

Infrastructure:

- Dedicate the proper amount of resources to maintain and improve the City's infrastructure.
- Support State and Federal legislation that provides additional funding for local infrastructure, transportation, housing, and other critical needs.
- Support legislation that promotes and funds disaster preparedness and recovery efforts including staff, resident and business owner- training

Public Safety:

- Encourage regional cooperation on fire and police issues
- Expand efforts for the use of public safety technology to improve disaster preparedness, ensuring staff and community emergency readiness
- Support legislation and grants which fund police and fire equipment upgrades, training, and capital improvements

Transportation:

- Support a coordinated regional approach to transportation and parking issues
- Support legislation that enhances the ability of local Cities and agencies to finance local transportation programs and facilities
- Protect existing State and local shared revenues, including Measure X for local "self-help" transportation funding, and AB/SB1 gasoline tax funding for local and regional transportation and infrastructure projects
- Work to ensure continued prioritization of the Highway 68 corridor project
- Support developing long-term transportation funding reforms that strengthen our State's infrastructure and provides our economy with the support it needs to thrive

Water:

- Work with other Cities, the County, the State, and the Federal Government in developing sustainable and responsible solutions to the Monterey Peninsula's water needs
- Support legislation that encourages and provides incentives for water conservation and expands the production and use of recycled water

- Support flood control and storm water management legislation - including new funding methods
- Support legislation that expands financing options for storm water collection and clean-up
- Support legislation that allows direct and indirect potable water reuse

Environmental Stewardship:

- Support the protection of local coastal resources, while providing access to the public while defending the rights of our City's property owners to manage their coastal property in a responsible manner
- Support legislation that will reduce the presence of toxic chemicals, pesticides, and herbicides in the local environment while allowing for responsible parkway, trail and landscaping maintenance practices
- Support the City's Local Coastal Plan efforts by supporting legislation that allows for the maintenance and improvement of coastal pathways, parking lots, and ocean observation spots
- Work with our legislators to seek funding for forest and wildlife protections

OPTIONS

1. Take no action.
2. Provide alternative direction to staff.

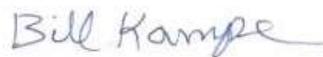
FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to adopting the City Council State and Federal Legislative Platform.

GOAL ALIGNMENT

Operational Excellence

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



Bill Kampe
Mayor



Rudy Fischer
Council Member

REVIEWED BY:



Ben Harvey
City Manager