

**CITY OF ENCINITAS  
CITY COUNCIL POLICY  
ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL**

**Policy Title:** City Council Legislative Program

**Section:** City Council

**Responsible Department:** City Manager's Office

**Number:** C024

**Approved By:** City Council

**Date Approved:** 09/10/08

**Last Amendment:** 1/20/16

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**I. Philosophy**

*To establish the guidelines and procedures by which the City expresses written positions on proposed State and federal legislation. Legislative positions are taken to express to legislators the positive or negative impacts on our City of proposed legislation.*

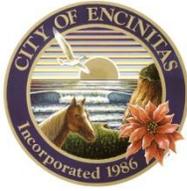
**II. Method**

- A. *For proposed legislation, either consistent with the City's Legislative Priorities or consistent with legislative positions the City has taken in the past, City staff shall be authorized to prepare position letters for the Mayor's signature and place the correspondence on Council's consent agenda for potential comment prior to being sent.***
- B. *For legislative action or signature requests within the scope of the Council's legislative priorities that are time-sensitive and there is insufficient time to schedule for a Council meeting, the Mayor is authorized to sign on behalf of the Council. Copies of these letters will be included in the Council consent agenda packet referenced in "A" above for potential comment by Council members, albeit after-the-fact.***
- C. *Should availability be an issue, the Deputy Mayor shall be authorized to sign position letters in lieu of the Mayor.***
- D. *If neither the Mayor nor Deputy Mayor is available, upon direction of the Mayor or Deputy Mayor the City Manager may be authorized to sign the position letter.***
- E. *The City's government relations firm may also be authorized to express the City's position in person to legislative representatives.***
- F. *All members of City Council shall receive copies of sent position letters, a copy will be sent to the City's government relations firm, and a copy will be kept on file.***
- G. *All members of City Council shall receive electronic copies of the legislative bills lists forwarded to staff by the City's government relations firm.***
- H. *These legislative priorities may only address issues directly relevant to or impacting the provision of municipal services.***
- I. *Generally, the City will not address matters that are not pertinent to the City's local government services such as partisan, socially divisive or international issues.***

- J. For a formal City position on proposed legislation that may not be addressed in the City's Legislative Priorities, City Administrative Policy Number C003 entitled "Policies & Protocols for City Council Meetings" provides the procedure for such requests.**
- K. In instances where legislation consistent with the City's Legislative Program is sponsored by a San Diego County municipality, City position letters will appear on Council's consent agenda for potential comment prior to being sent.**

**III. Legislative Priorities**

**The Legislative Program will be brought before Council for review, discussion and future direction on an annual basis. For the current legislative priorities, see Attachment B.**



## Attachment B

# 2016 Legislative Priorities

### ***Purpose***

Throughout each year, the State Legislature and the United States Congress propose and enact legislation, some of which affects local municipal government. At times, it is in the interests of the City to take a position on proposed legislation. The process for addressing proposed legislation is detailed in City Council Policy C024. The priorities for addressing the legislation are shown below.

### ***Priorities***

The Legislative Program would provide guidelines for the City of Encinitas legislative advocacy. The primary priority areas include:

- Protect funding for vital community services
- Protect local control of land-use decision-making
- Support environmentally sustainable cities
- Expand infrastructure investment
- Public Safety / Public Health
- Coastal protection and enhancement

More specific City interests include:

### **PROTECT FUNDING FOR VITAL COMMUNITY SERVICES**

- Support full reimbursement to cities for all State and federal mandates.
- Protect or enhance local government revenue resources.
- Oppose State budget cuts targeting critical local programs and services.
- Enhance Community Development Block Grant and other federal funding.
- Pursue a range of diverse housing opportunities balanced throughout the community.

## **PROTECT LOCAL CONTROL OF LAND-USE DECISION-MAKING**

- Protect local control of land use decision-making and oppose legislation that would hinder or threaten local control.
- Seek opportunities to regain local control over state-imposed density bonus law.

## **SUPPORT ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE CITIES**

- Support legislation protecting existing water supply, and facilitating development of future water sources in Southern California.
- Support legislation providing funding for the acquisition and restoration of wildlife habitat.
- Support legislation that expands, promotes and/or incentivizes water conservation practices and programs.
- Support legislation that facilitates and/or promotes the expanded use of local water resources including recycled water, graywater and rainwater harvesting.
- Support legislation that promotes the development of potable water reuse.
- Support incentives for utilizing renewable energy resources.
- Support state-wide plastic bag ban legislation.
- Support state-wide expanded polystyrene foam (EPS) ban.

## **EXPAND INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT**

- Support equitable long-range, statewide infrastructure investment.
- Support State/federal facilitation of timely construction of local transportation projects.
- Oppose the use of gasoline sales tax revenues for other than state and local transportation purposes.
- Support local rail infrastructure investment.
- Seek state funding/cost sharing opportunities for State beaches in Encinitas, including Beacon Beach.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY / PUBLIC HEALTH**

- Support funding bills for local law enforcement equipment, services, or personnel.
- Ensure local discretion in the adoption and implementation of health and safety standards contained in the building and fire codes.
- Support funding bills for local emergency operations including equipment, services, and personnel.
- Support legislation protecting public health.

## **COASTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT**

- Support legislation providing funding and other means for beach replenishment.
- Additional mandated storm water pollution prevention measures must be accompanied by funding or a mechanism to provide for funding.
- Support ecosystem enhancing legislation.
- Support regional and statewide sea level rise initiatives.

Apart from the above listed specific interests, City Council shall be apprised of legislative actions of the County of San Diego.

Support legislation introduced by local legislators unless contrary to City priorities.