



LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

CITY • OF • ONTARIO • 2019

ONTARIO CITY COUNCIL



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PAUL S. LEON



MAYOR PRO TEM
RUBEN VALENCIA



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COUNCIL MEMBER
DEBRA DORST-PORADA

PURPOSE STATEMENT

The 2019 Legislative Platform provides a framework for the City of Ontario's Legislative Program. Adopted annually, the City's Legislative Platform serves as a reference guide for legislative positions and objectives that provide direction for City Staff throughout the year. The Legislative Platform is an embodiment of the City Council Goals and is the foundation of a focused advocacy strategy.



LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

The primary objective of the Legislative Platform is to establish official City positions on clearly stated legislative issues at the start of the legislative year.

The Legislative Platform is developed and maintained using the goals and objectives of the City Council, a review of legislative priorities from the League of California Cities, the County of San Bernardino, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), and San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA), input from City Staff, research of current law and pending legislation, as well as discussions with local legislative staff and the City's legislative advocates.

Federal and state legislative proposals and policies consistent with the Legislative Platform may be supported by the City. Those policies or proposals inconsistent with this agenda may be opposed by the City. Generally, the City will not address matters that are not pertinent to the City's local government services, such as social or international issues.

City departments are encouraged to monitor and be knowledgeable of any legislative issues related to their discipline. However, any requests for the City to take positions on a legislative matter must be directed to the Administrative Services Agency. City departments may not take positions on legislative issues without Administrative Services Agency review and City Manager approval.

2019 PRIORITY LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS

STATE

- Oppose legislation seeking to reallocate revenue obtained from the Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax.
- Support legislation to ensure the sustainability of public pension and retirement systems.
- Support legislation to restore incremental tax funding options to cities, either as infrastructure finance districts or as redevelopment agencies.
- Oppose legislation that creates or prohibits cities from contracting for personal services or creates burdensome reporting requirements for doing so.
- Support efforts, such as the Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe Act, to assist law enforcement and counter rising crime rates statewide.
- Oppose legislation restricting police tactics when responding to emergency calls.
- Oppose legislation that eliminates local control of housing development by exempting classes of projects or types of uses from city land use regulations.
- Pursue funding for revitalization efforts in Downtown Ontario.
- Support legislation that lessens the restrictions on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for purposes of expediting land use and housing projects.
- Support the local funding allocation of SB 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, which invests in mass transit, and local streets and road projects.
- Oppose legislation and regulations which preempt local control and regulatory authority on cannabis delivery.
- Support measures that will fund water management, supply and quality improvements.

FEDERAL

- Support the increase of Federal Housing Administration mortgage loan limits in San Bernardino County.
- Support legislation or regulatory amendments to address airplane sound mitigation.
- Support the preservation of tax-exempt private activity bonds and the low income housing tax credit program.
- Support new appropriations of funds for the maintenance and construction of transportation and airport infrastructure.
- Support legislation to reverse the FAA's determination that the Airport and Airway Improvement Act requires state and county sales taxes revenues derived from jet fuel sales to be used only for air travel-related expenses.

COUNTY/REGIONAL

- Support regional efforts to promote Ontario International Airport.
- Oppose any efforts to eliminate or erode City control over 9-1-1 dispatch, including the City's ability to maintain its own data system.
- Support studies and funding to improve access to Ontario International Airport, including rail, contingent on local control of the project segments within San Bernardino County.
- Support efforts to implement commuter rail service on Union Pacific Railroad's Alhambra Subdivision, and to establish train stops at downtown Ontario as well as the Ontario International Airport.

ADDITIONAL 2019 LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS - STATE

Transportation and Infrastructure

- Work with regional partners—governmental, private, and nonprofit—to identify and pursue funding for projects improving infrastructure within the City.
- Support funding for non-motorized transportation infrastructure such as bicycle trails and pedestrian access.
- Support the consideration of public-private partnerships (P3s) in the development of transportation improvements.
- Support legislation and programs that fund transit oriented development near rail and bus rapid transit stations.
- Support legislation that protects local government authority over telecommunications facilities placed within public right-of-ways to include the aesthetics of equipment installed by contractors.
- Collaborate with regional transportation agencies to impact regulatory policies to bring equity and fairness to the Inland Empire region.

Revenue and Taxation

- Support state funding to assist local governments with meeting regional greenhouse gas reduction goals, including, but not limited to, grants, incentive funding, and economic development tools.
- Oppose legislation that would impose state-mandated costs for which there is no guarantee of local reimbursement.
- Oppose any legislation which would pre-empt or reduce local discretion over locally-imposed taxes.
- Oppose legislation that would eliminate the tax exemption for municipal bonds.
- Protect local government authority to collect revenues from telecommunication providers installing equipment within public right-of-ways.
- Oppose efforts to mandate residential gallons-per-capita restrictions.

Community and Human Services

- Support continued state funding for local art, cultural, and music programs.
- Support grants for sustainable growth and healthy living projects.
- Support tax credits for seismic retrofitting of commercial and residential buildings.
- Oppose any regulation mandating the curbside collection of household hazardous waste.
- Support funding for programs such as Mercy House, which help the homeless transition into housing and employment.

ADDITIONAL 2019 LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS - STATE

Public Safety

- Support efforts to coordinate disaster preparedness programs in local jurisdictions and support guidelines to identify the strengths and weaknesses of local preparedness efforts.
- Oppose legislation which would interfere with the ability of law enforcement to remove individuals, either in person or in a vehicle, from public facilities, property, or streets.
- Oppose further legalization of marijuana beyond Proposition 64 allowances.
- Support legislation to regulate the sale of refined butane, for the purpose of curtailing the manufacture of illegal butane honey oil.
- Oppose the expansion of fireworks usage, including the creation of a second sales period before the New Year's holiday.
- Support legislation affirming the ability of local government to restrict the presence and residency of sex offenders near schools, parks, and other locations frequented by children.
- Pursue full reimbursement of costs of state and federal mandates.



Housing and Land Use Planning

- Support the streamlining of right-of-way acquisition processes.
- Support reduction of housing density requirements to qualify for state grant funding.
- Oppose additional affordable housing production mandates unless funding is appropriated to finance the mandate.
- Support funding and tax incentives for the identification, acquisition, maintenance and restoration of historic sites and structures.
- Oppose linking transportation funding to the satisfaction of state housing requirements, including Regional Housing Needs Assessment quotas.
- Oppose legislation that eliminates local control over the placement of small cell wireless facilities.
- Support legislation to allow local jurisdictions to work with others to fulfill RHNA requirements in order to meet regional demand.

ADDITIONAL 2019 LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS - STATE

Administrative and Employment Related

- Oppose legislation that mandates costly and unnecessary procedures related to the election process.
- Support efforts to update the Ralph M. Brown Act to help streamline and expedite public meetings.
- Oppose efforts to restrict local control on city districting decisions.
- Oppose legislation that would lessen the ability of local governments to enforce contractual language agreed to and contained within existing franchise documents.
- Support legislation to apply comparative fault to inverse condemnation actions involving a public entity.
- Oppose legislation which would allow the state to modify terms of an executed Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agreement.
- Oppose legislation or policies altering CalPERS eligibility and threshold requirements in a manner detrimental to local government interests.

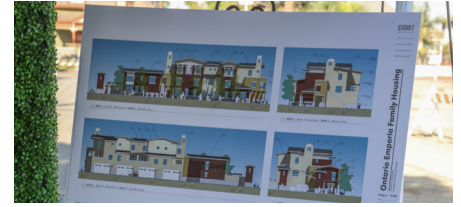
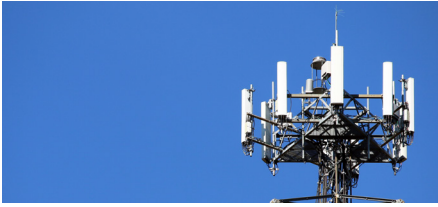
Environment

- Support efforts to streamline and improve the CEQA process.
- Support programs to provide refueling/recharging infrastructure for alternative fuel or electric vehicles.
- Support efforts to fund safe and affordable drinking water initiatives without increasing fees for rate payers.
- Support funding for the retrofitting of municipal buildings to increase energy efficiency.
- Support financial incentives for water reuse, and legislation that encourages the treatment of municipal wastewater for non-potable reuse and promotes the development of reasonable regulations to encourage and maximize the responsible use of reclaimed water.
- Support efforts to remediate groundwater contamination.
- Support funding for the implementation of climate action plans.
- Support measures that assist cities and local businesses with state mandated organics recycling requirements.



ADDITIONAL 2019 LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS

FEDERAL



- Assist SBCTA, Omnitrans, and OIAA in pursuing grant funding for infrastructure projects within the City, or those which benefit the City and/or the region.
- Support local control of cell phone towers, including control over placement and design.
- Support local control over cable providers.
- Support legislative efforts to promote net neutrality without regulating internet providers as utilities.
- Support efforts to expand municipal broadband and cooperation of service delivery with the private sector.
- Oppose legislation that would combine Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse program with the WIIN program.
- Support local options to privatize various aspects of transportation that would maximize available federal funding.
- Support recognition of the importance of inland ports to overall goods movement systems as part of any investment plan.
- Support streamlined environmental revisions that remove duplication of state and federal processes.
- Support efforts to reform the National Environmental Policy Act in order to create a more efficient process to access federal funds for local projects of all sizes.
- Support efforts to secure funds to facilitate the conversion of public sector fleets to alternative fuels to meet local, state, and federal fleet conversion mandates.
- Maintain full funding for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) and the Assistance to Firefighters grant programs and retain the local cost share waiver for both programs.
- Maintain funding for disaster preparedness, prevention, recovery, and response for all-hazard threats, including resources to upgrade to existing flood control systems.
- Support legislation that provides incentives and resources to expand local planning policies that integrate housing, transportation and land use.
- Advocate for legislation and regulation that encourages home ownership in the Inland Empire, and that helps facilitate the construction of work force housing.
- Maintain the tax exempt status of municipal bonds and oppose proposals to cap the investor tax deduction on municipal securities investments.
- Support efforts to mitigate potential adverse impact on local small businesses due to tariff implementation.
- Support increased funding for customs and border patrol agents to assist with the review of international arrivals at the Ontario International Airport.
- Support efforts to apply Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) funding to the environmental remediation, including facility demolition, for facilities closed by prior BRAC rounds.
- Oppose efforts that preempt local government regulation of the use of drones.
- Support legislation that provides immunity to local governments that designate drone "recreational areas."

ADDITIONAL 2019 LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS

COUNTY/REGIONAL



- Pursue funding for projects that improve the quality of life in Ontario.
- Support local input on regional land use and planning issues at SBCTA and SCAG.
- Support efforts to increase the amount of transportation funds allocated to local jurisdictions for discretionary projects.
- Oppose unfunded mandates to the City for any new or continuing program/service.
- Support regional economic development policies that provide for planned economic growth in the City and neighboring communities.
- Support continued development of the SBCTA Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.
- Support expanded bus service from Omnitrans, particularly routes serving Ontario Ranch and Downtown Ontario.
- Pursue Measure I funding for full bus rapid transit service infrastructure on Holt Boulevard, including center lanes, stations, street widening, and entitlements from Vineyard Avenue to Benson Avenue.
- Pursue Measure I funding for pavement improvement, grade separation projects, and interchange replacements.
- Preserve the City's water rights and encourage regional plans to mitigate drought conditions.
- Support reform of SCAQMD policies to mitigate impacts on the city and regional economy.
- Support accountability measures to increase communication with regional agencies seeking to implement fee increases.

