



City of La Quinta

CITY / SA/ HA/ FA MEETING DATE: May 19, 2015

ITEM TITLE: APPROVE LEGISLATIVE POLICY GUIDE UPDATE

AGENDA CATEGORY:

BUSINESS SESSION: 1

CONSENT CALENDAR:

STUDY SESSION:

PUBLIC HEARING:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the Legislative Policy Guide and authorize the Mayor, one Council Member and City Manager to issue letters within the scope of these policies.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- On June 3, 2014, the City Council approved a Legislative Policy Guide ("guide") (Attachment 1) that serves as a tool for the City to weigh in on legislative matters which have direct impact on City operations.
- Legislative proposals surface overnight and response to impending time is limited.
- The guide has been updated to incorporate legislative items that surfaced this calendar year and includes current active legislation.
- The guide will serve as the Council's direction and will enable staff to immediately respond to proposed legislation in a timely matter.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

The legislative landscape is constantly changing, producing impending legislation with potential impact on the City's ability to conduct business and provide

services. The guide enables the City to have a voice on emerging, key issues and allows staff to take immediate action on pressing legislation.

The guide presents a set of guiding principles to align the City's policy positions with its interests and includes: preserving local authority, sustaining fiscal responsibility, fostering economic development, promoting health and wellness, and supporting public safety. While La Quinta has always been a good steward of the environment, the recent Governor's order to reduce water usage has prompted the addition of a guiding principal called "Encourage Preservation of the Environment."

In addition, the guide provides an overview of important legislative developments in 2014 and connects them to emerging trends in 2015. Post redevelopment matters are still top of mind, but there are several pieces of legislation relating to the way gas taxes are levied and allocated.

The Guide also itemizes the City Council's policy positions on key legislative areas such as economic development, finance, labor relations, and public safety among others. Council may modify the policy positions, and make further additions, as deemed appropriate.

Last year, the City opposed legislation aimed at diminishing the ability for cities to contract for service and legislation increasing review requirements for retailers over 100,000 square feet. Simultaneously, support positions were taken on a series of bills aimed at allowing new economic development tools, clarifying matters on post-redevelopment dissolution, and unfreezing redevelopment bond proceeds. Staff worked with a coalition of cities and the Governor's Office for the release of redevelopment bond proceeds (AB 2493), of which La Quinta has approximately \$25 million. The legislation was passed by both houses of the California Legislature, but was ultimately vetoed by the Governor.

The Governor's 2015/2016 Budget proposal includes language related to those bond proceeds as well as other comprehensive changes to redevelopment dissolution law that may adversely impact the funds paid to the City. In March and April, the City Manager and City Attorney represented the City in Sacramento to oppose these proposed changes to redevelopment dissolution law.

Now, the Governor's May Revised budget is expected on May 14 and a quick legislative response will be needed to protect the City's interests. In addition, June 5 is the last day for bills to be passed out of their respective house so increased legislation advocacy will be needed in the coming weeks.

The City receives informational updates on legislative efforts through a variety of channels including directly from the League of California Cities and from the City Attorney. Samples have been included (Attachment 2) to highlight the types of items received by staff.

ALTERNATIVES:

As the guide continues to be used as a resource for both Council and staff for quick response on legislative matters, staff does not recommend an alternative.

Report prepared by: Chris Escobedo, Assistant to City Manager

Report approved for submission by: Frank J. Spevacek, City Manager

Attachments: 1. Legislative Policy Guide
 2. Examples of updates

2015

Legislative Policy Guide



City of La Quinta

2015 Legislative Policy Guide

The Legislative Policy Guide is a tool for the City to navigate through the legislative landscape. This document details the City's policy positions on priority issues and provides a comprehensive approach to allow staff to take immediate action on pressing legislation under City Council direction. The guide identifies legislative trends and active legislation that may have an impact on the City's interests and affairs, and supplements other Council-established goals and policies. It is intended to be updated on a regular basis.

Guiding Principles

I. Preserve Local Authority

The City of La Quinta is a charter city that supports legislation aimed at preserving local authority. Additional regulation or mandates that undermine local control are detrimental to quality service delivery.

II. Sustain Fiscal Responsibility

The City of La Quinta has been able to successfully maneuver through redevelopment dissolution and economic downturn through prudent, disciplined spending and cost-effective stewardship of City resources. Therefore, the City supports measures that promote fiscal stability.

III. Foster Economic Development

The City of La Quinta generally supports legislative efforts designed to foster economic development tools and funding options for effective service delivery.

IV. Promote Health and Wellness

The City of La Quinta actively seeks to promote a healthy and vibrant community that provides various recreational activities and opportunities for residents to enjoy the unique benefits of La Quinta.

V. Support Public Safety

The City of La Quinta strongly supports community safety by providing high quality law enforcement services and maintaining health and safety standards for its residents.

VI. Encourage Preservation of Environment

The City of La Quinta is a thriving desert oasis that supports a proactive and thoughtful stance regarding water consumption and the preservation of the desert environment that surrounds us.

In 2014, the City of La Quinta continued its mission to sustain long-term financial stability, regardless of the challenging economic environment. Healthcare, retail, and hospitality industries continued to thrive as the City's major economic base, while the biggest drivers of the local economy were tourism and the retail industry. Health and wellness became a City hallmark through increased programming, culminating with the grand opening of the La Quinta Wellness Center. 2014 was another successful year for the City.

This year's legislation continues to be fraught with challenges, as the Redevelopment Agency dissolution remains unresolved. Last year's legislative efforts materialized as bills AB 2493 and AB 2280, which centered on getting bond proceeds that were issued before 2011 to be used for affordable housing opportunities and infrastructure. This year's efforts have taken shape as AB 2, a reintroduction of AB 2280, that seeks to restore a redevelopment tool that can be used to assist California's most disadvantaged and poorest areas. It will also form a Community Revitalization Authority, which was advocated by local governments last year. Governor Brown is expected to discuss a new proposal for the Department of Finance regarding the Redevelopment Agency dissolution's disbursement of funding before the end of May, and will be a heavily watched topic for the City.

A great concern last year was the foreboding passage of HR 29 and SB 7 this year. Charter cities have seen an impact to their operations as expenditures have increased due to changes in contracting services, and prevailing wage. The City of La Quinta has also experienced the effects of this, with an evident increase to costs for operations. The preservation of local authority remains the most important mission for all charter cities to consider.

Brief Analysis and Trends: 2014 IN REVIEW AND THE FUTURE OF 2015.



California's current drought has also sparked legislation. In an executive order by Governor Brown, plans to reduce water consumption for the state as a whole have been drafted, and the City is poised to act upon this to work with residents and handle new initiatives in the most effective manner possible.

2015's legislative environment appears to have brought forth a large discussion regarding transportation. A combination of bills known as SB 16, SB 321, and ACA 4, all work toward creating a plan that addresses the need to maintain roadways that are backlogged for maintenance. A plan to create \$2.8-3.6 billion annually by SB 16 to focus on funding, the ability for the State Board of Equalization to adjust motor vehicle fuel tax more frequently as SB 321, and a lower voter threshold for local transportation with ACA 4, all work in concert to better transportation for the state of California.

Meanwhile, public safety remains in the spotlight. Two medical marijuana bills are a prominent topic: AB 34 could potentially give states the exclusive power to issue and revoke marijuana business licenses, leaving local control to more litigation, and AB 266 unconditionally protects local control, and allows for local government to choose regulations.

LEGISLATION IMPACTING US

The public policy landscape is constantly changing and it is incumbent on the City to stay up to date on the latest developments. Anticipating the effects emergent legislation may have on the community is therefore imperative. Below is a short outline of impact in three key areas.

Transportation & Public Works

- SB 16 Aims to increase transportation revenues for 5 years and raise \$2.8-3.6 billion annually to focus on the preservation and maintenance of existing systems.
- SB 321 Provides stability for Section 2103 revenues by allowing for the State Board of Equalization to monitor changes in fuel prices and consumption closely, and adjust the rate of revenue expected to be generated more frequently, rather than annually.
- ACA 4 This measure would provide that the imposition, extension, or increase of a special tax by a local government for the purpose of providing funding for local transportation projects, as defined, requires the approval of 55% of its voters voting on the proposition.

Post Redevelopment Agency Dissolution

- AB 2 Authorizes the creation of a Community Revitalization Investment Authority (CRIA) at the local level which intends to improve conditions leading to increased employment opportunities, including reducing high crime rates, repairing deteriorated and inadequate infrastructure, and developing affordable housing.
- SB 628 Authorizes the creation of a new governmental entity known as the Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD). Its purpose is to finance the construction or rehabilitation of a wide variety of public infrastructure and private facilities.
- Governor Brown will be revisiting specific legislation in May with a proposal that may finalize the dissolution and remove the State from the process. As strong advocates against past proposals, the city will be keeping a watchful eye.

Public Safety & Environment

- Executive Order B-29-15 Has been signed and with it the continued proclamation that a continued state of emergency exists throughout the State of California due to ongoing drought.
- AB 266 Regulates medical marijuana in a manner that protects local control, addresses public safety concerns, and enhances health and safety standards.

Policy Positions

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- The City of La Quinta supports economic development policies and funding mechanisms that foster a hospitable and thriving business environment.
- In light of budget shortfalls, the City supports public-private development opportunities that encourage economic activity and promote health and wellness within the City.
- The City supports retaining financial flexibility and authority with regard to redevelopment dissolution matters.
- Opposes measures that would make the City more dependent on the State for financial stability.
- Supports legislation that facilitates the recoupment of City costs derived from State and Federal mandates.

FINANCE

- The City of La Quinta is a charter city that relies on contract services to provide efficient service delivery.
- Opposes any change in revenue allocations which would negatively affect local governments.
- Opposes any action that would preempt local control over locally imposed taxes and other funding sources.

HOUSING

- Supports legislation that develops programs to increase housing opportunities to meet growth demand in our area.
- Supports legislative efforts that provide incentives to local governments and private developers to develop additional housing opportunities including affordable housing for low income and disabled seniors, adults, and veterans.

ENVIRONMENT

- The City of La Quinta supports the preservation of our environment.
- Supports financial incentives for water reuse and legislation that encourages the treatment of municipal wastewater for non-potable reuse and promote the development of reasonable regulations to encourage and maximize the responsible use of reclaimed water as an alternative to California's fresh water supply.

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

- The City of La Quinta supports measures that provide financing tools for increasing effective, clean transportation.
- Supports clean energy alternatives that are adequately funded.
- Supports State clean energy programs that are financially viable and direct funding to local government to invest in clean energy.
- The City of La Quinta supports developing vital infrastructure and streamlining the local, state, and federal process for infrastructure development in order to better meet local needs.
- Supports legislation that strengthens local authority over land use and infrastructure development.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- The City of La Quinta generally supports legislation that strengthens local law enforcement and safeguards communities.
- Supports measures aimed at providing sustained support for law enforcement to deal with the additional supervision and enforcement requirements of State-mandated realignment provisions.
- Opposes expansion of "early release" for offenders without necessary mechanisms in place for local law enforcement to provide corresponding services.

TOURISM

- The City of La Quinta strongly supports attracting tourism.
- Supports efforts that help promote the City's hospitality, parks and recreation, health and wellness offerings, and entertainment venues.
- Supports working closely with public and private agencies to help boost advertisement and other means of garnering tourism.
- Supports measures that provide funding for parks and recreation programs.

Monthly Overview of Legislative Calendar for 2015

Below is an overview that summarizes major legislative events and key dates that occur month to month, and following is the 2015 Legislative Calendar created by the Office of the Secretary of the Senate.

January: The previous year's laws go into effect during this month. Legislature reconvenes to discuss the new year of legislation ahead, and all bill requests must be submitted before the end of the month. Budgets must be submitted by the Governor during the beginning portion of the month.

February: The last day for bills to be introduced occurs at the end of February.

March: Spring Recess occurs at the end of the month.

April: Legislature will reconvene from Spring Recess during this month to continue discussions.

May: The beginning of this month marks the last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees regarding fiscal bills being introduced. Policy committees must also report non-fiscal bills by the middle of the month. Policy committees are given their last day to meet before convening in June near the end of this month, and report Floor bills for their house.

June: Floor session conducted in the beginning of the month, the last day for bills to be passed out of the house of origin occurs, and the committee meetings resume. All budgets must be passed by middle of month.

July: The last day for policy committees to meet and report bills occurs during the month before Summer Recess begins.

August: Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess. The last day for fiscal committees to report bills to the floor occurs at the end of the month. Floor session begins at the end of the month as well.

September: The last day to amend bills on the Floor occurs at the beginning of the month, with the last day for each house to pass bills occurring in the middle of the month. Interim Study Recess begins shortly after.

October: The last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills is passed by Legislature occurs during the middle of the month.

2015 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR
 COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
 Revised 01/26/2015

DEADLINES

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				<u>1</u>	2	3
4	<u>5</u>	6	7	8	9	<u>10</u>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	<u>19</u>	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	<u>30</u>	31

- [Jan. 1](#) Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).
- [Jan. 5](#) Legislature **reconvenes** (J.R. 51(a)(1)).
- [Jan. 10](#) Budget must be submitted by Governor (Art. IV, Sec. 12 (a)).
- [Jan. 19](#) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- [Jan. 30](#) Last day to submit **bill requests** to the Office of Legislative Counsel.

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	<u>16</u>	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	<u>27</u>	28

- [Feb. 16](#) Presidents' Day.
- [Feb. 27](#) Last day for bills to be **introduced** (J.R. 61(a)(1), (J.R. 54(a)).

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	<u>26</u>	27	28
29	30	<u>31</u>				

- [Mar. 26](#) **Spring Recess** begins at end of this day's session (J.R. 51(a)(2)).
- [Mar. 31](#) Cesar Chavez Day.

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	<u>6</u>	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

- [Apr. 6](#) Legislature reconvenes from **Spring Recess** (J.R. 51(a)(2)).

MAY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					<u>1</u>	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	<u>15</u>	16
17	18	19	20	21	<u>22</u>	23
24	<u>25</u>	26	27	28	<u>29</u>	30
31						

- [May 1](#) Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to Fiscal Committees **fiscal bills** introduced in their house (J.R. 61(a)(2)).
- [May 15](#) Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to the Floor **non-fiscal** bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61(a)(3)).
- [May 22](#) Last day for **policy committees** to meet prior to June 8 (J.R. 61(a)(4)).
- [May 25](#) Memorial Day.
- [May 29](#) Last day for **fiscal committees** to hear and report to the Floor bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61 (a)(5)). Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet prior to June 8 (J.R. 61 (a)(6)).

*Holiday schedule subject to final approval by Rules committee

2015 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR
 COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
 Revised 01/26/2015

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	<u>5</u>	6
7	<u>8</u>	9	10	11	12	13
14	<u>15</u>	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

June 1 – 5 Floor Session only. No committee may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(a)(7)).

June 5 Last day for bills to be **passed out of the house of origin** (J.R. 61(a)(8)).

June 8 Committee meetings may resume (J.R. 61(a)(9)).

June 15 Budget must be passed by **midnight** (Art. IV, Sec. 12(c)(3)).

JULY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	<u>3</u>	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	<u>17</u>	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

July 3 Independence Day observed.

July 17 Last day for **policy committees** to meet and report bills (J.R. 61(a)(10)).
Summer Recess begins at the end of this day's session, provided Budget has been enacted (J.R. 51(a)(3)).

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	<u>17</u>	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	<u>28</u>	29
30	31					

Aug. 17 Legislature reconvenes from **Summer Recess** (J.R. 51(a)(3)).

Aug. 28 Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet and report bills to the Floor (J.R. 61(a)(11)).

Aug. 31 – Sept. 11 Floor Session only. No committees, other than conference committees and Rules Committee, may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(a)(12)).

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	<u>4</u>	5
6	<u>7</u>	8	9	10	<u>11</u>	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Sept. 4 Last day to **amend** bills on the Floor (J.R. 61(a)(13)).

Sept. 7 Labor Day.

Sept. 11 Last day for **each house to pass bills** (J.R. 61(a)(14)).
Interim Study Recess begins at end of this day's session (J.R. 51(a)(4)).

IMPORTANT DATES OCCURRING DURING INTERIM STUDY RECESS

2015

Oct. 11 Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature on or before Sept. 11 and in the Governor's possession after Sept. 11 (Art. IV, Sec.10(b)(1)).

2016

Jan. 1 Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).

Jan. 4 Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51 (a)(4)).

*Holiday schedule subject to final approval by Rules committee

Wanda Wise-Latta

From: Erin Sasse <esasse@cacities.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2015 10:18 AM
To: Erin Sasse
Subject: TIME SENSITIVE: May Revise & RDA Dissolution Proposal - action needed
Attachments: May Revise-Briefing on RDA Dissolution Proposal.docx; May Revise-Briefing on RDA Dissolution Proposal.pdf

TO: Mayors, Council Members, and City Managers
FR: Dan Carrigg, Senior Director of Legislative Affairs, League of CA Cities
 Bismarck Obando, Director of Public Affairs, League of CA Cities
RE: Governor's May Revision: RDA Dissolution Proposal

BACKGROUND

The Governor is expected to release his May Revision this Thursday and **cities should expect the Department of Finance (DOF) to issue another dissolution proposal on Thursday that will include many of the elements of the January provisions (listed below) and provisions that attempt to fracture the united stand that cities have had over the last few month by including carve-outs for specific cities that will divide our membership.** As you may recall, in the January budget, the DOF proposed to 1) reverse recent court decisions regarding the redevelopment dissolution process; 2) undo previous incentives; 3) and limit transparency accountability and opportunities for local agencies to protect their legal rights.

As we prepare for Thursday's announcement, the message to all of our cities is: We **URGE** you to continue to **OPPOSE** any proposal that includes provisions that harm your city, a neighboring city, or a majority of cities. We must remain united and have one voice on this statewide issue. Additionally, cities should be prepared to react very quickly as we expect the Governor and Legislature to try and move any type of RDA proposal very quickly through the process. Below are some Action Items for this week:

ACTION ITEMS

1. **RSVP for Special Briefing This Friday at 11am.** In anticipation of the May Revision, we are scheduling a special RDA Briefing for ALL cities. If your city is closed on Friday, we encourage you to assign someone from your city to participate on the call. See attached invitation.
2. **Call Legislators in the Senate and Assembly Budget Subcommittee #4.** Listed below is a list of legislators in the Budget Subcommittee that will hear any budget proposal on RDA Dissolution. We encourage city officials to place a call to them no later than Thursday. Here is the message you can convey to them:
 - a. *"My name is XXXX and I'm the Mayor/Mayor Pro Tem/Council Member from the City of XXXX. In anticipation of the Governor's May Revision, I'm calling you to express my concerns with any RDA Dissolution proposal that attempts to change the rules of the game in the RDA Dissolution process and encourage you to reject such proposals. Cities have played by the rules since the enactment of AB 1484 and it would be unfair and harmful to have such a negative proposal enacted into law."*

**3. ASSEMBLY BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 4 ON STATE
ADMINISTRATION**

Democratic Alternate: Weber. Republican Alternate: Melendez. Fax (916) 319-

3560. REPUBLICAN CAUCUS: Anthony P. Archie 319-2643. website Print Roll Call					
Member	District	Party	Room	Phone	Fax
Allen, Travis	72	R	4015	916 319 2072	916 319 2172
Cooper, Jim	9	D	5158	916 319 2009	916 319 2109
Mullin, Kevin	22	D	3160	916 319 2022	916 319 2122
Nazarian, Adrin (Chair)	46	D	4146	916 319 2046	916 319 2146
Wilk, Scott	38	R	4158	916 319 2038	916 319 2138

SENATE BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 4 ON STATE ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT REPUBLICAN CAUCUS: Heather White - (Housing & Veterans Affairs) 651-1782, Joe Shinstock - (General Government) 651-1797, Heather White - 651-1782. Phone: (916) 651- 4031. Room 4034. website Print Roll Call					
Member	District	Party	Room	Phone	Fax
Nguyen, Janet	34	R	3048	916 651 4034	916 651 4934
Pan, Richard	6	D	4070	916 651 4006	916 651 4906
Roth, Richard (Chair)	31	D	4034	916 651 4031	916 651 4931

3. **Prepare to Travel Next Week for Budget Hearings.** The Budget Subcommittees are scheduled to start their deliberations on the Governor's Budget starting Monday, May 18th and the RDA proposal could be taken up as early as Monday. We encourage all cities that were impacted by the Governor's January Budget to be prepared to travel to Sacramento next week to testify in opposition to the Governor's Proposal. The League will notify all cities once the hearing has been set through its Regional Public Affairs Managers.

Please don't hesitate to contact us or your Regional Public Affairs Manager with any questions or feedback you might have. Thanks!

Erin Sasse
Regional Public Affairs Manager, Riverside County
League of California Cities
951-321-0771
[Website](#) [Facebook](#)
Strengthening California Cities through Advocacy and Education

Wanda Wise-Latta

From: Erin Sasse <esasse@cacities.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2015 7:05 PM
To: Erin Sasse
Subject: ACTION ALERT: AB 718 (Chu) - Removal of Regulatory Authority: Vehicles - need calls made ASAP
Attachments: Action Alert AB 718 (Chu) Vehicles Used for Human Habitation 05.12.15.docx; Action Alert AB 718 (Chu) Vehicles Used for Human Habitation 05.12.pdf; Background AB 718 (Chu).pdf; Talking Points AB 718 (Chu).pdf; SAMPLE AB 718 opposition ltr 05.12.15.docx
Importance: High

ACTION ALERT!!

AB 718 (Chu). Removal of Regulatory Authority: Vehicles Used for Human Habitation

OPPOSE

Background for AB 718 (Chu):

With over 13 million registered vehicles, automobile use is a major reality in California and that use must be managed. Cities work closely with businesses to ensure adequate parking and traffic flow in shopping and retail districts. Commercial businesses offer parking on private property for their customers and also rely on parking availability on adjacent streets. For residential neighborhoods, the need for available parking is also important; debates often occur, especially in residential neighborhoods, over retaining available parking for visitors and maintaining property values.

This measure, as drafted, **would prohibit local agencies from enforcing laws and ordinances**, or otherwise subject to civil or criminal penalties, the act of people sleeping or resting in a lawfully parked motor vehicle.

This bill seeks to “adopt” an ordinance for your community in Sacramento. The impacts to local community businesses and residents have not been thoughtfully considered.

It is one thing to park an empty car in front of someone’s house; it is quite another for an occupied vehicle to be parked “resting” in front of the house for hours and days. Under AB 718, the bill appears to **prohibit a police officer from asking the person to move or issuing a citation if they don’t**. Presumably, if there were no other parking restrictions, the vehicle and its occupants could remain there until the city adopted an ordinance prohibiting all parking in that area.

While a vehicle may be “lawfully parked” in a residential neighborhood or in the parking lot of a business, that does not mean that it is acceptable to have people live there. The issues raised by AB 718 are less about parking, and more about the use of vehicles for human habitation, including sleeping and “resting” in front of existing homes and businesses.

How can “resting” under AB 718 versus stalking the home or its occupants be determined?

We are concerned about the many challenges of addressing homelessness, and support measures that support additional funding to develop more affordable housing and provide mental health and other services. We do not believe, however, that removing local regulatory authority is an appropriate solution.

ACTION:

AB 718 is scheduled to be heard in Assembly Local Government Committee on May 13 and we anticipate the bill passing through this committee and will go to the Floor. All Assembly Members need to be asked to vote NO on AB 718 (Chu).

- 1) **Call your Assembly Member** and ask them to Vote NO on AB 718 (talking points included below).
- 2) **Send your CITY LETTERS of OPPOSITION** to your Assembly Member as soon as possible. Sample Opposition Letter attached or you may use the League's [Action Center](#) to send a letter.
- 3) **Reach out to local organizations** such as your local Chamber of Commerce, Neighborhood Watch groups, and victims advocacy groups. Explain how this bill could impact your community and ask them to send letters of opposition to legislators.

You can find your Legislator's contact information here: <http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>.

Talking Points:

- This bill seeks to “adopt” an ordinance for your community in Sacramento. The impacts to local community businesses and residents have not been thoughtfully considered.
- This measure should be rejected. Our city works hard to balance all of the needs of our community. It is simply not appropriate for the Legislature to attempt to remove local government authority to appropriately protect the public health, safety and welfare of our residents from issues that arise when people live in cars and trucks parked on public and private property.
- AB 718 does not address the heart of the issue. What is most needed to combat homelessness is funding for affordable housing and emergency shelters. There are several major pending measures that can help restore funds for affordable housing, such as AB 35 (Chiu) and AB 1335 (Atkins).
- By combining the terms “sleeping” and “resting” within a vehicle, to the time that the occupant may be otherwise outside of the vehicle, the bill appears to be designed to allow an individual to live in a vehicle anywhere on either public or private property where it is not otherwise forbidden to park a vehicle.
- It is one thing to park an empty car in front of someone's house; it is quite another for an occupied vehicle to be parked “resting” in front of the house for hours and days. The property owner will want to know: Who is this person? What is their intention? How can you tell if they are “resting” under AB 718 versus stalking the home or its occupants?
- Under AB 718, the bill appears to prohibit a police officer from asking the person to move or issuing a citation if they don't. If there are no other parking restrictions, the vehicle and its occupants could remain there until the city adopted an ordinance prohibiting all parking in that area.
- Our local businesses would face similar concerns. One or more vehicles could park in front of a business removing potential parking spots for customers, and depending on the conduct of the occupants, potentially intimidate the public from visiting the location.
- What about public health and sanitation? How is human waste to be addressed? What does the term “resting” apply and not apply to?



Established in 1918 as a public agency
Coachella Valley Water District

Directors:

John P. Powell, Jr., President - Div. 3
Peter Nelson, Vice President - Div. 4
G. Patrick O'Dowd - Div. 1
Ed Pack - Div. 2
Cástulo R. Estrada - Div. 5

Officers:

Jim Barrett, General Manager
Julia Fernandez, Board Secretary

Best Best & Krieger LLP, Attorneys

March 26, 2015

Frank Spevacek, City Manager
City of La Quinta
78-495 Calle Tampico
La Quinta, CA 92253

Dear Mr. Spevacek:

Subject: Update: Chromium-6 Legislation and Tour

Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) is committed to meeting all drinking water quality regulations and communicating openly and transparently with our customers and community partners. We have an important update on chromium-6 to share with you.

Senator Ben Hueso (San Diego) introduced SB 385 – allowing districts to avoid violating the new chromium-6 standard as they work to comply, without changing the standard or delaying compliance. CVWD humbly requests city staff and leadership to help get SB 385 passed by sending a letter of support. For your convenience, I've attached a template letter.

CVWD has been working to find the best compliance option for the communities we serve. The chromium-6 Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 10 parts per billion (ppb) was released by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) in April 2014 and became effective less than three months later on July 1.

We understand that the new regulation will likely have an impact on the City of La Quinta and your residents. Having a compliance period, afforded by SB 385, will allow CVWD to keep compliance costs as low as possible.

CVWD values its relationship with the City of La Quinta and will continue to keep stakeholders updated on water quality issues. We're holding a **Chromium-6 tour** for key stakeholders on **Friday, April 24, 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon** (check-in at 8:45 a.m. at CVWD's Palm Desert office, Steve Robbins Administration Building). You and your colleagues are invited to join us. We will be visiting existing treatment sites and some of the areas where new facilities may be built. If you intend to come, please RSVP to Barbara Thompson at (760) 398-2651, extension 3527, by Wednesday, April 15.

Sincerely,

J.M. Barrett
General Manager

Attachment/1/as

cc: Desert Water Agency, Indio Water Authority, Coachella Water Authority, Mission Springs Water District, Riverside County, Imperial County

HE:il/Com&Cons/2015/3-26-15 Ltr - Update-Cr6 Legislation & Tour
File: 0566 02 Chromium / 0932

Wanda Wise-Latta

From: Mcgarrey, Deborah <DMcgarrey@semprautilities.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 2:46 PM
To: Wanda Wise-Latta
Subject: Support for AB 857
Attachments: AB 857-Economy Informational Flyer.pdf; Incentives Fact Sheet HTP.DOCX; Actual AB 857 bill as of 2015-03-16.docx; AB 857- Health Informational Flyer.pdf; Local Government Sample Support Letter AB 857_3_13_15.docx

Wanda,

Again it was good to speak with you yesterday.

As we quickly discussed, I have attached some information regarding AB 857 that we are looking to get support for by early April 2015. I felt the city might be interested in this bill based on the fact that they have a natural gas fueling station at their city yard.

Here is some information:

AB 857 was introduced February 26 by Assemblyman Pere and would provide incentives to put more clean trucks on the road. Goods movement is vital to the state's economy, but the transportation sector is the largest polluter in Southern California. The bill would provide a cost-effective solution to achieving much-needed pollution reductions in the near-term to clean the air and improve public health. At the same time, it would support the transition to low carbon transportation technologies to address climate change and public health over the long-term. Incentives would be funded by existing cap and trade auction revenues.

We are doing this now because the Legislature is deciding now how to allocate cap and trade funds over the coming years and we want to make sure the funds are there when they're needed. We also want to send signals that will stimulate the clean truck market. We support efforts to reduce emissions that can harm the environment and health of our employees and the communities we serve. AB 857 recognizes that alternative fuel vehicles, such as those powered by natural gas, provide an opportunity to accelerate reduction of harmful pollution and to meet state and federal emissions reductions goals in the near-term. It is important to mention SB 1204 was adopted in 2014 and is funded by cap-and-trade monies. But the deployment provision that provides incentive dollars for heavy-duty clean transportation sunsets in 2017. AB 857 is needed because it extends the program for an additional five years (2018-2023).

Just some facts:

- Goods movement is vital to California's economy. (*Note: The Coachella Valley experiences this on a regular basis along I-10*)
 - o Over 78 percent of all California communities depend exclusively on trucks to move their goods.*
 - o In 2011, transportation and material moving occupations (largely the trucking industry) in California provided nearly 900,000 jobs, or about one in 15 statewide.*
 - o And in 2012, California truck transport generated \$12.7 billion in revenue (overall 2012 California transportation sector contribution was roughly \$172 billion).

***Source Caltrans**

- o Currently, Southern California has the worst air quality in the nation.
- o And the transportation sector is the largest air polluter.
 - It accounts for 80% of the region's smog-forming emissions (NOx) and 40% of the region's greenhouse gas emissions.

Please feel free to email me any questions you may have regarding this proposed legislation. Thank you for your consideration.



A  Sempra Energy utility

Deborah McGarrey
Public Affairs Manager
Southern California Gas Company
760-578-5985- cell
909-335-7615- office

Wanda Wise-Latta

From: Frank Spevacek
Sent: Monday, November 10, 2014 9:39 AM
To: Chris Escobedo (Cescobedo@la-quinta.org)
Subject: FW: Salton Sea Initiative
Attachments: SSRREI Formal Endorsements.docx; SSRREI Support Letter Template.docx; Sample Resolution - SS Initiative .docx

Good Morning:

The City has been requested to endorse this measure. Would like to have your shop review and advise.

From: Swarthout, Patrick E [<mailto:peswarthout@IID.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 05, 2014 10:18 AM
To: Frank Spevacek
Subject: Salton Sea Initiative

Good morning Frank, as you know the Sea faces a crisis. In recent years, it has developed increasing salinity and other water quality problems that have made it inhospitable to wildlife, recreation and other human uses. It also has begun to recede, impacting air quality for local communities and crops as thousands of acres of contaminated lakebed becomes exposed allowing silt and fine particles to become airborne. Together, these water and air quality issues present imminent public health and environmental risks that must be addressed. We need the Cities help by joining the Salton Sea Restoration and Renewable Energy Initiative SSRREI. I attached formal endorsement list, letter of support and a sample resolution. I also attached a link to the SSRREI website. Please let me know if you have any questions.

www.renewablesforsaltonsea.com

Thank you.

Patrick Swarthout
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