

**Meeting Date:** 3/3/2015

**Report Type:** Staff/Discussion

**Report ID:** 2015-00187

**Title:** Proposed State Legislative Platform for 2015-2016

**Location:** Citywide

**Recommendation:** Pass a Motion approving the proposed 2015-2016 State Legislative Platform as recommended by the Law and Legislation Committee.

**Contact:** Randi L. Knott, Director of Government Affairs, (916) 808-5771, Office of the City Manager

**Presenter:** Randi L. Knott, Director of Government Affairs, (916) 808-5771, Office of the City Manager

**Department:** City Manager

**Division:** Executive Office

**Dept ID:** 02001011

**Attachments:**

1-Description/Analysis

2-2014-2015 State Legislative Platform DRAFT

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**City Attorney Review**

Approved as to Form

Joe Robinson

2/18/2015 5:11:46 PM

**Approvals/Acknowledgements**

Department Director or Designee: Howard Chan - 2/18/2015 8:57:15 AM

## Description/Analysis

**Issue Detail:** At the start of each legislative session, the Law and Legislation Committee reviews and sends to City Council for approval a legislative platform to guide the advocacy efforts of both in-house and contract lobbying efforts. The platform is divided into two sections. The first is the Guiding Policy Principles which are considered to be of the utmost importance to the Mayor and City Council, the General Plan and the Strategic Plan for the City of Sacramento. The second section is the Legislative Priorities section which articulates the primary areas for advocacy for the legislative session. The platform is designed to be flexible to ensure that staff can respond quickly to changes in policy, rulemaking, or legislation. Unforeseen issues that arise during the session that do not fit in any of the areas addressed by the platform will be brought forward to the Committee to review and provide policy direction as needed.

**Policy Considerations:** The City Council approved the legislative platform for the 2013-2014 legislative session in December of 2012. The platform has been updated and modified as appropriate.

**Economic Impacts:** The potential economic impact of a policy or bill will be analyzed on a case by case basis.

**Environmental Considerations:** N/A

**Sustainability:** N/A

**Commission/Committee Action:** On February 10, 2015, the Law and Legislation Committee reviewed the State Legislative Platform and forwarded it to the Mayor and City Council with a recommendation for approval.

**Rationale for Recommendation:** The California State Legislature entertains hundreds of bills each legislative session. The fate of these bills varies widely and they are often amended throughout the process. In order to ensure that the City's interests are protected and that our policy direction is consistent, staff recommends that the City Council approve the 2015-2016 State Legislative Platform.

**Financial Considerations:** N/A

**Local Business Enterprise (LBE):** N/A

*City of*  
**SACRAMENTO**

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**LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM**

**2014-2015**

**MAYOR Kevin Johnson**

**CITY COUNCIL**

<b>Angelique Ashby</b>	<b>District 1</b>
<b>Allen Warren</b>	<b>District 2</b>
<b>Jeff Harris</b>	<b>District 3</b>
<b>Steve Hansen</b>	<b>District 4</b>
<b>Jay Schenirer</b>	<b>District 5</b>
<b>Vacant</b>	<b>District 6</b>
<b>Rick Jennings</b>	<b>District 7</b>
<b>Larry Carr</b>	<b>District 8</b>

**City Legislative Affairs Staff**

**Randi L. Knott, Director of Government Affairs**

**(916) 808-5771**

## **LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM 2014-15**

**Guiding Policy Principles:** The following policy areas are deemed to be of the utmost importance to the policies of the Mayor and City Council, the General Plan and Strategic Plan of the City of Sacramento.

- **Preservation of Local Funding:**
  - *The City supports the protection of existing state and local funding sources and the authorities that provide revenues to the City of Sacramento.*
    - Such areas include the protection of state-shared revenues, assets of the former redevelopment agency, and the ability for the use of the public right-of-way or city-owned facilities.
    - The City opposes changes in state law that would limit the ability of cities to preserve and enhance their local revenue base.
    - The City supports opportunities to expand local funding through public-private partnerships and other programs as appropriate.
    - The City supports efforts to collect revenue owed by non-traditional vendors in the areas of transient occupancy taxes and user utility taxes to ensure a level of funding that supports the growing needs of our population.
  
- **Preservation of Local Authority:**
  - *The City supports preservation and expansion of local decision-making authority including the City's legal autonomy and opposes preemption of local control, diminishment of the City's ability to provide essential services, reduction of revenue sources that are required to maintain services, or mandated additional costs without appropriate reimbursement.*
  
- **Supporting a Healthy, Sustainable and Green Community:**
  - *The City supports continuing efforts through legislation and funding opportunities to provide services and support efforts for a strong, healthy and green community.*
    - Such areas include supporting and promoting sustainable planning and development; programs that facilitate smart growth and aide in the recruitment and retention of green businesses and programs that encourage 'farm to fork' healthy lifestyles for both residents and visitors.

- **Support Housing Opportunities for Every Level of Income and Commitment to Ending Homelessness:**
  - *The City supports increasing the supply of affordable housing; supporting programs and funding to eliminate homelessness.*
  
- **Supporting a Safe and Prepared Community:**
  - *The City supports legislative and funding opportunities to improve the safety, security and the quality of life for Sacramento residents.*
    - This includes funding to supplement local law enforcement staffing and public safety equipment upgrades, training and capital improvements;
    - The City supports legislation and funding to assist in reducing and preventing gun violence, crimes, drug use, gang violence and pedestrian and bike safety;
    - The City supports legislation and funding to improve local law enforcement, fire suppression and prevention, hazardous materials mitigation, rescue emergency medical services, and disaster and emergency preparedness; and, funding to promote crime prevention, public outreach and intervention programs.
    - The City further supports legislation and funding for increased accessibility for mental health services and parity between physical and mental health services.

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## **2014-15 Top State Legislative Priorities**

**Transportation:** *The City supports legislation and other viable opportunities to fund the improvements to and revitalization of the transportation programs and projects within the City, the region and the state.*

- The City further recognizes the need to repair and maintain critical infrastructure, including roads and bridges, for motorists, cyclists, pedestrians and rapid transit and supports creative financing to make up for losses in gas taxes due to increased use in electric and hybrid vehicles and lower gas prices.
- The City supports the State's High Speed Rail Project to the extent that it is developed from the initial phasing on through full development to integrate with and improve upon the Capitol Corridor, San Joaquin and other intercity state rail systems and connects to Sacramento, the San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles, San Diego and other major markets in California.
- The City supports efforts to improve rail safety for passengers and the prevention of accidents and derailments particularly related to hazardous materials

**Water Policy and the Delta:** *The City supports development of a comprehensive management plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta that balances the needs of water supply, the ecosystem, and the residents of the City, Delta community and Northern California.*

- The City supports legislation and regulatory initiatives and processes to protect the City's water rights and prevents burdens from being shifted to our region to resolve issues in other regions throughout the State.
- The City also supports water conservation and legislation that maintains flexibility for the City to determine the best means of achieving conservation mandates.
- The City supports legislation that maintains flexibility to determine the best means for providing water services to its residents and allow local control over reclaimed water and other conservation activities.
- The City supports measures to increase statewide and regional water supply reliability including both above and below ground storage.

**Environmental Policy:** *The City supports modernization of the California Environmental Quality Act to ensure that it takes other subsequent environmental legislation and regulations into account and prevents abuse of the law for non-environmental causes.*

- The City further supports legislative and regulatory efforts to continue the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and pollution reduction including the establishment of stewardship programs that provide incentives and/or requires product manufacturers to redesign products to make them less toxic, less wasteful and easier to recycle and shifts the end of life cost for collection and recycling/disposal from local government to producers, retailers and other sources.
- The City also supports legislation, regulation and funding opportunities for the implementation of AB32, SB375 and other programs that build upon the sustainability principles contained in the SACOG Blueprint, Sacramento General Plan, Sustainability Plan and Climate Action Plan.

**Flood Control:** *Improvements are needed to the levee systems throughout the region and in particular around the Natomas Basin to achieve an initial 100 year flood protection certification with the ultimate goal of 200 year protection. Improvements are also needed for levee systems protecting areas of northern and southern Sacramento including Downtown and the Pocket areas. The City supports legislation that provides authorization and funding to achieve these flood protection goals.*

- The City also supports clarification of previous legislation related to building infill building in areas subject to flooding that takes in to account competing and conflicting regulations.
- The City is committed to partnering with the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency and its legislative and regulatory goals to ensure flood protection throughout the region, including timely completion of the Joint Federal Project at Folsom Dam.

**Economic Development:** *Since the dissolution of Redevelopment and Enterprise Zones, the City has few options to support economic development or to provide incentives for employers to locate in Sacramento. The City supports legislation that will provide opportunities to incentivize private investments, job creation and housing opportunities for our community.*