



# REPORT TO LAW & LEGISLATION COMMITTEE City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2671

STAFF REPORT  
**November 9, 2006**

Honorable Members of the  
Law and Legislation Committee

**Title: Approve the 2007 State and Federal Legislative Platform and Reaffirm the  
Legislative Guiding Principles**

**Location/Council District:** Citywide

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Law and Legislation Committee approve the proposed 2007 State and Federal Legislative Platform (Attachment 1&2) and the legislative guiding principles and forward to full City Council for adoption.

**Contact:** Yvette Rincon, Legislative Analyst, (916) 808-5827

**Presenters:** Yvette Rincon, Legislative Analyst

**Department:** City Manager's Office

**Division:** Governmental Affairs

**Organization No:** 0310

## **Description/Analysis**

**Issue:** This report provides information on the proposed 2007 State and Federal Legislative Platform, which identifies state and federal legislative priorities for the City of Sacramento and recommends that the Law and Legislation Committee approve the proposed platform and forward it to the full City Council for adoption. Staff is also asking the Committee to reaffirm the legislative guiding principles.

It is critical that the platform be viewed as a long term, multi-year effort and that the City is consistent in pursuing its priorities. To that end, the priorities included in the proposed 2007 document have not changed significantly over last year.

**Policy Considerations:** The proposed 2007 State and Federal Legislative Platform is a focused, comprehensive State and Federal agenda outlining the City's priorities for the coming year. The platform includes the projects and issues that have the potential for state and federal participation and provides the City's state and federal legislative representatives with a clear understanding of our priorities.

The projects identified as “Top Priorities” includes those of the greatest significance to the City. Staff is recommending that the City’s “Top Priorities” for 2007 continue to be flood control and the Sacramento Intermodal Transportation Facility. In addition, telecommunications continues to be a top priority at the federal level.

Other “Priorities” for legislative advocacy in the coming year are organized under the broad categories of: Transportation; Parks, Recreation, Trails & Open Space; Economic & Community Development; Public Safety; Environmental/Sustainability, and Historic Preservation. Staff is recommending the addition of Historic Preservation of Railroad Central Shop Structures. This item addresses the need for funding to rehabilitate and reconstruct the historic central shop structures in the railyards. Also, staff is recommending adding Funding for Parks Master Plan Items. There is a need for grant funds for these items.

As part of the 2005 State and Federal Legislative Platform, the City adopted the following legislative guiding principles:

- Advocate and secure passage of federal and state measures which will enhance the City’s capacity to govern and provide essential community services;
- Support measures which will broaden or protect the City’s legal authority in land use planning, taxation and public employee policies;
- Oppose measures which would decrease the City’s legal authority to provide essential services, reduce revenue sources required to maintain services or mandate additional costs without providing reimbursement;
- Seek funding to support City projects and programs.

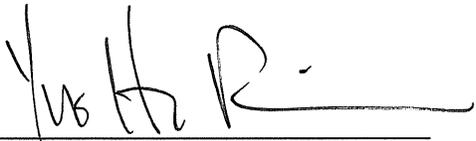
Staff is requesting the Committee reaffirm these principles. The principles guide staff and our lobbyists in advocating for or against the bills that are introduced at the state and federal level.

**Environmental Considerations:** None.

**Rationale for Recommendation:** The 2007 State and Federal Legislative Platform sets out clear and focused priorities for the City and its state and federal representatives.

**Financial Considerations:** None.

**Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):** None.

Respectfully Submitted by:   
Yvette Rincon, Legislative Analyst

Approved by:   
Patti Bisharat  
Director of Governmental Affairs

Recommendation Approved:

  
for   
GUSTAVO F. VINA  
Assistant City Manager

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**Draft 2007 State Legislative Platform - Priority Summary**

| Subject                    | Issue   | Summary   | Action  |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| <b>Top Priority Issues</b> |   |   |   |
| <b>Flood Control</b>       | Folsom Dam Modifications  | Project to maintain the dam and reservoir and to upgrade flood control.   | Support funding to complete the projects.   |
|                            | Folsom Dam Mini-Rise  | Project to increase the height of the dam thus increasing flood control.  | Support funding to complete the project.  |
|                            | South Sacramento County Streams Group   | Project has been developed to help ease stream flooding near business and residential neighborhoods in southeastern Sacramento.   | Support funding to complete the project.  |
|                            | American River Common Features Project  | Common Features Project to provide for necessary American River watershed flood protection.   | Support funding to complete the project.  |
|                            | Sacramento River Bank Protection Project—Erosion Control                      | Long range program to provide bank protection and to solve and prevent levee erosion.   | Support continued authorization and funding for project.                              |
| <b>Transportation</b>      | Sacramento Intermodal Station (Sacramento Intermodal Transportation Facility) | Project is a combination of both new and renovated facilities at the intersection of 5 <sup>th</sup> and I Street which will serve a wide range of transportation modes. The conceptual design is completed. Work continues on the environmental review, funding strategy, governance and phasing of the project. | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and need. |

| Subject   | Issue   | Summary   | Action  |
|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Priority Issues</b>                            |   |   |   |
| <b>Transportation</b>                             | Tower Bridge  | Project is a partnership between Sacramento and West Sacramento to widen walkways to accommodate high-level pedestrian activity. Construction scheduled to begin in December of 2006 and will be completed in December 2007.  | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and need.   |
|   | 65 <sup>th</sup> Street Transit Village                     | Neighborhood/university mixed-use district intended to provide a variety of housing types, retail and employment uses to increase transit use and to reduce vehicle trips. The plan envisions 65 <sup>th</sup> Street as a pedestrian scale Main Street that connects the California State University, Sacramento with the existing light rail station. | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and need.   |
| <b>Parks, Recreation, Trails &amp; Open Space</b> | California State Capital Riverfront (Sacramento Riverfront) | The California State Capital Riverfront is an ambitious plan to protect and enhance natural habitat and recreational uses of the Sacramento and lower American Rivers and guide development. The plan is a partnership with West Sacramento, Sacramento and Yolo counties, and SAFCA.   | Seek legislation to implement the recommendations of the Sacramento Riverfront Regional Feasibility Project, including State involvement in a joint powers authority or River Conservancy. Seek funding from Proposition 50 to support Riverfront Plan projects. Support funding for river parkways and regional parks in any related bond acts or initiatives. |

| Subject   | Issue  | Summary  | Action   |
|---|--|--|--|
| <b>Parks, Recreation,<br/>Trails &amp; Open Space</b> | American River Parkway                         | Work with the County of Sacramento and the State to secure a predictable funding source for acquisition, restoration, and maintenance of the Parkway.  | Support legislative actions to determine the most appropriate governance and financing mechanisms. Seek stable funding sources for the acquisition, restoration, and maintenance.  |
|   | California Indian Heritage Center              | The California Indian Heritage Center Task Force selected a site at Northgate at the American River and Highway 160.   | Advocate for the Center to be located on the selected site. Assist in acquiring properties at the selected site. Create the necessary agreements among the stakeholders for development and management of the Center. Assist in securing funding for Center development. |
|   | Universal Preschool                            | The number of Sacramento County children enrolled in preschool lags behind the state and the national average. A Rand Study estimates that for every \$1.00 invested in Universal Preschool, \$2.62 will be generated in future returns for the State. | Support efforts to expand quality preschool programs from a variety of providers for all children. Advocate for free play and recreation to be included as a curriculum component in quality preschool programs.   |
|   | Care for Levees throughout the Sacramento Area | Establish joint use of flood control systems for linear recreational/ pedestrian transportation systems and trails on waterways.   | Advocate for appropriate care of the levee along the Sacramento Riverfront to support linear recreation/ pedestrian transportation systems and trails. Support legislative actions to provide setbacks to strengthen the levee along the American River.                 |

| Subject   | Issue                           | Summary  | Action   |
|---|---------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Parks, Recreation,<br/>Trails &amp; Open Space</b> | McClellan Boat Docks            | The 75-year old docks on the Sacramento River levee are in need of significant repair to protect historic structures and improve public accessibility.   | Seek funding to repair and renovate the site on the levee.   |
|   | Vision for a Healthy California | The State Administration convened an action summit on health, nutrition, and obesity to lead California's effort to combat obesity. The goal is to make California the nation's model for health, nutrition, and fitness.            | Support funding for expansion of health care for children, wellness programs, specialized recreation/park amenities for senior citizens and the physically challenged. |
|   | Funding for Master Plan Items   | As part of the Park Master Plan several items were identified as deficiencies, and in need of funding for development. Some examples include; a regional trail/bikeway plan, more parks in older neighborhoods, and a regional park. | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and need.  |

| Subject                                     | Issue  | Summary   | Action  |
|---|--|---|---|
| <b>Economic &amp; Community Development</b> | Bridging Interstate 5 (Interstate 5 Riverfront Reconnection) | Examining the feasibility of bridging the below-grade I-5 with a deck and/or pedestrian bridges to generate economic development and recapture the riverfront. Work continues on Project Study Report (PSR) and will be completed in early 2008. Environmental phase will be completed in 2010. | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and need.   |
|   | Affordable Housing   | The need for affordable housing is high, affecting working and disabled families and individuals, and the community as a whole.   | Support legislation that increases funding to expand and preserve affordable housing, including rental and homeownership opportunities.   |
|   | Redevelopment  | Redevelopment authorities are an essential local tool for revitalizing of Sacramento neighborhoods. State revitalization funding is also important.   | Support legislation that retains redevelopment authorities and flexibility, including eminent domain. Support legislation that provides funding for community revitalization efforts. |
|   | Small Neighborhood Commercial Centers                        | Support funding for revitalization of small neighborhood commercial centers that are not in redevelopment areas.  | Support funding for projects.   |
|   | Eliminating Homelessness                                     | Sacramento has adopted its Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness, with housing first as its centerpiece strategy.   | Support programs and funding to eliminate homelessness, including funding for supportive services in permanent housing.   |
| <b>Public Safety</b>                        | Homeland Security  | Continue to seek funding to refine and enhance the City's response plan and strategies for prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.  | Seek funding for homeland security.   |

| Subject                                  | Issue   | Summary  | Action   |
|--|---|--|--|
| <b>Environmental/<br/>Sustainability</b> | Water Meters  | Per A.B. 2572, the City is required to install water meters on all properties by January 1, 2025 at an estimated cost of \$300 million.  | Support funding to complete the project.   |
|  | Permanent Sacramento Member on California Air Resources Board     | The Sacramento region is the only "severe" or worse federal ozone non-attainment area that currently has no representative on the CARB.  | Advocate for legislation to establish to create a permanent appointment to the CARB to represent the Sacramento region.  |
|  | Sustainability  | The City supports programs and projects that address air quality improvement, energy efficiency, water efficiency, renewable energy, fuel efficiency, energy adequacy and security.  | Support funding for projects that address these issues.  |
|  | Water Conservation  | Water conservation is essential to guaranteeing a water supply for generations to come. The City of Sacramento is committed to conservation through participation in the Water Forum, water conservation staff, and education of the public regarding water conservation issues. | Support legislation that maintains flexibility for the City to determine the best means for providing water services to its residents and allows local control over water rates.     |
|  | Reclaimed Water   | Reclaimed water involves the use of treated wastewater for landscaping and irrigation purposes and is a great alternative for areas with limited water supply.   | Support legislation that maintains flexibility for the City to determine the best means for providing water services to its residents and allows local control over reclaimed water. |
| <b>Historic Preservation</b>             | Historic Railroad Central Shops Rehabilitation and Reconstruction | Rehabilitation and reconstruction of the historic railroad structures including seismic retrofitting, stabilization and other rehabilitation.  | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and need.  |

**Draft 2007 Federal Legislative Platform - Priority Summary**

| Subject                    | Issue  | Summary  | Action  |
|----------------------------|--|--|---|
| <b>Top Priority Issues</b> |  |  |   |
| <b>Flood Control</b>       | Folsom Dam Modifications   | Project to maintain the dam and reservoir and to upgrade flood control.  | Support funding to complete the projects.   |
|                            | Folsom Dam Mini-Rise   | Project to increase the height of the dam thus increasing flood control.   | Support funding to complete the project.  |
|                            | South Sacramento County Streams Group  | Project has been developed to help ease stream flooding near business and residential neighborhoods in southeastern Sacramento.  | Support funding to complete project.  |
|                            | Magpie Creek   | Improvements to the creek levee and acquisition of floodplains land to reduce flooding .   | Support legislation for the allocation cost sharing and to credit locals for prior costs. |
|                            | American River Common Features Project   | Common Features Project to provide for necessary American River watershed flood protection.  | Pursue funding to complete project.   |
|                            | Sacramento River Bank Protection Project—Erosion Control                             | Long range program to provide bank protection and to solve and prevent levee erosion.  | Support continued authorization and funding for project.                                  |
|                            | Combined Sewer System Improvement Project  | Project will help to reduce the chance of overflow in the combined sewer system areas due to increased capacity and infrastructure improvement.  | Support Federal funding to assist in completion of the project.                           |
| <b>Transportation</b>      | Sacramento Intermodal Station (SITF - Sacramento Intermodal Transportation Facility) | Project is a combination of both new and renovated facilities at the intersection of 5 <sup>th</sup> and I Street which will serve a wide range of transportation modes. The conceptual design is completed. Work continuous on environmental review, funding strategy, governance and phasing of the project. | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and needs.    |
| <b>Telecommunications</b>  | Sacramento Utility User Tax (UUT) and Franchising                                    | Currently there is legislation that threatens franchising and UUT revenue.   | Support legislation that protects franchising and UUT revenue.                            |

| Subject                | Issue   | Summary   | Action   |
|------------------------|---|---|--|
| <b>Priority Issues</b> |   |   |  |
| <b>Transportation</b>  | Tower Bridge                                  | Sacramento to widen walkways to accommodate high-level pedestrian activity. Construction scheduled to begin in December of 2006 and will be completed in December 2007.   | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and needs. |
|                        | North Central Business District               | Improvements include several related projects that will serve the area of Richards Boulevard north of the Sacramento Railyards, the Railyards development area (including the Sacramento Intermodal Station), and adjacent neighborhoods north of downtown. The Feasibility Study has been completed. The Project Study Report for the Richards/I-5 Interchange will start in the near future.  | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and needs. |
|                        | R Street Transit Oriented Development Project | Joint effort to transform a former inner-city industrial (rail) corridor to a mixed-use redevelopment area focused upon light rail stations. Environmental and Design of the 1 <sup>st</sup> phase of the project will be completed by spring of 2007. Construction of the first block will begin in summer of 2007. The 2 <sup>nd</sup> phase of this project is the R Street Market Plaza, and includes a Plaza with pedestrian and road improvements, estimated cost is \$ 4 million. The City has secured a SACOG Community Design grant to begin the Environmental and Design work of this phase of the project. | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and needs. |

| <b>Subject</b>                                    | <b>Issue</b>  | <b>Summary</b>   | <b>Action</b>  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Transportation</b>                             | Folsom Boulevard Development Project                        | Improvements estimated to cost \$70 million to relieve congestion at the intersection of Folsom Boulevard and Power Inn Road and to provide additional north-south and east-west capacity in the area. Currently, the City is conducting a circulation study which is necessary to finalize the planning process. Upon completion of this study, staff will proceed with Environmental and Design phases of the project. The project is funded through preliminary design and environmental. | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and needs.   |
|   | Cosumnes River Boulevard Extension and Interchange at I-5   | Extend Cosumnes River Blvd. as a four-lane roadway from Franklin Blvd. to 24 <sup>th</sup> St., as a six-lane roadway from 24 <sup>th</sup> St. to I-5 interchange, and as a four-lane from the I-5 Interchange to Freeport Blvd. The City released the project's draft EIR/EIS and expects final approval in March of 2007. Design will be completed in summer of 2008. Construction is scheduled to begin in summer of 2008 and completed in early 2011.                                   | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and needs.   |
| <b>Parks, Recreation, Trails &amp; Open Space</b> | California State Capital Riverfront (Sacramento Riverfront) | The California State Capital Riverfront is an ambitious plan to protect and enhance natural habitat and recreational uses of the Sacramento and lower American Rivers and guide development. The plan is a partnership with West Sacramento, Sacramento and Yolo counties, and SAFCA.  | Secure funding for the Riverfront Plan projects. Seek legislation necessary to implement the recommendations of the Sacramento Riverfront Regional Entity Feasibility Project. |

| Subject   | Issue   | Summary  | Action  |
|---|---|--|---|
| <b>Parks, Recreation, Trails &amp; Open Space</b> | American River Parkway  | A secure and predictable funding source is needed for maintenance and operations of the American River Parkway.  | Work with the State and the County of Sacramento to secure funding for the operations and maintenance of the American River Parkway.  |
|   | California Indian Heritage Center   | The California Indian Heritage Center Committee selected a site at Northgate at the American River and Highway 160.  | Advocate for the Center to be located on the selected site, including acquisition, development, and management of Center.   |
|   | McClellan Boat Docks  | The 75-year old docks on the Sacramento River levee need repair to protect historic structures and improve public accessibility.   | Secure funding to repair and renovate the site on the levee.  |
|   | Land and Water Conservation Fund and Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program. | LWCF matches funds to assist parks and recreation infrastructure development and the creation of public parks. UPARR matches local funds to rehabilitate urban recreation facilities in economically distressed neighborhoods.               | Support legislation for the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program to retain the current state appropriation formula, and the urban forest component of 2007 Farm Bill. |
|   | Full Service Community Schools  | Full Service Community Schools strengthen communities by seamlessly integrating academic, developmental, multi-generational recreation, and health service programming to families to ensure cost-effective use of facilities and resources. | Support grant funding to expand Community - School Partnerships.  |

| <b>Subject</b>                              | <b>Issue</b>   | <b>Summary</b>  | <b>Action</b>   |
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| <b>Economic &amp; Community Development</b> | Bridging Interstate 5 (Interstate 5 Riverfront Reconnection) | Examining the feasibility of bridging the below-grade I-5 with a deck and/or pedestrian bridges to generate economic development and recapture the riverfront. Work continues on Project Study Report (PSR) and will be completed in early 2008. Environmental phase will be completed by 2010. | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and needs.  |
|   | Affordable Housing   | The need for affordable housing is high, affecting working and disabled families and individuals, and the community as a whole.   | Support legislation that increases funding to expand and preserve affordable housing, including rental and homeownership opportunities. Oppose reductions and support increases in appropriations for HOME. |
|   | Redevelopment  | Redevelopment authorities and federal community development funds are essential tools for revitalizing Sacramento neighborhoods.  | Support legislation that retains redevelopment authorities and flexibilities, including eminent domain. Oppose reductions and support increases in appropriations for CDBG.                                 |
|   | Small Neighborhood Commercial Centers                        | Support funding for revitalization of small neighborhood commercial centers that are not in redevelopment areas.  | Support funding for projects.   |
|   | Eliminating Homelessness                                     | Sacramento has adopted its Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness, with housing first as its centerpiece strategy.   | Support programs and funding to eliminate homelessness, including funding for supportive services in permanent housing.   |

| <b>Subject</b>                              | <b>Issue</b>       | <b>Summary</b>   | <b>Action</b>  |
|---|--------------------|--|--|
| <b>Economic &amp; Community Development</b> | Public Housing     | Steady reductions in HUD subsidies have impacted public housing operations.  | Oppose further reductions and seek to restore funding for public housing.  |
| <b>Public Safety</b>                        | Homeland Security  | Continue to seek funding to refine and enhance the City's response plan and strategies for prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.   | Seek funding for homeland security.  |
|   | Project HomeSTAR   | Development of a public training safety college within the Sacramento region to provide curriculum and tactical training to "first responders" which would serve the Western United States and the Pacific Rim   | Support funding for facility development.  |
| <b>Environmental/ Sustainability</b>        | Water Meters       | Per A.B. 2572, the City is required to install water meters on all properties by January 1, 2025 at an estimated cost of \$300 million.  | Support funding to complete the project.   |
|   | Sustainability     | The City supports programs and projects that address air quality improvement, energy efficiency, water efficiency, renewable energy, fuel efficiency, energy adequacy and security.  | Support funding for projects that address these issues.  |
|   | Water Conservation | Water conservation is essential to guaranteeing a water supply for generations to come. The City of Sacramento is committed to conservation through participation in the Water Forum, water conservation staff, and education of the public regarding water conservation issues. | Support legislation that maintains flexibility for the City to determine the best means for providing water services to its residents and allows local control over water rates. |

| <b>Subject</b>                           | <b>Issue</b>  | <b>Summary</b>   | <b>Action</b>  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <b>Environmental/<br/>Sustainability</b> | Reclaimed Water   | Reclaimed water involves the use of treated wastewater for landscaping and irrigation purposes and is a great alternative for areas with limited water supply.   | Support legislation that maintains flexibility for the City to determine the best means for providing water services to its residents and allows local control over reclaimed water. |
|  | Sacramento River Reliability Study                                | The feasibility study will help in developing a plan to implement the Water Forum Agreement objectives which includes pursuing a Sacramento River diversion to meet the water supply needs of the Placer-Sacramento region and to preserve the Lower American River. | Support continued federal funding of this study.   |
| <b>Historic Preservation</b>             | Historic Railroad Central Shops Rehabilitation and Reconstruction | Rehabilitation and reconstruction of the historic railroad structures including seismic retrofitting, stabilization and other rehabilitation.  | Monitoring funding opportunities and pursuing funds based on project status and need.  |