



Meeting Date: 10 /16/ 07

ACTION	TYPE OF ITEM
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved Recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/> Info/Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Ord. No(s). _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Res. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing (Info/consent)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Prepared By: Martin R. Erickson Agenda Item No. 0-1
 Reviewed By: City Manager [Signature] City Attorney [Signature] Finance SW Other _____

DATE: October 4, 2007

TO: City Council

FROM: Martin R. Erickson
 Legislative Affairs Manager [Signature]
 City Manager's Office

SUBJECT: Legislative Program for FY 2007/08

RECOMMENDATION

1. That City Council adopt a comprehensive Legislative Program for FY 2007/2008 and authorize the City Manager to prepare letters in support of or in opposition to, as appropriate, legislative matters outlined in the Legislative Program with such letters to be signed by the Mayor, or the Mayor Pro Tem in his absence.

DISCUSSION

City Council policy is that any letter in support of or opposition to any proposed legislative action by a federal or state body requires approval by the City Council, requiring the requisite advance notice for staff to prepare an agenda item for a scheduled meeting of the City Council. Oftentimes, however, a letter of support or opposition may be requested with short notice with the matter being of importance to Oxnard.

The draft Legislative Program for FY 2007/2008 submitted for City Council's consideration was developed to enable the City to respond to pending state and federal legislation in a proactive manner. The program is comprehensive, covering items from the Groundwater Recovery Enhancement and Treatment (GREAT) Program, to support for law enforcement activities. The foundation for the City's legislative priorities is based on the mission statement adopted by the City Council in January of 2005:

"The City of Oxnard will have clean, safe, prosperous and attractive neighborhoods with open, transparent government."

Staff recommends that the Mayor (or Mayor Pro Tem in the Mayor's absence) would be authorized to sign correspondence expressing the City Council's position on legislation consistent with this Legislative Program and/or other positions approved by the City Council. By adopting a Legislative Program, City Council will enable the City Manager to respond more expeditiously to the legislative matters contained in the Legislative Program. A relevant example of the need for the Legislative Program is that during the

000067

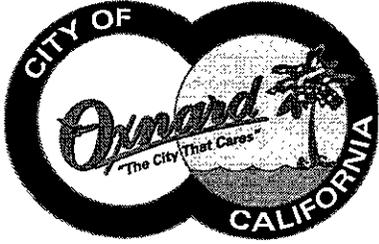
month of August when City Council is traditionally dark, the state legislative process is at its peak. The Legislative Program will be submitted to City Council on an annual basis for review.

Staff would maintain direct and consistent contact with contracted state and federal lobbyists and monitor the League of California Cities' Priority Focus, California Water Association, and other sources to identify pending legislation that may impact the City. Letters expressing the City Council's position will be drafted for the Mayor's signature, with copies distributed to each Councilmember. Pending legislation not addressed by the Legislative Program or staff recommendations that differ from the Legislative Program would be agendaized for City Council consideration.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact at this time as this function is budgeted in the City Manager's Office for FY 2007/2008.

Attachment #1 - Draft City of Oxnard FY 2007/2008 Legislative Program



DRAFT City of Oxnard Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Legislative Program

The foundation for the City's legislative priorities is based in the mission statement adopted by the Oxnard City Council in January of 2005:

"The City of Oxnard will have clean, safe, prosperous and attractive neighborhoods with open, transparent government."

The following draft Legislative Program was developed to enable the City to respond to pending state and federal legislation in a proactive manner. The Mayor (or Mayor Pro Tem in the Mayor's absence) would be authorized to sign correspondence expressing the City Council's position on legislation consistent with this Legislative Program and/or other positions approved by the City Council.

Staff would maintain direct and consistent contact with contracted state and federal lobbyists and monitor the League of California Cities' *Priority Focus*, California Water Association, and other sources to identify pending legislation that may impact the City. Letters expressing the City's position will be drafted for the Mayor's signature, with copies distributed to each Councilmember. Pending legislation not addressed by the Legislative Program or staff recommendations that deviate from the Legislative Program would be agendized for City Council consideration.

Basic Principles

A. Local Control

1. Support legislation mandating that the state and federal governments provide full cost reimbursement to cities for all required programs and for all programs resulting in revenue loss to cities.
2. Support legislation that protects the ability of cities to recover the costs of mandated programs through fees that are exempt from Proposition 218.
3. Advocate legislation that enhances local control of resources and tools that assist the City Council to address the needs of City residents.
4. Oppose legislation that limits or interferes with City Council authority over local municipal affairs.
5. Oppose legislation that eliminates or restricts the taxing authority of cities over development; weakens existing Government Code section 66000 fee authority; or redefines any development tax, condition, or other monetary change as development fees.

000069

6. Oppose legislation that mandates changes that interrupt the City's operations, services to the community, or impairs or weakens its infrastructure.

B. Local Budget

1. Support reforming the local government finance structure in a way that establishes long-term financial stability to assure future growth and provide needed public facilities and services.
2. Support the enactment of revenue measures and fees that close the gap between development tax revenue and the cost of providing public services.
3. Support discretionary revenue sources to cities over directed and limited sources.
4. Advocate for fair implementation and distribution of state infrastructure bond funds to assure the City has access to receiving an adequate share for local improvements and programs.
5. Advocate state and federal funding supporting City infrastructure and projects.
6. Oppose legislation that negatively impacts the City's fiscal viability by adding further financial burden through unfunded mandates.
7. Oppose legislation that reduces the City's revenue base.
8. Oppose legislation that cuts state or federal grant funding for existing programs and services, e.g., Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Time Sensitive/Specific Issues

A. Telecommunications

1. Oppose legislation that negatively impacts the City Council's authority to manage and control the public right-of-way and for the City to receive compensation for its use.
2. Oppose legislation that diminishes or eliminates the collection of local franchise fees or diverts its collection by the federal or state governments.
3. Oppose legislation that authorizes "redlining" or "cherry picking" and precludes equal access to affordable cable television, Internet and digital services.

000070

B. Eminent Domain

1. Oppose amendments to the California Constitution that eliminate a redevelopment agency's use of eminent domain and imposes restrictions on the use of eminent domain by public agencies, including attempts to reduce the Community Development Commission's/City's ability to produce affordable housing (via in-lieu fees, inclusionary policy ordinances).
2. Oppose legislation that redefines "just compensation" beyond "fair market value" that will significantly increase the cost of building roads, highways, transit, schools, parks, libraries, and other public works projects.

C. Transportation Needs

1. Support increased funding to enhance existing public transportation programs.
2. Advocate for state and federal transportation funding to construct the Rice Avenue/101 Freeway Interchange; the Del Norte/101 Freeway Interchange.
3. Advocate for funding of the Rice Avenue/101 Freeway Interchange in any State Proposition 1B bond funding pertaining to "goods movement" as the process to allocate this funding moves through the California Legislature and the California Transportation Commission.
4. Advocate that fundamental responsibility for transportation decision making should be at the local level.
5. Oppose any state or federal reductions to existing transportation grants and programs, including Americans with Disabilities Act funding.
6. Oppose legislation that limits and/or decreases the existing amount of retention proceeds withheld from any payment by a public entity to a contractor on a public project.

D. Waste Management

1. Support legislation that provides cities with financial assistance for programs designed to provide for the safe disposal of solid, hazardous, and special waste.
2. Support legislation that strengthens cities' ability to direct municipal solid waste flow to designated solid waste facilities.
3. Support legislation that streamlines AB 939 tracking and reporting requirements.
4. Support legislation that promotes recycling and expands the market for recycled materials.

000071

5. Support legislation that encourages the innovative use of biosolids for regional beneficial uses, including, but not limited to alternative daily cover for landfills and soil amendments.
6. Oppose legislation that would restrict or limit the City Council's authority to franchise refuse and recycling collection services, to direct municipal solid waste flow, or to contractually require haulers to guarantee achievement of AB 939 goals.

E. Water Resources

1. Support legislation and funding to clean up contaminated soil and/or polluted water wherever found, including but not limited to, surface water, ground water, estuaries, or near shore ocean areas.
2. Support legislation and funding to abate sources of soil and/or water pollution wherever found, including septic systems, leaking underground fuel tanks, and agricultural and residential applications of fertilizers and pesticides.
3. Support legislation and funding to develop recycled water as an alternate water source, including treatment, storage, and distribution.
4. Support legislation and funding to develop brackish groundwater.
5. Support legislation and funding to manage groundwater and surface water salinity.
6. Support legislation and funding that encourages innovative and cooperative water resources projects that will be of regional benefit.
7. Support legislation that provides a mechanism to fund the construction, operations, maintenance, and administration of stormwater programs and projects that improve quality, minimize runoff, maximize infiltration and beneficial uses, maximize flooding protection, and minimizes negative environmental impacts, and exempt fees and charges supporting these programs and projects from Proposition 218 restrictions.
8. Support legislation that prohibits the use of numeric criteria for stormwater discharges until the State Water Resources Control Board develops a policy for same.
9. Support legislation that encourages the development of consistent statewide water quality policies for the development and implementation of standards for impaired water bodies (303(d) listed), including Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) allocations, National Pollutant Elimination System (NPDES) permits, and monitoring programs.
10. Support legislation that establishes a fee-sharing program for general stormwater permits issued by the State Water Resources Control Board.
11. Advocate for amendments to the existing California Water Code to support local collection and discharge of groundwater.

000072

12. Oppose legislation that would establish drinking water quality standards or treated water quality discharge standards without sound scientific basis.

F. *Redevelopment/Economic Development*

1. Oppose legislation that would prohibit or limit the establishment of new redevelopment project areas and/or the expansion of existing project areas.
2. Oppose legislation that reduces the amount of gross tax increment allocable to redevelopment agencies.
3. Oppose measures that would diminish the current authority or financing capabilities of redevelopment agencies.
4. Support actions that fully fund CDBG as a direct allocation to cities, with the broad objective of helping low and moderate income people.

F. *Affordable Housing*

1. Support legislation that provides financial support and incentives for programs that provide affordable housing for disabled and low-income residents, families, and senior adults.
2. Support legislation that protects and maintains existing affordable housing opportunities for disabled and low income residents, families, and senior adults.

G. *Public Safety*

1. Support legislation that allows use of state and federal public safety grants for intervention and prevention efforts to curb gang crime and youth violence.
2. Support legislation that would provide cities with a greater share of fines and forfeitures.
3. Support legislation that promotes the efforts of the Oxnard Police Department in its role to serve and protect the community with relevance to local enforcement.
4. Support legislation that allows law enforcement to better combat gun violence through investigation, interdiction, and prevention of firearm related crimes.
5. Support legislation that allows use of state and federal public safety grants for maintenance efforts in addition to service increases.

000073

H. Land Use Planning

1. Support legislation that provides for shared land use determinations among counties and cities when the general plan of the city establishes a planning area consistent with Government Code provisions.
2. Support efforts that are consistent with the doctrine of "home rule" and the local exercise of police powers, through planning and zoning processes, over local land use.
3. Oppose legislation that limits a city's use of eminent domain.

I. General Government

1. Support legislation that provides financial assistance for local public libraries without the imposition of new taxes
2. Support legislation that limits libraries' contributions to the Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund.
3. Support legislation that makes funds available to refurbish and improve parks.
4. Oppose legislation that reduces funding for libraries including public library funds.
5. Support legislation that makes funds available to upgrade, remodel existing libraries, and build new libraries.
6. Support legislation that improves library services.
7. Oppose legislation that reduces or restricts local authority to regulate public right-of-way.
8. Support legislation and funding for energy-efficiency projects and programs for public buildings and facilities.

000074