

ATTACHMENT A

2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

For State + Federal Legislation



Photo credit: Cyndi Combs

CITY OF VALLEJO

OBJECTIVE

The objective for identifying advocacy procedures for State and Federal Legislation is to provide clear direction to staff with regard to monitoring bills during State and Federal legislative sessions. Approval of advocacy procedures will ensure that legislative inquiries and responses will be administered consistently with "one voice" as to the identified Legislative Priorities adopted by the City Council annually. The Legislative Priorities and Advocacy Procedures will provide the City Manager, or designee, discretion to advocate in the City's best interests in a manner consistent with the goals and priorities adopted by the City Council.

Typical advocacy positions will include:

SUPPORT | legislation in this area advances the City's goals and priorities.

OPPOSE | legislation in this area could potentially harm, negatively impact or undo positive momentum for the City, or does not advance the City's goals and priorities.

MONITOR | federal, and sometimes state, legislation the City should track, but may choose not to identify a position at this time.

PROCEDURES

The legislative advocacy procedures are the process by which City staff will track and respond to legislative issues in a timely and consistent manner. The City Manager will track and review legislation utilizing the following procedures:

1. The City Manager shall review requests that the City take a position on legislative issues to determine if the legislation aligns with the City's current approved Legislative Priorities.
2. The City Manager will conduct a review of positions and analysis completed by the League of California Cities, City lobbyist, and local government/professional associations when formulating positions.
3. If the matter aligns with the approved priorities, City response shall be supplied in the form of a letter to the legislative body reviewing the bill/measure. Advocacy utilized on behalf of the City, including but not limited to letters, phone calls, emails and prepared forms, will be communicated through the City Manager. The City Manager shall advise staff to administer the form of advocacy, typically via letters signed by the Mayor, City Manager, or designee, on behalf of the City Council.
4. All draft legislative letters initiated by the City Manager shall state whether the City is requesting "support", "oppose", or "oppose unless amended" action on the issue, and shall include adequate justification for the recommended action. If possible, the letter should include examples of how a bill would specifically affect the City, e.g. "the funding the City will lose due to this bill could pay for X acres of parkland".
5. One legislative letter will be prepared to address one bill or measure. A legislative letter will not address

multiple bills unless bills are grouped together and reviewed as one package by a legislative body.

6. The City Manager may also provide a letter of concern or interest without taking a formal position on a piece of legislation. Letters of concern or interest are to be administered through the Office of the City Manager.
7. When a letter is sent to a state or federal legislative body, City Councilmembers, the City Clerk, and state legislators representing the City of Vallejo shall be included as a copy "cc" on the letter. The appropriate contacts at the League of California Cities, the City's lobbyists, and legislative consultants, if applicable, shall be included as a cc on legislative letters.

The City Manager will provide updates on important legislative issues and those matters on which the City has a stated position through the City's website. When appropriate, the City Manager will also submit to the City Council a report summarizing activity on priority measures.

No advocacy efforts will be taken with respect to legislation and issues that are not addressed by the Guiding Principles. In the event that action is requested by the League of California Cities or other entity on such legislation or the City Manager believes the legislation could be beneficial/detrimental to the City's interests, the matter shall be brought before the City Council at a Council meeting for formal direction from the Council.

PRIORITIES

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. Support legislation that provides financial assistance for local public services without the imposition of new taxes.
2. Support state and federal funding opportunities for City infrastructure projects and programs.
3. Support legislation that preserves and enhances the City's ability to generate revenues from all types of sales.
4. Support legislation that provides funding opportunities for energy-efficiency projects and programs for public buildings, facilities, and infrastructure.
5. Support legislation making funding available to refurbish and improve City recreation services or facilities.
6. Support legislation that recognizes, strengthens, and protects local control over the public rights-of-way.
7. Support legislation that helps to realign government services with necessary funding to improve the delivery of services and make government more accountable, transparent and efficient.
8. Support legislation that allows for the expansion, continuation, and/or increased flexibility in the bidding/procurement, delivery, and management of construction projects.
9. Support policies that enhance digital inclusion and seek to overcome the digital divide.
10. Support legislation that enhances legal immunities for public entities and employees.

11. Support legislation that fosters a robust market for risk pools for public entities.

HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Support legislation to protect all individuals regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual or gender orientation and identity, or medical condition from discrimination.
2. Support non-discrimination policies at city/county/state/federal levels.
3. Support anti-bullying policies.

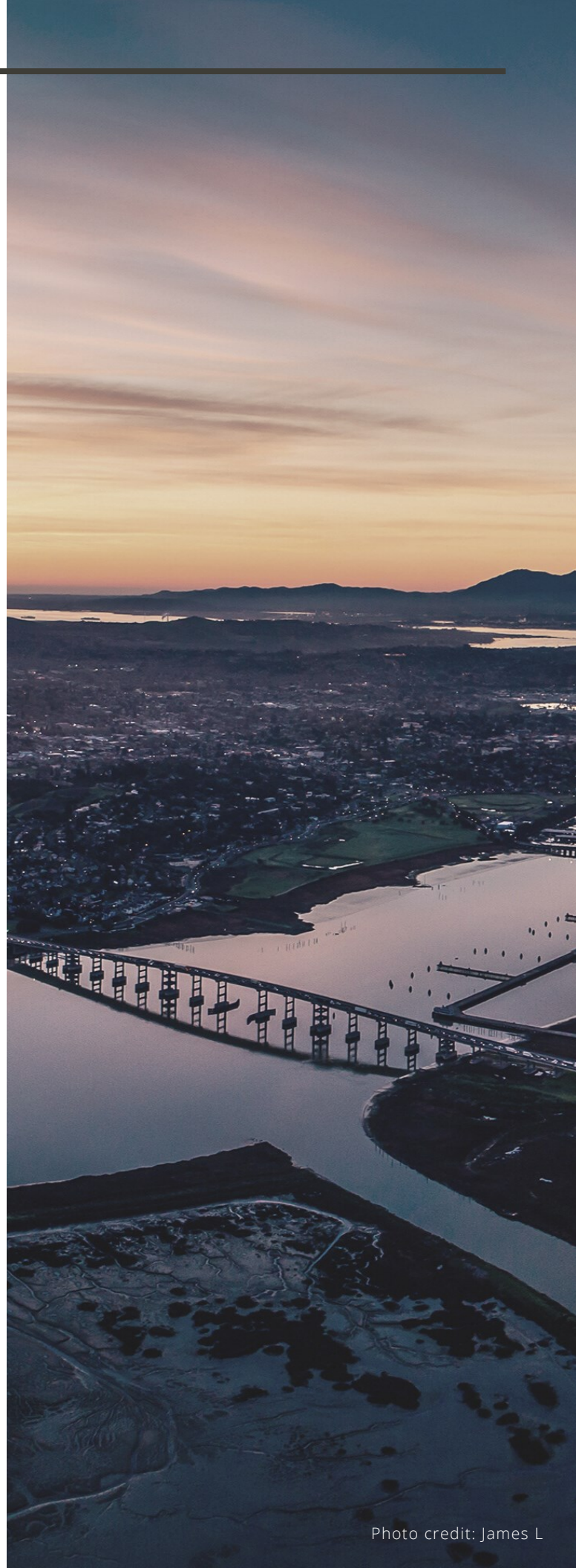
LOCAL CONTROL

1. Oppose legislation that limits or interferes with City Council authority over local municipal affairs.
2. Oppose legislation that mandates changes interrupting the City's operations, services to the community, or impairs or weakens its infrastructure.
3. Monitor potential legislation that makes mandatory changes to election policies and procedures.

BUDGET/FISCAL

1. Support legislation that protects the ability of cities to recover the costs of mandated programs through fees that are exempt from Proposition 218.
2. 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.

3. Support legislation that further protects local government revenue from being taken, confiscated, diverted, or otherwise used to fund state government operations and responsibilities.
4. Support legislation to stabilize local government financing, to increase funding to local agencies, and to permit the most cost-effective management of state-mandated programs.
5. Support legislation to protect and preserve local control over locally imposed taxes (such as transient occupancy tax and franchise fees).
6. Support fair implementation and distribution of state infrastructure bond funds to ensure the City has access to an adequate share of funding for local improvements and programs.
7. Support legislation that promotes a reasonable balance of pro-growth policies and tools including state and local tax (SALT) deduction and exemptions of private activity bonds (PABs).
8. Oppose legislation, policies, and budgets that have negative impacts on services, revenues, and costs.
9. Oppose any measure that mandates procedures that would make local government more dependent on the state for financial stability or reduces local discretion or flexibility in the use of local government revenues.
10. Oppose legislation that negatively impacts the City's fiscal viability by adding further financial burdens through unfunded mandates.
11. Oppose legislation that attempts to restrict, reduce, or eliminate the City's revenue base.
12. Oppose legislation that cuts state or federal grant funding for existing programs and services (e.g., Community Development Block Grant).



13. Oppose efforts to eliminate or cap the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds.

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS/WORKER'S COMPENSATION + PUBLIC PENSIONS AND PENSION REFORM

1. Monitor legislation or reform that could impact local public agencies and existing labor agreements.
2. Monitor legislation and regulation affecting labor relations, employee rights, benefits, and working conditions.

WORKER'S COMPENSATION

1. Support legislation to reform worker's compensation formulas to rely on more evidence of work-related causation to determine compensability.
2. Oppose legislation providing presumptive eligibility for award of benefits for worker's compensation or other health benefits.
3. Oppose legislation to increase employee benefits without system reforms to offset increased employer costs.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

1. Oppose legislation that would increase employer liability for unemployment compensation or which would reduce local discretion to manage this risk.



LABOR RELATIONS

1. Oppose legislation that reduces local control over public employee disputes and/or imposes regulations from an outside agency.
2. Oppose any measure that seeks to impose federal or state mandates on the collective bargaining process.
3. Oppose legislation that would increase the cost of administering benefits or mandate special group health and welfare benefits provided to all employees.

PERSONNEL

1. Support legislation that would lessen the impact of CalPERS investment losses on employer rates.
2. Oppose legislation that imposes local government mandated employee benefits that are more properly negotiated at the bargaining table.

HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOODS

1. Support legislation that provides financial support and incentives for programs that provide or increase access to 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.
3. Support funding resources allocated for mental health, supportive housing, and shelters to assist in homelessness reduction.

4. Support efforts to significantly increase housing production, especially compact, mixed-use development in priority development areas (PDAs), housing element sites and job centers with access to high-quality transit service.
5. Support funding for the rehabilitation of existing affordable housing stock.
6. Oppose legislation that would impose state-mandated development standards or procedures that are contrary to the City's General Plan or local land use policy.
7. Monitor state mandates that affect neighborhood rehabilitation, revitalization, and first time homebuyer programs. Oppose any additional redundant or cumbersome mandates/restrictions.
8. Support funding to provide supportive services to those affected by homelessness and mental health issues.
9. Support funding to remove and clean homeless encampments and to store homeless belongings in accordance with the law.
10. Monitor implementation of the 2016 AB 1618 ~~related to~~ Mental Health Services "No Place Like Home" initiative.
11. Support legislation and programs to increase funding for transitional housing units and permanent supportive housing units to house homeless households.
12. Support legislation that would amend federal and state Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Programs to support and deem competitive a mix of units in an affordable housing project, to promote sustainable and integrated communities.

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Support action by the U.S. Department of Transportation to implement the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) in a manner that provides opportunities for the City to secure funding for road and public transportation infrastructure.
2. Support state and federal funding for street, road, and alleyway repair within the City.
3. Support legislation that preserves local responsibility for transportation decision making.
4. Support local, regional, state, and federal partnerships to secure funds for local street and road improvements.
5. Support legislation authorizing increased funding to enhance existing transportation projects including but not limited to: road resurfacing projects, the public transportation systems, adding bicycle lanes, sidewalks, and trails throughout the City, and safety enhancement for all forms of transportation.
6. Support legislation that provides equitable amounts of state and federal funding for roads and highways, and facilitates timely construction of local transportation projects.
7. Support legislation that promotes the development of a robust, active regional transportation strategy, with attention to transportation and health equity issues.
8. Support programs that fill commuter first/last mile gaps.
9. Support public benefit for private use of Public Right-of-Way and City assets.
10. Support efforts to protect and ensure efficient, effective implementation of the 2017 SB 1 legislation on

transportation funding programs.

11. Support legislation that encourages public private partnerships to provide low cost financing for transportation projects.
12. Support tax benefits and/or incentives for programs to promote use of public transit.
13. Support legislative proposals that would increase funding for transportation infrastructure, operations and maintenance in the City of Vallejo.
14. Support laws and policies that expedite project delivery.
15. Support partnerships between affected agencies and local governments to seek additional strategies and funding for programs that benefit seniors, people with disabilities, and the economically disadvantaged such as mobility management programs, intercity paratransit operations, and other community based programs.
16. Support efforts to increase and expand public transportation levels of service between Vallejo and San Francisco.
17. Oppose state and federal reductions to existing transportation grants and programs, including funding to meet Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.
18. Oppose efforts to reduce or divert funding from transportation projects.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS ATTRACTION

1. Support federal and state tax incentives for development of Mare Island and underserved areas of Vallejo.

2. Support lowering the threshold for approving a sales tax measure from a 2/3 majority of voters to 55 percent.
3. Support modification to the current state guidelines on disposition of City surplus property, including the properties of former redevelopment agencies, allowing more City oversight on how the disposed property would then be developed.
4. Support additional funding sources, including grants, for affordable housing.
5. Support legislation to reinstate and protect redevelopment as a tool to build needed infrastructure, develop and retain affordable housing, and provide financing for local redevelopment and economic development programs.
6. Support funding for brownfield redevelopment.
7. Support legislation that provides match-free grants for Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) sites for the purpose of economic development, housing, business attraction programs, rehabilitation and revitalization.
8. Support legislation that provides funding for workforce development programs and workforce investment opportunities for disadvantaged individuals and families.
9. Support federal and state funding for work-study programs.
10. Support legislation that helps to increase employment opportunities and links training programs to local available employment.
11. Support legislation that provides dedicated funding for the development of affordable housing and housing in Transit Oriented Development (TOD) locations such as PDAs.





Photo credit: Mare Island Brewery

12. Support legislation that seeks funding opportunities for passenger and freight water transport operations and infrastructure.
13. Support legislation that ~~seeks~~ authorizes funding for the movement of goods via maritime-related transportation, including the dredging of channels, port locations and freight shipment.
14. Support legislation and policies that promote investing in the maintenance and rehabilitation of aging infrastructure and building new system capacity to support smart growth principles.
15. Support efforts to incentivize employers to locate in Vallejo and Solano County.
16. Support funding for small business assistance, loan programs for business improvements and tax credits for businesses.
17. Oppose legislation that limits local control over public rights-of-way, including limiting fair market value negotiations for use of City assets, enable equipment installation on a ministerial basis with no ability to set reasonable aesthetic size and design standards, or allow detached structures and equipment that incommodes the right-of-way.
18. Monitor federal mandates that affect rehabilitation and revitalization of businesses communities and economic development stimulus packages, and oppose any additional redundant or cumbersome mandates/restrictions.

LAND-USE AND PLANNING

1. Support funding sources to aid in the reuse of the former Mare Island Naval Shipyard.

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. Support efforts to strengthen the legal and fiscal capability of local agencies to prepare, adopt, and implement plans for orderly growth, development, and conservation of local planning areas.
4. Support streamlined, administrative process for small cell and telecommunications deployment.
5. Support standards based on FCC rules to assure telecommunications equipment does not in-commode the Right of Way and to retain community aesthetics.
6. Support telecommunications entities to plan and forecast for investment and deployment on existing infrastructure.
7. Support the expansion of broadband to all parts of Vallejo to drive economic development and job opportunities, support county service delivery, and improve health, education, and public safety outcomes for residents.
8. Oppose legislation that imposes regional, state, or federal growth, development, or land use planning standards within the City.
9. Oppose legislation that would remove or limit local government land use authority.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

1. Support legislation and funding to increase access to subsidized meal programs for older adults and youth.
2. Support funding and incentives for grocery stores,

farmers markets and other vendors to locate in areas of Vallejo with limited access to affordable and nutritious food.

3. Support state and federal funding for opportunities to increase access to childcare in Vallejo.
4. Support funding for early childhood education programs.
5. Support legislation that creates options and opportunities for access to affordable healthcare.
6. Support funding for youth enrichment programs.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES

1. Support action by federal departments and agencies to implement the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) in a manner that provides opportunities for the City to secure funding for water infrastructure.
2. Support efforts for funding and resources, such as solar and habitat restoration, that foster environmental stewardship and sustain the future of Vallejo's natural habitat.
3. Support legislation and funding to develop recycled water as an alternative water source, including treatment, storage, and distribution.
4. Support legislation that protects the City's water rights outside the areas-of-origin.
5. Support legislation and funding that encourages innovative and cooperative water resources projects that will be of regional benefit.
6. Support legislation and policies that assist local gov-

ernment in meeting or exceeding goals to reduce global warming pollution levels.

7. Support legislative efforts to maintain a reliable supply and access to high quality water for drinking, agriculture, and recreation in Vallejo and regionally.
8. Support legislation that provides funding for disaster preparedness.
9. Support legislation that provides funding to mitigate or adapt to sea-level rise impacts, including shoreline restoration and retreat, flood mitigation, and recreation projects.
10. Support legislation offering sensible California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) reform that streamlines processes for a broader range of infill development while maintaining strong requirements for large projects.
11. Support the state's goals for increased use of zero emission vehicles and support funding that goes towards the refueling infrastructure necessary for alternative fueled vehicles, with emphasis on Plug-in Electric Vehicles. Allow flexible standards for certain emergency and fleet vehicles that require traditional fuel due to technology, range, and terrain issues.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

1. Support reasonable criminal justice reform measures that are inclusive of concerns from prosecutors, victims' rights groups, and law enforcement agencies and do not hinder law enforcement's ability to protect the community.
2. Support legislation that assists in preventing and reducing crime, such as drug prevention programs, mental health initiatives, enhanced protective equip-

ment, and solutions for homelessness.

3. Support legislation that would provide the City with a greater share of fines and forfeitures.
4. Support measures that encourage community safety and well-being.
5. Support legislation that allows use of state and federal public safety grants for intervention and prevention efforts to curb gang crime and youth violence.
6. Support legislation that improves safety at schools and ensures an environment that eliminates discrimination and harassment of students.
7. Support legislation to eliminate gun violence within the City.
8. Support legislation that provides funding for or helps to develop community partnerships and multi-jurisdictional efforts to reduce crime and enhance safety.
9. Support legislation that assists with or provides funding for disaster response and preparedness and homeland-security-related needs, particularly efforts to strengthen emergency communications interoperability, link local emergency operations centers, and provide training.
10. Support legislation that preserves funding levels for existing public safety programs, such as the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).
11. Support legislation that would improve the availability, affordability, and coverage for earthquake, fire and flood insurance.
12. Oppose legislation that would remove or limit local government public safety authority.

13. Support Office of Traffic Safety grant funding related to all aspects of traffic safety.
14. Seek funding to deal with the impacts of the Public Safety Realignment Act, Proposition 47 (Reduced Penalties for Some Crimes Initiative), and Proposition 57 (Public Safety and Rehabilitation). Support legislation that addresses wrap-around services such as substance abuse counseling, mental health services, and employment, medical, and housing assistance.
15. Support programs that help ensure public safety through the assistance and rehabilitation of individuals challenged with mental and/or substance abuse illnesses and increase awareness and training opportunities.
16. Advocate for legislation and funding that would take advantage of the latest technology to prevent and resolve crimes, such as the ability to use surveillance cameras, automatic license plate recognition, and DNA testing.
17. Support funding for non-traditional crime prevention activities, homeless assistance, and mental health initiatives at the county, state, and federal level.
18. Advocate for federal and state funding for new public safety facilities for Vallejo.



LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS



Photo credit: Memories by McKinley

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