




COUNCILMEMBER TODD GLORIA CITY OF SAN DIEGO

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: October 20, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor Kevin Faulconer

FROM: Councilmember Todd Gloria 

SUBJECT: State and Federal Legislative Priorities for Calendar Year 2016

I am pleased to offer my State and Federal legislative priorities for inclusion in the City's legislative package.

1. Infrastructure/Economic Development/Job Creation

- a. Support legislation and administrative action to preserve and strengthen state and federal economic development programs and other programs to improve disadvantaged communities.
- b. Support legislation and administrative action to ensure funding for an expansion of the Federal New Market Tax Credit (NMTC) Program. In the absence of state redevelopment agencies, the NMTC program will help spur revitalization efforts of low-income and impoverished communities.

2. Affordable Housing and Homelessness

- a. Support legislation that would fund more supportive housing and provide funding for comprehensive supportive services.
- b. In order to remedy the fact that the San Diego region has the nation's fifth highest homeless population but ranks twentieth in federal homeless assistance, support federal legislation or administrative action that would revise the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants program so that funding for homeless services is allocated based on need.
- c. Support legislation that would create a permanent source of state funding for the preservation and development of affordable housing.

- d. Support legislation and administrative action to ensure funding for domestic programs such as Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8), and adjust HUD's formula for CDBG.
- e. Support legislation that expands the supply of affordable housing by adopting reforms that reduce barriers to improved planning and increases the financial resources available.

3. Environment/Water

- a. Support legislation that will further enable the City to pursue its goals to aggressively combat climate change as outlined in the proposed City of San Diego Climate Action Plan.
- b. Support legislation and administrative action in support of the City's Pure Water San Diego program.
- c. Support legislation and administrative action to further the City's goals to expand the use and implementation of renewable energy projects and funding programs.
- d. Support legislation that would develop consistent environmental guidelines to support the permitting of special events.
- e. Support legislation and take the necessary administrative action to access low-cost loans for the planning, design and construction of various water infrastructure as well as for the replacement of aging water and sewer systems and to meet new regulatory requirements (i.e. State Revolving Loan Fund, Water Infrastructure Financing Innovations Authority, etc.).

4. Transportation

- a. Remove legislative and regulatory barriers to transit operation funding.
- b. Support legislation and administrative action to maximize transit funding for San Diego.
- c. Support legislation and administrative action to improve infrastructure and support accessibility for bicycles and pedestrians.
- d. Support increased operating and capital funding and flexibility, including through the state cap-and-trade program, for mass transit and other mobility options projects, including alternative and active transportation.

5. Referendum Reform

- a. Support legislation that provides more timely disclosure of referendum campaign funders for the benefit of the public;
- b. Support legislation that strengthens disclosure of and/or limits financing of paid signature gatherers;
- c. Support legislation that raises the percentage of signatures required for a referendum to qualify per California Elections Code 9236(b); and
- d. Support legislation that regulating how and what information must be provided on the petition and by the petition gatherer in order to ensure factual and comprehensive disclosure at the time of signing.

6. Protect and Expand Revenue/Fiscal Oversight

- a. Support legislation that strengthens, protects and expands ongoing revenue for the City.
- b. Support legislation that amends the voter-approval threshold for municipalities to incur bonded indebtedness to fund public facilities and infrastructure.
- c. Oppose legislation that undermines and preempts local authority over local taxes and fees.
- d. Monitor the state's implementation of changes in the state/local fiscal relationship.

7. Other

- a. Support legislation that assures everyone the right to equal treatment in all government-sponsored or financed benefits.
- b. Support legislation to eliminate gun violence in the City, improve background checks, and to reinstate the Federal Assaults Weapon Ban.
- c. Support legislation that will increase state and federal funding for the care of injured and disabled veterans of all ages.
- d. Support legislation that will increase resources for preserving historical resources, especially in Balboa Park.
- e. Support legislation and administrative action that ensure efficient emergency operations re-imbursement in the event of floods, fires or other natural disasters.
- f. Support greater transparency in all levels of government institutions.

I look forward to the City Council collaborating with our Mayor, our state and federal lobbyists as well as the local legislative and congressional delegations, to help the City of San Diego fulfill its mission to build stronger and safer neighborhoods and improve the economy.

TG:sjh

cc: Andrea Tevlin, Independent Budget Analyst
Alejandra Gavaldon, Director of Federal Government Affairs & Water policy