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**PRESS CONFERENCES IN SUPPORT OF LEAGUE, CRA REDEVELOPMENT  
LAWSUIT CONTINUED THIS WEEK THROUGHOUT THE STATE**

Local elected officials held a series of press conferences this week throughout the state to announce their support for the League of California Cities' and the California Redevelopment Association's (CRA) lawsuit seeking to overturn the unconstitutional attempt to eliminate redevelopment with the passage of AB1x 26 and AB1x 27. *For more, see Page 2.*



**MORE THAN \$10 MILLION IN COMPETITIVE GRANTS AVAILABLE TO CITIES  
THAT RECYCLE TIRES, RUBBER PRODUCTS**

The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) will offer more than \$10 million in competitive grants this fall to cities and counties to encourage use of technologies or products containing recycled California scrap tires. These grants help local governments to purchase recycled rubber products, maintain roads, and solve civil engineering challenges while keeping thousands of old tires out of California landfills. *For more, see Page 2.*



**FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS**

While negotiations on increasing the federal debt continue, the House Appropriations Committee is moving forward with its FY 2012 spending measures, with little action occurring in the Senate on this annual spending work. To date, the committee has approved nine of the 12 spending bills. *For more, see Page 2.*

The lawsuit, challenging the constitutionality of AB1x 26 and AB1x 27, the two redevelopment bills passed as part of the state budget in June, was filed earlier this week. Read "League of California Cities, California Redevelopment Association and Two Cities File Lawsuit in State Supreme Court to Overturn Unconstitutional Redevelopment Elimination Legislation (AB 1x26/27)" at <http://www.cacities.org/index.jsp?zone=locc&previewStory=28578> for more background.

Unless overturned by the courts, this legislation will result in the elimination of redevelopment agencies and force "ransom" payments by local agencies to fund state obligations to schools. This will devastate many critical local job-creating revitalization projects throughout California.

## **Monday, July 18**

### **San Diego**

San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders started off the week's press events on Monday gathering with numerous elected officials from the San Diego region at 10 a.m. in front of San Diego's award winning City Heights Weingart Library in City Heights Urban Village on Landis Street.

Speaking on behalf of all cities in the region were the following city officials:

- Jerry Sanders, San Diego mayor;
- Kevin Faulconer, San Diego Council president pro tem;
- Art Madrid, La Mesa mayor;
- Ron Morrison, National City mayor;
- Jim Janney, Imperial Beach mayor; and
- Hal Martin, San Marcos council member.



Press that attended the event included:

- KGTV-TV 10 (ABC) (covered via video sharing with XETV-TV6);
- KNSD-TV 39 (NBC);
- KSWB-TV 5 (FOX);
- KUSI-TV 99 (Ind);
- XETV-TV 6 (CW);
- *San Diego Daily Transcript*;
- *San Diego Union-Tribune*; and
- KPBS-FM 89.5.

### **Clovis**

At noon in Clovis, Mayor Jose Flores and several local elected officials gathered to announce their support for the lawsuit against AB1x 26 and AB1x 27.

Speaking on behalf of all cities in the region were the following city officials:

- Jose Flores, Clovis mayor;
- Joshua Mitchell, Sanger mayor;
- Janet Davis, Clovis police chief;
- Rob Woolley, Clovis city manager;

- Brian Haddix, Sanger city manager; and
- Tina Sumner, Clovis economic development director.

Press that attended the event included:

- *Fresno Business Journal*;
- KFSN (ABC);
- KFTV (Univision);
- KSEE (NBC);
- KMJ 580; and
- *Fresno Bee*.

## **Modesto**

Rounding out Monday's press conferences, officials from Modesto, Turlock, Riverbank, Oakdale, Patterson and other neighboring cities convened at the Modesto City Hall Council Chambers at 1:30 p.m. to continue spreading the message of support for the lawsuit filed that day. Speaking on behalf of all cities in the region were the following city officials:

- Chris Vierra, Ceres mayor;
- Ramon Bawanan, Hughson mayor;
- Brad Hawn, Modesto vice mayor;
- Ed Katen, Newman mayor;
- Pat Paul, Oakdale mayor;
- Luis Molina, Patterson mayor;
- Virginia Madueno, Riverbank mayor;
- John Lazar, Turlock mayor; and
- Charlie Goeken, Waterford mayor.

Press that attended the event included:

- KXTV-TV10 (ABC);
- KUVS-TV19 (Univision);
- *Modesto Bee*; and
- *Turlock Journal*.

## **Wednesday, July 20**

### **Goleta**

On Wednesday, local elected officials from the central coast gathered to speak out against the state's unconstitutional elimination bills.

Speaking on behalf of all cities in the region were the following city officials:

- Margaret Connell, Goleta mayor;
- Helene Schneider, Santa Barbara mayor;
- Holly Sierra, Buellton vice mayor;
- John Linn, Lompoc mayor; and
- Ed Easton, Goleta council member.



Goleta Council Member Paula Perotte, Goleta Council Member Ed Easton, Santa Barbara Mayor Helene Schneider, Lompoc Mayor John Linn, Sen. Sam Blakeslee gather in Goleta with an example of a ransom note.

Sen. Sam Blakeslee (R- San Luis Obispo) also attended the event.

Press that attended the event included:

- KEYT (ABC);
- KCOY (FOX);
- KSBY (NBC);
- Univision;
- *NewsPress online*;
- *Santa Barbara News Press*;
- *Noozhawk*;
- *Daily Sound*; and
- *Santa Barbara Independent*.

### **Oakland**

City officials rallied together in support of the lawsuit at noon in front of the Leona Crossing at the Coliseum Transit Village at 70th Avenue and Snell Street in Oakland, directly behind the Coliseum BART station, a project that cannot move forward without the support of redevelopment funding. The project would bring together affordable housing and infrastructure in a transient-oriented development.

Speaking on behalf of all cities in the region were the following city officials:

- Jean Quan, Oakland mayor; and
- Mark Green, Union City mayor.

The following members of the local press were also in attendance for the event:

- KTVU-TV2 (FOX);
- KGO-TV7 (ABC);
- KPIX-TV5 (CBS);
- KGO-AM810;
- *San Francisco Chronicle*;

- *Oakland Tribune;*
- *Bay City News; and*
- *Patch.*

**Thursday, July 21**

Local elected officials from cities in Riverside County announced their support for the League/CRA lawsuit at the Cathedral Center Housing and Senior Center, a project jointly financed by city redevelopment, federal, non-profit and private funds and would not have been built without redevelopment.

Speaking on behalf of cities in that region were the following city officials:

- Richard Kite, Rancho Mirage council member and League Riverside County division president;
- Kathleen DeRosa, Cathedral City mayor; and
- Kevin Connor, Cathedral City police chief.

Press that attended the event included:

- KVYE-TV7 (Univision);
- KESQ-TV42 (ABC);
- KPSP-TV2 (CBS);
- KMIR-TV6 (NBC);
- KPSI-AM920;
- KNES radio;
- *Palm Springs Desert Sun; and*
- *Palm Desert Patch.*

**Bakersfield**

Bakersfield area leaders spoke out against AB1x 26 and AB1x 27 at the South Millcreek Commercial Village site.

Speaking on behalf of cities in that region were the following city officials:

- Sue Benham, Bakersfield council member;
- Ed Grimes, Tehachapi mayor;
- Linda Vernon, Tehachapi council member;
- Susan Wiggins, Tehachapi council member;
- Garry Nelson, Shafter mayor;
- Jack “Woody” Colvard, Shafter council member;
- Cathy Prout, Shafter council member;
- Jon Johnston, Shafter council member;
- Robert Gorson, Taft city manager; and
- Alan Christensen, Wasco city manager.



Bakersfield Council Member Sue Benham, Tehachapi Mayor Ed Grimes and numerous city officials and redevelopment supporters gather in Bakersfield.

Press in attendance for the event included:

- KGET 17 (NBC);
- KERO 23 (ABC);
- KBAK 29 (CBS & FOX);

- KUZZ radio;
- *Bakersfield Californian*;
- *El Popular*;
- *Tehachapi Loop*;
- *Shafter Press*; and
- *Wasco Tribune*.

## Long Beach

Long Beach area officials gathered on the back steps of the Long Beach Police Station, adjacent to the construction of new State Courthouse funded partly by redevelopment funds. It was an incredibly successful event with over 50 people in attendance.

Local elected officials that were in attendance representing that region include the following:

- Jim Ridenour, Modesto mayor and League president;
- Suja Lowenthal, Long Beach vice mayor;
- Larry Forester, Signal Hill mayor;
- Bill Bogaard, Pasadena mayor and League 2nd vice president;
- Victor Manalo, Artesia mayor;
- Michele Diaz, Artesia council member;
- Tony Lima, Artesia council member;
- Walt Allen, Covina council member;
- Laura Friedman, Glendale mayor;
- Doug Tessitor, Glendora mayor;
- Gene Murabito, Glendora mayor pro tem;
- Aide Castro, Lynwood mayor;
- Jim Morton, Lynwood mayor pro tem;
- Mike Mendez, Norwalk mayor;
- Mike Noll, Signal Hill council member;
- Daryl Hoffmeyer, Paramount mayor;
- Tom Hansen, Paramount council member;
- Joseph D. Serrano, Sr., Santa Fe Springs mayor; and
- Owen Newcomer, Whittier council member.

Press that attended the event included:

- KABC-TV7;
- Long Beach TV;
- KABC radio;
- *La Opinion*;
- *Long Beach Press-Telegram*;
- *Signal Hill Tribune*;
- *Long Beach Reporter*;
- LBReport.com;
- *Patch*;
- *Sing Tao Chinese News*; and
- *Community News* (Covers Los Cerritos/Artesia).

Last week, Monterey and Ontario launched the statewide press conferences. Those events are detailed below.

## **Monday, July 11**

### **Monterey**

Speaking on behalf of all the cities in the region were the following city officials:

- Chuck Della Sala, Monterey mayor;
- Dennis Donohue, Salinas mayor;
- Stephany Aguilar, Scotts Valley council member and League board of director; and
- Maria Orozco, Gonzales mayor.

Press that attended the event included:

- *KSMS-TV67 (Univision)*;
- *KION-TV46 (CBS)*;
- *KSBW-TV8 (NBC)*;
- *Monterey County Herald*; and
- *Santa Cruz Weekly*.



Scotts Valley Council Member and League Board Member Stephany Aguilar speaks to the press.

## **Thursday July 14**

### **Ontario**

Speaking on behalf of all the cities in the region were the following city officials:

- Paul Leon, Ontario mayor;
- Dennis Michael, Rancho Cucamonga mayor and League Inland Empire division president;
- Paul Eaton, Montclair mayor; and
- Acquanetta Warren, Fontana mayor.

Press that attended the event included:

- *The Riverside Press Enterprise*; and
- *Inland Valley Daily Bulletin*.

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### **'Grants' Continued from Page 1...**

The Tire-Derived Product Grant Program provides up to \$150,000 to purchase products made from recycled tires. Product examples include: playgrounds, ADA ramps, all-weather fields, landscape mulch, weed barriers, animal and fatigue mats, and underlayment or flooring. Applications are expected to be released Aug. 17 and will be due Sept. 28.

The Rubberized Pavement Grant Program — formerly called the Rubberized Asphalt Concrete (RAC) Grant Program — provides up to \$375,000 for RAC and rubberized chip seal projects. CalRecycle provides free technical assistance for new users of rubberized pavement. Applications are scheduled to be released Sept. 14 and will be due Oct. 25.

The Tire-Derived Aggregate Grant Program provides up to \$350,000 (proposed) for the use of tire-derived aggregate as an alternative to conventional lightweight aggregates in civil engineering projects. Proposed eligible projects include: landfill (leachate and gas collection systems, drainage layers, and leachate injection), lightweight fill (slope stabilization, embankment fill, and landslide repair), vibration mitigation, and retaining walls. CalRecycle will provide free technical assistance for projects. Applications are expected to be released Sept. 28 and will be due Nov. 16.

To apply for any of these grants, follow these simple steps:

1. Visit the CalRecycle tire grant website to find out more about any of CalRecycle's grants at [www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Tires/Grants](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Tires/Grants);
2. Sign up for important grant announcements and updates via the CalRecycle listserv at [www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Listservs](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Listservs); and
3. When the applications are released, apply using their easy online process at [www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Grants/GMS/](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Grants/GMS/).

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**'Federal Appropriations' Continued from Page 1...**

This list includes the Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science, Defense, Energy and Water, Financial Services, Homeland Security, Interior and Environment, Legislative Branch and Military Construction-Veterans Affairs. The committee has postponed action on its FY 2012 Labor-HHS-Education and Transportation-HUD appropriations measures until after the August recess.

Of the nine measures approved by the committee the House has passed five, which include Agriculture, Defense, Energy and Water, Homeland Security and Military Construction-Veterans Affairs. In adhering to the 30 percent funding reduction levels prescribed by the House Budget Committee's FY 2012 budget resolution; these bills contain a number of cuts to federal programs that serve local governments. Below are some examples:

**House Commerce-Justice Science Appropriations**

- **Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS):** The House bill would eliminate the COPS office and all associated programs.
- **Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne/JAG) program:** The House bill would cut the Byrne/JAG program to \$357 million, 16 percent less than the FY 2011 total and 30 percent less than FY 2010.

**House Interior and Environment Appropriations**

- **Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF):** The House bill cuts the CWSRF to \$689 million, down from \$1.525 billion in FY 2011, and \$2.1 billion in FY 2010.

**House Homeland Security Appropriations**

- **Local Program Consolidation:** The bill calls for funding cuts to state and local homeland security grant programs of more than \$1.5 billion from FY 2011 levels and merges funding for the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) into a single \$1 billion dollar account. UASI and SHSGP were each funded at close to \$1 billion independently in FY 2010.

The League has been active in urging the California congressional delegation and the House Appropriations Committee to oppose cuts to critical programs such as those listed above, and has continued to ask cities to weigh in with their members of Congress to discuss the specific impact of a loss of funding to these programs at these House-approved levels.

**Federal Debt Limit Negotiations**

The White House and House and Senate leaders continue to work on organizing a joint solution to the looming expiration of the current federal debt limit. While Congress and the administration work to reach an agreement on legislation to raise the \$14.3 trillion debt ceiling before the U.S. government's credit line expires on Aug. 2, there is wide public confusion as to what would result if an impasse continues beyond this date and how this expiration could impact cities. On Aug. 3 a failure to gain an extension of the debt ceiling would eliminate the federal government's ability to pay \$23 billion in benefits to Social Security recipients. On Aug. 15 the Treasury Department will fail to meet its obligation to pay \$29 billion in interest on U.S. bonds. If this were to occur the U.S. government credit rating would likely be downgraded, which would impact our ability to borrow.



In addition to Treasury defaults, "indirectly linked" debt would be impacted next. These are debts from state and local governments, hospitals, universities and other institutions that rely on payments from the federal government. Since the federal government passes one-fifth of its revenues through to states, and the states pass a portion of those revenues through to cities, all states and cities would be in worse financial shape and find it harder to get loans if the federal government could no longer pay its bills.

Businesses and consumers would be impacted similarly, as mortgages, credit cards and business loans are all linked to Treasury debt. The long term risks of this downward spiral associated with the federal government's inability to reach agreement on an extension of the debt ceiling create a cause for alarm. A serious and extended debt ceiling breach could lead large U.S. bond investors such as China to demand higher interest rates, which would in turn mean higher bargaining rates for businesses and consumers. That would inevitably lead to slower economic growth, fewer jobs, higher mortgage rates and possibly a longer and deeper recession. The long-term damage of even a slight increase in interest rates could be enormous. Economists estimate that a 1 percent increase in interest rates could decrease economic growth by 1 percent and cost 800,000 jobs per year.

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### **This Month in *Western City Magazine***

- "Recycled Tire Products Offer Safe, Green and Durable Construction Solutions" — California generates more than 40 million scrap tires every year. Recycled tire rubber can be used in a wide variety of applications and products, from road surfacing to lightweight construction fill, landscape mulch and playground surfaces. Recycled tire rubber has better impact absorption than many other materials and greatly improves safety for children and adults when used for recreational surfaces. Learn about state grants for projects that use recycled tires, and see how cities are using these versatile materials. (<http://www.westerncity.com/Western-City/July-2011/Recycled-Tire-Products-Offer-Safe-Green-and-Durable-Construction-Solutions/>)
- "Evaluating Green Fleet Options" — Cities and counties throughout California are considering adopting policies and programs to "green" their fleets by purchasing fuel-efficient and alternative-fuel vehicles. What issues should your city consider when examining its options for a greener fleet? (<http://www.westerncity.com/Western-City/July-2011/Evaluating-Green-Fleet-Options/>)
- "Meeting the Challenges of Plug-In Electric Vehicles" — Collaborative efforts are under way with utilities, state and local policy-makers and manufacturers to address a wide range of issues related to plug-in electric vehicles, including metering, rates, infrastructure upgrades and permitting. (<http://www.westerncity.com/Western-City/July-2011/Meeting-the-Challenges-of-Plug-In-Electric-Vehicles/>)