

**COMMUNITY SERVICES POLICY COMMITTEE  
HIGHLIGHTS**

Friday, January 20, 2012

League of California Cities, 1400 K Street, Sacramento

EQ Committee Webpage: [www.cacities.org/communityservices](http://www.cacities.org/communityservices)

**ATTENDANCE**

Members: Carchio, Joe (Chair); Roundy, Bruce (V.Chair); Abelson, Janet; Aceves, Roger; Anderson, Jayne; Barth, Teresa; Bennett, Joan; Bfower, Damien; Chamberlain, Paula; Costa, Ashley; Cousino, JoAnne; Dorenbecher, Marita; Franklin, Deborah; Hardy, Ingrid; Hunt, Melissa; Ingwerson, Eric; Kotowski, Michael; Krom, Beth; Mahoney, Orrin; Mann, Barry; McNeil, Leonard; Oliva, Susan; Pacheco, Mike; Ponce, Michael; Rocha, Mary; Rogers, Steve; Ryan, Rebecca; Stanton, Barbara; Wheatley, Mark

Staff: Kyra Ross

Guests: Kanat Tibet, HEAL Cities Campaign; Christina DiCaro, California Library Association; Doug Houston, The Houston Group; Athena Lawson, Office of Assemblyman Cameron Smyth

**I. Special Meeting: Redevelopment Update**

Prior to each committee meeting, city officials were provided a joint briefing on a variety of issues of statewide importance. League Executive Director Chris McKenzie and California Redevelopment Association Interim Director Jim Kennedy provided background and outlined next steps related to the looming redevelopment dissolution deadline and SB 659 (Padilla), which seeks to postpone the redevelopment dissolution deadline until April 15. City officials were also encouraged to join the Coalition for Jobs and Neighborhood Renewal ([http://www.cacities.org/resource\\_files/30419.SB659CoalitionList.pdf](http://www.cacities.org/resource_files/30419.SB659CoalitionList.pdf)). McKenzie also updated committee members on the status the League's lawsuit regarding the sweep of \$130 million dollars in constitutionally protected vehicle license fees through SB 89.

League Fiscal Policy Advisor Michael Coleman provided a summary of the Gov. Jerry Brown's proposed FY 2012-13 Budget (<http://www.californiacityfinance.com/PolicyComm120118p.pdf>), while League Legislative Representative Jennifer Whiting gave an overview of federal issues ([http://www.cacities.org/resource\\_files/30433.FederalUpdate1-19-12.pdf](http://www.cacities.org/resource_files/30433.FederalUpdate1-19-12.pdf)) including FY 2013 appropriations, the eighth reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU, and efforts to limit local taxation authority over mobile phones.

Following the general briefing each committee met to discuss items on their respective agendas.

**II. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Joe Carchio welcomed the committee to their first meeting of the year. Policy committee members went around the table and introduced themselves.

**III. Public Comment**

Beth Krom, Mayor Pro Tem, Irvine handed out copies of a brochure on the City of Irvine's "Healthy City Healthy Planet" initiative. For more information on this initiative, go to: [www.cityofirvine.org/healthycity](http://www.cityofirvine.org/healthycity).

**IV. Overview of Parliamentary Procedure and Roberts Rules**

Kyra Ross, League staff, referenced the handout and asked committee members to follow Roberts' Rules when conducting committee business.

**V. Committee Orientation**

League staff explained the role of policy committees, how recommendations are made to the League Board of Directors, the significance of the Community Service policy committee and the tasks bestowed upon its members.

**VI. League Strategic Goals for 2012**

League staff explained the League Goals for 2012. These goals were adopted by the League's Board of Directors in November 2011. They serve as the guiding goals for the organization for the year.

**VII. Review of Summary of Existing Policy & Guiding Principles**

League staff explained the purpose and role that the existing policies and guiding principles play in the League taking action on legislative and regulatory proposals. This document is updated every two years (next edition is in March 2012) to reflect past action in support or opposition of proposed policies. Committee members asked if the new language reflected changes to the anti-bullying resolution at the Annual Conference. Staff noted that it should, but that she'd double-check. The committee approved the changes to the Existing Policy & Guiding Principles. The Motion passed unanimously.

**VIII. Committee Work Program (Attachment A)**

League staff provided an update on the 2011 work program and then asked the committee to look over and suggest any additions to the draft work program. The committee's final 2012 work plan is attached to this document.

**IX. State Budget and Legislative Update**

• **AB 1312 (Smyth)**

Doug Houston and Athena Lawson spoke to the committee about AB 1312. While the bill died in committee in early January, the idea will likely be introduced again this year in a substantial form. Mr. Houston commented that most of the opposition came from the Child Care Referral Network over extending hours for children 0-5 years old. With that age group out of the bill, the Child Care Referral Network is no longer in opposition to the bill. The committee had a discussion on the bill and was generally supportive of the idea. Because the bill idea is not in print at this time, the committee moved to amend the League's existing policy to include parks and recreation programs as follows:

The League supports the creation of more affordable, innovative and quality child care **and parks and recreation program** options for parents and concurrently encourages adherence to strict regulations and guidelines.

The motion passed 40-0 with one abstention.

**X. Update on Library State Budget Cuts (Attachment B)**

Christina DiCaro, lobbyist for the California Library Association (CLA) updated the committee on state budget impacts and cuts to local library funds. Ms. DiCaro noted that in the last year between state budget cuts and December's budget trigger cuts, libraries have lost \$30.4 million or all of the state funding for library programs. Three programs have been impacted by these cuts: the California Library Services Act which funds "transfers" of library materials between libraries throughout the state; the California Library Literacy Services Programs which services adult literacy programs; and, The Public Library Foundation. CLA will be focusing this year on preserving funding for the California Library Services Act as losing these funds also jeopardizes federal funding for the braille and talking books program. The State Librarian has said the program needs a minimum of \$17

million to survive. For more information on the ongoing fight to save library funding, please contact Kyra Ross with the League or Christina DiCaro at (916) 448-2196.

**XI. HEAL Cities Campaign**

The Community Services Policy Committee heard an update from the California Center for Public Health Advocacy on their Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Cities Campaign. At the end of the presentation, the Committee voted unanimously to add an item to their agenda to ask all Community Services Committee Members to participate in the HEAL Cities Campaign.

The HEAL Cities Campaign provides training and technical assistance to city officials to support adoption of policies that improve their communities' physical activity and retail food environments. Supporting healthy choices is essential to address the obesity epidemic among California's children and adults, currently costing the state more than \$41 billion annually in healthcare costs, workers compensation and lost productivity. In conjunction a number of city leaders, the HEAL Cities Campaign has developed policy recommendations in the areas of land use, healthy retail and employee wellness. The Campaign currently has 95 cities participating. For more information on the Campaign go to: [www.HealCitiesCampaign.org](http://www.HealCitiesCampaign.org) Additionally, Kyra Ross offered to send out a listing of cities with Community Services Policy Committee members that could be "mentor" cities to cities not already engaged in the HEAL cities campaign.

The Committee unanimously voted to recommend that all Community Services Policy Committee Member representatives pursue participation of Community Services Committee Representative Cities in the HEAL Cities Campaign.

**XII. Next Meeting: FRIDAY, March 29, 2012, Doubletree Hotel, Ontario**



**COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SERVICES**  
**2012 Draft Work Program**

1. **LEAGUE 2012 STRATEGIC GOALS** The Committee will focus on supporting the 2012 strategic goals adopted by the League Board of Directors. The 2012 strategic goals include:

**Support Sustainable and Secure Public Employee Pensions and Benefits.** Work in partnership with state leaders and other stakeholders to promote sustainable and secure public pensions and other post-employment benefits (OPEBs) to help ensure responsive and affordable public services for the people of our state and cities.

**Promote Local Control for Strong Cities.** Support or oppose legislation and proposed constitutional amendments based on whether they advance maximum local control by city governments over city revenues, land use, redevelopment and other private activities to advance the public health, safety and welfare of city residents.

**Build Strong Partnerships for a Stronger Golden State.** Collaborate with other public and private groups and leaders to reform the structure and governance, and promote transparency, fiscal integrity and responsiveness of our state government and intergovernmental system.

**Additionally, the Committee will also focus on the following issues in 2012:**

2. **STATE BUDGET and LEGISLATION** The committee will review pending legislation, and take action, where appropriate, on all issues within the sphere of community services.
3. **EDUCATION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS** The committee will also receive updates from state legislators or other state or local officials on topics of interest to the committee.
4. **TOPICS OF DISCUSSION** The committee will also look at the following topics in addition to those identified by the League's strategic priorities to explore throughout the year. These include the following issues:
  - Libraries
  - Funding for Parks and Community Programs, Closure of State Parks
  - CCS Healthy Community Action Plans
  - Public Health and Climate Change
  - Gangs
  - Childhood Obesity and Physical Education Programs
  - Community and Senior Centers/Senior Health and Aging Programs
  - Recreation and Tourism activities within a community (both economic development and parks/recreation)
  - Human Trafficking/slavery
  - Realignment
  - Child Care issues
  - Disaster Planning
  - Disability Services
  - Homelessness (foreclosure)

## RECENT FUNDING REDUCTIONS TO PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

<b>2000-01</b>	<b>Public Library Foundation</b>	<b>\$56,870,000</b>
2001-02	Governor Davis' Cuts (\$3.9 million cut in July)	\$52,970,000 ↓
2002-03	Governor Davis' January Budget (\$11.158 million cut)	\$41,812,000 ↓
2002-03	Governor Davis' May Revise Cuts and Conference Committee Action (\$10.3 million cut)	\$31,500,000 ↓
2003-04	Governor Davis' January Budget Proposal (\$15.7 million cut)	\$15,800,000 ↓
2004-05	Governor Schwarzenegger's January Budget: (\$1.4 million cut to baseline)	\$14,400,000 ↓
2005-06	Governor Schwarzenegger's January Budget Proposed \$2.2 million cut to baseline	\$12,100,000 ↓
2005-06	Legislature restores \$2.2 million to PLF in final Budget bill, which the Governor signs.	\$14,300,000 ↓
2006-07	Governor Schwarzenegger's May Revision adds \$7 million to PLF baseline.	\$21,360,000 ↓
2007-10	Governor Schwarzenegger's additional Budget reductions	<b>\$12,924,000</b>

**77% reduction from 2000-01 funding level.**

## Budget Reductions/Trigger Impacts – Public Library Programs

The Governor's **January Budget** proposed full elimination of \$30.4 million in total funding for library programs, which includes the Public Library Foundation, the California Library Services Act, and the California Library Literacy Services Program.

The Governor's **May Revision** of the Budget proposed restoring \$15.2 million of the proposed reductions, which also paralleled the recommendations of the Budget Conference Committee.

The **“trigger”** legislation, AB 121, proposes sweeping up to \$15.2 million of the remaining funding if sufficient state revenues don't materialize.

### Distribution Schedules:

California Library Services Act: Money is typically distributed on a quarterly basis, and the systems themselves receive two checks per year. Current baseline - \$8.5 million. This money has been frozen since July 1, 2011.

California Library Literacy Services Program: Money is typically distributed in July and October to 105 programs. Current baseline: \$3.7 million. This money has been frozen since July 1, 2011.

Public Library Foundation: Money is typically distributed each February. Current baseline: \$3 million. No impact as of yet on the 2011-12 distribution, except for the assumed deep reduction to the program. (\$12.9 million reduced to \$3 million.)

### The Programs Affected:

The **California Library Services Act** is a statewide, coordinated system of “regions” designed for the purpose of supporting the delivery of books/materials between branches in the network, and for the purchase of shared services such as high speed Internet, reference catalogues, etc.

Reimbursement is provided to jurisdictions for interlibrary loans of materials and direct loans to non-resident borrowers. The CLSA is the program that is most fundamental to the success of the public library system in California, as without it, the free public library system will disintegrate.

This program has a federal match component that would be subject to partial or total elimination if the trigger reductions were enacted. California received \$15 million in federal dollars in 2010-11. The Braille and Talking Books program (4 million items in the collection: 12,000 users in Northern California and 30,000 in Southern California) is funded with federal dollars. This program would be shut down without federal funding to the state.

**Direct Impact:** Without continued funding, SERRA Cooperative Library System (San Diego and Imperial Counties) are slated to shut down February 1, 2012. NorthNet Cooperative Library System is slated to shut down December 31, 2011. This system serves the northern third of the State. Currently the State Library is using some stop-gap federal money to keep them afloat for the next two to three months. Other regions are in danger of shutting. Materials purchases would halt, staff would be eliminated. Most importantly, libraries would pull out of the cooperative system,

creating “boutique libraries” in wealthier areas, where non-residents would either not be allowed to use the library, or the library would require a pricey non-resident fee library card.

Santa Clara’s recently adopted, non-resident fee library card was implemented in July 2011, and will require non-residents to pay \$80 per person for the use of the library – this includes the ability to simply use a computer. There are 18,600 computers in the public libraries throughout the state, and according to the State Librarian, they were used 38 million times last year. Many employers are requiring job applicants to submit their applications online, but it is important to remember that not everyone has a home computer, iPad, etc. Similarly not everyone can “download” a book at the library to take it home to read. People are using the library for workplace training: reference materials and employment-related literature are in high demand, but are often only available in book format. The ability for libraries to share resources between branches maximizes the regional collection.

**The California Library Literacy Services Program** is a statewide, coordinated program managed by the State Library. The State Library sets benchmarks for literacy performance, makes sure all 105 programs are consistent. This program services 20,000 English-speaking, mostly adult, literacy learners. Literacy coordinators at each library recruit tutors, schedule appointments, manage the reportable data and statistics, issue training materials, etc. There are 13,000 trained volunteers in the program, which helps to stretch the state contribution for this program exponentially. This program focuses on literacy but also on workforce development and financial literacy.

**Direct Impact:** One-third (33) of the 105 libraries could not sustain their programs if funding were eliminated for the CLLS. According to the State Library, many of the remaining programs that felt they could survive this year without the CLLS funding, indicated they would not likely survive beyond that. Of the 33 libraries identified, 17 of these that would close are rural libraries and most likely do not have any other adult education programs in their community.

*Prepared for Director Ana Matosantos on 10/27/11 by  
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