



1400 K Street, Suite 400 • Sacramento, California 95814  
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www.cacities.org

DATE: February 14, 2012

TO: Members of Community Services Policy Committee

FROM: Meg Desmond, League Staff (916) 658-8224 Email: mdesmond@cacities.org

RE: **Policy Committee Meeting Highlights**

Attached are the meeting highlights from the January policy committee meeting that was held in Sacramento.

Listed below is the location and dates for the next policy committee meetings. Specific agendas and meeting materials will be mailed to each committee member approximately one week prior to the meeting.

DATE: Thursday, March 29 or Friday, March 30, 2012  
TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
PLACE: **Doubletree by Hilton, Ontario Airport**  
222 N. Vineyard Avenue  
Ontario, CA 91764 – (800) 222-8733 or (909) 937-0900

**THURSDAY, March 29, 2012**

Administrative Services  
Environmental Quality  
Revenue & Taxation  
Transp., Comm., & Public Works

**FRIDAY, March 30, 2012**

Community Services  
Employee Relations  
Housing, Community & Economic Dev.  
Public Safety

***Please complete and FAX or E-mail the attached attendance form.*** Registration is NOT required for this meeting. However, your response is necessary to help us determine an accurate meal count.

**AIR TRANSPORTATION:**

Low, refundable fares are available through the Enhanced Local Government Airfare Program. The program requires that a city be pre-registered; check with your city's travel coordinator. This program is ticketless and includes Southwest, United and United Express. For city pairs, rates, or if your city has not yet registered, please check the League Web site at <http://www.cacities.org/travel> for details.

If you plan to drive, you may check your most reliable Web site for directions to the hotel (e.g., [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com); [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com)).

**OVERNIGHT ACCOMODATIONS:** A block of rooms are available at the Doubletree Hotel, 222 N. Vineyard Avenue, Ontario. For a reservation, please phone the hotel directly: (800) 222-8733 or (909) 937-0900. A limited number of rooms are available at a reduced rate of \$84 plus taxes and fees. Parking is complimentary. This rate is guaranteed until March 14<sup>th</sup>.



# ATTENDANCE FORM

Meeting: Policy Committee Meetings  
 Date(s): Thursday, March 29, or Friday, March 30, 2012  
 Time: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
 Place: Doubletree by Hilton, Ontario Airport  
 222 N. Vineyard Avenue  
 Ontario, CA 91764

Please check committee:

**THURSDAY, March 29, 2012**

- \_\_\_ Administrative Services
- \_\_\_ Environmental Quality
- \_\_\_ Revenue & Taxation
- \_\_\_ Transp., Comm. & Public Works

**FRIDAY, March 30, 2012**

- \_\_\_ Community Services
- \_\_\_ Employee Relations
- \_\_\_ Housing, Comm., & Economic Dev.
- \_\_\_ Public Safety

\*\*\*\*\*

\_\_\_ I **WILL** attend



If you require reasonable accommodations related to facility access, communication and/or diet, please indicate your special needs \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please RSVP by Wednesday, March 14, 2012**

Please choose **ONLY ONE** method of responding:

**E-Mail:** [mdesmond@cacities.org](mailto:mdesmond@cacities.org). This form is **NOT** necessary when e-mailing. When e-mailing, please indicate your name, title, city and policy committee.

**FAX** this form to: (916) 658-8240  
 Attention: Meg Desmond

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY POLICY COMMITTEE  
HIGHLIGHTS**

Thursday, January 19, 2012

Sacramento Convention Center, 1400 J Street, Room 203, Sacramento

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

**ATTENDANCE**

Members: Newcomer, Owen (Chair); Page, Chuck (V.Chair); Aguiar-Curry, Cecilia; Ballinger, Jeff; Brennan, Michael; Butt, Thomas; Calvert, Sandra; Canavan, Jon; Cheng, Ann; Christensen, Alan; Clark, Margaret; Coleman, Ginger; de Groot, Christopher; Eklund, Pat; Glaser, Dean; Goodhart, James; Haddad, Lana; Holober, Nadia; Holstine, Clay; Iseman, Toni; Kalapura, Sona; Lawson, Kristina; Lillio, Joe; Lyn, Fred; Miller, Katherine; Mitchell, Judy; Mohler, Marjorie; Montgomery, Richard; Nelson, Bob; Pirnejad, Peter; Rapp, Lisa Ann; Uota, Dean; Rosa, Josh; Schock, William; Small, Kenneth; Soto, Danielle; Spurgin, Jay; Swanson, Rochelle; Ursu, Emmanuel; Vinson, Kay; Watkins, Mark; Wheatley, Mark

League Partners: Ahn, Joe; Pena, Samuel

Staff: Kyra Ross

Guests: Kelye McKinney, City of Roseville; Sean Bigley, City of Roseville; Lawrence Lingbloom, Chief Consultant, Assembly Natural Resources Committee; Lindsay Buckley, ILG; Tim James, California Grocers Association; Kathy Mannion, Regional Council of Rural Counties; and, Jonathon Changus, Office of Senator Blakeslee.

**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 Owen Newcomer welcomed the committee to their first meeting of the year. Policy committee members went around the table and introduced themselves.

**III. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**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 Environmental Quality 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. The committee moved to approve 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**

- **Governor's Proposal on Regional Water Quality Control Board Consolidation.**

League Staff Kyra Ross updated the committee on the Governor's budget proposal to consolidate and reorganize the state's nine regional water quality control boards. Members concurred with the Governor's office that some changes are needed to address the lack of quorums at the regional boards, but also had a number of comments on the proposal. These comments included concern about the staffing for the regional board members (specifically technical staff needed to help board members understand permitting issues); inherent political risk of having the chair of the board appointed by the Governor; concerns over lack of justification for raise in board members' per diem; lack of regional board members from the region being permitted (so the members do not understand local issues); need to address ex-parte communication at the regional board level (and in turn this may help with lack of technical knowledge by board members). Staff requested that no action be taken on this item as there is only preliminary language available for review. Further action on this item may be needed at the March policy committee meeting.

- **Water Quality Permits and Fees Legislation.**

League Staff Kyra Ross updated the committee on ongoing discussions regarding State Water Board permitting. Ross explained that she expects multiple bills to be introduced this year on stormwater permitting. These issues were outlined for the committee members in the agenda packet as well as highlighted in a fall 2011 legislative hearing. Information on the hearing can be found here: ([http://www.stormwatercosts.com/?page\\_id=13](http://www.stormwatercosts.com/?page_id=13)) Legislation in 2012 is expected to address a number of issues including: ex-parte communication (SB 965, Wright); and economic analysis of statewide permits (SB 964, Wright); which have both been introduced but several more are expected to come in the next few weeks. Given that more legislation is expected to

come up this spring, the committee chose to form a group to act as a sounding board for language for the League. Finally, the committee moved the following motion:

In order to position the League to take action, the committee recommends discussion by the Coastal Issues Group, EQ and TCPW committees and authorization for staff to draft spot bills and amendments and to give the League the option to sponsor legislation on this matter in early 2012. In addition, the League supports a fair, consistent and transparent state water board process.

The motion passed unanimously.

- **Statewide Stormwater Coalition.**

Kelye McKinney and Sean Bigley made a presentation to the Committee on the Statewide Stormwater Coalition (SSC). The SSC was formed last year in response to the reissuance of the Phase II Small MS4 Stormwater permit. The initial goal of the SSC was to influence changes to the draft permit. Concerns included a very short review period (30 days), limited stakeholder process and no ability to meet with Board Members (ex-parte). The SSC did get some success including extending the review period and some ability to communicate with State Water Board staff. The Phase II MS4 Stormwater permit is currently being revised after State Water Board staff acknowledged that they over-reached in the permit and are making significant modifications. The SSC is currently 70 agencies strong and is working on their longer term goal to create a fair, consistent and transparent permit process at the State Water Board and are focusing currently on legislative reform of the State Water Board permit process, Federal and State Policies and Permits (EPA National Stormwater Rulemaking, Phase II Permit, Ocean Plan Amendment), member support (both Phase I and Phase II permittees) and stormwater awareness. Cities are encouraged to consider joining the SSC (no cost to join) and can find more information at [www.stormwatercost.com](http://www.stormwatercost.com) or contact Ms. McKinney ([kmckinney@roseville.ca.us](mailto:kmckinney@roseville.ca.us)) or Mr. Bigley ([sbigley@roseville.ca.us](mailto:sbigley@roseville.ca.us)) with the City of Roseville or Kyra Ross with the League.

- **The Year Ahead**

Lawrence Lingbloom, Chief Consultant to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee, briefed the committee on what issues he thought would be “hot” in 2012. Issues he noted included Proposition 26 follow-up, discussions surrounding a 75% solid waste diversion goal; follow-up legislation from last year’s SB 226 and AB 900 (CEQA); mandatory commercial recycling; discussions about additional composting and food recycling; and, renewable energy issues.

**X. ILG Beacon Award Update**

Lindsay Buckley, ILG staff, gave an update about the Beacon Award. The Beacon Award recognizes and celebrates California Cities and Counties that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and energy use; adopt policies and programs to address climate change; and, promote sustainability. More information for interested cities can be found on the Institute’s website at: [www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward](http://www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward)

**XI. Next Meeting: THURSDAY, March 29, 2012, Doubletree Hotel, Ontario**

## Attachment A



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### COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY 2012 Final Work Program

**2012 LEAGUE OF CITIES STRATEGIC GOALS** The Committee will work to support 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 look at the following issues during the 2012 year:**

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY LEGISLATION** The committee will actively monitor legislation and regulatory actions within the committee's jurisdiction including air and water quality, energy, smart metering, climate change, CEQA, integrated waste management, hazardous materials, coastal issues, and solid waste. As needed, the committee will take discuss and take positions on bills and make recommendations to the League Board.

**EDUCATION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS** The committee will, as appropriate, receive updates from state legislators or other state or local officials on topics of interest to the committee. When receiving updates from guest speakers, committee members will also be tasked with presenting their positions and communicating local needs.

**ENERGY EFFICIENCY and RENEWABLE ENERGY** The committee will continue its work on updating the existing League energy policies and guiding principles as well as receive education on electric vehicles and their related infrastructure, energy efficiency and renewable energy issues.

**CEQA** The Committee will receive periodic updates on the streamlining of CEQA and CEQA and renewable resources.

**SB 375** The committee will receive periodic updates on the implementation of SB 375 and climate change.

**WATER and WATER QUALITY** The committee will look at state and regional water board issues, water quality and recycled water, wastewater as future water supply, sea level rise, flood and Delta issues, including BCDC.