

LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES

# 2020 Strategic Priorities

Throughout the state, city leaders – urban, suburban and rural – work hard every day to improve the quality of life for their residents. To meet this commitment to our communities, city leaders come together annually and set the League of California Cities strategic priorities, to strengthen our cities as vibrant places to live, work, and play. We stand ready to work collaboratively with the Governor, the Legislature and other stakeholders to accomplish these strategic priorities in 2020.

1. **Improve the supply and affordability of housing.** Provide cities with financial tools to increase construction of housing, particularly for vulnerable populations, reform state regulatory barriers, and ensure cities retain flexibility based on the size, geography, demographics, impact mitigation and land use needs of each community.
2. **Advocate for increased funding and resources to prevent homelessness and assist individuals experiencing homelessness.** Secure additional resources and flexibility to provide navigation assistance, emergency shelters and permanent supportive housing and strengthen partnerships with stakeholders to ensure mental health, substance abuse treatment, and wraparound services are available for adults and youth at risk of – or already experiencing – homelessness in our communities.
3. **Address cities’ fiscal sustainability to deliver essential services and meet pension obligations.** Raise awareness among stakeholders about the fiscal challenges cities face and work collaboratively to secure new revenue tools and flexible prudent policies to ensure cities are able to provide essential services to their residents while maintaining their ability to meet pension obligations.
4. **Strengthen community and disaster preparedness, public safety, and resiliency.** Improve community resiliency to disasters and environmental threats, and strengthen infrastructure stability and control, through expanding partnerships, including state and federal agencies, and securing additional resources and support for climate change adaptation, planning, preparedness, response, recovery, and sustainability in our cities.
5. **Address public safety concerns of California cities.**
  - Reform recently enacted criminal justice laws — enacted by both statute and initiative — that have eroded public safety protections of California residents through the passage of the Police Chiefs/Grocer’s-sponsored criminal justice reform measure eligible for the November 2020 state ballot, or by equivalent reforms achieved through legislative action.
  - Protect public safety by reducing access to firearms by the mentally ill.
  - Support additional tools and resources to address critical community challenges such as homelessness, mental health, domestic violence, drug rehabilitation, human trafficking and workforce development for ex-offender reentry.