

Benefits of Membership

Established in 1898, the League of California Cities is a member organization comprised of California's local leaders and city officials who work together to enhance their knowledge and skills, exchange information, and combine resources to influence and shape policy decisions that affect cities.

Cal Cities' robust membership encompasses nearly all California residents, representing every corner of the state's diverse communities. Our commitment at Cal Cities is to provide you and your city with relevant services and programs that will develop solutions to local challenges facing California's cities and help you be a stronger leader for your community.



Legislative Advocacy

An experienced Sacramento-based lobbying team works in conjunction with regional field staff to advocate on behalf of cities on a wide spectrum of issues to protect the common interests of our communities, seek state and federal funding to support cities, and protect local decision-making. Cal Cities works collaboratively with our members, the Governor, the Legislature, and other stakeholders to ensure our communities remain vibrant places to live, work, and play.

The Cal Cities policy committees play a key role in shaping Cal Cities' policy positions, guiding legislative positions on issues facing California cities, and advocating for cities at the State Capitol.

Legal Advocacy

The Cal Cities Legal Advocacy Program represents the interests of California cities in both federal and state court and regularly files friend-of-the-court briefs and letters in the California and federal appellate courts and with the state Attorney General on cases that affect city authority and local decision-making.



Education and Training

Cal Cities hosts conferences, seminars, academies, forums, webinars, and institutes throughout the state to help strengthen the leadership skills of city officials and offer best practices for city leaders to bring back to their communities to improve the quality of life for their residents. There are more than 7,500 registrations by city officials for these events and trainings each year.

Meaningful Member Engagement

In addition to policy committees, members have a multitude of ways to get involved with Cal Cities and interact with fellow city officials. Sixteen regional divisions, five diversity caucuses, 10 professional departments, 15 listservs, and the Rural Cities Information Exchange and Coastal Cities groups feature educational sessions and provide opportunities for city officials who share common interests or characteristics to connect with one another.

Cal Cities advocacy efforts, events and trainings, and city stories are shared on multiple platforms to maximize the number of people reached and to ensure the availability and accessibility of Cal Cities information. The Cal Cities website, newsletter, listservs, social media channels, monthly digital magazine, specialized publications, and other outreach channels serve to engage city officials and keep members informed.



Awards and Recognitions

The Cal Cities Torch Program is an educational program that recognizes mayors and council members for continuing their education to enhance their knowledge and skills in order to better serve the public. Member cities may also seek recognition for innovation and the highest level of service to their communities through the Cal Cities Helen Putnam Award Program, Local Streets and Roads Awards, and the Institute for Local Government's Beacon Program.

Leadership Opportunities

Elected officials and staff from member cities may serve on the Cal Cities policy committees, board of directors, and as officers of diversity caucuses, professional departments, and regional divisions. Leaders within Cal Cities help guide the organization and set policies and annual Legislative priorities to enhance the quality of life for all Californians.

Financial Solutions

Member cities have access to two financial solution programs co-sponsored by Cal Cities and California State Association of Counties. The California Statewide Communities Development Authority (CSCDA) provides cities access to tax-exempt funding for public benefit projects and CalTRUST offers a convenient method for public agencies to pool assets for investment purposes.



Learn more about the League of California Cities and the benefits available to you and your city.

Advocacy www.cacities.org/advocacy

Legal Advocacy www.cacities.org/legaladvocacy

Conferences and Events www.cacities.org/events

Policy Committees www.cacities.org/policycommittees

Regional Divisions www.cacities.org/regionalmanagers

Professional Departments www.cacities.org/departments

Diversity Caucuses www.cacities.org/caucuses

Newsletter* www.cacities.org/calcitiesadvocate

Listservs www.cacities.org/listserv

Western City magazine* www.westerncity.com

Financial Solutions www.cacities.org/financialsolutions

Follow us on social media



*New members are automatically subscribed to Cal Cities and *Western City* newsletters.

Strengthening California Cities Through Education & Advocacy

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