

**July 29, 2016
Issue #60**

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Page 5: California City Solutions: Thousand Oaks Develops Successful Youth Internship Program
- Page 7: Mayors and Council Members Department Now Taking Applications to Serve on Executive Committee
- Page 8: Take A Selfie with Your City Hall Aug. 15

Legislators Return for Final Month of Session

League Focused on Housing, Transportation and Employee Relations; On Watch for Amendments

Things promise to heat up in Sacramento when the Assembly and Senate resume for their final weeks of the 2015-16 legislative session. Legislators must finish all business by midnight on Aug. 31. Gov. Jerry Brown then has 30 days to take action on legislation. The League has spent the legislative recess preparing for the hard work that must be accomplished on behalf of cities in the culmination of the session. Cities are urged to remain on alert for breaking news from the League and be ready to act. *For more, see Page 2.*



Cities Face Disruptive and Costly Employee Orientation Proposal

There is a union push for employee outreach and retention in the aftermath of the U.S. Supreme Court's 4-4, decision in *Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association*. This case challenged the collection of "fair share" union fees from nonunion employees. *For more, see Page 4.*



League-Sponsored Bond Agency Issues \$16 Million in Tax-Exempt Bonds for Art College in San Francisco

Some of the most significant benefits of League membership for cities since 1988 have flowed from the League's co-sponsorship of the [California Statewide Communities Development Authority](#) (CSCDA). *For more, see Page 5.*

The League will be monitoring legislative committees, testifying and engaging with stakeholders on legislative developments. Fiscal committees in both houses will hold hearings during the first two weeks of the month. Although technically only floor sessions may be held Aug. 15-31, rule waivers enable committees to convene until the very end to hear last minute amendments and the inevitable end of session gut-and-amends.

"The end of session is not the time to relax," said Dan Carrigg, deputy executive director and legislative director. "Our lobbyists will be on constant lookout for bills or amendments that affect cities that can pop up with little notice."

Here are the official deadlines:

- **Aug. 12: Fiscal Committee Deadline.** Last day for fiscal committees (Assembly or Senate Appropriations committees) to meet and report bills requesting legislative appropriations to the Assembly or Senate floor.
- **Aug. 15 – 31: Floor Session Only.** Legislative committees cannot meet for any purpose without a rule waiver.
- **Aug. 19: Amendment Deadline.** Last day to amend bills on the floor without a rule waiver. This deadline is often associated with the practice of "gut-and-amend" when amendments remove the entire contents of a bill and insert new provisions, unrelated to the bill's original intent, because it is used frequently right before or on this date. Bills gut-and-amended around this time are able to bypass most of the legislative process and appropriate oversight.
- **Aug. 31: Final Adjournment of the Regular Session.** Last day for either house to pass bills. Final recess begins upon adjournment.
- **Sept. 30: Governor Bill Signing Deadline.** The Governor has until Sept. 30 to sign or veto bills in his possession passed by the Legislature by Aug. 31.

The League's recently updated [Hot and Priority Bills](#) List provides an effective way to understand the most pressing legislation lobbyists, the regional public affairs managers and cities will be focused on this month.

To access any bill on this list, the League's position letter and sample letters, please go to www.cacities.org/billsearch and plug in the bill number into the search box. [A full listing](#) of Senate and Assembly hearings is available online. Hearing times are subject to change. Bill language and any available position letters on legislation can be found through the bill search function on the [League's website](#).

By Right Housing Proposal

The Governor's By Right Housing proposal was not part of the final budget deal passed by legislators in mid-June. When the Governor signed the FY 2016-17 budget, it was understood that this issue would be brought back in the final weeks of the legislative session. More than 100 cities have officially opposed this proposal and city officials should be on high alert and ready to communicate their significant concerns when the Legislature takes up this debate in August.

This [proposal](#) would reduce perceived additional costs and delays associated with the approval of housing developments containing specified percentages of affordable housing by eliminating public input and project-level environmental analysis, restricting design review, and making approvals ministerial. This was tied to the approval of \$400 million for affordable housing, a priority for the Assembly Democratic Caucus. If the Legislature does not act on the Governor's proposal or something similar, the funds for affordable housing will not be appropriated.

The League has argued from the start that eliminating opportunities for public review of major development projects goes against the principles of local democracy and public engagement.

While it may be frustrating for some developers to hear concerns about traffic, parking and other development impacts, those affected by such projects have a right to be heard. Not having such outlets will increase public distrust in government.

Transportation Funding

As legislators continue to debate transportation funding, road conditions continue to deteriorate. The 2014 Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment put the [unmet funding need for local streets and roads at \\$78 billion over the next 10 years](#). Add to this the fact that in May, the California Transportation Commission formally adopted a five-year state transportation funding plan that cuts [\\$754 million and delays another \\$755 million](#) in highway, rail, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian transportation projects as a result of declining gas tax revenues.

The Fix Our Roads Coalition, of which the League is a founding partner, has been working over the recess. Look for new [#TranspoTues](#) tweets and other social media posts focused on how California needs a solid transportation funding agreement that balances reforms, restores lost revenues and constitutionally dedicates new revenues to transportation. Cities are encouraged to take part in this effort by retweeting and posting messages.

This issue is expected to be negotiated in the special session, which does not face the same deadlines and could extend past the adjournment of the regular session. Recently League staff has seen more signs of progress in the Assembly and Senate. However, the issue continues to face an uphill battle and everyone — stakeholders, the Legislature, and the Governor — will need to stay focused to be successful.

Employee Relations, Negotiations

The League is focused on several employee relations bills at the end of session, including AB 2835 (Cooper) and SB 897 (Roth) which could increase costs and mandates on cities. AB 2835 would place numerous new requirements mandating specific types of labor union employee orientations. It would displace employees and threaten fundamental management rights. SB 897 expands 4850 time (workers compensation) by one additional year for police and firefighters in the event of a catastrophic injury at the hands of another while on duty.

Both bills have been moving smoothly through the legislature and are expected to be on the Governor's desk for consideration shortly. Cities are encouraged to carefully review these bills and communicate their concerns to their legislators and the Governor. The League's opposition letter and a sample letter are available at www.cacities.org/billsearch by plugging AB 2835 or SB 897 into the search bar.

Taking Action

The League uses a variety of tools to keep members up to date on breaking legislative developments. City officials should watch for urgent communication from their regional public affairs managers. They will be sending action alerts complete with sample letters, talking points and other important information.

One of the best ways to respond to urgent League action alerts is through the League's advocacy app that enables city officials to take action on legislation anytime or anywhere. This tool is especially effective in the final days and nights of the session when legislative developments are late breaking and require immediate action.

The app pushes out action alerts and enables users to take direct action right from their mobile devices. Using it, city officials can easily and rapidly respond to action alerts from wherever a city official might be located by receiving an alert directly to their cell phone via text message or push notification.

While anyone in the public can download the League app, the League's Legislative Advocacy section within the app is only available to city officials that volunteer and sign-up to be part of the League's Advocacy Team.

To learn more about this tool and become a part of the League's Advocacy Team, please contact your [regional public affairs manager](#).

Next Steps: Act and Be on Alert

As the final four weeks of session begins, cities need to be ready to take action quickly to help advocate on important issues. On Monday, Aug. 1, the League will start the end of session by issuing an updated bills in committee list in *CA Cities Advocate* to help cities plan their engagement. There are additional things cities can do to be effective:

- If city officials are not already receiving updates from the regional managers, they should connect with them to be added to the list.
- City officials can sign up through their regional manager to gain access to the Legislative Advocacy section of the League's app.
- Follow and share messages sent through the League's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).
- Make contact with your legislator so that they know you are involved and can be a resource if they are considering legislation and amendments impacting cities.

And finally, cities should mark Sept. 7 on their calendars, when the League has tentatively scheduled a Sign/Veto webinar. This webinar will highlight all the bills that pass the legislature and represent the last chance for cities to weigh in before Governor Brown takes action.

'AB 2835' Continued from Page 1...

Organized labor attempted to force a gut-and-amend in the final days of the 2015 legislative session to mandate labor union orientations for state and local agencies. That attempt failed in part due to the hard work of the League and a broad public sector coalition opposing the measure.

This year labor groups are back with a modified proposal under the guise of uniformed training for public employees.

Authored by the co-chairman of the Moderate Democratic Caucus, typically a bloc of politically balanced democratic representatives, [AB 2835](#) (Cooper) requires cities to adhere to strict employee orientation rules and provide union organizations greater time and discretion with new employees.

Specifically, Assembly Member Jim Cooper's (D-Elk Grove) bill requires that new employee orientations occur within two months of hire and provides union organizations no less than 30 minutes to present within the first hour of the orientation. This measure grants union organizations nearly full discretion over their presentation materials. It does not prohibit a union representative from discussing internal union politics or campaigning, how to vote on upcoming incumbency elections, or prohibits the issues covered by the Public Employment Relations Board's (PERB) long-standing rule for unprotected conduct by employee representatives "that is found to be sufficiently opprobrious, flagrant, insulting, defamatory, insubordinate, or fraught with malice as to cause substantial disruption of or material interference in the workplace" (State of California (Dept. of Corr. & Rehabilitation) (2012) PERB.

Enforcing strict guidelines for employee orientations would create costly logistical and administrative burdens for public agencies. Changes to an employer's orientation content that may vary from the requirements of this measure, would additionally entail prolonged negotiation with union organizations over content and scheduling of the orientation. This will inevitably result in costly fact-finding procedures for cities.

While unions already have rights to negotiate the issue of orientations through collective bargaining, AB 2835 unjustifiably expands that right and creates undue cost and impractical mandates. Public agencies will be in continuous orientation and negotiation mode as the frequency and number of orientations increase.

For employees themselves this measure amounts to longer orientations, disruption in their training and work schedules, and additional travel all of which this measure dictates. The added benefit to employees is unclear.

Moreover, AB 2835 ignores the day-to-day realities of the workplace for both employees and employers: workplace size, hours, location, and number of agency employees.

This proposal would place major burdens on public agencies that will be disruptive, costly, and logistically impractical — all the while stripping cities of their local control without a substantiated argument that employee union membership and interactions is threatened under current practice.

Next Steps

Cities are urged to send letters opposing AB 2835 to their senator. A sample letter, along with the League's opposition letter, is available at www.cacities.org/billsearch by plugging AB 2835 into the search function.

'CSCDA' Continued from Page 1...

This program provides a variety of public agencies and developers access to low-cost, tax-exempt financing and economic development tools. CSCDA recently issued a total of issued \$16 million in tax-exempt bonds for California College of the Arts (CCA) in San Francisco.

About California College of the Arts

Founded in 1907 by Frederick Meyer, a German cabinetmaker whose vision was shaped by the Arts and Crafts movement, CCA is noted for the interdisciplinary and breadth of its programs. CCA educates students to shape culture and society through the practice and critical study of art, architecture, design, and writing. Benefitting from its San Francisco Bay Area location, the college prepares students for lifelong creative work by cultivating innovation, community engagement, and social and environmental responsibility.

CSCDA partnered with Stern Brothers and First Republic Bank to provide the \$16 million in tax-exempt bonds for CCA. The bonds will be used to build and improve new educational facilities located adjacent to the existing CCA campus.

Background

CSCDA is a joint powers authority created in 1988 and is sponsored by the League of California Cities® and the California State Association of Counties. It was created by cities and counties for cities and counties. More than 500 cities, counties and special districts are program participants in CSCDA, which serves as their conduit issuer and provides access to efficiently finance locally-approved projects. CSCDA has issued more than \$50 billion in tax exempt bonds for projects that provide a public benefit by creating jobs, affordable housing, healthcare, infrastructure, schools and other fundamental services. Visit [CSCDA's website](#) for additional information on the ways in which CSCDA can help your city.

California City Solutions: Thousand Oaks Develops Successful Youth Internship Program

This story is part of an ongoing series featuring Helen Putnam Award entries. The 2015 entries are available on the League's website as a resource for cities in a searchable database called [California City Solutions](#). Thousand Oaks C.I.T.Y. was submitted in 2015 for the Community Services and Economic Development award category.

Every other year, the Thousand Oaks Youth Commission, an advisory body to the Thousand Oaks City Council, hosts its Leadership Summit. Youth have the opportunity at the summit to share their concerns and ideas with community leaders and the youth commission.

After reviewing the results from the 2012 and 2014 summits, it became clear that high school youth wanted more opportunities for meaningful employment, volunteer service, and internships to help gain hands-on experience outside of the classroom. Many attributed the lack of opportunities to the economic downturn and the fact that adults were accepting positions that would normally be offered to high school students. This left students unemployed and with too much time on their hands especially during the summer months.

The commission voted to create a program in 2014 designed to help high school students obtain meaningful internships. The team researched internships across the nation, developed a plan called Community Internships Training Youth (C.I.T.Y.) that would work with the community, and presented it to the city council. The commissioners produced a basic C.I.T.Y. program outline with four main objectives in mind:

- 1) Provide 11th grade students information to help them make college and career decisions;
- 2) Include a career skills educational component;
- 3) Provide application and interview training; and
- 4) Provide quality internships with meaningful and relevant experience.

The youth realized the value of partnerships and searched for those that could benefit the program in specific areas of expertise. This resulted in a partnership between the city, volunteer youth commission, institution of higher learning, business collaborative, local school district, and a nonprofit.

Each agency provided a representative to meet and develop a memorandum of understanding and details for the program. Each partner, business, and student has a role.

Principal Partners are responsible for establishing and implementing the youth internship program. The general responsibilities include:

- Communicating the goals and expectations of the program to the community;
- Providing resources to support the program;
- Overseeing communication of information and recruit business partners;
- Communicating information to students, collect student applications and select eligible participants to forward to businesses;
- Developing and conduct interview skills instruction;
- Developing curriculum and conduct life/career skills learning classes;
- Hosting informational and graduation events; and
- Serving as the central source of information and perform administrative duties.

Businesses that take an intern agree to:

- Provide a job description for recruitment, interview and select interns;
- Provide intern(s) with realistic, challenging assignments that facilitate learning and have a benefit to the business;
- Serve as a mentor, sharing experiences in the career and giving suggestions for entering the profession;
- Meet with intern(s) regularly to guide performance, answer questions, and provide resources related to the intern's work;
- Submit final student and program evaluations; and
- Attend a graduation ceremony.

Student interns are responsible for:

- Selecting an internship appropriate with career goals;
- Work the required number of hours;
- Learning about and act in a manner consistent with business "culture" and its commitment to a high level of service and its core mission;
- Maintaining high standards of professionalism while at the internship site;
- Seeking supervision and assistance at the worksite as needed;
- Completing academic tasks required to participate in the program; i.e., attend classes;
- Submitting a program evaluation; and
- Attending graduation ceremony.

C.I.T.Y. helps the community by developing young people and introducing them to local businesses and a local college. City leaders hope that it may encourage students to stay and work in the area, which will provide the next generation needed for future sustainability.

For the 2014 summer program, nine businesses participated and 19 students were placed. All program evaluations were positive and all students indicated they believed it will benefit them in the future. Two of the interns were hired as permanent employees. The college experience component encouraged two students to consider college that didn't necessarily have college in their plans. Additionally, one intern created the local public library mobile app, which has become very popular.

The 2015 program showed an increase in participants with 47 students placed at 23 participating businesses. The internships during 2015 offer a wide variety of experiences: senior services, medical services, hospitality, real estate, recreation, educational publishing, manufacturing, library services, engineering, environmental services, administrative services, event planning, journalism and more. In addition to the six partners, the team also placed interns with the Ventura County, Conejo Recreation and Park District, Thousand Oaks Public Library, local nonprofits and businesses.

Mayors and Council Members Department Now Taking Applications to Serve on Executive Committee

Apply by Monday, Aug. 8

The Mayors and Council Members Department of the League of California Cities® is now seeking applicants for the department [Executive Committee](#) and for state [League director](#).

The Executive Committee positions are a one-year terms with the intention of succeeding to the president position within the department. The state League director position is a two-year term and this role entails serving as liaison from the department to the League's board of directors. This position rotates between Northern and Southern California and this year the department seeks applicants from the Southern California.

Qualifications

The Nominating Committee will use the following information as a basis for selection:

- The individual's professional reputation;
- The individual's perspective on city service;
- Whether the individual has demonstrated a commitment to serving and strengthening the department;
- The individual's depth of knowledge of and experience with city government; and
- The individual's involvement in intergovernmental activities.

Application and Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by the Nominating Committee (appointed by the current Executive Committee). The proposed 2016-17 Executive Committee slate will be presented for vote at the League's Annual Conference in Long Beach. Nominations for the vacancies will also be open from the floor at the department business meeting during the annual conference.

- [Application for the Executive Committee](#)
- [Application for state League Board Director](#)

All applications must be received by Aug. 8. Please direct applications by email to [Sara Rounds](#) or fax to (916) 658-8240. Please call Sara at (916) 658-8243 with questions or to confirm receipt of your application.

Take A Selfie with Your City Hall Aug. 15

The Engaging Local Government Leaders (ELGL) membership organization is launching the first annual National [#CityHallSelfie](#) Day, taking place on Monday, Aug. 15. The goal is to break the record for city hall selfies taken in one day. Although the organization does not have the official record of selfies they estimate the number to be around nine.

You can participate in this new event by posting your #cityhallselfie on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, or Twitter. If you are not a fan of social media, send your #cityhallselfie via [email](#).

Prizes will be awarded all day. Everyone who participates will receive an ELGL coozie. You'll also have a chance to win a selfie stick, [Treat Yo Self mug](#), [Pawnee ringer t-shirt](#), [Indiana names t-shirt](#), and [RIP Harambe t-shirt](#).

As you wait for Aug. 15, check the [#CityHallSelfie album](#).

ELGL is a professional association of more than 1,500 local government professionals from 45 states. Its members come from local government, nonprofits, public affairs firms, banks, students, as well as federal and state government.
