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Update: League's Positions on November Ballot Measures

The countdown to the November election continues. With 17 measures on the November 2016 statewide ballot, the League of California Cities® is providing this updated report on League positions regarding eight measures affecting cities. *For more, see Page 2.*



League Testifies in Senate Informational Hearing on Open Data

On Friday Oct. 7, the League of California Cities® participated in an informational hearing hosted by Sen. Robert Hertzberg (D-Van Nuys), chair of the Senate Governance and Finance Committee. Open data experts, local government advocates and local government agencies met to discuss the many ways that open data and increased transparency can be beneficial to the public. Specifically, panelists were asked to share the benefits and challenges associated with SB 272 (Hertzberg, Chapter 795, Statutes of 2015), which requires (by July 1, 2016) local agencies to create and upload an online catalog of each data system that they use. *For more, see Page 3.*



2016 Legislative Briefing Webinar to be Held Nov. 7

Register by Friday, Nov. 4

Please join League lobbyists for the annual Legislative Briefing webinar, scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 7 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. *For more, see Page 3.*

At its meeting on June 24–25, the League board of directors carefully reviewed eight ballot measures affecting cities, and adopted formal positions on four: Propositions 53, 54, 65 and 67. At that meeting, however, the board deferred taking action on Prop. 57, the Public Safety Rehabilitation Act of 2016, until a delegation from the board could attend a meeting to discuss the measure with Gov. Jerry Brown in July. The board met next on Oct. 6 and voted to oppose Prop. 57 based on public safety concerns stemming from reducing sentences for specific violent crimes. For more, please see "[After Extensive Deliberations League Board of Directors Adopts Oppose Position on Proposition 57, Due to Public Safety Concerns](#)," *CA Cities Advocate*, Oct. 10.

These measures were also previously reviewed by League policy committees that forwarded recommendations to the board of directors for consideration. Under the League of California Cities bylaws, the board may only take a position supporting or opposing a statewide ballot measure by a two-thirds vote of those directors present. This policy assures that any position taken reflects the broad consensus of League members.

Below are the eight measures considered with a brief summary, a link to the measure's full text, the position taken, and a sample resolution for select measures.

[Proposition 51 California Public Education Facilities Bond Initiative](#). This measure would authorize \$9 billion in general obligation bonds to fund construction of school facilities for K-12 schools and community colleges.

League position: No Position.

[Proposition 53 Revenue Bonds: Statewide Voter Approval. Constitutional Amendment.](#)

This measure would require statewide voter approval prior to the state issuing or selling any revenue bonds of \$2 billion or more for state projects that are financed, owned, operated or managed by the state or a joint agency created by or for the state.

League position: Oppose.

[A sample resolution](#) for cities to use in opposition to Prop. 53 is available on the League's website.

[Proposition 54 California Legislature Transparency Act of 2016](#). This measure would prohibit the Legislature from passing legislation until it has been in print and published online for at least 72 hours prior to the vote unless it is a case of public emergency. The Legislature would be required to record all proceedings (except closed sessions) and make available online.

League position: Support.

[A sample resolution](#) for cities to use in support to Prop. 54 is available on the League's website.

[Proposition 57 Public Safety and Rehabilitation Act of 2016](#). This measure: revises rules governing this disposition of juvenile offenders; allows various "non-violent" offenders to seek parole after completing the full term of their primary offense without regard to any applicable sentencing enhancements that a judge added to their offence; and authorizes the Department of Corrections to revise regulations governing good time credits.

League position: Oppose.

[A sample resolution](#) for cities to use in opposition to Prop. 57 is available on the League's website.

[Proposition 63 Safety for All Act of 2016](#). This measure requires, starting July 1, 2017, all people to report loss or theft of a firearm to local law enforcement within five days of discovering the loss, as well as any subsequent discovery within five days. It also further regulates the possession of large-capacity magazines, regulates Internet-based sales of ammunition, and regulates those who handle, sell, or deliver ammunition.

League position: No Position.

[Proposition 64 Marijuana Legalization. Initiative Statute](#). This measure would legalize personal cultivation as well as state licensing of the commercial cultivation and retail sale of non-medical marijuana for personal use for adults 21 and over. Local agencies would be authorized to enact local ordinances for regulating, taxing or banning the commercial cultivation and sale of non-

medical marijuana within the city or county.

League position: No Position.

[Proposition 65 Carry-Out Bags. Charges. Initiative Statute.](#) This measure would redirect money collected by grocery stores and other specified retail stores through sale of carryout bags under any state law banning free distribution of a certain kind of free carryout bag and mandating the sale of another type of carryout bag. It also requires collected funds to go to a Wildlife Conservation Board-administered fund to be used for specified environmental projects.

League position: Oppose.

[Proposition 67 Referendum to Overturn Ban on Single-Use Plastic Bags \(SB 270, Padilla, 2014\).](#) This referendum would repeal SB 270 (Padilla, 2014), which prohibited certain stores from distributing lightweight, single-use plastic bags and established requirements for reusable bags and prohibited stores from distributing reusable bags and recycled paper bags for less than \$0.10 per bag.

League position: Support (voters must vote “yes” to retain plastic bag ban).

'Hearing' Continued from Page 1...

A major topic of discussion was the number of cities out of compliance with SB 272. While SB 272 has been reasonably simple to comply with, there are still cities that have not yet complied for a variety of reasons.

League staff conveyed to the committee that a one-size-fits-all approach does not work for cities. Although several cities across the state have led the way in open data and have taken a leadership role by creating best practices in providing the public access to data sets that are useful and informative, the reality is not all cities have the ability to be so proactive. There are several cities that are still at pre-recession staffing levels. And while the League supports open transparency and encourages cities to modernize their ability to interact with their constituents, there are practical challenges associated with implementation of unfunded state mandates. Simply put, for some cities there simply is not enough staffing or funding to significantly invest in updated software and open data standards while still providing the critical services that are required for city governance.

Currently, 387 out of 480 cities, which have websites, are in compliance with SB 272 (approximately 80 percent). The League is continuing to work with cities that are currently out of compliance to ensure that they comply as soon as possible. Additionally, the League is working with the Municipal Information Systems Association of California to develop a joint email distribution listserv to ensure that important communications regarding compliance with SB 272 and other technology/data related measures are seen by the right people within our cities. We are hopeful that this will aide in getting more cities in compliance with SB 272.

Online transparency and open data continues to be an emerging issue for local governments. The League appreciates the opportunity to work with Sen. Hertzberg and other members of the Senate Governance and Finance Committee on ways to increase transparency while balancing the real-life implementation challenges cities face.

If your city has not yet complied with SB 272, see "[SB 272 Compliance Deadline Passed with Many Agencies Out of Compliance](#)" *CA Cities Advocate*, Sept. 23 for more information.

'Leg webinar' Continued from Page 1...

During this year's Legislative Briefing, League lobbyists will discuss developments from the second year of the 2015-16 Legislative Session. Participants will hear about new laws going into effect on housing and land use, economic development, marijuana regulation, water, employee relations, and several other important legislative developments affecting the state and local governments.

In addition, lobbyists will be sharing the most recent news on transportation funding negotiations and the rumored lame duck session vote in November.

The registration cost for League members and Partners is \$25. For non-members, the cost is \$125 per city. Register online by noon on Friday, Nov. 4. Two connections per city will be allowed.

For questions on how to [register](#) for the webinar, please contact [Megan Dunn](#). For all other questions, please contact [Meg Desmond](#).

League of California Cities® Health Benefits Marketplace Webinar: Cities offering CalPERS Medical Insurance Coverage

Please join the League of California Cities® for a one-hour Health Benefits Marketplace (HBM) webinar on Nov. 9. This webinar is tailored specifically for cities providing employees and retirees with medical insurance coverage through the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS).

The HBM offers an important and flexible solution for cities unable to reduce their OPEB exposure and manage employee health care costs under their current plan design. Cities offering medical insurance coverage through a contract with CalPERS face a range of challenges, particularly when considering alternative medical insurance coverage options. During this valuable webinar, participants will learn about:

- Unique challenges when exploring medical insurance coverage outside the CalPERS system;
- Planning ahead — transition timelines;
- Obtaining comparative quotes to evaluate options;
- How geography and carrier networks affect options; and
- Positioning your city for a successful transition.

Register [online](#).

About the Health Benefits Marketplace

Through the League of California Cities Health Benefits Marketplace™, (HBM) cities have the ability to redesign their approach to medical insurance for active employees and retirees. HBM is a consumer-driven platform that gives active employees and retirees choice, which allows participants to align coverage with their individual needs.

For additional information on the Health Benefits Marketplace visit www.cacities.org/HBM or contact [Norman Coppinger](#) with the League of California Cities at (916) 658-8277.

League-Sponsored Bond Agency Issues \$67.3 Million in Tax-Exempt Bonds for Affordable Housing Apartments in Stockton and Fremont

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).

This program provides a variety of public agencies and developers access to low-cost, tax-exempt financing and economic development tools. CSCDA recently issued \$67,300,000 in tax-exempt multi-family affordable housing bonds for the Polo Run Apartments in Stockton and Innovia Apartments in Fremont.

About Polo Run Apartments

Polo Run Apartments is an acquisition and rehabilitation of 320 multi-family affordable housing apartments by Polo Run Family Apartments, LP. The project sponsor is ROEM Development

Corporation (ROEM). Polo Run will continue to be 100 percent affordable and provide apartments to low-income residents in Stockton.

CSCDA and ROEM partnered with Citibank to provide tax-exempt multi-family affordable housing bonds for Polo Run. The project will undergo an extensive interior and exterior renovation ensuring that residents have an updated, safe, and affordable community to call home for years to come. The financing of Polo Run will maintain the affordability of units for low-income tenants for 55 years.

About Innovia Apartments

Innovia Apartments is the new construction of 290 affordable housing units by St. Anton Communities. The benefits of the project for the city of Fremont and Alameda County include: 100 percent of the affordable rental housing units will be rent restricted for very low- and low-income tenants; a new economic vibrancy to the area; and the construction of 20 studio units, 130 one-bedroom units, 117 two-bedroom units, 20 three-bedroom units, and three manager's units.

CSCDA and St. Anton partnered with Citibank to provide \$42,300,000 in tax-exempt multi-family affordable housing bonds for the project. The financing of Innovia Apartments requires the affordability of units for low-income tenants to be maintained for 55 years.

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.

U.S. Communities Holding Summit on Oct. 26 in Anaheim to Educate Local Government Agency Officials on Program's Cost-Saving Benefits

Additional Summit to be held in Marysville

U.S. Communities, the League of California Cities[®] and the California State Association of Counties sponsored government purchasing alliance, is hosting a free regional event on Oct. 26 at the Downtown Anaheim Community Center to help public agencies learn how to save time and money through the U.S. Communities program.

During this four-hour event, you will be able to network, ask questions and share feedback:

- Learn when to use cooperative contracts;
- Connect with other local agencies currently using cooperative purchasing and find out what is working for their organization;
- Learn about the online e-commerce marketplace;
- Meet your local U.S. Communities program manager; and
- Connect with U.S. Communities suppliers to learn about and receive their lowest overall government pricing for these products and services:
 - Facilities
 - Office and school solutions
 - Technology
 - Parks and recreation
 - Specialty

Suppliers participating include:

- Acro Service Corporation (*temporary staffing*);
- Applied Industrial Technologies (*maintenance supplies*);

- Carquest/Advance Auto Parts (*auto parts*);
- Club Car (*utility vehicle*);
- Columbia ParCar (*utility vehicle*);
- DLT Solutions (*technology*);
- GameTime (*playground*);
- Garland (*roofing*);
- Haworth (*office furniture*);
- HD Supply (*maintenance*);
- Herc Rental (*rental*);
- Herman Miller (*office furniture*);
- Insight Public Sector (*technology*);
- KOMPAN (*playground*);
- KONE (*elevator and escalator*);
- ServiceWear (*uniform & apparel*);
- Supply Works (*janitorial supplies*);
- The Home Depot (*hardware, flooring*); and
- UNICOM Government (*technology*).

Event Details

Wednesday, Oct. 26, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Meeting will be held at the Downtown Anaheim Community Center, 250 E. Center Street in Anaheim.

[Register online](#). Lunch will be provided.

Future Summits

U.S. Communities will be holding a summit in Northern California:

- Nov. 16: Marysville. [Register online](#).

About U.S. Communities

The U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance, a strategic partner of the League of California Cities, is a government purchasing cooperative that reduces the cost of goods and services by aggregating the purchasing power of public agencies nationwide. U.S. Communities provides world class procurement resources and solutions to local and state government agencies, school districts (K-12), higher education, and nonprofits. State and local governments have access to a broad line of competitively solicited contracts with best in class national suppliers.

Learn more about U.S. Communities at www.uscommunities.org/lcc.

For more information about the summits, please contact [Rob Fiorilli](#) from U.S. Communities at (925) 588-5054 or [Norman Coppinger](#) from the League of California Cities at (916) 658-8277.

If Your City Shops at Home Depot — Earn a Rebate Now

National Rebate Incentive Program Provides up to 3 Percent Cash Back

The Home Depot national rebate incentive program provides agencies the opportunity to earn up to a 3 percent cash back rebate on all in-store, online and U.S. Communities purchases. By enrolling in The Home Depot cash rebate program before the end of the year, cities with a minimum of \$10,000 in annual net purchases can receive a cash rebate for all purchases made through 2016. Participating agencies across the country receive over \$5 million in annual rebates from The Home Depot.

Enrollment is easy and FREE. Register your agency today and receive credit for any tracked purchase, retroactive to Jan. 1, 2016. Call (866) 333-3551 or [enroll online](#) by following the steps

below. To ensure you get credit for all your purchases, please make sure to enter your forms of payment under agreement code USC.

1. Review the Registration Guide for a step-by-step overview of the enrollment process.
2. Have your Federal Tax Identification Number (TIN) available. The Federal TIN is required to associate your account with U.S. Communities.
3. Ensure you complete Step 5 — Add Account IDs. Account IDs refer to your forms of payment which can be p-cards, credit cards, checking accounts or purchase orders (see enrollment guide for details on purchase orders).

The cut-off for rebate calculations is Dec. 31.

For more information visit the [U.S. Communities Home Depot Cash Rebate info page](#) or contact [Sarah Lindsay](#) at (209) 942-4228.

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