

**Nov. 18, 2016  
Issue #96**

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**New Mayors and Council Members Academy  
Scheduled for Jan. 18–20 in Sacramento**

The League has opened registration for the [2017 New Mayors and Council Members Academy](#). Scheduled for Jan. 18–20 in Sacramento, the conference is expected to sell out quickly. *For more, see Page 2.*



**Call for Entries Open for Outstanding City Street Projects**  
*Nominations due Jan. 11*

The [Save California Streets](#) Coalition has opened the nomination period for its annual Outstanding Local Streets and Roads Awards Program. Submissions should highlight a street infrastructure project or program that has demonstrated a significant improvement in your community's street system. The coalition comprises a number of organizations including the League of California Cities® and the California State Association of Counties. *For more, see Page 2.*



**League-Sponsored Bond Agency Issues \$231.8 Million in Tax-Exempt Bonds for  
Affordable Housing in National City, Educational Housing in Riverside and a  
Community Hospital in Redlands**

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 2.*

### 'MCMA Reg Open' Continued from Page 1...

This conference is programmed specifically for newly elected city officials, with courses on the basic legal and practical framework in which mayors and council members operate. Sessions will focus on a range of topics including:

- Your League and How to Use It;
- Effective Advocacy & Key City Officials;
- Your Legal Powers and obligations;
- Policy Role in Land Use Planning;
- Relationship between City Council and City Manager Staff;
- Communications and the New Media; and
- Financial Responsibilities, City Revenues Workshop.

The conference also features AB 1234 Ethics Training, which is required for all elected and appointed officials to complete every two years in specific laws and principles.

Full conference registration includes the following:

- Two-and-a-half days of sessions, including AB 1234 training;
- Wednesday lunch and reception, Thursday breakfast and lunch and Friday breakfast; and
- Electronic access to all program materials.

### Registration

[Register online](#) by Friday, Jan. 6. Due to high demand for this conference, and the large numbers of newly elected mayors and council members, it is expected to sell out before the registration deadline.

### Questions

Please contact [Caitlin Cole](#) with any questions about the conference or [Megan Dunn](#) about registration.

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### 'LSR Awards' Continued from Page 1...

Nominations for this prestigious award are due by Jan. 11. Winners will be announced in February and awards will be presented during the Public Works Officers Institute and County Engineers Association of Counties conference, March 22–24 in San Diego. They will also be featured later in 2017 in *Western City*, the League's monthly magazine.

Projects nominated should address one of four categories that promote a comprehensive improvement of local streets:

- Efficient and Sustainable Road Maintenance, Construction and Reconstruction Projects;
- Complete Streets Projects;
- Safety or Intelligent Transportation System Project; or
- Efficient and Sustainable Bridge Maintenance, Construction and Reconstruction Projects.

Applications must be [submitted online](#).

Please contact [Meghan McKelvey](#) with any questions on the award program and application process.

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### 'CSCDA bonds' 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 \$231,822,392 in tax-exempt multi-family affordable housing bonds for the Paradise Creek in National City; tax-exempt bonds for Lancer Educational Housing LLC (LEH LLC), in conjunction with California Baptist University in Riverside; and Redlands Community Hospital in Redlands.

## **About Paradise Creek II Apartments**

The project is the second phase of Paradise Creek, an additional 92-unit affordable housing community for low-income families located on two acres by Related California and Community HousingWorks (CHW). Recognized as the transformative cornerstone of National City's Old Town neighborhood revitalization, Paradise Creek is a transit-oriented community development project that will remediate old underground contamination, provide a total of 201 affordable rental homes, a new public park, and will be a catalyst to future revitalization of Old Town. Envisioned by the community and city more than 10 years ago, the Related-CHW team developed the project over the last eight years.

The project has been recognized with a number of different awards including the Silver Catalyst Award — California's Sustainable Strategies Pilot Program, which is one of five federal Sustainable Communities Partnership Pilots in the country by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in partnership with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Transportation. It also received California Housing and Community Development Infill Infrastructure Grant funding, and was also the recipient of over \$9 million of competitively awarded California Cap-and-Trade funds earmarked for affordable housing. The project received a U.S. Green Building Council Affordable Green Neighborhood Grant as a LEED Neighborhood Development project. The city of National City provided significant funding in addition to a long-term ground lease reflecting its partnership with the community and Related-CHW.

The benefits of the project for National City and San Diego County include the following:

- 100 percent of the affordable rental housing units will be rent restricted for low-income tenants;
- The building will bring new economic vibrancy to the project site;
- A positive impact to restaurants and retail in the area; and
- The project consists of six studios, 21 one-bedroom units, 35 two-bedroom units, 29 three-bedroom units and one manager's unit.

## **About Redlands Community Hospital (RCH)**

A California nonprofit public benefit corporation, RCH owns and operates a general acute care hospital with 229 licensed beds in the city of Redlands. RCH provides health care services primarily to the residents of the eastern portions of the San Bernardino Valley. Originally established as a 40-bed hospital in 1929, RCH has expanded and modernized its facilities to meet the increasing patient care needs of the Inland Empire which includes emergency services, inpatient/outpatient services, home health services, hospice services, maternal services, and family clinics.

CSCDA partnered with Bank of America Merrill Lynch to underwrite the \$91,565,000 in tax-exempt bonds for RCH. The bonds were issued to refinance CSCDA's previously issued Series 2013 Bonds as well as finance improvements to RCH's facilities, including its operating rooms and emergency room.

## **About LEH LLC & California Baptist University**

LEH LLC was formed in 2007 for the purpose of receiving, holding, and administering student housing facilities for the direct benefit of California Baptist University. The university is a California nonprofit corporation located in Riverside, organized to operate a private, accredited Christian university offering liberal arts undergraduate and graduate degrees.

CSCDA partnered with D.A. Davidson to underwrite the \$113,555,000 in tax-exempt bonds for the project. The bonds will be used to finance new student housing facilities for California Baptist University as well as refinance CSCDA's previously issued Series 2007A and Series 2010A bonds.

## 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.

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## Help Set League Policy — Join a League Policy Committee

*Dec. 2 Deadline to Request Presidential Appointment Fast Approaching*

The League's [seven policy committees](#) comprise city officials from throughout California. Policy committees help develop League policy by reviewing legislation and participating in policy deliberations, suggesting broad new policy guidelines and studying key issues impacting cities.

Each policy committee addresses a different issue area.

- [Community Services](#): This committee is concerned with issues related to childcare, parks and recreation, libraries, cultural arts and community and human services programs.
- [Environmental Quality](#): This committee is concerned with all aspects of air and water quality, solid waste and recycling, hazardous materials, coastal issues, noise pollution, and CEQA. In addition, the committee is concerned with the issues related to energy and utilities.
- [Governance, Transparency and Labor Relations](#): This committee reviews state legislation as it relates to transparency, technology (open data), healthcare, elections and political reform. Additionally the committee oversees pension and workers compensation reform as well as other labor related issues.
- [Housing, Community and Economic Development](#): This committee is concerned with building regulations and code enforcement, community and economic development, urban renewal, housing, planning, zoning, incorporation, annexation and redevelopment.
- [Public Safety](#): This committee is concerned with law enforcement, fire and life safety policies including emergency communications, and emergency services including ambulance and disaster preparedness.
- [Revenue and Taxation](#): This committee is concerned with finance administration, taxation reform, revenue needs and revenue sources at the federal, state and local levels.
- [Transportation, Communication and Public Works](#). This committee is concerned with issues of transportation funding, construction, public works, telecommunications, and other related areas.

Over 400 elected and appointed city officials serve on policy committees, and thus participate directly in establishing League policy. They add their collective expertise, wisdom and opinions to the policy debate that is the foundation of League policy.

The recommendations from the policy committee are forwarded to the League's [board of directors](#). The time commitment involves three to four meetings, beginning in January and ending at the League's Annual Conference in the fall. Meeting locations rotate from statewide from northern to southern California locations.

## How to Join a League Policy Committee

There are a few different ways to become a member of a policy committee. All policy committee appointments end at the conclusion of each year's annual conference. Reappointments are not automatic and must be annually requested.

Presidents of the League's [divisions, departments, and affiliates](#) make appointments to each of the committees. Each division has two appointments. Each department has one appointment.

The League president may appoint up to 16 members to each policy committee. Dec. 2 is the deadline to request a presidential appointment. If you are an elected or appointed city official and have previously determined that your division and department appointments have been filled, you may contact the League president in writing to request a presidential appointment.

Requests may be submitted via mail, email or fax to the League. Do not send the request directly to the League president. Email requests are suggested.

Please direct your request to Meg Desmond.

- Email: [mdesmond@cacities.org](mailto:mdesmond@cacities.org).
- Fax: (916) 658-8240 Attention: Meg Desmond.
- Mail: 1400 K Street, Fourth Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, Attention: Meg Desmond, Presidential Appointment Request

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact [Meg Desmond](#) (916) 658-8224.

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## **California City Solutions: San Diego Partners With Youth to Educate the Community on Water Purification Technology**

*This story is part of an ongoing series featuring Helen Putnam Award entries. The 2016 entries are available on the League's website as a resource for cities in a searchable database called [California City Solutions](#). The Pure Water San Diego was submitted in 2016 for the [Ruth Vreeland Award for Engaging Youth in City Government](#) award category.*

Pure Water San Diego raises awareness about a safe, reliable and cost-effective local drinking water supply using water purification technology. The education and outreach program includes a sizable youth engagement component which emphasizes partnerships with local schools and organizations.

The city of San Diego has limited local water sources and imports 85 percent of its water supply from the Colorado River and the Northern California Bay-Delta. Recurring drought, the potential for earthquakes, and the rising cost of imported water threaten San Diego's long-term water reliability. In order to address its water supply challenges, San Diego has worked for many years to develop a successful potable reuse program to treat wastewater through multiple steps to produce a safe local drinking water supply.

In the 1990s, the city launched a demonstration project to evaluate the possibility of making potable reuse a reality for San Diego. The San Diego City Council ultimately cancelled the project. Residents did not understand the water purification process and opponents used the phrase "toilet-to-tap" to describe the project, which contributed to the negative view of the technology.

Currently, the city of San Diego is moving forward with [Pure Water San Diego](#), a phased, multi-year potable reuse program that will provide one-third of San Diego's water supply locally by 2035. After several years of testing that confirmed the water purification process can produce a safe drinking water supply, the city is in the design phase for an initial full-scale water purification facility scheduled to come online in 2021.

A robust education and outreach program has proven to be key to the program's success, reversing misconceptions about the potable reuse and providing a vehicle for the city to communicate clear and accurate information to the public about the water purification process. A 2014 survey commissioned by the San Diego County Water Authority showed that 73 percent of San Diegans are now in favor of using advanced treated recycled water as part of the drinking water supply.

To ensure public support for the program remains steady as water purification facilities come online during the next 20 years, the city decided to make youth engagement a major component of the Pure Water San Diego education and outreach program. Collaborations with local schools

and organizations have been instrumental in raising awareness about the need for the Pure Water program now and into the future.

### **USD Partnership**

San Diego partnered with the University of San Diego (USD) in fall 2014 and 2015 to teach students about the program and provide them the opportunity to develop outreach materials and recommendations for a real-world program. Students from USD's Small Group Communications class conducted surveys in the community to find out what information influences the public's perception of recycled water. They then worked in teams to create videos, infographics and social media hashtags to inform the selected demographics of young adults and mothers about Pure Water San Diego.

### **Media Days**

Approximately 100 journalism students from eight high schools in the San Diego Unified School District attended Pure Water Media Days in February 2016 to learn about the program and participate in a challenge to develop a news package about it.

The agenda included a Pure Water Facility tour, a workshop on storytelling and photography, and panels on careers in the media and the water industry. Local reporters led the storytelling and media career sessions, and city staff, including chemists, water resource specialists and public information officers, led the water industry sessions. The day also included a dedicated session for the students to interview city staff, film their own reports and take B-roll footage.

### **Project SWELL Lesson**

Since 2014, the city of San Diego has partnered with San Diego Coastkeeper and Think Blue San Diego to develop a lesson about Pure Water San Diego to include in the Project SWELL 5th grade "Water in San Diego" earth science curriculum for San Diego Unified School District. The goal of Project SWELL is to promote environmental stewardship among San Diego youth, while also enhancing science education opportunities for local students and providing resources for teachers.

The lesson plan guides teachers through a presentation that includes vocabulary, water cycle diagrams, videos about the water purification process and interviews with Pure Water program engineers. Students then work in small groups to do an interactive activity that models the three-step water purification process and takes water from dirty to purified.

### **Girl Scout Patch Program**

Girl Scouts are some of the most frequent youth visitors to the Pure Water Facility. Brownies participate in the tours to fulfill part of the requirements for their Wonders of Water Journey patch, which tasks them with learning about water's importance in the world. In 2015, program staff created and began offering a unique Pure Water patch that can be earned by Girl Scouts of all ages. Scouts fulfill the requirements for the patch by participating in an interactive presentation about the program and touring the Pure Water Facility.

Through partnerships with the University of San Diego, San Diego Unified School District and the Girl Scouts of San Diego, the city of San Diego has enhanced and expanded its youth engagement and has taken a major step in ensuring that the next generation of San Diegans understand the water purification process and the program's benefits for San Diego. In 2015 alone, the Pure Water education and outreach program engaged more than 3,000 youth of all ages in program activities. Engaging youth has helped to also reach their families, friends and communities by extension.

The USD partnership received USD's 2015 Innovation in Community Engagement Award. The award is given to one professor/program annually that innovatively connects their expertise and scholarship with community outreach in ongoing ways that benefit the public, the campus and the scholarly community. The partnership was also featured in the November 2015 issue of the Journal AWWA and on USD's News Center website.

The USD students' feedback on the partnership was overwhelmingly positive; they were grateful for the opportunity to have a class assignment that helped them develop skills for their future careers. The city has used the materials and recommendations provided by the students to enhance its outreach strategy for the community. Additionally, one of the students who participated in the partnership was selected for and completed a three-month internship with the Pure Water outreach program.

To support the launch of the Pure Water Project SWELL lesson, 5th grade teachers were invited to attend a professional development session at the Pure Water Facility in November 2015 where they received a tour, were taught the curriculum and received a kit of lesson plans, presentations and activity supplies to aid in teaching their students.

Educating San Diegans from a young age has helped to develop understanding of and support for the Pure Water program. The youth the city is educating now will be adults and ratepayers by the time the Pure Water program reaches full build-out in 2035. Other cities can learn from San Diego how important youth outreach is for the success of a long-term government program, as well as what types of partnerships are the most successful.

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## **Proposition 47 Grant Funding Now Available**

*Request for Proposals due Feb. 21, 2017*

The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) has released its [BSCC Proposition 47 Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#). Approximately \$103.5 million will be available over the 38-month grant period that runs June 16, 2017 through Aug. 15, 2020. Proposals are due Feb. 21, 2017.

### **Additional Grant Details**

Consistent with the legal requirements in [Prop. 47](#) and [AB1056 \(Atkins\)](#), grant funds must be used for mental health services, substance use disorder treatment, diversion programs, or some combination thereof. In addition to these required services and programs, applicants are encouraged to provide supplemental housing-related services and other community-based supportive services.

This RFP is restricted to public agencies. A public agency is defined as:

- Public agency means a county, city, whether a general law city or a chartered city, or city and county, the duly constituted governing body of an Indian reservation or Rancheria, a school district, municipal corporation, district, political subdivision, or any board, commission, or agency thereof, entities that are legislative bodies of a local agency pursuant to subdivision (c) or (d) of Section 54952 of the Government Code, a housing authority organized pursuant to Part 2 (commencing with Section 34200) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code, a state agency, public district, or other political subdivision of the state, or any instrumentality thereof, which is authorized to engage in or assist in the development or operation of housing for persons and families of low or moderate income. (Pen. Code, §6046.1, subd. (c).)

Public agencies must agree to commit a minimum of 50 percent of the grant funds requested to one or more non-governmental community partners.

BSCC's [Prop. 47 webpage](#) provides additional background, information and a link to the RFP flyer.

BSCC's [Prop. 47 FAQ](#) provides additional details about the initiative, AB 1056 and the funding.