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## **League’s Executive Officers Meet with White House Officials, Congressional Members on City Priorities**

Thousands of city officials from across the country assembled in Washington, D.C., last week for the 2017 National League of Cities (NLC) Congressional City Conference. *For more, see Page 2.*



## **Fresno Council Member Esmeralda Soria, Kings County Supervisor Craig Pedersen and the Fix Our Roads Coalition Hold Fresno Press Conference to Urge Legislature to Pass Transportation Funding Package**

*The Longer They Delay, the More We Pay*

Local government, state government, labor and business leaders held a press conference Friday to call on legislators to pass a transportation funding package. The Fresno press event was the third of the week being held by the [Fix Our Roads Coalition](#). *For more, see Page 2.*



## **April 28 Application Deadline for Two League Board of Directors Positions**

The League of California Cities® is now accepting nominations from elected officials interested in serving in one of six at-large board positions (two-year term), or as second vice president (one-year term). All nominees for second vice president must currently be serving or have previously served on the board of directors. Applications for second vice president from northern California are encouraged. April 28 is the deadline to apply. *For more, see Page 3.*

**'NLC' Continued from Page 1...**

Despite heavy snowstorms hitting the nations' capital, League Executive Director Carolyn Coleman, President JoAnne Mounce and Immediate Past President L. Dennis Michael took to Capitol Hill and the White House to meet with top Administration officials and members of the California congressional delegation to advocate for federal priorities most important to California cities. Sen. Kamala Harris, Rep. Judy Chu, and staff from the offices of Rep. Devin Nunes, Rep. Nancy Pelosi, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, and Rep. Grace Napolitano welcomed hearing directly from the city leaders on the importance of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to support housing and infrastructure investment, the need for greater infrastructure investment in our communities, our insistence on local authority over drones, and about preserving the tax exemption for municipal bonds.

The group's travel to Washington came only days before President Donald Trump released his first budget proposal that called for less rather than more federal investment in our cities. Under the president's budget blueprint, CDBG, HOME funding for affordable housing, and the popular Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery grant program for transportation infrastructure investments would all be eliminated.

The Leagues' concerns regarding the importance of these programs were not lost on the Trump Administration. During a meeting with White House Department of Intergovernmental Affairs, Deputy Director Billy Kirkland, he acknowledged the real world positive impacts these programs have on cities large and small and was open to working with the League and cities across the country on solutions. Moving forward, League leaders will partner with cities across the country as well as other state municipal leagues to ensure the proposed funding cuts do not become law.

"Having a strong and unified voice in Washington will continue to be of vital importance moving forward", stated League Executive Director Carolyn Coleman. "We will work with the Administration, our congressional delegation, and our federal and state counterparts to ensure that our most important priorities are top of mind and preserved."

The [2017 federal priorities](#), which were adopted by the board of directors in February, and advocacy materials outline in detail the most critical federal issues facing California cities. These materials are available for use by cities throughout the year and can be found on the League's website.

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**'Fresno Press Conf' Continued from Page 1...**

April 6 is the deadline set by Gov. Jerry Brown, Senate President pro Tem Kevin de León (D-Los Angeles) and Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-South Gate) to pass a transportation funding package. The Fix Our Roads Coalition, of which the League is a founding member, is sending a clear message to the Legislature before it adjourns for spring recess: "The longer they delay, the more we pay."

This past winter 2017 showed once again how desperate California's transportation infrastructure needs are as roads crumbled under the weight of heavy rains, mudslides and falling trees. The message came loud and clear that infrastructure must be regularly maintained to prevent small problems from becoming larger and more expensive to fix. For far too long, California has neglected regular road maintenance and upkeep, which is costing California drivers.

The Fix Our Roads Coalition did a [live stream](#) of the event on Facebook.

The coalition supports a transportation funding package that would raise at least \$6 billion annually. That is what is needed to begin to make a dent in the enormous backlog of transportation maintenance and improvement projects. At the same time, Fix Our Roads is also recommending accountability provisions to give taxpayers confidence that new revenues will be spent on transportation projects only. Sen. Jim Beall's (D-San José) SB 1 and AB 1, a companion measure by Assembly Member Jim Frazier (D-Oakley), are both supported by Fix Our Roads.

Friday's speakers included:

- Fresno Council Member Esmeralda Soria;
- Kings County Supervisor Craig Pedersen;
- Madera Council Member Will Oliver;
- Sharri Bender Ehlert, District 6 director, Caltrans;
- Tony Boren, executive director, Fresno Council of Governments;
- Chuck Riojas, secretary-treasurer of the Building and Construction Trades Council for Fresno, Madera, Tulare, Kings; and
- Orville Thomas, director of Government Affairs, California Alliance for Jobs.

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'Board' Continued from Page 1...

## **Board Composition**

The board of directors comprises the League's officers — president, first vice president, second vice president, immediate past president and executive director — a representative from each of the League's 16 divisions, and a representative from each of the League's 11 functional departments, the mayors or designees (alternates) of the mayors of the 10 largest cities by population, and 12 at-large positions, with one reserved for a representative of a small city (under 12,000 population).

City officials serving on the National League of Cities (NLC) board of directors also serve on the League of California Cities board of directors for the duration of their term on the NLC board (two-year term).

The League board typically meets on a quarterly basis at locations throughout the state. Nominees are expected to make a commitment to attend all meetings. All travel-related expenses to attend League board meetings are reimbursed by the League.

## **Nomination Process**

The 2017 Board Nominating Committee will meet on June 30, prior to the June 30-July 1 board meeting, to interview at-large finalists and all applicants for the position of second vice president.

The nominating committee members:

- Stephany Aguilar (Chair), council member, Scotts Valley
- Helen Schneider, mayor, Santa Barbara
- Sam Spagnolo, mayor pro tem, Rancho Cucamonga
- Christopher Cate, council member, San Diego
- Jerry Thorne, mayor, Pleasanton
- Ali Sajjad Taj, mayor, Artesia
- Kirsten Keith, mayor, Menlo Park
- Randi Johl, city clerk, Temecula
- Tony Dahlerbruch, city manager, Palos Verdes Estates
- Janet Arbuckle, council member, Grass Valley
- Curtis Hunt, council member, Vacaville

The committee will make recommendations to the board of directors at its June meeting. If the board approves the candidates, the recommended candidates will then be announced during the opening session of the League's 2017 Annual Conference and Expo in Sacramento, Sept. 13-15, 2017. Following confirmation of the final candidates, the 2017-18 board of directors will be announced at the closing session of the League's Annual Conference and Expo on Sept. 15.

## **Submission Process**

If you are interested in submitting your name for nomination to the League board of directors, please provide the information requested on the nomination application, along with a biography and letters of endorsement, to the League's Sacramento headquarters on or before 5 p.m. on Friday, April 28.

The forms are available on the League website:

- [At-Large Director](#)
- [Second Vice President](#)

Nominations may be sent via email to [msharpe@cacities.org](mailto:msharpe@cacities.org)

Or mail to:

Mimi Sharpe  
Executive Assistant  
League of California Cities  
1400 K Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Board nominations packets can also be faxed to the attention of Mimi Sharpe at (916) 658-8240.

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## **Bills in Committee and Legislative Hearings of Interest March 27 – April 19**

The legislative policy committee schedule is ramping up and the League is tracking numerous bills affecting cities. The League is working on its legislative bills of interest to cities, which will be published once available.

Some hearings, if not all, will be televised. The [Senate](#) and [Assembly](#) publish weekly television schedules, but audio is always available online. In addition, many hearings are also webcast via the [California Channel](#).

Bill language and the League's position letters and sample letters can be found at [www.cacities.org/billsearch](http://www.cacities.org/billsearch) by plugging the bill number into the search function.

Here are a number of upcoming hearings of interest to cities:

### **March 27**

#### **Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee, 2:30 p.m., State Capitol, Room 126**

- **AB 181 (Lackey)** Taxation: renters' credit. *League position: Support.*
- **AB 960 (Brough)** Sales and use taxes: exemptions: textbooks. *League position: Support.*
- **AB 1081 (Burke)** Sales and use taxes: exclusion: low-emission motor vehicle: trade-in. *League position: Oppose Unless Amended.*

### **March 28**

#### **Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee, 9 a.m., State Capitol, Room 112**

- **SB 252 (Dodd)** Water wells. *League Position: Concerns.*

#### **Assembly Health Committee**

- **AB 1095 (Harper)** Alcoholism or drug abuse recovery treatment facilities. *League position: Support.*

### **March 29**

#### **Senate Governance and Finance Committee, 9:30 a.m., State Capitol, Room 112**

- **SB 139 (Wilk)** Harmful substances: local regulation. *League position: Support.*

#### **Senate Environmental Quality Committee, 9:30 a.m., State Capitol, Room 3191**

- **SB 589 (Hernandez)** Municipal separate storm sewer systems: financial capability analysis. *League position: Support.*

### April 3

#### Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee, 2:30 p.m., State Capitol, Room 126

- **AB 561 (Voepel)** Sales and use taxes: exclusion: public safety first responder vehicle and equipment: local public employee retirement: employer contributions. *League position: Oppose.*

### April 4

#### Assembly Public Safety Committee, 9 a.m., State Capitol, Room 126

- **HOT AB 1326 (Cooper)** Theft: aggregate valuation. *League position: Support.*

#### Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications, 9 a.m., State Capitol, Room 3191

- **SB 618 (Bradford)** Load-serving entities: integrated resource plans. *League position: Oppose.*
- **HOT SB 649 (Hueso)** Wireless telecommunications facilities. *League position: Oppose.*

#### Senate Public Safety Committee, 9:30 a.m., State Capitol, Room 4203

- **HOT SB 75 (Bates)** Violent felonies: *League position: Support.*

#### Senate Transportation and Housing Committee, 1:30 p.m., State Capitol, Room 4203

- **SB 347 (Jackson)** State Remote Piloted Aircraft Act. *League position: Support.*
- **HOT SB 540 (Roth)** Workforce Housing Opportunity Zone. *League position: League Sponsor.*

### April 5

#### Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee, 9 a.m., State Capitol, Room 444

- **AB 890 (Medina)** Local land use initiatives: environmental review. *League position: Concerns.*

#### Assembly Local Government Committee, 1:30 p.m., State Capitol, Room 447

- **AB 852 (Grayson)** Planning and zoning: general plan: report. *League position: League Sponsor.*
- **AB 1505 (Bloom)** Local land use: zoning regulations. *League position: Sponsor.*

### April 19

#### Senate Education Committee, 9 a.m., State Capitol, Room 4203

- **SB 78 (Leyva)** After school programs: grant amounts. *League position: Support.*

#### Senate Governance and Finance Committee, 9:30 a.m., State Capitol, Room 112

- **HOT SB 711 (Hill)** Infrastructure finance: Local-State Sustainable Investment Incentive Program. *League position: Support.*
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