



COMMUNITY SERVICES POLICY COMMITTEE
Thursday, June 4, 2020
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

To join the meeting, please register here:

<https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJwtduyhrTqgG9InVFGX4efxLI22A9Be8ZCp>

Once you register, you will immediately receive a link to join the meeting.

AGENDA

I. Welcome and Introductions

Speaker: Vice Chair, Heidi Messner, Councilmember, City of Eureka

II. Public Comment

III. General Briefing

IV. Governor's May Revision Budget Update

Informational

Speaker: Derek Dolfie, Legislative Representative, League of California Cities

V. COVID-19 Update

Informational

Speaker: Derek Dolfie, Legislative Representative, League of California Cities

VI. Legislative Agenda (Attachment A)

Action

1. AB 2213 (Limon) Office of Emergency Services: model guidelines

VII. Legislative Update

Informational

Speaker: Derek Dolfie, Legislative Representative, League of California Cities

VIII. Child Mental and Physical Health, Wellness, and Well-Being Update

Informational

Speaker: Senator Connie Leyva (Confirmed - 11:30am)

Next Meeting (tent.): Annual Conference, Long Beach, October 7

Staff will notify committee members after August 17 if the policy committee will be meeting in October.

NOTE: Policy committee members should be aware that lunch is served at these meetings. The state's Fair Political Practices Commission takes the position that the value of the lunch should be reported on city officials' statement of economic interests form. Because of the service you provide at these meetings, the League takes the position that the value of the lunch should be reported as income (in return for your service to the committee) as opposed to a gift (note that this is not income for state or federal income tax purposes—just Political Reform Act reporting purposes). If you would prefer not to have to report the value of the lunches as income, we will let you know the amount so you may reimburse the League.

Brown Act Reminder: The League of California Cities' Board of Directors has a policy of complying with the spirit of open meeting laws. Generally, off-agenda items may be taken up only if:

1. Two-thirds of the policy committee members find a need for immediate action exists and the need to take action came to the attention of the policy committee after the agenda was prepared (Note: If fewer than two-thirds of policy committee members are present, taking up an off-agenda item requires a unanimous vote); or
2. A majority of the policy committee finds an emergency (for example: work stoppage or disaster) exists.

A majority of a city council may not, consistent with the Brown Act, discuss specific substantive issues among themselves at League meetings. Any such discussion is subject to the Brown Act and must occur in a meeting that complies with its requirements.

Informational Items: Any agenda item listed for information purposes may be acted upon by the Policy Committee if the Chair determines such action is warranted and conforms with current League policy. If the committee wishes to revise League policy or adopt new policy for an item listed as informational, committees are encouraged to delay action until the next meeting to allow for preparation of a full analysis of the item.

Legislative Agenda

June 4, 2020

1. [AB 2213 \(Limón\)](#) Office of Emergency Services: Model Guidelines *(As Amended 05/14/20)*

Bill Summary: This measure would direct the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to work in conjunction with California Volunteers to develop model guidelines for local governments and other local entities to identify, type, and track community resources that could assist in responding to or recovering from disasters. These guidelines would include how local governments can take stock of the nonprofit resources existing in their communities.

Bill Description:

AB 2213 would do the following:

- Require Cal OES, in coordination with California Volunteers, to develop model guidelines for local governments and other local entities active in disasters to identify, type, and track community resources, such as nonprofits, that could assist in responding to or recovering from disasters;
- Define “community resources” as individuals and human services that may be needed to help provide assistance to displaced individuals and vulnerable populations, such as, food, water, mass care, sheltering, temporary housing, translation, and other human services;
- Require the model guidelines to include a purpose statement with respect to the intent of identifying, typing, and tracking local resources to quickly meet the needs of those in need;
- Require the model guidelines to be in alignment with the State’s Emergency Plan and support task groups that may be activated to coordinate volunteers, donations, and resources from non-governmental organizations and the private sector;
- Require the model guidelines to include best practices to address the unique needs of people with access and functional needs and vulnerable populations;
- Require the model guidelines to include lessons learned from recent disasters regarding logistics, distribution management, mass care, sheltering and feeding plans; and
- Require Cal OES to publish and distribute the model guidelines no later than May 1, 2022, and annually thereafter.

Background:**Legislative Focus on Emergency Preparedness and Response**

Over the last several years, the Legislature has made emergency preparedness and response a priority as California continues to face emergency after emergency, including an almost year-round fire season. This year, there were a number of bills introduced directing Cal OES to develop guidance for local governments to better assist or understand the challenges of various populations, including the access and functional needs population.

In particular, the Legislature introduced the following bills that also touch on aiding access and functional needs populations in emergencies:

- **[AB 2064 \(Patterson\)](#)** – This measure would require Cal OES, upon the next update of the State Emergency Plan, to include proposed best practices for local governments to use to mobilize and evacuate people with access and functional needs during disasters;
- **[AB 2386 \(Bigelow\)](#)** – This measure would require Cal OES to annually review ten local disaster plans to determine if they conform or exceed best practices identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and
- **[AB 2428 \(Fong\)](#)** – This measure would require Cal OES to update the State Emergency Plan in coordination with representatives from the access and functional needs population.

Assembly Select Committee on the Nonprofit Sector

The Assembly Select Committee on the Nonprofit Sector and the Assembly Committee on Governmental Organization held a hearing to examine the role of nonprofits in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery in October of 2019. The hearing provided an overview of how local and state emergency managers are working with nonprofit organizations and other entities to better prepare communities for disasters.

The hearing testimony illustrated the role nonprofit organizations play in disaster response and recovery operations, including how nonprofits can bring unique resources and capabilities to disaster response efforts.

State Auditor Report

In December of 2019, the California State Auditor released a [report](#) titled, “*California Is Not Adequately Prepared to Protect Its Most Vulnerable Residents from Natural Disasters*,” which outlines the need for local governments to do a better job coordinating their response efforts with those in the access and functional needs populations. Additionally, the report noted that Cal OES is uniquely situated to develop additional model guidelines for local governments to this end.

According to the Author

“The nonprofit sector plays a critical role in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters. It is important to have a well thought out volunteer management program in place in order to avoid hindering the efforts of first responders and emergency personnel, and to meet the needs of vulnerable populations. This bill is an important step to ensure we effectively prepare and mobilize the whole community, better leverage nonprofit sector assets, and strengthen the ability to coordinate volunteers and other community resources during disasters.”

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal costs are unknown at this time. However, it is safe to assume that there would be state costs associated with Cal OES developing these model guidelines.

Existing League Policy:

“Natural Disaster Preparation

The League supports additional funding for local agencies to recoup the costs associated with fire safety in the community and timely mutual aid reimbursement for disaster response services in other jurisdictions. The League also supports additional funding for local agencies to preposition “emergency response” personnel and equipment as well as coordinate notification systems with local and state agencies.

The League supports measures that provide resources for local governments to coordinate services to assist displaced residents and communities recover from wildfires, earthquakes and other natural disasters.”

Staff Comments:

Clearly, the Legislature is focused on better preparing California’s communities for the next inevitable disaster. Given the legislative focus this year, it could be helpful for the League to develop clear stances on these types of bills. As noted above, the League does have existing policy that supports additional resources for local governments to coordinate services during a disaster. However, the committee’s input will be helpful to understand the extent to which cities would like to, or should be compelled to, coordinate their disaster response efforts with nonprofit entities.

This measure seeks to bridge the gap local governments have between their existing emergency resources and meeting the needs of vulnerable populations in an emergency.

Support and Opposition: (as of 05/12/20)

Support

California Association of Nonprofits
California Emergency Services Association
Disability Rights California
San Diego Gas & Electric

Opposition:

None on file

Staff Recommendation:

League staff's recommendation is to **support** AB 2213 (Limón).

Committee Recommendation:

Board Action: