COMMUNITY SERVICES POLICY COMMITTEE

HIGHLIGHTS
Friday, June 8, 2018
League Office, 1400 K Street, Third Floor, Sacramento

ATTENDANCE
Members: Bill DeHart (Chair); Janet Abelson, Sandra Armenta, Darlene Barber-Martinez, Stacy Berry, Jennifer Cavennaugh, Leslie Caviglia, Heather Cousin, Christine Engel, Jay Ingram, Janet Jimenez, Mike Judge, Lucille Kring, Linda Krupa, Alina Kwak, Corina Lopez, Irais Lopez-Ortega, Tony Madrigal, Heidi Messner, Linda Molina, Liz Morris, Thua-Ha Nguyen, W.F. Olsen, Lydia Romero, Bruce Roundy, Velveth Schmitz, Michael Smith, Mireya Turner, Brad Willke, Aly Zimmermann,

Staff: Erin Evans-Fudem

I. State Budget and Issues Briefing
Rich Garbarino, League President and Council Member from the City of South San Francisco, welcomed all the attendees and thanked them for their valuable contributions to the League’s policy development process. He then paused and asked the attendees to celebrate the voter’s support earlier that week for Proposition 69, which ensured that revenues derived from SB 1 could only be used for transportation purposes. He added that the battle to protect local transportation funds was not over, and the League would be working with our partner organizations in the Fix Our Roads coalition to help voters understand the value of preserving these funds. He also noted that voters had approved two other League-supported measures: Prop. 68, the park bond, and also Prop 72 to give a tax break for rainwater capture.

Next, League Fiscal Policy Consultant, Michael Coleman, gave an in-depth update of the Governor’s May budget revise. He discussed the revenues generated by the state and the funding priorities for the administration. Erin Evans-Fudem explained the League’s budget asks including wildfire and disaster funding, increasing funding for the Transformative Climate Communities program, and increasing state funding to address organic waste recycling challenges.

League Deputy Executive Director/Legislative Director Dan Carrigg then gave an overview of the primary election results including the high-profile Governor’s race in November. He talked about the candidates and highlighted some of the positions the candidates have on issues important to the League, such as housing.

Michael Coleman then provided an update on local ballot measures from the recent election. Dan Carrigg then discussed the challenges the League faces with multiple ballot measures in November. Specifically, Dan discussed the Business Roundtable’s initiative. This initiative would significantly hinder a city’s ability to raise revenue and fund essential services. Due to its retroactive provision, the initiative would undo 25 local ballot measures passed by the voters at the June election.

Jason Rhine, League’s Assistant Legislative Director, then updated the attendees on housing legislation. Jason highlighted several bills including AB 2923 (Chiu), SB 828 (Wiener), SB 831 (Wieckowski), AB 2890 (Ting), AB 3162 (Friedman), and SB 946 (Lara). Jason explained that the budget deal on homelessness has been struck, but he urged everyone to call or visit their legislators to tell them that they support funding for homelessness.
Rony Berdugo, the League’s lobbyist on Transportation, Communications and Public Works, was joined by National League of Cities lobbyist, Angelina Panettieri. Rony provided an overview of the fight over SB 649 (Hueso) the small-cell bill from last year, and the implementation transportation funding from SB 1 (Beall, 2016), and asked for volunteers to be champions to help defend SB 1. Rony then introduced Angelina, who discussed the National League of Cities perspective on telecom issues and how other states are addressing the issue. She asked for members to speak to their congressional legislators about broadband deployment to make sure that local government perspectives are heard in Washington D.C.

Dane Hutchings, the League’s lobbyist on Governance, Transparency and Labor Relations, discussed AB 1912 (Rodriguez) that would apply retroactive liability to each member agency of a joint powers authority. Dane also discussed a recent budget trailer bill affecting contracting for library services that is reminiscent of AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) from last year.

Dan Carrigg then introduced the League’s newest lobbyist for Public Safety, Charles Harvey. Charles introduced himself and discussed various cannabis and public safety bills. Primarily, Charles discussed SB 1302 (Lara) that would force cities to allow for deliveries in their jurisdictions. He urged the group to call their legislators to let them know that cities do not support SB 1302 or any other measure that removes cities’ ability to regulate cannabis deliveries.

Lastly, Dan Carrigg gave a brief overview of the issues related to Revenue and Taxation. He briefly described SCA 20 (Glazer) and efforts to refine a proposed transition to destination allocation of local Bradley-Burns sales taxes as one of the primary topics of ongoing discussion.

II. Welcome and Introductions
Chair Bill DeHart welcomed committee members and began with the introductions of himself, then League staff, followed by self-introductions of each committee member. Each member introduced themselves along with their favorite hobby.

III. Public Comment
No public comment.

IV. Emergency Services Programs for Homeless Youth
Toni Curtis, Monitoring Chief of Grants Management with the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) gave a presentation to the committee about the range of programs that provide services to homeless youth. Ms. Curtis touched on a few major issue areas the service programs like human trafficking and transitional housing. Committee members were excited at the prospect of collaborating with CalOES to address some of their local issues with homeless youth.

V. State Budget Update
Michael Coleman, Fiscal Policy Advisor to the League, provided a budget overview with special attention to items and programs of interest to the Community Services Policy Committee. Mr. Coleman broke down the state budget’s rainy day fund and plans for debt reduction, retirement unfunded liabilities and their potential effects on cities, and the Earned Income Tax Credit, among other things. Erin Evans-Fudem then provided an update on parts of a budget deal that was released during the CS meeting, focusing on League priority budget request.

VI. Update on Housing and Affordable Housing
Jason Rhine, Legislative Representative and housing policy expert with the League, briefed the Committee on legislative efforts around affordable housing, including implementation of new
laws and current proposals. He touched on a few bills that were geared toward remedying issues like streamlining processes, housing affordability, and housing shortages. Mr. Rhine then went into detail about the homelessness funding requests from the state budget and outlined the allocation of the funds.

VII. Legislative Update
Erin Evans-Fudem presented to committee members a list of current bills that the League had taken position on, and briefed the members on the status of several bills and their potential impacts on cities. Of the bills mentioned in the update, those related to fire insurance and utility liability standards were highlighted. League staff also delved into the budget updates and how they compared to the League’s budget requests.

VIII. Policy Committee 2018 Progress Report
Chair DeHart reflected on the Committee’s accomplishments during his tenure as Chair. Mr. DeHart emphasized the time and effort that goes into each bill and report that is presented to the Committee. For instance, the Homelessness Task force Report was two years in the making, with various members, meetings, and drafts all contributing to its completion. Additionally, many of the bills the Committee has been presented with to take action on will undoubtedly have lasting impacts on communities throughout the state. One in particular, SB 1045 (Weiner) which the Committee took action on in April, establishes a new category of conservatorship for chronically homeless and mentally ill persons. Chair DeHart highlighted the impact the Committee’s actions and participation have on the greater California, whether it be direct or by causal chain.

Next Meeting (tent.): Annual Conference, Long Beach, September 12
Staff will notify committee members after July 20th if the policy committee will be meeting in September.