



**HOUSING, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY COMMITTEE
HIGHLIGHTS**

Friday, June 5, 2020

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

ZOOM

[Housing, Community and Economic Development Policy Committee Slides](#)

Staff: Jason Rhine, Assistant Legislative Director
Johnnie Pina, Legislative Policy Analyst

General Briefing:

In accordance with the customary practice of convening all policy committee members for a general briefing prior to the start of policy committee meetings, the League advocacy team compiled a [General Briefing Update Document](#), which includes the latest on federal and state legislative matters affecting cities within their respective policy areas.

I. Welcome and Introductions

League President John Dunbar, Mayor, Yountville, welcomed everyone to the second installment of virtual policy committee meetings. He thanked all of the Policy Committee members for the extra effort they give on behalf of California's cities. President Dunbar explained it is a challenging time for cities as they incur significant expenses associated with the public health crisis. He highlighted that the League is calling on state and federal governments to provide direct and flexible funding to all cities, and will be advocating for resources needed to respond to, and recover from, this pandemic.

President Dunbar also addressed the brutal death of George Floyd. He explained that as local leaders, everyone has the power – and responsibility – to confront the underlying racism and civil injustice still present within communities. He said the League would be setting aside time during each policy committee meeting to talk about two key questions on equity and justice. The first question was, "In order to help city leaders focus on equity and justice in our communities, what specific policy issues should we advance in your committee?" The second question was, "What resources do cities need to respond to what is happening in our communities?" President Dunbar explained that the discussions generated by these questions would help inform the League's work in the coming weeks and months to provide the support necessary to make real and positive changes.

President Dunbar introduced Carolyn Coleman, League Executive Director. Ms. Coleman thanked everyone for leading in one of the most challenging times in recent history. She explained that California's cities have been models for the nation, and their actions in response to COVID-19 have saved lives. Ms. Coleman said that besides developing policy recommendations on ballot measures and legislation, the League is asking the policy committees to have a discussion on President Dunbar's two

key questions related to equity and justice. Ms. Coleman highlighted that without the committee members' engagement, the League wouldn't be the strong organization it is. Chair Blanca Pacheco and Vice Chair Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft welcomed committee members and provided introductory remarks.

II. Public Comment

Chair Pacheco asked if there was any public comment. The committee received public comment from members of the public speaking in favor and in opposition to the "Split Roll" Ballot measure.

III. COVID-19 Update

League staff provided a COVID-19 update, which highlighted resources such as the League's COVID-19 dedicated [webpage](#), [email](#), and [webinar series](#). League staff also gave an overview of the potential impacts that COVID-19 may have on key state legislative and budget deadlines. Notably, COVID-19 response and recovery, along with issues such as housing, homelessness, public safety, and wildfires, will likely continue to be legislative priorities for this session, while other legislative priorities may be delayed until next session.

Additionally, League staff provided an overview of the League's [Support Local Recovery](#) campaign. This highlighted the campaign's goals, which include securing \$7 billion from the state government and the federal government in direct and flexible funding to support critical city services. League staff also provided some key takeaways from the League's fiscal analysis, which illustrate that all cities, regardless of size and geography, are being impacted by COVID-19, with over 90 percent of cities reporting that they are considering cutting/furloughing city staff or reducing public services. The League continues to work closely with its federal lobbying team and the National League of Cities regarding a potential fourth stimulus package.

IV. Budget Update

League staff provided an update on the Governor's May Revision proposed budget. The budget proposal has been scaled down to \$203 billion from the \$222.2 billion proposed in January. The focus of the budget is the protection of California's core values: public education, public health, public safety, and people hit hardest by COVID-19. The May Revision proposes to use \$16.2 billion in the Budget Stabilization Account (Rainy Day Fund) over three years. The League's budget analysis can be found [here](#).

V. Legislative Update

Due to time restrictions, this portion of the agenda was skipped and was taken up at the June 17th meeting.

VI. Ballot Measures

• Schools and Community First (Split-Roll)

The committee heard testimony from the supporters and the opposition. After the debate, two motions were made, one to support and one to oppose. The motion to

oppose failed 13-33. The motion to support the ballot measure passed 36-12 with one abstain. HCED's recommendation is to support the Schools and Community First ballot measure.

- **The Rental Affordability Act (Rent Control)**

HCED policy committee received a presentation from the supporters and the opposition. There were two motions made. One motion was to oppose, it failed 21-22 with 5 abstain. The other motion was to support, which failed 19-26. The committee does not have a recommendation for the Board.

- **The Family Home Protection and Fairness in Property Tax Act of 2020 (Realtors Measure)**

After a presentation by the supporters, the opposition did not participate, a motion was considered on this measure. The motion was to support, which passed 40-5 with 2 abstain. The committee recommendation is to support the Family Home Protection and Fairness in Property Tax Act of 2020.

VII. Legislative Agenda

- **SB 1085 (Skinner) Density Bonus**

After a discussion about density bonus law and how SB 1085 would amend that law, a motion to oppose unless amended to protect locally adopted density bonus ordinances was made and passed 27-9 with 5 abstain. The committee recommends an oppose unless amended position.

- **SB 1120 (Atkins) Subdivisions. Tentative Maps**

HCED did not have time to consider this action item. No recommendation.

- **SB 1385 (Caballero) Streamlining. Housing in Commercial Zones**

HCED did not have time to consider this action item. No committee recommendation.

- **AB 2580 (Eggman) Conversion of Hotels and Motels. Streamlining**

This item was pulled from the agenda. AB 2580 was held in the Assembly Appropriations committee and is dead for the year.

VIII. Equity and Justice Discussion

As prompted by President John Dunbar, the committee discussed the issues of equity and justice focused on the two questions mentioned at the beginning of the meeting. The committee had a long thoughtful discussion that touched on a wide range of issues, including: rental application fees, redlining, redevelopment, representation, city council compensation, community policing, diversity on the League Board of Directors, economic development, and tenant protections.

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