

## **PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS**

Friday, April 13, 2018

Sheraton Fairplex Hotel & Conference Center, 601 West McKinley Avenue, Pomona

### **ATTENDANCE**

Members: Jan Arbuckle (Chair), Barb Stanton (V. Chair), Lance Calkins, Marie Chuang, Omar Dadabhoy, Mike Diaz, Bea Dieringer, Phill Dupper, Jeff Gee, Gene Hernandez, Steve Hofbauer, Bill Holland, Dawn Holm, Elbert Holman, Laurie Lofranco, David Marquez, Peggy McQuaid, Jake Miller, Rick Mullen, Erik Newman, Lori Ogorchock, Ernesto Olivares, Afshin Oskoui, Greg Park, John Pena, Darold Pieper, Karen Rarey, Nat Rojanasathira, Kelly Seyarto, Marty Simonoff, Jessica Sloan, Jose Solorio, Joe Tessari, Bob Whalen, Michael Wilson, Cory Wolbach

League Partners: Laurie Lofranco

League Staff: Dan Carrigg, Derek Dolfie

### **I. State Budget and Issues Briefing**

The April 2018 Policy Committee meetings began with a general session briefing and an introduction from Rich Garbarino, League President, Council Member, South San Francisco. President Gabarino gave a brief welcome highlighting the importance of the League's 2018 Strategic goals and thanking everyone for their attendance. He then introduced League Deputy Executive Director/Legislative Director, Dan Carrigg, to discuss state budget and legislative issues.

Mr. Carrigg and Michael Coleman, the League's Fiscal Policy Advisor, provided an update on the Governor's budget. Mr. Coleman gave a brief presentation regarding the makeup of California's budget and discussed the projected surplus of an estimated \$6 billion.

Mr. Carrigg stated that the Governor's first commitment with additional funds is to fill California's 'Rainy Day' reserve fund to its constitutional limit. With several billion more in additional funds available, in addition to supporting additional funding to address homelessness, the League is making three budget requests: \$100 million for disaster equipment pre-positioning; \$100 million for the Transformative Climate Communities program; and \$100 million for organic waste recycling infrastructure.

Mr. Carrigg gave an update on the major ballot issues coming up in 2018, including the California Business Roundtable Initiative, which would limit the ability of cities to raise taxes and fees to provide essential services to their communities. He gave a background on the measure and stated that the League and a strong coalition of local government and labor associations are opposed and will continue to fight this initiative. Finally, he gave a brief overview of other initiatives that may be on the ballot ranging from rent control to splitting California into three states. He then introduced League's lobbyists to discuss their respective major issue areas.

Rony Berdugo, Legislative Representative, discussed the League's strategic goal of protecting existing transportation funding for local priorities and the ongoing SB 1 repeal effort. He described the League's campaign to protect SB 1 dollars and presented cities with several ways they can do their part to protect the funding. He also discussed Proposition 69, on the June ballot, which will ensure that the revenue created by SB 1 is constitutionally restricted for transportation purposes. For cities looking to join in the League's advocacy efforts, both to oppose any gas tax repeal effort and to support the constitutional protections on the June 2018 ballot, please visit <https://fixcaroads.com/> to learn more.

Next, Jason Rhine, Assistant Legislative Director, briefed members on the issues surrounding affordable housing, homelessness, and land use. Mr. Rhine focused on the housing affordability and availability challenges throughout the state. He noted that even with the passage of last year's 15-bill "housing package," housing legislation continues to be a high priority for the Legislature this year.

Mr. Rhine discussed the League's opposition to SB 827 (Wiener), which would exempt certain housing projects from locally developed and adopted height limitations, densities, parking requirements, and design review standards. He also discussed the large number of bills introduced this year that touch on nearly every aspect of the current housing law. Also outlined were: HCD's projected milestones for SB 2 and the revenue that it will generate, homelessness funding, the Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018 and No Place Like Home funding. Mr. Rhine went on to discuss the Joint Task Force Report on Homelessness and its findings. The report can be found here: [Homelessness Task Force Report - Tools and Resources for Cities and Counties](#)

Dane Hutchings, Legislative Representative, provided an update on pensions and other labor and governance issues. He gave an overview of what will be happening on pensions this year and referenced the League's [Pension Survey Report](#). Mr. Hutchings stressed that cities are struggling with increasing costs and securing additional flexibility. He described the reality of attempting to find a solution to the pension issue in Sacramento and explained the League's strategy. Additionally, Mr. Hutchings discussed the League's opposition to AB 1912 (Rodriguez), which would apply prospective and retroactive joint and several liability to agencies who have entered into a JPA for all retirement related liabilities for any public retirement system. This measure would not just apply to CalPERS but any county retirement system as well. Mr. Hutchings also briefly described a CalPERS divestment bill.

Erin Evans-Fudem, Legislative Representative, highlighted evolving environmental and community issues. She discussed the importance for cities to engage in discussions about several issues including organic waste recycling regulations, disaster relief and wildfire response legislation, offshore drilling, and clean drinking water legislation. Specifically, she discussed Propositions 68 and 72, which are on the June ballot. Proposition 68 is the park and water bond which will bring more funding to maintain parks and protect water storage and infrastructure. Proposition 72 would give a tax exemption to those who install a rainwater capture system on their property. She also elaborated on the League's several budget requests: \$100 million for fire prevention; \$100 million for waste diversion; and \$100 million for the Transformative Climate Communities program.

With the current absence of a public safety legislative representative, Dan Carrigg provided an update on public safety and revenue and taxation. Mr. Carrigg gave a brief update on the public safety initiative sponsored by the California Police Chiefs Association and the Grocers Association that attempts to address issues of chronic retail theft and violent crime. Having initially thought that the amount of cannabis legislation would slow down after last year, he reported that there are a large number of bills introduced attempting to change laws surrounding cannabis. He also briefly touched on drones as an emerging policy area.

Mr. Carrigg continued his presentation on revenue and taxation and an update regarding some important initiatives that may make their way onto the November ballot. He gave an update regarding tax increment tools and redevelopment. Mr. Carrigg went on to describe the various tools available to cities and the potential for redevelopment to come back. The League will

continue working with Legislators to continue to expand the options for local agencies. He briefly discussed legislation regarding annexations and incorporations.

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Jan Arbuckle gave an introduction to the committee. All members introduced themselves and how long they have been on this committee.

**II. Public Comment**

No public comment.

**III. “Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe Act of 2018”**

The committee heard presentations from proponents and opponents of the “Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe Act of 2018” ballot measure sponsored by the Police Chiefs Association and the Grocers Association.

The first presentation was from the proponents, Whittier Mayor Joe Vinatieri and Monterey Park Police Chief Jim Smith on behalf of the California Police Chiefs Association. Mayor Vinatieri and Chief Smith gave a brief presentation in support of the ballot measure and discussed how the initiative would change the classification of violent felonies and improve efforts to address organized criminal retail theft.

The second presentation was from the opponents, Thomas G. Hoffman, (Retired) Director, Department of Adult Parole Operations, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation on behalf of Californians for Safety and Justice. Mr. Hoffman gave a brief presentation in opposition of the ballot measure and discussed how California does not have the prison space to incarcerate more people and the need for thoughtful criminal justice reform. After both presentations, the proponents and opponents took questions from the committee.

After an energetic discussion with the presenters and the committee, a motion was made to support the ballot measure. The motion was seconded by several committee members. This motion then spurred more discussion and debate from the committee. A motion was made, and seconded, to “call the question” on the original motion to support the ballot measure. A voice vote was taken on the "call the question" motion. The chair called for the vote. The committee approved the motion to “call the question” by two-thirds with four no votes. That motion ended Committee questions, which brought the committee back to the original motion to support the ballot measure. The chair called for the vote. The committee approved the motion by two-thirds with four no votes.

**Committee Action:** Motion to support the “Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe Act of 2018” ballot measure passed with majority support with four no votes.

**IV. State Legislation**

A. AB 1968 (Low) Mental health: firearms.

League staff gave a presentation to the committee on AB 1968 (Low) and took questions. A motion was made to support the bill and engage with the author to change the burden of proof onto the petitioner. This motion, however, did not receive a second and died. Next, a motion to oppose unless amended was made and seconded. Then a substitute motion to support the bill and discuss concerns raised by the committee further with the Police Chiefs and DA’s Association was made and seconded.

**Committee Action:** The motion to support the bill and discuss further with the Police Chiefs and District Attorneys Association passed with majority support.

B. AB 2256 (Santiago) Law enforcement agencies: opioid antagonist.  
League staff gave a presentation to the committee on AB 2256 (Santiago) and took questions.  
Then a motion to support was made and seconded.

**Committee Action:** The motion to support the bill passed with unanimous support.

**V. State Fire Response and Disaster Relief Draft Policy**

Nearly 70 wildfire and disaster response bills have been introduced. Given the volume, League staff presented some draft policies to several policy committees for discussion and refinement. League staff gave an overview of the bills and took questions from the committee. A motion to approve the draft policies intact was made and seconded.

**Committee Action:** The motion to approve the draft policies as is, passed with unanimous support.

**VI. State and Federal Drone Policy Update**

League staff gave a presentation on the current state of drone regulation at the local, state, and federal level. League staff sought feedback from the committee on draft drone policy principles and asked for volunteers to serve on a League drone task force to further develop the policy principles and potential legislation. Some comments from the committee included thinking about temporary no-fly zones, checking in with amateur pilots, and looking at the difference between small and large drone technology.

**VII. Cannabis Implementation and Enforcement Update**

Tamara Colson, Chief Legal Counsel for the Bureau of Cannabis Control, gave a brief presentation on the current state of regulations for cannabis. She discussed the Bureau's efforts on enforcement, compliance, and cracking down on unlicensed businesses.

**Next Meeting: Friday, June 8, Sacramento Convention Center, Sacramento**