



Staff Report

TO: City Council
FROM: Christina Taylor, Community Development Director
DATE: February 15, 2022
SUBJECT: Review and Approve the City of Beaumont 2022 Legislative Platform

Background and Analysis:

Each year, City Council reviews and updates the City's legislative platform. The purpose of a legislative platform is to establish City Council's position on various legislative topics and issues. This will allow City staff as well as the City's legislative representatives to act quickly on behalf of the City when legislation is proposed which either agrees or conflicts with the City's position as described in the platform.

With regard to issues that are not included in the legislative platform, no official City position will be established until City Council discusses the topic and comes to a consensus.

Guiding principles of the legislative platform are as follows:

I. PRESERVE LOCAL CONTROL

Preserve and protect the City's powers, duties and prerogatives to enact local legislation and policy direction concerning local affairs and oppose legislation that preempts local authority. Local agencies should preserve authority and accountability for revenues raised and services provided.

II. PROMOTE FISCAL STABILITY

Support measures that promote fiscal stability, predictability, financial independence, and preserve the City's revenue base and maximum local control over local government budgeting. Oppose measures that shift local funds to the County, State or Federal Governments and/or make cities more dependent on the County, State or Federal Governments for financial stability, such as unfunded mandates or mandated costs with no guarantee of local reimbursement or offsetting benefits.

III. SUPPORT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Support opportunities that allow the City to compete for its fair share of regional, state and federal funding. Support funding for programs with combined benefits to air quality, water quality, affordable housing, infrastructure (including multi-modal transportation systems), public safety and public health.

IV. ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH ADEQUATE PUBLIC SAFETY

Reform recently enacted criminal justice laws — enacted by both statute and initiative — that have eroded public safety protections of Beaumont residents. Protect existing City authority to deliver local emergency services.

The platform contains policy statements covering the following fifteen areas:

1. Administration,
2. Economic Development,
3. Environment and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA),
4. Air Quality,
5. Building,
6. Natural Hazards,
7. Solid Waste and Recycling,
8. Water Quality and Water Supply,
9. Land Use Planning and Housing,
10. Education and Libraries,
11. Parks and Recreation,
12. Human Resources and Risk Management,
13. Public Safety and Police,
14. Fire and Emergency Medical Services, and
15. Transportation and Public Works.

City staff will compose a legislative tracking list for the current year along with any carryover bills from the previous session and provide to City Council. The tracking will highlight those bills that may have significant impacts on the City and indicate City Council's positions on these bills. These positions will be used to either support, oppose, or monitor each bill as it makes its way through the legislative process.

Fiscal Impact:

The cost to prepare this staff report is approximately \$175.

Recommended Action:

Hold discussion and approve the 2022 Legislative Platform.

Attachments:

A. 2022 DRAFT Legislative Platform