



# CITY OF BEAUMONT

## 2021 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

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### **PURPOSE**

The City of Beaumont's 2021 Legislative Platform confirms the City Council's position on current issues with the potential to directly or indirectly impact the City, thereby establishing guidelines to actively pursue pending legislation through monitoring and communications activities. Below are the Guiding Principles and Policy Statements that will allow City staff to address 2021 legislative and regulatory issues in a timely manner, without precluding the consideration of additional legislative and budget issues that may arise during the legislative session.

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

#### 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.

### **POLICY STATEMENTS**

#### **Administration**

1. Oppose State or Federal efforts to "borrow" local revenues and encourage the State to find other methods of balancing its budget.
2. Support local government action, rather than the imposition of state, federal or regional mandates upon local governments, as well as federal mandates placed on the state.
3. Support maximum flexibility for local government in contracting and contract negotiations.

4. Support open government initiatives as well as the principles of the open meetings provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act at all levels of government.
5. Support legislation that facilitates the ability of local government to share resources to increase efficiencies and decrease costs, including local efforts to address regional management of public safety personnel.
6. Support legislation that preserves the ability of local governments to determine the appropriate type of election for their jurisdiction.
7. Monitor local, state and federal legislation pertaining to e-cigarettes and cannabis.
8. Monitor and evaluate Proposition 13 and city and county tax apportionment proposals.
9. Monitor and evaluate all proposals that include an unfunded mandate.
10. Oppose any amendment to the redistribution of sales and use taxes which will negatively affect the City and its ability to provide city services and thereby cause a negative fiscal impact.

### **Economic Development**

11. Support international, statewide, regional and local efforts to attract, retain and provide resources for current and future commercial and industrial businesses.
12. Support efforts to provide funding mechanisms for economic development tools including infrastructure investment, housing and economic development.
13. Support policies and programs that encourage working with other cities, counties and government agencies to jointly leverage resources and assets to create and strengthen economic clusters within the region.
14. Support policies, projects, programs and regulations for diversifying Beaumont's primary economic base and facilitating investment in the City's industrial areas that will result in maintaining or growing local jobs and creating an environment that is attractive to current and emerging industries.
15. Support economic development initiatives that preserve and enhance a positive business climate and maintain and grow the business tax base.
16. Retain job skills to adapt to economic job changes due to advances in technology.
17. Maintain an equitable program for the continued disbursement of sales and use taxes which reflect local impacts on various communities.

### **Environment**

18. Support legislation that provides funding opportunities focused on coordinating sustainable planning in transportation, housing and economic development.

### **Air Quality**

19. Support continued funding and incentives to local agencies to work together to improve air quality through the reduction of emissions and advancing economic and technical developments.
20. Oppose any policy or guidelines of the California Air Resources Board, or any other agency, that restricts the introduction of mixed-use development projects near multi-modal transportation centers.
21. Support policies, guidelines, incentives and funding for programs with combined benefits to air quality, water quality, housing, infrastructure (including multi-modal transportation systems) and public health.

## **Building**

22. Oppose policies that mandate building requirements with a sole power source.

## **Natural Hazards**

23. Support programs which provide funding to hazard mitigation projects including those identified in a FEMA-approved Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.
24. Support funding of state efforts to update and prepare earthquake hazard mapping.
25. Support legislation and funding that would create an earthquake early warning system.

## **Solid Waste and Recycling**

26. Support measures that maintain and enhance local authority and economic flexibility to regulate solid waste and recyclables.
27. Oppose any measures that invalidate AB 939 (California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989) indemnification and prevent cities from negotiating indemnification clauses with waste haulers as well as support measures that would mandate state agencies to comply with AB 939 in the same manner as required of cities and counties.

## **Water Quality and Water Supply**

28. Support and monitor legislation that would increase the availability of, and funding for, water conservation, water reuse technologies, water recycling, local water storage and other water supply technologies such as the Groundwater Replenishment System project.
29. Support the enhancement of a reliable and sustainable water supply for California.
30. Support measures to increase water supply and improve water quality in the region, including drought relief legislation
31. Monitor water desalination technologies and support community education efforts, both pro and con, regarding desalination.
32. Support funding opportunities that are provided to local jurisdictions through Proposition 1, the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 and Proposition 68, Park, Environment, and Water Act of 2016.
33. Support legislation that requires water providers to service housing projects that meet RHNA and or other housing mandates.

## **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

34. Support all efforts to create efficiencies within CEQA and support efforts to limit delays in the local planning and development process.
35. Support legislation that allows State agencies and local governments to continue to retain full authority to reject projects or to condition project approvals and impose mitigation measures.
36. Support legislation that prevents CEQA lawsuits from being filed for any reason other than a bonafide environmental impact.

## **Land Use Planning and Housing**

37. Support efforts to strengthen the legal and fiscal capability of local agencies to prepare, adopt and implement plans for orderly growth, development, beautification and conservation of local planning areas.

38. Support housing measures that promote the development and enhancement of safe and affordable housing and accessible housing within the City for all economic segments of the population.
39. Support funding opportunities that are provided to local jurisdictions through statewide bond efforts.
40. Monitor local, state and federal actions related to medical and recreational marijuana regulatory changes.
41. Oppose measures to withhold funding dedicated to transportation funding unless proposed housing goals are being met.
42. Oppose measures which would undermine established general plan, zoning and housing documents.
43. Oppose measures which undermine the planning vision of local government and contradict the expectations of our community, which includes projects mitigation their impacts.
44. Support measures which support meeting the State's planning goals while maintaining local control, ensuring communities evolve in a manner that reflects the will of the residents and protects the public's health, safety, and welfare.

### **Libraries**

45. Support full funding of the Public Library fund and other local public library programs.

### **Education**

46. Support measures that support, encourage, and/or fund Career Technical and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) educational opportunities.
47. Support legislation that allows cities to have discretionary review on school district planning and requires school districts to mitigate their impact.

### **Parks and Recreation**

48. Oppose efforts that erode funding for vital regional and community services that negatively impact Californian's access to parks, open space, bike lanes, after school programming, youth services, senior services, food programs, facilities that promote physical activity, protect natural resources and strengthen safety and security.
49. Support legislation and funding opportunities (e.g. federal and state park grant funds, conservancy grant funds, project mitigation funds, etc.) that helps cities build better, stronger communities by providing funding to improve air, water, parks, open space, natural resources, historic preservation, the arts and cultural resources.
50. Promote local agency control over policies that recognize the benefits of parks and recreation facilities.

### **Human Resources and Risk Management**

51. Oppose measures that reduce local control over employee relations issues or mandate new or enhanced local government employee benefits.
52. Oppose measures that impose compulsory and binding arbitration with respect to employees.
53. Support legislation to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act to require notice prior to filing a lawsuit.
54. Support pension reform measures designed to control or decrease employer liability or increase transparency in reporting without imposing undo hardships or administrative burdens on local government.

## **Public Safety**

55. Support measures that encourage community safety and well-being including those which support state and federal reimbursement of homeland security related expenses.
56. Advocate for the strengthening and enforcement of penalties under Proposition 83 (Jessica's Law).

## **Police**

57. Support local control over adult entertainment facilities, problem alcohol establishments and properties where illegal drugs are sold.
58. Support local control for the regulation of cultivation, storage, manufacture, transport and use of medical marijuana.
59. Support legislation increasing resources and local authority for abatement of public vandalism, especially graffiti.
60. Support the use of Homeland Security Funds for local law enforcement agencies as first responders.
61. Monitor legislation on implementation of best practices regarding law enforcement procedures.
62. Advocate for the safeguarding of State asset forfeiture funds for law enforcement training and equipment.

## **Fire and Emergency Medical Services**

63. Support local control of emergency medical services and ambulance service, including pre-hospital care and transport.
64. Support efforts to streamline and coordinate hazardous materials regulations.
65. Oppose National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) standard 1710 requiring four-person fire crew staffing on each apparatus but support local determination of adequate staffing based on data and analytics.
66. Oppose the California Emergency Response Initiative and similar initiatives.

## **Transportation and Public Works**

67. Support legislation that would increase funding for local transportation projects including road resurfacing projects, local transit projects, adding bicycle lanes, sidewalks and trails throughout the city where appropriate, programs that facilitate development-oriented transit and transit-oriented development and enhancing pedestrian safety.
68. Support increased State and Federal funding of transportation improvements with regional or sub-regional benefits for all modes of transportation.
69. Support protection of dedicated transportation-related tax revenues and enhance the ability of local agencies to finance local transportation programs and facilities.
70. Support joint planning efforts and projects with Beaumont's border cities on traffic congestion relief projects.
71. Support efforts that remove institutional barriers of regulatory differences between public transit providers and school districts. Advocate for cooperation, collaboration, and funding between school districts and public transit providers to develop partnerships in providing transportation to students.
72. Support the reallocation of state or federal transportation dollars to reduce VMT by funding the expansion of local rail and transit projects to less populated areas.

73. Support commuter public transportation hubs to be located in areas where there will be a large public benefit.

### 2021 LEGISLATION TRACKING

| <u>Bill #</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Sponsor</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Platform Match</u> |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| AB            |              |                |                 |                       |