



City of Needles, California Request for City Council Action

CITY COUNCIL NPUA

Regular Special

Meeting Date: April 26, 2026

Title: League of California Cities (Cal Cities) support letter for Proposition 36, legislative priorities and key policy issues currently being advanced at the State level.

Background: The League of California Cities (Cal Cities) is actively advocating on behalf of cities statewide on a wide range of legislative and budget priorities impacting local government operations, funding, and authority. During the current legislative session, nearly 1,800 bills have been introduced addressing key policy areas including housing, public safety, homelessness, infrastructure, and environmental quality.

These priorities align closely with the City of Needles' strategic objectives related to economic development, infrastructure investment, and maintaining public safety while managing growth. Key legislative focus areas include:

- **Housing, Community, and Economic Development:** Efforts to expand housing production and funding, including proposed \$10 billion housing bonds and reforms to streamline approvals and improve Housing Element timelines.
- **Public Safety:** Legislation targeting organized retail theft, DUI enforcement, and wildfire resilience, along with continued advocacy for sustained funding to support local law enforcement and emergency response.
- **Transportation and Infrastructure:** Support for expanded contracting tools such as design-build and job order contracting, and long-term discussions regarding transportation funding mechanisms.
- **Community Services and Homelessness:** Inclusion of approximately \$500 million in Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) funding, with additional efforts to ensure smaller and rural communities have equitable access to these resources.
- **Environmental Quality and Disaster Preparedness:** Legislative proposals addressing wildfire mitigation, air quality, disaster recovery planning, and local response capacity.

A key advocacy priority for Cal Cities is securing \$400 million in additional State funding to support implementation of Proposition 36, the Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act approved by voters in 2024. Initial funding has been insufficient to fully implement the program—particularly for probation, treatment capacity, and accountability measures critical to its success.

The City of Needles has prepared a draft letter of support urging the Legislature to include this funding in the FY 2026–27 State Budget.

Fiscal Impact: None. This item provides policy direction only and does not commit City funds.

Recommendation: 1. Receive and file the Cal Cities legislative update; and
2. Authorize the Mayor to sign and submit a letter of support for the \$400 million Proposition 36 funding request.

Submitted By: City Manager Patrick Martinez

City Manager Approval: Patrick J. Martinez

Date: 4/24/2026

Other Department Approval (when required): _____

Date: _____