

Transportation, Communications, and Public Works

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2026 Cal Cities Advocacy Priorities

- **Public Safety.** The progress cities have been making to strengthen public safety must be sustained. Cities call on the state to respect the will of the voters and provide the resources needed to fully implement Proposition 36. Cities support sustained investments in police, fire services, and public works as a foundation of public safety.

Public works

SB 1001 (Archuleta) Emergency identification card program.

This measure would require the Office of Emergency Services to develop a public works and water utility worker identification program to issue identification cards to employees of a local municipality to authorize access to an area during or following a flood, storm, fire, earthquake, or other disaster, for the purpose of protection of public health and safety, preservation of life and property, and repair and restoration of water service.

Cal Cities Position: Support

Public works

AJR XX (Caloza) Public works: emergency responders.

This measure would recognize public works professionals play a vital role in disasters and other emergencies and are often considered the “silent arm of public safety,” working diligently, often without fanfare, to support emergency response partners regardless of the hazard.

Cal Cities Position: Support (Once Introduced)

Public works

AB 1198 (Haney) Public works: prevailing wage.

This measure would mandate that is DIR determines, within a semiannual period, that there is a change in any prevailing rate of per diem wages in a locality, that determination applies to any public works contract that is awarded or for which notice to bidders is published after July 1, 2027. Requires wage increases to take effect during construction phase of PW project.

Cal Cities Position: Oppose

Public works

AB 1786 (Harabedian) Public works: best value.

This measure would extend existing best value construction contracting authority to cities and certain infrastructure focused joint powers authorities, creating parity with procurement tools already available to counties.

Cal Cities Position: Support

Public works

AB 2033 (Papan) Local agency public construction: job order contracting.

This measure would authorize cities to award individual annual job order contracts, for remodeling, not to exceed \$500,000, to the lowest responsible bidder and be based on plans and specifications for typical work.

Cal Cities Position: Support

Public works

SB 935 (Choi) Design-build.

This bill would make the design-build authority permanent, continue the requirement that certain submissions be certified under penalty of perjury, and specify that no state reimbursement is required.

Cal Cities Position: Support

Transportation

AB 1421 (Wilson) Road study: Technical advisory committee.

This measure would require the CA Transportation Commission, in consultation with the Transportation Agency, to consolidate and prepare research and recommendations related to a road user charge or a mileage-based fee system.

Cal Cities Position: Support

Transportation

AB 2679 (Hadwick) Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation

Account: funding apportionments: cities.

This measure would require the Controller, with respect to the revenues apportioned to cities, to apportion a minimum of \$200,000 to each city, regardless of its population size.

Cal Cities Position: Concerns

Transportation

AB 1944 (Lee) Zero-emission transit buses: axle weight.

This measure would establish specified higher weight limitations up to 25,000 pounds for zero-emission transit buses procured through a solicitation process pursuant to which a solicitation was issued at various specified periods between January 1, 2027, and December 31, 2031

Cal Cities Position: Pending

Transportation

SB 1292 (Richardson) Enhanced curb management.

This measure provides cities with optional authority to modernize curb management and parking enforcement through automated systems while including procedural safeguards related to privacy, oversight, and public outreach.

Cal Cities Position: Support

E-bikes

[AB 1569](#) (Davies) Pupil safety.

[AB 1614](#) (Dixon) Passengers: E-bike class 1 bikeway

[AB 2346](#) (Wilson) Speedometer.

Cal Cities Position: Support

Pending TCPW Policy Committee

[SB 1167](#) (Blakespear) Safety limits.

[AB 1942](#) (Bauer-Kahan) Registration and special license plates.

[AB 1557](#) (Papan) Power limits.

[AB 2284](#) (Dixon) E-bike exclusionary list.

[AB 2595](#) (Papan) San Mateo pilot.

[SB 956](#) (Choi) Spot.

Permitting

SB 222 (Wiener) Water heaters and HVAC.

This measure seeks to adopt an overly prescriptive mandate over heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems that removes essential local permitting authority and threatens public safety.

Cal Cities Position: Oppose

Non-legislation

2026 Regulations

- Advanced Clean Fleet
- Cal OSHA Gates

2026 Budget

- \$100 million for ZEV and Low Nox med-to-heavy duty
- Caltrans Reporting: Advanced Clean Fleet
- High-Speed Rail Authority TIF
- Sustainable Aviation Fuel Tax Credit

QUESTIONS?

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