

2/9/2021

item 6



**Action on 2021
Legislative
Advocacy
Positions**

Item 6, RTC 21-1315

February 9, 2021

1



**City of
Santa Clara**
The Center of What's Possible

Background

- In October 2018, Council adopted Resolution No. 18-8611 to approve a Legislative Advocacy Position (LAP) Policy, which:
 - Established guidelines for advancing City goals and positions through legislative review and advocacy.
 - Provides guidance for City officials who serve on boards, committees, and commissions when they are asked to review public policy matters and issues.
 - Requires Council to adopt or update LAPs at the beginning of the calendar year to identify specific legislative priorities outside of legislative guiding principles.

2



Legislative Guiding Principles

- Support the League of California Cities and National League of Cities positions on priority bills that benefit Santa Clara
- Protect local revenue sources and prevent unfunded mandates
- Protect and/or increase funding for specific programs and services
- Protect and/or increase local government discretion
- Advance approved policies such as the City's Statement of Values, the General Plan, or the Climate Action Plan

3

3



2021 LAP Development

- In late 2020 and January 2021, the City Manager's Office and the City's legislative consultant, Townsend Public Affairs, conducted legislative briefings with departmental staff and Councilmembers to identify legislative priorities for 2021.
- Proposed 2021 LAPS reflect staff and Councilmembers' feedback.
- Once approved, staff and Townsend will use these LAPs to track, monitor and advocate for legislation consistent with the City's outlined priorities and provide quarterly legislative updates to the Council on those efforts.

4

4



Proposed 2021 LAPs

- COVID-19 Legislation
- Energy Legislation, Regulations and Issues
- Engagement with Federal Aviation Administration Regarding Airplane Noise
- Housing
- Human Resource and Public Sector Employment
- Local Authority over Wireless Telecommunications Facilities and Cable Services
- Public Safety
- Regional and State-wide Water Supply and Conservation
- Regional Issues and Collaboration
- Regional Transportation Issues
- School Mitigation Fees
- Sustainability and Environmental Legislation, Regulations and Issues

5

5



Additional LAP Changes Requested by Councilmember Jain

- Energy Legislation, Regulations and Issues LAP
 - Support transitioning from diesel backup generators to battery-based backup generators.
- Public Safety LAP
 - Support more funding for mental health and substance abuse.
 - Support training of public safety to handle mental health issues.
 - Support background checks for gun sales.

6

6



Additional LAP Changes Requested by Councilmember Jain

- Regional and State-wide Water Supply and Conservation LAP
 - Support legislation with regional partners that allows purified recycled water to be added to the potable water supply through indirect and direct applications that improve local water resiliency for residents and businesses.
- Regional Transportation Issues LAP
 - Promote incentives to work from home.

7

7



Additional LAP Changes Requested by Councilmember Jain

- Sustainability and Environmental Legislation, Regulations and Issues LAP
 - Support California Energy Commission (CEC) and California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to accelerate building and transportation decarbonization in the 2022 Title 24 part 6 (CalGreen) code.
 - Support Work from Home Policies.
 - Increase support for forest management to reduce wildfires which are increasing in numbers and destruction due to climate change.

8

8



Recommendation

- Staff supports the position statements requested by Councilmember Jain and recommends adopting them as part of their respective 2021 LAPs.
- **Alternative 1:** Adopt the 2021 Legislative Advocacy Positions on COVID-19 Legislation; Energy Legislation, Regulations and Issues; Engagement with the Federal Aviation Administration Regarding Airplane Noise; Housing; Human Resources and Public Sector Employment; Local Authority over Wireless Telecommunications Facilities and Cable Services; Public Safety; Regional and State-wide Water Supply and Conservation; Regional Issues and Collaboration; Regional Transportation Issues; School Mitigation Fees; and Sustainability and Environmental Legislation, Regulations and Issues.

9