



SECTION 1.31 LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY PRINCIPLES

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of establishing legislative advocacy principles is to authorize a City's position on a legislative bill in a timely manner. These principles will allow the Legislative Subcommittee to consider pending legislation to determine if it falls within the Council's adopted principles, thereby allowing the City to issue a position statement without taking the pending legislation to Council. If the legislation does not fall within the guidelines, it will be taken to Council for discussion and direction.

II. ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE

The Legislative Subcommittee (Subcommittee) shall meet during the active legislative year (January through August) or as needed to review State legislation, ballot measures, and positions to take on specific bills. The Subcommittee can recommend to the City Council a legislative and policy platform that establishes the City's legislative priorities for that calendar year.

The two members of the Subcommittee are appointed by the Mayor each calendar year. It is recommended that the Councilmember appointed to represent the City of Campbell on the Cities Association of Santa Clara County Legislative Action Committee, is also be appointed as one member of the Subcommittee in order to provide continuity of information and knowledge of legislation advocacy.

III. POLICY SCOPE

The Subcommittee may take a position on proposed legislation if such legislation is consistent with the following guiding principles:

- a. Directly impacts the City's finances, responsibilities, legal authority, public safety, or operations;
- b. Increases or decreases local revenues;
- c. Protects or reduces local control;
- d. Is consistent with existing City policy or current City Council strategic priorities; or

- e. Creates an unfunded mandates.

The City Manager shall recommend City Council review and action if the City Manager determines the legislation is not consistent with the guiding principles above, in accordance with Council Policy 1.10 – Legislation.

IV. OBJECTIVES

- a. Advocate the City's legislative position at the federal, state, regional and county levels.
- b. Inform and provide information to legislators of the potential impacts that key legislation would have on the City of Campbell.
- c. Work cooperatively with other local governments, the League of California Cities, the Cities Association of Santa Clara County, and other professional organizations on legislative issues that may impact the City and region.
- d. Actively track bills through the legislative process.
- e. Proactively meet with legislators and their representatives to discuss local government issues, proposed legislation, and potential funding requests for City of Campbell programs and services.
- f. To inform the public of the City of Campbell's position on proposed legislation.

V. PROCESS

Staff will prepare position letters for the Mayor's signature on a legislative proposal that may impact the City of Campbell based on the guiding principles in Section III. The letter shall outline the City's position and shall identify the potential impacts the legislation will have to the City of Campbell.

The position letters shall be submitted via the established process of the federal, state, or regional body that is receiving the letter. Additionally, members of the City Council shall receive a copy of the letter and a copy of the letter shall be posted to the City of Campbell's website. At the conclusion of the legislative calendar year, staff will inform the City Council of any legislation that will impact City operations.

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The City of Palo Alto's 2021 Federal and State Legislative Guidelines

These Guidelines reflect and activate the City Council's priorities; they do not supplant them. They work to guide staff and our legislative advocates on issues that are important to the Council, and fairly likely to become a legislative issue. These Guidelines are not rank ordered and are meant to allow for a flexible and quick response by staff and advocates, without the need to return to Council to seek guidance. The Guidelines work in conjunction with the City Council approved Advocacy Process Manual.

The below **Foundational Principles** represent the ideals that form the core of the City's policy agenda. The legislative guidelines all rise from and strengthen our four foundational principles:

1. Protect local revenue sources and prevent unfunded mandates
 2. Protect, seek, and increase funding for programs, projects, and services
 3. Protect and increase local government discretion. Oppose items that preempt or reduce the authority or ability of local government to determine how to effectively operate local programs, services, activities, and governance.
 4. Protect the health and safety of the community
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The **Legislative Guidelines** create the framework for organizing the City's policy interests, while guiding staff and contracted lobbyists in their advocacy efforts on behalf of the City. The items below provide direction for the City's efforts when addressing reasonable government actions.

Transportation

The City supports government action that:

- Deters single occupancy drivers and alleviates local traffic congestion
- Supports local and regional public transportation
- Regulates technology that diverts traffic into residential neighborhoods
- Provides funding for rail grade separations, rail efficiency improvements, and other means of reducing the local impacts of regional transportation systems

Environmental

The City supports government action that:

- Reduces GHG emissions
- Reduces airplane noise, health impacts, and/or airplane emissions
- Promotes residential and vehicle electrification programs

The City of Palo Alto's 2021 Federal and State Legislative Guidelines

- Promotes the use of renewable resources, water conservation, and the flexible use of existing resources
- Supports a statewide ban on polystyrene containers and packaging materials
- Provides opportunities for staff to work with the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority and other regional stakeholders in efforts to improve the creek's watershed and floodplain
- Supports efforts to protect local communities from sea level rise and other impacts of climate change

Financial

The City supports government action that:

- Supports the long-term stability of CalPERS and the ability of local governments to mitigate and manage with flexibility its pension obligations
- Protects the funding levels of City services
- Provides for COVID-19 related expenses and revenue losses
- Supports the continued deductibility of tax-exempt municipal bonds and the restoration of Advance Refunding of Tax-Exempt Municipal Bonds

Public Employment

The City supports government action that:

- Preserves local government's ability to manage its own employment issues, including, but not limited to hiring, evaluating, disciplining, and/or terminating and negotiating collective bargaining agreements with employees' representatives

Technology

The City supports government action that:

- Supports reasonable regulatory efforts surrounding policies regarding cybersecurity, drones, shared mobility services, returning to Obama-era net neutrality regulations, and smart city initiatives

Housing

The City supports government action that:

- Supports reasonable housing policies that recognize local autonomy to maintain the local public process and preserve local government's ability to determine land use policies and development standards

The City of Palo Alto's 2021 Federal and State Legislative Guidelines

- Provides funding for (a) affordable housing and (b) infrastructure (such as parks, utilities, roads, and transit) required to support the increased housing production
- Fosters reasonable ratios between jobs and housing
- Supports the development and implementation of efficient and environmentally sustainable land use and building practices

Police

The City supports government action that:

- Supports efforts which seek to modify policing services, including but not limited to alternative public safety models and funding to address community mental health issues, expansion of requirements regarding police data, and rules regarding prior employment information transparency.

Other

The City supports government action that:

- Updates, implements, and refines processes, services, and programs affecting the City. This includes, but is not limited to, public safety reform efforts and streamlining reporting mandates
- Protects individual privacy and allows the City to safeguard customer information
- Provides for the equal treatment of all individuals
- Allows the City to support the collaborative work of regional partners, trade associations, other local governments and organizations, and Joint Powers Authorities