

Date:

November 23, 2009

To:

Federal Legislation Committee Members

From:

Patrick H. West, City Manage

Subject:

Recommended Changes to the 2010 Federal Legislative Agenda

Each year, City staff reviews the Federal Legislative Agenda and recommends changes to the Federal Legislation Committee and the City Council to ensure the agenda is up-to-date and addresses the legislative concerns of the City. The 2009 agenda was sent to all departments for their input. Attached for your review are staff's proposed changes. Provided below is a summary of those proposed changes, which helps describe why deletions and additions were made.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Item A: Public Safety

This year, staff proposed creating a new Homeland Security section, and to reorganize the Public Safety section. Therefore, item 6 and item 10 were moved to the Homeland Security section, and item 2 was deleted as those concepts are further explained in the Homeland Security section.

Item 11 was added by the Health Department to address emergency/disaster management for animal rescue and sheltering.

Item 12 was added to state the need to pursue funding to rehabilitate Schroeder Hall and convert it to a police substation, once the property is formally deeded to the City of Long Beach.

HOMELAND SECURITY (NEW SECTION)

This section was added to better clarify the City's homeland security needs and position on federal homeland security grants. These concepts were developed y the City's Homeland Security Committee with input from Police, Fire, the Port of Long Beach, and many other departments that serve on that Committee.

The first responder section (Item B) includes duplicate information from the Community Safety section, as it pertains to both Homeland Security and general public safety.

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ENVIRONMENTAL

Item K: Breakwater Study

A second bullet was added to pursue funds for the Feasibility Stage of the East San Pedro Ecosystem Restoration Study (Breakwater Study). This policy statement will be contingent upon the Army Corps determination of federal interest, and a City Council decision to become the non-federal sponsor.

Item 0: National Park Study

Several years ago, Congresswoman Solis authored federal legislation for the National Parks Service to conduct a "special resource study" of the San Gabriel Watershed to determine if there is federal interest in qualifying some of that area for federal parks funding. This study has the potential to bring significant federal resources for projects along the San Gabriel River and the Los Cerritos wetlands. In fact, a large part of Santa Monica is designated as a National Recreation Area, and has been beneficial to that Santa Monica in terms of pursuing federal funds.

However, at the time of the study initiation, the Gateway COG decided not to include its member cities in the study as there was not consensus that this study would be an asset to all cities. Recently, there has been discussion regarding increasing the scope of the study to include certain parts of the Gateway COG region, including the Los Cerritos Wetlands. The language in the Legislative Agenda would allow the City to further continue those discussions to determine if there is an ability to extend the study scope to include parts of Long Beach.

TRANSPORTATION

Item A: Transportation Funding

The City Council has directed staff to explore the feasibility of a streetcar system in Long Beach. The preliminary review has been completed and presented to the City Council. The next step will involve a more in depth review of transportation issues, potentially costing \$550,000. Language has been added to reflect the City Council's interest in pursuing funds for this project.

Item B: Goods Movement

The third bullet was added to support efforts to create a separate and dedicated freight/goods movement account in the next Transportation Reauthorization Bill. In the last federal Transportation Reauthorization Bill in 2005, funding for goods movement projects was included in the bill, but not funded at the level that was expected. Currently, there are discussions of creating a separate account restricted for goods movement projects of national importance. This separate account would likely have a dedicated funding source attached to it, such as a national container fee or other funding mechanism.

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ADDITIONAL ISSUES OF FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE IMPORTANCE

Item I: Census 2010

In 2010, the Census Bureau will be conducting the 2010 Census. Federal dollars are significantly linked to population, and it is important that every resident is accurately counted as part of the census. This item will allow staff to work to ensure that the Census Bureau is dedicating the appropriate resources to Long Beach to ensure an accurate count.

Item M: Naples Seawalls

The Naples Seawalls are in need of repair, currently estimated at \$50 million. This addition to the federal agenda will allow the City to seek the necessary federal authority to allow federal funds to be used to help reconstruct the seawalls.

NEXT STEPS

A Federal Legislation Committee meeting has been called for December 7, 2009 to review and discuss these recommended changes. City Council discussion and approval of the Committee's recommendations is expected to take place following the Committee in December or January.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Tom Modica, Manager of Government Affairs at 8-5091.

CC:

Mayor and Members of the City Council
Suzanne Frick, Assistant City Manager
Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager
Richard Steinke, Executive Director, Harbor Department
Kevin Wattier, General Manager, Water Department
All Department Heads
Samara Ashley, Director of Government Affairs (Harbor)
Matthew Veeh, Acting Director of Government and Public Affairs (Water)
Tom Modica, Manager of Government Affairs
Jyl Marden, City Council Liaison
Van Scoyoc Associates

Attachment PHW: TM: jb

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City of Long Beach Working Together to Serve

Draft 2010 Federal Legislative Agenda

Title	Se	Section	
Business Growth & Workforce Development		 Economic Development: Support efforts to develop and promote policies, legislation and grants that help urban areas foster greater economic opportunity. Support efforts to retain, expand, and attract manufacturing, technology, health care, and other high-wage businesses. Support efforts to attract and retain local green collar jobs in industries such as green building, renewable energy technologies, and energy 	
		efficiency.Support efforts to obtain additional EDA and EPA funding for projects, such as the Long Beach Sports Park and the Aquarium of the Pacific.	
	B.	 Workforce Development: Support efforts toward reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act that maintains a strong, locally-controlled workforce investment system for businesses and residents. Support efforts to increase and stabilize investment in the local workforce investment system, including infrastructure, worker skills development, and youth development, with special focus on the needs of out-of-school, disconnected, emancipated and justice system- 	
		 involved residents and young adults. Support efforts to ensure strong responses to skilled worker shortages of high-wage and critical industries, including regional workforce planning and regional industry-based partnerships. Support efforts to increase funding for the development and training of the education workforce in order to facilitate improved educational success and graduation rates for all children, youth, and young adults (ages 0-24). Support efforts focused on training and retraining workers for well-paid, 	
		 local green collar jobs. Support the passage and full funding of legislation focused on establishing an energy efficiency and renewable energy worker training grant program, including the creation of an "Energy Conservation Corps" or similar program. 	
	C.	 Support legislation that creates a more competitive business environment for the Boeing Company and the aerospace industry overall. Support legislation that promotes the development of space-oriented technology for commercial uses, space-oriented development, and space exploration. Support The Boeing Company in obtaining ongoing production commitments for the C-17 airlifter in Long Beach. 	
	D.	<u>International Trade:</u> Support federal efforts to enhance international trade, which benefits local businesses, port development, and the overall local economy, providing it is consistent with Council policy on addressing the environmental impacts of goods movement.	

Proposals and policies consistent with this agenda will be supported by the City. Those policies or proposals inconsistent with this agenda may be subject to opposition by the City.

Title	Section	
BUSINESS GROWTH & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (CON'T)	 E. Small Business: Support efforts to allocate revenues to small business incentive programs that will encourage innovation and green business opportunities, as well as create new, real jobs and train workers. F. Arts & Tourism: Support an increase in investment in programs that assist in the development of creative and tourism-related industries. Support legislation and grants that provide funding for museums that are supported with municipal funds. G. Queensway Bay: Support ongoing Army Corps of Engineers operation and maintenance for the Queensway Bay. 	
COMMUNITY SAFETY	 A. Public Safety & Crime Prevention: Support legislative efforts to improve Council-approved first responder local law enforcement, fire suppression and prevention, hazardous materials mitigation, rescue, emergency medical services and disaster preparedness initiatives. Support efforts to enact the recommendations of the Department of Homeland Security Task Force on State & Local Homeland Security Funding. Support legislation and seek grants to fund new apparatuses, technology and equipment, and replace obsolete apparatuses, technology and equipment for the Long Beach Police, Fire, and Health Departments. Pursue and support legislation and grants that would provide funding for the upgrade, repair, replacement or new construction of public safety facilities. Support legislation and grants that would provide funding for innovative crime fighting strategies such as alley lighting, photo red light enforcement, etc. Support legislation that enhances the ability of local public safety units, including Health, to respond to, prevent, and prepare for terrorist threats. Support legislation and grants that promote the efforts of the City's gang prevention, diversion, and intervention programs. Support legislation as the USA PATRIOT Act. Support legislation and grants that promote the installation of fire sprinklers in existing structures. Support legislation that would prohibit the Department of Homeland Security from requiring matching funds for homeland security grants. Support legislation for the planning, logistics and execution of an emergency/disaster management plan for animal rescue and sheltering, which includes temporary housing, veterinary/medical care, and inventory for lost or abandoned animals. Seek funds to rehabilitate Sc	

Title	Se	Section		
	B.	<u>Public Health:</u> Support legislation and grants that provide additional funding for public health programs, including mental health, substance abuse programs, services, infrastructure, debt service relief, seismic upgrades, and bioterrorism response enhancements.		
HOMELAND SECURITY	<u>A.</u>	Risk-Based Allocation: Support the methodology of distributing Homelar Security funds based on risk		
	В.	 Support legislative efforts to improve Council-approved first responder local law enforcement, fire suppression and prevention, hazardous materials mitigation, rescue, emergency medical services and disaster preparedness initiatives. Support legislation and seek grants to fund new apparatuses, technology and equipment, improve existing apparatuses, technology and equipment, and replace obsolete apparatuses, technology and equipment for the Long Beach Police, Fire, and Health Departments. Support legislation that enhances the ability of local public safety units, including Health, to respond to, prevent, and prepare for terrorist threats. 		
	<u>C.</u>	Sustaining Capability: Support funding for replacement/maintenance and continued operation of equipment purchased with Homeland Security grants.		
	<u>D.</u>	Opposition to Matching Requirements: Support legislation that would prohibit the Department of Homeland Security from requiring matching funds for homeland security grants.		
	<u>E.</u>	Administrative Costs: Support decreasing the administrative cap for state governments for Homeland Security grants and increasing the administrative cap for local governments.		
ENVIRONMENTAL	Α.	 Air Quality: Support legislation that improves the quality of air in the City of Long Beach by reducing particulate matter and diesel toxin emissions. Support legislation which provides funding for a study to (1) assess mobile and stationary pollution sources that impact the environment within regions housing major ports and airports, (2) to determine the benefits of specific endeavors implanted to combat regional pollution, and (3) determine the impacts of goods movement on the infrastructure of these regions. Support the passage of the Marine Vessels Emissions Reduction Act, which would require significant reductions in emissions of air pollutants from marine vessels that contribute to dangerous smog and soot pollution. Support legislation that would assist the Port of Long Beach in their efforts to deliver major air quality benefits to the community and is consistent with the goals of the Clean Air Action Plan (CAAP). 		

Title	Section
ENVIRONMENTAL (CON'T)	 B. Water Quality: Support efforts to improve clean-up and capital improvements for beaches, rivers and waterways that affect the City, including innovative water reclamation and filtration techniques. Pursue funding to study and implement solutions to reduce trash debris and pollution associated with the Los Angeles River, including incorporating the Los Angeles River as a project in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). Support legislation and pursue funding for Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and federally-mandated Municipal MS4 NPDES Permit
	compliance measures. 4. Specifically pursue funding for Low Impact Development (LID) strategies and integrated watershed management approaches.
	 C. Watershed Management: Support efforts that will assist in the successful implementation of the purposes and mission of the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. Seek federal funds to support the assessment of water quality and cleaning of the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers and our coastline impaired water bodies within the City.
	 D. Wetlands: Support legislation and grants designed to acquire, restore and rehabilitate wetlands in the City of Long Beach and the surrounding region. Support legislation that allows Ports to obtain mitigation credits to offset impacts of future port development projects by participating in restoration projects through the use of Tidelands Trust funds.
	E. <u>Water Conservation:</u> Seek funding for water conservation efforts on city property and throughout the City of Long Beach, and support coordinated regional water conservation efforts and public education.
	F. <u>Alternative Fuel:</u> Support legislation that encourages the use of clean burning alternative fuels for vehicles and provides incentives or rewards for cities with innovative alternative fuel programs.
	G. Alternative Energy: Support alternative energy proposals that further the utilization of environmentally friendly, renewable energy applications at both the customer and utility level.
	H. <u>Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant</u> : Support full funding for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program.
	 Global Warming: Support legislation to set limits on greenhouse gas emissions with the intent of curbing global warming. Support legislation that provides funding, recognition and support of local government action to address climate change. Support legislation that provides funding for local government climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies

change mitigation and adaptation strategies.

Title	Section
ENVIRONMENTAL (CON'T)	 J. <u>Beach Erosion:</u> Support legislation and pursue funding to protect our beaches from erosion. K. <u>Breakwater Reconnaissance Study</u>: Pursue actions to allow the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to
	accept, review or conduct a Reconnaissance study of the Long Beach Breakwater. 2. Pursue funding for the Feasibility Stage of the East San Pedro Ecosystem Restoration Study (Breakwater Study)
	L. <u>Dredging:</u> Support legislative efforts that would provide increased funding for the Army Corps of Engineers' navigation and dredging projects.
	 M. <u>Brownfields:</u> Support legislation and seek grants, including partnerships with the private sector, to provide assistance to environmental clean-up projects. Support efforts to establish a new Brownfields Redevelopment Action Grant investment program that can be used by cities to leverage private investment in Brownfields.
	 N. <u>SERRF:</u> Support legislation and regulations that protect the City's ability to efficiently operate the Southeast Resource Recovery Facility (SERRF). O. National Park Study: Support the inclusion of the lower San Gabriel River
	and Los Cerritos Wetlands into a regional National Parks study of the San Gabriel River.
NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT	 A. Parks, Recreation and Marine: 1. Support legislation and seek grants to fund parks, recreation, and marine facilities, capital improvements, and programs to increase the quality of life for Long Beach residents, such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Act. 2. Explore legislation and seek grants that are intended to serve highly dense urban areas.
	B. <u>Libraries:</u> Support legislation, which enhances funding for public library programs and facilities.
	C. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program: Support efforts to maintain and maximize the City's share of CDBG funding and retain the CDBG program as a separate and distinct federal program.
	D. <u>Senior Services:</u> Support legislation, which provides funding for enhanced social and mental health services, as well as facilities, housing, recreational programs and transportation, to address the diverse needs of Long Beach's senior community.

Title	Section	
NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT (CON'T)	 Affordable/Accessible Housing: Support legislation and grants that promote the development and enhancement of affordable and/or accessible housing within the City. Support legislation that promotes neighborhood revitalization through mixed income housing. Support full funding for all authorized and existing Section 8 vouchers and housing assistance programs operating in the City of Long Beach. 	
	F. <u>Homeless Assistance:</u> Aggressively seek grant funding to assist with the City's homeless programs, including those related to mental health.	
	G. Mortgage Reform/Assistance:	
	Support legislation and grants that provide assistance to homeowners regarding reworking their mortgages to allow them to remain in their homes.	
	 Support legislation and grants to cities to provide funding to combat the negative impacts of vacant residential foreclosed properties on local communities. 	
	H. Drug and Alcohol Recovery Facilities:	
	Support legislation that provides more local government control on the regulation of drug and alcohol recovery facilities.	
	 Support legislation that provides more local government control over the regulation of sober-living homes that rent up to six beds and are not currently required to register for city business licenses, obtain conditional use permits or state licenses. 	
	I. <u>Veterans Services:</u> Support legislation to increase funding for services to assist veterans.	
	J. Arts: Support legislation that assists the City in obtaining funding for community arts programming.	
	K. <u>Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)</u> : Support legislation that provides financial relief for cities in making facilities accessible as mandated by the ADA.	
CHILDREN/YOUTH & EDUCATION	A. Good Health: Support legislation and grants that enhance the health services provided to children, youth and young adults (ages 0-24) including pre-natal services, infant and early childhood health care, access to affordable medical, dental and mental health care and prevention and intervention services for children and youth who may be at risk for drug and alcohol dependency (including tobacco), asthma, obesity, and other conditions that threaten health.	

Title	Section	
CHILDREN/YOUTH & EDUCATION (CON'T)	B. <u>Safety and Survival</u> : Support legislation and grants that increase the level of safety and survival of children and youth (ages 0-18), and support programs which reduce child abuse, accidental injury deaths, homicides of children and youth, gang involvement, misdemeanor and felony arrests and incidents of violence among youth and young adults (ages 0-24).	
	C. <u>Economic Well-Being</u> : Support legislation and grants that assure children and youth (ages 0-18) have access to resources such as food, shelter, employment opportunities and transportation and that aim to reduce the poverty level of the City's children and youth, including emancipated youth.	
	D. <u>Social and Emotional Well-Being</u> : Support legislation and grants that enhance social and emotional well-being including literacy, quality childcare teen pregnancy prevention, mentor, mental health, human dignity, foster and kinship care, after school and weekend enrichment activities, and other cultural enhancement programs.	
	 Education and Workforce Readiness: Support legislation and grants that enhance the effective education of the City's children and youth (ages 0-18) from pre-school through post secondary education, including school readiness, educational enhancement institutions and organizations such as the Aquarium of the Pacific, and services of the Workforce Investment Network's Youth Opportunity Center aimed at increasing the employment rate and employability of young adults age 16-24. Support legislation that provides funding for local university, college, and high school programs that train students in renewable energy technology, energy efficiency, green building, or other related fields. 	
	F. <u>Meaningful Youth Engagement</u> : Support legislation and grants that increase the presence of youth participation in all levels of government decision making, such as local youth councils and board participation, voting and civic engagement.	
TRANSPORTATION	 A. Transportation Funding: Support efforts to protect and enhance federal funding for the City of Long Beach, Port of Long Beach, and Long Beach Transit, for mass transit, transportation projects, and needed infrastructure. Pursue appropriations for streetscape improvements on major city corridors, including Anaheim Street, 7th Street, Santa Fe Avenue, Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach Boulevard, Atlantic Avenue, Willow Street, and Pacific Coast Highway. Pursue federal funding for soundwalls along goods movement corridors to Support federal authorizing legislation to increase airport passenger facility charges, which help fund necessary airfield and terminal improvements. Advocate for funding in the next Transportation Highway bill or other federal funding sources for construction of improvements to the I-710 Freeway/Gerald Desmond Bridge as determined by the I-710 Major Corridor Study. Support efforts to maintain and enhance funding for the Alameda Corridor, including improvement of federal job training and business development efforts. 	

Title	Section		
Title	Section		
TRANSPORTATION (CON'T)	 7. Support legislation that secures funding to improve local and regional bicycle and pedestrian mobility networks, and complete bicycle and mobility projects, safety, and infrastructure improvements. 8. Support funding for a feasibility study of a streetcar system 		
	B. Goods Movement:		
	 Encourage recognition of infrastructure and environmental demands placed on Long Beach due to the movement of goods through our City and region, and advocate for legislation or grants that provide funding for environmental mitigation, as well as to eliminate the negative health impacts suffered by local communities. 		
	 Support legislation that allows cities and/or jurisdictions to collect fees from parties responsible for detrimental impacts on local air quality and the environment. 		
	 Support the creation of a dedicated freight/goods movement account in the next Transportation Reauthorization Bill to fund goods movement projects of national significance. 		
	C. <u>Long Combination Vehicles:</u> Support legislation that will ban Longer Combination Vehicles (LCVs) that consist of longer double tractor and triple tractor-trailers from traveling on federal highways to improve traffic congestion and prevent fatal accidents.		
ADDITIONAL ISSUES OF FEDERAL	A. Unfunded Mandates/Local Control:		
LEGISLATIVE IMPORTANCE	Oppose any legislation that places a federal mandate on the City without providing the funds necessary to carry out the program.		
	Support legislation that protects and/or expands the City's authority and rights over its affairs.		
	Oppose the regionalization of airports as it relates to the allocation of flights and the loss of local authority.		
	 Oppose legislative efforts to preempt campaign finance laws instituted by local ordinances, such as the City's Proposition M. 		
	B. Repayment of Municipal Investment Funds: Aggressively pursue the repayment of investment funds owed to municipalities that were lost by financial institutions that are now undergoing bankruptcy proceedings and/or have received federal funding via the Troubled Assets Relief Program.		
	Telecommunications: Support legislation that provides discount Internet access to schools and libraries.		
	Support legislative efforts to ensure that the City receives the maximum benefits from Internet commerce.		
	Support legislation that would result in an equitable distribution of taxes generated through Internet sales.		
	 Support legislative efforts to ensure local taxation authority of products purchased through the Internet. 		
	5. Support legislation and grants to fund e-government initiatives.		
	6. Support legislative efforts to ensure that the City maintains right-of-way		

Title	Section
Title	control and allows our City to collect fair compensation for its use.
Additional Issues of Federal	7. Protect local government's ability to facilitate advanced communications
LEGISLATIVE IMPORTANCE	services to their citizens.
(CON'T)	 Seek legislation to allow local governments the ability to utilize Public, Educational and Government (PEG) franchise fee support for both capital and operational expenses.
	 Support legislative efforts to ensure that the City and Region receive necessary funding to develop and implement a regional communication system to ensure interoperable communications across disciplines and jurisdictions.
	D. Flood Insurance: Strongly oppose any legislation that would reclassify areas currently protected by recently upgraded, federally certified flood protection levees with no demonstrable history of recent flooding as "residual risk" zones that would be subject to mandatory flood insurance. In such areas locally, require FEMA to meet current requirements for a formal flood insurance study before attempting to rezone as a flood risk area.
	E. <u>Gas and Oil Department:</u> Support legislation, initiatives and policies on behalf of the Long Beach Gas and Oil Department that are consistent with the City's long-term objectives for reliable, competitively priced energy supply.
	F. <u>Water Department:</u> Consider support of legislation, initiatives and policies initiated and/or advocated by the Long Beach Board of Water Commissioners, on behalf of the Long Beach Water Department, that are consistent with the Department's cost-effective long-term local water supply reliability objectives.
	G. Aquarium of the Pacific: Support legislation that will enhance the Aquarium of the Pacific's ability to provide maximum educational opportunities regarding aquatic life, facilities, recreation and local wetlands restoration and Los Angeles Basin watershed management.
	H. Municipal Elections:1. Support efforts that enable cities to maximize their ability to efficiently
	 and effectively administer local elections. Support legislation to allow municipal elections officials to mail out official election-related materials through the United States Postal Service at nonprofit rates.
	I. Marriage Equality for Same Sex Couples: Support legislation that will allow marriage equality for same sex couples, defend same sex civil marriages, and protect the fundamental liberties of all families.
	 J. FICA/Social Security: Support legislation to allow local governments to withdraw from participation in these federal programs if they have other retirement programs in place. Oppose mandatory social security coverage, which would place an
	additional negative fiscal impact on the City.

Title	Section	Section	
		ice: Assist in efforts to identify and secure grant-funding support partment of Civil Service.	
	counted in	210: Supports efforts to ensure that every resident is accurately the 2010 Census, including pursuing additional federal resources -count areas.	
		awalls: Support federal funding and federal authority for the tion of the Naples Seawalls.	