



Date: December 5, 2011

To: Federal Legislation Committee Members

From: Patrick H. West, City Manager

Subject: **Recommended Changes to the 2012 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 that the agenda is up-to-date and addresses the legislative concerns of the City. The 2011 agenda was sent to all departments for their input and includes changes the City Council approved throughout the year. Attached for your review are staff's proposed changes. A summary of these changes is provided in this memorandum to explain why each deletion and addition is recommended.

BUSINESS GROWTH & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Item A: Economic Development

Item 8 was added to support small businesses.

Item B: Workforce Development

Item 2 is added to reflect language that this consistent with current verbiage used to advocate in support of funding for Workforce Investment Act programs and services.

Item 3 is amended to strengthen support for youth workforce development. The concept expressed in the language staff proposes to delete from Item 3 remains intact as noted in Item 2.

Item 4 is amended to reference the Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Board's unique set of *Demand Sectors* – especially those that support the adopted *Self Sufficiency Standards* and/or serve as a step on an established career pathway.

Item 5 is amended to recognize regional planning and collaborative efforts between local workforce industries and the labor market as essential components to workforce development.

Item 6 is added to highlight the importance of education as a component of workforce development.

Item 7 is added to support the marketability of unemployed or under-employed workers.

Item 11 is added to highlight specific populations in Long Beach who demonstrate a particular need for workforce development interventions. These populations include, but are not limited to: emancipating foster youth, probationary youth, dropouts, military veterans and their spouses, re-entry populations, disabled individuals, older workers and transitioning dislocated workers.

Item C: The Boeing Company

Item 4 is added to support efforts to obtain ongoing maintenance and 737-MAX aircraft upgrade opportunities in Long Beach.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Item B: First Responder Funding

Item 4 was added to oppose federal efforts and/or legislation that would combine multiple homeland security funding initiatives into a single funding mechanism, which could potentially put Long Beach at a competitive disadvantage.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Item A: Air Quality

The Harbor Department recommends the deletion of Item 3 as it has been years since this or a similar proposal has been introduced due to the International Maritime Organization's decision to implement Marpol Annex XI, an international approach to reducing marine vessel emissions.

Item B: Water Quality

Item 1 is amended to include lakes in the City's priorities for clean-up and capital improvements of impaired water bodies within the City.

Item K: East San Pedro Bay Ecosystem Restoration Project

Staff proposes to amend the title to remain consistent with established missions of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, as well as the official name of the feasibility study.

Staff proposes to delete Item 1 since the United States Army Corps of Engineers has received and expended all funds necessary to conduct and review a federally recognized Reconnaissance Study of the Long Beach Breakwater.

Item 2 is amended to allow the City to advocate for federal dollars to fund the federal portion of the East San Pedro Bay Ecosystem Restoration feasibility study.

Item N: SERRF

With the California Air Resource Board's adoption of cap-and-trade regulations, staff proposes to amend Item N to emphasize the importance of the City's ability to operate waste-to-energy facilities in a cost-effective manner.

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Item D: HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)

Staff proposes to add Item D in support of the federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program. HOME is the federal government's largest block grant program for affordable housing and the City has experienced a 45% decrease in HOME dollars since 2010.

Item A: Good Health

Item G is amended to specifically recognize the homeless veteran population in Long Beach. Existing language in this item allows the City to seek grant funding to assist with addressing homelessness in Long Beach.

CHILDREN/YOUTH & EDUCATION

Staff proposes to update this section by changing age 18 to 21 as a result of state legislation enacted in 2010 that permits federal foster care dollars to be used for the benefit of youth in the California foster care system, up to age 21.

Portions of this section reference an age range from 0-24 years of age. Staff is not proposing to amend age range, as the language pertains to combating youth/gang violence through workforce development and meeting the health needs of our community's youth population. Youth up to age 24 are eligible for workforce development dollars that meet this purpose.

TRANSPORTATION

Item B: Goods Movement

Item 2 is added to reflect the City's support for legislation and/or changes in regulations that would permit local agencies to consider local hiring practices in projects supported with more than 50% non-federal funds.

ADDITIONAL ISSUES OF STATE LEGISLATIVE IMPORTANCE

Item K: Census 2010

Staff proposes to delete Item K, as the 2010 Census is complete.

NEXT STEPS

A Federal Legislation Committee meeting has been called for December 13, 2011 to review and discuss the recommended changes. City Council discussion and approval of the Committee's recommendations is expected to take place on December 20, 2011.

If you have questions or comments about the legislative ideas, or for more information, please contact Tom Modica, Director of Government Affairs and Strategic Initiatives at 8-5091.

cc: Mayor and Members of the City Council
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All Department Heads
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Proposed 2012 Federal Legislative Agenda

DECEMBER 13, 2011

Title	Section
BUSINESS GROWTH & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	A. <u>Economic Development</u> 1. Support efforts to develop and promote policies, legislation and grants that help urban areas foster greater economic opportunity. 2. Support efforts to retain, expand, and attract manufacturing, technology, health care, and other high-wage businesses. 3. Support efforts to attract and retain local green collar jobs in industries such as green building, renewable energy technologies, and energy efficiency. 4. Support efforts to obtain additional Economic Development Administration (EDA) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funding for eligible projects. 5. Support legislation that provides guaranteed loans to local small businesses through local banks. 6. Support legislation that strengthens small business loans provided through the U.S. Small Business Administration. 7. Support legislation that provides additional federal funding for existing EDA revolving loan programs to ease the "credit crunch" for small businesses. 8. <u>Support strategies and business incubator approaches that support and grow small business activity, including targeted growth among "homegrown" businesses in the City</u> B. <u>Workforce Development</u> 1. Support efforts toward reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act that maintains a strong, locally-controlled workforce investment system for businesses and residents. 2. <u>Support stabilized and increased funding for the workforce development system and encourage investments and fund development in the system's one-stop centers, programs and training opportunities to address worker skill gaps and industry opportunities.</u> 3. Support efforts to increase and stabilize investment in the local workforce investment system, <u>including infrastructure, worker skills development, and for the benefit of youth development, with a special focus on the needs of out-of school, disconnected, emancipated and justice system-involved residents and young adults.</u> 4. <u>Support efforts that increase the skills base of the workforce, aligned with business and industry needs – with the Workforce Investment Board's adopted Demand Sectors and its Self-Sufficiency Standard.</u> 3.5. <u>Support efforts to ensure strong responses to skilled worker shortages of high-wage and critical industries, including regional workforce planning and regional industry-based partnership regional approaches to workforce solutions that leverage regional planning, project delivery, collaborative operational efficiencies and industry convening/research efforts.</u> 6. <u>Support Career Technical Education efforts that promote further coordination between the Workforce Investment Board, education partners, and that enhance the delivery of career pathways and technical education strategies for youth and low-skilled adults.</u> 7. <u>Support efforts that increase the marketability of unemployed or</u>

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	<u>underemployed workers.</u> <u>4-8.</u> 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). <u>5-9.</u> Support efforts focused on training and retraining workers for well-paid, local green collar jobs. <u>6-10.</u> 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. <u>11. Support efforts to ensure effective responses and resources for projects that support populations in particular need of interventions, e.g.: emancipating foster youth, probationary youth, dropouts, military veterans (and spouses), re-entry populations, disabled individuals, older workers and transitioning dislocated workers.</u> C. <u>The Boeing Company</u> - 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. <u>Support efforts to obtain ongoing maintenance and 737-MAX upgrades at the Long Beach facility.</u> 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. E. <u>Small Business:</u> Support efforts to allocate revenues to small businesses incentive programs that will encourage innovation and green business opportunities, as well as create new, real jobs and train workers. F. <u>Arts & Tourism</u> - Support an increase in investment 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. <u>Queensway Bay:</u> Support ongoing Army Corps of Engineers operation and maintenance for the Queensway Bay.
COMMUNITY SAFETY	A. <u>Public Safety & Crime Prevention</u> - 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.

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	3. Pursue and support legislation and grants that would provide funding for the upgrade, repair, replacement or new construction of public safety facilities. 4. Support legislation and grants that would provide funding for innovative crime fighting strategies such as alley lighting, photo red light enforcement, etc. 5. Support legislation and grants that promote the efforts of the City's gang prevention, diversion, and intervention programs. 6. Support efforts that ensure that civil liberties are protected, including under such legislation as the USA PATRIOT Act. 7. Support legislation and grants that promote the installation of fire sprinklers in existing structures. 8. 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 and abandoned animals. 9. Seek funds to rehabilitate Schroeder Hall and convert it to a police station. B. <u>Public Health</u> 1. 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. 2. Support legislation that provides a sufficient process for businesses and other local government entities to implement ADA requirements, while protecting the rights of the disabled community. 3. Oppose legislation that would reduce Medi-Care reimbursement rates as related to ambulance billing.
HOMELAND SECURITY	A. <u>Risk-Based Allocation:</u> Support the methodology of distributing Homeland Security funds based on risk. B. <u>First Responder Funding</u> 1. 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. 2. 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, Technology Services and Health Departments. 3. 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, Technology Services and Health Departments. 4. <u>Oppose legislation that combines multiple homeland security funding initiatives into a single funding mechanism.</u> C. <u>Sustaining Capability:</u> Support funding for replacement/maintenance and continued operation of equipment purchased with Homeland Security grants. D. <u>Opposition to Matching Requirements:</u> Support legislation that would prohibit the Department of Homeland Security from requiring matching funds for homeland security grants. E. <u>Administrative Costs:</u> Support decreasing the administrative cap for state

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	governments for Homeland Security grants and increasing the administrative cap for local government.
ENVIRONMENTAL	A. <u>Air Quality</u> 1. Support legislation that improves the quality of air in the City of Long Beach by reducing particulate matter and diesel toxin emissions. 2. 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. 3. Support the passage of 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. 4.3. 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). B. <u>Water Quality</u> 1. Support efforts to improve clean-up and capital improvements for beaches, rivers, <u>lakes</u> and waterways that affect the City, including innovative water reclamation and filtration techniques. 2. 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 project in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). 3. 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. <u>Watershed Management</u> 1. 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. 2. Seek federal funds to support the assessment of water quality and cleaning of the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers, our coastline and impaired water bodies within the City. 3. Support legislation that would provide funding for ecosystem restoration projects in the Long Beach region. D. <u>Wetlands</u> 1. Support legislation and grants designed to acquire, restore and rehabilitate wetlands in the City of Long Beach and the surrounding region. 2. 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

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	alternative fuels for vehicles and provides incentives or rewards for cities with innovative alternative fuel programs. G. <u>Alternative Energy:</u> 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. I. <u>Global Warming</u> 1. Support legislation to set limits on greenhouse gas emissions with the intent of curbing global warming. 2. Support legislation that provides funding, recognition and support of local government action to address climate change. 3. Support legislation that provides funding for local government climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies. J. <u>Beach Erosion:</u> Support legislation and pursue funding to protect our beaches from erosion. K. <u>Breakwater Reconnaissance Study</u> <u>East San Pedro Bay Ecosystem Restoration Project</u> 1. 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). Pursue actions to allow the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to obtain federal funding for a feasibility study of the East San Pedro Bay, including the Los Angeles River and the Long Beach Breakwater, for the purposes of ecosystem restoration 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> 1. Support legislation and seek grants, including partnerships with the private sector, to provide assistance to environmental clean-up projects. 2. 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) <u>in a cost-effective manner.</u> O. <u>National Park Study:</u> 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. <u>Parks, Recreation and Marine</u> 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 Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Act. 2. Explore legislation and seek grants that are intended to serve highly dense

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	urban areas. B. <u>Libraries:</u> Support legislation, which enhances funding for public library programs and facilities. C. <u>Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program:</u> 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. <u>D. HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program:</u> Support efforts to maintain and maximize the City's share of HOME funding and retain the HOME program as a separate and distinct federal program. <u>D-E. 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. <u>E-F. Affordable/Accessible Housing</u> 1. Support legislation and grants that promote the development and enhancement of affordable and/or accessible housing within the City. 2. Support legislation that promotes neighborhood revitalization through mixed income housing. 3. Support full funding for all authorized and existing Section 8 vouchers and housing assistance programs operating in the City of Long Beach. <u>F-G. Homeless Assistance:</u> Aggressively seek grant funding to assist with the City's homeless programs, including those related <u>to veteran affairs, and/or to</u> mental health. <u>G-H. Mortgage Reform/Assistance</u> 1. Support legislation and grants that provide assistance to homeowners regarding reworking their mortgages to allow them to remain in their homes. 2. Support legislation and grants to cities to provide funding to combat the negative impacts of vacant residential foreclosed properties on local communities. <u>H-I. Drug and Alcohol Recovery Facilities</u> 1. Support legislation that provides more local government control on the regulation of drug and alcohol recovery facilities. 2. 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. <u>I-J. Veterans Services</u> 1. Support legislation to increase funding for services to assist veterans. 2. Support efforts to lower age requirements for gold star mother housing facilities to 55 year of age, so that mothers of fallen soldiers in recent wars may qualify for residency in these facilities and to provide admission priority for US veterans. <u>J-K. Arts:</u> Support legislation that assists the City in obtaining funding for community arts programming.

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	K-L American with Disabilities Act (ADA): Support legislation that provides financial relief for cities in making facilities accessible as mandated by the ADA.
CHILDREN/YOUTH & EDUCATION	A. <u>Good Health</u> 1. Support legislation and grants that enhance the health services provided to children, youth and young adults (ages 0-24) including prenatal 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. 2. Support the federal "Let's Move" campaign through the encouragement of physical activity and information needed to make healthier dietary choices. B. <u>Safety and Survival:</u> Support legislation and grants that increase the level of safety and survival of children and youth (ages 0-1821), 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 0-1821) have access to resources such as good, 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. E. <u>Education and Workforce Readiness</u> 1. Support legislation and grants that enhance the effective education of the City's children and youth (ages 0-1821) from pre-school through post secondary education, including school readiness, educational enhancement institutions and organization 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. 2. 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. <u>Transportation Funding</u> 1. Support efforts to protect and enhance federal funding for the City of Long Beach, Port of Long Beach, Long Beach Airport and Long Beach Transit, for mass transit, transportation projects, and needed infrastructure. 2. 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. 3. Pursue federal funding for soundwalls and maintenance along goods movement corridors.

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	4. Support federal authorizing legislation to increase airport passenger facility charges. 5. 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. 6. Support efforts to maintain and enhance funding for the Alameda Corridor, including improvement of federal job training and business development efforts. 7. Support legislation that secures funding to improve local and regional bicycle and pedestrian mobility networks, and complete bicycle and mobility project, safety, and infrastructure improvements. B. <u>Goods Movement</u> 1. 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. 2. <u>Support or sponsor legislation and/or changes in regulations that would permit local agencies to consider local hiring practices in projects supported with more than 50% non-federal funds.</u> 2-3. Support legislation that allows cities and/or jurisdictions to collect fees from parties responsible for detrimental impacts on local air quality and the environment. 3-4. Support the creation of a dedicated freight/goods movement account in the next Transportation Reauthorization Bill to fund goods movement projects of national significance. 4-5. Support efforts to explore, fund, and construct zero emissions goods movement infrastructure. 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 percent fatal accidents. D. <u>Alternative Transportation & Mobility</u> 1. Support efforts to increase funding for infrastructure improvements that improve connections to and facilities around public transit, buses, and Metro lines (i.e. the Blue Line). 2. Support efforts to improve public education to promote an increase in transit ridership. 3. Support efforts that promote and provide funding for development near transit. 4. Continue to support funds for alternative transportation and mobility projects.
ADDITIONAL ISSUES OF FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE IMPORTANCE	A. <u>Unfunded Mandates/Local Control</u> 1. Oppose any legislation that places a federal mandate on the City without providing the funds necessary to carry out the program. 2. Support legislation that protects and/or expands the City's authority and rights over its affairs. 3. Oppose the regionalization of airports as it relates to the allocation of flights and the loss of local authority. 4. Oppose legislative efforts to preempt campaign finance laws instituted by local ordinances, such as the City's Proposition M.

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	B. <u>Repayment of Municipal Investment Funds:</u> 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. C. <u>Telecommunications</u> 1. Support legislation that provides discount Internet access to schools and libraries. 2. Support legislative efforts to ensure that the City receives the maximum benefits from Internet commerce. 3. Support legislation that would result in an equitable distribution of taxes generated through Internet sales. 4. 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 control and allows our City to collect fair compensation for its use. 7. Protect local government's ability to facilitate advanced communications services to their citizens. 8. Seek legislation to allow local governments the ability to utilize Public, Educational and Government (PEG) franchise fee support for both capital and operational expenses. 9. 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. <u>Flood Insurance:</u> 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. <u>Aquarium of the Pacific:</u> 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. <u>Municipal Elections</u> 1. Support efforts that enable cities to maximize their ability to efficiently and effectively administer local elections. 2. Support legislation to allow municipal elections officials to mail out official election-related materials through the United States Postal Service at nonprofit rates.

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	I. <u>Marriage Equality for Same Sex Couples:</u> 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. <u>FICA/Social Security</u> 1. Support legislation to allow local governments to withdraw from participation in these federal programs if they have other retirement programs in place. 2. Oppose mandatory social security coverage, which would place an additional negative fiscal impact on the City. K. <u>Civil Service:</u> Assist in efforts to identify and secure grant-funding support for the Department of Civil Service. K. <u>Census 2010:</u> Supports efforts to ensure that every resident is accurately counted in the 2010 Census, including pursuing additional federal resources for hard-to-count areas. L. <u>Medical Marijuana:</u> Support legislation that would grant federal approval of medical marijuana procedures and regulations in state that have approved and implemented state legislation for use of medical marijuana. M. <u>Citizenship:</u> Support legislation that provides qualifying undocumented youth with a conditional path to citizenship requiring completion of a college degree or military service.