

COUNCIL POLICY MANUAL

Policy 7.3.2 Legislative Advocacy Positions

The Legislative Advocacy Positions identify the City's broad advocacy positions on issues and legislation. As defined by the General Plan (Policy 7.3B4), the Legislative Advocacy Positions are short-term in nature, typically speak to pending legislation and current issues, and support the General Plan and guide Council and staff on intergovernmental matters. They are a component of the City's Council Policies, which provide guidelines for City action in all areas of City business. City business is defined as all matters directly related to service delivery, or otherwise contributing to the City's operational success.

Each year the City Manager shall present for Council's consideration draft Legislative Advocacy Positions. Once approved by City Council, these "advocacy positions" become the official City advocacy position on pending legislation.

The LAP is utilized by Councilmembers and staff throughout the year to determine City positions on legislation and intergovernmental issues and minimizes the need for staff to request direction from Council on legislation and issues as they arise. The LAP should not duplicate policies already cited in other Council Policy documents, i.e. the Council Policy Manual, General Plan, Municipal Code, etc.

During the year, staff monitors and researches pending legislation to identify bills that could significantly impact Sunnyvale. Research actions range from web site research to contacting legislative analysts in government offices and city associations. Staff may also conduct limited advocacy should issues arise throughout the year that significantly impact the City, and if Council positions have previously been established by the LAP.

~~While the LAP is updated to reflect Council direction throughout the year, a comprehensive review is conducted annually. At the Council Workshop each year, staff recommends changes, deletions and/or additions to the LAP for preliminary review and feedback by Council. Staff then incorporates Council feedback into the LAP and the LAP is adopted by Council.~~

To consolidate documents, underscore important issues, and focus the City's limited advocacy resources, Policy 7.3.2 includes the City's annual priority issues. Council developed the concept of the LAP in 1982 (RTC 82-590). Following annual Council approval, the current year's City Priorities and Legislative Advocacy Positions are attached to this policy.

(Adopted: RTC 95-018 (1/17/1995); Amended: 96-016 (3/23/1996), 97-002 (1/14/1997), 98-008 (1/13/1998), 98-246 (7/14/1998), 98-264 (7/21/1998), 98-304 (8/18/1998), 99-009 (1/12/1999), 00-020 (1/25/2000), 01-002 (1/9/2001), 02-018 (1/15/2002), 03-021 (1/14/2003), 04-018 (1/13/2004) 05-009 (1/11/2005); (Clerical/clarity update, Policy Update Project 12/2005); 06-038 (2/7/2006); (Index added 5/22/06); 07-036 (01/30/2007); Clarity update (6/21/07); 08-063 (2/26/08); 09-046 (2/24/09); 10-016 (1/26/10); 11-022 (2/8/11); Adopted: RTC 12-009 (2/7/12); Amended: RTC: 12-048 (2/28/12); Updated for clarity (9/5/12); Adopted w/ modification: RTC: 13-020 (1/29/13))

Lead Department: Office of the City Manager

For Reference, see also:

- [Council Policy 7.3.13 Support for Councilmembers; Staff-Council Communications.](#)
- [Long-term Legislative Advocacy Positions are captured by issue category in each chapter of the Council Policy Manual, CouncilPolicy.inSunnyvale.com.](#)

2013-2014 Legislative Advocacy Positions

1. LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION

1.1 The Region

- (1) ~~Support consideration of creation of a new Caltrans District for Santa Clara County in order to improve project and service delivery for Sunnyvale citizens. [2011 DPW Staff Recommendation]~~
DELETE – No longer an issue.