

### REPORT TO COUNCIL

#### **SUBJECT**

Approve the Proposed 2018 Priority Advocacy Issues and Short-term Legislative Advocacy Positions (LAPs)

#### **BACKGROUND**

A goal of the City's Intergovernmental Relations Program is to enable timely and effective advocacy of City interests on pending legislation and issues that significantly impact City business. The City can initiate advocacy on the basis of any existing City Policy, including the City Charter, Municipal Code, General Plan Elements, and the Council Policy Manual, which is where many of the City's other legislative goals are addressed. However, every year, the Council adopts the City's advocacy platform which includes the priority advocacy issues and short-term LAPs for the coming year as well as long-term LAPs found in each chapter of the Council Policy Manual. This report provides Council with the opportunity to review the Proposed 2018 Priority Issues, short-term and long-term LAPs.

#### **EXISTING POLICY**

**Council Policy 7.4.14, *Legislative Advocacy Positions***

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The action being considered does not constitute a "project" with the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378 (a) as it has no potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

#### **DISCUSSION**

*Proposed 2018 Priority Advocacy Issues* (Attachment 1) is presented for Council consideration. Priority advocacy issues focus on regional, state, and federal activity already underway or expected within the upcoming calendar year and where the pending legislation or issue is expected to have significant impact on City business. Staff is proposing 12 Priority Advocacy Issues:

1. Investment Funding and Local Control for Workforce Development
2. Interoperability/Public Safety Communications System
3. Environmental Regulatory & Conservation Issues
4. Regional and State-wide Water Supply Issues
5. Local Authority Over Wireless Telecommunications Facilities
6. School Mitigation Fees
7. Regional Transportation Plan: Taxicabs/Network Companies
8. Massage Therapy
9. Anticipated Legislation regarding the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems by Law Enforcement and First Responder Immunity when interfering with Unmanned Aircraft Systems

10. Medical Marijuana/Recreational Marijuana
11. Affordable Housing/Homelessness
12. Engagement with the Federal Aviation Administration Regarding Airplane Noise

Community Development is proposing a new short-term LAP:

“Encourage level or increased federal funding for affordable housing and community development programs for local governments; preservation and strengthening of the low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) program and federal tax exemptions for private activity bonds (PAB); preservation of federal tax exemptions for state and local taxes (SALT), including state and local property, sales, and income taxes; maintain federal tax exemptions for mortgage interest payments on primary residences. Elimination or weakening of the LIHTC and/or PAB programs and/or SALT and mortgage interest deductions could have significant negative impacts on affordable housing production, first-time home buyers, local and state governments’ fiscal health, and the stability of the California housing market.”

Finance is proposing to delete the existing short-term LAP, “Support legislation to limit or eliminate direct investment of public funds to support the production or drilling of fossil fuels” since Council adopted inclusion in October 2017 under *Council Policy 7.1.2 Investment and Cash Management*.

The City captures long-term LAPs by issue categories in each chapter of the Council Policy Manual, <https://sunnyvale.ca.gov/government/codes/manual.htm>. Long-term LAPs do not require annual Council adoption; however, any edits to those positions must be approved by Council. There are no proposed changes this year.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

### **PUBLIC CONTACT**

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, Community Center and Department of Public Safety; and by making the agenda and report available at the Sunnyvale Public Library, the Office of the City Clerk and on the City's website.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

1. Approve the *Proposed 2018 Priority Advocacy Issues and Short-term Legislative Advocacy Positions* (Attachment 1 in the report).
2. Approve the *Proposed 2018 Priority Advocacy Issues and Short-term Legislative Advocacy Positions* (Attachment 1 in the report) with additional modifications.
3. Other direction as provided by Council.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Alternative 1: Approve the Proposed 2018 Priority Advocacy Issues and Short-term Legislative Advocacy Positions as proposed to be amended.

Prepared by: Catlin Ivanetich, Senior Management Analyst

Reviewed by: Teri Silva, Interim Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Kent Steffens, Interim City Manager

**ATTACHMENT**

1. 2018 Priority Advocacy Issues and Short-term Legislative Advocacy Positions