



STATE AND FEDERAL
**LEGISLATIVE
PLATFORM**

2024

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INTRODUCTION

The Legislative Platform provides a streamlined process through which the City Council, City Manager, City staff, and the City's legislative advocates can act in a timely manner in response to legislative proposals. This policy platform serves as an opportunity to identify specific priority areas of interest for the City and the region, which benefit the Irvine community.

The Legislative Platform will be developed annually for City Council consideration based on input from the City Council Legislative Affairs Subcommittee, the City Manager and legislative affairs staff, research of current law and pending legislation, and discussions with local legislative offices in consultation with the City's legislative advocates.

Once approved by the City Council, legislation that is consistent with the Legislative Platform will be reviewed and approved by the Legislative Affairs Subcommittee and signed by the Mayor. Once approved, a position letter will be sent to the bill's author, the City's legislative advocate, and other stakeholders as deemed appropriate by staff, and a copy of the letter will be distributed to the City Council. The actions approved by this Platform shall remain until a new document is approved.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Preserve Local Control

- Preserve and protect the City's charter powers, duties and prerogatives to enact legislation and policy direction concerning local affairs and oppose legislation that preempts local authority.
- Local agencies should preserve and enhance authority and accountability for revenues raised and services provided.
- Support proposals that provide local governments with greater decision-making authority over the use of State and Federal funds.
- Oppose proposals that would impose new unfunded mandates on the City or preempt local authority.
- Maintain the City's exceptional quality of life through all phases of growth and development.

Promote Fiscal Stability

- Maximize revenues from State and Federal sources, including competitive grant and funding programs.
- Secure greater flexibility over the use of State and Federal Funds.
- Give priority to increasing or preserving funding for programs and activities that ensure equitable treatment of the City.
- Oppose unfunded mandates that make cities more dependent on the County, State or Federal Governments for financial stability, with no guarantee of local reimbursement.

- Oppose measures that shift local funds to the County, State or Federal Governments, without offsetting benefits to Irvine residents.
- Support grant programs that provide funding to local governments on a per capita basis.

Support Funding Opportunities

- Support opportunities that allow the City to compete for its fair share of regional, state and federal funding, and that maintain funding streams.
- Pursue dedicated funding streams at the regional, state and federal levels that allow the City to maximize local revenues, offset and leverage capital expenditures, and maintain City goals and standards.



PRIORITIES

Advance Key Project Development

- Support and pursue funding opportunities for Capital Improvement Projects throughout the City of Irvine.
- Strengthen partnerships with County, State and Federal agencies that provide key services to residents.
- Support efforts to secure federal and state funds for programs and activities at the Great Park, and the development, operation and maintenance of facilities and open space areas, including infrastructure implementation (sewer, water, natural gas, electricity).
- Support initiatives that enable the provision of affordable and reliable access to broadband service.
- Oppose proposals that increase requirements and place undue burdens on the City with regard to the Surplus Land Act.
- Support efforts to streamline and improve the state and federal environmental review processes.

Health and Wellness

- Support funding programs that promote the development and enhancement of safe, affordable, and accessible housing within the City for all economic segments of the population.
- Support reforms and improvements to housing element law to provide clear processes and flexibility to allow regional cooperation and establish realistic housing goals and performance standards.
- Support the establishment and preservation of stable, ongoing funding streams for mental health, substance abuse, homelessness prevention, and other related support activities.
- Support legislative efforts that focus on keeping people in housing, once placed, for many years.
- Support investments in mental health treatment across the continuum of care, including efforts to support or encourage creation of additional board and care beds as well as subacute treatment and psychiatric skilled nursing facilities.



PRIORITIES



Public Safety

- Support legislative efforts to fund and improve local law enforcement, fire suppression and prevention, emergency services, and disaster preparedness.
- Support legislation and seek funding to assist local law enforcement to reduce crimes against persons, property crime, fraud, and improve threat management.
- Support efforts to strengthen and enforce legal protections and resource funding for all individuals who are victims of crime.
- Support legislative efforts to promote education and enforcement around pedestrian, cycling, and electric bicycle safety.
- Support legislation to prohibit the manufacture, import, sale and use of dangerous and often lethal substances.
- Support measures that provide frontline funding for police services associated with the “early release” of state prisoners as a result of State-mandated criminal justice realignment provisions.

PRIORITIES

Sustainability

- Commit to environmental stewardship and a more sustainable future through:
 - advocacy and support of climate, recycling, and energy initiatives;
 - community outreach, education, and events;
 - and support of residents, businesses, and organizations.
- Support ambitious but achievable emissions reduction targets that lay out a pathway to achieving climate goals across all levels of government operation and in our community.
- Support thoughtfully planned greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and climate adaptation measures to create a truly climate-smart community for the future.



Transportation and Mobility

- Support efforts to assure Irvine receives its fair share of transportation revenue proportionate to transportation tax dollars generated in the City.
- Increase funding for local transportation and transit programs and projects.
- Support protection of dedicated transportation-related tax revenues and enhance the ability of local agencies to finance local transportation programs and facilities.
- Support cooperative development and funding of an integrated, comprehensive, and efficient transportation network to include inter-county and intra-county highways, mass transit, facilities, and infrastructure in Orange County, meeting the needs of its residents and businesses, and reducing vehicle miles traveled.

