

7.0 Long-term Advocacy Positions – Planning and Management

A. Elections

- (1) In cooperation with County Registrar of Voters, contain costs of elections as long as the elections process is not adversely affected (i.e., purge voter rolls, limit costs for candidate statements, prevent abuse of absentee ballot process). **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (2) In cooperation with County Registrar of Voters, support practices which would increase voter turnout in local elections (e.g., mail ballots, more information to voters for judicial elections). **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (3) Support efforts to increase vote-by-mail voters. Support efforts to simplify and to expedite the counting of absentee ballots. **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (4) Support efforts to achieve the goals of the Political Reform Act of 1974 (reporting conflict of interest statements to the Fair Political Practices Commission) in a more cost-effective way. **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (5) Support Instant Runoff Voting if/when it is determined to be economically and technologically feasible for the county. **Lead Dept. OCM**

B. Fiscal Management

- (1) Oppose actions that would negatively impact the allocation of tax increment revenue to redevelopment successor agencies. (Adopted w/ modification, RTC 15-0008 (January 6, 2015) **Lead Dept. FIN**
- (2) Oppose all changes that affect the timing of payments to local governments. **Lead Dept. FIN**
- (3) Oppose any legislation that reduces or erodes local revenues or local control. **Lead Dept. FIN**
- (4) Support positive reform of the state fiscal structure and procedures. **Lead Dept. FIN**
- (5) Ensure local governments' revenue sources are protected and predictable. **Lead Dept. FIN**

C. Intergovernmental Relations

- (1) Support balanced representation of the City of Sunnyvale on any regional/sub regional government body or entity which is created, and cooperative analysis and negotiation among neighboring and overlapping jurisdictions, prior to promulgating laws, regulations, permits and fees that will have an impact on

COUNCIL POLICY MANUAL

City business, residents, property owners and/or businesses in Sunnyvale. **Lead Dept. OCM**

- (2) Advocate for local control of transportation, housing, land use, and water issues affecting Sunnyvale, except for government functions where regional control may be more appropriate for services delivered on a regional basis. **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (3) To ensure that local governments are consulted and their issues considered, support collaborative efforts and continued relations with, and funding from, other agencies, the State or the Federal Government, for matters where mutual concerns exist (i.e. immigration enforcement, terrorism prevention, safety of public utility systems, local/state/national disasters or emergencies, and homeland security directives), which could have an impact on the delivery of City services. **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (4) Support cooperative analysis and negotiation among neighboring and overlapping jurisdictions prior to promulgating laws, regulations, permits and fees that impact residents, property owners and businesses in locations receiving service from multiple agencies. **Lead Dept. OCM**

D. Human Resources

- (1) California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) - support efforts that maintain or increase local contracting agency control for the use of assets in individual employer accounts, and oppose any actions that would divert assets from individual employer accounts, including opposing any benefit enhancements for participants that are mandated by the State. **Lead Dept. HRD**
- (2) Oppose any form of mandatory enrollment in Social Security for employees covered under another retirement program. (RTC 22-0061, January 25, 2022) **Lead Dept. HRD**
- (3) Support legislation regarding worker's compensation reform that reduces or does not increase costs to the City, and which continues to provide reasonable and necessary medical treatment to the injured employee. **Lead Dept. HRD**

E. Telecommunications

- (1) Support legislation that would prohibit the publishing of personal information of elected or appointed officials, including first responders, in newspapers or similar periodicals and on web sites. **Lead Dept. OCA**
- (2) Urge the federal government to encourage deployment of broadband networks in a competitive and technologically neutral manner and to support federal proposals that promote municipal broadband. Oppose any federal proposals

COUNCIL POLICY MANUAL

that serve to preempt municipal authority to act in the interest of its citizens, by preventing local governments from installing and operating municipally owned cable or telecommunications systems. **Lead Dept. OCM**

F. Miscellaneous

- (1) Support efforts to revise the California Constitution to enhance accountability, efficiency, and responsiveness of local governments. **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (2) Support existing provisions of the Brown Act regarding closed sessions. **Lead Dept. OCA**
- (3) Review all proposed changes to current attorney-client privilege statutes. **Lead Dept. OCA**
- (4) Support home-rule authority of charter cities and oppose any efforts to reduce local control over the City and/or its Sphere of Influence. Support strengthening “home rule” provisions in the State Constitution. **Lead Dept. CDD**
- (5) Support efforts to amend the California Constitution to require a simple majority vote for adoption of any ballot measures. **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (6) Support efforts to restore funding to the California court system to improve court access and case management. (Adopted w/ modification, RTC 15-0008 (January 6, 2015)) **Lead Dept. OCA**
- (7) Support legislation to modernize the Ralph M. Brown Act as it pertains to teleconferencing during public meetings. Urge the Legislature provide more flexibility for cities and intergovernmental boards to improve and enhance, should the agency choose to do so, remote access for public officials (Councilmembers and board or commission members) in public meetings. Support legislation that allows for broader access and transparency without adding unfunded mandates on local public agencies. (Adopted w/ modification, RTC 21-0576 (July 27, 2021)) **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (8) Advocate for Sunnyvale’s communities of interest during the county, state, special district and other local public agencies, and congressional redistricting process to support efforts that encourage one Legislative representative for each elective office that represents the residents of Sunnyvale. Advocate for Sunnyvale’s communities of interest during the county redistricting process to support efforts that encourage county representatives from at least two supervisorial districts. (Adopted w/modification, RTC 21-0723 (August 10, 2021)) **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (9) Urge the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors to draw supervisorial districts as a numerical representation of the City of San Jose’s population so

COUNCIL POLICY MANUAL

that the number of County supervisors representing San Jose does not exceed three County supervisors. (Adopted, RTC 21-0854 (August 31, 2021)) **Lead Dept. OCM**

- (10) Urge the Governor issue new executive orders as necessary, to continue to help Sunnyvale respond to, recover from, or mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. (Adopted, RTC 21-0842 (August 31, 2021)) **Lead Dept. OCM**
- (11) Advocate for Sunnyvale's communities of interest during the Fremont Union High School District (FUHSD) (re)districting process to support efforts that preserve equal Trustee representation. Advocate for Sunnyvale's communities of interest during the development of the trustee area boundary map. (Adopted, RTC 24-0456 (March 26, 2024)) **Lead Dept. LRS**
- (12) Advocate for secure, reliable, and timely postal service for Sunnyvale residents. (Adopted, RTC 24-0456 (March 26, 2024)) **Lead Dept. OCM**

(Adopted: RTC #09-046 (February 24, 2009); Revised: RTC #11-022 (February 8, 2011); Revised: RTC #12-09 (February 7, 2012); Clerical/clarity update, LAP Consolidation (RTC #12-09, May 24, 2013); Adopted w/ modification, RTC #15-0008 (January 6, 2015); Adopted w/ modification, RTC 21-0576 (July 27, 2021); Adopted w/modification, RTC 21-0723 (August 10, 2021); (Adopted: RTC 21-0854 (August 31, 2021); (Adopted: RTC 21-0842 (August 31, 2021); (Adopted: RTC 22-0061, January 25, 2022); Adopted: RTC: 23-0158 (January 24, 2023); Revised: RTC 24-0456 (March 26, 2024))