



CITY OF SANTA ANA

2019 State and Federal Legislative Platform



SANTA ANA CITY COUNCIL

Santa Ana is the 11th largest city in the State of California and the 4th most-dense city in the United States. As a diverse community, the city is dedicated to maximizing resources and improving the quality of life for everyone. The City Council adopts an annual Legislative Platform to streamline the ability to take a position on legislation that may impact the city.

The Santa Ana City Council is comprised of seven members consisting of the Mayor and six Councilmembers. Councilmembers are nominated from one of six geographic wards in the city and elected at-large. Each City Councilmember serves a four-year term and is limited to three consecutive terms. The Mayor is elected at-large and has term limits of no more than four (4) two-year terms. Mayor Pro Tem is nominated and elected from amongst the seated Council.

From left to right: David Penaloza (Ward 2), Vicente Sarmiento (Ward 1), Mayor Miguel Pulido, Mayor Pro Tem Juan Villegas (Ward 5), Cecilia Iglesias (Ward 6), and Jose Solorio (Ward 3).



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Guidelines for Legislative Positions

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. The Legislative Platform is adopted annually and serves as an opportunity to identify specific priority areas of interest for the city and the region, that benefit the community. The Legislative Platform is developed and maintained using legislative positions taken by the City Council, input from the City Council and City staff, research of current law and pending legislation, and discussions with local legislative staff in consultation with the city's legislative advocates.

Once state and federal legislation is identified, staff will compose letters outlining the city's position. These letters will include one of the following positions: support, support if amended, oppose, oppose unless amended, neutral, or watch.

Legislation that is consistent with the Legislative Platform will be reviewed, approved and signed by the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, or City Manager. In addition, legislative positions that are deemed time-sensitive and are consistent with the Legislative Platform may be signed and approved by the City Manager. Once approved, the 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(s) will be distributed to the City Council.

Legislation that is inconsistent with or silent in the City's Legislative Platform may be placed on an agenda for consideration by the City Council. The City Manager may also provide a letter of concern or interest without taking a formal position on a piece of legislation, upon concurrence of the Legislative Affairs, Ethics, Transparency, and Communications Council Committee for the City of Santa Ana.

LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS

Support – A support position indicates to the corresponding legislature, regulatory agencies, and other stakeholders, that the City of Santa Ana is in favor of the legislation in question. A support position may include the following resources: position letters, councilmember testimony to committees, and meetings/phone calls with members of the legislature and/or regulatory agency.

Support if Amended – A support if amended position indicates to the corresponding legislature, regulatory agencies, and other stakeholders, that the City of Santa Ana is in favor of the legislation in question, if the requested changes are adopted. A support if amended position may include the following resources: position letters, councilmember testimony to committees, and meetings/phone calls with members of the legislature and/or regulatory agency.

Neutral – A neutral position indicates to the corresponding legislature, regulatory agencies, and other stakeholders, that the City of Santa Ana is impartial on the legislation in question and does not wish to take a position.

Oppose – An oppose position indicates to the corresponding legislature, regulatory agency, and other stakeholders that the City of Santa Ana is against the legislation in question. An oppose position may include the following resources: position letters, councilmember testimony to committees, and meetings/phone calls with members of the legislature and/or regulatory agency.

Oppose Unless Amended – An oppose unless amended position indicates to the corresponding legislature, regulatory agencies, and other stakeholders, that the City of Santa Ana is against the legislation in question, unless the requested changes are adopted. An oppose unless amended position may include the following resources: position letters, councilmember testimony to committees, and meetings/phone calls with members of the legislature and/or regulatory agency.

Watch – A watch position indicates to the corresponding legislature, regulatory agencies, and other stakeholders, that the City of Santa Ana is dedicating resources to monitor the legislation in question.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

I. PRESERVE LOCAL CONTROL

Preserve and protect the city's charter powers, duties, and prerogatives to enact legislation and policy direction concerning local affairs and to oppose legislation that preempts local authority.

II. PROMOTE FISCAL STABILITY

Support measures that promote fiscal stability, predictability, and financial independence. Support measures that preserve the city's revenue base and local control over local government budgeting. Oppose measures that shift local control and funds to the county, state, or federal governments without offsetting benefits.

III. SUPPORT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Support opportunities that allow the city to compete for its fair share of regional, state, and federal funding. Opportunities include competitive grants and 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.

IV. REGIONAL COLLABORATION AND COOPERATION

Leverage the city's ability to preserve local control, promote fiscal stability, and support funding opportunities through collaboration with municipalities, local government agencies, special districts, regional government agencies / organizations, and local, state, and federal elected representatives.

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2019

- 1 HOMELESSNESS**
- 2 HOMEOWNERSHIP**
- 3 ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT TOOLS**
- 4 INNOVATION**
- 5 DIGITAL DIVIDE**
- 6 ORGANIZATIONAL
CYBER SECURITY**



DEPARTMENT INITIATIVES

City Manager’s Office

The City Manager’s Office oversees the implementation of all City Council’s policy decisions and direction, while providing leadership and guidance to department heads and other city staff, as well as developing action plans and programs to support the city’s mission, values, and priorities that serve our great community.

INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	STATE/FEDERAL
City Wide Strategic Plan	Develop a strategic plan that engages state and federal funding and initiatives.	State/Federal
Ensure Accurate Census 2020	Support federal legislation that provides the necessary resources required to achieve a fair and accurate census, especially among hard-to-count populations.	Federal
Immigrant Rights	Support state and federal legislation that recognizes liberty, equal rights, pathway to citizenship, and due process for all individuals, regardless of immigration status.	State/Federal
Secure Funding For Local Infrastructure Projects	Collaborate with the Office of the Governor to secure funds for local infrastructure projects, economic development, and public/green space.	State

Clerk of the Council

The Clerk of the Council Office is responsible for the care of official records and documents of the city such as agendas, minutes, resolutions, ordinances, and for providing and maintaining legal and historical records and information.

INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	STATE/FEDERAL
Increase City Transparency	Seek grants to extend transparency features and improve services.	State/Federal

Community Development Agency

The Community Development Agency is responsible for providing services in the area of economic development, job training, affordable housing, and downtown development. The agency plans, develops, and administers programs to accomplish the public policy goals of the Santa Ana City Council, Santa Ana Housing Authority, and Workforce Investment Board.

INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	STATE/FEDERAL
Business and Economic Development	Collaborate with the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development on initiatives that provide financial assistance to businesses looking to locate or expand in Santa Ana.	State
Foster Development of Green Businesses	Support investment of the Recycling Market Development Zone Program that creates jobs, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and diverts waste from landfills through the city’s designation and participation in the Orange County Recycling Market Development Zone.	State
Homelessness	Support legislation that provides financial or policy support to local governments that work to address issues surrounding homelessness.	State/Federal
Affordable Housing	Support legislation that provides financial support for affordable housing. Oppose legislation that seeks to limit local control over affordable housing decisions.	State/Federal
Housing First Program	Support legislation that expands funding for the Housing First Model to provide permanent housing for individuals that are homeless.	Federal
Housing Choice Program Access	Support passing of FY 2018 appropriations bill with full funding for the Housing Choice Voucher Program and the program’s administrative fees.	Federal

HOME Investment Partnership Program	Seek to protect the HOME Investment Partnerships Program from funding cuts, which help expand affordable housing, increase jobs, and provide public services.	Federal
Tax Credits	Work alongside NAHRO and the ACTION campaign to establish a permanent four (4) percent credit rate for allocated acquisition credits and to raise the annual housing credit allocation to states. Support legislation to expand and improve the affordable housing credit program.	Federal
WIOA Funding	Support and advocate for funding of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which enables the city to continue to invest in workforce education, training, and job search assistance.	Federal
Apprenticeship Training	Support legislation that provides apprenticeships, skills training, and other workforce development opportunities.	State/Federal
Skills Gap	Support legislation that promotes industry training and employment opportunities for job seekers to assist in achieving a livable wage.	State/Federal
CDBG Funds	Collaborate with federal representatives to preserve CDBG funding for Santa Ana to ensure the development of Capital Park Projects, social service programs, and parks/recreation programs.	Federal

Finance and Management Services Agency

The Finance and Management Services Agency manages and controls the city’s financial operations at the highest level of efficiency, through effective staffing and management. The agency safeguards public funds through proper internal controls, expenditures, and service operations. In addition, support services are provided for all city agencies and residents.

INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	STATE/FEDERAL
Pensions	Support legislation to assist local governments in addressing pension liability issues.	State/Federal

Human Resources Department

The Human Resources Department recruits and develops a talented workforce, ensuring a safe and healthy work environment. Delivering highly responsive professional expertise and services, the department uses innovative and transparent approaches with professional integrity.

INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	STATE/FEDERAL
Employee Health	Support legislation that maintains healthcare rates at an affordable and/or market rate value to provide employees with beneficial health coverage.	State/Federal
Employee Safety	Support and advocate for legislation that promotes the safety of employees.	State/Federal
Pension Reform	Support legislation that preserves local authority in designing retirement formulas for employees.	State/Federal

Information Technology Department

The Information Technology Department provides innovative, quality, sustainable, and secure technology solutions, services, and infrastructure that are fiscally responsible and empower city departments to deliver quality services.

INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	STATE/FEDERAL
Cyber Security	Support state and federal legislation that promotes the implementation of a centralized cyber security management system.	State/Federal
Self-Service Portal	Support legislation and grant programs that foster the development of self-service software.	State/Federal

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Agency

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Agency is responsible for delivering a variety of services to the community, including recreation programs, parks, libraries, and the operation of the Santa Ana Zoo.

INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	STATE/FEDERAL
Health and Wellness	Explore and apply for the national fitness campaign grant to build fitness areas in our parks.	Federal
Library Development	Explore grants and other funding sources to enhance current libraries and establish an E-Library presence.	State/Federal
Park Development	Collaborate with state representatives to increase funding for parks within the city. Identify projects that qualify for Proposition 68 funding and apply to grants that will fund city projects.	State
Science Education	Support legislation and grant programs that fund education programs on climate-change, eco-systems, and zoology.	State

Planning and Building Agency

The Planning and Building Agency's objective is to provide a safe, attractive, and business-friendly community through the implementation of state and local construction codes, as well as planning and regulating future land uses.

INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	STATE/FEDERAL
Medical and Recreational Cannabis	Support legislation and regulatory actions that maintain local control, consider health and safety requirements, provide for community education opportunities, and increase assistance and funding to municipalities that have adopted ordinances related to cannabis.	State/Federal
Prevent Deferred Maintenance	Advocate for legislation that supports technological advancement for cities to ensure timely and thorough building and code enforcement inspections that can help alleviate deferred maintenance.	State/Federal
Sustainable Development	Advocate for state and federal funding for planning, outreach, and education to support sustainable development.	State/Federal

Police Department

The Santa Ana Police Department delivers public safety services to the community with the utmost professionalism and integrity. The department's values act as the guideline for the discretionary use of police powers and are the basis by which employee actions are evaluated.

INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	STATE/FEDERAL
Cannabis Regulation	Oppose the Department of Justice's decision to rescind the Cole Memo and increase federal prosecution of legalized marijuana use.	Federal

Body Camera Program	Continue support and advocacy for legislation that helps the city acquire funding for a one-to-one ratio for body cameras and body camera memory storage.	State/Federal
Enhance Public Trust	Support state and federal legislation that increases funding for initiatives that promote public trust and law enforcement community engagement strategies.	State/Federal
Police Career Pathway	Support legislation that increases funding for cities to promote programming that encourages local youth to pursue a career with their local police department.	State/Federal
Police Officer Ratio	Support legislation that increases funding for cities to increase the police officer to community ratio.	State

Public Works Agency

The Public Works Agency is responsible for building and maintaining all public streets, storm drains, sewers, and water facilities, in addition to the coordination of the collection and recycling of refuse, and graffiti removal. The agency ensures that the community enjoys high quality drinking water and is able to travel around the city efficiently.

INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	STATE/FEDERAL
Reduction of Traffic Fatalities	Explore state and federal grant programs that can help reduce traffic fatalities.	State/Federal
Non-Motorized Transportation	Support legislation and grant programs that increase funding for cities that promote the reduction of greenhouse gases through the development of alternative methods of transportation.	State/Federal
SMSA Program	Advocate for funding to complete the Safe Mobility Program in Santa Ana.	State/Federal

Carpool Initiatives	Support legislation and grant programs that fund carpooling options such as buses, trains, and street cars.	State/Federal
Storm Drainage Funding	Support legislation that helps facilitate the financing of storm water and flood control projects.	State/Federal

Joint-Department Initiatives

INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	DEPARTMENTS	STATE/FEDERAL
Control of City Assets	Support legislation that maintains local control over municipal assets in the deployment of next generation technological infrastructure.	City Manager's Office and Information Technology Department	State/Federal
Digital Divide	Support and advocate for legislation that addresses closing the digital divide gap in cities.	Public Works Agency and Information Technology Department	State/Federal
Expand Consumer Options for Internet Access	Support and advocate for legislation that assists with the development of a fiber optics program.	Public Works Agency and Information Technology Department	State/Federal
Engagement and City Access	Support legislation that provides funding for obtaining software for a land management system that will increase public engagement.	Planning and Building Agency and Information Technology Department	State/Federal
Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety	Advocate for legislation that increases funding for safe pedestrian and bicycle activities, enforcement of traffic safety, and infrastructure improvements.	Public Works Agency and Police Department	State/Federal

Reduction of Traffic Fatalities	Explore state and federal grant programs that can help reduce traffic fatalities.	Public Works Agency and Police Department	State/Federal
Transition to Smart City	Explore state and federal grant programs that can help Santa Ana transition into a Smart City.	Public Works Agency and Information Technology Department	State/Federal
Youth Prevention Programs	Support legislation and grant programs that have the potential to reduce criminal involvement and provide intervention programs.	Parks, Recreation and Community Services Agency and Police Department	State/Federal