



# **CITY OF LA HABRA HEIGHTS LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM**

**Approved on January 14, 2019**

The Legislative Platform (“Platform”) defines the City’s Policy guidelines and provides the foundation for advocacy efforts at the federal, state, and local levels. Staff uses this Platform to identify relevant topic areas and subject matter, and makes recommendations to the City Council on specific legislation consistent with the policy guidelines. Additionally, in the event it is necessary for the City to respond to a legislative proposal in a timeframe that does not allow the City Council to take formal action, staff would express positions on bills in accordance with these guidelines, and then seek City Council direction at the appropriate time.

The Legislative Platform, would continue the practice of responding to legislative proposals as follows: (1) once a determination has been made that a legislative proposal may impact the City, a letter outlining the City’s position (support, neutral or oppose) will be drafted for the Mayor’s signature; (2) the City Manager will circulate the draft position letter to the City Council for review; (3) if there is Council objection, the position letter will be placed on the next Council agenda for consideration; (4) if there is no objection, Staff will finalize the position letter and forward it to the bill’s author, the League of California Cities, the City’s legislative advocate and other stakeholders as deemed appropriate; and (5) a copy of the final letter will be distributed to the City Council.

## **POLICY GUIDELINES**

### **The City supports:**

1. The City supports legislation that leads to greater financial independence from federal, state and/or county government, and protects local resources from seizure by federal, state and/or county agencies.
2. The City supports legislation maintaining maximum local flexibility in all areas of its responsibility and operations and opposes legislation that imposes intrusive, unnecessary or unfunded state-imposed mandates or preempts local authority.
3. The City supports legislation that advocates fair and proportionate representation on countywide and regional boards.
4. The City supports modification to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) to eliminate duplicative and unnecessary provisions of the existing law.

5. The City supports legislative efforts that would amend existing law to ensure that prevailing wage rates do not impede its ability to pursue small-dollar projects and lower operating costs associated with routine maintenance services.
6. The City supports religious freedom and legislation protecting religious freedom at both the state and federal level.

**The City opposes:**

7. The City opposes legislation that makes the City more dependent on federal, state, and/or county government or agencies for policy direction.
8. The City opposes any legislation that is inconsistent with the doctrine of home rule, interferes with local exercise of police powers over local land use, or requires a federal, state, and/or county entity to develop model planning practices and policies.
9. The City opposes legislation to create new financial burdens or erode public safety through realignment implementation.
10. The City opposes legislation to limit the City's ability to contract for municipal services.
11. The City Council opposes efforts by the State Legislature to assess taxes on public goods and services such as water and electricity.
12. The City opposes legislation that would further limit the public engagement process relative to accessory dwelling units, or any additional dwelling structures, in an effort to respond to the current housing shortage.
13. The City opposes legislation that would lower the vote threshold as a method to impose new taxes or create new financing opportunities.

**In general:**

14. The City will take into consideration the strategic goals adopted by the League of California Cities.
15. Staff is authorized to continue to advocate a position for a bill which has been amended in to a new bill number as long as the language and intent remain substantially unchanged.
16. This policy will be reviewed annually at January's regular meeting.

**APPROVED** this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019 by the City Council of the City of La Habra Heights in the State of California by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Bergman, Francis, Klingfus, Williams, and Zezula  
NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None  
ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None  
ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

  
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Brian Bergman, Mayor

**CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTATION AND ORIGINALITY**

I, Jarad Hildenbrand, City Clerk do hereby attest to and certify the foregoing Legislative Platform was approved by the City Council of the City of La Habra Heights on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019.

  
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Jarad Hildenbrand, City Clerk

1-15-19  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date