



# CITY OF VISTA

## 2019 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

For the purpose of the Legislative Platform, the term “City” includes the City of Vista, the Vista Community Development Commission, Buena Sanitation District and the Joint Powers Financing Authority. The City supports efforts that promotes its ability to accomplish the City Council’s goals and objectives and which support the effective provision of City services to residents. The City of Vista opposes efforts which reduce local control or local funding sources, and supports efforts which provide greater local control and/or local funding options. Any legislative proposals that would increase taxes or fees, or impose a revenue enhancement upon our citizens, will be placed upon the agenda for City Council consideration prior to any staff action. This platform is a general listing of legislative issues of concern to the City.

### CORE POLICY ISSUES

#### **Local Control**

- a. Advocate efforts that enhance local control of resources, programs and tools that allow the City to address the needs and concerns of its residents, and oppose any efforts that preempt local authority.
- b. Support efforts that reflect a positive, collective, and cohesive approach to regional solutions, as long as local control is maintained.

#### **Local Finance and Revenues**

- a. Oppose any efforts that negatively impact the City’s fiscal viability by adding further financial burden through unfunded mandates or other means.
- b. Oppose any efforts to increase reporting requirements related to locally raised revenues.
- c. Oppose any efforts to reduce or redirect the City’s current revenues.
- d. Oppose efforts that would reduce local discretion over local revenues, taxes, fees and other funding sources.
- e. Oppose efforts that would reduce the City’s ability to use debt financing and traditional government financing instruments for the purchase or construction of public purpose improvements, and support the enactment of revenue measures and fees that close the gap between the tax revenue from development and the cost of providing city services.
- f. Advocate State and Federal funding that supports City infrastructure and other projects.
- g. Oppose efforts that either increase the City’s liability or decrease outside parties’ liability concerning municipal finances.
- h. Support a statutory or constitutional redistribution of property tax revenues that more equitably reflects local government responsibilities.
- i. Support efforts to allow access to Redevelopment Bond Proceeds issued in 2011.

## SPECIFIC ISSUES

### **Labor Relations**

- a. Oppose efforts that would increase the City's liability for unemployment compensation.
- b. Oppose efforts that would increase employee Workers' Compensation benefits without system reforms to offset increased employer costs, and that would provide presumptive eligibility for the award of Workers' Compensation.
- c. Support efforts to modify the federal Fair Labor Standards Act to permit adjustable work schedules to meet the needs of management and labor and to eliminate prospective and retroactive overtime payments.
- d. Support efforts to enact pension reform to reduce future labor costs.
- e. Support efforts that provide more employer flexibility for all aspects of Employer-Employee relations to include subject areas of mandated bargaining and mandating additional components to the 'meet and confer' process.

### **Risk Management**

- a. Oppose efforts that negatively impact limiting the City's immunity from tort claims.

### **Law Enforcement**

- a. Oppose efforts that would impede local law enforcement from addressing crime problems and recovering costs resulting from a crime committed by a guilty party.
- b. Support efforts that strengthen local law enforcement, including: prevention of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol; effective abatement of illegal land uses and illegal businesses; the sharing of criminal history information between states; registration of sex offenders; the provision of a greater share of seized assets to localities; cost recovery from the guilty party when alcohol or drugs are present; increased sentences for criminals involved in activities such as violence, gangs, narcotics, human trafficking or repeated offenses; and establishing greater City Council latitude in setting speed limits.

### **Housing**

- a. Support efforts to establish a permanent funding source for the development, rehabilitation and preservation of affordable housing. Advocate for efforts to review and reduce state mandated regulations on housing development.
- b. Support efforts that provides flexibility and gives City greater authority in meeting the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) requirements.
- c. Support efforts that provide funding and resources to assure local governments have the ability to address the needs of the homeless in their communities, and protects the City's ability to preserve public safety and livability.

## **Fire Safety**

- a. Support efforts that promote national fire code development using an open, consensus-based process.
- b. Support efforts to create a funding mechanism for a regional fire department in San Diego County that does not diminish the ability of cities to provide essential services.
- c. Oppose any negative impacts resulting from the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, specifically supporting efforts to minimize financial impact on Emergency Medical Services.
- d. Support efforts that increase state and federal funding for local law enforcement, fire suppression, wildfire prevention, hazardous materials mitigation, and emergency medical services.

## **Water Management**

- a. Support measures to increase the water supply or improve water quality within the region and that encourage voluntary water conservation.

## **Economic Development**

- a. Support efforts that provide tangible and productive tools to encourage job creation, and economic growth.