



CITY OF MENIFEE

SUBJECT: City of Meniffee Legislative Platform

MEETING DATE: January 18, 2023

TO: Mayor and City Council

PREPARED BY: Philip Southard, Public Information and Legislative Affairs Officer

REVIEWED BY: Rochelle Clayton, Assistant City Manager

APPROVED BY: Armando G. Villa, City Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. Review and approve the updated Legislative Platform; and
2. Reaffirm the Legislative Policy approved on August 5, 2020.

DISCUSSION

Since the City's incorporation, the Mayor and City Council have taken positions on legislation and issues at the county, state, and federal levels. On August 5, 2020, the City Council adopted a formal legislative program consisting of a Platform and City Council Policy to ensure that positions on critical legislation could be addressed expeditiously. The Legislative Platform summarizes the Mayor and City Council's positions on priority issues and is used to guide city officials and staff in responding to legislative proposals at the county, state, and federal levels throughout the year.

Legislative Platform

The Legislative Platform is designed to be a living document that evolves and enables city officials and staff to quickly respond to issues impacting the City. The Platform was prepared based upon the City's history of legislative actions, departmental review, alignment with the City's adopted Strategic Plan, and review of priorities from the League of California Cities. The Platform is divided into seven categories including:

- Community Services
- Environmental Quality
- Governance, Transparency & Labor Relations
- Housing, Community & Economic Development
- Public Safety
- Revenue & Taxation
- Transportation, Communications & Public Works

The Legislative Platform has been revised to align with updates to the goals and objectives outlined in Menifee's Strategic Plan considered in combination with the regulatory changes that have occurred since the Platform was last presented for review in August 2020. The proposed changes to the Platform are summarized below.

- **Community Services**
 - **Social Services:** Provision updated to reflect support for regional partnerships on a regional basis that provide for social services programs/initiatives that serve the needs of the Menifee community.
 - **Homelessness:** Section revised to reference support for legislation and funding to address homelessness with comprehensive "regional strategies" for supportive services.
- **Governance, Transparency & Labor Relations**
 - **Mail Ballot Elections:** Provision removed as universal mail-in voting has been established as a standard in California elections.
- **Public Safety**
 - **Cybersecurity:** Section added that addresses support for legislation that strengthens and enhances cybersecurity efforts, helps protect against malicious cyber incidents, and enhances the security and resilience of critical infrastructure.
- **Revenue & Taxation**
 - **Hiring Tax Credits:** Provision removed as the City of Menifee is not currently part of a federally designated census tract *opportunity zone*.
- **Transportation, Communications & Public Works**
 - **Broadband:** Section added to support grants and other funding opportunities that will help the City implement its Broadband Master Plan and Smart City key initiatives.

City Council Policy

This Policy outlines the procedure for City staff to address, track, and act quickly in response to legislative proposals and regulations. The procedure provides for the City Manager to review requests to take positions on an issue. For approved requests in accordance with the Platform, a communication will be prepared for the Mayor's approval and signature, and shared with the members of the City Council. Requests inconsistent with the Platform or silent on issues will continue to be placed on a City Council agenda for consideration.

STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE

Responsive and Transparent Government

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Legislative Platform 2023
2. Legislative Platform 2023 (Redlined)
3. Policy – Legislative Program (Approved August 5, 2020)