



COMMUNITY SERVICES POLICY COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Friday, June 13, 2025

ATTENDANCE

Members: James Kyriaco (Chair); Tamala Takahashi (V. Chair); Tess Albin-Smith; Pam Allen; Debbie Baker; Sonja Brunner; Jeremy Bubnick; Fernando Cabrera; Megan Campbell; Shana Charles; Ruben Chavez; Ashlee DePhillippo; Heba El-Guindy; Christine Engel; Jose Garcia; Benjamin Jones; Rachel Kertz; Rachel Lang; Mina Layba; Danielle LeBlang; Latika Malkani; Caity Maple; Jenny McAdams; Bridgette Moore; Cynthia Moran; Liz Morris; Lisa Murphy; Carmen Nichols; Brad Olson; Michael Ponce; Natalie Rogers; Christina Rudsell; Mario Saucedo; David Shapiro; Michelle Shoresman; Erica Stewart; Holly Tillman; Bill Uphoff; Anthony Valdez; Clint Weirick; Anissa Williams; Stephen Zollman

Staff: Caroline Grinder, Legislative Advocate
Betsy Montiel, Policy and Legislative Affairs Analyst

I. **Welcome and Introductions**

Chair James Kyriaco and Vice-Chair Tamala Takahashi provided opening remarks and welcomed committee members.

II. **Public Comment**

Chair Kyriaco opened the meeting for public comment. There was no public comment.

III. **General Briefing**

The Cal Cities advocacy team compiled a [General Briefing Document](#), which includes the latest on legislative and budgetary matters impacting cities.

IV. **Presentation: California State Parks Pass Program**

Marivel Barajas, Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs at the California Department of Parks and Recreation, gave an overview of the state park system. California is home to 280 park units, and the department works to create opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

Adrian Contreras, Assistant Deputy Director of Park Operations with the department, joined to discuss the Governor's Outdoor Access for All program, which includes the State Adventure Pass, State Library Pass, and Golden Bear Pass. The [state parks pass programs](#) provide thousands of kids and their families free access to participating state parks.

Richard Rendon, Chief of Grants and Local Services, discussed the Community Engagement division, which seeks to increase access to parks by providing local funding opportunities. Since 2000, the division has provided \$4.4 billion in grant

funding throughout the state. Richard also gave an overview of the Statewide Park Program and the Outdoor Equity Program.

V. Presentation: Community Disaster Preparedness

Guest speaker Reva Feldman, Retired City Manager for the City of Malibu, spoke to the lived experience of working as a City Manager during a disaster. Reva provided information about how to build an effective disaster preparedness plan, which includes a reverse 911 notification system, personal wildfire action plans, and community safety expos to help inform the community. Reva discussed additional issues that cities face during an emergency, including loss of power and lack of communication, evacuation challenges, and strained fire and law enforcement resources.

Cal Cities staff Jolena Voorhis provided a legislative update on wildfire-related bills. For more information about disaster preparedness, Cal Cities has compiled a comprehensive list of [federal, state, and local resources](#) as well as an [Emergency Check List for cities](#).

VI. Budget and Legislative Update

Caroline Grinder, Legislative Advocate, League of California Cities, provided a legislative update and gave an overview of Cal Cities' recovery housing sponsored bill package. Wendy Bucknum, Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Mission Viejo and co-chair of the [California Sober Living and Recovery Task Force](#), provided a brief overview of the task force and how to get more involved. More information on Cal Cities-sponsored bills can be found [here](#).

The committee also received an overview of the Governor's [revised 2025-26 budget proposal](#). The proposal included a budget of \$321 billion, with a \$12 billion budget deficit. As proposed, the budget would tap into reserves and would have out-year deficits. The proposal did not include new funding for homelessness and proposes a new State Housing and Homelessness Agency.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Kyriaco thanked members for attending the meeting and thanked staff for a productive year.

Next Virtual Meeting: Staff will notify committee members by **August 18** if the policy committee will meet in October. If you have any questions, please contact [Meg Desmond](#), Cal Cities Associate Manager, Legislative Administration.