



GOVERNANCE, TRANSPARENCY, AND LABOR RELATIONS POLICY COMMITTEE

Highlights

March 26, 2026

ATTENDANCE

Members: Christine Cordon (Chair); Jill McLewis (Vice Chair); Michael Allawos; Jan Arbuckle; Angelica Avila; Matthew Bronson; Dan Buckshi; Jennifer Cervantez; Savita Chaudhary; Eric Cundeiff; Omar Dadabhoy; Minnie Diallo; Kathleen Foster; Angelica Frausto-Lupo; Angel Galache; Mary Hao; Bill Hussey; Randi Johl; Brian Mohan; John Morada; Cynthia Nava; Alvaro Nunez; Chelsea Palacio; La Vonda Pearson; Thai Viet Phan; Chaps Poduri; Natalie Rogers; Shawn Smith; Toni Taber; Taylor Toper; Helen Tran; Amanda Uptergrove; Nathan Vosburg; Rakesha Voss; Wendy Wood

Staff: Johnnie Pina, Legislative Advocate

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chair Christine Cordon and Vice Chair Jill McLewis, who welcomed committee members and attendees and provided brief opening remarks.

II. Public Comment

Chair Cordon opened the floor for public comment. No public comment was provided.

III. State Legislative Update

Legislative Advocate Johnnie Pina provided an overview of newly introduced legislation relevant to the GTLR portfolio. The update covered a wide range of issues including CalPERS reform proposals, Brown Act updates, employee and labor relations, and emerging artificial intelligence (AI) regulations impacting public agencies.

IV. Ballot Measure Agenda

The committee considered SB 42 (Umberg), the California Fair Elections Act of 2026. Trent Lange, President of the California Clean Money Campaign, presented in support of the measure, emphasizing that it would restore local authority and allow cities to establish public campaign financing programs to increase participation and trust in government.

Committee members discussed the benefits of local flexibility, with several noting that the measure aligns with existing Cal Cities policy supporting local control over campaign finance programs. Some members raised concerns about potential fiscal implications and implementation considerations. A motion was initially made to take "No Action," followed by a substitute motion to "Support."

Action: The committee voted 24–6 to Support SB 42 (Umberg) and recommend that position to the Cal Cities Board of Directors.

V. Legislative Agenda

The committee considered AB 2134 (Addis) regarding parental leave protections for city council members. Committee members expressed strong support for the intent of the bill to make local elected office more accessible and to protect the privacy of elected officials. Members noted the need for clearer definitions, particularly around “parental leave,” and suggested aligning the bill with existing frameworks such as the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). Additional comments supported expanding the bill to include other types of protected absences.

The committee voted unanimously to support in concept, with direction to work with the author on amendments to define parental leave and clarify implementation.

VI. Artificial Intelligence (AI) Roundtable

The committee participated in a roundtable discussion on artificial intelligence, facilitated by Johnnie Pina, with input from committee members representing cities across the state. Members shared that cities are using AI to draft meeting summaries, assist with planning and code compliance, improve public communications, and optimize traffic systems. Several participants emphasized that there must always be a human in the loop when using AI tools to ensure accountability and accuracy.

VII. Adjourn

Next Meeting (Virtual): Thursday, June 4, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.