



**GOVERNANCE, TRANSPARENCY, AND LABOR RELATIONS (GTLR) POLICY COMMITTEE
HIGHLIGHTS
Thursday, June 9, 2022**

ATTENDANCE

Members: Rick Bonilla (Chair); Melanie Bagby (Vice Chair); Gary Alpert; Dana Anderson; Oscar Antillon; Samantha Argabrite; Scott Bauer; Rick Bonilla; Rich Constantine; Elisa Cox; Debra Dorst-Porada; Neysa Fligor; Chris Freeland; Christa Freemantle; Marcus Fuller; Leon Garcia; Lakhvir Ghag; Eniko Gold; George Harris; Mike Healy; John Jansons; Randi Johl; Kathleen Kelly; Yvonne Kimball; Joe Lopez; Frank Luckino; Steve Martin; Crystal Miles; Buenafior Nicolas; Alexandra Orogas; Cynthia Owens; Aaron Palmer; Guadenz Panholzer; Glenn Parker; Jaime Patino; Lavonda Pearson; Kristina Peralta; Thai Viet Phan; Chaps Poduri; Mary Ann Reiss; Reina Schwartz; Tanya Spiegel; Isaac Suchil; Erica Vega

League Partners: Patty Senecal

Staff: Johnnie Pina, Legislative Affairs, Lobbyist, jpina@calcities.org

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Rick Bonilla introduced President Cindy Silva, Mayor Pro Tem, Walnut Creek, who announced the upcoming conference in Long Beach in September and welcomed everyone to the third policy committee meeting of the year and thanked members for their service to all California cities.

President Silva explained that while policy discussions can be lively and members may not always agree, Cal Cities derives its strength as a member-driven organization from this deliberative debate and recommendation process.

Cal Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman discussed our efforts in Washington D.C. and thanked the chair and vice chair for the leadership of this committee and thanked committee members for their service and support for participating in the committees. She explained that policy committees are vitally important and directly connected to Cal Cities' core mission of advocating for the common interests of cities.

Chair Bonilla, and Vice Chair Melanie Bagby, welcomed committee members and provided an introduction.

II. Public Comment

Chair Bonilla asked if there was any public comment. There was no public comment.

III. General Briefing

In accordance with the customary practice of convening all policy committee members for a general briefing prior to the start of policy committee meetings,

the Cal Cities advocacy team compiled a General Briefing Document, which includes the latest on legislative and budgetary matters affecting cities.

IV. Assembly Member Alex Lee Brown Act Update

Assembly Member Alex Lee was unavailable. In his place, Maria Montchal, Legislative Aide for Assembly Member Lee provided an update on [AB 1944 \(Lee\)](#). Ms. Montchal explained why the bill was introduced and why the policy is needed. Committee members asked questions, added commentary as to why this bill is needed, and encouraged other members to support the bill.

V. CalPERS Employer Rate Update and Online Tool Update

CalPERS Kelly Fox, Division Chief; Randy Dziubek, Deputy Chief Actuary; and Kerry Worgan, Supervising Pension Actuary provided an update on potential impacts of possible unfavorable CalPERS investment returns. The close of the fiscal year is June 30 and so far, investment returns have not been strong. Committee staff asked clarifying questions and asked how various returns would impact cities.

CalPERS also walked the committee through how to use the [Pension Outlook Tool](#) where employers can plug in different returns and see how that would directly impact their costs.

VI. Strategies to Improve Civil Discourse in Public Meetings

Melissa Kuehne, Senior Program Manager, Institute for Local Government (ILG), joined the meeting and summarized the programs and services offered by ILG. She discussed ways to increase trust, public participation, transparency and civil meetings in a pandemic and post pandemic environment. She provided strategies to lead with civility in mind and suggested policies to consider related to managing public comment. Committee members asked questions about managing codes of conducts.

VII. Legal Update

Harveen Gill, Assistant General Counsel, Cal Cities discussed the role of the general counsel of Cal Cities and the services and legal programs benefiting Cal Cities members. She also briefly discussed cases regarding the Public Records Act and the California Voting Rights Act.

VIII. Districting, Redistricting, and the California Voting Rights Act Roundtable Discussion

After having gone through recent districting or redistricting, the committee discussed what their experience has been with the districting and redistricting process. Several members also discussed having recently received demand letters regarding the California Voting Rights Act and being forcing to move to districts.

IX. Legislative and Budget Update

Cal Cities staff provided a legislative update under the jurisdiction of GTLR, including the previous GTLR meeting action and the subsequent Board action.

Specifically, Cal Cities staff briefed the committee on several bills related to governance, transparency, and labor relations including:

- [SB 1328 \(McGuire\)](#) Prohibited Investments and Contracts: Russia and Belarus.
- [SB 1173 \(Gonzalez\)](#) Public Retirement Systems: Fossil Fuels: Divestment.
- [AB 1944 \(Lee and Garcia, Cristina\)](#) Local government: open and public meetings.
- [AB 2449 \(Rubio, Blanca\)](#) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.
- [AB 2647 \(Levine\)](#) Local government: open meetings.
- [SB 1100 \(Cortese\)](#) Open meetings: orderly conduct.
- [AB 1751 \(Daly\)](#) Workers' compensation: COVID-19 critical workers.
- [SB 1127 \(Atkins\)](#) Workers' compensation: liability presumptions.
- [SB 931 \(Leyva\)](#) Deterring union membership: violations.
- [SB 1044 \(Durazo\)](#) Employers: state of emergency or emergency condition: retaliation.
- [AB 2808 \(O'Donnell\)](#) Elections: ranked choice voting.
- [AB 2381 \(Daly\)](#) Address confidentiality.
- [AB 2677 \(Gabriel\)](#) Information Practices Act of 1977.

X. 2022 Annual Conference, Long Beach Convention Center, Sept. 7-9

Cal Cities staff briefly described the General Resolution Committee process and reminded the committee that we may meet again if there is a resolution put forward for the committee to take action on. Cal Cities staff also encouraged everyone to attend the Annual Conference.

XI. Adjourn

Chair Bonilla thanked the committee for their hard work this year, gave some closing remarks, then adjourned the meeting.

Next Virtual Meeting: Staff will notify committee members after July 15 if the policy committee will need to meet prior to the Annual Conference to consider a resolution. If you have any questions, please contact Meg Desmond, Cal Cities Associate Manager, Legislative Administration