Sixty days before the Annual Conference and Expo, Cal Cities members may submit policy proposals on issues of importance to cities. The resolution must have the concurrence of at least five additional member cities or individual members.

The resolutions process and General Assembly is one way that city officials can directly participate in the development of Cal Cities policy. If a resolution is approved at the General Assembly, it becomes official Cal Cities policy. Here’s how resolutions and the General Assembly works.

Prior to the Annual Conference and Expo

General Resolutions

Sixty days before the Annual Conference and Expo, Cal Cities members may submit policy proposals on issues of importance to cities. The resolution must have the concurrence of at least five additional member cities or individual members.

During the Annual Conference and Expo

Petitioned Resolutions

The petitioned resolution is an alternate method to introduce policy proposals during the annual conference. The petition must be signed by voting delegates from 10% of member cities, and submitted to the Cal Cities President at least 24 hours before the beginning of the General Assembly.

Policy Committees

The Cal Cities President assigns general resolutions to policy committees where members review, debate, and recommend positions for each policy proposal. Recommendations are forwarded to the Resolutions Committee.

Resolutions Committee

The Resolutions Committee considers all resolutions. General Resolutions approved by either a policy committee or the Resolutions Committee are next considered by the General Assembly. General resolutions not approved, or referred for further study by both a policy committee and the Resolutions Committee do not go the General Assembly. All Petitioned Resolutions are considered by the General Assembly, unless disqualified.

General Assembly

During the General Assembly, voting delegates debate and consider general and petitioned resolutions forwarded by the Resolutions Committee. Potential Cal Cities bylaws amendments are also considered at this meeting.

Who’s who

Cal Cities policy development is a member-informed process, grounded in the voices and experiences of city officials throughout the state.

The Resolutions Committee includes representatives from each Cal Cities diversity caucus, regional division, municipal department, policy committee, as well as individuals appointed by the Cal Cities president.

Voting delegates are appointed by each member city; every city has one voting delegate.

The General Assembly is a meeting of the collective body of all voting delegates — one from every member city.

Seven Policy Committees meet throughout the year to review and recommend positions to take on bills and regulatory proposals. Policy committees include members from each Cal Cities diversity caucus, regional division, municipal department, as well as individuals appointed by the Cal Cities president.

What’s new in 2023?

- Voting delegates will receive increased communications to prepare them for their role during the General Assembly.
- The General Assembly will take place earlier to allow more time for debate and discussion.
- Improvements to the General Assembly process will make it easier for voting delegates to discuss and debate resolutions.

1 The Resolution Committee can amend a general resolution prior to sending it to the General Assembly.
2 Petitioned Resolutions may be disqualified by the Resolutions Committee according to Cal Cities Bylaws Article VI. Sec. 5(f).

For more information visit www.calcities.org/general-assembly