The Legislative Platform was developed to support the successful implementation of the City’s adopted Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan serves as the roadmap to advance the City’s mission, vision, and values by aligning the City’s resources and activities, the City Council’s policy direction, and the desires of residents, businesses, and community stakeholders.

The City’s Strategic Plan embraces and helps advance priorities outlined at the local, regional, federal and state levels of government, which include but are not limited to:

» Delivering smart and sustainable infrastructure and community development

» Improving governance and public stewardship of funds

» Expanding access to housing opportunities

» Reinvigorating and creating more parks and community-centric open spaces

» Introducing robust community workforce development programs

» Combatting the impacts of climate change

» Advancing the zero-emissions economy

» Bolstering public health and safety

» Accommodating multi-modal mobility solutions that connect to the larger regional transportation network
The fundamental components of the City's Strategic Plan include the following mission, vision, values, strategic priorities, and goals:

**Our Mission**
To positively impact our community by providing excellent city services, facilitating responsible stewardship of resources, and actively engaging our residents, businesses, and visitors.

**Our Vision**
Pico Rivera will be a leading progressive, thriving, connected community with a high standard for quality of life and collaborative governance.

**Our Values**
Craft is a skill in planning, making, or executing. The mnemonic CRAFT is used to reinforce the purpose and importance of the organization’s values:
- Collaboration
- Respect
- Accountability
- Fairness and Inclusion
- Transparency

**Strategic Priorities and Goals:**

**Fiscal and Organizational Sustainability**
Create a city government built to adapt to change.

**Economic Development and Land Use**
Encourage the development of vacant/underutilized space, creatively plan for growth, and engage the business community to transform the city as an economic and cultural hub.

**Infrastructure**
Plan, fund, build and maintain reliable and cost-effective infrastructure that contributes to enhancing quality of life.

**Community Engagement**
Foster a connected, collaborative, and actively participating city and workforce.

**Health, Wellness and Safety**
Create a safe and thriving city with low crime and high standards for health and wellness.
About this Legislative Platform

In order to continue improving the local quality of life while contributing to the greater goals of the region, the City of Pico Rivera will advocate for funding opportunities and priorities outlined in this Legislative Platform. This Legislative Platform, adopted by the Pico Rivera City Council, will establish the City’s position on matters of priority and importance to the City. The Platform is designed to be flexible and nimble, allowing staff to proactively and immediately engage, advocate and influence the Legislature where possible and as necessary at all levels of government. By adopting this Platform, staff will actively collaborate with Federal, State, regional and local elected officials and their respective staff, partners, and stakeholders to implement the goals and deliverables outlined by the City Council. This platform supplements and aligns with existing City Council established goals and policies adopted in various documents such as the General Plan, the City’s Strategic Plan, and approved Resolutions. Given the ever-changing political atmosphere, the Legislative Platform shall be reviewed regularly and updated on an annual basis. The Legislative Platform shall be published and disseminated widely to promote transparency and awareness among the public.

GOALS OF THE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

» Streamline the ability of City Staff to act on legislation, policy or funding opportunities that either impact or benefit the City.

» Identify and support Federal, State and regional legislation, regulatory policies and funding programs that align with the Platform.

» Identify and oppose, Federal, State and Regional proposals or policies that do not align with the Platform.

» Authorize City Staff to prepare position letters and Resolution language that supports, opposes, or directs staff to work with the author on proposed legislation.

» Authorize City Staff to actively and regularly brief and correspond with elected officials and their respective staff, regulatory partners and stakeholders to advance policy priorities and funding opportunities.

» Authorize City Staff, with coordination with the City Council, to invite elected officials, regulatory partners and stakeholders to attend and participate in City community events and programming.

» For emerging issues or situations not outlined in the Legislative Platform, City Staff will work with the City Council for further direction.

PICO RIVERA CITY COUNCIL

Erik Lutz  
Mayor

Andrew C. Lara  
Mayor Pro Tem

Gustavo V. Camacho  
Councilmember

John R. Garcia  
Councilmember

Dr. Monica Sánchez  
Councilmember
**Federal Brief**

The City of Pico Rivera is uniquely situated between the San Gabriel Valley and Gateway Cities sub-regions of Los Angeles County and is surrounded and/or bifurcated by nationally significant trade corridors such as interstate highways and Class-I freight railroads. The proximity to these corridors has resulted in heightened levels of congestion with compounding effects on air quality, road conditions, and overall quality of life. The City of Pico Rivera has the potential to address congestion and improve mobility while integrating into the larger regional transportation system of national significance by connecting to the Metro Light Rail System, leveraging Alameda Corridor East grade separations, introducing Bus Rapid Transit corridors and planning for the arrival of future High-Speed Rail and enhanced regional commuter rail systems. Pico Rivera is home to a blue-collar workforce that drives critical freight, logistics, distribution, and manufacturing activity in the region. The City also houses the Whittier Narrows Dam, a central element of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area (LACDA) flood control system operated by the U.S Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). In 2005, the USACE identified the Whittier Narrows Dam as being structurally unsafe and at risk of failure in the event of a severe storm. To protect over 1.1 million people from potentially catastrophic flooding, the USACE has initiated the $400 million Whittier Narrows Dam Safety Modification Project (Project). Although critical, the Project’s collateral impacts include the permanent loss of parks and open space, roadways, local jobs and revenue streams while also displacing community institutions.

The City of Pico Rivera is committed to working with the Biden Administration and the Offices of Senator Alex Padilla, Senator Dianne Feinstein, Congresswoman Linda Sánchez, Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, and all relevant stakeholders, governing partners, and agencies to support and advance the Whittier Narrows Dam project while strategically addressing the impacts to Pico Rivera. The City of Pico Rivera will actively advocate for federal funding and resources to deliver infrastructure projects, incorporate favorable legislative language that improves the quality of life of Pico Rivera residents, and elevate the City’s presence at the Federal level.

**State Brief**

Following a record-setting $100 billion budget surplus year, Governor Gavin Newsom presented his proposed 2023-2024 state budget with a projected $22.5 billion deficit. Though the budget shortfall will limit opportunities for significant one-time investments, the City of Pico Rivera will remain steadfast in advocating for available resources, favorable policy language, and partnerships that can advance the City’s priorities, deliver infrastructure projects, and elevate the City’s presence in the State Legislature.

The City of Pico Rivera will position itself to protect its existing local revenues while remaining competitive for limited State resources as outlined in the Governor’s budget. The Strategic Plan and vision for the revitalization of Pico Rivera aligns with several of the Governor’s policy priorities. The City is committed to advancing a zero-emissions economy and reaching workforce development goals through the establishment of a silicon river district which will attract and accommodate a clean, green tech-businesses sector. The City is working to design and construct complete, safe, and accessible multi-modal and transit-oriented communities along major corridors, such as the Historic Whittier Boulevard corridor, to meet the State’s greenhouse gas emission reduction, housing availability and vision-zero goals while connecting to the larger interconnected regional transportation network. The City of Pico Rivera is also actively working to identify opportunities for significant investment in the acquisition and revitalization of parks and open spaces as the City is set to lose over 57% of its recreation space. The City is committed to working with the Office of Governor Gavin Newsom and the Offices of Senator Bob Archuleta, Assemblymember Lisa Calderon and all relevant stakeholders, governing partners and agencies to strategically address the challenges facing Pico Rivera while positioning itself to meet the State’s priorities and enable new and long-lasting economic activity and quality of life improvements for the region.
The City of Pico Rivera will strategically elevate its role, influence and collaboration with regional partners and stakeholders such as neighboring cities, County Board of Supervisors, transportation authorities and operators, governing councils and boards, metropolitan planning organizations and business groups. By leveraging regional resources and partnerships, the City is committed to implementing its Strategic Plan and the Legislative Platform which outline a vision for revitalization, sustainability, mobility, public health, safety, housing and development with a focus on regional connectivity and economic vitality.

The quality of life, economic resiliency, safety and welfare of all who live, work and visit the City of Pico Rivera is foundational to the City's Strategic Plan and the Legislative Platform. The City will continue to innovate and modernize its governance practices to promote civic engagement, solicit community feedback and preserve the City's rich cultural history as it delivers its vision for the future.
**SUPPORT**

- Policies and programs that retain local control regarding the choice to contract out animal licensing, vaccination and animal welfare services.

- Policies and programs that protect or expand funding eligibility for local governments such as tax revenues, block grants and formula-based funding allocations.

- Efforts to enhance and strengthen local representation on regional commissions, task forces and governing boards.

- Ability for local governments to provide input on statewide water resource planning decisions.

- Future redistricting efforts that would enhance local and sub-regional voices and needs at County, State and Federal levels.

- Efforts that promote civic engagement amongst the residents of the City and solicit feedback for the development of ongoing strategic initiatives and programs.

- Efforts to protect and support Community Choice Aggregates (CCA) and maintain local control.

- Policies and programs that provide for a good work environment, promote career advancement, development and training opportunities.

- Financing opportunities for Pension Obligations.

**OPPOSE**

- Policies and initiatives that would reduce local control of government, taxation, revenue generation and administration.

- Expansion and introduction of new unfunded mandates on services and resources administered by the city.

- Efforts to bypass local input of bills and proposals that would have a significant impact on the ability to provide services, resources and effective governance.

- Efforts that would reduce or reallocate funds intended for local services and programs to balance state budgets.

- Measures that conflict with the City’s ordinances that regulate the sale and delivery of products and services such as cannabis and flavored tobacco.

- Measures or initiatives that would limit the participation of local governments on air quality, water, natural resource, utility, energy, waste disposal and similar governing boards.

- Policies that broaden definitions of injury under worker’s compensation.

- Policies that mandate additional responsibility to providing fringe benefits to employees.
Economic Development and Land Use

**PARKS AND OPEN SPACES**

**SUPPORT**

- Legislative language within Federal, State and County Parks and Recreation funding programs that would prioritize or provide additional consideration of funding for cities that will experience significant loss of park space as a result of Federal, State or County led projects.

- Favorable legislation and full funding eligibility to leverage private, non-traditional funding sources, alternative financing options and project delivery methods to advance design and construction of the City Parks, Greenspace, Bike and Walking Trails.

- Policies and programs that support the integration of art, culture and the rich historical elements of the City into public spaces.

**OPPOSE**

- Policies or programs that reduce funding or limit eligibility to local governments for funding intended for parks, urban greening and open spaces.

**SEEK FUNDING FOR**

- The revitalization, maintenance and expansion of parks, recreation and open spaces.

- Shovel-ready projects that can be submitted as funding requests to expand or revitalize park space through Community Project Funding Requests within the Federal Appropriations process, the State Budget development process and through competitive grants at all levels of government.

- Maintenance, programming and operation of parks, open spaces and city recreational facilities.

- Urban greening, beautification and sustainable native landscaping projects through the Federal and State Urban Greening Grant Programs and through Departments of Parks and Recreation.
**SUPPORT**

- Efforts to develop and revitalize the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel Valley River Corridors, and the Whittier Boulevard, Rosemead Boulevard and Washington Boulevard corridors while preserving the character, identity and culture of the City and its communities.

- Favorable legislation and full funding eligibility to leverage private, non-traditional funding sources, alternative financing options and project delivery methods to advance the design and construction of the City’s Corridor Revitalization Projects and Clean Technology District.

- Funding and financing of programs aimed at attracting new development.

- Efforts intended to attract, retain and ingrain clean technology industries and manufacturing and establish a Clean Technology District.

- Efforts encouraging Sales tax reform to promote a more equitable distribution of e-commerce and internet generated sales tax amongst cities (i.e. destination-based sales tax).

- Property tax reform that would allow cities to capture a greater share of property taxes to fund critical infrastructure, services, and economic development activities.

- Efforts to expand tax increment and special tax financing districts to facilitate County property tax sharing for economic development activities and community revitalization.

- Efforts encouraging the development of vacant and underutilized space to creatively plan for growth.

- Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) that can assist the City in creating economic opportunities for its residents and business community.

**OPPOSE**

- Policies and programs that may create additional barriers of entry for small businesses.

- Policies or legislation that would preempt local land use authority and control.

- Legislation that would shift parking, zoning or development guidelines away from local control.

**SEEK FUNDING FOR**

- The design and construction of the revitalization of the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel River corridors and the Whittier Blvd., Rosemead Blvd. and Washington Blvd. corridors.

- The design and construction of Pico Rivera’s Silicon River Clean Technology District.

- Development projects within proximity to other project sites to take advantage of economies of scale and revitalize corridors rather than individual sites.
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SUPPORT

- Financial recovery programs that are intended to support residents, small businesses and residents seeking employment opportunities.

- Workforce Development initiatives, programs, and activities that promote job creation for a skilled workforce that incorporate residents and the veteran community.

- Partnerships with local trade and community colleges to implement clean technology workforce development, training and apprenticeship programs.

OPPOSE

- Legislation that limits, reduces, or eliminates workforce development programs, including the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, YouthBuild, and Job Corps.

SEEK FUNDING FOR

- Workforce development, apprenticeship and clean technology training programs.

- Establishing and maintaining local hire programs.

- Training for skilled workforce specifically designed to meet local business needs.
**HOUSING**

**SUPPORT**

- Programs that provide emergency rental relief for tenants and property owners.

- Policies and programs intended to address housing insecurity and homelessness for adults and youth with local input.

- Policies that advance the design and construction of mixed-income housing developments and transit-oriented developments (TOD) as part of the City's corridor revitalization efforts while preserving the identity and culture of the City.

- Policies and programs that provide support for mixed-income housing and designated residential areas.

- Efforts that maintain local control to exercise flexibility of local housing governance to best address the needs of the community.

**OPPOSE**

- Efforts that preempt local land use control and authority.

- Unfunded mandates on matters of housing, zoning, land use and pricing.

- Policies and programs that would restrict local control on managing parking as related to housing, TOD and mixed-use developments.

- Policies that mandate local jurisdictions to implement price ceilings on market rental rates.

**SEEK FUNDING FOR**

- Emergency assistance to help secure housing for communities experiencing or at risk of being unhoused.

- Mixed-income housing programs.

- The design and construction of TOD, mixed-use developments, mixed-income housing and complete streets as part of corridor revitalization projects.
Infrastructure

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

**SUPPORT**

- Strategic partnerships with neighboring cities, regional agencies and stakeholders to submit joint funding requests to advance regionally significant infrastructure projects such as the Metro Eastside Gold Line Extension Project and Bus Rapid Transit Corridors through the City.

- Policies, programs and projects that will increase safety, enhance mobility, address deferred roads and bridge improvements, enhance transit service and reliability and encourage multi-modal and active transportation.

- Legislative language proposals that would expand eligibility of funding for critical infrastructure and state of good repair projects within the City.

- Leveraging local matching funds for competitive grant applications that align with Federal, State and Regional priorities.

- Policies and programs intended to advance design and construction of complete street and active transportation projects and corridors.

- Favorable legislation and full funding eligibility to leverage private, non-traditional funding sources, alternative financing options and project delivery methods to advance the design and construction of the City’s infrastructure and state of good repair projects.

**OPPOSE**

- Efforts to coordinate with Federal, State and regional partners for consideration of commuter rail station alternatives connecting the City to the larger regional transportation network.

- Efforts to coordinate with legislative partners for consideration of Bus Rapid Transit corridors within the City that connect to the larger regional transportation network.

- Policies and programs intended to accelerate broadband and access to reliable internet utilities to close the digital divide amongst underserved communities.

- Policies and programs that prioritize providing clean, safe drinking water.

- Policies and programs intended to advance alternative modes of transportation that address first/last mile connections, reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips, reduce vehicle miles traveled and contribute towards lowering greenhouse gas emissions.

- Policies and programs that advance equity on transportation electrification within the City’s service territories.

- Policies and programs that streamline large-scale renewable energy projects and permitting.

- Policies or programs that conflict with corridor revitalization and mobility enhancement projects.
SEEK FUNDING FOR

- Eligible projects under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) grant programs such as the Capital Investment Grant (CIG) program, the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant program and the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program and all other federal sources of funding.

- Operating and Maintenance of grade separation projects.

- Security, fiber optic, broadband and maintenance projects at city facilities.

- Unfunded projects identified in the City’s Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

- City water infrastructure projects for funding consideration under IIJA water infrastructure programs.

- The design and construction of complete street and active transportation projects.

- Transportation projects that can be competitive for funding requests through the California Transportation Commissions, California State Transportation (CalSTA) Agency, Caltrans, and Los Angeles County and all other sources of state and county funding.

- State of Good Repair projects on roadways and bridges to address damaged roads caused by freight and logistics vehicles.

- Study, design and implementation of American with Disabilities Act (ADA) plans for accessibility upgrades to city owned assets, public right of way, facilities and parks.

- Strategic deployment of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations.

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WATER, WASTEWATER & ENERGY

SUPPORT

- Policies that improve reliability and security of water supplies and storage.
- Policies that recognize that recycled and reused water is a resource.
- Efforts intended to lower the cost of delivering water.
- Prevent new non-bypassable charges, Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) increases, and support methodologies that are transparent and developed through public processes.

OPPOSE

- Measures that would pass through costs of fines and penalties incurred by utility corporations to ratepayers.
- Policies that would restrict the City from adjusting user rates or any other policy that would limit the City’s rights towards rate setting.
- Efforts to pass additional liability risks onto cities for utility delivery, such as water.
- Policies or proposals that would impact procurement obligations for energy delivery.
- Policies or proposals that would introduce or expand reporting requirements that impose additional costs or administrative burdens.

SEEK FUNDING FOR

PFAS treatment, water purification and water conservation projects.
High priority Stormwater capital projects.
Sewer Infrastructure Improvements.
Water Infrastructure Improvement Projects.
Dedicated operations and maintenance funding for city utility facilities.
Low-Income Customer Utility Bill Payment Relief.
Health, Wellness and Safety

PUBLIC SAFETY

SUPPORT

• Policies intended to advance social equity and reduce disparities while ensuring public safety for all in Pico Rivera.

• Policies intended to support transparency on the part of law enforcement and promote community safety measures.

• Tools and resources intended to address homelessness, mental health and drug rehabilitation as public health issues in partnership public safety authorities.

• Efforts intended to suppress and prevent gang activity and promote youth intervention programs.

• Laws intended to eliminate access to illegal firearms.

• Access to resources to address issues such as graffiti, damage to public and private property, domestic violence, human trafficking and the sale of illegal controlled substances.

• The ability of local governments to regulate fines for traffic violations in school zones to protect youth.

• Activities to bolster emergency preparedness and implement statewide-integrated public safety communications systems between local, state and federal law enforcement, fire and emergency medical response.

OPPOSE

• Policies that would prevent local law enforcement from being notified about known individuals that are prohibited from owning or possessing a firearm.

• Proposals or policies that would increase costs or that pass along risks associated with law enforcement and public safety to local governments.

• Mandates on infractions, violations and crimes that would pass the responsibility or costs to the City.

SEEK FUNDING FOR

• Public safety services, programs and community safety measures as they often account for the largest share of General Fund expenditures.

• Gang suppression and youth development/intervention programs.

• Emergency preparedness and training.

• Public safety technology that protects communities.

• The expansion of community watch programs.
SUPPORT

- Policies and programs that ensure equitable and efficient distribution of vaccines, PPE and resources intended to expand access to health care.

- Policies and programs intended to expand access to mental health counseling and crisis-intervention services.

- Policies and programs intended to expand access to social and public services intended to support the housing insecure and unhoused.

- Efforts to expand access to healthier food and locally sourced produce options and address healthy food deserts.

- Policies and programs intended to support the distribution of food, drinking water and necessities.

- Policies and programs intended to promote active lifestyles and reduce obesity and other associated illnesses.

- Policies addressing drug rehabilitation as a public health and wellbeing issue.

SEEK FUNDING FOR

- COVID-19 response, relief and recovery efforts such as vaccine distribution, testing and technological solutions.

- Community wellness programs.

- Mental health services.

- Public health and social services intended to address homelessness outreach and prevention.
# SUPPORT

- Policies and programs intended to improve local air quality standards, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, mitigate pollutants, promote clean water delivery, expand climate resiliency and advance zero-emissions technology with local input.

- Policies and programs intended to advance the design and delivery of environmentally friendly buildings, businesses and manufacturing centers.

- Policies and programs that provide tax credits, grants, loans, and other financial incentives to assist residents, businesses and local governments that invest in energy efficient equipment, technologies, and fuel-efficient, low to zero emissions vehicles.

- Efforts or policies intended to implement Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) initiatives, which encourage producers through incentives to treat and properly address environmental impacts of production.

- Efforts intended to promote the use and purchase of clean alternative energy from renewable resources.

- Efforts to promote water conservation and climate-based landscape developments intended to reduce the impacts of climate change and improve community resiliency (heat island effect, reflective rooftops, etc).

# OPPOSE

- Policies that preempt local control through unfunded mandates without the opportunity for local input on matters of zoning, land use, transportation, facilities, development, utilities and service delivery that exceed National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and similar environmental protection and assessment statutes.

# SEEK FUNDING FOR

- Funding for the implementation of the City’s Climate Action Plan.

- Transitioning City Fleet towards low-emissions fuels and zero-emissions systems.

- Zero waste, Recycling programs, organics recycling infrastructure and processing facilities.

- Distribution of clean energy generation equipment and storage for residents.

- Clean vehicle replacement and energy efficient appliance initiatives.

- Energy efficient upgrades at City facilities and equipment.

- Investment in long-duration energy storage and microgrids.

Water-drought resiliency, wildfire resiliency, extreme heat resiliency and other climate change related impacts.
Community Engagement

PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH

SUPPORT

• Efforts to engage residents of the City through intentional and robust multi-cultural community programming.

• Efforts to engage and support the senior (aging in place), veteran and disabled communities within the City.

• Efforts to develop world-class recreation, sports and outdoor learning programming that provides opportunities for all residents of the City to improve quality of life, public health and community enrichment outcomes.

• Programs and policies intended to increase citizenship and improve the lives of immigrants and their families.

• Policies and programs that support the integration of art, culture and the rich historical elements of the City into community programming.

SEEK FUNDING FOR

• Early care and educational opportunities within the City.

• Senior, veteran and disabled wellness programming and services.

• Implementation of art, culture and historic preservation programs.
PICO RIVERA
EXECUTIVE TEAM

Steve Carmona, City Manager
Angelina Garcia, Assistant City Manager
Alvie Betancourt, Director of Community & Economic Development
Julia Gonzalez, Deputy Director of Community & Economic Development
Jane Guo, Director of Administrative Services
Javier Hernandez, Director of Innovation and Communications
Anna Jerome, City Clerk
Noe Negrete, Director of Public Works
Karine Shirinian, Director of Human Resources
Pamela Yugar, Director of Parks & Recreation

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