



**PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE
HIGHLIGHTS
Friday, June 21, 2024**

ATTENDANCE

Members: Claudia Frometa (Chair); Walter Allen; Robert Amparano; Dana Anderson; Jan Arbuckle; Gerry Beaudin; Steve Bird; Mike Calderwood; Christian Clegg; Phil Dupper; Jim Ellis; Edgard Garcia; Renee Golder; Larry Gonzalez; Gerry Gonzalez; Susan Harvey; Rod Hill; Lynda Johnson; Jean Josey; Mike Judge; Mark Kairis; Ray Marquez; Brigid Martin; Darlene Martinez; Brian McCarthy; Kevin McNamee; Kevin Mensen; Mark Mezzano; Ed Miranda; Scott Nassif; Eric Nelson; Greg Park; Amy Phan West; Rick Robinson; Steve Sanchez; Shannon Shaw; Marty Simonoff; Scott Smith; Larry Spicer; Tami Trent; Jeff Wang; Dan Wright; Stephanie Youngblood

Staff: Jolena Voorhis, Legislative Affairs Lobbyist
Damon Conklin, Legislative Affairs Lobbyist

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Frometa welcomed the committee members and introduced themselves and present Cal Cities staff. Each committee member present did self-introductions.

Jennifer Whiting, on behalf of Carolyn Coleman, thanked committee members for their work and highlighted the state Supreme Court rejecting the Taxpayer Deception Act from being on the November General Election ballot.

II. Public Comment

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

III. General Briefing

Cal Cities staff, Jolena Voorhis, provided a 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 provided a [General Briefing Update](#), which includes the latest on legislative and budgetary matters affecting cities.

IV. Legislative Update

Cal Cities staff, Jolena Voorhis, provided the policy committee an update on legislation related to retail theft. Cal Cities opened up for comment and feedback.

A lively discussion ensued among the committee members. After a lengthy debate, the Committee overwhelmingly agreed to recommend that Cal Cities change its position from support to neutral on the retail theft legislative package

and to note the opposition to the inoperability clause. There was one abstention and one member that voted no.

Cal Cities Staff, Jolena Voorhis, provided an update on general PS legislation.

VI. The Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act

Cal Cities staff, Jolena Voorhis, provided a preliminary summary.

Proponent – Tino Rossi, Statewide Coalition Director, Californians for Safer Communities, highlighted the need to support the act.

Opponent – Abdi Soltani, Executive Director, ACLU of Northern California and Mica Doctoroff, Senior Staff Attorney, ACLU of Northern California rejected the act and asked for a no vote.

Questions were addressed about costs associated on local jurisdictions with potential increased incarceration; † costs to victims and about the proliferation of drug abuse; and about removing discretion and mandatory sentencing.

A motion was made and seconded to support the ballot measure. The committee voted to support the ballot measure on a 30-2 vote with 4 members abstaining.

V. Closing Remarks and Adjourn

Chair Frometa adjourned at 12:01 pm.

Next Meeting: Staff will notify committee members by August 23 if the policy committee will meet **virtually** in October. If you have any questions, please contact [Meg Desmond](#), Cal Cities Associate Manager, Legislative Administration.