



**PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE
HIGHLIGHTS
January 23, 2026**

[PS Committee Slides](#)

ATTENDANCE

Members: Scott Nassiff (Chair); Mark Kairis (Vice Chair); Jessica Alexander; Jan Arbuckle; Ryan Balius; Sukari Beshears; Steve Bird; Jonathan Brewster; Sonja Brunner; Sonia Carter, Ed Chen; Chris Constantin; Brando Cruz; Ed Delgado; Bea Dieringer; Phill Dupper; Anders Fung; Joe Garcia; Amarjeet Gill; Gerry Gonzalez; Larry Gonzalez; Bob Harriman; Susan Harvey; Daniel Hernandez; Jean Josey; Stacy Larson; Kaylee May Law; Polly Low; Faye Maloney; Ray Marquez; Chris Matthews; Brian McCarthy; Sean Mill; Kristopher Mooney; Heather Newsom; Jason Nutt; Jaime Patino; Ana Maria Quintana; Rosa Ramos; Rick Robinson; Robert Rodriguez; Natalie Rogers; Christina Rudsell; Steve Sanchez; Scott Sawin; Stephen Sealy; Shannon Shaw; Marty Simonoff; Phoebe Venkat; Jeff Wang; Carolyn Wysinger; Stephanie Youngblood

Staff: Jolena Voorhis, Legislative Advocate
Serena Scott, Policy Analyst

General Briefing

In accordance with the customary practice of convening all policy committee members for a general briefing to the start of policy committee meetings, the Cal Cities advocacy team provided a brief oral update on the latest legislative and budgetary matters affecting cities. Cal Cities Executive Director and CEO Carolyn Coleman also provided welcoming remarks.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Nassif and Vice Chair Kairis welcomed the committee members and introduced themselves. Cal Cities staff and each committee member present did brief self-introductions.

II. Public Comment

Chair Nassif opened the meeting for public comment. There was no public comment.

III. Committee Orientation

Jolena Voorhis reviewed the role and purpose of the policy committee as well as the parliamentary procedures used by the committee.

IV. Cal Cities 2026 Advocacy Priorities

The committee was updated on the [Cal Cities 2026 Advocacy Priorities](#) that were developed during League Leaders in Palm Spring. The four priorities are:

1. Protect and enhance local revenues and expand economic development tools.
2. Strengthen partnerships with the state to improve public safety

3. Secure investments to prevent and reduce homelessness and increase the supply of affordable housing.
4. Strengthen climate change resiliency and disaster preparedness

V. Panel Discussion on Public Safety Issues in 2026:

- Karen Pank, Chief Probation Officers of California
- Jonathan Feldman, California Police Chiefs Association
- Kim Stone, California District Attorneys Association

Chair Nassif introduced the three panel speakers from CPOC, CPCA, and CDAA. The panel gave a detailed legislative update and took questions from the committee members.

VI. Existing Policy and Guiding Principles

The Cal Cities Summary of Existing Policy and Guiding Principles are updated every two years to reflect the committee's work. This information is used as a reference tool to advocate newly adopted issues.

For 2026, in accordance with previous committee action, the proposed policy additions included:

- Peace Officer Education Policy
- Loitering for Prostitution Policy
- Proposition 36, Proposition 47 and Retail Theft Policy

Jolena Voorhis and Chair Nassif opened discussions. Following a robust conversation, a motion to approve the changes to the Existing Policy and Guiding Principles document was made, which passed unanimously. Cal Cities Staff reminded all members that any changes they wish to see to the existing policy guidelines need to be submitted over 72 hours in advance to staff to be added to the agenda for the March meeting. See [here](#), for the full PS existing policy and guiding principles being sent to the board for approval.

VII. Adoption of 2025 Work Program

To inform the committee's work program, committee members were asked to respond to an online survey selecting their top 3 priorities for the committee to focus on in the coming year.

Staff provided an overview of the survey responses and proposed work program. The committee agreed that the work program captured 3 high priority issues throughout the state.

Ultimately, the committee unanimously adopted the following items for the 2026 work program:

- Prop 36 implementation
- Addressing Fentanyl and other Controlled Substances
- Wildfire Mitigation and Zone Zero Implementation

VIII. Legislative and Budget Update

Jolena Voorhis provided an overview of the budget and upcoming priority legislation. Potential issues in Public Safety for the 2026 legislative cycle include:

- Proposition 36 Implementation and Funding
- Juvenile Crime
- Nitrous Oxide and other controlled substances
- Wildfire Mitigation, Defensible Space, Zone 0
- Fire Insurance/Home Insurance
- EMS Regulations and implementation

Staff provided a quick overview on three bills which included [SB 758 \(Umberg\)](#), [AB 1559 \(Calderon\)](#) and [SB 828 \(Cabaldon\)](#). Members provided some feedback on SB 758 related to nitrous oxide.

IX. Adjourn

Next Meeting: Next Meeting: Friday, March 27, (Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa), 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.