



March 30, 2026

The Honorable James Ramos
Chair, Senate Budget Sub #5
1021 O Street, Suite 7340
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Laura Richardson
Chair, Assembly Budget Sub #6
1021 O Street, Suite 8310
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Proposition 36 Funding – Support Request for \$400 Million in Funding for Recovery Support Services and Substance Use Treatment

Dear Honorable Members:

The League of California Cities (Cal Cities) writes in strong support of the budget requests signed by Assembly Member Stephanie Nguyen and Senator Catherine Blakespear for additional funding in the amount of \$400 million for probation and other services that are critical in the implementation of Proposition 36.

As you know, California Voters overwhelmingly passed Proposition 36 (2024), the Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act. This important measure made changes to drug and property theft crimes and created a new Treatment-Mandated Felony to address the surge in retail theft and shoplifting.

Funding to fully implement Proposition 36 is a top priority for Cal Cities. We are very appreciative of the \$115 million that was provided last year for the courts and behavioral health. However, more funding is needed to actualize the will of the voters.

Specifically, we support the request for \$400 million to address the services needed to help ensure that treatment, when accompanied by supervision can increase the chances of successful rehabilitation. These investments are necessary to expand service capacity, secure in-custody treatment, and allow for individualized planning and monitoring for those in our communities. Absent real consequences and accountability, local governments cannot maximize treatment success.

For these reasons, Cal Cities urges the Legislature to include this important funding in the final FY 2026-27 State Budget and continue the progress being made in addressing retail theft, shoplifting and other crime in our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carolyn Coleman".

Carolyn Coleman
Executive Director and CEO, Cal Cities

cc: Members, Senate Budget Sub #5
Members, Assembly Budget Sub #6
Consultants, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 6 on Public Safety
Consultants, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 5 on
Corrections, Public Safety, Judiciary, Labor and Transportation
Shaun Naidu, Speaker's Office
Eric Dang, Pro-Tem's Office