



**PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE
HIGHLIGHTS
Thursday, March 27, 2025**

ATTENDANCE

Members: Stephanie Youngblood (Chair); Andrea Alexander; Walt Allen; Danny Alvarez; Valerie Amezcua; Dana Anderson; Jan Arbuckle; Gerry Beaudin; Steve Bird; Ed Chen; Lisa Diaz Nash; Bea Dieringer; Phill Dupper; Philippe Eskandar; Anders Fung; Joe Garcia; Renee Golder; Larry Gonzalez; Bob Harriman; Susan Harvey; Rod Hill; Jean Josey; Mike Judge; Mark Kairis; Larry Klingaman; Kaylee May Law; Bridgett Lewis; Jack Liu; Ray Marquez; Brian McCarthy; Sharona Nazarian; Rick Robinson; Lydia Romero; Shannon Shaw; Marc Shaw; Daniel Singer; Daniel Stefano; Jennifer Torres-O'Callaghan; Andrew Tse; Vicki Veenker; Jeff Wang; Ian Winbrock

Cal Cities Partners: Will Minerich

Staff: Jolena Voorhis, Legislative Affairs Lobbyist
Zack Cefalu, Policy Analyst

I. 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.

II. Welcome and Introductions

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

III. Public Comment

Public comment was shared regarding the January Public Safety Meeting and the vote by the committee that wanted to elevate public safety as an advocacy priority for the league of California cities. Disappointment was expressed that public safety was not considered by the Cal Cities Board of Directors as added priority for 2025.

A councilmember and representative of Cal Cities Board Member expressed that the majority of the board decided that they should follow the guidelines of the organization for how we elevate priorities among the membership.

Director of Legislative Affairs Jason Rhine explained that the process at Cal Cities to determine our annual priorities is through the League Leaders process, engaging 120 leaders in the organization. He reiterated that Cal Cities is exploring ways to improve the process. Members encouraged that the process for determining Cal Cities priorities be revised. Cal Cities staff reiterated that the Committee will continue to elevate public safety in its work, even though it is not currently a top priority.

IV. Legislative Review

AB 992 (Irwin), SB 385 (Seyarto) – Law Enforcement Education

Cal Cities staff presented on AB 992 (Irwin) and SB 385 (Seyarto) which have been introduced related to law enforcement education. AB 992 would beginning, January 1, 2031, requires a peace officer to attain one or more specified degrees within 36 months of receiving their basic certificate by POST. The bill is sponsored by the Police Chiefs and it currently pending in the assembly public safety committee.

SB 385 (Seyarto) would require peace officers to have the modern policing degree to be hired and would delay implementation until January 1, 2029 and then peace officers would have 36 months to obtain the modern policing degree or equivalent degrees. Currently, this bill is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Public Safety Committee on March 25, 2025.

Members expressed support for both measures. There were some concerns raised about needing to provide funding to support the coursework necessary for this education. Some cities weighed in that they do provide funding locally to support the education of police officers.

Members shared that this requirement is already in effect and AB 992 is cleaning up the current statutory requirements. It was clarified that if you have two years of experience out of state, then you are exempt under the current law.

A member motioned to support the measures, AB 992 (Irwin) and SB 385 (Seyarto), a second was provided, and unanimously approved by the committee.

Another motion was made and unanimously approved by members to update Cal Cities existing policy on police education to include the following:

Cal Cities supports legislation to add flexibility to the modern policing degree requirements. Flexibility such as funding resources, an extended timeline, providing a wider range of degrees, flexibility for experience and certificates, and flexibility to complete the education requirements based on factors such as current POST training and extended leave, such as military training, as well as a possible path to exemption for smaller and lower resources cities. Cal Cities prioritizes efforts to recruit and retain peace officers and supports efforts to provide additional training and funding to achieve this goal.

AB 75 (Calderon) – Insurance

Cal Cities staff presented AB 75 (Calderon) which would require insurance companies to provide 30 days written notice to property owners before any aerial footage is taken. This bill is currently pending in the Assembly Insurance Committee.

A member voiced concerns that the aerial footage should be provided to homeowners.

A motion was made to support the bill and the committee approved the motion, with one nay vote.

V. 2025 Wildfires Update

Cal Cities staff provided an overview of the Legislative hearings that have taken place since the start of the year related to wildfire topics, as well as an update from CalOES, and relevant legislation that has been introduced related to the wildfires, Zone Zero draft regulations, and LRA fire hazard severity zone maps.

VI. Legislative and Budget Update

Cal Cities staff provided an overview of priority legislation, including:

- Public safety budget updates
- Proposition 36 implementation and Cal Cities budget ask
- Legislation on controlled substances, law enforcement canines, threats to schools and places of worship, supervised releases for crimes, loitering with the intent to commit prostitution, and justifiable homicide crime changes.

VII. CARE Court Presentation

Molly Wiltshire, Director of External Affairs, Governor's Office and Dr. Karen Linkins, Principal, Desert Vista Consulting provided an overview of the CARE Act and the functioning of CARE Court. This is meant to be an upstream diversion to prevent more restrictive conservatorship or incarceration through a civil process.

VIII. Adjourn

Next Virtual Meeting: Thursday, June 12, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.