



**REVENUE AND TAXATION POLICY COMMITTEE
HIGHLIGHTS
Thursday, June 12, 2025**

ATTENDANCE

Members: Kevin Bash (Chair); Neysa Fligor (V. Chair); Tess Albin-Smith; Jasmine Allen; David Arellano; Carmen Avalos; Fernando Cabrera; Michael Cao; Claire Coleman; Marc Donohue; Felicia Galindo; John Gillison; George Harris; Matthew Hawkesworth; Kevin Ingram; Launa Jimenez; Jeff Jones; Mina Layba; Rich Lee; Sylvia Lemus; Jessie Lopez; Christine Marick; Norma Martinez-Rubin; Michael McCorriston; Kris McDonald; Clara Miramontes; Ed Musgrove; Laura Parisi; Daniel Ramos; Ernie Reyna; Rocky Rhodes; Doug Robertson; Natalie Rogers; Joel Rojas; Scott Sakakihara; Josh Steeber; Nathan Steele; Kuldip Thusu; Luis Uribe; Melissa Walker; Tommy Yu; Yan Zhao

Partners: Larry Kosmont

Staff: Ben Triffo, Legislative Advocate
Betsy Montiel, Policy and Legislative Affairs Analyst

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Kevin Bash and Vice Chair Neysa Fligor provided opening remarks and welcomed committee members.

II. Public Comment

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

III. General Briefing

The Cal Cities advocacy team compiled a [General Briefing Document](#), which includes the latest on legislative and budgetary matters affecting cities.

IV. City Managers Sales Tax Working Group Update

Thaddeus McCormick, President of the Cal Cities City Managers Department provided an update on the City Managers Sales Tax Working Group. Thaddeus informed the committee that City Manager Area Groups are receiving peer-to-peer communication and outreach on the Bradley Burns Sales and Use Tax reform recommendations provided by the working group. Thaddeus also spoke to the education campaign and area meetings, which have provided the city managers with additional feedback on how the work of the working group is being received by Cal Cities broader membership.

Cal Cities staff Ben Triffo let the committee know that when the committee meets again in January, all the feedback that has been received will be brought to the committee, and the committee will be able to take action at that time.

V. Transportation Funding in California

Guest speaker Frank Jimenez, Senior Fiscal and Policy Analyst with the Legislative Analyst's Office presented an overview of transportation funding in California. The committee learned about declining gas tax revenues in the state transportation fund and the impacts on cities. Cities that are highly dependent on state revenues will see the most impacts to their transportation funding. Additionally, the impacts of declining revenues will vary based on how each municipality funds transportation. Frank also highlighted four options for the state to consider when addressing the transportation funding gap:

- Increasing existing fuel taxes and vehicle fees.
- Shift transportation costs to other fund sources.
- Reduce and prioritize spending for transportation programs.
- Generate revenues from new transportation-related charges.

Frank welcomed questions from committee members and was thanked for the presentation.

VI. The Future of Local Transportation Funding

Guest speaker Aaron Hake, Executive Director of the Riverside County Transportation Commission provided an overview of federal transportation funding. Aaron highlighted the importance of local revenues as the solution to funding future transportation projects and discussed the importance of local sales tax measures as a source of transportation revenues. Aaron welcomed questions from committee and was thanked for the presentation.

VII. Overview of California Jobs First

Guest speaker Derek Kirk, Senior Advisor for Economic Policy with the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development gave a presentation on the [California Jobs First Economic Blueprint](#). California Jobs First invests in key sectors to drive sustainable economic growth, innovation, and access to good-paying jobs. The Economic Blueprint is the foundation of the thirteen regional plans and is the economic roadmap to create and attract jobs for Californians. Derek discussed the goals and initiatives under the Blueprint. Derek welcomed questions from committee members and was thanked for the presentation.

VIII. Budget and Legislative Update

Ben Triffo provided an overview of the Governor's [revised 2025-26 budget proposal](#). The proposal includes a budget of \$325 billion, with a \$12.3 billion budget deficit. As proposed, the budget would tap into reserves and would have out-year deficits.

Ben provided an overview of key bills related to Revenue and Taxation. For more information about Cal Cities priority bills in Revenue and Taxation, please visit the Revenue and Taxation [Hot Bills](#) list and [Priority Bills](#) list. The Committee also received information about a new [ballot measure](#), sponsored by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association.

IX. Adjourn

Chair Bash and Vice Chair Fligor thanked members for attending the meeting and thanked staff for a productive year.

Next Virtual Meeting: Staff will notify committee members by **August 18** if the policy committee will meet in October. If you have any questions, please contact [Meg Desmond](#), Cal Cities Associate Manager, Legislative Administration.

2016 Policy Committee Appointments

REMINDER: The 2015 policy committee appointments will end at the close of the Annual Conference; appointments for 2016 can be requested thereafter. Members seeking appointments for 2016 are urged to contact their incoming department, division, or affiliate president immediately following the Annual Conference to request reappointment. A presidential appointment from the League's incoming president may also be requested, although members are encouraged to first exhaust appointment opportunities through their division or department presidents. These requests should be sent c/o Meg Desmond, 1400 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 or via e-mail: [meg.desmond@calcities.org](#). Please include your full name. If you have any questions, please contact Meg Desmond at [meg.desmond@calcities.org](#) or 916.441.1111.