



TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS, AND PUBLIC WORKS POLICY COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Friday, June 13, 2025

ATTENDANCE

Members: Fred Jung (Chair); Newell Arnerich (V. Chair); Robert Armijo; Greg Barton; Liz Becerra; Priya Bhat-Patel; Chelsea Byers; John Campbell; Amanda Carter; Jennifer Cervantez; Shannon DeLong; Bob Engler; Justin Ezell; Peggy Glynn; Gaurav Garg; Jeremy Gerson; Jennifer Gutierrez; Kerry Hillis; Mike Isom; Adria Jimenez; Mike Johnson; Chris Kelley; Trish Kelley; Linda Krupa; Brian McCarthy; Jennifer Mendoza; Devin Murphy; Joshua Nelson; Heather Newsom; Adolfo Ozaeta; Kelli Pickler; Christian Punsal; Cameron Sasai; Allan Timms; Helen Tran; Alex Trinidad; Nathan Vosburg; Colleen Wallace

Partners: Alicia Berhow; Sergio Jimenez

Staff: Damon Conklin, Legislative Affairs Lobbyist
Waleed Hojeij, Legislative Affairs and Policy Analyst

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Fred Jung opened the meeting by welcoming committee members and acknowledging the important work ahead. He noted the robust agenda and emphasized the value of collective local government voices in shaping state transportation and infrastructure policy. Vice Chair Newell Arnerich thanked members for their continued service and dedication to advancing city priorities statewide.

Cal Cities CEO Carolyn Coleman joined the meeting during the opening segment and offered special remarks. She thanked the committee for not only developing strong policy positions but for taking action by calling legislators, building coalitions, and ensuring those policies become reality. She also acknowledged President Lynne Kennedy, who was unable to attend due to travel. She closed by encouraging all members to attend the Cal Cities Annual Conference in Long Beach this October, promising it would be another memorable and impactful gathering.

Committee members were also reminded that applications for Chair and Vice Chair positions are being accepted until August 8. Notices will be sent via email and published in the Cal Cities Advocate.

II. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

III. General Briefing

Following standard practice, Cal Cities staff prepared a [General Briefing Document](#) for all policy committees. The update, distributed via email, outlines key developments on budget, legislation, and regulatory issues affecting cities.

IV. Homeless Encampments and Transportation Infrastructure

Charles Isaac, Maintenance Manager with Caltrans District 7, presented on the Caltrans' encampment removal protocols and coordination with local agencies. Encampments are prioritized by severity—Level 1 sites, such as those posing immediate safety risks, are removed without notice, while Level 2 sites are given 48-hour notifications and a two-week coordination period for outreach and services.

Mr. Isaac emphasized Caltrans' collaboration with CHP, social service providers, and hazmat contractors. Since June 2024, the district has conducted 1,960 encampment removals, encountered more than 2,300 people experiencing homelessness, and removed 21,000 cubic yards of debris.

Committee members asked whether Caltrans assigns point people to support cities, and Caltrans confirmed staff are available for coordination at the district level.

V. CTC Program Look Ahead: Local Streets and Roads and LPP

Alicia Sequeira, Assistant Deputy Director with the California Transportation Commission (CTC), delivered a presentation on SB 1 funding programs, focusing on the Local Streets and Roads (LSR) and Local Partnership Program (LPP). Since the passage of SB 1 in 2017, \$8.5 billion has been distributed through LSR, with \$6.1 billion already expended. Projects have ranged from ADA curb ramps and road rehabilitation to emergency storm repairs and planning studies.

Ms. Sequeira noted that cities must adopt a project list and resolution annually to remain eligible, with initial eligibility due July 1 and subsequent eligibility due by September 30. She encouraged members to submit draft resolutions for pre-review. The CTC maintains 100% eligibility and expenditure compliance from local agencies and has used that success to defend the program during state audits.

The LPP allocates \$200 million annually, with 60% distributed formulaically and 40% through a competitive process. Leishara Ward, Program Manager for LPP, noted that updated competitive program guidelines will be released in the fall. Members were encouraged to contact CTC early for eligibility guidance.

VI. LAO Budget and Transportation Revenue Discussion

Frank Jimenez, Principal Fiscal & Policy Analyst with the LAO, provided a comprehensive state budget update. While the January budget was roughly balanced, the May Revision addressed a \$14 billion shortfall. The Governor's proposal includes ongoing general fund reductions, most notably in Medi-Cal and In-Home Supportive Services, as well as funding shifts to the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF).

Key transportation-related proposals include:

- A \$25 million competitive litter abatement grant program for local governments.

- Elimination of previously planned GGRF allocations for the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP), Zero Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP), and Highways to Boulevards Pilot Program.
- A proposal to extend the cap-and-trade program through 2045.

The Legislature has indicated intent to restore \$1.1 billion in transit funds and to approve \$750 million in general fund loans for Bay Area transit agencies. One member raised concerns that the budget shifts unfairly burden gas vehicle drivers, especially as future mileage-based fees are explored.

VII. State Controller: SB 1 MOE

Kim Tarvin, Division Chief of Audits with the State Controller's Office (SCO), reviewed MOE requirements under SB 1. Each city and county must maintain its discretionary transportation spending at the average level of FYs 2009–10, 2010–11, and 2011–12. Ms. Tarvin reminded members that exemptions were granted during the pandemic but that MOE rules have fully resumed as of FY 2022–23.

SCO audits local compliance annually based on December 1 data submissions. If a city fails to meet MOE for two consecutive years and cannot make up the shortfall, it becomes ineligible for SB 1 funds and may be required to return disbursed money. Ms. Tarvin encouraged cities to use SCO's guidance documents and contact the technical assistance email (aedrmr@sco.ca.gov) with questions.

VIII. Legislative and Regulatory Update

Cal Cities staff delivered an update on Cal Cities' legislative priorities and key deadlines. Staff noted that approximately 30% of fiscal bills were held in appropriations, and many of the remaining bills are now advancing to the second house for further consideration.

Among Cal Cities' sponsored bills, staff highlighted SB 496 (Hurtado), which seeks to establish an Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) Appeals Advisory Committee to offer cities compliance flexibility in emergency response situations. The bill was held in the Appropriations Committee. SB 74 (Seyarto) proposes the creation of an Infrastructure Gap-Fund Program to provide grants for shovel-ready projects, contingent on a 10% local funding match. AB 476 (Mark Gonzalez) aims to reduce copper wire theft by introducing stricter regulations on recyclers, including licensure requirements and proof of ownership documentation.

Other high-priority measures include AB 911 (Carrillo), which would expand the definition of emergency vehicles under the ACF regulation to include telecommunications trucks, and AB 620 (Jackson), which would authorize local governments to lease zero-emission vehicles to comply with the ACF rule—both of which Cal Cities supports. In contrast, AB 770 (Gonzalez), which would limit local permitting authority over significant structural changes to billboards, is opposed by Cal Cities due to its erosion of local control.

Staff concluded by encouraging members to submit position letters through the Legislature's online portal and to send a copy to Cal Cities, as doing so enhances coordinated advocacy and strengthens the organization's influence in Sacramento.

IX. Adjourn

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