



Coastal Cities Group Leadership Committee Work Program Report – January 2026

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The main focus for the League of California Cities' Coastal Cities Group (CCG) this year will be continuing to work in collaboration with Coastal Commission (Commission) representatives on issues related to sea level rise mitigation efforts, other land use regulations and housing issues that impact cities in the coastal zone, and the update of local coastal programs.

Background

The CCG consists of 61 out of the 483 California cities, all of which are situated, either entirely or partially, within the territory of the coastal zone. The CCG's primary function is to serve as a collaborative forum on coastal issues. Some of the main goals of this group are to facilitate relationships between Cal Cities member cities and the Commission; serve as a conduit for information affecting coastal cities; coordinate with Cal Cities Policy Committees on developing issues; and report to the Cal Cities Board at least annually.

There is no formal process to participate in this group and it is open to all Cal Cities members. The CCG has, and will continue to, work with coastal counties on issues of mutual interest. For more information, please visit the Coastal Cities Group webpage. Each year, the Cal Cities President appoints six coastal city elected officials to serve on the CCG Leadership Committee and, from them, selects a Chair and Vice Chair. All CCG Leadership Committee appointments are on an annual basis. In conjunction with the CCG Leadership Committee Chair, the CCG Leadership Committee develops an annual work plan for the Cal Cities Board's approval. This work plan serves as a roadmap for the CCG Leadership Committee to guide the group's activities and define participation roles.

The proposed 2026 Coastal Cities Group Leadership Committee work plan is as follows:

Objective 1: Work with the Ocean Protection Council (OPC), the Coastal Commission, and the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) on the implementation efforts related to Sea Level Rise Guidance (SB 272, 2023).

- Continue to seek guidance from the state on sea level rise related to the development of sea level rise plans and potential impacts along the coast and bay.
- Facilitate opportunities for members to engage with the state to further understand available guidelines and specific challenges and resources available to different regions.
- Continue to seek sound science-based guidance that support local decision-making.

Objective 2: Monitor and inform policy positions on state laws and regulations that impact the coastal zone, including housing development, protection of local land use authority, and climate and economic resiliency.

- Develop understanding and position on what cities can do regarding the California Department of Housing and Community Development rules that may be in conflict with the Coastal Act.
- Develop understanding and positions on any substantive amendments proposed to the Coastal Act, including but not limited to, the definition of “existing structures”, development of accessory dwelling units, and implications of short-term rentals.
- Monitor policies and funding opportunities related to climate and economic resiliency, related to offshore drilling opposition and other coastal dependent uses.

Objective 3: Continue advancing efforts to support cities with the development and approval of Local Coastal Programs (LCP) and the Neighborhood Approach.

- Support local jurisdictions with their efforts to develop and seek approval from the Coastal Commission.
- Understand the challenges associated with seeking LCP approval from the Coastal Commission and work to address those concerns with the Coastal Commission.
- Continue to define, elaborate, and advance the Neighborhood Approach.

Objective 4: Enhance connection and communication with local coastal cities, Coastal Commissioners, staff, other coastal local officials, and other interested parties.

- Encourage Leadership Committee members to develop more robust lines of communication with the coastal cities in their coastal region.
- Continue to host webinars to share information and gather input from local coastal elected officials.
- Continue to actively participate in Commission meetings and established working groups.
- Maintain regular communications between the Leadership Committee and local elected officials, regarding matters of interest to coastal communities.
- Obtain more “volunteer” local staff and attorneys with coastal land use experience to enhance the CCG’s capacity to work.
- Encourage the Leadership Committee to work with other interested coastal stakeholders (government, non-governmental organizations, community-based groups) on coastal issues.

Operating Guidelines and Guiding Principles

The CCG seeks to develop positive relationships with Commissioners and staff as a means of establishing a collaborative working relationship to address issues of common importance to all coastal cities.

- Leadership Committee members will try to attend Commission meetings in their coastal regions.
- Each Leadership Committee member will serve as the CCG representative and point of contact for the Commissioner for their coastal region.
- Leadership Committee intends to continue to engage, through joint workshops, on key coastal issues with the Commission and coastal counties.
- CCG Chair will serve as Leadership Committee point of contact with the Commission and coastal counties in planning for any future joint workshops.
- The Leadership Committee will continue to participate in the sea level rise subgroup, which consists of Commissioners, CCG Leadership Committee members, and representatives from coastal counties.
- Cal Cities staff will support the planning and coordination needed for any joint workshops.
- Cal Cities staff will develop and maintain relationships with Commission leadership including the executive director and the legislative director.
- Cal Cities staff will develop and maintain relationships with Commission staff who may seek city comments on regulatory matters.
- Consistent with Cal Cities policy, where there is agreement on policies and/or funding needs between local agencies and the Commission, CCG may advocate separately or along with the Commission for such additional funding or such policies.
- The CCG will evaluate ways to support and advocate for funding to protect critical infrastructure due to sea level rise in coastal communities.

The CCG intends to provide a forum for educating all coastal cities about legislative and regulatory matters.

- CCG will hold educational webinars, meetings, or conference calls on the topics identified above.
- Leadership Committee members will develop content and lead discussion on webinars, meetings or conference calls.
- Cal Cities staff will coordinate logistics for webinars, meetings, and conference calls, including facilitating registration, promoting the event, administering the content and recordings.
- Cal Cities staff will provide legislative updates at CCG Leadership Committee meetings.
- Cal Cities staff will facilitate contacts between Commissioners and staff seeking statewide participation for regulatory and other matters (i.e., comment periods).
- Cal Cities staff will support the planning and coordination needed for any joint workshop between coastal cities, coastal counties, and the Commission.

It is recognized that a major function of the CCG is networking among coastal cities in order to share best practices and identify emerging issues that affect coastal cities on a regional or statewide basis.

- Leadership Committee members and Cal Cities staff will hold a monthly conference call to check-in on the activities of the CCG.
- Leadership Committee members and Cal Cities staff will work to facilitate communication with all coastal cities through the CCG listserv.
- Leadership Committee members are strongly encouraged to organize and attend local events, which may include networking opportunities between Commissioners and city officials in each coastal region.
- Leadership Committee will develop content for the CCG Annual Conference meeting.
- Cal Cities staff will provide logistical support for CCG Annual Conference meeting.
- Cal Cities staff will create and administer a CCG webpage on the Cal Cities website and work with the Leadership Committee on content, as needed.
- Cal Cities staff will make an effort to attend regional CCG and Leadership Committee meetings.



Adopted Board Guidelines for the Coastal Cities Group (Amended 11/30/17):

1. The coastal cities issues group of the League of California Cities will consist of all cities within the territory of the coastal zone.
2. The Cal Cities President will appoint the chair and vice chair of the coastal cities issues group. The group will organize itself and establish a meeting schedule.
3. The Cal Cities President, following a solicitation of interest from elected city officials in the coastal cities will appoint a leadership committee, consisting of one city council member in each of the six coastal regions, as designated by the California Coastal Commission. The city manager, or his or her designee, of the same city as the appointed city official, shall also serve on the leadership committee. The appointments are annual, but may be continued with the approval of the Cal Cities President.
4. Any city official may belong to the issues group and attend meetings of the group. The leadership committee shall report periodically to the issues group on its activities.
5. Voting on matters will be reserved to one vote from each coastal city.
6. The Chair of the issues group will report directly to the board of directors and coordinate with relevant policy committees consistent with Cal Cities policy and as appropriate.
7. The Chair and the leadership committee, in consultation with the issues group, will define a work plan and goals to advance the common interests of coastal cities and to facilitate communications with commissioners and commission staff.
8. The Chair and the leadership committee on behalf of the issues group may contact county officials interested in participating.
9. The board of directors should annually approve a work plan for the coastal cities issues group.



California Coastal Commission Regions: Cities and Counties are Identified per Region Below

Chair: Mayor Pro Tem Mark Enmeier, San Clemente

Vice Chair: Councilmember Amy Steward, Coronado

NORTH COAST

CCG Rep: Councilmember Tess Albin Smith, Fort Bragg

Del Norte County

Crescent City

Humboldt County

Trinidad

Arcata

Eureka

Fortuna

Mendocino County

Fort Bragg

Point Arena

NORTH CENTRAL COAST

CCG Rep: Councilmember Sue Beckmeyer, Pacifica **Sonoma County**

Marin County

City/**County of San Francisco**

Daly City

Pacifica

Half Moon Bay

San Mateo County

SOUTH CENTRAL COAST

CCG Rep:

Councilmember Eric

Friedman, Santa

Barbara

Santa Barbara County

Guadalupe

Santa Barbara

Goleta

Carpinteria

Ventura County

San Buenaventura

Oxnard

Port Hueneme

Malibu

CENTRAL COAST

CCG Rep: Councilmember Shebreh Kalantari-Johnson, Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz County

Santa Cruz

Capitola

Watsonville

Monterey County

Marina

Sand City

Seaside

Monterey

Pacific Grove

Carmel-by-the-Sea

San Luis Obispo County

Morro Bay

Pismo Beach

Grover Beach

SAN DIEGO COAST

CCG Rep:

Councilmember

Amy Steward,

Coronado

San Diego County

Oceanside

Carlsbad

Encinitas

Solana Beach

Del Mar

San Diego

Coronado

National City

Chula Vista

Imperial Beach



SOUTH COAST

CCG Rep: Mayor Pro Tem Mark
Enmeier, San Clemente

Los Angeles County

Los Angeles
Santa Monica
El Segundo
Manhattan Beach
Hermosa Beach
Redondo Beach
Torrance
Palos Verdes Estates
Rancho Palos Verdes
Long Beach
Avalon

Orange County

Seal Beach
Huntington Beach
Costa Mesa
Newport Beach
Irvine
Laguna Beach
Laguna Niguel
Aliso Viejo
Dana Point
San Clemente