

MEETING DATE

February 13, 2006

AGENDA ITEM

Consideration of a Resolution to Adopt the Legislative Advocacy Program for 2006 and to Rescind Resolution No 2005-R003

ATTACHMENTS

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1 Proposed Resolution and Culver City Legislative Advocacy Program for 2006	1-9

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1 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Culver City, California,
2 DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, as follows

3 SECTION 1 Resolution No 2005-R003, which approved the Culver City
4 Legislative Agenda for 2005, is hereby rescinded

5 SECTION 2 The City Council of the City of Culver City does hereby approve
6 the implementation of the Culver City Legislative Advocacy Program for 2006, which is
7 attached hereto as Exhibit A of this Resolution
8

9 APPROVED and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2006
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12 _____
13 ALBERT VERA, MAYOR
14 City of Culver City, California

15 ATTEST

APPROVED AS TO FORM

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17 _____
18 CHRISTOPHER ARMENTA
19 City Clerk
20 A05 00735
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CAROL A SCHWAB
City Attorney

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Legislative Advocacy Program for 2006

PRIORITY ISSUES for the 2005-2006 State Legislative Session and the 109th Congress

**City of Culver City
City Council**

**Contact
Shelly Wolfberg, Intergovernmental Relations Officer – 310-253-6008**

Economic Stability & Financial Development

Economic Development

- Support efforts to develop and promote policies, legislation and grants that help urban areas foster greater economic opportunity
- Support efforts to retain, expand, and attract businesses to the City that create jobs compatible with the local workforce and tax revenues for the local economy

Tax Base

- Support legislation that would result in a more equitable distribution of sales tax to the City
- Support efforts to simplify the collection of sales taxes nationwide and provide an equitable method for collecting sales taxes for Internet and catalog sales
- Support efforts to exempt cities from paying State sales tax
- Oppose any actions that attempt to dilute the City's tax base
- Oppose legislation that compromises the City's ability to compose and/or collect appropriate business license fees from Culver City businesses
- Support legislation that seeks a balance in overall revenue structure between stable and economically sensitive revenues
- Support the development of legislation to assess a franchise fee or tax on telecommunication and cable modem services

State Mandates

- Support legislation that seeks a balance between local government mandated obligations and State funding for implementation
- Oppose any legislation that would place a mandate on the City without providing the funds necessary to carry out the mandated program Render mandates invalid if not fully funded
- Oppose any legislation that would require any mandated obligations to continue after funding for the mandate has been eliminated

City Revenues

- Support legislation that would favorably address the State/local government fiscal relationship, including the capping and or return of ERAF (Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund) dollars to cities
- Oppose any legislation that would reduce the amount of revenues to the General Fund and Redevelopment Agency from the State or Governor
- Oppose any legislation that would reduce the City's autonomy and flexibility in dealing with the financing of public service

Community Development

Housing

- Support legislation that allows local government to make decisions regarding housing density levels
- Support legislation that pursues fair and equitable housing development
- Support clarification and streamlining of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment process
- Support legislative efforts and seek grants that promote the development and enhancement of affordable housing within the City

Redevelopment

- Support legislation that acknowledges redevelopment agencies efforts to positively impact business growth, revitalize communities and remove blight through various redevelopment projects that increase locally generated revenue
- Support efforts to preserve redevelopment-funding mechanisms and do not impair redevelopment agencies ability to meet existing legal and contractual obligations
- Oppose mandates or restrictions placed on the use of redevelopment funds or eminent domain practices
- Oppose efforts to usurp local zoning authority
- Support legislation that upholds the Culver City Redevelopment Agency's Redevelopment Plan

Employment

- Support efforts that will enhance the City and the region's ability to create a strong, viable, and productive workforce
- Support efforts to reform workers' compensation statutes to simplify the system and reduce costs to employers
- Monitor efforts to mandate increases in health benefit levels or increase the City's cost for changes to benefit levels for active employees
- Oppose legislation that precludes the City's right to negotiate employee pension benefits
- Support legislation that would allow local governments to withdraw from participation in FICA and Social Security if they have other retirement programs in place

Environment

Air/Water Quality

- Support efforts and seek grants, including partnerships with the private sector, to provide assistance to environmental clean-up projects
- Support efforts to improve clean-up and improvements for waterways that affect the City
- Seek federal funds to support the assessment of water quality and the cleaning of Ballona Creek
- Support reasonable environmental regulations aimed at enhancing air and water quality that provides for corresponding funding mechanisms and will not become a financial burden to the City
- Support legislation that improves air quality in Culver City and surrounding areas
- Support legislation and grants that encourage the use of innovative, clean burning alternative fuels for vehicles
- Support measures that would reduce the cost of compliance with environmental regulations

Energy

- Support efforts to preserve municipalities' opportunity to provide energy alternatives to residents and businesses and to maintain a utility established rate structure that is fair and equitable for the City and its residents
- Support legislation that promotes reliable affordable energy for businesses and residents

Community Safety

Public Safety & Crime Prevention

- Support legislation and pursue grants to fund new technology and equipment and improve and replace existing technology and equipment for Police and Fire
- Support legislation and pursue grants that would provide funding for public safety facilities
- Support legislation that provides funding for equipment, training, and exercises that enhance local capabilities to mitigate, prepare, respond, and recover from terrorist attacks
- Support efforts to maintain City reimbursements for overtime costs paid to public safety personnel for required appearances in State and/or County courts

Neighborhood Development

Homeless Assistance

- Support efforts to reduce homelessness and increase services to the homeless both locally and regionally
- Aggressively seek grant funding to assist with the City's homeless programs

Arts

- Support legislative efforts and grant opportunities that assist the City in obtaining funding for community arts programming

Parks & Recreation

- Support legislation and grants to fund parks and recreation, capital improvements, and programs to increase the quality of life for Culver City residents
- Support legislation that would allow funding for parks and recreation to be used for maintenance and operations
- Explore legislation and seek grants that are intended to serve dense urban areas
- Support legislation that limits the City's liability at park and recreation facilities to instances when the City has acted negligently

Senior & Social Services

- Support efforts to maintain or increase funding for senior housing and nutrition programs, disabled services, paratransit services, and intergenerational care programs
- Support legislation that would allow for funding for educational, recreational and physical fitness related programs for seniors
- Support legislation and seek grants that provide financial relief for cities in making facilities and other public places accessible as mandated by the ADA

Youth & Education

- Support legislation and grants that enhance the services provided to children and families
- Support legislation and grants that promote the efforts of the City's youth diversion and intervention programs
- Support legislation and seek grants that enhance the services provided to children, parents, and families, including early education programs
- Support and collaborate with Culver City Unified School District to secure funding that assists in enhancement and further development of K-12 education

Transportation

- Support efforts to maintain and increase funding for transportation programs and projects throughout the City
- Support the implementation the Metro Exposition Light Rail Project with grade separated crossings and an aerial station
- Support efforts to increase funding for the Red Line Light Rail extension, the I-10/Robertson Interchange and other projects that will help relieve traffic congestion in the Westside subregion
- Support efforts to enhance and protect state, local and federal funding for Culver City's mass transit and transportation projects

Public Works

- Support legislative efforts to ensure that the City maintains public rights-of-way control and allow the City to collect fair compensation for its use
- Support efforts to maintain and increase funding for streets and roads maintenance and transportation infrastructure programs throughout the City
- Oppose legislation that would compromise local control in regards to refuse collection, recycling, hazardous materials handling, and landfill operations
- Oppose legislation that would compromise local control in regards to sewer operations and treatment
- Support legislation that preserves the right of local government to set fee structures
- Support efforts to identify funding for cogeneration unit upgrades or installations
- Support legislation that promotes funding solar energy and photovoltaic technology
- Support efforts to identify increased funding and grants for traffic mitigation and congestion management

Telecommunications

- Support legislation that provides individual universal access to the Internet along with schools and libraries
- Support legislative efforts to ensure that the City receives the maximum benefit from Internet commerce
- Support legislation that enables Municipal Broadband Wireless Deployment

Additional Issues**Preemption of Local Authority**

- Oppose any legislation intended to preempt the current authority possessed by the City and delegates that authority to the State or other government agencies
- Support legislation that protects and/or expands the City's authority and rights over its affairs

Entertainment

- Support legislative efforts to keep film production and post production in the State of California
- Support the California Legislature and the federal government in their efforts at the federal level to maintain film and television production in the United States

City's Liability

- Support legislation and policies that shield cities from being treated as deep pockets
- Support legislation that limits liability to instances when cities have acted negligently
- Support legislation limiting the instances when cities have to pay damages without having acted negligently

Public Notification

- Support legislation that allows electronic mail (e-mail) as an accepted form of communication for mandated notifications