

MEETING DATE:

April 7, 2008

AGENDA ITEM:

Resolution Adopting the Legislative Advocacy Program for 2008 and Rescinding Resolution No. 2007-R005.

ATTACHMENTS

	<u>Pages</u>
1. Proposed Resolution and Culver City Legislative Advocacy Program for 2008.	1-2
2. Exhibit "A"	3-10

Attachment 1

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-R_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CULVER CITY LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY PROGRAM FOR 2008 AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 2007-R005.

WHEREAS, since 1978, the voters of California have enacted several measures that have had the effect of limiting the financial autonomy of local governments;

WHEREAS, the City of Culver City desires to maintain control over its revenues and all decisions that affect Culver City;

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the City of Culver City to increase the level of attention it pays to all legislative matters;

WHEREAS, the Culver City Legislative Advocacy Program for 2008 will coordinate and streamline legislative activities, and respond to various governmental relations situations comprehensively; and,

WHEREAS, the Culver City Legislative Advocacy Program for 2008 will set the principles for policies and procedures and guidelines for action.

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

3 1. The City Council of the City of Culver City does hereby approve the
4 implementation of the Culver City Legislative Advocacy Program for 2008, which is
5 attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference.

6 2. Resolution No. 2007-R005 is hereby rescinded.
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8

9 APPROVED and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2008.
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12 _____
13 ALAN CORLIN, MAYOR
14 City of Culver City, California

15 ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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17 _____
18 CHRISTOPHER ARMENTA
City Clerk

17 _____
CAROL A. SCHWAB
City Attorney

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EXHIBIT "A"



Legislative Advocacy Program for 20087

PRIORITY ISSUES for the 20087 State Legislative Session and the 110th Congress

City of Culver City City Council

Adopted February 12, 2007

Contact:

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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.
- Support efforts to ensure that requirements and government mandates for local businesses are ~~feasible~~ reasonable.

Tax Base

- ~~• Support legislation that would protect the distribution of sales tax to the City and benefit Culver City as a "low property tax" City.~~
- Support legislation that protects the distribution of sales tax to the City.
- Support legislation that addresses issues created by Culver City's status as a "low property tax" City.
- Support legislation that mitigates the impacts of the "Triple Flip" as well as other modes that have delayed or inhibited the City's ability to receive revenues.
- 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 any actions that the state or federal government may take to divert revenues from local cities.
- Oppose legislation that compromises the City's ability to require and/or collect appropriate business license fees from Culver City businesses.
- ~~• 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 legislation that assists the City in its efforts to create an overall revenue structure which balances stable and economically sensitive sources.
- ~~• Support the development of legislation to assess a franchise fee or tax on telecommunication and cable modem services.~~
- Support legislation that insures equitable revenue distribution from telecommunications, cable and broadband services under AB 2987.

State and Federal Mandates

- ~~• Support legislation that seeks a balance between local government mandated obligations and State funding for implementation.~~
- ~~• Support legislation that provides funding for state and federal mandates placed upon local government.~~
- 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 legislation that would reduce revenue which the City or Redevelopment Agency receives from or which is collected by the state.~~
- 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.~~
- ~~• Support legislative efforts and seek grants that support the development and improvement of affordable housing within the City.~~
- Support advocacy efforts that ~~improve~~ raise the funding levels and allowable fair market rents (FMRs) for the City's Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) to improve access to rental housing units by low income households and increase the level of the number of households served.

Redevelopment

- Support legislation that acknowledges supports redevelopment agencies' efforts to positively impact business growth, revitalize communities spur economic development, revitalize communities and remove blight through various redevelopment projects that increase locally generated revenue.
- Oppose legislation which impairs redevelopment agencies' ability to meet existing legal and contractual obligations.
- ~~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 mandates relative to health care costs in the public and private sector.
- 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.
- Support legislation to enhance the City's ability to fund retiree medical insurance costs.

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 state and 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 and reducing stormwater pollution that will provides for corresponding funding mechanisms and will not become a financial burden to the City.
- Support measures that would promote the use of reclaimed water.
- 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.
- Support Community Choice Aggregation that permits any city, county or city and county to aggregate the electric loads of residents, businesses and municipal facilities to facilitate the economical purchase and sale of electrical energy. Balance the abilities of both municipal utilities and independently operated utilities. Oppose fees and penalties that tend to make Community Choice Aggregation cost prohibitive.

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, including resources to support the Interagency Interoperability Communications System (ICIS).
- Support legislation and pursue grants that would provide funding for public safety facilities, including resources to support the construction of Fire Station #3.
- Support legislation that provides funding for equipment, training, educational materials and exercises that enhance local capabilities to mitigate, prepare, respond, and recover from small to large scale incidents and emergencies.
- Support efforts to maintain City reimbursements for personnel costs paid to public safety employees for training and required appearances in State and/or County courts.
- Support the availability of regional healthcare facilities such as hospitals, including Brotman Medical Center.

Neighborhood Development

Homeless Assistance

- Support efforts to reduce homelessness and increase services to the homeless both locally and regionally.
- ~~Aggressively seek~~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~~help fund the City's community arts programming.

Parks & Recreation

- Support legislation, ~~and grants, and funding for to fund~~ parks and recreation, programs, maintenance, parkland acquisition, and 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~~funds 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.
- Support Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding at least at the current annual funding levels.

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 education and the Youth Health Center.

Transportation

- Support efforts to maintain and increase funding for transportation operations, 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 other regional rail projects, when they do not compromise funding for both Phase I and Phase II of the Metro Exposition Light Rail Project.
- Support efforts to fund 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, landfill operations, and the safe transport of waste both interstate and intrastate.
- Oppose legislation that would compromise local control in regards to sewer operations and treatment.
- Advocate for funding for the City's aging sewer system.
- 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 legislation to eliminate site-specific "net metering" requirements for municipalities that wish to acquire solar, wind or other renewable energy systems.

- 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, television, and commercial advertisement production and post production in the State of California, especially in Culver City.
- 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.

Code Enforcement

- Oppose legal requirements and constraints that would inhibit the City's ability to perform nuisance abatement related to conditions, activities and places.