

PRIORITY FOCUS



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LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAYS HITS SACRAMENTO NEXT WEEK

The League of California Cities' annual Legislative Action Days are set for next week at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel. A two-day event, activities will be held on May 16-17, giving your city an opportunity to learn the latest on League priority issues and to meet with legislators. *For more, see Page 2.*



LEAGUE MOVES TO A NEUTRAL POSITION ON SB 964 (ROMERO)

The League of California Cities is now neutral on SB 964 (Romero), after originally opposing the measure. The bill's initial language severely limited communication between city staff and city councils outside of an open and public meeting. *For more, see Page 3.*



GOVERNOR'S MAY REVISE SET FOR RELEASE ON MAY 14

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's annual May Revision budget plan (May Revise) for Fiscal Year 2007-08 will be available on Monday, May 14. The revision is noteworthy for cities because adjusted funding for a number of key programs in the areas of transportation, public safety and flood control will be unveiled. *For more, see Page 4.*

Infrastructure and housing are two of the key issues the League is focused on this year. During your lobbying activities, keep in mind the following messages.

Housing

- **Housing is Important for Every Californian. It's critical that all families have a good home.** It makes our communities safer, provides a better business climate and guarantees a better quality of life for all Californians.
- **Time to Embrace the Idea of Incentives. It is time to consider permanent incentives for building affordable housing.** Housing legislation in recent years has focused on greater planning requirements for cities. But it takes more than planning. Particularly for affordable housing, it takes resources to create the incentives for the market to act. Prop. 1C is a good start, but the needs are much greater.
- **Integrated Local Planning. It is okay to make housing a priority, but don't take away the ability to make a community.** Local agencies are responsible for integrating a number of things within the general plan. In addition to housing, cities must consider flood dangers, fire and seismic hazards, economic development, farmland and habitat protection, air quality, and countless other factors that reflect local concerns and traditions. Local governments need flexibility to properly balance these competing needs.

Infrastructure – Prop. 1B: The Infrastructure Bond

- **Support SB 286. Predictable funding is essential to ensure that cities can move forward on vital local projects.**
- **Cities must have timely access to local street and road bond funds.** This provides critical funding in the 2007-2008 fiscal year when Prop. 42 money is not available to cities. Cities can put this money to use *immediately* for traffic congestion relief, transit, traffic safety, storm damage, maintenance, construction and other projects to improve the local transportation system. In contrast, many other programs in Prop. 1B are not ready to commence construction for several years.
- **Ensure consistency with provisions of Prop. 1B and the will of the voters without attaching additional criteria, conditions or sanctions to access bond funds.** As outlined in Prop. 1B, cities should receive local street and road funds as a direct allocation from the State Controller's Office. Cities should not be required to go through the California Transportation Commission process to access funds. This will result in significant project delays and is contrary to voter intent.

Infrastructure – Prop. 1C: The Housing Bond

- **These funds should focus on the critical needs of local governments to improve and expand "table setting" infrastructure.** Examples of this include upgrading and expanding outdated or undersized sewer water and storm drain systems, expanding downtown parking and street capacity and addressing brownfields problems. This will lead to greater opportunities for infill housing development.
- **The application process for the bonds should not eliminate or reduce the ability of small cities to compete for available funds.** This is an excellent opportunity to reinforce compact land development patterns, revitalizing urban cores, transit-oriented development and the preservation of open space and farmlands.
- **Keep the intent of the voters, with necessary oversight and accountability.** Funds should be allocated in a cost-efficient manner to maximize public investments, through

streamlined application processes. The allocation of bond funds should not be an opportunity to attach additional sanctions, conditions and criteria that go beyond the concepts approved by the voters. Provide incentives, not mandates.

Infrastructure – Prop. 84: The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006

- **The allocation of park funds should remain true to the language in Prop. 84.** The language specifies a preference for these funds to go to “underserved communities.” This enables communities that are underserved by parks, to compete for these funds, with a focus on the critical needs of local governments to improve and expand their parks and sustainability, including park creation in neighborhoods where no parks currently exist.
- **Establish allocation schedules and criteria for the release of funds to enable local governments to plan effectively.**

Leg Action Days Speakers

Confirmed general session speakers include:

- Sen. Alex Padilla (former League President), who will discuss SCR 31 and Healthy Communities Awareness Month
- Sens. Alan Lowenthal and Bob Dutton, who will speak on SB 286 and infrastructure issues
- Assembly Member Anna Caballero, chair, Assembly Local Government Committee
- Assembly Member John Laird, chair, Assembly Budget Committee
- Sen. Dick Ackerman, Senate Republican Leader
- Assembly Member Roger Niello, vice chair, Assembly Budget Committee

Also invited to speak at the Thursday morning session are Chris Kahn, deputy chief of staff and legislative secretary, Governor’s Office; and Housing Secretary Dale Bonner. Kyra Ross, the League’s legislative representative on environmental issues, will also give an update on climate change issues.

In addition, Sen. Christine Kehoe and Assembly Member Dave Jones will be honored with a special presentation.

For more information on Legislative Action Days and a tentative schedule of events, visit www.cacities.org/events.

‘SB 964’ Continued from Page 1...

The change in position is a result of amendments that made SB 964’s language clearer and specific in scope. The changes are a significant improvement for cities. Specifically, the League’s amendments ensure that all city staff can continue to properly communicate with their governing body to clarify, understand or define an item that will come before the city council, as long as:

- Those meetings do not come to a concurrence on an issue; nor do they
- Take action on an item that is to be discussed during a public agendized meeting

This was an all-out collaborative effort on the part of the League. A number of city officials stepped up with a quick response on this bill, as did the League’s regional public affairs managers, who made this item a priority.

Special thanks go to League General Counsel Patrick Whitnell and the League’s sub-committee on this issue, who assisted League staff with amendments, testimony and work with the sponsors. Those committee members included city attorneys Mike Jenkins, Harvey Levine, Laura Kuhn and Debra Corbett.

SB 964 was heard in two separate committees this week. On May 8, it was heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee, where League staff testified (as one of the original opponents of the bill) that we were satisfied with the changes and that we were grateful to tSen. Romero and her staff for their diligent work to reach a consensus.

This effort was repeated the next day in the committee of origin, the Senate Local Government Committee. The bill moves next to the Senate floor for a vote and then presumably onto the Assembly.

The League will continue to keep the membership updated on SB 964 as developments occur.

'May Revise' Continued from Page 1...

The initial January 2007-08 budget proposal featured continued funding for vital public safety programs and the proposed rollout of \$13.7 billion in infrastructure bond funds from the 2006 voter-approved approximately \$44 billion infrastructure bond package.

The May Revise will start the next round of negotiations between the Senate, Assembly and the Governor. For additional information on the January budget proposal, visit www.cacities.org/revandtax and click on "State Budget Positive for California Cities."

League staff will be analyzing the May Revise next week. An article covering the budget issues of importance to local governments will appear in the May 18 edition of *Priority Focus*.

The League will attempt to provide a brief initial summary on the May Revise on the League Web site (www.cacities.org) the afternoon of May 14.

Diversity Caucuses Hosting Pre-Legislative Action Days Events

The League of California Cities' Latino and African American Caucuses are holding separate events prior to the start of Legislative Action Days on Wednesday, May 16. The Latino Caucus will be hosting a forum on civic engagement, while California Assembly Majority Leader Karen Bass will lead a discussion on "The State of Black California" for the African American Caucus.

The Latino Caucus event is scheduled May 16 from 9 a.m. to noon. Experts will present information on how to utilize data to identify voter turn out, prepare micro-level political analysis and determine how California's growing diversity impacts elections across the state and in local districts.

Engaging the Latino community on political issues continues to be a key priority. There are 2.5 million Latino registered voters in California and 500,000 more Latinos voted in 2006 than in 2000. Projections are that potentially two million more Latino adults are eligible to become citizens in California and vote in the 2008 elections.

Guest speakers at the Latino Caucus event include:

- Sen. Gil Cedillo
- Sen. Alex Padilla
- Assembly Member Anna Caballero

Participants will come away with a new understanding of how ongoing and potential demographic shifts impact the political future of local jurisdictions. This session will explore these and additional strategies to best capitalize on them.

A continental breakfast will be served at this event. Registration is available on a first-come, first-serve basis by calling (916) 669-1343.

League African American Caucus to Host Inaugural Breakfast

The League of California Cities African American Caucus is hosting its inaugural legislative breakfast during the League's Legislative Action Days on Wednesday, May 16.

California Assembly Majority Leader Karen Bass will discuss "The State of Black California," a report that was commissioned by the Legislature. The goal of the report was to develop a public policy agenda for the California Legislative Black Caucus, local elected and appointed officials.

The breakfast will be held at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Sacramento, from 8 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Attendance is free and breakfast will be provided. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP with Yvette Harris at (916) 658-8253 to reserve a seat.

For more information on the League's African American Caucus, visit www.cacities.org/caucus1. Membership forms are available from League Legislative Representative P. Anthony Thomas. Thomas can be reached at (916) 658-8279 or athomas@cacities.org.

How Will Your City Celebrate Healthy Communities Awareness Month?



The League of California Cities and the Cities, Counties, Schools (CCS) Partnership is sponsoring SCR 31 (Padilla), a resolution that recognizes the importance of health and wellness in communities and declares May as "Healthy Communities Awareness Month."

On Monday, May 7, the resolution passed off the Assembly Floor with 73 co-sponsors and returns to the Senate Floor for concurrence next week. Sen. Alex Padilla will discuss the resolution on Wednesday, May 16, during Legislative Action Days and the Legislative Reception that evening recognizes the many ways California cities promote healthy communities.

For more information on the reception, see "Legislative Action Days Hits Sacramento Next Week."

The League is requesting that cities take this opportunity to adopt their own resolution declaring May as "Healthy Communities Awareness Month." A sample resolution is located at www.cacities.org/healthyresolution. Additionally, for those cities that are coming to Legislative Action Days, come prepared to tell your story of why healthy communities matter.

Please send in your stories of how you celebrate "Healthy Communities Awareness Month" to Genevieve Morelos at gmorelos@cacities.org. Too often, the good work that cities do is forgotten. Take this opportunity to celebrate and share with others the work you are doing.

Federal Update: Bills Continuing to Move in the 110th Congress

As the legislative session continues in Sacramento, a number of federal issues have begun to take shape during the 110th Congress in Washington, D.C.

Below is an update on environmental, housing, public safety, telecommunications related legislation as well as other bills the League is tracking in both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.

Energy and Environment Block Grants

Earlier this week, the League sent a letter to California members on the House and Energy and Commerce Committee urging co-sponsorship of Rep. Albert Wynn's (D-Md.) Energy and Environment Block Grant Act of 2007. This legislation is based on the U.S. Conference of

Mayor's (USCM) priority recommendation in the USCM 10 Point Plan: Strong Cities, Strong Families for a Strong America.

The text of the bill has not been released but the goal of the League's letter is to build support for the bill so that it is considered next week in the Energy and Air Quality subcommittee. There are several environment and energy efficiency bills coming together in the House and only those with significant support will receive consideration in the subcommittee.

In the Senate, the League is supporting S. 1115 (Bingaman), the Energy Efficiency Promotion Act of 2007. This bill is a comprehensive measure enacting and expanding numerous federal energy efficiency, fuel efficiency programs and standards, including the promotion of biofuels and carbon research.

S. 1115 would create a City/County/State Energy Block Grant to provide cities with a population of greater than 35,000 or counties with a population of 200,000 or more, with formula funding from the grant on an annual basis.

Approximately 70 percent of all formula funding would be allocated directly by the Secretary of Energy to these cities and counties. The remaining 30 percent would be allocated to the states, which would be required to pass at least 40 percent of this funding to communities that do not receive funds directly under the program.

The League supports this bill based upon its existing federal priorities. Those priorities include support of the creation of block grants, developing and implementing community and transportation energy conservation programs, and the promotion and development of alternative and renewable energy sources.

S. 1115 passed out of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and is expected to go to the Senate floor by the Memorial Day Recess (May 25).

Housing

The League is supporting H.R. 1427 (Frank), the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act of 2007. This measure would overhaul the regulatory oversight of the government-sponsored enterprises (GSE) of Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and the Federal Home Loans Bank. It creates a new, independent regulator with broad powers analogous to current banking regulators.

In addition, H.R. 1427 creates a five-year affordable housing fund (based upon a 1.2 basis point levy against each dollar in the average total mortgage portfolio), which will dedicate an estimated \$400 million per year for the construction, maintenance and preservation of affordable housing. The first year of funding will be dedicated to the hurricane stricken areas of the Gulf Coast. In the following four years, the funds will be distributed by a formula among the states.

The formula is weighted on population, housing costs, percentages of low income households and other factors that should favor California. The funds will be dispersed through state housing agencies and may be used for affordable rental housing, homeownership, and some infrastructure. The League's federal policies support the establishment of new programs for funding affordable housing.

The League is also supporting H.R. 1850 (Velazquez), the Housing America's Workforce Act. The measure would amend the Internal Revenue Code to allow employers a business tax credit for up to 50 percent of the qualified housing expenses paid for the benefit of their employees.

The bill defines "qualified housing expenses" to include homeownership assistance and rental assistance. It limits the amount of such credit to the lesser of \$10,000 or six percent of an employee's home purchase price, or up to \$2,000 for rental assistance and excludes the value of employer-paid housing assistance from employee gross income.

H.R. 1850 also authorizes the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to award grants in FY 2008-10, on a competitive basis, to nonprofit housing organizations or local governments for

certain costs, including operating and technical assistance costs, of employer-assisted housing programs.

Since state and local governments do not pay taxes, this bill appears to allow a city to assist an employee with housing and then assign (presumably sell) the value of that assistance to a private entity which can use it as a tax credit against their taxes.

The League is working with Rep. Velazquez's office to clarify whether this is how the language is intended to work for public employers. H.R. 1850 has been double-referred to both the House Ways and Means Committee and to the House Financial Services Committee.

Community Development Block Grants

Last month, Sens. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) and Norm Coleman (R-Minn.) sent a letter to the Senate Budget committee to increase funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to \$4.1 billion. Sen. Boxer signed onto the letter of support, while Sen. Feinstein sent in her own letter of support since she sits on the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The League is closely monitoring the CDBG funding program and will request that cities send in letters of support to the House and Senate Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriation subcommittee, when the measure is taken up. At this time, neither committee has released a schedule to indicate just when they will mark up their FY 2008 measures.

Further information on this issue will be provided as it becomes available in future issues of *Priority Focus*.

Public Safety

Sen. Feinstein has introduced S. 456, the Gang Abatement and Prevention Act of 2007. This measure and its companion bill in the House, H.R. 1582 (Schiff and Bono) will establish new crimes and tougher federal penalties to deter and punish members of illegal street gangs engaged in violent crimes that affect interstate and foreign commerce.

S. 456 also provides more than \$1 billion in funding for gang enforcement, prevention and intervention programs over five years. Unlike previous versions, this legislation has no juvenile transfer provisions, no mandatory minimums, and no death penalties.

These bills also will create and provide assistance for High Intensity Interstate Gang Activity Areas (HIIGAA). S. 456 and H.R. 1582 will require the Attorney General to designate certain locations as HIIGAA's and provide assistance in the form of criminal street gang enforcement teams made up of local, state and federal law enforcement authorities to investigate and prosecute criminal street gangs in each high intensity interstate gang activity area.

The League supports these measures based upon its existing policy to support stiffer penalties for violent offenders and support for additional funding for local agencies to recoup the costs of crime and increase community safety. The League is working with its federal lobbyist to determine how the Attorney General will designate a site as a HIIGAA, with the goal of maximizing the potential availability of this tool for California cities.

The House will consider H.R. 1700 (Weiner D-N.Y.) the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Improvements Act of 2007 next week. H.R. 1700 would authorize increased funding levels for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program to \$1.15 billion annually for five years, beginning in FY 2008.

In addition to direct grants to hire additional police officers, the bill calls for local efforts to combat gangs, drug trafficking and other criminal activities in elementary and secondary schools, to defray local police costs incurred in performing anti-terrorist or homeland security missions and to crack down on methamphetamine manufacturing and distribution.

The bill also encourages state and local police agencies to hire former military members for some of the new law enforcement jobs. The companion bill in the Senate is S. 368 (Biden).

Telecommunications

There are a few pieces of telecommunications legislation that have been introduced in the 110th Congress. The first is S. 156 (Wyden, D-Ore.) which proposes to make the moratorium on Internet access taxes and multiple and discriminatory taxes on electronic commerce permanent.

The bill has been referred to the Senate Commerce Committee, although at press time of this issue of *Priority Focus*, no action had been taken on it. The League traditionally has opposed legislation such as this and will do so again if this measure appears likely to move.

The League has also heard that Congressman John Conyers (D-Mich.), chair of the House Judiciary Committee, plans to introduce additional legislation on Internet Tax Freedom in mid-May that would temporarily extend the Internet Moratorium for three more years. Hearings on his proposal are expected the last week of May.

The only legislation that will likely move in the area of telecommunications will be measures affecting the Internet Moratorium. The League does not expect S. 170 (Ensign) or S. 140 (Schumer) (bills that propose to repeal the excise tax on telephone or other communications services) to move. The League will continue to monitor all legislation in this area and will send out more information as it becomes available.

To view and print out any bills included in this update visit www.congress.gov. If you have any questions contact League Legislative Analyst Genevieve Morelos at gmorelos@cacities.org.

Kansas Municipal League Establishes Fund to Help Rebuild Greensburg

An EF-5-rated tornado swept the Midwest last weekend, destroying homes, businesses and disrupting families. The city of Greensburg, Kan., was one of the hardest hit municipalities. The tornado reduced **all** government buildings (including the power plant), **all** schools and the hospital to rubble.

"Greensburg is the kind of town you are proud to call home and where everyone helps their neighbors," said League of California Cities Executive Director Chris McKenzie, a former resident of Kansas. "This is a devastating loss for them."

Cities throughout Kansas and those across the United States have expressed interest in providing financial assistance to the city government of Greensburg. To further that cause, the League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM) has set up the Greensburg Fund to provide assistance.

To help the city recover from this natural disaster, checks should be made to the "Greensburg Fund" and should be mailed to the following address:

League of Kansas Municipalities
Attn: Greensburg Fund
300 SW 8th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66603

All donations will be distributed directly to the city government of the City of Greensburg, to be used in any manner that the city determines is appropriate. For questions about this fund, contact LKM at (785) 354-9565.

A number of photos depicting the damage are available at this location:
www.kansas.com/static/slides/050507tornadoaerials/.

Note: California city officials are urged to consult with your city attorney to ensure any assistance you provide does not violate the gift of public funds prohibition or any local spending restrictions your city may have adopted.

UCTV Now Available for PEG Channels

University of California Television (UCTV), a 24-hour, non-commercial channel that broadcasts educational and enrichment programming, is now available for retransmission on cities' Public, Education, or Government (PEG) Channels.

The satellite service provider has agreed to allow non-commercial cable channels to retransmit UCTV's signal. PEG channels that were unable to install the previously required C-Band satellite downlink equipment can now use this more affordable option to integrate UCTV's free-to-air educational programming.

UCTV's content can be added into existing programming schedules or used to fully program any as-yet-unactivated PEG channels. The League worked with representatives from UCTV during the AB 2987 negotiations last year. Cities may benefit from seeing what UCTV has to offer because it has a selection of programming that nicely meshes with the core PEG channel content of local educational and government information.

For more information, visit www.uctv.tv/downlink or contact UCTV Communications Manager Alison Gang at (858) 822-5060 or agang@ucsd.edu.

CalTRUST Program Celebrates Two Years with \$400 Million in Investments

As CalTRUST celebrates its second anniversary, the public agency investment program has another reason to rejoice - its portfolio has topped \$400 million in investments. Since its inception in February 2005, the program has constantly delivered real value to participants by pooling and investing local agency funds.

Currently, seven cities, 12 counties and 10 special districts and other entities—including the League of California Cities—participate in CalTRUST. Cities invested in CalTRUST include Chino, the Chino Redevelopment Agency, National City, Oakley, Pinole, the Pinole Redevelopment Agency, Poway, Richmond and Riverside.

Both the CalTRUST short- and medium-term accounts have outperformed their benchmark agencies during this period, translating into significant dollars for participating local agencies. Congratulations to CalTRUST for a highly successful two years.

Investments in CalTRUST are authorized in Government Code §53601. CalTRUST provides a perfect complement to the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) and is a great way to diversify investments. Participation by cities is easy and does not require joining the joint powers authority. CalTRUST was created by and is directed by local government officials who administer investments on behalf of their agencies.

For more information about CalTRUST, visit www.caltrust.org or contact Dan Harrison at dharrison@cacities.org or (916) 658-8267.

Keeping Up: Lorraine Okabe Celebrates 30 Years at the League

A lot has changed at the League in the past 30 years. Directors have retired and policies have evolved, but fortunately for staff members and city officials in need of information, Lorraine Okabe has been a constant.

Lorraine celebrated her 30th anniversary at the League earlier this month, having established the library services department and overseeing its development and expansion over three decades.

"Thirty years with one organization is a rarity these days, and we're proud and thankful that Lorraine has been a part of the League family for that time," said League Executive Director Chris McKenzie. "Her leadership of the League library has been a key asset in the League's long-term success."

Before Lorraine came onboard in 1977, library materials were disorganized and scarce. City officials needing League materials would work with whatever was available at the office. All that changed once Lorraine arrived. She built the present library from a small collection of materials piled on a table at the League's old office located at 1108 O Street.

As the years passed, the League library expanded tenfold, becoming an invaluable municipal resource to city officials all over California. The library collection has become so extensive that Lorraine is currently overseeing the transfer of the League's print-based archives into a digital format, complete with the existing library catalogue on the Internet.

The League thanks and congratulates Lorraine on her 30 years of service to the cities of California!

New Study Available on Local Sales Tax Elections

The League has just released a study focused on a series of local sales tax measures voted on across San Luis Obispo County in November 2006. Produced as part of the City Ballot Measure Academy, this report outlines the preliminary polling numbers for each measure and examines the tactics employed in each jurisdiction leading up to Election Day.

The report is located at www.cacities.org/cbma. Additional copies are available free of charge by contacting Robb Korinke at rkorinke@cacities.org. Questions and comments may also be directed to Robb at (916) 658-8258.

Sustainable Communities Grant & Loan Program Now Accepting Applications

The California Pollution Control Financing Authority (CPCFA), chaired by State Treasurer Bill Lockyer, has announced another round of funding for the Sustainable Communities Grant & Loan Program. Approximately \$2.5 million of funding is available in this round.

The program assists cities and counties in developing and implementing sustainable development growth policies, programs and projects. The application deadline for the current round is July 16.

For more information and the application instructions, visit www.treasurer.ca.gov/CPCFA/cpcfa.htm.

City Officials Invited to Voice Opinions on School Siting Decisions

The California Center for Physical Activity and the Cities Counties Schools (CCS) Partnership are collaborating on a survey to better understand the process by which school siting decisions are made in California communities. City input is vital to this survey because cities are decision makers on land use and are impacted by school placement decisions.

The survey will determine the most important issues and most helpful procedures for communities that are making decisions about sites for new school construction or about extensive remodeling or re-use of older sites. The outcome will be used to create a guide that should help make the decision making process to identify school sites increasingly productive and efficient for California communities.

The survey is anonymous and takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. To take part, visit www.surveywriter.net/in/survey/survey1119/cloc1.asp.

May Issue of *Focus on Housing* Released

The May issue of *Focus on Housing*, the League of California Cities' electronic monthly housing newsletter, published earlier this week. This month's feature is a Q&A with Assembly Member Mark DeSaulnier on housing and land use issues.

In addition, the issue contains a roundup of the past month's housing news from across the state, successful affordable redevelopment stories, and much more! To read the issue, visit www.imakenews.com/focusonhousing.

Does Your City Have a Story to Tell?

Has your city redeveloped a blighted or underused site with new affordable housing in the past two years? If so, we want to know about it. Typical housing success stories published in *Focus on Housing* range between 250-400 words, and include "before and after" photos to illustrate the property's change.

For an example of one of the newsletter's success stories, visit www.imakenews.com/focusonhousing and read "[Las Brisas Helps Revitalize South Los Angeles](#)."

Questions and submissions should be sent to League Communications Specialist Brian Heaton at bheaton@cacities.org.

Find a Bill, Legislators, Leg Committee – or Ask League Leg Staff

Visit (and bookmark!) the League's [Legislative Resources](http://www.cacities.org/legresources) Web page (www.cacities.org/legresources). You'll find a roster and contact information for the League's legislative staff; the online Bill Search program, background materials on lobbying your legislators, and more.
