

MEETING DATE:

December 10, 2012

AGENDA ITEM:

(1) Consideration of Recommendations from the Ad-Hoc Legislation and Grants Subcommittee; (2) Adoption of a Resolution Approving the Implementation of the Legislative Advocacy Program and Rescinding Resolution No. 2008-R018; and (3) Potential Dissolution of the Ad-Hoc Legislation and Grants Subcommittee.

ATTACHMENTS

	<u>Pages</u>
Resolution and Draft Proposed Legislative Advocacy Program.	1-12

ATTACHMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-R_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CULVER CITY LEGISLATIVE
ADVOCACY PROGRAM EFFECTIVE 2012 AND
RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 2008-R018.

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 effective 2012 will
coordinate and streamline legislative activities, and respond to various governmental
relations situations comprehensively; and,

WHEREAS, the Culver City Legislative Advocacy Program effective 2012 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 effective 2012, which is
5 attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference.

6 2. Resolution No. 2008-R018 is hereby rescinded.
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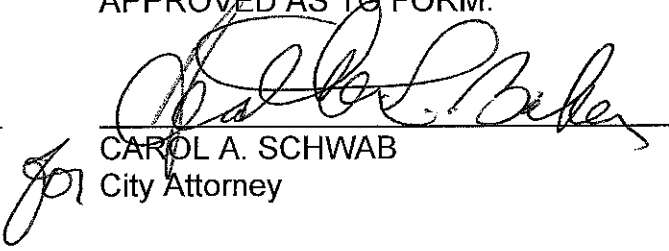
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9 APPROVED and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2012.
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12 _____
13 ANDREW WEISSMAN, MAYOR
14 City of Culver City, California

15 ATTEST:

16 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

17 _____
18 MARTIN R. COLE
19 City Clerk

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21 CAROL A. SCHWAB
22 City Attorney

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28 A12-01030



**United States Congress and
California State Legislature**

**City of Culver City
City Council
Adopted (Date)**

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The purpose of the City of Culver City's Legislative Advocacy Program is to provide guidance to the City Council regarding advocacy on positions regarding legislation. The guiding principles included herein are intended to provide direction on matters that affect the funding, programs, projects, and operations of the City of Culver City as a governmental organization.

Economic Stability & Financial Development

Tax Base

- 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 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 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.
- Support legislation that assists the City in its efforts to create an overall revenue structure which balances stable and economically sensitive sources.

State and Federal Mandates

- 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 legislation that would reduce revenue which the City 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 services.

Employment

- Support legislation which ensures and enhances quality public services by fulfilling the human resource and employee relations needs of the City.
- Support efforts to reform workers' compensation statutes that streamline the system and provide adequate benefits for injured workers, while continuing to control employer costs.
- Monitor mandates relative to health care costs and services.

Community Development

Housing

- Support legislation that allows local government to make decisions regarding housing density levels.
- Support legislative efforts and seek grants that support the development and improvement of affordable housing within the City.
- Support advocacy efforts to 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 number of households served.

Economic Development

- Support legislation that fosters the City's efforts to spur economic development, revitalize communities and remove blight.
- Oppose legislation which impairs the City's ability to meet existing legal and contractual obligations.
- Oppose legislation that impairs the City's ability to carry out its mission of improving the economic vitality of the area while preserving the quality of life.
- Oppose mandates or restrictions placed on the use of economic development funds.
- Oppose efforts to usurp local zoning authority.

- 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 reasonable.

Environment

Air/Water Quality

- Support efforts and seek grants, including partnerships with the private sector, schools, public agencies, and non-profit organizations, to provide assistance with environmental clean-up projects.
- Support efforts to advance clean-up of 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, reducing stormwater pollution, and providing opportunities for corresponding funding mechanisms.
- Support efforts to ensure that Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements, which represent the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards, are achievable and cost-effective as well as efforts to provide the funding necessary to meet them. Support legislation that protects municipalities from litigation if they are making good faith efforts to meet requirements.
- 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, efficient, and renewable alternative fuels for vehicles.
- Support measures that would increase the City's ability to comply with environmental regulations.
- Support efforts to help municipalities plan for and fund electric vehicle infrastructure.

- Support statewide efforts to ban or impose fees on the distribution of single-use carryout bags and polystyrene containers.
- Support funding for greenhouse gas inventories, climate action plans, and other work that will help further the goals of AB 32 and related legislation.
- Support efforts to ensure that air quality, groundwater and public health are protected during oil and gas drilling.
- Support legislation that would place financial responsibility for the disposal of products on product manufacturers rather than local jurisdictions.

Energy

- Support efforts to preserve municipalities' opportunities 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, and renewable energy for businesses and residents.
- Support Community Choice Aggregation legislation and policies which would allow cities and counties to aggregate the buying power of individual customers within a defined jurisdiction in order to secure alternative energy supply contracts. Oppose fees and penalties that tend to make Community Choice Aggregation cost prohibitive.
- Support legislation that promotes funding solar energy and photovoltaic technology as well as energy conservation-related upgrades to public facilities and the private sector.
- Support legislation to eliminate site-specific "net metering" requirements for municipalities that wish to acquire solar, wind or other renewable energy systems. Current restrictions prevent or make it difficult for the City to produce solar power at one facility and take credit for it on the bill at another facility.

Community Safety

Public Safety & Crime Prevention

- Support the Police Department's mission of providing visible patrol; criminal investigations; follow up investigations; traffic accident investigations; and specialized investigations such as identity theft, vice offenses, and similar crimes.
- Support efforts to advance the Police Department's goals to enhance community safety through the deterrence/prevention of crime, the apprehension of offenders,

and the education of the public in self-protective measures to minimize victimization.

- Support the Fire Department's mission of providing Emergency Medical Services; fire suppression and rescue services; hazardous material spill mitigation; fire prevention; arson investigation; and public education.
- 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 Communications Interoperability System (ICIS).
- Support legislation and pursue grants that would provide funding for public safety facilities, including resources to support the construction of a replacement Drill Tower/Classroom facility.
- 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 Brotman Medical Center.

Neighborhood Development

Homeless Assistance

- Support efforts to reduce homelessness and increase services to the homeless both locally and regionally.
- Seek grant funding to assist with the City's homeless programs.
- Support legislation to help cities address homeless encampments in a way that balances the needs and rights of the homeless with local health and safety concerns.

Arts

- Support the expansion of arts opportunities to the public.
- Support legislative efforts and grant opportunities that help fund the City's community arts programming.

Parks & Recreation

- Support legislation to preserve and enhance Culver City's quality of life by: improving and protecting our parks and natural resources through best environmental practices; working constantly to make our parks safe, clean and healthful; facilitating and providing recreation and leisure opportunities; promoting health, wellness and human development; strengthening our sense of cultural unity through recognizing our cultural diversity; and strengthening our community's image and sense of place through collaboration with community members and groups.
- Support legislation, grants, and funding for parks and recreation, programs, maintenance, parkland acquisition, and capital improvements, to increase the quality of life for Culver City residents.
- 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 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 Americans with Disability Act (ADA).
- Support Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding at least at the current annual funding levels.

Youth & Education

- Support legislation and grants that promote services for the City's youth including youth employment, mentoring, 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 including public transit, alternative transportation, bicycle and pedestrian projects, to enhance safety, reduce congestion, and increase efficient circulation in the City.
- Promote goals and objectives in the City Council Adopted Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, including “Complete Streets”.
- Advocate for the preservation and enhancement of funding for *Safe Routes to Schools*.
- Support efforts to increase funding for other regional rail projects.
- 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 to 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.
- Support efforts to maintain and increase funding for bicycle and pedestrian-related improvements.
- Support efforts to reduce barriers to local governments implementing bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, including innovative treatments.
- 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 increased funding and grants for traffic mitigation and congestion management.
- Oppose legislation that would put additional responsibility on municipalities for the maintenance of sidewalks and other public infrastructure without adequate funding.
- Support local control over construction contract management, including retention amounts and prevailing wages.

Telecommunications

- Support legislation that provides individual universal access to the Internet.
- 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.
- Oppose legislation which impairs the City's ability to meet existing legal and contractual obligations.

Government Transparency, Participation, Accessibility, and Public Notification

- Support legislation and funding that provides for greater opportunities for transparency, enhanced delivery of government information, government accountability and public access for the community.
- Support legislation and funding which increases opportunities for collaborative problem solving, maximum information accessibility and maximum inclusion in participatory processes whenever possible.
- 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.