

FOCUS

Analysis, Commentary and Updates on Legislative and Policy Issues that Affect California Cities

November 17, 2006

Issue #45-2006

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION ON PROP. 1B TRANSPORTATION FUNDING AVAILABLE

The League has prepared preliminary information regarding the allocation and status of potential funding for local governments in Proposition 1B, the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality and Port Security Bond Act of 2006. *For more, see Page 3.*

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CALIFORNIA COMMUNITIES GO-SOLAR PROGRAM

California Communities, a joint powers authority sponsored by the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), has organized a web-hosted conference call for city managers, finance directors and public works directors. *For more, see Page 3.*

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NEW LEGISLATORS HAVE STRONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROOTS

As the dust settles from the November 7 election, more than half of California's new legislators come from a local government background. That is good news for cities, as many will come to the State Capitol with an understanding and greater appreciation for the challenges of local governance. *For more, see Page 4.*

WANT MORE DETAILS ON BILLS?

Visit the League of California Cities website at www.cacities.org/billsearch.

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BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR A STRONGER COMMUNITY

Leadership Training Institute Program Scheduled for January

The National League of Cities' (NLC) Leadership Training Institute is coming to Santa Monica. Co-sponsored by the League of California Cities, NLC is hosting "Building Partnerships for a Stronger Community" on January 25-27 at the Sheraton Delfina Hotel.

The seminar is designed to teach attendees effective tools and successful strategies to build sustainable public-private partnerships in their communities.

Featured speakers at the leadership seminar include:

- Katherine Aguilar Perez, vice president of development, Forest City Development Company
- John W. Mack, president, Los Angeles Police Commission
- Irma Anderson, mayor, city of Richmond
- K. Jack Riley, associate director, RAND Infrastructure, Safety, and Environment
- Kevin Baum, founder and president, inCentergy
- Robert Ashfield, vice president of municipal business development, Veolia Water North America – West, LLC
- Ken Butler, founder and senior principal, Capital Partnerships, Inc.
- Rick Norment, executive director and chief of staff, National Council for Public-Private Partnerships
- John Stainback, president and chief executive officer, Stainback Public/Private Real Estate

Space is limited to 100 registrants. Early bird registration (through November 22) is \$295 for member cities (\$395 for non-members). For more information, call (202) 626-3170. Registration forms can be downloaded from the NLC website at www.nlc.org. Select "Leadership Training Seminars" under the menu option "Conferences and Events."

NLC CONGRESS OF CITIES AND EXPOSITION SET FOR DECEMBER 5-9!

The National League of Cities' (NLC) 83rd annual Congress of Cities and Exposition will be held from December 5-9 in Reno, Nev. This year's conference features opening general session speakers Henry Cisneros and Jack Kemp, both former Secretaries of Housing and Urban Development.

Focused on helping municipal leaders find solutions to everyday challenges faced in cities nationwide, this year's conference features workshops on how to create a strong local infrastructure, disaster preparation, paying for essential services, and communicating with citizens/residents. In addition, other sessions include those examining economic vitality, affordable housing, public safety, and much more!

The conference is an excellent opportunity to network with your peers, with more than 4,000 attendees expected from cities large and small. Registration cost varies, depending on NLC member status. For more information, visit www.nlc.org, or call (202) 626-3190. The advance registration deadline is November 27.

Leaving City Office? Retiring?

The League wants to stay in touch! Just because you are leaving your position with the city doesn't mean you stop caring about or wanting to be involved in city issues. Keep abreast of developments affecting cities and the League by becoming part of the League's alumni group. Members will receive periodic updates on city issues and League activities. This is the League's way of saying "thank you" for your public service—there is no fee for this service.

To join, go to www.cacities.org/alumni or send your contact information to dharrison@cacities.org.

GO-SOLAR from page 1

By participating in this web-hosted conference call you can learn more about Go-Solar, a new program to address the growing demand for "Green Power."

Go-Solar is an innovative new power purchase program that will enable California local governments to meet long-term energy needs by purchasing green power at a significantly lower cost than brown power. The Go-Solar program utilizes an innovative combination of tax and rebate incentives to deliver low cost green power. The presentation will last approximately 20 minutes and will be followed by questions and answers.

The web-hosted conference call will provide details about the California Communities' Go-Solar Program including:

- Go-Solar Program Overview
- Benefit Analysis
- Comparative Analysis
- Cost Structure
- Financing Plan
- Eligibility and Application Process

You are invited to join the California Communities' new Go-Solar Program web-hosted conference call on:

- Thursday, December 7 at 10 a.m.
- Friday, December 8 at 10 a.m.

To access the web presentation on December 7 or 8 at 10 a.m. go to the following web address:

<https://www.callinfo.com/prt?host=globalcrossing&an=8663654406&ac=3624137>

Audio access to the call is available by dialing (866) 365-4406, access code 3624137#.

For a complete overview of the Go-Solar Program, go to www.cacommunities.org and click on the "What's New" box located on the right side of the front page.

For questions, contact California Communities' James Hamill at (925) 933-9229 x216 or jhamill@cacommunities.org; Terrence Murphy at (925) 933-9229 x223 or tmurphy@cacommunities.org; CSAC Finance Corporation's Norma Lammers at (916) 327-7500 x554 or nlammers@counties.org; or the League of California Cities' Dan Harrison at (916) 658-8267 or dharrison@cacities.org.

..... PRELIMINARY DATA ON LOCAL REVENUE MEASURES AVAILABLE

Michael Coleman, the League of California Cities' fiscal policy advisor, has released a preliminary report detailing the local revenue measures on the November 2006 ballot.

The report covers the results of all 204 local measures related to local agency taxes, fees and financing. Included in the data are city/county/ special district tax and bond measures, transaction and use taxes, utility user taxes, parcel taxes, transient occupancy taxes and other notable local measures.

The preliminary report is located at www.californiacityfinance.com. A final report will be completed and made available in the coming weeks.

..... PROP. 1B from page 1

The bond contains more than \$19 billion in funding to improve highways, ports, commuter rail systems, and other projects, including many programs which will help local communities across the state.

To view a chart with the League's information, see the chart at the end of *Priority Focus*.

LEGISLATORS from page 1

The new Legislature is scheduled to convene on December 3.

California Assembly

In the Assembly, half of the new assembly members (17 of 34) have local government experience. Of those, 12 are elected city officials, while five are county supervisors. Those 17 are:

- AD 4 Ted Gaines (R), Placer County Supervisor
- AD 11 James DeSaulnier (D), Solano County Supervisor
- AD 12 Fiona Ma (D), San Francisco County Supervisor
- AD 24 Jim Beall (D), Santa Clara County Supervisor
- AD 28 Anna Caballero (D), Salinas Mayor
- AD 38 Cameron Smyth (R), Santa Clarita City Manager
- AD 42 Mike Feuer (D), Los Angeles City Council
- AD 44 Anthony Portantino (D), La Canada Flintridge Mayor
- AD 49 Mike Eng (D), Monterey Park City Council Member
- AD 51 Curran Price (D), Inglewood City Council Member
- AD 55 Laura Richardson (D), Long Beach City Council Member
- AD 56 Tony Mendoza (D), Artesia City Council Member
- AD 65 Paul Cook (R), Yucca Valley Mayor
- AD 67 Jim Silva (R), Orange County Supervisor
- AD 69 Jose Solario (D), Santa Ana City Council Member
- AD 72 Mike Duvall (R), Yorba Linda Mayor
- AD 79 Mary Salas (D), Chula Vista City Council Member

California Senate

Twelve new senators were elected in this cycle, and nine will come with backgrounds as locally elected officials. Those senators with this experience also include League of California Cities Immediate Past President Alex Padilla. Below is a list of eight of the nine new senators with local government roots:

- SD 2 Pat Wiggins (D), Santa Rosa City Council Member
- SD 6 Darrell Steinberg (D), Sacramento City Council Member
- SD 8 Leland Yee (D), San Francisco County Supervisor
- SD 10 Ellen Corbett (D), San Leandro Mayor
- SD 14 Dave Cogdill (R), Modesto Mayor
- SD 20 Alex Padilla (D), Los Angeles City Council Member
- SD 26 Mark Ridley Thomas (D), Los Angeles City Council Member
- SD 28 Jennie Oropeza (D), Long Beach City Council Member

The outcome in another state senate race, SD 34, is still too close to call. Absentee ballots may determine the winner between former Assemblywoman and Brea City Council Member Lynn Daucher, and former Assemblymember and current Orange County Supervisor Lou Correa.

Proposition 1B - Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006.

Potential Funds For Local Governments

Prepared by the League of California Cities

Available Funding	Funding Allocation Process	Status	Lead Agency/Contact
\$2 billion for the Local Street and Road Improvement, Congestion Relief, and Traffic Safety Account	Appropriated to the Controller, upon approval by Legislature, likely through state's annual budget bill to fund improvements to local transportation facilities that will repair and rehabilitate local streets and roads, reduce local traffic congestion, improve traffic flow, or increase traffic safety.	The League is drafting legislation with the California State Association of Counties to allocate \$1 billion each for cities and counties over five years beginning in FY 07-08.	League: Liisa Stark, 916-658-8249, lstark@cacities.org CSAC: DeAnn Baker, 916-327-7500, dbaker@counties.org
\$4.5 billion to the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account	Funds must be appropriated to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) through state's annual budget bill to relieve congestion by expanding capacity, enhancing operations, and improving travel times in high congestion travel corridors.	The CTC project guidelines for the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account were adopted November 8, 2006. The guidelines are available at: http://www.catc.ca.gov/CMIA_Guidelines_Adopted.pdf Project nominations must be submitted to the CTC by January 16, 2007. The CTC will adopt an initial program to receive funding by March 1, 2007.	California Transportation Commission: 916- 654-4245, www.catc.ca.gov

	The CTC must adopt guidelines for project selection criteria to receive these funds. CTC will fund projects based on meeting guidelines for projects nominated by Caltrans, regional transportation agencies and county transportation authorities and commissions.		
\$1 billion for improvements to State Route 99 traversing approximately 400 miles of the Central Valley.	Funds must be appropriated to Caltrans through the state's annual budget bill.	When available, Caltrans will allocate this money for safety, operational enhancements, rehabilitation, or capacity improvements on the State Route 99 corridor.	Caltrans Local Office Information: www.dot.ca.gov/localoffice.htm
\$3.1 billion for the California Ports Infrastructure, Security, and Air Quality Improvement Act.	Funds must be appropriated to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) through state's annual budget bill for infrastructure improvements to seaports, land ports of entry and airports, to relieve traffic congestion along major trade corridors, and to improve freight rail facilities to enhance the movement of goods from port to marketplace. Program guidelines subject to conditions and criteria established by the Legislature.	Program guidelines have not been determined. The CTC has held listening session with stakeholders around the state to determine how this program is going to work. To date, a consistent vision has not been established. Legislation to establish the program is likely needed to further define the program.	California Transportation Commission: 916- 654-4245, www.catc.ca.gov

\$200 million for school bus retrofitting and replacement to reduce air pollution.	Appropriated upon approval by Legislature, likely through state's annual budget bill to reduce children's exposure to diesel gas.	It is unknown at this time how this program will be administered. The allocation process will be determined by legislative statutes	
\$2 billion for projects in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).	Appropriated to the CTC, upon approval by Legislature, likely through state's annual budget bill. Funds will be allocated for projects based on existing formula.	The CTC has stated that they would like this funding available immediately, but don't want to program it all at one time. The CTC may ask the Legislature to appropriate the funds on an on-going basis as projects are ready to be funded.	California Transportation Commission: 916- 654-4245, www.catc.ca.gov
\$1 billion for the State-Local Partnership Program Account	Appropriated upon approval by Legislature, likely through state's annual budget bill. Requires legislation to implement and adopt program guidelines. This program requires a dollar for dollar match of local funds.	The CTC has held meetings with a working group of stakeholders to establish what this program will look like. The guidelines are still being developed, but the CTC hopes to have them clarified by January.	California Transportation Commission: 916- 654-4245, www.catc.ca.gov
\$4 billion for the Public Transportation, Modernization, Improvement and Service Enhancement Account	Appropriated to Caltrans and Controller upon approval by Legislature, likely through state's annual budget bill for capital improvements and fleet expansion to enhance public transit, intercity and commuter rail, and waterborne transit.	Funds allocated directly to transit operators under existing formula (STA).	Caltrans Local Office Information: www.dot.ca.gov/localoffice.htm
\$1 billion for the Transit System Safety, Security and Disaster Response Account	Appropriated upon approval by Legislature, likely through state's annual budget bill, for capital projects that provide	It is unknown at this time how this program will be administered. The allocation process will be determined by legislative statutes.	

	increased protection against a security and safety threat and increase the capacity of transit operations to move people, goods and emergency personnel, and equipment in the preparation for and the aftermath of a disaster.		
\$125 million for the Local Bridge Seismic Retrofit Account	Appropriated to Caltrans upon approval by Legislature, likely through state's annual budget bill.	Local agencies should work with Caltrans to access these funds, which will be used for the required 11.5 percent match for federal Highway Bridge Replacement and Repair funds for seismic work on local bridges, ramps and overpasses.	Caltrans Local Office Information: www.dot.ca.gov/localoffice.htm
\$750 million for the Highway Safety, Rehabilitation and Preservation Account (SHOPP)	Appropriated upon approval by Legislature, likely through state's annual budget bill for highway safety, rehabilitation, and pavement preservation projects, including \$250 million for traffic light synchronization projects or other technology-based improvements to improve safety operations and the capacity of local streets and roads.	Allocated per existing SHOPP process. Caltrans will develop a program to fund traffic light synchronization or other technology based improvements on local system.	Caltrans Local Office Information: www.dot.ca.gov/localoffice.htm
\$250 million for the Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account	Appropriated to Caltrans upon approval by Legislature, likely through state's annual budget bill for the completion of high-priority grade separation and railroad crossing safety improvements.	\$150 million of this fund will be allocated per current statute, except that a dollar for dollar match of non-state funds is required. Of the \$250 million, the CTC will allocate \$100 million in consultation with the High-Speed Rail Authority.	Caltrans Local Office Information: www.dot.ca.gov/localoffice.htm California Transportation Commission: 916- 654-4245, www.catc.ca.gov