



CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA

REPORT TO THE:

Joint  City Council  Housing Authority  Successor Agency  Oversight Board

July 23, 2013

AGENDA ITEM

Report: Consideration of Proposed 2013-14 Legislative Platform

1) Motion adopting proposed 2013-14 Legislative Platform.

COUNCIL ACTION

Public Hearing  Ordinance  Consent Calendar  Action Item  Report Only

Approved for July 23, 2013 calendar

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

Submitted by:
Scott Ochoa, City Manager

Prepared by:
Christine B. Powers, Program Supervisor

Approved by:
Scott Ochoa, City Manager

Reviewed by:
Yasmin K. Beers, Assistant City Manager

Michael J. Garcia, City Attorney

Signature
[Handwritten signatures of Scott Ochoa, Christine B. Powers, Yasmin K. Beers, and Michael J. Garcia]

## **RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff respectfully recommends that the City Council adopt the 2013 Legislative Platform that guides the City's support of, or opposition to, state and federal legislation; and authorize the Mayor and staff, on behalf of the City of Glendale, to contact federal and state representatives to advocate for legislation consistent with the goals of the Legislative Platform.

## **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

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The purpose of a legislative platform is to publicly state the City's position on the issues it faces, and to provide a vehicle whereby its interests can be protected at the state and federal levels. Legislative platforms convey to legislators, policymakers, the public, and the media where City Council stands on important policy positions. A legislative platform also allows the City to respond quickly to issues that could directly impact the City, and to reach out to legislators to assist the City in communicating its interests at the state and federal level.

The City of Glendale's Legislative Platform outlines the City's position on legislative matters. It serves as the foundation for the City to support, remain neutral, or oppose positions on state and federal legislation. Council approval of a Legislative Platform will allow the City of Glendale to advocate for state and federal legislation. A platform that is comprehensive and current will enable the City to act quickly when advocacy is needed. The City Manager and/or designated staff within the City Manager's Office will monitor state and federal legislation as directed by the City Council and take appropriate action when required in order to safeguard and/or advance the City's interests.

Each year, the City Manager and/or designated staff within the City Manager's Office will submit a staff report to City Council regarding its proposed legislative priorities, which will form the basis for the upcoming calendar year's Legislative Platform. In cases where a legislative issue is not addressed in the Legislative Platform but impacts the City, staff will return to City Council for direction as necessary. Additionally, if there is a legislative need specific to Glendale, the City Manager's Office will identify the item as a possible subject of legislation to be sponsored by the City of Glendale.

The proposed Legislative Platform has been constructed using the guiding priorities of the City Council, as established in the City's *2012-13 Annual Report*, which highlights Glendale's operations, programs, services, accomplishments, and future activities. Once adopted, the Legislative Platform remains in effect for the following year. Upon consideration, the City Council, may add, remove, or modify items within the Legislative Platform.

Upon the Legislative Platform's adoption, the City Manager's Office will exercise day-to-day oversight of legislative matters. Staff within the City Manager's Office will track and review legislation, as warranted, and will characterize the City's position with respect to each along the following lines:

- **Support:** Legislation that the City should support as drafted.
- **Oppose:** Legislation that the City should oppose as drafted.
- **Oppose unless amended:** Legislation the City opposes unless amended.
- **Watch:** Legislation that the City should continue to monitor.

Staff may initiate letters, contact legislative staff, or speak on behalf of the City regarding legislation. Letters of support/opposition will be signed by the Mayor; if the Mayor is unavailable, letters will be signed by the City Manager with notification to City Council.

The City Council will receive quarterly reports providing updates on warranted legislation from the City Manager's Office. Additionally, at the end of each legislative session, the City Manager's Office will submit to City Council a written report summarizing all activity on measures the City has taken a position on and/or those related to the City's Legislative Platform.

The proposed Legislative Platform is as follows:

### **1. Fiscal Responsibility**

The City of Glendale has a fiduciary responsibility to the residents of the community to ensure assets and resources are properly safeguarded and deployed in a prudent, efficient manner. As such, the City supports the protection of existing federal, state, and local funding sources and the authorities that provide revenues to the City of Glendale. Additionally, the City generally opposes any mandates that are unfunded or inadequately funded.

### **2. Economic Vibrancy**

Economic development is vital to the City, its residents, and businesses alike. While public funding resources continue to be scarce, most notably due to the end of Redevelopment in California, private development is resurfacing. As such, the City continues to evaluate several key policy initiatives that will preserve the high level of services that has historically been provided to Glendale. The City promotes legislation that supports urban development, including encouragement of economic activity, transit-oriented development, and pedestrian and bicycle-friendly streets.

### **3. Informed & Engaged Community**

Earning and maintaining the community's trust is by far one of the greatest priorities for the City. As such, the City consistently strives to conduct the business of the government in the best interest of the public with integrity, openness, and full inclusion of the community. Each community has unique needs and characteristics that are best met by policies set by its local governing body; and in that vein, the City supports local decision-making authority and opposes preemption of local control. In an effort to provide direct access of information to the community, the City supports legislation that allows the City to further its infrastructure in maintaining and enhancing the City's communication needs.

### **4. Safe & Healthy Community**

One of Glendale's key objectives is to ensure the preservation of a community that is physically safe, free of blight, and prepared for emergencies. The City of Glendale supports federal and state local assistance for local police, fire, and homeland security initiatives, and any measures that will help contribute to local public safety.

### **5. Balanced, Quality Housing**

A balanced mix of housing opportunities is a primary goal for all segments of the population, including families, the elderly, low-income residents, and persons with special needs. Legislation that provides fair, affordable housing is a priority, as is homelessness prevention and the transition of the homeless into permanent housing. The City also supports legislation that develops and/or expands programs to protect existing housing stock. Furthermore, the City

opposes impediments to the City's ability to provide opportunities for housing commensurate with the community's housing needs.

#### **6. Community Services & Facilities**

Maintaining a city that offers a variety of facilities, programs, services, and open space options is a priority for the City of Glendale. In order to maintain and enhance this development and programming, the City supports legislation that will help provide residents of Glendale with safe, accessible services and facilities. Furthermore, the City opposes action that deplete services and funding sources created to enhance the community's varying needs.

#### **7. Infrastructure & Mobility**

Cultivating a City with appealing features to draw in small and large businesses, families, new entertainment, and retail and dining destinations takes determination, planning, and forward thinking in the maintenance of existing infrastructure, and development of sustainable mobility. This can be accomplished with the City supporting legislation that increases funding for transportation, infrastructure, operations, and maintenance for the City of Glendale.

Furthermore, the City supports legislation which ensures that federal and state transportation planning funds are available to the City throughout the year and are not made unavailable due to delays or changes in enacting the federal or state budget.

#### **8. Arts & Culture**

The City is committed to providing quality and accessible arts experiences for the entire community and promoting education and participation in the arts by creating an arts-friendly and arts-aware environment. The City supports legislation that will help maintain and enhance the City's performance arts venues, and funding for arts development. Additionally, the City opposes any reductions and/or eliminations of library programming.

#### **9. Sustainability**

For many years, Glendale has embraced sustainability efforts given current and future environmental challenges. The City continuously seeks out new technology and innovation to foster and promote sustainability and is among the first public agencies to successfully implement sustainability improvements such as the landfill gas to energy system, curbside recycling program, storm drain catch basin inserts, alternative fueled vehicles, and energy saving retrofits. As such, the City supports environmentally friendly legislation and urban sustainability.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

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None

#### **ALTERNATIVES**

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Alternative 1: The City Council may adopt the proposed 2013 -14 Legislative Platform as presented.

Alternative 2: The City Council may choose to not adopt the proposed 2013 -14 Legislative Platform.

Alternative 3: The City Council may provide changes to proposed 2013 -14 Legislative Platform.

Alternative 4: The City Council may consider any other alternative not proposed by staff.

**CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE**

Not applicable

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**EXHIBITS**

None

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M O T I O N

Moved by Council Member \_\_\_\_\_,  
seconded by Council Member \_\_\_\_\_, that Council has  
considered the Report from the City Manager dated July 23, 2013, regarding the consideration  
of the Proposed 2013-2014 Legislative Platform. Council hereby:

1) Option 1: The City Council hereby adopts the proposed 2013-2014 Legislative  
Platform as presented in the Report by the City Manager dated July 23, 2013 and authorizes the  
City Manager, or his designees, to implement the Platform.

[or]

2) Option 2: The City Council hereby adopts the proposed 2013-2014 Legislative  
Platform as presented in the Report by the City Manager dated July 23, 2013, and authorizes the  
City Manager, or his designees, to implement the Platform, subject to the following changes:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[or]

3) Option 3: The City Council hereby directs staff to: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Vote as follows:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

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APPROVED AS TO FORM

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney  
DATE: 11/21/13