



2023 Legislative Platform

Introduction

The purpose of the City's annual Legislative Platform is to represent the official City positions on proposed regional, state, and federal legislation. The Legislative Platform is aligned with the City's five Strategic Goals which focus on providing the highest level of service to the City's residents and businesses.

The Legislative Platform provides clear direction to the City Manager to respond and take action quickly, under the direction of City Council, as initiatives that impact the City are considered at the regional, state, and federal levels. The City Manager shall coordinate the monitoring of legislative issues that impact the City and ensure that the City takes a position on all applicable proposed regional, state-wide, and national legislation, regulation, and related matters.

Staff will update the Legislative Platform throughout the year at the direction of the City Manager, as necessary, to address and prioritize new issues as they relate to the City or the region. The Legislative Platform does not preclude City Council consideration of additional legislative and regulatory matters arising throughout the year. As necessary, Staff will solicit City Council authorization to amend the Legislative Platform to include items not included in the existing Legislative Platform.

For proposed legislation, either consistent with the City's Legislative Platform or consistent with legislative positions the City has taken in the past, City Staff shall be authorized to prepare position letters on behalf of the Mayor and/or City Councilmembers. Items not addressed in the City's Legislative Platform may require further City Council direction. Legislative priorities may only address issues directly relevant to or impacting the provision of municipal services. Generally, the City will not address matters that are not pertinent to the City's local government services such as international issues.

City departments are encouraged to monitor and be knowledgeable of any legislative issues related to their discipline. However, requests for the City to take positions on a legislative matter must be directed to the City Manager's Office. City departments may not take positions on legislative issues without City Manager's Office review and approval.

The City's primary legislative focus includes protecting local government control, maintaining local government revenue, pursuing public security funding, obtaining funding for environmental sustainability, transportation, recreational, technology and public infrastructure improvements.



Guiding Principles – City Strategic Plan

The Legislative Platform is aligned with the City’s five strategic goals.

1. Enhance Customer Service, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Communication
2. Support Community Safety and Preparedness
3. Promote a Quality Workforce through Teamwork and Organizational Efficiencies
4. Develop and Maintain Quality Infrastructure and Technology
5. Champion Economic Development and Fiscal Sustainability

2023 Legislative Priorities

1. Ensure local city input on all regional land use and planning issues.
2. Support efforts to increase the amount of transportation funds allocated to local jurisdictions for discretionary projects.
3. Pursue funding for projects that improve the quality of life in El Segundo.
4. Support regional economic development policies that provide for planned economic growth in the City and neighboring communities.
5. Oppose unfunded mandates to the City for any new or continuing program/service.
6. Support local control over the administration of local programs.
7. Ensure that the County’s responsibilities for mandated programs are not passed on to the City in the form of undue burdens/financial mandates.
8. Support efforts to monitor air quality and promote clean air initiatives and programs.



General Government

City of El Segundo supports:

1. Efforts that are consistent with the doctrine of local control especially in the areas of police power, land use planning and public safety.
2. Enhanced local control of resources and that allows the City to address the needs of its constituents within a framework of regional cooperation.
3. Preserving local control of short-term rentals and online hotel intermediaries.
4. The use of federal and state incentives for local government, rather than mandates.
5. Funding opportunities for public facilities and services including capital improvement projects, public works projects, homeland security, library, parks and social service facilities.
6. Keeping land use local and not a matter of state authority.
7. Applying lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic to allow expanded use of email notification, postings on agency websites, publicizing at community groups, and/or other methods of outreach available.
8. Developing and supporting a long term strategy to hold large scale municipal organizations accountable for environmental violations that place the quality of life and health of residents and businesses at risk.

City of El Segundo opposes:

1. State and federal legislation that preempts the City's local authority.
2. State or federal mandates without the direct or indirect reimbursement for the costs associated with complying with new and/or modified laws, regulations, policies, procedures, permits and/or programs.



City Clerk/Electoral Process

City of El Segundo supports:

1. Safeguards ensuring that all eligible voters are provided with the mechanisms to exercise the right to vote.
2. Transparency, public participation and first amendment rights, while preserving procedures that continue to foster efficient government proceedings.
3. Efforts to enhance local governments' ability to achieve greater transparency of governmental business by improving the platform in which agencies can publish and advertise notices, resolutions, orders, or other matters required by law.
4. Measures that preserve the integrity and fundamentals of the Brown Act and oppose measures that would constrain communication among staff and local officials.
5. Increased local autonomy, protecting privacy and maintaining the City's authority over public records. This includes measures that provide for the recovery of costs concerning public records requests.
6. Maximizing the City's ability to efficiently and effectively administer local elections, including programs designed to encourage and increase voter education, registration and voter turn-out.

Community Services

City of El Segundo supports:

1. Funding for the development and rehabilitation of infrastructure in parks, libraries, public right of ways, and similar neighborhood and community-serving facilities.
2. Funding for ADA upgrades.
3. Enhanced California State Library funding and budget.
4. Statewide initiatives for:
 - Early education
 - Services for vulnerable populations
 - Adult/family literacy
 - Healthy lifestyles
 - Digital literacy
 - Career support
 - After-school/summer programs for youth



5. Expanded opportunities for healthy “aging in place” options and services for the older adult population.
6. Equitable access to library and information services including:
 - Broadband equity for California communities
 - eMedia and electronic resources
 - Technology for use in the home, including laptops and hotspots
7. Enhanced school sites and support of educational partnerships between cities and school districts.
8. Intellectual freedom and privacy.
9. Increased state resources for local arts, recreation, cultural events and library programs.

Economic Development

City of El Segundo supports:

1. Measures that enhance the City’s business attraction and retention efforts.
2. Providing resources and incentives to supports job creation, business attraction, and retention.

Emergency Management

City of El Segundo supports:

1. Funding that promotes mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts for manmade and natural disaster hazards.
2. Funding for disaster relief for all types of natural and manmade disasters.
3. Efforts to coordinate the development of telecommunications infrastructure within the region for use during large scale emergencies.
4. I.C.I. System (Interagency Communications Interoperability System) participation among jurisdictions and funding for equipment and operations.
5. Funding for the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) and other funding initiatives administered by the Department of Homeland Security to enhance the City’s ability to respond to regional or national threats.



Environmental Sustainability

City of El Segundo supports:

1. State bonds, funding, and legislation aimed at improving ocean water quality and reducing ocean pollution, banning new offshore oil or gas drilling or extraction, and funding coastal clean-up and restoration.
2. Cost-effective, sustainable, and responsible environmental policy and programs in the areas of energy efficiency, greenhouse gases, climate change, potable water, wastewater, solid waste removal and stormwater, among others.
3. State funding opportunities to assist agencies in meeting sustainability objectives including energy and water efficiencies, active transportation enhancements, connectivity and mobility improvements and carbon sequestration through natural landscape management and protection.
4. Protecting, preserving and restoring the natural environment where it does not conflict with local control and land use designations.
5. Creating partnerships among the City, El Segundo Unified School District, businesses, residents, and all other community stakeholders as necessary to achieve a sustainable community.
6. Proactively addressing climate change and improving air quality. Support funding to foster an environmentally sustainable city, walkable community that provides ample goods, services and benefits to all residents while respecting the local environment.
7. Funding for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) and other regional transit authorities to continue to create multi-modal transportation systems that minimize pollution and reduce motor vehicle congestion while ensuring access and mobility for all.

Fiscal and Administrative

City of El Segundo supports:

1. Fiscal sustainability and best-practice administrative initiatives to ensure the delivery of unparalleled city services.
2. Full cost reimbursement to the City for all federal, state and county-mandated programs.
3. Protect the integrity of existing revenue sources for local government.



4. Efforts to achieve public employee pension reform.
5. Efforts to maintain and expand the types of municipal investment-grade revenue bonds.
6. Efforts to achieve public employee workers' compensation reform.
7. Measures that will create stricter rules for local municipalities to raise state and local taxes, fees, assessments, and property-related fees.

City of El Segundo opposes:

1. Any attempt to eliminate or limit the traditional tax exemption for municipal bonds.
2. Legislation that makes local agencies more dependent on the State for financial stability and policy direction.
3. Changes in revenue allocations that negatively affect local government, including the redistribution of sales tax, property tax, COPS grants, Proposition 172 funds, gas tax (HUTA), transient occupancy tax (TOT) and vehicle in-lieu fees (VLF).
4. Efforts by the State or Federal government to preempt the City's right to levy and collect taxes, fees and assessments.
5. Diminishing the City's authority over local taxes and fees.

Human Resources

City of El Segundo supports:

1. Measures that place reasonable parameters over public pension plans, while opposing measures that would eliminate local control over plan specifics.
2. Managing the rising cost of health insurance and urging officials to fully consider the financial impact on local governments when considering any health care coverage legislation.

City of El Segundo opposes:

1. Measures that mandate upon local governments additional and costly programs for employee benefits without local control.



Planning, Housing and Land Use

City of El Segundo supports:

1. Increased input from municipalities in the development of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA).
2. Flexibility for local jurisdictions to work together to provide housing that counts toward the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) requirements.
3. Maintaining local control over medical marijuana dispensaries and upholding cities' ability to regulate and ban dispensaries.
4. Funding for affordable senior housing opportunities and projects.
5. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) reform to expedite and streamline both project development and delivery, especially for transportation, transit-oriented, infill, and/or housing projects.
6. Measures that require transparency in CEQA litigation and eliminate duplicative CEQA lawsuits.
7. The restoration and expansion of tax increment tools to build affordable housing stock, improve public transit, and reduce climate-warming carbon emissions. Incentivize collaboration among potentially impacted jurisdictions by sharing the net proceeds from future tax increment financing districts, and emphasize tax increment as a public financing tool that does not increase taxes to residents.
8. Secure adequate and sustainable funding for cities to increase construction of housing at all income levels, particularly affordable housing and workforce housing.
9. Reform state housing laws to ensure cities retain local decision-making to meet the needs of their communities.
10. Redevelopment like process to facilitate community development focused on infrastructure to support housing, improved jobs/housing balance, infill and improved conditions/opportunities for disadvantaged communities.

City of El Segundo opposes:

1. Limiting the City's ability to condition and deny projects that negatively impact the community.
2. Overriding the City's adopted zoning ordinances.



3. Legislation that establishes detrimental, residential rent control restrictions (such as AB 1482)
4. Legislation that reduces local land-use authority and/or alters local land use zoning designations without approval of local City Council (such as SB 50).
5. Any additional mandatory general plan elements that don't allow cities and counties the flexibility to determine how to include new mandatory subject matter.

Public Safety

City of El Segundo supports:

1. Assistance for local police, fire, and homeland security initiatives, and any measures that will help contribute to local public safety.
2. Strengthening local law enforcement's ability to prevent and fight crime.
3. Funding and alternative avenues of health care to local first response agencies to adequately address behavioral health issues.
4. Strengthening programs that support crime victims and their families through advocacy, and outreach.
5. Strengthening state and regional collaboration to reduce and prevent homelessness as well as programs that provide funding to cities to implement local strategies.
6. Strengthening efforts to eradicate human trafficking.
7. Fire prevention and environmental safety legislation and funding.
8. Legislation that aids paramedics and other emergency medical service practitioners in their ability to be responsive to community needs, including AB 40 - Reduction of Ambulance Patient Offloading Time at Hospitals.
9. Funding initiatives for Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) and other law enforcement support organizations.
10. Upholding local control and preserves a city's "Section 201" and "Section 224" rights to continue to contract for or provide pre-hospital medical care and transport.



City of El Segundo opposes:

1. Impeding local law enforcement from addressing crime problems and recovering costs resulting from a crime committed by the guilty party.
2. Limiting local police departments' ability to collect and utilize asset forfeiture funds for a wide variety of police services.
3. Modifying bail programs that are potentially harmful to El Segundo community.
4. Expanding "early release" for serious and violent offenders.
5. Expanding the definition of "early release", non-serious crimes, and non-violent crimes.
6. Any further actions that would re-categorizing serious crimes as non-serious crimes.
7. Decriminalizing existing crimes in California or reducing the sentences of any offenses, resulting in the release of serious criminals who may further harm the safety of the public and law enforcement personnel.
8. Legislation that requires local Public Safety agencies to take on more services without providing full funding to provide new/enhanced services.

Public Works

City of El Segundo supports:

1. Increased funding for maintaining and upgrading the City's major streets, allowing for better traffic flow and user safety.
2. Funding for transportation infrastructure projects that improve mobility for residents, businesses and visitors.
3. Expanded transportation funding to encourage use of public transit, alternative fuel vehicles and fleets, pedestrian ways, bikeways, and multi-use trails.
4. Measures that provide City's fair share of funding from the State's "Cap and Trade" funding sources.
5. Measures that seek to reevaluate the method and manner in which the state and federal gas taxes are collected and allocated to local jurisdictions to emphasize actual roadway usage (i.e. working/daytime population-based).



6. Efforts to secure the City’s fair share of funding from SB 1 revenues to fund local transportation projects.
7. Working with other agencies in the region to support current state and federal funding levels and encourage increased funding and flexibility in both operating and capital funding for mass transit.
8. Working with the South Bay Cities Council of Governments and other regional agencies to support legislation that provides incentives for the improvement and/or development of regional transportation corridors.

City of El Segundo opposes:

1. Efforts to remove local regulatory authority on wireless infrastructure development.
2. Any legislation that threatens to withhold State-allocated funds reserved for roadway or other public infrastructure maintenance and/or improvements if certain actions are not taken by the local jurisdiction, such as construction of housing or homeless shelters.
3. Legislation that supersedes local authorities’ land use policies and practices, that result in a “one size fits all” mandate.