

**CITIES ASSOCIATION
2013 POLICY INITIATIVES**

AT THE JANUARY 10th BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, THE FOLLOWING POLICY INITIATIVES WERE ADOPTED FOR 2013:

1. Affordable Housing

In light of the abolishment of RDA's as well as the Patterson case against BMR rental housing requirements, we have an opportunity to reexamine our respective affordable/subsidized housing policies for effectiveness and efficiency, as well as potential sources for ongoing funding. Explore symposium/forum in collaboration with community organizations in spring 2013.

2. Digital/Wireless Infrastructure

Explore implementation of fiber-to-the-premise and LTE/4G deployment so that high speed coverage is available to region. Continue to build awareness amongst city elected leaders about the importance and necessity of digital/wireless infrastructure. Our region is the epicenter of wireless technology; and, 30% of all households have no wire line connection and depend on wireless service. Collaborate with carriers and educate citizens to support needed digital and wireless infrastructure within our jurisdictions.

3. Regional Economic Development/Job Creation

As a follow-up to 2012 focus on Regional Economic Development, continue to support and encourage economic development, retention, and job creation in a recovering economy. Cities of Santa Clara County need to collaborate in order to compete against new desirable areas such as Boston's Route 128 and the Yangtze River Delta so that our region can continue to attract and retain the extraordinary companies that make Silicon Valley unique.

4. Regionalization in Public Safety

As a follow-up on previous discussions addressing regionalization of public services, we should review the progress that has already been made and provide policy guidance on regionalization efforts by the Fire Chiefs Association to promote economies of scale, seamless coordination and enhanced efficiencies, and discuss opportunities for further collaboration. Examine Countywide EMS Strategic Planning in light of the National Health Care Reform Act and possible changed roles for EMS personnel, Santa Clara County Fire Agency's Unit Renumbering Plan, regionalization initiatives in Special Operations, Communications, and Training, as well as a Regional Emergency Management Model already being developed with North County cities.

THE CITIES ASSOCIATION WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT:

- 1. Innovative Schools** – In September 2012, Cities Association Board endorsed recommended best practices to support innovative and high-performing schools as an effort to reduce and eliminate the achievement gap in our school communities based on feedback from Board Members, School Superintendents, and community stakeholders; encourage individual cities to support and adopt.
- 2. SVLG's Save Caltrain Initiative** - monitor Caltrain's plans for electrification and its impact on cities. The Board has already adopted a supportive resolution.
- 3. Pension & Compensation Reform** - continue regional support of pension & compensation reform through collaboration with the Santa Clara County Cities/Managers Association. The Board has endorsed the SCCMA's policy paper on pension reform (2009) and recommended best practices on compensation (2011).
- 4. Consistent State and Federal Regulation of MMDs** – offer a unified voice in face of the challenges that we face in regulating MMDs and their products, and continue to recruit regional

support of the Cities Association resolution calling for consistent federal and state regulation of medicinal marijuana. Since May of 2011, 10 of the 15 cities of Santa Clara County have endorsed the resolution, including Campbell, Los Altos, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, San Jose, Saratoga, Santa Clara, and Sunnyvale.

THE LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE 2013 PRIORITIES INCLUDE:

- 1. Collaboration with our Santa Clara County State & Federal Legislative Delegation -** Support and promote legislative efforts initiated by our delegation to enhance local government.
- 2. Collaboration with the League of California Cities -** Support the League of California Cities' advocacy on behalf of cities.