



expire in September 2009. There is a chance that this legislation may not be approved in 2009, but congressional committees with jurisdiction over the bill are expected to ask Members of Congress for their requests early next year. Unlike many reauthorization bills in Congress, projects included in highway reauthorization bills do not need to make subsequent requests through the annual appropriations process for funding:

- Transportation
- Bridge Repair
- Soundwalls

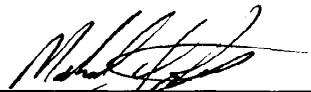
- C. Water Resource Development Act – Projects that would be included in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), which authorizes flood control, navigation, and other water-related projects. WRDA bills are traditionally considered by Congress every two years, but Congress is not required to do so (there was a seven-year gap between WRDA bills between 2000 and 2007). Once a project is authorized in a WRDA bill, subsequent requests must be made through the annual appropriations process for funding:
- Water System Improvement Program

The 2009 State Platform (Attachment 2) does not include specific appropriation requests but similar to the federal platform outlines the City's position on state and regional legislative issues.

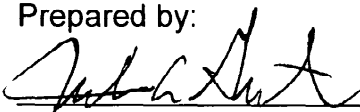
**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Funds for the legislative advocates are included in the City Council operating budget.

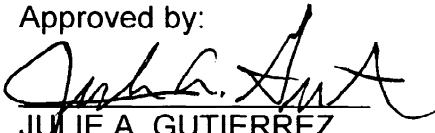
Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MICHAEL J. BECK  
City Manager

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**ATTACHMENT 1**

**CITY OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA  
2009 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM**

## **CITY OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA**

### **2009 Federal Priorities – Part I**

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#### **A. Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriations Requests**

##### **Robinson Park Rehabilitation and Renovation**

The City of Pasadena is seeking assistance with the implementation of a Master Plan that proposes significant modifications to the existing Robinson Park in Northwest Pasadena. The Plan concludes that this seven acre park, which serves residents of nearby low and moderate income neighborhoods each weekday and substantially more on weekends, no longer meets the needs of the community in its current state. Robinson Park improvements are also part of the City's ongoing efforts to curb youth violence by offering safe and effective alternatives to crime. Robinson Park activities include piano and computer classes and other educational programs, after school clubs and drill teams, sports leagues, weight room, exercise programs, and martial arts programs.

The project has been divided into two phases. Phase I, which the City has fully funded for a total of \$5.8 million, will consist of the installation of a synthetic turf athletic field for football and soccer, baseball and softball. Construction of Phase I will begin and be completed in 2009. The City seeks federal assistance for Phase II, which has an estimated cost of \$16.5 million and includes the replacement of a deteriorated community center, undersized gymnasium, swimming pool with locker room/restroom. When completed, the park will contain a swimming pool, basketball courts, picnic facilities, a gymnasium, recreation room, arcade, meeting rooms and a kitchen. This facility is the one of the key hubs of activity in the northwest with the facility housing a computer learning center and after school learning activities in addition to the athletic facilities for Northwest Pasadena.

- ***Request: \$650,000 from FY 2010 Department of Housing and Urban Development appropriations through the Economic Development Initiative (EDI).***

##### **Pasadena Healthcare Link**

Pasadena Healthcare Link (PHL) is a 24/7 nurse advice, case management, and referral line sponsored by the Pasadena Public Health Department and a consortium of local health care providers. Initial project support was from a Healthy Communities Access Program (HCAP) grant, Bureau of Primary Care, Health Resources Services Administration; but funding was eliminated for the program in the FY 2007 Health & Human Services (HHS) budget. PHL is having a tremendous positive impact on access to care, coordination of services, cost savings, and in improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the local health care system. The City is seeking federal assistance for continuation of the project as it seeks a long-term funding solution.

- ***Request: \$700,000 from FY 2010 Department of Health and Human Services appropriations to support the Pasadena Healthcare Link project.***

### **Neighborhood Outreach Workers Program**

The City of Pasadena and the Western Justice Foundation are involved in a joint effort to reach out to area youth (ages 16-24) who are identified with gangs but are open to suggestions that may change their violent culture. The Pasadena Police, Prosecutor's Office, and Human Services Departments and Western Justice Center started the Neighborhood Outreach Workers (NOW) Program because – while local gang prevention and policing programs were strong -- they saw a gap in intervention strategies for youth already involved with gangs who may want to get out. The federal funding requested would pay for an additional 15 outreach workers.

- ***Request: \$250,000 from the FY 2010 Department of Justice appropriations bill.***

## **B. Surface Transportation Reauthorization**

### **Transportation**

The City hopes that as Congress seeks to reauthorize the 2005 SAFETEA-LU law governing federal surface transportation programs that serious discussion will occur regarding the manner in which federal transportation programs are funded. With growth in contributions to the federal Highway Trust Fund lagging, additional sources of revenue must be considered to meet the staggering infrastructure needs of the nation. In addition, it would be effective for Congress to consider alternative ways in which federal transportation funding flows to states and local governments with a particular emphasis on the metropolitan planning process as an effective way to direct funding to projects that best fit the needs and priorities of individual communities.

The City of Pasadena is eager to deploy a number of emerging Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) technologies that will assist in mitigating increased traffic congestion on local roads, as well as improving access to the City's public transportation system. The City's \$9.3 million ITS Master Plan includes a Transit Management System that provides an automatic vehicle location system, priority signalization, and real-time passenger information systems for buses on our Pasadena Area Rapid Transit System (ARTS), and a parking guidance system to alleviate congestion in downtown Pasadena by monitoring the number of available spaces in garages and surface lots. The unfunded \$4.8 million will close fiber optic communication gaps accounting for over seven miles of fiber along 10 corridors. Installation of this fiber network will allow the City to reach more of the traffic signal network through fiber providing for increased communication bandwidth and the ability to monitor traffic conditions along additional corridors. To date, the City of Pasadena has received \$4.5 million in regional and federal grants to implement the ITS Master Plan.

- ***Request: \$4.8 million in the reauthorization of the 2005 SAFETEA-LU law with jurisdiction over federal surface transportation programs.***

### **Bridge Repair**

The La Loma Bridge, which has spanned the lower Arroyo Seco for almost 90 years, is in need of repairs to meet current seismic standards. The bridge is 378 feet long and carries one lane of travel in each direction with five-foot-wide sidewalks on both sides. Due to its historical significance, the bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). In 1990, shortly after the Loma Prieta Earthquake, all of the bridges in the City of Pasadena were analyzed to determine whether they could withstand a probable earthquake event and it was concluded that La Loma is deficient in strength and deteriorating. The Environmental Impact Report on the project was issued in September 2006, but subsequent geological surveys performed in 2007 identified the location of the Eagle Rock fault running beneath the bridge. The location of the fault significantly impacts the design of the bridge retrofit, which is now expected to cost \$11.5 million.

Two other bridges over the Arroyo Seco, the Holly Street Bridge and the San Rafael Bridge, have also been identified as having significant seismic difficulties and are also in need of repair. The cost of the Holly Street Bridge is estimated at \$8 million, while the San Rafael would cost \$3 million.

- ***Request: \$16 million in the reauthorization of the 2005 SAFETEA-LU law with jurisdiction over federal surface transportation programs.***

#### **Route 210 Soundwalls**

The City has been working with the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in coordinating the construction of soundwalls along sections of the Route 210. One priority area is the 4.1 mile North Arroyo Boulevard segment, which is bordered by residential neighborhoods built long before the construction of the freeway that are now being severely impacted by increasing freeway traffic and noise. Despite noise measurements confirming it is the segment in Pasadena with the highest decibel level MTA has not funded the Orange Grove to Arroyo Boulevard segment and has no estimated construction date. The City hopes to receive federal assistance to accelerate construction of soundwalls in this high priority area and to continue coordination efforts to construct soundwalls along other portions of the 210.

- ***Request: \$13.5 million in the reauthorization of the 2005 SAFETEA-LU law with jurisdiction over federal surface transportation programs.***

## **C. Water Resources Development Act**

#### **Water System Improvement Program**

The Pasadena Water and Power (PWP) Department provides water to all residents within the City of Pasadena and, as a result, the integrity of the water delivery system is essential to providing safe and efficient levels of service. Currently, the majority of the PWP facilities were installed over 70 years ago, with many water valves over 90 years old. Given that the useful life of a cast-iron pipeline is 50 to 70 years, these facilities are beyond their design life and are in desperate need of replacement. The City estimates it

will cost between \$20 million and \$30 million per year over the next several years to protect and enhance its water delivery system.

Planning, design and construction of water infrastructure projects would include a distribution system, a storage booster station, pipeline rehabilitation and supervisory control, data acquisition system upgrades, and the design and construction of a reclaimed water transmission and distribution system.

- ***Request: \$15 million authorization from the Corps of Engineers Section 219 Environmental Infrastructure Program in the next Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) to be considered by Congress.***

## **CITY OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA**

### **2009 Federal Priorities – Part II**

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#### **Regional Priorities**

##### **Interagency Communications Interoperable System (ICIS)**

The Pasadena Fire and Police Departments are currently participating in a regional interoperable communications system that will connect a number of area public safety agencies under a common radio network. Known as the Interagency Communications Interoperable System (ICIS), the project will help to solve one of the most significant problems facing public safety agencies in times of crisis. The City supports the efforts of all of the participating communities to secure funding for the considerable capital costs of the program based on the benefit ICIS provides to the entire region for both safety and efficiency. In Pasadena alone, \$5 million is needed to connect the Police, Water and Power, and Public Works Departments to ICIS.

##### **Southern California Foothill Communities Water Reliability Program**

A collection of Southern California communities, including Pasadena, are involved in a long-term, comprehensive effort to enhance the area's water supply. Among those projects is a proposal to recharge the Raymond Basin, an aquifer whose levels are dropping between three and six feet per year. In addition to safeguarding the drinking water supply of the area, the water recharge will help prevent the migration of perchlorate from the Raymond Basin into the Northwest portion of the San Gabriel Basin and allow water producers to use blending to meet Safe Drinking Water Act standards. One proposed project will fill the un-used portion of the Basin's storage capacity to help to ensure an uninterrupted water supply in the event of a disruption of Colorado River or State Water Project supplies. The City supports the efforts of the Raymond Basin Management Board to increase the authorization from \$5 million to \$10 million for the Water Supply Reliability Project (WSRP) through the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), as well as \$1 million for the WSRP in the FY 2010 Energy and Water Development appropriations.

##### **Arroyo Seco Watershed**

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have initiated a Feasibility Study to examine potential water resources and environmental restoration plans for the Arroyo Seco Watershed. Eight miles of the 22-mile Arroyo Seco corridor extend through the City of Pasadena, and its resources are valued highly by the community as the largest open space in the City.

According to the Corps of Engineers, the San Gabriel Mountains are among the most erodable mountains in the world, releasing large amounts of sediment into the Arroyo each year and threatening highly diverse habitats of wildlife and vegetation as well as popular recreational areas. The Feasibility Study would evaluate various options for restoration of the Arroyo and ultimately recommend a final plan for authorization by Congress. The City supports sufficient funding in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers budget to complete this important feasibility study.



**NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory**

In partnership with the California Institute of Technology and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) is one of the most important federally-funded research and development centers in the country. As a result, JPL is a significant economic engine for the area, and Pasadena benefits tremendously from its presence. The City supports a reinvigorated commitment to the Science and Space missions at NASA with enhanced budgets in these areas, particularly those functions that fund operations at JPL.

**Los Angeles to Pasadena Gold Line Light Rail (Phase II – Foothill Extension)**

The City of Pasadena strongly supports Phase II of the Los Angeles to Pasadena Gold Line and urges Congress to provide sufficient funds through the annual appropriations process to ensure that the project is completed in a timely matter. The City is very supportive of congressional direction that would allow for the use of state and local funds expended on Phase I of the project to be considered toward the federal match requirement for Phase II.

In addition to serving Pasadena residents seeking a transit alternative east of the City, Phase II of the Gold Line will alleviate the anticipated traffic buildup in East Pasadena that is expected from commuters across the region approaching the current terminus of the line. The project is currently the most important transportation project in the region, and communities such as Pasadena are committed to offering viable and efficient transportation choice for residents of the San Gabriel Valley.

## **CITY OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA**

### **2009 Federal Priorities – Part III**

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#### **Legislative Priorities**

##### *Guiding Principles*

##### **Preserve and Enhance Federal Assistance to Local Governments**

Pasadena is interested in protecting and enhancing existing funding and authorities that impact revenues to the City. We seek opportunities to utilize federal resources when it is appropriate and consistent with our local priorities.

##### **Oppose Preemption of Local Authority**

Cities such as Pasadena are created voluntarily by the residents of the community to provide local self-governance. Pasadena in general would be concerned with most Federal proposals that would result in unfunded mandates or preempt the ability of local governments to enforce policies, provide services, or protect assets traditionally handled on the local level.

##### **Economic Stimulus**

As Congress crafts proposals for an economic stimulus package in 2009, the City strongly encourages significant investments in the nation's infrastructure as a way to create jobs and upgrade the movement of goods and services. Like many communities across the country, Pasadena has a number of projects that are "ready-to-go" but have been delayed by budget constraints. These include major investment in improving roads and bridges, expansion of public transportation, upgrade of water delivery systems, energy efficiency measures that result in the creation of "green jobs," economic development initiatives in low and moderate income neighborhoods, and maintaining services in our public safety system. It is particularly important that, to the largest extent possible, stimulus funds are allocated directly to local governments, in order to ensure speedy obligation of the funds and maximize the benefits to our residents while providing a much-needed infusion of capital into the economy.

##### **Perchlorate Contamination**

The City continues to negotiate with NASA regarding drinking water contamination at the City's Sunset Wells, and seeks the assistance from the congressional delegation in ensuring that the responsible parties finance the remediation effort. The City strongly supports legislation to assist communities in dealing with remediation of drinking water contamination, such as proposals to create a trust fund at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to provide grants to communities that have experienced severe perchlorate contamination.

##### **Reclaimed Water**

The City's Water and Power Department is also working toward the implementation of the Pasadena Reclaimed Water Project, which would provide the City with access to

water at the Los Angeles/Glendale Water Reclamation Plant that could be used for non-potable uses such as irrigation. Congress provided an authorization for the project in 1996 that allows the City to seek federal assistance from the Bureau of Reclamation at the Department of Interior. The City will spend 2009 on performing a feasibility study and environmental assessments for the project, as well as renewing a contract for the reclaimed water with the City of Glendale. In anticipation of construction beginning in 2010, the City is likely to seek federal assistance toward the \$13 million cost of Phase I of the project in the FY 2011 Energy and Water Development appropriations bill through the Water and Related Resources account at the Bureau of Reclamation.

### **Public Health**

The City encourages the federal government to continue to provide adequate resources to strengthen the existing public health infrastructure to: 1) help address the growing number of uninsured individuals without access to care; 2) develop effective and coordinated community mitigation, preparedness, and response systems for bioterrorism, emergence of new infectious disease threats and other public health emergencies, and 3) assist with the reduction of health disparities, examination of environmental influences on health and wellness, and expansion of substance abuse recovery programs. A risk based allocation of bioterrorism and emergency preparedness funding, rather than a population based formula, would more appropriately address the public health needs in Pasadena.

The City supports continued support for the Ryan White Care Act and opposes any restructuring that would negatively impact the allocation to Los Angeles County. The City also opposes reductions in the Medicare and Medicaid programs, as this would shift the cost of care for individuals in these programs to the state and local jurisdictions.

The City supports public policies and funding opportunities that improve access to and coordination of health care. Specifically, the City seeks funding to assist in the development and ongoing operations of an urgent care center in Pasadena. The City also encourages the development of new federal grant opportunities to sustain and expand programs that had received resources through the Healthy Communities Access Program (HCAP), which has not received funding since FY 2005. HCAP programs developed in Pasadena and throughout the country have had a tremendous positive impact on cost savings and in improving the effectiveness and efficiency of local health care systems. In a short time, the Pasadena Healthcare Link Project has had marked success in coordinating access to care for the underserved and uninsured.

The City supports legislation to provide health coverage for all in a comprehensive manner provided that adequate funding and cost controls are in place.

### **Rose Bowl Renovations**

The City of Pasadena promotes the restoration of its historic properties and is seeking funding for the renovation of the Rose Bowl. The Rose Bowl is a National Historic Landmark eligible for federal historic tax credits which pursuing them could provide as much as \$25 million toward a major renovation. However, legislative support may be required to ensure financial arrangements are feasible for the receipt of historic tax

credits for the Rose Bowl. As the City moves forward with renovations of the Rose Bowl, any other federal funding that would assist with enhancing public safety and infrastructure improvements are welcomed.

### **Environment**

The City of Pasadena is seeking to increase its role in promoting environmental stewardship and urban sustainability through activities such as the endorsement of the United Nations Green Cities Declaration, the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, and the adoption of the Urban Environmental Accords Action Plan.

In the context of striving to balance long-term economic and social impacts of our decisions and actions, the City supports legislation that improves the availability of renewable energy; increases energy efficiency; reduces greenhouse gas emissions; reduces waste to landfills; reduces the use of non-renewable resources in the manufacture of products; supports green buildings; advances urban planning while protecting wildlife habitats and preserving and maximizing open space; improves opportunities for securing environmentally beneficial jobs; supports the environmental benefits of organic food production; eliminates chemicals and/or compounds that pose risks to living things; enhances parks and recreational opportunities; increases the urban forestry canopy; increases affordable and accessible public transit; supports cleaner emissions from vehicles; improves air quality; ensures safe drinking water supplies; conserves water resources; and supports sustainable urban watershed and wastewater planning and implementation.

### **Energy Efficiency**

The City supports full funding for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant at the Department of Energy. This program -- which is authorized at \$2 billion annually and is designed to award formula grants to states and local governments for the design and implementation of energy efficiency programs -- would provide great benefits for a number of ongoing activities within the community.

### **Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Renewable Energy**

The City owns and operates a municipal electric utility through its Department of Water and Power. As Pasadena looks to increase its utilization of renewable energy resources to provide power to its residents, we encourage Congress to support proposals to assist on the federal level, such as: 1) an increased commitment to the Renewable Energy Production Incentive (REPI) program; 2) expansion of the Clean Renewable Energy Bond (CREB) program, and 3) the introduction of legislation that would fund studies to examine ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on coal-fired plants.

### **Taxation**

In general, the City is concerned that the federal government has attempted to impose itself into the area of local taxation, a matter traditionally handled on the local level. Pasadena officials are better suited than the federal government to understand the needs of the community, and should have all the tools necessary to ensure the safety and health

of the public while properly maintaining the public's largest investment, its infrastructure.

The City has concerns about legislation that would have severely limited the ability of local governments to impose business activity taxes, as well as legislation that would eliminate local authority to impose taxes on wireless communications providers.

The City is supportive of efforts to repeal a provision in the 2005 Jobs Creation Act (HR 4297) that would require state and local governments that spend more than \$100 million annually on goods and services to withhold from vendors a three percent federal tax beginning in 2011. In addition to the administrative burdens of this unfunded federal mandate, the provision will ultimately result in increased costs of goods and services to local governments as vendors raise their rates to make up for the tax.

Finally, the City supports legislation that would allow states and local governments to collect sales taxes from remote sales such as online and catalog purchases. Such legislation would level the playing field between online merchants that do not have to collect sales and use taxes, and Main Street businesses that do not enjoy that advantage.

#### **Employee Compensation and Terms of Employment**

The City supports local control over employment decisions such as compensation and benefits, collective bargaining agreements, and employee rights and privileges. Federal items of concern include legislation that would mandate collective bargaining rights for state and local public safety workers, as well as Internal Revenue Service regulations that would prevent public pension plans from using years of service to determine eligibility for retirement.

#### **Telecommunications**

The City strongly opposes attempts, through Federal regulation as well as legislation, to erode traditional State and local authority over public rights-of-way, including the ability to impose fair and reasonable compensation for its use and maintenance. While the City encourages competition, telecommunications providers wishing to enter the market should be subject to the same local rules and regulations as incumbent providers, as well as those of other businesses.

The City also opposes proposals for state or national franchises, as local franchises are best suited to encouraging universal service, ensuring educational and governmental programming, and protecting consumers. Particularly important to the local franchising process is the issue of "build-out," in which the local government negotiates directly with the provider to ensure that the entire community is served within a reasonable amount of time. Also, local governments should have the ability to provide telecommunications services, should they choose to do so, under the same rules as current providers.

The City would also oppose federal intrusions into local land use regulations with regard to determining the sites of telecommunications facilities such as cellular towers.

### **Public Safety**

Local law enforcement programs supported by federal grants have been reduced to the point of rendering many of them ineffective. The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG), and the Byrne Memorial Grant have been downsized in place of the current Homeland Security grant system which focuses protection on terrorism only. The City supports the idea that fighting local crime simultaneously creates greater Homeland Security. The City urges greater funding for federal law enforcement grants that possess a broad spectrum of application for the purposes of law enforcement instead of the current narrowly focused counter terrorism grants.

The City is also concerned with the continued reduction of Medicare reimbursement for ambulance service and strongly urges the federal government, either by legislative or regulatory means, to set reimbursement rates for ambulance services at the actual cost of the transport. Current Medicare reimbursement rates do not come close to covering the cost of the service and are an unfunded mandate on local ambulance providers that ultimately results in local taxpayers subsidizing the Medicare program.

### **Homeland Security**

The presence of the Rose Bowl, Tournament of Roses Parade, and NASA Jet Propulsion Lab presents the City of Pasadena with unique challenges in protecting its citizens from terrorist threats. Like many other communities, the City believes that there is a role for the federal government to assist localities; preferably with flexible, threat-based homeland security funding (block grants) that can be tailored to the specific needs of each community. Pasadena participates in the Los Angeles area Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) and supports funding for the area at least at current levels.

The City supports the continued funding of the Firefighter Assistance Grants program at the Department of Homeland Security, which serves as a valuable tool for both homeland security and local fire safety purposes. In addition, the City urges Congress to fully fund the SAFER program to provide firefighter hiring grants. However, budget constraints often make meeting local match requirements in the Firefighter Assistance program difficult and firefighter salaries that are high in relation to other states hinder the City's ability to consider the limitations that come with SAFER grants.

### **Eminent Domain/Land Use**

The City is concerned with federal initiatives on several fronts to scale back local authority over eminent domain, land use, and zoning. In an effort to respond to the 2005 *Kelo v. New London* decision, wherein the Supreme Court narrowly affirmed the use of eminent domain by local governments for economic development purposes, the City fears Congress will scale back the ability of local governments to use eminent domain for public benefit. The City also opposes legislation that would allow property owners to challenge a state or local land use decision in federal court if their first appeal of the decision is rejected through the local process. The measure would usurp local authority over land use matters, place land-use issues in federal courts ill-equipped to handle such cases, and only benefit those with the resources to undertake such costly litigation.

The City also has concerns regarding residential care facilities that serve as “sober living” homes. Since federal law classifies recovering drug and substance abusers as handicapped and allows unrestricted location of group homes for the handicapped, local governments have little control over the placement of these sober living facilities in their communities. While the City does not oppose the presence of residential group homes in Pasadena, we believe that, like any other home or business, we should have some say over their placement within the community.

The City would also oppose federal intrusions into local land use regulations with regard to determining the sites of telecommunications facilities such as cellular towers.

### **Community Development/Affordable Housing**

The City strongly supports HUD programs such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnerships, Supportive Housing, Shelter Plus Care, and Section 8 Tenant-based and Project-based Programs and urges the congressional delegation to oppose any attempts to: 1) reduce funding for these popular assistance programs, 2) change their formulas, or 3) convert them into state block grants. Pasadena receives in excess of \$15 million annually from the combined programs, which funds a variety of community projects and services vital to our low-income residents. The City would also not support efforts to substitute the Neighborhood Stabilization Program for the basic CDBG program.

In addition, federal funds for homeless assistance programs and investment in affordable and workforce housing that recognizes inflated fair market rents in high-cost areas, such as California, are crucial to the City’s goals of addressing the housing affordability concerns of our residents. The City also opposes efforts to reduce available funding or place restrictions on the use of administrative fees to implement the Section 8 Housing Assistance Program at the local level. Finally, the City supports the creation of a federal affordable housing program, such as the Trust Fund created as part of efforts to regulate Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSE) such as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

### **Workforce Development**

Workforce development is a critical policy area that directly links the ability of California companies to compete in the global market. It provides cities and regions with the ability to retain and grow key industries and provides people with the opportunity to develop the skills needed to prosper in a changing economy. Funding levels are at their lowest in the short history of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) which leaves the workforce development system under funded and negatively impacts the ability to meet the needs of local job seekers and businesses.

The City supports reauthorization of WIA with continued flexibility and the primacy of the one stop system as the presumed deliverer of employment and training services. Sustained funding and enhanced policy development for workforce development initiatives are essential to a healthy employment and training system. The City supports a continued strong, locally-based, business-led workforce development system, including

local WIB membership on State Boards, local board and local elected official participation in regional planning, maintenance of current funding levels to local areas, and protection of workforce areas designated as high-performing.

The City supports financial incentives – such as payment of salaries – to encourage small businesses under 10 employees to hire youth, ages 16-21, during the summers.

The City opposes reductions in the local control and governance of workforce development areas, particularly where consolidation of existing workforce investment areas to create larger regions would be instituted without regard to the effective performance of existing workforce areas and governing bodies.

### **Parks and Recreation**

Maintaining and enhancing the City's parks and recreational system is a high priority for Pasadena residents, and the City has committed significant resources to offering safe and accessible recreational opportunities. Although federal assistance in the areas of recreation, preservation, and conservation has declined sharply, the City believes there is a federal role for assisting local governments with these matters and urges Congress to restore funding for important programs such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). While Congress originally intended for \$900 million annually in offshore drilling revenues to be directed to the LWCF, the program receives only a small fraction of that amount each year, and LWCF state formula grants remain on the brink of elimination. Similarly, in prior years, funding was eliminated for the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) program where the City believes the small federal commitment provided great benefits to a number of communities across the country.

### **Senior Services**

A broad combination of Federal and State programs and subsidies are essential to the quality of life for seniors in Pasadena. The City opposes any cuts to funding for health care subsidies or related senior programs, with particular concern for reductions in funding for or delivery of support services that enable seniors and persons with disabilities to live independently or in the most appropriate but least restrictive setting. Further, the City supports the inclusion of seniors as one of the preferential groups for consideration of public housing funds.

### **Persons with Disabilities**

The City recognizes that education, healthcare, housing, recreation and employment opportunities are major factors in establishing independent lifestyles for persons with disabilities. The City opposes funding reductions for programs that assist persons with disabilities in establishing independent lifestyles.

### **Human Relations Issues**

The City realizes that prejudice, intolerance and discrimination based on race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, parental status, gender, age, or cultural background are root causes of hate crimes and affect the lives of every



resident in Pasadena. The City supports legislation and regulations that would eliminate hate crimes.

### **Women's Issues**

The City of Pasadena is actively involved in promoting networks and programs that advance women's issues. The City supports: 1) legislation and regulations that would improve women's access to quality healthcare; 2) protection for domestic violence victims (including the availability of domestic violence shelters); 3) expanding resources to prevent sexual harassment in the workplace; 4) legal assistance for women who are forced into slavery, prostitution and pornography (human trafficking); and, 5) strengthening of laws that encourage equal pay without regard for gender.

### **Library Services**

The City supports full funding for the Library and Technology Act (LSTA) programs at the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The City also supports continued IMLS funding of National Leadership grants for Library and Recruitment for Librarians for the 21st Century, and early childhood literacy programs that involve partnerships between libraries, the local school district and other community-based agencies.

### **Arts and Culture**

The Pasadena community benefits from a wealth of cultural opportunities that makes the community an attractive place to live, work, and learn. In order to harness the creative spirit of the community, residents began a process that has resulted in an action plan, or Cultural Nexus, for the next ten years. Overseen by the City's Cultural Affairs Division of the City Manager's Office, the Cultural Nexus aspires to: 1) increase participation in Pasadena's cultural life; 2) leverage Pasadena's cultural assets for economic growth; 3) communicate Pasadena's unique cultural heritage to the world; and 4) ensure a sustainable support system for arts and culture in the community. The City believes that a federal role in these activities is appropriate, and supports continued funding of arts education initiatives, cultural outreach activities, and programs at agencies such as the National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities.

### **Immigration**

The City of Pasadena strongly believes that immigrants strengthen the community economically and culturally, and welcomes their contributions to society. With regard to federal legislation aimed at reforming federal immigration laws, the City would urge Congress and the President to reaffirm that addressing unlawful immigration in a compassionate manner is the primary responsibility of the federal government, and that sufficient resources must be committed on the federal level for this purpose. Local governments should not be mandated to enforce federal immigration laws, particularly when resources necessary to enforce local laws are stretched.

**ATTACHMENT 2**

**CITY OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA  
2009 STATE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM**

**CITY OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA**  
**2009 State Priorities – Part I**

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**Guiding Principles**

***Preserve Local Funding***

The City supports the protection of existing state and local funding sources and the authorities that provide revenues to the City of Pasadena. Such areas include the protection of state-shared revenues and the ability to collect compensation for the use of the public right-of-way or city-owned facilities. The City opposes any new mandates that are unfunded and/or inadequately funded.

***Preserve Local Authority***

The City supports local decision-making authority and opposes preemption of local control. Cities are voluntarily created by the residents of a community to provide local self-government and to make decisions at a local level to best meet the needs of the community. Each community has unique needs and characteristics that are best met by policies set by its own local governing body. Recently, several pieces of high-profile legislation have been introduced which serve the purpose of superseding local discretion and land use controls generally established to maintain the immediate community's quality of life standards. Statewide efforts to remove the ability to set policy at the local level should be opposed.

## **CITY OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA**

### **2009 State Priorities – Part II**

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#### **Legislative Priorities**

##### **Environment**

The City of Pasadena is seeking to increase its role in promoting environmental stewardship and urban sustainability through activities such as the endorsement of the United Nations Green Cities Declaration, the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, and the adoption of the Urban Environmental Accords Action Plan.

The City supports legislation that: 1) improves the availability of renewable energy; 2) increases energy efficiency; 3) reduces greenhouse gas emissions; 4) reduces waste to landfills; 5) reduces the use of non-renewable resources in the manufacture of products; 6) supports green buildings and advances urban planning while protecting wildlife habitats; 7) improves opportunities for environmentally beneficial jobs; 8) enhances parks and recreational opportunities; 9) increases the urban forestry canopy; 10) increases affordable public transit; 11) supports cleaner emissions from vehicles; improve air quality; 12) ensures and conserves safe drinking water, and 13) supports sustainable urban watershed and wastewater planning and implementation. The City also supports renewable energy derived from sustaining resources such as wind, geothermal (steam from underground magna), landfill gas (methane produced from decomposing waste), solar (sun), and hydroelectric facilities (water from dams).

The City continues to support efforts which improve our air quality. The City supports legislation regarding better air quality which may include strategies to mitigate emissions. The City supports port operations which reduces air pollution as well as relieves traffic congestion. This is best demonstrated in our purchases of alternative vehicles for the city transit service and the recognition that more State attention should be focused on the ports and the movement of goods.

As a founding member of Green Cities California, Pasadena, in collaboration with the other member agencies, also supports legislation that: reduces or eliminates single use bags and promotes reusable bags statewide; proposes or supports funding to local governments to assist in implementation of Assembly Bill (AB) 32 - 2007 Global Warming Solution Act; preserves funding for transit; and establishes extended producer responsibility for waste reduction.

##### **Eminent Domain**

The City supports the adoption of statutory and constitutional reforms of the laws governing the use of eminent domain for private economic development purposes, and will continue to participate in the development of such reforms that will uphold the importance of both the current property rights system in concert with the principles of urban planning and redevelopment.

### **Abatement of Nuisance Liquor Stores**

Several nuisance liquor stores in the City are continually cited for illegal activities including selling to minors. With the passage of SB 148 (Scott) a process exists to commence the elimination of nuisance liquor stores and the associated impacts from the affected communities. The City continues to request our legislators initiate legislation that would provide local government with more control over the abatement of nuisance liquor stores.

### **Rose Bowl Renovations**

The City of Pasadena promotes the restoration of its historic properties and is seeking funding for the renovation of the Rose Bowl. The Rose Bowl is a National Historic Landmark eligible for historic tax credits which pursuing them could provide as much as \$25 million toward a major renovation. However, legislative support may be required to ensure financial arrangements are feasible for the receipt of historic tax credits for the Rose Bowl. As the City moves forward with renovations of the Rose Bowl, any other state funding that would assist with enhancing public safety and infrastructure improvements are welcomed.

### **California Vehicle Code**

The City seeks legislation to amend the language of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) related to the definition of local streets in the section pertaining to speed traps and setting speed limits. The changes are sought to provide greater flexibility in setting speed limits on residential collectors and arterials in cities with older street systems. Modifying the CVC to make the language less restrictive with regard to how a local street is defined would restore a measure of local control. If a city had the option to use the criteria in paragraphs A-C of CVC 40802 (2) (b) (1) rather than being forced to use functional classification, streets that are local in design would be considered "local" regardless of functional classification and would be exempt from having to comply with the requirement to conduct an engineering and traffic survey to set the speed limit.

### **Density Bonus Law**

The City supports changes to the current State Density Bonus law that will restore local control. These changes should allow cities to maximize their ability to protect local quality of life and retain the unique character of their communities. The City supports special consideration in meeting the State Density Bonus law for cities like Pasadena that have consistently invested in affordable housing projects/programs. Cities that have achieved appropriate housing goals, demonstrated commitments to affordable housing, complied with zoning requirements, etc. should not be penalized by the imposition of State law which diminishes local authority. The City supports compliant cities being granted relief and/or flexibility in response to the State Density Bonus law with greater regulatory attention focused on non-compliant jurisdictions to address their affordable housing needs.

### **Telecommunications**

Last year, California enacted legislation that shifted franchising of video service providers from the local to the state level. While the legislation largely preserved local governments' ability to regulate placement of telecommunications infrastructure in the

public rights-of-way, cities lost control in several other areas of telecommunications regulation. Clean-up legislation may be introduced in the upcoming legislative session. In addition, states other than California have adopted legislation that prohibits cities from providing telecommunications services, as well as legislation to limit regulation of private-sector telecommunications firms' use of the public rights-of-way.

The City supports legislation clarifying regulation of video service providers to preserve: Public Educational & Government (PEG) funding and channels; cities' rights to collect and audit franchise fee payments; local regulation of placement of telecommunications infrastructure in the public rights-of-way; and local government input in the state franchising process.

The City opposes any legislation that would further diminish the City's ability to make future decisions to offer telecommunications services directly or to control the use of the public rights-of-way by the telecommunications industry.

#### **Workers Compensation**

Recent improvements to the workers' compensation system were the result of many individual efforts seeking to resolve specific issues. The system needs additional work to continue to move toward fair and equitable programs.

The City supports legislation that would control medical and legal costs. The City opposes legislation that would repeal the recent workers compensation reforms, or that would exempt public safety employees from those reforms.

#### **Employee Compensation and Terms of Employment**

The City supports local control over employment decisions not already preempted by State law. Each year the legislature introduces numerous bills which have the effect of eroding local control over employment, including such things as compensation and benefits, collective bargaining agreements, and employee rights and privileges.

Inasmuch as each city is unique, it is important to maintain local control over the discretionary nuances of employment that are not already regulated by State or federal law or regulation. The City opposes legislation that would preempt local control over employment, compensation and benefits, collective bargaining and employee rights and privileges.

#### **Support for Affordable Housing**

The City has implemented an aggressive and creative program to maximize the use of resources for the creation of housing for low and moderate-income individuals and families.

The City supports legislation that would provide additional resources for the development of affordable housing programs and/or expand code enforcement programs to protect existing housing stock. The City supports legislation that would require municipalities to provide assistance to homeless individuals that reside within their jurisdictions either directly or through the financial support of homeless service agencies that provide services within or directly adjacent to their jurisdictions. The City opposes new regulations that would create cumbersome processes or other obstacles to the development of affordable housing and/or the provision of homeless services.

### **Expanded Health Coverage**

In Pasadena, an estimated one out of every four residents does not have adequate health coverage. Some are uninsured children who are eligible, but not enrolled in available programs. Many are working poor whose employers do not provide insurance or have reduced their coverage due to increasing health care costs. People who are uninsured and underinsured face significant barriers in obtaining needed health services, often leading to needless death, disability, and increased costs of care. Social, economic, racial and ethnic factors also contribute to significant health disparities. To address these issues, the City supports legislation to improve health coverage in a comprehensive manner provided adequate funding and cost controls are in place. Expansion in health insurance programs would also help to reduce the burden of unreimbursed care provided by local emergency services, which has led to a crisis in the emergency medical system in Los Angeles County.

The City recognizes that several health care reform mechanisms have been introduced by the Governor and in the Legislature. These proposals will be evaluated and recommendations will be made that will outline the components that the City views as essential.

### **Protection of Children against Sexual Predators**

Although the Police Department continues to monitor registered sex offenders, not all released offenders comply with registration requirements. The failure of offenders to register places an additional strain on Police Department resources due to the resultant need for investigations and the issuance of warrants.

The City supports legislation to increase periods of incarceration for people who commit sex crimes against children, as well as additional law enforcement tools to track sex registrants after they are released from prison.

### **Freight Volumes-Truck Congestion**

Significant concerns are developing over the capacity of the nation's freight transportation system to keep pace with expected growth in freight traffic over the next 20 years. By example, the I-210 Freeway is a major corridor for truck traffic and freight movement and additional congestion on this roadway has/will have a direct impact on Pasadena. Studies have shown that relatively small investments in the nation's freight railroads can be leveraged into large public benefits for improved highway infrastructure, reduced congestion, enhanced air quality, etc. The City supports efforts to balance the movement of freight over both rail and truck systems to address the pending environmental and infrastructure issues along with regional efforts towards improved freight rail construction. The City also supports efforts to explore the benefits of investment in freight-rail and related emerging governmental initiatives.

### **Group Homes**

The City supports legislation that would provide increased oversight by the State and/or reduce the potential for over-concentration of group homes within a defined geographic

area. The City also supports neighborhoods and has concerns regarding residential care facilities that serve as “sober living” homes. Since federal law classifies recovering drug and substance abusers as handicapped and allows unrestricted location of group homes for the handicapped, local governments have little control over the placement of these sober living facilities in their communities. While the City does not oppose the presence of residential group homes in Pasadena, we believe that, like any other home or business, we should have some say over their placement within the community.



**CITY OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA**  
**2009 State Priorities – Part III**

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**Funding Priorities**

**Gold Line Phase II**

The second phase of the Gold Line is a much-anticipated addition to the transportation system throughout the San Gabriel Valley and beyond. The second phase of the Gold Line will relieve congestion in the area and provide a greater modal choice for residents of the San Gabriel Valley. The City also supports funding and/or legislation that would expedite the completion of Phase II of the Gold Line. The City advocates that San Gabriel Valley cities have a role in the construction of the Gold Line.

**Completion of the 710 Freeway**

Many of the major north/south arterial streets in the southwest portion of the City are operating at capacity during peak hours with overflow traffic spilling onto residential streets. In March 2001, Pasadena voters supported completion of the 710 Freeway through this area of the City. However, the Caltrans Notice of Determination for the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) associated with the originally contemplated surface transportation project to complete the 710 freeway was withdrawn by a vote of the Commission on April 8, 2004 and is no longer under consideration in favor of a tunnel solution to this critical traffic concern. The City supports this approach along with the feasibility studies currently underway regarding the possible tunnel solution as well as the voters approved funding to perform further studies included in Measure R.

**Protection of the State Water Project**

The State Water Project is the primary drinking water source for more than 18 million Southern Californians. 67% of Pasadena Water and Power's water supply is imported from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, whose primary water source comes from the State Water Project. The City supports funding opportunities and legislation that will improve the State Water Project in the following areas:

- Water quality
- Water supply
- Water conveyance and facilities

**Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP)**

Long term water resources management planning is a major concern for the state. The City supports grant funding for programs, projects and implementation. The IRWMP is a regional effort that will address water supply and water quality needs and objectives by integrating strategies and projects that may include water conservation and recycling, desalination, conjunctive use, flood management, storm water and urban runoff quality, wastewater quality, habitat restoration and protection, wetland enhancement and creation, recreation, open space, sustainable urban watershed and other water resources management initiatives.

### **Reclaimed Water**

The City supports all legislation and funding that supports the implementation, construction and use of reclaimed water as an alternative water supply for irrigation, landscape and industrial purposes. The City supports funding opportunities for the implementation and construction of a reclaimed water distribution system.

### **Reservoir Rehabilitation**

The City's 2003 Water System Master Plan has identified the City's reservoir facilities as being potentially subject to seismic damage from an earthquake occurring in the Sierra Madre fault system. Rehabilitation of the City's reservoir facilities will increase the water system's reliability and water quality. The City will seek state funding assistance with seismic rehabilitation of water facilities.

### **Safe Drinking Water**

Regulations on safe drinking water are becoming increasingly stringent on local jurisdictions with water departments and local and regional water districts. The City seeks funding to assist it in meeting safe drinking water requirements as regulations become ever more stringent. The City supports funding opportunities for treatment facilities to treat contaminated groundwater in order to comply with new water quality regulations. The City supports legislation that revises water quality testing standards that are based on scientific data.

### **Energy Efficiency and Demand Reduction**

The City believes that energy efficiency and demand reduction programs provide a significant amount of energy savings and peak demand reduction. The City supports funding opportunities and incentives for the evaluation and initiation of new cost-effective demand reduction programs to offset residential and commercial energy use and costs.

### **Public Health Services**

As one of three cities in the state with its own public health department, the City provides infectious disease surveillance and control, community health assessment and planning, health promotion and policy development, direct clinical services, and environmental health protection and enforcement activities. The Public Health Department plays a critical role in identifying and responding to outbreaks of disease and other threats to the public's health, including threats from a bioterrorist incident or other emergency.

The City supports any funding that strengthens core public health capacities in all relevant areas and opposes any cuts to funding. The City also supports the practice of designating the award of specific funds directly to local health jurisdictions, rather than through county distribution processes. The City supports continued state funding to local health department jurisdictions in support of preparedness, response, and recovery activities in the event of an infectious disease occurrence such as a pandemic influenza.

### **Pasadena Healthcare Link**

Pasadena Healthcare Link (PHL) is a 24/7 nurse advice, case management, and referral line sponsored by the Pasadena Public Health Department and a consortium of local health care providers. Initial project support was from a Healthy Communities Access Program (HCAP) grant, Bureau of Primary Care, Health Resources Services Administration; but funding was eliminated for the program in the FY 2007 Federal Budget. PHL is having a tremendous positive impact on access to care, coordination of services, cost savings, and in improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the local health care system. The City supports funding from the State of California Department of Public Health or the Department of Finance to support the Pasadena Healthcare Link project.

### **Soundwalls**

The process for prioritizing soundwall projects needs to be changed to allow the flexibility to address areas of greatest community concern and highest decibel reading. In 1998, the responsibility for soundwall projects was transferred from Caltrans to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA). The MTA changed the prioritization criteria to focus on high occupancy vehicle (HOV) related projects first, which exhaust all available funding. Projects of community concern, frequently with higher decibel readings, will not qualify for funding for an unknown number of years. The City would like to see legislation to amend the priority criteria for soundwalls to address areas of community concern.

### **City Parks**

Pasadena recently adopted a citywide Park Master Plan that identified a need for park land across the city as well as acquiring open space. There are 24 parks in the City of Pasadena. Presently, there are approximately \$70 million in unfunded park projects in the City's Capital Improvement Budget. These projects include implementing park master plans for our regional, community and neighborhood parks. In addition, the City is also home to the Arroyo Seco. The Arroyo Seco is on the western edge of the City of Pasadena and extends 8 miles through the City. This segment is a part of a longer 22 mile corridor that makes up the entire Arroyo Seco, a major tributary of the Los Angeles River. It is the City's largest natural open space and physically described as a deeply cut canyon linking the San Gabriel Mountains to the Los Angeles River. Pasadena supports legislation that directs state bond funds to assist with the completion of park projects.