

Agenda Report

January 25, 2010

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE (January 20, 2010)

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: 2010 FEDERAL & STATE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORMS

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the Federal and State Legislative Platforms for 2010.

BACKGROUND:

In conjunction with the City's lobbyists Chaney and Associates (federal) and Emanuels Jones and Associates (state), staff prepares federal and state legislative platforms each year to serve as the foundation for focused advocacy strategies with the respective government entities. Each platform outlines the City's positions on a range of current issues and provides staff and the lobbyists with direction to pursue advocacy on these matters.

The City of Pasadena 2010 Federal Platform (Attachment 1) includes appropriation requests/reauthorizations in three areas and describes the City's support of or opposition on other areas of interest. The 2010 requests are:

- A. Fiscal Year 2011 Appropriations Projects that would be included in the annual congressionally-approved spending bills that fund individual federal agencies:
 - Emergency Operations Center
 - Pasadena Reclaimed Water
 - Robinson Park Rehabilitation and Renovations
 - Transit Maintenance Facility
 - Smart Grid Study

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- Sewer Pipe Relining
- Pasadena Healthcare Link
- Neighborhood Outreach Workers Program
- B. Surface Transportation Reauthorization Projects that would be included in the multi-year reauthorization of federal surface transportation programs (2005 SAFETEA-LU law) scheduled to 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
 - Clean Fuel Bus Purchases
 - Intelligent Transportation System Improvements
- 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 2010 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.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

Approval of the subject recommendation represents a continuation of the annual policy/practice of devising federal and state legislative platforms as the advocacy strategies for regional, legislative and funding request priorities supported by the City of Pasadena.

FISCAL IMPACT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

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City Manager

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EN MICHAEL J. BECK

City Manager