



Agenda Report

December 15, 2014

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
THROUGH: Legislative Policy Committee (December 10, 2014)
FROM: Assistant City Manager
SUBJECT: 2015 FEDERAL & STATE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORMS

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the Federal Legislative Platform and the State Legislative Platform for calendar year 2015.

BACKGROUND:

In partnership with the City's lobbyists CapitalEdge (Federal) and Emanuels Jones and Associates (State), staff prepares federal and state legislative platforms annually that become the foundation for focused advocacy strategies with the respective government entities. Each platform outlines the City's position on a range of current issues and provides staff and the lobbyists with direction to pursue advocacy on these matters. The development of the platforms includes one-on-one meetings between the department managers with both the federal and state lobbyists to review last year's legislative activities and project what will be on the hot topics for the upcoming legislative sessions. From these discussions, recommendations are prepared and presented for City Council review and adoption.

The 2015 Federal Platform (Attachment A) format has been revised to reflect changes in Congress. In comparison to previous years, this format is more focused on policy provisions as Congress continues to shy away from earmarks right now. However, it does continue to include some specific needs for the City while maintaining enough flexibility to allow the City to react quickly to topics that might not be on the radar now but could come into play in the future.

The 2015 State Platform (Attachment B) has not changed in format and 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 establishing 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 Councils annual operating budget.

Respectfully submitted,


JULIE A. GUTIERREZ
Assistant City Manager

Approved by:


MICHAEL J. BECK
City Manager

Attachments: (2)

Attachment A – 2015 Federal Legislative Platform
Attachment B – 2015 State Legislative Platform