

Agenda Report

March 30, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
THROUGH: Legislative Policy Committee (March 25, 2015)
FROM: Public Health Department
SUBJECT: AMENDMENT OF 2015 STATE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed action is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and
2. Amend the 2015 state legislative platform to include support for legislation which will increase immunization rates, particularly in regard to children.

BACKGROUND:

The City prepares a legislative platform each year to serve as the foundation for a focused advocacy strategy. The platform outlines the City's position on a broad range of current issues providing staff and lobbyists with direction to pursue advocacy on these issues.

Among the many issues included in this year's platform are priorities for public health services. As one of three cities in the state with its own public health department, the City plays a critical role in identifying and responding to outbreaks of disease. Important preventive measures against such outbreaks include promoting vaccines and increasing the vaccination rates in Pasadena.

On February 25, 2015 Health Officer, Dr. Ying-Ying Goh, presented to the Legislative Policy Committee on vaccines, the control of vaccine-preventable diseases and proposed California state legislation that would increase immunization rates throughout the state, including Pasadena.

Staff is recommending that the City Council amend the state legislative platform to include support for legislation that will increase immunizations rates particularly in regard to children.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

Approval of the subject recommendation represents an amendment to the state legislative platform that guides advocacy strategies for regional, legislative, and funding request priorities supported by the City of Pasadena. Inclusion of support for legislation which increases immunization rates will support the City Council goal of promoting public safety.

FISCAL IMPACT:

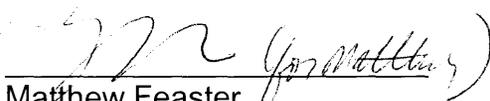
Funds for the legislative advocate are included in the City Council's operating budget.

Respectfully submitted,

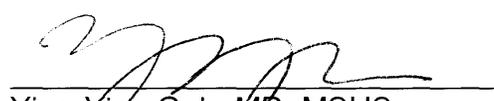


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