

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: LON PETERSON, CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
COMMUNICATIONS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
OFFICE
SUBJECT: 2024 STATE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTIONS

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Communications and Intergovernmental Relations Office that the Council, by two resolutions, adopt the City's 2024 State Legislative Platform.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2023-2024 state legislative session now enters the second year of the regular session. City staff have identified state legislative priorities in a proposed 2024 state legislative platform for consideration by the City Council. Defined priorities, approved by the City Council, will help communicate the City's state legislative and project priorities to the California State Legislative Delegation, Legislature, regional and state agencies.

BACKGROUND

To prepare for these legislative and advocacy activities, City staff has worked with various City departments and identified state legislative priorities in the proposed 2024 state legislative platform for consideration by the City Council. The priorities focus efforts in the following core areas: Wildfire Prevention and Recovery, Hazard Mitigation and Resiliency; Administration, Human Resources and Risk Management; Governmental Transparency and Public Access; Economic Development; Environment, Climate Change and Sustainability; Water Quality and Water Supply; Land Use-Planning and Housing; Homelessness; Recreation and Parks; Public Safety and Police, Fire and Emergency Services; Transportation; Public Works and Utilities; and Public Health.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

On January 24, 2023, the Council adopted the 2023 State Legislative Platform.

On January 11, 2022, the Council adopted the 2022 State Legislative Platform.

ANALYSIS

The statements outlined in the proposed 2024 State Legislative Platform (Exhibit B) intend to help communicate the City's state legislative and funding priorities to the California State Legislative Delegation, Legislature, regional and state agencies.

City staff, in coordination with the City's state lobbyist team, will monitor state legislation and administrative or regulatory proposals, taking appropriate action, when necessary, in alignment with the approved 2024 State Legislative Platform and in compliance with the City's existing Legislative Advocacy Council Policy No. 000-40 to advance and/or safeguard the City's priorities in Sacramento.

The City's legislative team met with representatives from all departments to review the legislative platform. Further, Renne Public Policy Group also joined those meetings and provided feedback and analysis regarding the proposed issue areas and priorities.

City staff are proposing two resolutions to adopt the 2024 State Legislative Platform. In the first resolution, Council will consider approving a specific policy statement related to wildfire insurance. The Legislature, Governor, and Insurance Commissioner along with various stakeholders are debating solutions to the state's insurance issues, especially related to access to coverage in fire prone areas. Last year, the Council directed staff to add in a specific policy statement supporting action to protect the City's residents related to access to wildfire insurance and fair market rates for that insurance.

Due to a conflict of interest, one Councilmember will be recusing from the vote on this policy related to wildfire insurance. To allow the Council Member to vote on the balance of the platform, we have segmented approval of the state platform into two resolutions as permitted under applicable FPPC regulations. In the second resolution, Council will consider approving the balance of the platform.

FISCAL IMPACT

Not applicable.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The Council finds that the proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under section 15061(b)(3) and 15378 in that there is no possibility that the implementation of this action may have significant effects on the environment.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution 1
- Resolution 2
- Exhibit A – 2024 State Legislative Platform (Partial List)
- Exhibit B – 2024 State Legislative Platform (Complete)

PRESENTER

Lon Peterson, Chief of Communications and Intergovernmental Relations