

City of San Leandro
2026 State Legislative Platform and Policy Guidance
Presented for City Council Consideration: January 12, 2026

The City of San Leandro's state legislative agenda for 2026 is designed to reflect the priorities and policy direction of the Mayor and City Council with direct input from the City Administration. This strategic agenda includes advocating for legislation, regulations, and funding that is consistent with the City's adopted priorities. It is informed by the City Council's prior year adopted legislative platform, and has been updated for 2026 to reflect new or emerging policy issues.

This agenda is designed to provide standing authority for the Mayor and members of the City Council, City staff, or the City's legislative advocates to act on pending legislative matters on behalf of the City of San Leandro when time or other constraints preclude bringing such matters before the City Council in advance. Such actions could include issuing letters on behalf of the City, expressing the City's position in policy committee hearings or legislative conferences, attending or scheduling meetings, or otherwise advocating actions that are consistent with the policy language contained herein. This document is also designed to provide the public and the City's advocates a better understanding of the Mayor and City Council's policy preferences regarding a variety of legislative and intergovernmental issues that might arise during the year.

This report is bifurcated in the following sections:

1. City Specific State Legislative Priorities for Recommended Action, and
2. General Policy Priorities for Ongoing Monitoring or Advocacy

1. City Specific State Legislative Priorities for Recommended Action

Below is a list of specific legislative priorities for the city. Direct advocacy with the Governor, the Legislature, State agencies, and other organizations will be generally focused on these areas.

It is expected that the Legislature will maintain its focus on recent policy priorities, including housing supply, homelessness, climate change & environmental protection, transportation, emergency preparedness, technology, federal changes and other topics. This is Governor Newsom's last year in office.

Transportation, Public Works, and Technology

- **Artificial Intelligence.** Support legislation that establishes clear, enforceable standards for the responsible development, deployment, and use of artificial intelligence, including transparency, accountability, non-discrimination, and privacy protections.
- **Autonomous Vehicles.** Monitor legislation and regulations for the development and operation of autonomous vehicles and support efforts to develop a consistent statewide framework that supports innovation and protects public safety.
- **Capitol Corridor South Bay Connect Project.** Advocate for the residents or businesses within San Leandro that may be affected by the project. Support project alternatives or other changes to mitigate impacts associated with the project.

- **Electric Vehicle Infrastructure.** Support efforts and funding programs that provide greater flexibility and opportunities to enhance and build out electric vehicle infrastructure, particularly near multifamily housing units or other areas that could yield positive benefits to the community. Support efforts and funding programs for affordable ownership or leasing of electric vehicles.
- **Extended Producer Responsibility and Zero Waste Programs.** Support efforts to enhance and fund programs that advocate zero-waste practices, recycling and/or Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) among product manufacturers, retailers and grocery stores for products that can be recycled, including pharmaceuticals, to ensure safe and proper disposal.
- **Illegal Dumping & Graffiti Abatement.** Support legislative efforts that provide for greater penalties or consumer-based incentives to reduce the amount of illegal dumping, waste disposal, and graffiti.
- **Lake Chabot Road.** Seek funding from the State of California or other agencies that would support the repair of Lake Chabot Road.
- **Macarthur Roundabout Project.** Seek funding from the State of California or other agencies that would facilitate construction of the proposed Roundabout/ traffic circle located at the corner of Macarthur Blvd and Superior Avenue.
- **Pedestrian safety:** Support efforts to address pedestrian fatalities and safety, including increased crosswalks, traffic calming measures and related activities that further the city's effort to reach Vision Zero.
- **Public Utilities, Public Safety Power Shut-offs, Wildfire Liability and Vegetation Management.** Monitor legislation regarding wildfire liability. Following some of the most destructive wildfires in California history, the State is expected to implement new plans to improve disaster preparedness. Support funding to off-set local costs or other mitigation efforts associated with public safety power shut-offs. Support opportunities to allow cities greater access to funding opportunities for vegetation management and fuel load reduction. Monitor proposals that would transition investor-owned utilities into customer-owned/publicly governed utilities.
- **Rail Safety.** Support funding opportunities and advocate for projects that will increase public safety in proximity to railroad tracks and rail crossings, including at-grade crossings. Oppose efforts to transfer maintenance responsibility for at-grade crossings to local agencies.
- **Reclaimed/Recycled Water Projects.** Support legislation that advances the use of recycled or reclaimed water while meeting the needs of local agencies, especially during droughts. Related efforts could include support for permitting, construction, or maintenance of recycled water pipelines or water storage and distribution systems. Support funding for projects that distribute recycled water for irrigation and other non-potable uses, and allow the City to pursue water purveyor rights. Oppose legislation or regulations that would hinder these efforts.
- **Recycling Programs.** Support legislation to extend incentives for both household and commercial recycling efforts while ensuring the daily operations of the City are not negatively impacted. Oppose legislation that hampers recycling efforts or reduces incentives to recycle.

- **Smart City Technologies.** Support efforts that provide funding or technical assistance for cities that are implementing smart city technologies designed to improve public safety, quality of life, public access to data, or government efficiency.
- **Traffic Signal Synchronization.** Support legislation or regulatory efforts to address greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by providing funding for traffic signal synchronization and related actions that reduce traffic and pollution.
- **Trails, Active Transportation, and Green Infrastructure.** Support state funding for trail construction and active transportation enhancements, including the San Leandro Creek Trail and other greenway connections identified in the Recreation & Parks Master Plan. Support state grants for drought-tolerant median conversions, recycled-water irrigation projects, and green-infrastructure improvements in public landscapes.
- **Undergrounding of Utilities/Rule 20A.** Support the approval and funding of projects that would underground utility lines, and support the exploration of related regional approaches. The Public Utilities Commission oversees Rule 20A, a program that establishes an electric tariff for related work. Support common sense reforms to this program that would streamline or help to facilitate undergrounding.
- **Use of State Highways.** Support efforts that would facilitate the transportation of goods from local San Leandro businesses to and from the Port of Oakland on routes that utilize state highways.
- **Vehicle Miles Traveled Legislation.** Monitor new legislation or regulatory efforts with a greater focus on Road Usage Charges (RUC), including the State's RUC pilot program to study the potential for RUC as an alternative to the gas tax.
- **Water Quality Measures/Trash Capture Devices.** Support legislation, regulations, and budget proposals that will provide support and resources to purchase and install trash capture devices or other efforts to address storm water runoff and/or protect water quality.

Housing, Land Use & Environmental Protection

- **Affordable Housing.** Support efforts to facilitate the development and construction of affordable housing and related funding opportunities including more permanent supportive housing for the homeless. Monitor any proposed legislation, regulations, or statewide guidelines to ensure they meet the needs of the City and the region.
- **Cannabis Legislation.** Support San Leandro's adopted regulatory programs. Support actions or legislation that supports the cannabis industry while also providing cities with the flexibility and tools to maintain local oversight, protect public safety, and deter unpermitted cultivation or unlicensed cannabis-related activities. Support common sense reforms to the statewide tax structure for the industry.
- **Cellular/Wireless Infrastructure.** Monitor efforts to change or restrict the ability of local governments to regulate cellular infrastructure. Support efforts that speed the delivery of 5G networks, while opposing restrictions on the ability of local governments to regulate aesthetics, community standards, and revenue collection.
- **CEQA Reform.** Support legislation that makes common sense reforms to the California Environmental Quality Act, including the reduction in time delays or

excessive litigation, while ensuring pertinent environmental protections remain in place. Support efforts that would allow local agencies to set criteria for traffic impact levels-of-service.

- **Climate Adaptation and Resilience.** Support efforts to adapt to sea-level rise, including vulnerability assessment and adaptation strategies, wetlands restoration, bioswales and other green infrastructure, levee construction, or other similar structural resilience measures. Support efforts to address extreme heat, wildfire and drought, including communication or provisions to community partners, and education. Support prioritization of frontline communities in planning and implementation of adaptation strategies. Support state investments in shoreline resilience projects that integrate recreation access and flood protection, and support Green Infrastructure and Urban Greening program funding to expand tree canopy, mitigate heat-island impacts, and restore habitat in parks and public landscapes.
- **Climate Change Mitigation.** Support action on climate change and greenhouse gas emissions to assist in meeting adopted State, regional or local goals to address the ongoing climate emergency, including via an equity lens. Support legislation to remove regulatory barriers and provide financial support for electrification of buildings and natural gas or other infrastructure that reduces emissions. Support policies and legislation that inter-connect job centers, transit, and affordable housing to reduce commute times and potential displacement of frontline communities.
- **Community Choice Aggregation and Clean/Renewable Energy.** Support efforts to secure funding to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including, but not limited to: clean energy, energy efficiency improvements, and electric vehicle infrastructure. Support the success of Ava Community Energy, including efforts to create public/private partnerships, incentives, and investment in clean energy and battery storage.
- **Creek Walk, East Bay Greenway, and other Bicycle/pedestrian projects.** Support legislation, regulations, and budget proposals that would provide funding opportunities or other support for the development of greenways, bicycle and pedestrian projects, and other modes of active transportation.
- **Dredging.** Support efforts to identify funding for the dredging of recreational marinas, and advocate for transportation improvements including ferry service.
- **Earthquake Preparedness.** Support increased funding for “brace and bolt” and seismic retrofit projects in private residences and commercial structures, including funding to address “soft story” construction. Support efforts that would expand access to earthquake insurance.
- **Greenhouse Reduction Fund.** Support the active implementation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions disclosures and the cap-and-trade program to fund programs for energy and waste reduction, renewable energy, and battery storage.
- **Just Transition and Jobs.** Support the transition of fossil fuel-dependent industries to renewable energy and the regenerative economy. Related efforts could include: supporting workers in declining sectors, and investing in High-Road workforce development programs and industry partnerships that deliver equity, sustainability, and high-paying quality jobs.

- **Local Control of Land Use Decisions.** Oppose legislation that excessively pre-empts local control of land use determinations, while balancing statewide and regional housing goals.
- **Mobile Home Parks.** Support efforts that would protect mobile home park residents, including initiatives to address public safety and site conditions, or prevent displacement.
- **Nutrients and Harmful Algae Blooms.** Support legislation that provides funding for wastewater agencies to upgrade treatment processes to remove nutrients such as nitrogen from their discharges. Related efforts could include technical assistance or support for multi-benefit coastal resilience projects. Oppose legislation or regulations that mandate “one size fits all” approaches to regulation of nutrients.
- **Open Lands.** Support carbon sequestration and healthy soils in open lands, particularly in conjunction with SB1383. Support controlled treatment burns in open spaces and forests to reduce wildfire intensity.
- **Park Improvements, Urban Greening, and Heat Resilience.** Support legislation expanding CEQA streamlining for park improvements, playground replacements, and tree-planting projects that provide climate and public health benefits. Support state funding for urban greening, shade equity, and improved park access in high-need neighborhoods. Support implementation and expansion of SB 272 and related heat-resilience legislation to increase shade structures, cooling centers, and temperature-reduction strategies in parks and public spaces.
- **PFAS and Other Emerging Contaminants.** Support legislation that regulates emerging contaminants or products containing per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) to prevent these harmful “forever chemicals” from entering the environment via wastewater treatment facilities or other pathways. This may include product labeling requirements or PFAS-containing product prohibitions.
- **Shoreline Development.** Support funding opportunities or partnerships that would assist in the successful redevelopment of San Leandro’s shoreline area.
- **Sharing Economy.** Support legislation that enhances the ability of local governments to fairly regulate sharing economy services such as ride share and short-term rentals to protect public safety, ensure tax & fee collection, and adequate supply of rental housing stock.
- **Urban Trees.** Support efforts and funding for ongoing maintenance of urban trees and expansion of urban canopy and green spaces.

Law Enforcement & Public Safety

- **Assembly Bill 1506 Implementation.** Support the successful implementation of AB 1506 (2020, McCarty), which provides the California Dept. of Justice with important tools to help build and maintain trust between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve.
- **Automated Speed Enforcement.** Support greater flexibility related to traffic responsibility and enforcement duties, such as the use of automated enforcement or traffic cameras.

- **Body Cameras.** Support legislation addressing best practices for the use of police body-worn cameras, while balancing the needs of the public and law enforcement personnel.
- **De-escalation Training & Funding.** Support efforts that would provide additional funding, training, or technical assistance opportunities for law enforcement and public safety personnel on tactics designed to defuse or de-escalate interactions with potentially violent individuals and/or persons suffering from mental health issues or crises.
- **Disaster Prevention and Recovery.** Seek additional funding, and expand the definition of programs eligible for grant funding for disaster recovery and prevention.
- **Drones.** Monitor new legislation and support efforts to ensure common sense regulation of drone technology while balancing local control and privacy.
- **East Bay Regional Communications System Authority (EBRCSA).** Seek funding from the State to assist EBRCSA in financially supporting the build-out and ongoing technical support of regional interoperability communications networks in the East Bay Region.
- **Effective and Accountable Policing.** Support regulatory efforts and the appropriation of funds to protect the public and ensure fair and impartial justice for all through the advancement of effective, accountable policing.
- **First Amendment and Protest Policing.** Support efforts to provide training and support for law enforcement agencies so that they may effectively protect public safety during protests and/or free speech events.
- **Human Trafficking.** Support statewide efforts to address the issue of human trafficking and provide support for local law enforcement efforts to do the same.
- **Prisons.** Support efforts to address prison overcrowding, or reduce incarceration times when appropriate while ensuring accountability as a core value. Support investment in rehabilitation programs to improve outcomes of those who were previously incarcerated.

Library and Public Art Services

- **Literacy.** Support administrative actions or legislation that seeks to provide cities and counties with direct funding or other support needed to provide literacy services to the public.
- **Local History.** Support efforts that would provide additional funding or training opportunities for library and museum staff related to local history. Support efforts that would provide funding for exhibits, historical resources collections, and artifact and cultural preservation.
- **New Technologies:** Support administrative actions or legislation that promotes the development and application of new technologies and advancements in telecommunications that increase access to information, encourages resource sharing among all types of libraries, promotes digital literacy and workforce development, and quality library and information services.

- **Programming.** Support efforts that would provide additional funding or training opportunities for library and museum staff related to programming best practices. Support efforts that would provide additional funding for multicultural, generational, intergenerational, youth, teen, adult, STEM, and arts programming.
- **Public Art.** Support administrative actions or legislation that seeks to provide cities and counties with direct funding or other support needed to provide public art, including visual or performing arts.
- **Collaborative Efforts.** Support administrative actions or legislation that seeks to provide collaboration between libraries and library systems that may include consortiums, shared catalogs of materials, resource sharing, or collective purchasing power, and efforts to identify efficiencies, cost savings, and expanded access.

Health & Human Services

- **Early Childhood, Youth Engagement, and Care Infrastructure:** Support funding opportunities and legislation that will increase access to high-quality childcare to fund tuition subsidies for families, pediatric well-child visits, meals, and staff training that would increase the availability of childcare centers.
- **Education.** Monitor any administrative actions or legislation regarding early childhood education. It is anticipated that the Governor will seek to increase funding for services like prenatal care, pre-kindergarten, and home visits.
- **Food access:** Support funding opportunities and legislation to support equitable food access for all.
- **Health Care.** Monitor any administrative actions or legislation regarding single-payer health care. California has done significant work expanding Medi-Cal access and implementing the Affordable Care Act. Support legislation that seeks to restrain costs.
- **Homelessness.** Support administrative actions or legislation that seek to provide cities and counties with direct funding or other support needed in response to conditions that contribute to homelessness. Funding is needed to provide additional tools and support to maintain access to support services, treatment, operations and services for permanent supportive housing, jobs, or efforts to address encampments. Funding is needed to support City/County efforts for more facilities, beds, and services to address mental health needs of individuals.
- **Improved Access to Health Care.** Support efforts to protect or expand health care coverage to all populations.
- **Indigenous Peoples.** Support legislation or other administrative actions that assist or otherwise recognize indigenous peoples, history, culture, and land in California. Support the recognition of Indigenous People's Day in San Leandro.

- **LGBTQ+ Protections.** Support efforts that would promote equity, justice and fairness for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer/Questioning community.
- **Mental Health.** Support efforts to address mental health and emotional well-being of individuals and at-risk populations. Support legislation that strengthens mental health services designed to address and/or prevent homelessness in at-risk populations. Closely monitor the Care Court implementation.
- **Racial Equity.** Support efforts and legislation that seeks to address racial injustice or inequities as may be identified by the State Legislature.
- **San Leandro Hospital.** Support the successful operation and financial sustainability of San Leandro Hospital.
- **Safety Net Services and Support for Seniors.** Support efforts that would expand safety net services for those most in need, including low-income residents and senior populations. Monitor legislation that seeks to support/protect seniors from scams.
- **Tobacco Control.** Support statewide efforts to reduce tobacco usage, particularly among youth, including enforcement of the statewide flavor ban that was adopted as part of Senate Bill 793 (2020).

Recreation, Parks and Open Space

- **Joint-Use Recreation Facilities.** Support state incentives that strengthen joint-use agreements with local school districts to expand shared access to recreational facilities, fields, gyms, and open space.
- **Park Maintenance & Green Infrastructure Funding.** Support reforms to state grant programs that allow cities to use funds for the maintenance of newly developed parks, green-infrastructure installations, and climate-adaptive public landscapes.
- **Parkland Acquisition.** Support legislation and budget appropriations that increase funding for local park development, including competitive programs such as Prop 68 legacy funds, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, Urban Greening, Active Transportation, and Outdoor Equity Grants.
- **Park Development Fee Flexibility.** Support legislation enabling cities to use Park Development Fees more flexibly, including for the rehabilitation and modernization of aging park amenities that no longer meet safety, accessibility, or community-use standards.
- **Recreation Programs, Facilities & Community Wellness.** Support funding for youth development, afterschool, and summer programs delivered through municipal recreation agencies. Support capital funding to modernize aging recreation and senior facilities, including ADA, seismic, HVAC, roof, and energy-resilience upgrades. Support grants that expand swim lessons and water-safety programming, particularly in underserved communities.

Urban Forestry

- **Tree Equity Investments.** Support state “tree equity” funding targeting disadvantaged communities, consistent with the State’s Extreme Heat Action Plan and local climate-resilience priorities.
- **Median Landscape & Green Infrastructure Improvements.** Support grants for retrofitting medians with drought-tolerant landscaping, native plant palettes, bioswales, and recycled-water irrigation conversions.
- **Utility Coordination & Tree Protection.** Support legislation that strengthens utility-vegetation management coordination and protects existing street trees during development and infrastructure projects.

Public Finance & Administration

- **Cap & Trade Funding.** Support projects, programs, and/or other regulations that would facilitate the successful disbursement of funding from the State’s Cap-and-Trade program for City programs and efforts.
- **Financial Reporting Requirements.** Support common sense reforms to statewide financial reporting requirements to maintain public trust and availability of data while eliminating redundancy and unnecessary burdens on local governments.
- **League of California Cities (LOCC).** Support efforts by the LOCC to protect the interests of cities, including through participation in related advocacy efforts or committees.
- **Local Elections.** Monitor election reform initiatives and oppose efforts that could negatively impact the city. Actively monitor or take action as necessary on efforts related to San Leandro’s current system of ‘from District’ elections or ranked choice voting.
- **Local Sales Tax/Online Sales.** Closely monitor any proposed Constitutional amendments or legislative proposals that would change the distribution of revenues derived under a sales tax imposed pursuant to the Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law and work to protect local funding.
- **Pension Sustainability.** Support legislative or regulatory efforts that would ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the California Public Employees Retirement System while balancing prior commitments that have been made to public sector employees.
- **Public Records.** Support the intent of the California Public Records Act, including efforts to assist the public in accessing government records. Oppose efforts that create unnecessary or unreasonable administrative burdens as well as new unfunded mandates for local agencies.
- **Revenue Protection.** Oppose attempts to decrease, restrict, or eliminate City revenue sources, or to restrict local authority over the use of City funds. Support efforts to improve the stability or sustainability of local revenues.

- **Redistricting.** Monitor any efforts that affect State Assembly and Senate districts and advocate for ensuring San Leandro's representation supports the needs of the community.
- **Utility User Taxes.** Support legislation or regulations that would provide cities with flexibility and authority to collect or increase Utility User Taxes (UUTs). Oppose any proposals that seek to limit or restrict the City's use of UUTs.
- **Workers' Compensation & Disability Retirement Reform.** Support efforts to reform the state workers' compensation program and similar efforts regarding disability payments to control costs and to reduce potential abuse, while balancing important worker protections.
- **Proposition 13 Reform.** Monitor efforts to reform Proposition 13, including the protection of local revenues and ensuring that property tax revenues keep pace with the inflation in costs to provide basic public services. Support efforts to create a "split-roll" tax system allowing commercial properties to be taxed at present market rates.

2. Policy Priorities for Ongoing Monitoring or Advocacy

Monitor legislative activity and/or or advocate on behalf of the City of San Leandro's interests in the following broad policy areas:

- Public Safety
 - This includes policy topics such as disaster preparedness, wildfire efforts, resources or training for first responders, prevention and intervention funding for at-risk youth, 911 call centers, public safety answering points (PSAPs), POST mandates, stolen vehicles, catalytic converter theft, mental illness counseling services, juvenile justice programs, technology enhancements and support, crisis intervention and suicide prevention, or other related programs.
- Transportation
 - This includes policy topics such as goods movement, safe routes to school funding, local road repair, regional transportation funds, street signs, curb paintings, and other efforts to support regional transportation programs.
- Economic Development
 - This includes policy topics such as, measures providing for new tax increment financing opportunities, infrastructure financing districts, efforts to encourage local job creation, new business investment, and other related topics.
- Infrastructure
 - This includes policy topics such as funding for roads, sewers, storm drains, and other public works, engineering, or maintenance responsibilities.
- Health & Human Services

- This includes general policy topics related to health and human services matters affecting the residents of San Leandro and could include: safety net services, homelessness and hunger, childcare, and community health facilities, among others.
- Housing and Land Use
 - This includes policy topics such as creating new or enhancing existing sources of funds for affordable housing including permanent supportive housing, encouraging housing development for a range of income levels, and efforts to protect local authority or oppose unfunded mandates, and other similar topics.
- Quality of Life
 - This includes policy topics such as the development of funding sources for parks, urban waterways, multi-lingual outreach, kindergarten readiness programs, project literacy, veterans, homework/technology centers, library capital improvement needs, after school sports, park/playground equipment, and other quality of life programs.
- Constitutional Modifications
 - This includes policy topics such as measures that would impact local governments, such as lowering the voter threshold to 55% for various bond issuances and local taxes.
- Protecting Local Control
 - The City of San Leandro values its ability and authority to exercise local control, provide excellent public services, and protect and enhance the quality of life for San Leandro residents, businesses, and visitors, and supports efforts to streamline regulations that simplify the job of running the City's operations and opposes efforts that erode the City's authority to control its own affairs.
 - This also includes policy topics such as measures or budget actions which could potentially impact the operations of, or services provided by, the City of San Leandro.
- Technology
 - This includes policy topics such as efforts to expand access to fiber optic/broadband infrastructure for community residents, businesses, or schools, energy efficiency projects like LED streetlights and residential/commercial retrofits, as well as efforts to support technological innovation in San Leandro and the region.
- Climate Protection and Resilience
 - This includes topics such as climate change, clean energy efforts, waste reduction, water recycling and re-use, building electrification, resilience to heat, wildfire, and storm events, and renewable energy development.

Process for Reporting

In addition to regular progress reports, annual reports on these and other efforts to support the City's legislative agenda will be provided to the City Council and City staff.