

**City of San Leandro**  
**2019 Federal Legislative Platform and Policy Guidance**  
**January 2019**

The City of San Leandro's federal legislative agenda for 2019 is designed to reflect the adopted 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. Adoption of this document is designed to provide standing authority for the Mayor and members of the City Council, City staff, or the City's legislative advocates to take action 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, attending or scheduling meetings, or otherwise advocating for 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 course of the year.

Summary of Federal Policy Issues for Advocacy or Monitoring:

**Affordable Care Act:** Oppose federal efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Support efforts to expand health insurance coverage to the public, or otherwise retain key provisions within the Act that provide insurance coverage for at-risk populations. Support funding for Community Health Centers.

**Broadband Infrastructure.** Support the expansion of public and private access to broadband, as well as the protection of public wi-fi system integrity. Support efforts to protect local land use authority over related infrastructure. Support efforts to restore network neutrality protections and support a level playing field among market competitors. Oppose federal actions that would limit consumer protections or otherwise limit local control.

**Cannabis Regulation.** Support modifying the Schedule I status of cannabis at the federal level, including efforts that would facilitate additional scientific research and study. Support efforts to protect public safety and facilitate effective regulation at the state and local level. Oppose federal actions or legislation that interfere with state's rights or restrict local control.

**Carbon Fee and Dividend.** Support the exploration of innovative new ways of addressing carbon emissions at the federal level, including proposals for a national carbon fee & dividend. Such a program would assess a fee at the sources of fossil fuel extraction or other activities that generate carbon emissions. Program revenues could then be returned to American households in the form of a dividend, or otherwise used to bolster environmental protection efforts.

**Climate Change Mitigation.** Support federal action to address climate change and greenhouse gas emissions. Oppose efforts to weaken existing federal regulations. Support sustainability programs that reduce energy usage or support infrastructure that helps to reduce emissions.

**CDBG and HOME Programs.** Advocate to protect or enhance funding for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Act (HOME) programs to more effectively address community development and affordable housing needs. Support

increased federal funding for critical HUD programs and housing opportunities.

**COPS programs.** Support efforts to identify federal funding for various local or regional law enforcement initiatives through the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, or other relevant federal agencies or programs.

**Department of Energy:** Support efforts to develop innovative renewable energy, energy efficiency, and energy storage projects to achieve energy security.

**Environmental Protection Agency:** Support efforts to maintain programs such as Energy Star, the Clean Water Act, the Clean Power Plan and other EPA programs that protect the environment or public health. Oppose efforts to roll back regulations designed to protect the environment or otherwise mitigate the impacts of climate change.

**Federal Aviation Administration.** Work with federal officials or relevant staff to address ongoing noise and other impacts to the San Leandro community associated with the flight patterns and operations of surrounding Bay Area airports.

**FEMA National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP):** Support Congressional efforts to reform the National Flood Insurance Program and to expedite the claims process and ensure that premium rate increases do not unfairly impact residences and businesses. Work with FEMA to support property owners potentially impacted by changes to flood maps. Support infrastructure projects that could reduce flooding or mitigate flood insurance rate increases.

**Federal Emergency Management Agency.** Support funding for resilient infrastructure improvements such as green infrastructure, recycled water pipelines, horizontal levees & other innovative solutions to protect vital community assets threatened by sea level rise, rising temperatures, wildfire, drought or other hazards associated with climate change.

**Gun Safety.** Support efforts that promote gun safety, or other initiatives designed to prevent mass shootings or active shooter incidents. Support funding for law enforcement training or programs to address gun violence or reduce access to firearms by at risk individuals or groups, such as the mentally ill.

**Immigration Policies.** Monitor efforts at the federal level that would impact undocumented populations, including immigration enforcement practices. Oppose efforts that would restrict access to federal funds by cities or other public agencies based on local policy positions related to sanctuary city status or immigration. Support positive relations between law enforcement and immigrant communities.

**Infrastructure.** Support efforts to advance federal investment in infrastructure, including funding for transportation (especially safety measures for at-grade railroad crossings) and reclaimed water projects. Advocate for additional funding for local and regional projects.

**National League of Cities and U.S. Conference of Mayors.** Support efforts by the National League of Cities and U.S. Conference of Mayors to protect the interests of cities at the national level, including related advocacy efforts by these organizations' policy committees and task forces.

**Railroad Safety.** Urge Congress and the Administration to work towards implementation of Positive Train Control technology in locomotives. Support U.S. Department of Transportation initiatives for new safety measures, such as reduced train speeds in urban areas, and strong oversight of rail safety. Support federal funding for rail safety and safety improvements to rail crossings.

**Renewable Energy Micro-grid.** Seek funding opportunities that could assist in San Leandro's efforts to develop a renewable energy micro-grid.

**Shoreline Project.** Support legislative efforts or funding opportunities that would assist in the successful redevelopment of San Leandro's shoreline. Support federal funding for the dredging of recreational marinas.

**Small Cell and Telecommunications Facilities.** Oppose efforts to preempt or restrict zoning or local land use regulations related to the location, placement, size, appearance, screening, or siting of "small cell" or other telecommunications transmission and receiving facilities, or other facilities such as satellite dishes, radio towers, broadcast and microwave equipment, or similar facilities. Oppose preemption of local control over local rights-of-way and land use authority by federal agencies, including the Federal Communications Commission.

**Smart Cities Initiatives.** Seek opportunities to leverage public-private partnerships and emerging technology resources that would assist communities in transforming traditional industrial sites into modern manufacturing workplaces. Support programs or opportunities to humanize industrial districts, including funding for place-making.

**Social Security and Medicare.** Support federal actions to protect public benefits created by Social Security and Medicare, while balancing reasonable reforms that would bolster the financial solvency of both programs.

**Tax Reform.** Monitor implementation of the 2017 federal tax reform legislation. Support common sense modifications that would benefit the public and/or address federal deficits.

**Urban Greenway.** Support efforts that could lead to additional funding for bicycle and pedestrian projects, including the East Bay Greenway project.

**Urban Waters Small Grants:** Support efforts to maintain or increase funding to vital state and local government grants provided both by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of the Interior.