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Presentation and Staff Report for 2021 Federal Legislative Platform and Annual Update from Federal Government Liaison Jen Covino, President of Simon and Company

**SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND**

Each year, a representative from the offices of Simon & Company (the City’s federal government liaison) provides an update on the federal legislative landscape as well as potential funding opportunities available over the course of the upcoming year. This visit is timed to take place in early January, prior to the U.S. Conference of Mayors Winter Meeting that typically takes place in late January and the National League of Cities - Congressional Cities Conference in March, which some members of the City Council may attend. Due to the coronavirus pandemic and ongoing public health orders, it is anticipated these events may either be postponed this year or will take place via tele-conference. Similar to past years, staff from Simon & Company will attend these conferences too and are available to support the Mayor and members of the City Council.

Simon and Company is led by Jen Covino, who will provide the annual update to the City Council. In addition to receiving the above annual update, it is important for the City Council to identify policy priorities or projects that are germane to the City of San Leandro’s interests at the federal level in 2021. Such documented priorities enable members of the City Council, City staff, or the City’s advocates to issue letters, attend meetings, or otherwise take action as opportunities arise over the year ahead. To this end, a draft of the annual federal legislative platform is also included in the consent calendar for the City Council’s consideration.

**Fiscal Impacts**

The costs for the City’s contract with Simon & Company for federal advocacy services, along with anticipated costs for virtual attendance at U.S. Conference of Mayors and National League of Cities events are already appropriated in the adopted current fiscal year City budget and no additional appropriations are requested or anticipated at this time.

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